

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

Keynote Report

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The free life of humankind is facing serious challenges and the world is being confronted with various problems to be addressed even today when millions of years have passed since human beings came into being on this planet and two millenniums since the dominical year started.

Various kinds of wars were broken and arms race increased again in different parts of the world, and the poison of "globalization" causes crucial effects in many countries and the destruction of the global environment, pushing humanity to the crisis of ruination. Even in the 21st century we are witnessing aggravated and chronic violations of human rights and the development of people's personality are on the increase with each passing day.

The problems that disturb not only world peace and security but also a free development of the people's personality, are now evoking much discussion as a great concern of the world. But they are yet to be properly addressed in spite of the joint efforts of the international community. The fact is that the situation is aggravating instead of improving.

These serious problems facing the contemporary world, including factors for checking and threatening the existence and free development of humanity, have been caused by infringement upon the people's independence. Thus, to defend their independence is the only way for the people to solve these problems.

It is a common task for humankind at present to prevent war and the arms race and safeguard the peace and security of the world.

Nobody can be free and no stability and prosperity of the world be ensured, unless an end is put to the imperialists' war of aggression and arms race that cause destruction, massacre and waste of enormous resources which will bring mankind to the brink of ruination.

The root cause of war and arms race is dominationism.

Since the end of the Cold War, the imperialists have tried to build a unipolar world led by themselves by provoking wars in different parts of the world and by destroying the established strategic security frameworks, thereby driving the world into a fierce arms race.

The dominationist moves on the part of the imperialists are based on their self-entered values — the law of the jungle — and on their anachronistic ambition to occupy a dominant position in the world.

Today the imperialist reactionaries are loudly advertising anti-"terrorism" war and destroying world peace and stability, pushing the innocent people into the holocaust of war.

The only way to check the vicious cycle of "terrorism" and "anti-terrorism", eliminate the war and arms race and ensure peace and stability on our planet, is to wage the struggle to safeguard

independence and put an end to all forms of dominationism once and for all.

The issue of "globalization" facing the contemporary world — one of the urgent problems a solution to which brooks no further delay — can also be solved only through the struggle to defend independence.

It is true that the rapid development of information technology including the Internet has helped facilitate closer ties and more active exchanges among different countries and nations on a worldwide scale, opening up new possibilities for developing countries to make a leap forward.

The "globalization" theory argues, however, that the world has come to appear "borderless" by citing the fact that science and technology have made different countries and nations closer to one another. It is under such an excuse that the West has strengthened its interference in the rest of the world, which includes all fields of human activities and is done on a large scale.

Those countries that have fallen victims to "globalization" are now suffering from an overall crisis — political confusion, social disorder and grave economic recession, while their national cultures are being obliterated and their societies corroded by all sorts of immoralities and evils.

Due to the "globalization," many developing countries are suffering from serious "diseases"; and the phenomena that "the rich get ever richer and the poor poorer" along with the debt issue, have become more serious than ever before within one country and between countries as well.

Reality shows that "globalization" is a modern colonialism that gives the whole world over to the hands of the West.

Considering the grave consequences of "globalization" as such, each country and nation should draw due lessons from a failure in being aware of the importance of defending national sovereignty and political independence, and from flunkeyism and dogmatism, the follower of which blindly worships and imitates big powers without paying heed to the conditions of his own country.

Each country and nation should apply their own methods and introduce the developed science and technology, experience and success in conformity with their specific conditions on the basis of the stand to value and defend political independence and sovereignty.

Independence is the only correct path every country and nation should follow, which enables it to defend itself and bring about development and prosperity in the contemporary world.

Preventing environmental disruption and protecting ecology has arisen today as one of the grave issues vital to the destiny of humankind.

Our earth that is called a blue planet in the infinite outer space has been changed into a "black planet", and various natural calamities so as to menace the people's survival have been on the increase. These are the outcome of the money-centred value system and its advocates.

Other pressing issues facing the contemporary world concern human rights and a free development of the personality of each individual. These are being more aggravated by the forces that violate human independence by means of money and power.

It is imperative for us to further strengthen our struggle to defend independence if we are to bring about an earlier solution to the before-mentioned series of pressing issues facing the contemporary world.

Independence is precisely justice, truth and victory.

The progressive people should hasten the victory of the cause of independence by making big strides in the new century under the unfurled banner of independence.

What is most important here is to further strengthen their struggle against imperialism and dominationism, the main forces that destroy the peace and security of the world and hamper the independent development of humankind.

The people who aspire after independence must fight them, while keeping principled stand without any illusions about the imperialists.

Nothing is more foolish and dangerous than having an illusion about the imperialists and being unable to see through their true colours as aggressors and plunderers. If we give up fighting imperialism out of fear, we can never free ourselves from its domination and control forever. Servility leads to fall and subordination.

Those countries and peoples that advocate independence must not only refuse the slightest imperialist move toward violation of their sovereignty and interference in them but frustrate the "world supremacy" based on power politics on the part of the imperialists, thereby to make the international community more democratic.

At the same time, we must promptly foil all attempts to escalate the arms race and ignite new wars and refrain from joining in or helping the imperialists in any acts of aggression and intervention.

We should correctly understand the reactionary nature of "neoliberalism" and "globalization" which has neocolonialist nature, both of which have been widely spread by the imperialists, and resolutely fight against such propaganda.

Imperative for all advocates of independence is to unite closely and cooperate with one another if they are to advance the cause of independence.

All countries and nations should fight against the imperialists' strategy of division with the strategy of unity and against their allied forces with united forces.

The progressive peoples who love justice and peace should unite under the banner of independence to strengthen the concerted struggle to defend and realize independence. It is important to raise the voice of support and solidarity in the struggle for independence and develop international cooperation on the principle of independence, equality and mutual respect against national egoism that harms international unity and cooperation.

In the economic field, too, the imperialists monopolize the world financial institutions in economic sector and wield advanced technology to intensify economic domination and subordination. This being the case, it is important to intensify regional and continental economic cooperation and in particular, develop South-South cooperation among the developing countries on the principle of collective self-reliance.

What is also important in accomplishing the cause of independence is for each country and nation to ensure its independent development while retaining its own national character.

Each nation has its own national characteristics that have been formed and consolidated

through history. The national character embodies the spirit of national independence and the cultural tradition of a nation, which constitutes a precious wealth of a country and nation and an important asset for the building of a new society.

The peoples who advocate independence should cultivate the spirit of loving their own country and nation and reject positively outsiders' interference and pressure by adhering to the principle of national independence; and should judge, decide and solve independently all problems arising in the building of a new society in accordance with their own requirements, interests and specific realities.

To strengthen the nation's force is the most effective and realistic guarantee of the independent development of a country and nation.

It is imperative for each country and nation to achieve national unity based on the unanimous desire and common interests of the nations, while giving high priority to the building of a strong political force. At the same time, it should consolidate its economic and military power, by giving full rein to the creative power of the popular masses and by mobilizing all possibilities and potentials actively.

It is also important in building the driving force for the independent development of each country to put an end to national disputes and civil strife taking place in different parts of the world.

In the countries that are suffering from national disputes, social stability is undermined and human and material resources wasted instead of being used for social development.

The grave consequences of national dispute or civil strife include the killings of innumerable people, the aggravating refugee problem, the destruction of the economy and delays in social development. All countries and nations, therefore, should put an end to this intolerable situation at the earliest possible date so as to pave the way for stability and peaceful development.

What is worth mentioning here is the fact that the government of Sri Lanka has recently scored noteworthy successes in settling the long-continued ethnic disputes by the methods of national unity, reconciliation and cooperation and thus achieving the tranquillity and stability of the country. This experience of Sri Lanka's provides a good example to be followed by other countries concerned in addressing themselves to the urgent issue of ethnic dispute and civil strife.

The reality shows that all forms of disputes and civil strife will be settled correctly only on the basis of the idea of independence, peace and friendship clarified by the Juche idea.

The Juche idea is a powerful weapon enabling humankind to advance dynamically toward victory in defiance of all sorts of challenges and difficulties in history. It is the Juche idea that lives in the hearts of many people of the world as an approved guiding thought of the times, encouraging them in their struggles to create a new life and a new world.

These positive changes and successes that have been brought to ideological and mental lives and practical activities of mankind, are inconceivable separately from the devoted efforts exerted by the delegates present here and Juche idea researchers in different parts of the world.

The world's people highly appreciate, and will never forget, the feats accomplished by Juche idea researchers who have made devoted endeavours for this activity, neither for fame nor reward.

Humankind has now started a historic advance in the new century.

The new century requires that a new advance and renovation take place in the work of study and dissemination of the Juche idea, which is intended to enlighten humanity with historical truth, to give them confidence in the future and encouragement, and to lead them to follow unfailingly the road to independence.

With a sense of mission as forerunners of a new era and as disseminators of the advanced idea, and in conformity with the historical requirements, we should push forward with this work more energetically.

First of all, we should activate the work of study and dissemination of the Juche idea and to develop it among broader masses of the people.

The scope of its activity should be expanded among the popular masses of all strata so that they may accept the idea for its vitality and make it their firm faith and thus apply it to their daily lives and disseminate it, and thus display the vitality of the Juche idea, the powerful weapon for practice.

New and unique methods and forms should be actively applied to the study and dissemination of the Juche idea.

We ought to pay due attention to the necessity that this work should be carried forward from generation to generation. In other words, it is imperative that the younger generation endowed with great enterprise should take over and continue this work in a successful manner.

Thus it should be intensified among the youth. A pressing problem in this regard is to bring up theoretical core elements in the younger generation who deeply understand the principles of the Juche idea and are able to apply them to practice; and at the same time, to help them enhance their roles.

In the meantime, useful and effective means and methods including sophisticated science and technology should be mobilized and various leverages such as the media, publications and education be utilized so as to further develop this work.

The people's cause of independence that has advanced through trials may come across bigger obstacles and challenges in the future. We should not be disappointed in that but advance with the conviction of the brighter future of humanity and pave the path of history, depending on the peoples' strength.

History will follow the road of independence and the people's cause of independence will surely win victory.