

Article:

Compass of Era of Independence

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Firstly, allow me to express my New Year's greetings to you, Juche idea researchers who hailed the year of 2016 with hope.

Similarly, it is an honor for me to contribute an article to the "Age of Juche," the prestigious journal of the Asian Regional Institute of the Juche Idea (ARIJI). I am grateful for being given an opportunity to let it carried on the journal this time.

1. Ours Is Era of Independence, G-Zero World

Ours is an era of independence in which the popular masses in each country have emerged as masters in history.

Once, many countries were colonized by imperialism, and people groaned under such circumstances, being deprived of even their fundamental human rights.

The era of independence is characterized in that each country can decide the destiny of its own in line with having its own people's interest realized.

Previously, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, and some other countries gathered in the name of the Group of Seven (G7) to discuss international political and economic issues, thus dominating the world.

With the rise of emerging countries in the world, the G7 lost its power of dominance, and then the number of its member nations increased, turning itself into the G8, the G9 and the G20. However, such a situation that their interests are entangled to the extent that they cannot issue an agreed statement has lasted up to now.

There has arisen such a view that no country, no region in the world can take a strong leadership any longer and that the world has turned into a G-Zero world.

Nowadays when the unipolar dominance of the US has collapsed completely, it is obvious to anybody that the world is a G-Zero world.

A State of the Union Address made by US President Barack Obama on January 12, 2016 unexpectedly is a symbolized one of the G-Zero world.

In his State of the Union Address he said: “We also can’t try to take over and rebuild every country that falls into crisis,” “...on issues of global concern, we will mobilize the world to work with us, and make sure other countries pull their own weight,” “Leadership means a wise application of military power, and rallying the world behind causes that are right.”

The US has militarily dominated different countries in the world by stationing her American bases up to now. However, under the situation of being tight economically, she intends to have Japan, Germany and the like take over her military and economic burden.

That ours is not the world ruled by particular countries or regions but the G-Zero world means that if people in each country enhance their determination and strength to realize independence and peace, they will open a bright path to make each country independent.

Till now, imperialist countries have dominated other countries at their will by making them colonized and making those nations subordinated to them backed by their armed forces.

The US that had not been the battlefield and got scarcely damaged by World War II, enlarged her territory and attained economic wealth, after the war. The US has achieved unipolar dominance over the world as superpower by reinforcing her military forces.

With the US, a victorious nation in the war, as its head, the UK, Germany, Japan and others tied a dependent alliance.

US imperialism engineered the Korean War in 1950 and then invaded Vietnam in 1965, committing great massacres. But it was defeated in the just struggle of the Korean people and the Vietnamese people, and has gone downhill since then.

The US, moreover, made armed attacks on Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003, and disintegrated those administrations. Nevertheless, until today, she has not been able to withdraw her forces from there, getting bogged down in this situation.

The people’s movement against the long-term dictatorial governments called “Arab Spring” started from Tunisia. There was a drop of the influence of the US over the Middle East in the context.

The Tunisian people's struggles made the Ben Ali administration fall down, which was

followed by the overthrow of the Mubarak administration. Long-period dictatorship as such toppled one after another. The US could not support that Egyptian military dictatorship any longer as she had used to make a great deal of military aid to it. Such a domino phenomenon expanded to the Middle East and North Africa.

Imperialism is no longer able to dominate other countries and other nations in pursuit of its own interests, or it can be said it is leaving from the leading role in history.

The US, whose political and military influence has been weakened, and some countries following her have no choice but to change their policies toward those countries they used to attack regarding them as adversarial countries.

Following the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Cuba and the US in last July, a final agreement on the nuclear-related problems was made among Iran, six countries constituting the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and Germany in the same month. On the 16th of January this year, the release of the sanctions against Iran was announced.

It is as follows: in return for Iran's narrowing down its nuclear development, sanctions imposed on Iran such as the restrictions of crude oil trading and monetary transaction are to be lifted.

Toward such an approach between Iran and the US and some European countries, pro-US countries in the Middle East are setting their nerves on edge.

Imperialists including the US imperialists continue to make armed attacks on Syria with the intention of collapsing the Assad administration that upholds the banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) revealed in December 2015 that the total number of refugees in the world went over 60 million, the largest of this kind in history.

The main reason for the rapid increase in number of refugees lies in that the Syrian people have been air-raided by some imperialist countries. As the result, they became refugees whose number has reached more than 12 million, or over the half of its total population.

Previously, many refugees moved into emerging nations, but now they regard their destination as European countries, economically wealthy Germany in particular. In fact, the number of the refugees flowing into Germany from Syria and the like amounted to more than one million only last year. Over the labor, housing and the like concerning those

refugees, emerging there were exclusivists, which resulting in the instability of the whole Europe.

Now, ours is changing rapidly into a new era when the domination of a handful of imperialism has been frustrated, and each country and each nation is carving out one's own destiny by one's own strength.

2. DPRK, Compass of Cause of Independence

Nowadays, there is no small number of countries that are confronted with political and economic difficulties, in spite of their choices of the path of socialism.

Socialism that meets the people's desire to live in peace and harmony will surely win a victory. However, it is also true that without a correct ideology and guidance to develop socialism continuously, it could be inevitable to undergo some twists and turns.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is attracting attention of the world progressive people, as it has been vigorously advancing its socialist construction, while consistently adhering to the principles of independence in politics, self-reliance in the economy, and self-defence in military affairs.

The world people have deep respect and high hopes for First Secretary Kim Jong Un who is leading the Korean revolution.

First Secretary Kim Jong Un as the leader most loyal to President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il, has been guiding the struggle to accomplish the instructions given by those preceding leaders.

President Kim Il Sung waged struggles against both Japanese imperialism and American imperialism that had been overwhelmingly strong in armed forces, leading to win victories in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and the Fatherland Liberation War, and then building Juche-oriented socialism where people are its masters.

Holding fast to Songun politics, General Secretary Kim Jong Il pushed aside the imperialism' persistent maneuvers to collapse the DPRK, and safeguarded socialism firmly, thus building up the foundation of a thriving socialist state.

President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il were great men who both devoted their all for the sake of the people and who lived their lives enjoying people's love and trust.

In his speech at the military parade performed to commemorate the Centenary of the Birth of President Kim Il Sung on April 15, 2012, First Secretary Kim Jong Un pointed out that the permanent strategy of the Korean revolution "lies in going straight along the road of independence, the road of Songun, the road of socialism."

The decisive reason why the DPRK has accomplished brilliantly the successive revolution even after the establishment of its socialist system lies in its carrying forward and developing its guiding idea of the revolution.

President Kim Il Sung founded the Juche idea in the flames of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, clarifying for the first time in history that the masters of the revolution are the popular masses and that they are also the motive force of the revolution.

The Juche idea is the guiding idea sought by a new era when the people have emerged in a splendid manner as masters of social history.

It was in April 2012 when First Secretary Kim Jong Un formulated the revolutionary thoughts of President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il as Kimilsung-Kimjongilism that is an integral system of the idea, theory and method of Juche, regarding them as an inseparable and unified system.

The First Secretary clarified that Kimilsung-Kimjongilism is, in essence, the people-first doctrine. Saying that the revolution is, in essence, love toward people, he has been putting such politics as to hold people in most respect into practice.

Meanwhile, in the world, imperialism has kept committing atrocities to make other countries colonized and other nations subordinated to itself with use of its armed forces. Independence is the life and soul to a country and nation. People's future depends on whether or not their independence is safeguarded.

The DPRK has consistently worked on the US to conclude a peace treaty. Nevertheless, the US has broken the DPRK-US agreements over and over, and enforced joint military exercises with the Republic of Korea including a massive exercise of a preemptive nuclear strike every year. Last summer as well, the US brought on the military tension on the Korean Peninsula, thus creating such a critical situation as touching off a war.

Facing aggressive maneuvers of American imperialism as such, the DPRK has never pulled out but set up against them with armed forces of the people united single-mindedly.

Moreover, in an effort to smash completely war schemes of American imperialism, its maneuvers of collapsing the DPRK, the latter succeeded an atomic bomb test for the first time in 2006 and then a hydrogen bomb test excellently on January 6, 2016.

Owing to the success in the H-bomb test by the DPRK, the hydrogen bomb, once regarded as only being possessed by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, has come to be grasped fast by the hand of the independent forces. It is no longer the exclusive property of imperialism.

The DPRK has now become a nuclear state that makes it possible to safeguard the sovereignty of the country and the dignity of the nation. Thus it has won a decisive victory in the struggle of anti-imperialism and independence.

The DPRK's victory in the struggle of anti-imperialism and independence shows the world people that no matter small a country is, if she has a determination to safeguard firmly the dignity of the country and nation together with people's united strength, she will be able to advance along the path of independence by fully breaking through war maneuvers of imperialism.

Similarly, owing to the success in the H-bomb test, the DPRK could attain a guarantee for concentrating on its economic construction to develop the people's living affluently, while defending the nation from the preemptive nuclear attack by imperialism.

The Korean people are now rising up for the struggle in the New Year.

First Secretary Kim Jong Un made public a "New Year Address" on January 1, 2016.

With pride First Secretary Kim Jong Un summed up in such a way that they realized the politics of prioritizing, respecting and loving the people in 2015.

Putting forward a slogan of this year upheld by the Party and the people, the First Secretary appealed: "Let us usher in a golden age in building a thriving nation this year when the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) is to be held!"

There will be no doubt that the Seventh Congress of the WPK will be a historic one in that the Party proudly reviews the successes achieved in the revolution and construction under the wise guidance of President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il, and that a blueprint for hastening a final victory in the Korean revolution will be unfolded by First Secretary Kim Jong Un.

3. Asia Aspiring to Lasting Peace and Prosperity

The world's population exceeds 7 billion now, and the Asian population will reach 5 billion soon. The combined population of two countries, India and China, occupies the third

of the world's population.

The motive force that changes the world is the popular masses. The masses will exert their great strength when they are awakened under the influence of a right idea and unite in their struggle.

When the Asian people that account for more than half the global population are conscious of such an idea that carves out a new era and are united, Asia will become the most developed region in the world.

It is US imperialism that has invaded and controlled Japan for 70 long years in history of Japan. It is regretted, however, that some Japanese people do not have correct historical perception and that they rather believe Japan is protected under the US nuclear umbrella.

In early 1945 when Japan's defeat in the war was near at hand, the US massacred numerous Japanese people by bombing major cities throughout Japan. Especially, Great Tokyo Air Raids on March 10, 1945, cost about a hundred thousand lives in a day and the victims in total numbered a million.

US troops landed in Okinawa on March 26, 1945, and over 200,000 people became victims of the war, the only ground battle in Japan, by September of the same year.

The Potsdam Declaration calling for Japan's unconditional surrender was brought up on July 26, 1945, however, the Japanese reactionary forces did not accept it, and the formal signing in it was carried over to September 2, 1945. So, the latter was set as the anniversary of Japan's defeat in the World War II by the world public.

In 1945, US imperialism dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima on August 6 and on Nagasaki on August 9 for the first time in the world.

The death toll from the atomic bombings exceeded 200,000 within that year. The number of victims including those people who died from the aftereffects of the A-bomb has continued to increase year after year, and reportedly over 500,000 people have fallen victims to those A-bombs up to now.

The US flexed her muscles to the world by the atomic bombings that massacred numerous people to contain people's growing struggles against the US and for independence and socialism.

It was on August 15, 1945 when the Japanese Emperor conveyed to citizens the end of the war on the air.

He said that he was ending the war in order to "save the millions of our subjects," "atone ourselves before the hallowed spirits of our imperial ancestors," and "pave the way

for grand peace." There were neither words of regret for the war nor those of apology toward the Asian people.

After the war, the US located her military bases all over Japan, and integrated the country into her world strategy. During the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Iraq War and the like, Japan raised funds for the US and US fighter planes were taken off from Okinawa.

While the Japanese people have strong aspirations for peace, the Abe administration has steadily advanced preparations for enabling Japan to wage a war anytime by violating the no-war clause of the Constitution and enacting new legislation and the like.

We, the Japanese people are obliged to make our country independent and peaceful. The key is to disseminate Kimilsung-Kimjongilism and put it into practice.

In his speech in April 2012, First Secretary Kim Jong Un expressed his firm determination to carry forward the revolutionary cause of Juche and accomplish it, upholding the banner of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism.

Those Juche idea researchers from Japan who had visited the DPRK to commemorate the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung and joined a World Congress of the Juche Idea, formed a society for the study of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism in Tokyo soon after returning home. Afterwards, study groups of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism were set up one after another in major cities and areas. And in February 2014, a National Liaison Council for the Study of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism was established in a form of confederation of the study groups of this kind throughout Japan.

In January this year, a seminar on the Juche idea and an arts performance were held in Okinawa to celebrate the birthday of First Secretary Kim Jong Un.

As a matter of fact, the number of the people who intend to make their efforts to build an independent and peaceful Japan by learning from Kimilsung-Kimjongilism is on the increase in many parts of Japan.

India is a great country, boasting permanent history and glorious culture and having a population of 1.2 billion. India has aspired after politics of independence and made achievements in the economy as well.

In India one of the first regional institutes on the Juche idea in the world, the Asian Regional Institute of the Juche Idea (ARIJI), was established and the study and dissemination of this new idea has been actively conducted ever since.

A seminar to celebrate the birth anniversary of First Secretary Kim Jong Un was held in New Delhi in January, 2013 with a large attendance of people in various walks of life

including teachers or professors, lawyers, press persons, social activists and leading persons of political parties.

Moreover, study groups of the Juche idea have been active in the rest of the Asian region including Nepal, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Thailand.

The Indian Society for the Study of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism was inaugurated in New Delhi in November 2015. It was an epoch-making event in the struggles of the Indian people for independence, and I am sure that the formation will become a foundation of promoting the Indian people's cause of independence and an ideological weapon of them.

I am firmly convinced that the strength of the people who live in line with Kimilsung-Kimjongilism will be immense and that nothing gives us a more worthy life than devoting ourselves to the great popular masses.

Finally, allow me to express my determination to continue to share this path together with you, Juche idea researchers in Asia in one mind, upholding aloft the banner of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism ever vigorously onwards in the future.