

Speech at International Seminar on Juche Idea in Pyongyang

## **Learning from DPRK's Historical Achievements, Joint Struggle for Anti-imperialism, Independence, and World Peace**

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Dear comrades, dear friends,

It is a real pleasure and an honour for me to participate with you in this seminar being held to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK).

A long journey spanning eight decades of history, during which, from its founding to the present days, the WPK, under the leadership, first of President Kim Il Sung, then General Secretary Kim Jong Il, and now General Secretary Kim Jong Un, has led the Korean people in their valiant struggle to achieve great results, to free themselves from colonial occupation and victoriously resist the attacks of imperialism, to safeguard their independence and defend their social achievements with the system they themselves have chosen, to make their homeland powerful and prosperous. It has built the longest-lasting socialist state to date, equipped with a strong self-defence apparatus, including nuclear weapons deterrence, which imperialism can no longer think of attacking with impunity by unleashing new wars to turn it back and reverse the course of history.

All this, in application of the Juche idea as an original theory developed precisely on the basis of concrete Korean experience, has shaped a country that stands as a rampart of independence, dignity and peace in the regions and in the world. It is therefore a source of inspiration for other peoples fighting for their independence and social development, thereby making an important contribution to the cause of the emancipation of peoples from foreign

domination and social injustice.

The principle of independence is in fact central to the Juche idea, which has guided all the activities of the WPK and which, starting from the axiom that man is the master of everything and decides everything, values the independence of man within the community in which he lives and therefore the independence of his country.

On the basis of these principles, the WPK has led the Korean people to overcome harsh trials to achieve their sovereignty, to forge their own destiny independently and to build a dignified life for all the people. Despite the great difficulties arising from changes in the international situation, the WPK has tenaciously and successfully pursued a twofold commitment: to maintain and develop a line of defence of national independence and to consolidate and develop socialism and social achievements.

From the outset, the struggle for the liberation of the Korean people from colonial rule, led by President Kim Il Sung, rejected the idea of relying on foreign powers and was instead conducted as an independent struggle based on the Korean people themselves. In this way, it was possible to create a people-centered socialist system, without exploitation or oppression, a system in which raising the living standards of the popular masses is the goal of the state, which takes care of all their material and cultural needs, such as food, housing and work, as well as free medical care, free education and even the abolition of taxes.

Subsequently, the activities of the WPK have always been inspired by this firm position, which was expressed by General Secretary Kim Jong Il, who reiterated that the masters of the Korean revolution are the Korean people themselves and that by all means the Korean revolution must be carried out by the Korean people themselves, emphasizing the defence of independence through the idea of Songun and the need to establish Juche in all sectors of society in order to strengthen socialism.

So even when some socialist states in Eastern Europe collapsed and reactionary circles around the world rejoiced, prophesying the imminent collapse of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), secretly offering it huge sums of "aid" if it agreed to dangerous reforms that would distort its nature, the DPRK, relying on the popular masses and interpreting their needs, tenaciously persisted on its path of independence and socialism, which has led it to be the longest-standing and still existing today socialist state in the world. Moreover, the DPRK made a great contribution to encouraging the cause of socialism in the world by gathering in Pyongyang in 1992 representatives of over 130 organisations from various

continents, who adopted a declaration entitled “Let’s Defend and Advance Socialism”, which stated, among other things, that ‘the overthrow of socialism and the restoration of capitalism in certain countries does not mean that it disproves the superiority of socialism or the reactionary nature of capitalism’.

Even today, developing the revolutionary traditions inherited from President Kim Il Sung’s assertion that ‘people are my god’, the WPK, under the leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, gives priority to the popular masses, placing them at the forefront of its various objectives in its commitment to simultaneously pursue, with the defence of independence of the country, the promotion of its economic and social development.

Applying the principle of ‘People first’, as the main political idea underlying all the Party’s activities, new policies to raise the welfare of the people are continuously being implemented and wide-ranging projects are being carried out with the aim of promoting a more advanced society in all aspects of the living conditions of the popular masses. Anyone who has had the opportunity to visit the DPRK in recent years has been able to admire the implementation of massive construction programmes with modern and colourful architecture in cities and rural villages, with a huge number of 50,000 new housing, with buildings, factories, schools, nurseries, monuments, skyscrapers, streets, shops, lights and all kinds of material and cultural facilities. These magnificent achievements were all completed rapidly at the speed of Chollima, the fabulous winged horse capable of traveling 1,000 *ri* in a day, or even at the speed of Mallima, ten times faster, actually in such a surprisingly short time that the Korean people were able



A view of a grand mass games and art performances to celebrate the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK held in grand style (Pyongyang on October 9, 2025)

to speak about with pride of a miraculous creation.

A significant example of these policies is the regional development 20 x 10 policy, recently launched with the ambitious goal of creating new industrial infrastructure in 20 provinces in 10 years, using local resources to increase the production of consumer goods, eliminate the centuries-old backwardness that still affects some areas, eliminate inequalities and reduce disparities between cities and the countryside.

These are important achievements that are part of Korea's five-thousand-year-long history and have opened up bright prospects for the construction of a prosperous country. All these results, which have been achieved despite the difficult conditions and the illegal and unjust sanctions imposed on the country by imperialism, testify to the great vitality and validity of the Juche line followed by the Party and, at the same time, to the great abilities and political skills demonstrated by its leader Kim Jong Un.

Continuing the revolutionary traditions of Mt. Paektu and raising the banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the correct guideline for the process of social construction, the Party led by General Secretary Kim Jong Un, with the revolutionary style of cadres loyal to the needs of the people, is making every effort to ensure a dignified and independent life for the Korean people, who as an integral whole, rally united around their leader. With the same spirit and convictions, the Korean people are waging their strenuous struggle with renewed commitment and determination to achieve new successes and new leaps forward, bringing to fruition the revolutionary cause of a Juche-based society.

In this context, the DPRK, under the leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, has entered a new era of achievements, hopes, expectations and victories, in which the Korean people, led by the WPK, are on the right path to strengthening the country's independence and advancing its economic and social development, consolidating its sovereignty and becoming increasingly masters of their own destiny, living their lives with dignity and creativity.

The results they have achieved have brought the DPRK to the world stage as a powerful socialist state with which other states in the current complex international situation must engage in order to build a just and peaceful world, and with which the progressive peoples of the world, drawing inspiration, must cooperate in the common struggle against imperialism, for independence and world peace.