

Comrade Kim Il Sung: Building Country with History and Culture of Korea as Roots

Prof. Omar Lopez

Deputy Director-general, Latin American Institute of the Juche Idea
Chairman, Venezuelan National Association for the Study of the Juche Idea

Comrade Kim Il Sung was born in Mangyongdae on April 15, 1912, two years after the Japanese imperialists annexed and colonized Korea. Process of the colonization was perfected by the concluding of the “Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty” through which all Korea’s authorities were coercively transferred to the Japanese emperor. Infringement upon Korea’s sovereignty was supported by the US who promised not to give a helping hand to the Korea’s independence movement.

Oneness of the Korean nation and its history and culture began to be obliterated systematically. Prohibition of educating the Korean language in schools and using the Korean language on documents of the country (including public and judicial organs and schools) and compulsory use of the Japanese language in 1923 proved this.

It is necessary to underline the fact that Comrade Kim Il Sung’s struggle against the Japanese imperialists had to deal with not only the military affairs but the Japanese imperialists’ attempt to erase the concepts of the people and country from the Korean people’s minds. Exploiting classes that surrendered to the Japanese imperialism availed themselves of such the Japanese imperialists’ moves for the destruction of national culture and history of Korea, and the US that was to turn the Korean peninsula into a base for its future expansion policy in the region also supported them. The US policy is being enforced even today by the south Korean stooges under the support of the servile Japanese government.

After liberating Korea from the Japanese imperialist colonial rule, Comrade Kim Il Sung struggled to change Korea.

Comrade Kim Il Sung said.

“Capitalist and feudal societies are ones where people with money lead a luxurious life by exploiting the working people. After Korea becomes independent we should not build such an unfair society. It is wrong to consider only the development of a

technological civilization without taking the malady of capitalism into account. It would be absurd to restore the feudal dynasty. Who can support the dynastic rule which sold the country to foreign forces? What have the kings done? They bled the people white and beheaded or banished loyal subjects who spoke the truth. What more did they do?

“After making Korea independent, we should build a society free from exploitation and oppression, a society where the workers, peasants and other working people lead a bountiful life in their homeland...”

The Japanese imperialists intended to liquidate history and culture of Korea, but the historic and cultural legacies were needed in leading the dignified and brave people in the DPRK to the revolution.

The Workers’ Party of Korea (October 10, 1945) founded before the founding of the DPRK (September 9, 1948) played a positive role in the ideological self-improvement of the Korean people and the Korean revolution.

Comrade Kim Il Sung wrote in his reminiscences “With the Century”.

“The Korean Communist Party did not fulfil its role effectively as the vanguard of the working class because of some essential limitations—its lack of a guiding ideology that conformed with the actual situation, and its failure to achieve the unity of its ranks and strike root deep among the masses. However, its foundation, marking as it did an important event that demonstrated the change of the old current of thought to a new one and the qualitative change in the national liberation struggle, gave impetus to the development of the mass movement, particularly the labour movement, the peasant movement and the youth movement, as well as of the national liberation movement.”

Through the revolutionary events in the 20th century, we came to know that how the “communist parties” were founded in different countries as a copy of the Bolshevik Party after the October Revolution and that Lenin founded the USSR.

Comrade Kim Il Sung made efforts to found the Juche-oriented revolutionary party.

Comrade Kim Il Sung wrote in his reminiscences “With the Century”.

“Each faction claimed that it was the orthodox party and travelled about in order to gain recognition from the Comintern, carrying even seals engraved in potatoes with it.

“I analysed the situations of the nationalist and communist movements in our country and decided that the revolution should not be conducted in that way. I believed that the revolution in our country would emerge victorious only when it was undertaken on our own responsibility and by the efforts of our own people, and that all the problems arising in the revolution must be solved independently and creatively. This was the starting-point of the Juche idea, as it is known nowadays.”

We regard Comrade Kim Il Sung as a guide of activities and orientation of the people in different countries who want to continue struggling for national liberation and self-determination.

Today, Comrade Kim Il Sung’s comprehensive and diverse historic and political legacies can be summarized in the foundation, systematization and development of the Juche idea that guides the DPRK’s politics, economy, military affairs, cultural and social lives, and the course of comprehensive systematization and development of the Juche idea.