

Independence and Juche Idea

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Dear colleagues,

The participants in the seminar held on the occasion of the 75th founding anniversary of the DPRK,

Independence is the main category of the Juche idea and the Juche idea is a guiding ideology of the DPRK.

Independence, or “*Jaju*” in Korean, has been a fundamental principle in the DPRK’s political discourse since its establishment in 1948. It stems from the country’s historical experiences of colonization and foreign domination, particularly under Japanese rule from 1905 to 1945. The DPRK’s leaders have sought to win the nation’s sovereignty and protect it from external influences by promoting self-reliance in various aspects of state governance, the economy, and national defence.

The Juche idea, authored by the DPRK’s founding leader Kim Il Sung in the 1930s, serves as the ideological foundation for the country’s political system. Juche, often translated as “self-reliance” or “self-determination”, places the DPRK people at the center of the country’s development and decision-making processes. It emphasizes the need for economic, political, and military independence, as well as the rejection of reliance on foreign powers.

Thanks to the Juche idea, the DPRK people are expected to take an active and decisive role in shaping their own destiny and working towards the betterment of their country. It highlights the importance of economic development and scientific progress to strengthen national independence. The Juche idea also promotes a sense of national identity and unity as it is the idea of “*Jaju*” by which the DPRK people are encouraged to be the masters of their own destiny.

The Juche idea has been enshrined in the constitution of the DPRK and is considered the guiding principle for the country’s governance. It has influenced all aspects of society of the DPRK, including politics, the economy, education and culture.

Overall, both independence and the Juche idea play decisive roles in shaping the DPRK’s political ideology and its approach to governance. These concepts reflect the country’s historical experiences and its aspirations for self-reliance, national sovereignty, and the primacy of the DPRK people in determining their own destiny.

The essence of the Juche idea is that the masses of the people are the masters of the

revolution and construction and that they are also the motive force of the revolution and construction.

It scientifically explains the true features of society where the independence of the people has been fully realized, the law-governed process by which it is built, and the strategy and policies for the struggle that should strictly be adhered to in the whole course of carrying out the socialist cause.

Comrade Kim Il Sung and Comrade Kim Jong Il were geniuses of ideology and theory, masters of the leadership art, ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commanders, great revolutionaries and statesmen, and great men.

The great revolutionary ideas of Comrade Kim Il Sung and Comrade Kim Jong Il and the great achievements made under their leadership are the lasting treasures of the Korean revolution and the basic guarantee for the prosperity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its people will uphold Comrade Kim Il Sung and Comrade Kim Jong Il as the eternal leaders of Juche Korea, and will carry the revolutionary cause of Juche through to completion by defending and carrying forward their ideas and achievements.