

National Independence Is Right of Humankind Upholding Banner of Juche Idea and Self-reliance

Francis Fanuel Lyimo

Deputy Director- General, Board of Directors, African Regional Committee
for Study of Juche Idea.

Professor at St. Augustine University of Tanzania

National independence is the right of humankind

We uphold the banner of the Juche idea and celebrate the 75th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). September 9, 1948 was the founding day of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung who founded the great Juche idea which opened a new era of history, the era of independence of humankind.

During colonial rule in Korea, the country was backward, poor and was exploited and oppressed by colonial rule. People's cause of independence was started by President Kim Il Sung and continued to be carried successfully in the DPRK under the leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il and General Secretary Kim Jong Un who have deepened and developed the Juche idea in conformity with new requirement of history of development in developing countries. The DPRK struggled against the manoeuvres of the imperialists against socialism and the DPRK defended and developed socialism centred on the popular masses and built a powerful struggle for independence of humankind. As is indicated by the Juche idea, human history is the history of struggle and creation to realize the independence of the popular masses.

The Juche idea has shown the truth that masses are the masters of their own destiny and they have power to shape it. The age of independence is a new era in history when the oppressed and humiliated masses of the people become masters of their society and shape their destiny independently and creatively and open up the new history for national liberation in colonized countries.

National liberation struggle in colonial countries started in Korea under the banner of the Juche idea and spread to other colonial countries of the world. African countries won victory in liberation struggle or democratic

struggle to win national independence. This victory to get national independence was a beginning of struggle to get independence of the popular masses. African countries which have national political independence have to build independent national economy as a continuation of the national democratic or liberation struggle for national independence

The backwardness and poverty left over by colonial rule in countries of Africa and the neo-colonial exploitation of countries of Africa are the current problems facing national independence in African countries. The imperialists interfere in the internal affairs of countries of Africa under the claims of “freedom”, “democracy, ” “defence of human rights” and “peace” and bring countries of Africa under their economic subordination with their so-called “aid” and “cooperation”.

It is important for developing countries to uphold the banner of the Juche idea for independence which is a right to humankind and build new independent and self-reliant countries where people become masters and their freedom and rights are ensured. This is the way forward for freedom of people against imperialist aggression and exploitation in countries of Africa. To build independent and prosperous nations in Africa is the unanimous desire of people of Africa who are aspiring for independence and genuine development.

The Juche idea and the experience of the DPRK on struggle for independence are useful for countries of Africa in upholding national independence in politics for social and economic development. The study and dissemination of the Juche idea is important to give people ideological consciousness of independence that people are the masters of their own destiny to build their independent nation. President Kim Il Sung said that we should go among the people and equip them with the Juche idea to unite them into a political force under the banner of the Juche idea.

In order for countries of Africa to achieve independent national development they should build self-sufficient economy on the principle of self-reliance because the economy is the material base of political independence. The countries of Africa have to cooperate with other developing countries on the principle of equality and mutual benefit. Economic relations with other countries should aim at building and strengthening self-reliant national economy.

Countries of Africa have to promote economic cooperation and exchange through south-south cooperation among developing countries on the principle of collective self-reliance depending on the strength of the people and resources for the independent development of the countries.

To build prosperous independent and sovereign states, developing nations have to struggle against imperialism. The fight against imperialists should be directed on political and military interference, cultural and economic infiltration of the imperialists.

Anti-socialist manoeuvres of imperialist countries are to try to isolate and stifle the socialist DPRK to obliterate socialism in developing countries. The DPRK and progressive people in developing countries have to build national independence which is the right of humankind under the banner of the Juche idea.

During 1960s and 1970s the continent of Africa experienced great political changes. National liberation and national democratic movements struggled against colonial rule and established political independent national governments. Ghana was the first African country to get political independence in 1957 and South Sudan was the last African country to get political independence in July 2011. National independence is a right to the people of Africa. The DPRK supported and assisted the liberation struggle for political independence of some countries of Africa in 1970s.

Neo-colonialism in Africa is a great threat to national independence which is a right to humankind. The people in Africa have to unite on the principle of independence to fight against neo-colonialism. Every sovereign state must defend national independence against neo-colonialism which aims to under develop, oppress and humiliate countries of Africa. Even after getting political independence from the colonial governments, the countries of Africa are still invaded, plundered and looted by capitalists through neo-colonial methods of exploitation.

National independence in countries of Africa must be defended by patriotic people.

The eventual goal of national independence is to make the popular masses the masters of nature and society and of their own destiny. National independence is endangered by neo-colonialism. On this ground, national independence must be defended by patriotic people, by all means and at all costs. Thus to uphold independence in state activities is most correct policy which conforms to the needs of the current period.

It is essential for humankind to defend independence because human history is one of continuous struggle on the part of the masses of the people for independence. This philosophy correctly elaborates that to defend national independence is an absolute requirement of the masses of people as social

beings and it is their inalienable fundamental right.

According to the Juche philosophy, people are social beings for whom independence is their life. On this ground people must defend their national independence. In order to defend national independence, it is necessary to adhere to the independent stand in revolution and construction. That means, the popular masses should make their own decisions and take responsibility for solving all problems arising in revolution and construction in accordance with their own independent judgment.

The most difficult problem which is facing the countries of Africa is that of consolidating and defending sovereignty. It is an obligation for each country to defend sovereignty. A sovereign state should defend integrity and maintain status of respect and equal relations with other sovereign states regardless of such differences as the wealth of country or its territorial and population size. Thus all countries of Africa should be guided by the revolutionary principle of defending national independence.

Independent National Economy is a Prerequisite to Consolidate National Independence

Countries of Africa should strive to build independent national economy through self-reliance and by using available national resources. Economic self-reliance is the material foundation of political independence and sovereignty to ensure true and free development of a nation. A country's independence is endangered by its economic dependence on other countries.

Economic dependence would put that country in a subordinate position and lead to economic and political inequality between the countries concerned. Countries of Africa should co-operate on the principle of independence and each country has to build independent national economy. These countries should co-operate economically on the principle of satisfying each other's needs and consolidate national independence.

The difficulties which the African countries are encountering are continuing plunder and exploitation by neo-colonialism. Foreign monopolies maintain indirect control over sources of raw materials, minerals, fuel etc. by tying the economies of the countries of Africa to the world capitalist economic system.

Beside the problem of underdevelopment brought to Africa by neo-colonialism, each Africa country has internal problems. There are problems of overcoming backwardness, not making proper and full use of human and natural resources, poverty, unemployment, food shortage, rapid growth of

population and sluggish economic development etc.

But countries of Africa have great potential for development through their economic cooperation. This should be achieved by using each country's natural and human resources and exchange experiences and techniques with each other.

Strategies to Develop Economy for National Independence in Africa

Countries of Africa must modernize agriculture and fight poverty. This strategy is intended to develop the initiatives of farmers to apply science and technology in agriculture production, use credit institutions to build irrigation and infrastructure to support agriculture.

Countries of Africa have to create and develop industrial sector which will use local and imported materials and human resources to produce for internal and export market. Africa has to reduce external dependence and be more reliant on internal sources. That means each country in Africa should make its economic decisions and implement such decisions for the benefit of those countries. The aim of this strategy is to achieve self-sustained economic growth through the use of available resources. African countries should promote cooperation among themselves in order to develop infrastructures, trade, industry and other common areas of interest for mutual benefits for the participating countries.

The objective of the struggle against neo-colonialism in Africa is to get and maintain the national independence. But if a country is not economically independent and it has to rely on economic support from the capitalist neo-colonial nations its political independence would not be meaningful because this would signify changing one form of subordination which was colonial rule to another form of subordination which is neo-colonial. This subordination and dependence of African countries on rich imperialist countries would endanger the sovereignty of the African countries. African countries with anti-neocolonial development policies, upholding the banner of the Juche idea and learn from the success of the DPRK should unite to fight against neo-colonialism in Africa.