

# Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Historical Role

G. P. Kulikov

Professor at Far East Federation University,  
Vladivostok, Russia

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the eternal President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was born on April 15, 1912.

This year we celebrate his 110<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary.

Comrade Kim Il Sung is the founding father of socialist Korea and the great revolutionary who performed immortal exploits in accomplishing the human cause of independence, the cause of socialism.

He is a fighter who fought for independence and sovereignty of the country against the Japanese colonial domination, a fighter who fought against US imperialism, a great state and political activist, a party and military activist and the founder of the DPRK.

His revolutionary activities were so huge and profound in scope to such an extent that they cannot be described with words or writings that we cannot explain them all in this paper.

So we are to stress one aspect which is the most important.

Comrade Kim Il Sung is a founder of the Juche idea, the guiding ideology of the state. The Juche idea was founded at the historic Kalun meeting held in June 1930. Since then, significance and role of this original ideology have been consistently strengthened in the struggle of the DPRK people.

External conditions exerted a certain influence upon struggle of the DPRK people.

The external conditions can include the Japanese colonial occupation made since 1910, the national liberation war ended in the liberation from Japanese militarism and the war against the US imperialism ended in 1953 with victory of the DPRK people.

The Japanese imperialists' colonial occupation and the war provoked by US imperialism destroyed human and material production forces in the DPRK.

It was important but complicated not only to rehabilitate the destroyed production forces of the country but to develop them onto a scientific and technical level attained in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

After liberation, Korea was divided into two. The US troops still station in south Korea, which becomes a constant source of aggravation of tension and provocation.

The DPRK had to carry out some important tasks after liberation.

They were to establish a political system of popular character, that is, to found the party, the state and the working people's organizations.

They were to carry out democratic tasks and, further, to map out correct strategy and tactics for the building of a socialist society.

They were also to educate and train the working masses whose mission was to build large-scale industry and modern infrastructure, develop science and culture and place culture in rural areas on a modern level.

Meanwhile, they were to make consideration of experiences gained by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in building socialism and, at the same time, to inquire into the original line suited to national and historic conditions of the country.

At last, such line was found out. The lines reflected interests of the entire DPRK people including the working class on the basis of the

Juche idea.

The line of developing economic construction and defence building simultaneously is the typical example.

External political situation of the DPRK was complicated and the US direct armed intervention and threats continued against the DPRK, an independent state. Under such condition the DPRK should also build up its national defence capabilities, which was reflected in the line of developing the economy and defence simultaneously.

That he authored the Juche idea and applied it in practice is an exploit performed by Comrade Kim Il Sung who penetrated deep into importance of an ideological factor among all of those acting on social development in the modern times.

Comrade Kim Il Sung never followed traditional lines while imitating the “Marxist, Leninist and Stalinist” doctrines. The preceding doctrines established on the basis of realities of West Europe and the Soviet Union, were not suited to actual conditions of Korea and desire and demand of its people who had been under the Japanese colonial rule for decades and suffered pains owing to the US military interventions. After achieving the national sovereignty, the DPRK’s original Juche idea, that clarifies that man is master of his destiny, was supplemented with new contents which reflected its concrete conditions in the period of democratic construction and building socialism.

Here, we would like to mention “**Socialism Is A Science**”, a treatise published in *Rodong Sinmun*, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea on November 1, 1994 by Comrade Kim Jong Il, the successor to the eternal DPRK’s President Kim Il Sung.

As it had thunderbolt-like effects, not only thinkers of socialism but renegades of socialism paid attention to the theory.

We remember that, in this period, many countries and politicians gave up socialism in succession, prohibited or dissolved communist parties under different excuses and burnt away their party membership cards.

**“Socialism Is A Science”** was made public to give fresh air and confidence to the people in such a stifling and dreadful period when betrayal, falsehood and denunciation of socialism were made massively.

Still now, socialism remains as it is in minds of millions of people and the struggle for socialism continues. Socialism will never withdraw from its position nor yield to imperialism. Neither nuclear blackmail nor blockade and border provocations will surprise socialism. There will be neither “end of history” nor “end of socialism”.

Comrade Kim Jong Il said.

**“The crumbling of socialism in various countries does not mean the failure of socialism as science but the bankruptcy of opportunism which has corrupted socialism. Although socialism is temporarily experiencing a heart-rending setback because of opportunism, it will without fail be revived and win ultimate victory for its scientific accuracy and truth.”**

This truth provided conviction and optimism to the progressive people aspiring after socialism.

Socialism is a desire of popular masses aspiring after independence, freedom, sovereignty, social justice and peace.

Not in any stage of history but in the 20<sup>th</sup> century struggle between revolution and counter-revolution, showdown between peace forces

and anti-peace forces were waged fiercely.

Masses of people aspired after independence and wanted to carve out their destiny on their own.

This is a conclusion we make from history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

It is Comrade Kim Il Sung who perceived and declared this conclusion squarely for the first time. Herein lies the historic role of Comrade Kim Il Sung.