

# President Kim Il Sung, Guardian of World Peace and Sovereignty

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President **Kim Il Sung** (1912-1994) of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led the Korean revolution vigorously for nearly seven decades in the last century. His career was run through with the idea of independence.

## **Holding High Banner of Independence**

Embarking on the road of the struggle to liberate Korea from the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists, Comrade **Kim Il Sung** groped for a path to be followed by the Korean revolution. He found out two truths. The first one is that the masters of the revolution are the popular masses and they should be organized and mobilized, believing in their strength. Another one is that one should make a revolution on his own responsibility in accordance with his own faith and solve for himself all problems arising in the revolution in accordance with specific conditions and interests of his country. He held a historic meeting of Korean revolutionaries of a new generation in Kalun in June 1930 and delivered a speech *The Path of the Korean Revolution*. Based himself on the said truths he elucidated the principle of the Juche idea that one is the master of his own destiny and has the ability to carve it out. Since then the Korean revolution could advance along the road of

independence clarified by the Juche idea. The Korean revolutionaries, under the banner of independence, defeated the Japanese imperialists and liberated Korea on August 15, 1945.

### **Round of Korean-style Democracy**

What road will the liberated Korea take?

There appeared different isms and doctrines after Korea's liberation, driving people into confusion. At that time Comrade **Kim Il Sung** set the round of progressive democracy suited to the actual situation of Korea. The most important feature of the progressive democracy was independence, which called for building a new Korea in every way an independent stand and creative attitude, rejecting any dependence on foreign countries or subordination to them.

The building of new society in the liberated Korea followed the road of progressive democracy advanced by the President. The democratic reforms as the tasks of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution were carried into effect. The land reform was carried out to abolish feudal landownership and made peasants the owners of land. With the law on nationalizing major industries promulgated, blue and white-collar workers became masters of industrial establishments. Women were legally provided with the same right with men thanks to the law on sex equality. The labour law was proclaimed to introduce an eight-hour working system and a paid leave system for the blue-and white-collar workers.

On the basis of these democratic reforms, the DPRK, the first democratic state for the people in the East, was founded in September 1948.

## **Heroic Epic in Defence of Sovereignty**

In June 1950 the US imperialists provoked a war of aggression against the DPRK in a bid to realize their wild ambition for world supremacy. They hurled into the small war area of the Korean peninsula huge forces over two million strong, including their three fighting forces, troops of their many vassal states, south Korean troops and even the remnants of the former Japanese army and colossal amounts of munitions. The Korean people stood at the crossroads of whether they becoming slaves of imperialism once again or defending their dignity as the independent people.

President **Kim Il Sung** aroused the Korean army and people to the heroic struggle for the defence of sovereignty. During the war he toured, braving the raining bombs and shells, to give ceaseless field guidance to many units at the front and in the rear, and advanced unique strategies and tactics, thus leading the servicepersons and people for the victory in the war.

During the three-year-long Korean war the United States lost 1 567 120-strong troops, over 12 220 fighting planes and other combat equipment, and had to sign an armistice agreement, admitting its defeat in the war. The young DPRK defeated the US which boasted of being "the strongest" in the world.

## **Foundation of Independent Economy Built up**

The DPRK has consistently adhered to the line of building an independent national economy from the first day of its founding. The independent national economy of the DPRK is now in a position to

manufacture artificial earth satellites completely by its own efforts and technology and successfully launch them at one go.

Credit for this has not come of its own accord. After the Korean war the advocates of an integrated economy in socialist countries forced the DPRK to join the COMECON, laying obstacles to its economic development. They did not give it even the already contracted steel and machinery, putting pressure upon it in all directions. President **Kim Il Sung** resolutely rejected the demand of great-power chauvinists and called on the Korean working class and other people to overcome the prevailing difficulties in the spirit of self-reliance. In hearty response to his call the Korean people developed their economy in the flames of Chollima leap forward and thus carried out the historic task of industrialization in 14 years.

Thanks to the rock-solid independent national economy the DPRK could provide itself with material foundations for the independence in politics and self-defence in national defence. As a result, socialist Korea has never flinched even in the turmoil of successive collapse of socialism in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, steadfastly adhering to the banner of independence.

Today, the banner of independence President **Kim Il Sung** maintained throughout his life is shedding its light together with the DPRK presenting its magnificent appearance as an invincible power of independence.