

World Congress on the Cause of Independence in the 21st Century

The Colombo Declaration

on the Cause of Independence in the 21st Century

The "World Congress on the Cause of Independence in the 21st Century" was held on a grand scale in Colombo, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka between June 19 and 20, 2002 amidst great expectation and concern of humanity that desires independence and peace.

Convinced that this significant world congress held at the time when humanity's desire for sovereignty, dignity and a just world has become intense, will be a historical landmark in accomplishing the cause of independence in the 21st century, we issue this declaration.

The international situation has become more complex since we entered the 21st century.

Despite humanity's great expectations and efforts to live independently in a just and peaceful world, sovereignty of countries and nations is still violated in the international arena and human dignity neglected.

Adhering to power politics and under the signboard of "globalization," the imperialists have imposed their value system upon other countries, attempting to check humanity's advance in the cause of independence and peace.

This has caused social, political and economic confusion in many countries, hindering seriously the independent development of humanity.

Under the situation in which humanity's cause of independence is being confronted with grave challenges, we, representing the world independent forces that love justice and peace and value independence and dignity, declare as follows:

1. Humanity will dynamically accelerate advance
along the road of independence
in the 21st century

The 21st century is a century of transformation and victory in which the popular masses, the driving force of history, will bring about a decisive turn in accomplishing their cause of independence and building an independent world.

As history shows, humanity's cause of independence is a protracted yet noble one in that it advances and is accomplished through the process of surmounting all sorts of challenges.

Nobody wants to be subordinated to others and no nation tolerates its dignity to be impaired.

This is the valuable historical lesson and truth demonstrated in the 20th century during which there prevailed the desire of humanity to build an independent world through the common struggle against domination and subjugation.

In the new century, humanity will surely build an independent new world, braving all adverse and foul winds of the times.

2. The Juche idea that propelled the humanity's cause of independence in the 20th century will shed light as a great humanity's banner in the 21st century

The Juche idea is an idea that has put human dignity and value on the highest plane, and a revolutionary doctrine of the era of independence that illuminates the road to be followed by the people in their struggle for independence.

The unprecedented events in the 20th century that brought about fundamental changes in the position and role of human beings, and the spirit and dignity with which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has defended its sovereignty based on its original army-based politics, in defiance of terror and challenges on the part of hostile forces, are none other than the fruition brought by the Juche idea.

The Juche idea, which has struck root deep in the hearts of humanity and demonstrated its vitality in all ordeals in history for its revolutionary character, scientific accuracy and validity, will dynamically accelerate the human cause of independence as the driving force of the development of history in the 21st century, too, as in the 20th century.

If we hold aloft the banner of the Juche idea, the desire of humanity to build a new world that ensures an independent life and creative activities, will surely come true.

The congress confirmed that the army-first idea that General Secretary Kim Jong Il created by further developing the Juche idea is a great revolutionary idea of our times for defending the independence of countries and nations and for advancing the people's cause of independence to victory.

3. Humanity will build a new, just and peaceful world under the banner of independence in the new century

Despite of the fact that the common desire of humanity to live in a just and peaceful world has become even stronger after the replacement of centuries, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity are yet not to be ensured in international relations.

It is the reality of international relations that unilateralist, self-righteous and arbitrary forces are trying to control international law and order against humanity's desire to build a just new world.

This attests to the truth that all countries and nations should maintain independence more firmly than ever before in order to victoriously advance humanity's cause of independence.

This cause is accomplished with each country and nation as a unit, and the people in each country and nation are the masters in shaping the destiny of the country and nation.

It is self-evident that each country should have the right to equal position and security, which can be guaranteed only when it adheres to independent politics based on the Juche idea.

All the countries and nations that value independence should solve their problems arising in all

fields such as politics, the economy, the military and diplomacy based on the principle of national independence in their own way, maintaining an independent stand in whatever adversity.

World peace and stability can be achieved only through the struggle against the imperialists, the chief obstacle in the humanity's cause of independence.

The progressive world's peoples should resolutely fight against the imperialists by keeping the principled stand without wavering in their struggle before their pressure and appeasement.

It is important for the people to unite under the banner of independence to fight against arbitrariness and power politics on the part of the imperialists who are trying to ignite wars of aggression in quest of world supremacy.

Humanity advocating a just, peaceful and prosperous new world will fight determinedly to establish a new international order based on justice, equality and fairness to replace the old one based on domination, subjugation and inequality.

In the new century, humanity will build a new world which is independent, democratized, just and peaceful.

4. All countries and nations will strengthen unity, cooperation and solidarity based on independence

The humanity's cause of independence is an each nation's national cause, and at the same time a humanity's common cause.

"United, We Stand, Divided, We Fall"—this is the truth proved in the history of the people in their struggle for independence.

It is in the turbulent torrent of "globalization" that national, ethnic and territorial disputes and religious confrontations have aggravated and that sovereignty and stability are wantonly violated in different countries and regions.

"Globalization" is a modern version of colonialism and a drug that hampers national development and prosperity.

Only when countries and nations hold aloft the banner of unity and cooperation based on independence, can they properly face reactionary forces' aggravating machinations such as interference, pressure, appeasement and deceit.

With united efforts, all the countries and nations of the world should face all vicious machinations and manoeuvres of those forces that are attempting to subjugate the people on the pretext of "globalization".

The world's progressive forces will smash the imperialist schemes by keeping in their minds the danger and reactionary nature of "globalization", and by strengthening regional cooperation on the basis of independence.

5. Let us make the Juche idea our faith and put it into practice

Humankind's cause of independence is achieved through a process of materialization of a progressive idea in it. And, an independent new world is a world where the Juche idea has been embodied in all respects.

Such an ideology demonstrates its vital power only when it has become the faith of the people.

Let us activate the study and dissemination of the Juche idea in a fresh way in accordance with the requirement of a new century, and thus contribute to the independent development of humanity.

The people's cause of independence is a historical one that is carried forward from generation to generation.

Let us train core ranks of Juche idea researchers in a far-sighted way.

The cause of independence that started in the 20th century under the banner of the Juche idea, will advance vigorously through generations in the new century, too.

The congress confirmed the unanimous desire and will of the participants to add luster to the 21st century as the century of independence.

The people's struggle for independence is just and its victory is in store.

The human cause of independence that advances in the 21st century under the banner of the Juche idea will surely win a victory, and the 21st century will add a brilliant page to human history as a century opening up an independent new world.

Invincible is the human cause of independence in the 21st century.

June 20, 2002

Colombo