

Workers' Party of Korea — Party with Difference



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Let us understand the fact that Eternal President Kim Il Sung was a farsighted person, a visionary, and a seer who could read the future like the back of his palm.

He fought bravely against the Japanese Imperialists and with the meagerest of the meager resources could make them flee from the country bag and baggage, courting a very shameful but well-deserved humiliation. Later with the same untrained and ill equipped army he could challenge the all powerful USA assisted by the traitor Syngman Ree and made them lick the dust.

But to drive away the enemy and liberate one's country is very different from administering it efficiently. So far as there is an alien force subjugating people, the leader projects a common and strong cause—

liberation of the fatherland and breaking the chains of bondage—but thereafter to administer the country needs super intelligence and acumen of efficient management. President Kim Il Sung was endowed with it.

The Down-with Imperialism Union (DIU) founded in 1926 had lost its relevance after the attainment of independence and President Kim Il Sung founded the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) in 1945 “to build the party, the state and the armed forces.”

The WPK therefore was one of the strongest and most effective organs of the state to take the revolution forward and build a prosperous country. Clearly it was built on the Juche ideology so as to make the country self-reliant and every individual feel that he is the master of his destiny and is an instrument

in making the country self-dependent. It was not based on the bureaucratic model where the seniors by and large cut off from the masses and issue fiats sitting in their cozy rooms and offices. The guiding principle was to work for the masses, relying on the masses.

Deprecating the bureaucratic style of functioning, President Kim Il Sung very aptly said:

“Bureaucracy is an anti-popular method of government adopted by the ruling classes to oppress the overwhelming majority of the popular masses under feudal and capitalist systems. This is why it is a harmful style of work which can never be tolerated under our people’s democratic system in which the people themselves exercise power.” (Kim Il Sung Works; Vol. 9; “On Eliminating Bureaucracy”)

In Korean dispensation all the party members including the seniors were to work in the actual field irrespective of their position and feel for themselves the pulse of the people working on the sights. They were to experience for themselves the dangers, the difficulties, and the challenges faced while working at the grass root level.

In passing let me say that on the spot guidance initiated by the President and strictly and religiously followed by General Secretary Kim Jong Il and now by First Secretary Kim Jong Un is a definite and vibrant practice inherited by these two great stalwarts. It gives the message to the last worker at the grass root level that even the Head of the State is one with them.

In fact the WPK is the Party which has been building the state right from the start

and working on the sublime principles of the Juche idea and giving full support to Songun politics.

According to “Kim Il Sung Encyclopedia” Vol.2, it is said:

“to enforce democratic social reforms and build a powerful independent sovereign state while applying the Juche idea -----the WPK is a party which ensures the oneness ideology and leadership.

“The leader is the personifier of the organizational will of the whole party and the supreme guideIn the 1970s the WPK put forward a new principle to ensure the oneness of ideology and leadership and intensified the work for this purpose in keeping with the requirement of the revolution for modelling the whole society on the Juche idea. As a result this party has now developed into the revolutionary ranks in which the whole party thinks and acts as one, firmly rallied round the President.”

The President again and again stressed the importance of Juche idea. He said:

“We have to build up the Workers’ Party of Korea, with a farsighted plan, to be a political organization commensurate with the law of the development of the masses’ cause of independence, to be the guide of the socialist and communist society. For this purpose we should imbue the whole Party with the Juche idea.” (Kim Il Sung Works; Vols.40; “The Historical Experience of Building the Workers’ Party of Korea”)

In sum we find this excellent organization was not imbued with the trade union philosophy which always fights for its lawful

or unlawful claims and thus puts a break to the development programs as happens in the capitalist country where by and large the higher interest of the society are sacrificed at the altar of selfish ends.

Here the Party is imbued with the Juche idea and its first and foremost duty is to work for the betterment of the nation. Moreover it does not work at cross purposes with the other important wing of the state—the Korean Peoples’ Army—whose Supreme Commander is the head of the state, who also works as the First Secretary of the Party. In this way the entire structure gets integrated in the person of the Head of the State.

Moreover the Juche ideology knits them into one and oneness, the keyword, the harbinger of progress, development and progress.

Let me say that on the spot exercise by the President, and later by General Secretary Kim Jong Il and now by First Secretary Kim Jong Un is the living proof of the fact that the topmost person goes and mingles with the person working at the grass root level and thus ignites in him the spirit and feeling that we all are one and working for the good of the nation shoulder to shoulder to take the country ahead.

To conclude let me say with all the conviction that the WPK is a unique organization and I do not have enough words to eulogize it or even delineate all its important features and contributions. Borrowing from Abraham Lincoln I would say, “It is of the people, for the people and by the people.”