

DPRK, Its Founding and Education Process

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Since it was liberated from the several decade-long Japanese occupation and the US signed an armistice in 1953, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which was founded on September 9, 1948 concentrated efforts on education in order to rehabilitate the country. Now it channels efforts into education as ever. They were years of high-intensity struggle conducted against all sorts of behaviours to stifle the people who have long history and the history and culture of the country that solidified its homogeneity. For Comrade Kim Il Sung who is the founder of the Republic, education was always a primary matter even in such decisive periods as those of guerrilla struggle against the Japanese imperialists and the Fatherland Liberation War against the US imperialists.

It is important and necessary to emphasize that Kim Il Sung's struggles against the Japanese imperialists were carried out not only in the military field but in the field of opposing the attempt to erase the people and country from the Korean people's memory. Inquiring into the present socio-political and educational situation enables to understand the whole process of struggle conducted by the Korean people since Japan emerged as a dominating and colonialist force. It is important for our organization to have an understanding on the process of obliterating the Korean nation since the Japanese occupied it. The Japanese imperialists enforced a policy of obliterating the Korean people's national character from the initial period. Pro-Japanese education and colonial education occupied a main part in the policy. Eradicating aftermath of colonial education by Japanese imperialism was one of the main tasks to be implemented by the revolutionary education in Korea under the wise leadership of Kim Il Sung.

The great leader Kim Il Sung said.

“Pupils and students should be well versed in our spoken and written language, history, geography and culture. Only then will they be able to love their country and nation with a high degree of national pride and

dignity and make selfless endeavours to build a new Korea.”

His saying tells us that education was and is essential in the course of revolution. This aspect makes clear the continuity kept in the DPRK’s educational process from its founding day up to the present. Kim Il Sung University which is named after Comrade Kim Il Sung was established soon after liberation of the country. This university is the most important one in the country and known as a popular establishment built by the Korean people’s capabilities and potentialities.

President Kim Il Sung said.

“The university should train them to be competent cadres faithfully serving the country and the people. For this purpose, it should provide them with an education in keeping with our actual conditions and impart plenty of practical knowledge that can be applied in building the new Korea.”

It is necessary to possess an extensive knowledge on the Juche philosophy authored and developed by Kim Il Sung in order to be aware of the whole process of the formation and foundation of the Korean nation and the establishment of its education.

President Kim Il Sung said.

“In a nutshell, the idea of Juche means that the masters of the revolution and the work of construction are the popular masses and that they are also the motive force of the revolution and construction. In other words, one is responsible for one’s own destiny and one has also the capacity for hewing out one’s own destiny.”

The Juche philosophy was the key policy in the whole course of founding the DPRK and served as a main fulcrum of education since the Juche philosophy emerged. All others including science and technology, the economy and culture are run through with this idea, the Juche philosophy and it makes the DPRK’s existence and fortress possible. The most important is that it enables the DPRK to be respected by the world with the wide-ranging diplomatic relations it established on the international arena and the unity it displayed in the showdown with imperialist forces.

When we look back historically upon the process of founding the DPRK, it is essential to refer to the appearance of Americans on the Korean peninsula. When the USSR won victory in the World War II, Japan was defeated and the

Korean peninsula divided into two parts, the north and the south. This division causes constant insecurity, and every attempt to establish a single state on the Korean peninsula is disturbed by the US and its puppets. As mentioned above, that the DPRK was founded in 1948 was a result of the struggle waged by the Korean people against the US and Japanese imperialists under the leadership of Kim Il Sung. Their struggle became an example for the world people who struggle to live in a peaceful and symbiotic world. The DPRK people's struggle became a beacon. It exerts bigger influence day by day upon the co-countries that are brave to oppose the hegemonic assertion of the West including those led by the US and degraded into its satellite countries.

Development of the DPRK is and should be inconceivable without the 1950-1953 Korean war. This war made strong the nation that fought to the last to make its territory free from foreign forces and defended the state which is known among us as the DPRK today from imperialism. The Korean war was the first aggressive war that the US provoked against the people who struggle to find out their own way. It was also the first big defeat of this empire. This taught the people in many countries that no one can win them who struggle for interests of their country under the wise leadership of the leader and cherish clear sense of consciousness on their historical mission.

No one argues about the DPRK's nuclear development and proved strength and this enables the DPRK to discuss its opinion and stand directly with any presidents of the most developed countries. The USSR collapsed and so did the powerful governments in East Europe. However, the DPRK remains healthy and strong even under difficulties and sanctions. Furthermore, it vigorously realizes dreams and wishes desired by its people year after year thanks to its own strength, that is, the Juche philosophy and unyieldingness of its leaders and people.

Today the DPRK advances to implement behests of the great leader Kim Jong Il under the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un. The entire Party, all people and the whole army are now struggling to materialize the ideal desired and wished by the eternal President Kim Il Sung who founded the DPRK in September 1948.