
President Kim Il Sung Who Devoted His Whole Life to People



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It is a great honour for us to hold this Seminar, on the occasion of the 13th Board Meeting of the Asian Regional Institute of the Juche Idea, with participation from almost all Asian countries.

Although the subject of the Seminar is Self-Reliance—Key to Independence, I shall speak on the birth, deeds of President Kim Il Sung and on Juche idea, a strong believer in self reliance, who taught to be self-reliant in all spheres of human life, activities and to live independently

without any foreign support, interference in the country's national and international problems, dependence in any manner and that is how the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) stands today in the international arena.

Great people appear on this earth, once in centuries to save the mankind from butchery anarchy, slavery, domination, cruelty and lawlessness.

So was the birth of President Kim Il Sung, who was born to liberate the fatherland from the

Japanese yoke of slavery and finally succeeded in his efforts, with the help and support of great Korean patriots, who sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom, self-reliance and independence.

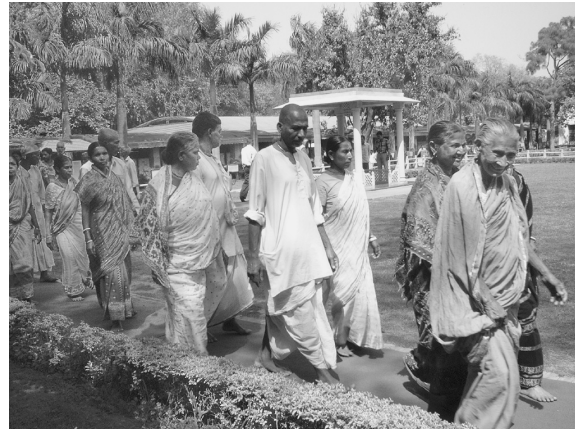
India is one of the few countries in the world which produced great saints, leaders and statesmen like Mahatma Gandhi the Father of the Nation, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and many more, who were great champions of self-reliance & firmly believed that self-reliance is the key to independence and national sovereignty.

In his historic report, "The Path of the Korean Revolution" made at the meeting in 1930, President Kim Il Sung made an overall analysis of the prevailing situation and the historic lesson of the preceding movement, and elucidated the principles of the Juche idea in an original way.

President Kim Il Sung said:

"The masters of the revolutionary struggle are the masses of the people, and only when they are organised and mobilized, can they win the revolutionary struggle."

He said that one should mix up with the masses of the people and organize and mobilize them in order to lead the revolution to victory, and that one must solve all problems arising in the revolution independently on one's own responsibility and to meet one's particular situation. He emphasized the need to maintain a firm stand and attitude that the masters of the Korean revolution were the Korean people and that the Korean revolution should always be carried out by the efforts of the Korean themselves to suit the Korean situation.



A lot of people visit the Gandhi Smriti Museum every day.

President Kim Il Sung defined the character and main task of the Korean revolution on the principles of the Juche idea.

General Secretary Kim Jong Il was born as the son of guerrilla fighters at the secret camp on Mt. Paektu on February 16, 1942, when a revolutionary turn was in effect under President Kim Il Sung's wise leadership in the struggle for final victory in the anti-Japanese war.

Consequently, the military ruling machinery of Japanese imperialism was destroyed once and for all, and the Korean people were rid of the military rule that had lasted nearly half a century.

The liberation of Korea was won through the struggle of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA), which had struck powerful military and political blows against Japanese imperialism for 15 years, shaking it to its very foundations, and the general mobilization of the resistance forces involving people of all walks of life across the country.

The victory in the anti-Japanese armed

struggle was the brilliant fruition of the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung, the legendary hero of the anti-Japanese struggle.

President Kim Il Sung, who embarked on the road of national liberation in his early days, shouldering the destiny of his homeland and nation, opened up the road of the Korean revolution by authoring the Juche idea and putting forward Juche-oriented revolutionary lines. He paved the way for the successful anti-Japanese war with his military foresight worthy of a genius and Juche-based strategy and tactics. With his outstanding leadership and lofty virtues, he firmly united the entire nation and inspired it to wage the sacred war of national liberation, thus bringing about a brilliant victory in the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

By successfully leading the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle to victory, he won back the sovereignty of the Korean nation, opened up a broad avenue to the building of a new society, and demonstrated to the whole world the dignity and honour, the indomitable revolutionary spirit and heroic mettle, of the Korean nation.

In the course of leading the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory over a period of 20 years, he built up the motive force capable of continuing to advance the Korean revolution dynamically, and created the brilliant revolutionary traditions that will be carried forward and developed forever by the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and the Korean people.

About self-reliance, an article of faith with President Kim Il Sung, I am tempted to share

with you two very significant facts, perhaps known to very few. During his visit to the DPRK late President Brezhnev of erstwhile the USSR offered to President Kim Il Sung electric power from the USSR and asked him to bear the cost of laying the cables. But President Kim Il Sung—self-reliance advocate—refused the offer because it meant that Korea would depend upon the USSR for the supply of power which would run from the USSR to Korea. Instead he prepared his people to build hydro electric stations and be self-reliant. Similarly the USSR offered its experts to build escalators and underground tunnels, signal system etc. to Korea when Pyongyang was to construct its Metro. President Kim Il Sung politely refused the offer because he wanted his own people to learn it by their own efforts and make it. Lo and behold, the Korean experts did the miracle. These are the living examples of self-reliance.

In short, if one asks me to explain how is self-reliance—key to independence then I would ask him to go to Korea and see for himself



A view of the Korean Metro in Pyongyang

“Self-Reliance—Key to Independence” in action and in practice.

As a result of President Kim Il Sung’s creation of the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary traditions, the Korean people are able to carry them forward in full to advance the revolutionary cause of Juche victoriously, and bring it to noble completion from generation to generation.

The Korean people were all aspiring to build a new society, but they did not know what to do for the time being, or which way they should follow.

How to formulate the line of building a new country was vital to the Korean people.

With an unswerving attitude and decision to strengthen the Korean people’s revolutionary force in every way, and build a new country by the efforts of these people in order to safeguard the sovereignty of the nation and accelerate nation building, President Kim Il Sung worked day and night to work out a complete policy line for building the new country, a line which he had been formulating for many years.

At the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People’s Assembly in April 1993, when tension had risen again, a grave obstacle was laid in the way of national reunification because of the pernicious manoeuvres against the DPRK by the divisive forces at home and abroad. President Kim Il Sung announced “the 10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country.”

In 1994, the last year of his great career, President Kim Il Sung worked hard for the

accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of Juche and for the triumph of the cause of global independence.

On June 16 and 17, President Kim Il Sung met former US President Jimmy Carter in Pyongyang and commented on the question of the United States’ “special inspection” and “sanctions.” “The United States said that she will bring the Korean ‘nuclear issue’ to the United Nations and call for sanctions against us. But we are not afraid of sanctions. We have lived in spite of the sanctions imposed upon us, we have never been free from sanctions, and we do not care at all whether the United States cancels the sanctions or not,” he declared.

Through his interview with President Kim Il Sung, former US President Jimmy Carter was completely fascinated by the clear judgement and mysterious power of analysis with which President Kim Il Sung expressed his views cogently, by his unshakable will and strong ardour which were based on his boundless love for his country and people and trust in them, by his great magnanimity and familiarity with which he dealt with the visitor in a simple and unreserved manner, by his gifted wisdom that shone in his countenance, and by his warm personality that pervaded all about him.

In a press conference held in Seoul on his way back home, former US President Jimmy Carter said that President Kim Il Sung was not only very energetic and wise, and had deep and broad knowledge of all questions, but was also generous. He highly praised him, saying

that President Kim Il Sung was a pre-eminent man who was as great as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln, the most illustrious early US Presidents, all combined.

Through his talk with former US President Jimmy Carter, President Kim Il Sung created favourable conditions for the opening of Korea-US negotiations about the nuclear issue and for the north-south summit conference.

From June 20 through July 5 he gave instructions about the north-south summit conference on dozens of occasions, and a dozen autographed instructions. On July 6 he had a detailed discussion on the telephone with Kim Jong Il about the questions relating to the summit conference.

On July 7, the last day of his great career, President Kim Il Sung worked without a moment's respite.

That day he began his work at dawn. Skipping his morning walk, he went over a document on the reunification of the country word by word, and finished it by signing it, 'Kim Il Sung July 7, 1994,' the last historic autograph he left behind. At ten o'clock in the morning, he summoned an official. Telling him that the weather forecast predicted a heavy rainfall, he instructed him to go to a dam to collect information about the water level and the condition of the dam. He inquired about the weather condition in the afternoon, and instructed the officials concerned to take emergency measures to prevent large rivers and reservoirs from overflowing. At 3:55 p.m. he explained to a diplomat, former US President Jimmy Carter's attitude after his



A view of the Kumsusan Assembly Hall, now the Kumsusan Memorial Palace, where President Kim Il Sung had engaged in his work

visit to Korea and the situation in Japan, and told him to deal with diplomatic affairs properly. At 4:09, 5:25 and 5:37 p.m. he rang up the officials concerned and gave them important instructions about power supply and other problems arising in carrying out the revolutionary economic strategy. At 7:30 p.m. he sat down to supper for about five minutes, but without finishing his meal he went back to his office. He went over a document, underlining now and then and revising some parts by writing in margins to the limits, deep into the night.

As we can see, President Kim Il Sung worked hard for the Party and the revolution, for the country and the people till the last moment of his life without a respite from his mental and physical fatigue, and died from sudden illness in his office at two o'clock on the morning, of July 8, Juche 83 (1994).

His death put the entire nation into the deepest mourning in their history of five thousand years; it meant the greatest loss that nothing could ever make up for.

The sad news was broken to the entire nation and the rest of the world by a special broadcast at noon, July 9 that year.

On July 19 his funeral ceremony was solemnly held in Pyongyang, the revolutionary capital. A portrait of the late President smiling broadly was set at the head of the procession that carried his coffin.

Two million Pyongyang citizens who were lined up row upon row on both sides of the 25-mile streets burst into wailing, bidding their last farewell to the late President, beating the ground and crying, "Fatherly leader, please do not leave us! If you leave us, how can we live?"

Although he is dead, President Kim Il Sung remains immortal as the sun of Juche in the minds of the Korean people and the revolutionary people throughout the world.

General Secretary Kim Jong Il said:

"Although his heart has ceased beating, the great leader is still with our people. He is immortal as the top intellect of the harmonious entity of the leader, the Party and the masses, and as the sun of the nation."

The immortality of the foremost leader can be guaranteed by his greatness and his unfailingly loyal successor.

President Kim Il Sung was a great leader, great revolutionary, great man, great philosopher, great statesman, great military strategist and great artist of leadership.

"The people are my God" and "I am dedicated to the people" were his mottoes, and he lived up to these mottoes all his life.

During the period of half a century after he

liberated the country, he gave on-the-spot guidance to more than 18,000 units on 8,000 occasions travelling 550,000 kilometres.

Representing the unanimous desire of the Korean people and the world's revolutionaries to have President Kim Il Sung as the eternal sun of Juche, General Secretary Kim Jong Il, who is unfailingly loyal and dutiful to his predecessor and has the noblest sense of communist moral obligation, has got the Kumsusan Assembly Hall, where President Kim Il Sung worked for a long time, rebuilt into the Kumsusan Memorial Palace, the Kumsusan area into the sacred temple of Juche, at the highest level, and has had him installed in state in the palace, so that he will be among the people forever.

General Secretary Kim Jong Il has raised the slogans, "The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung will always be with us" and "Let us arm ourselves more firmly with the revolutionary ideas of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and made sure that the leader's last instructions



A portrait of President Kim Il Sung with a smile like the Sun, being always with the people for their lives

were carried out. He has thus ensured that the WPK and the Korean people revere President Kim Il Sung, the founder of socialist Korea, forever, burnish his great revolutionary ideas and imperishable achievements down through generations, and carry out the revolution and construction in accordance with his will and the way he did.

General Secretary Kim Jong Il has ensured that April 15, the birthday of President Kim Il Sung, is observed as the Day of the Sun, that the Juche era, beginning in 1912, was instituted, and that the Constitution stipulates Kim Il Sung as the eternal President of the Republic.

The great revolutionary idea of President Kim Il Sung is being brilliantly developed as the idea of General Secretary Kim Jong Il, and President Kim Il Sung's leadership continues dynamically as the outstanding and refined



Koreans enjoying a traditional folk play on a holiday

leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Il.

Because General Secretary Kim Jong Il is at the top of the hierarchy of the WPK and the Korean nation, President Kim Il Sung will always be with the Korean people, and his revolutionary history will continue through the prosperity of his country, where his last instructions will come into full flowering, and through the prosperity of his nation that will thrive forever.

Surrounded and guarded by lush green mountains, rivers, waterfalls, seas all-around the country, as national safe guards, the DPRK today is a Paradise on earth.

The DPRK is one country in the world where each and every person has food to eat, a house to live and a job to do. A crime free society, a tax free society, free education and medication for one and all.

A country is not known for its wealth, population and its size, but by its leader and the people, howsoever big or small its may be. The DPRK consists of 23 million martyrs, ready to sacrifice their lives, on one call from its leader, if and when the need arises.

This is what the DPRK today is!

It is thanks to General Secretary Kim Jong Il, who, following into the footsteps of his great father, has left no stone unturned to provide all facilities of life to take care of the great Korean people.

(Lecture given at an Asian Regional Seminar on "Self-Reliance Is Key to Independence" in New Delhi on March 13, 2010)