

Dear comrade Alejandro Cao De Benos , President of the KFA ,
Dear comrades and friends of the KFA, my fellow soldiers in arms !

Firstly , please accept my congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the Korean Friendship Association . KFA has come a long way from its humble beginnings to being a powerful association with over 17,000 members in different countries . KFA is acknowledged by friend and foe alike as the true defender of People's Korea , its sword and shield . Now the enemies of both People's Korea and the KFA are working hard to destroy KFA but KFA is here to stay , standing strong .

Today People's Korea under the leadership of respected Marshal KIM JONG UN is performing great miracles . People now talk about the 'era of KIM JONG UN ' . Recently , on October 10th , the DPRK held a truly massive military parade to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the great Workers' Party of Korea .

Only People's Korea guided by Juche was able to hold such a large-scale parade at the time of the worldwide pandemic . Moreover People's Korea in the grip of the stranglehold of the reactionary imperialist sanctions . Since 2016 the UN Security Council have imposed 5 rounds of sanctions and also the US , EU and Britain have imposed sanctions on People's Korea . On top of the sanctions imposed by the imperialist hostile forces on People's Korea , the country suffered severe natural disasters such as flood and typhoon .If other countries faced the same situation of the DPRK they would not have been able hold such a magnificent and grand parade . The DPRK recovered from the flood and typhoon damage in double quick time and by its own efforts , without outside aid , in the spirit of self-reliance.

The parade itself had a number of striking features different to previous DPRK military parades . Firstly , it was held at midnight. This is something quite unprecedented . I have attended five military parades in the DPRK but they have always been during the daytime , usually in the morning , occasionally in the afternoon .This time was different , it was the parade was held before dawn , This shows the strong discipline and devotion to

duty of the officers and soldiers of the Korean People's Army . The imperialists like to say that there is no electricity in the DPRK but the parade was bathed in the light of powerful floodlights . Secondly , a fine array of state of the art weaponry was displayed including a giant International Ballistic Missile that looked far bigger than the old Soviet ICBMs . The DPRK was not sweet-talked by the imperialists into unilateral disarmament or the so-called 'Libyan model ' . The DPRK is not soft like the revisionist former Soviet Union . At the same time it was stressed by Marshal KIM JONG UN that the DPRK's nuclear deterrent is after all a nuclear deterrent and will not be used for a pre-emptive strike . Thus the DPRK's mighty Hwasong 16 is an ICBM for peace , an ICBM for independence.

The great military parade that took place in People's Korea on the 10th of October is indeed symbolic of the new era of Marshal KIM JONG UN in People's Korea which is characterised by bold and striking measures .

I remember hearing the first ever public speech made by respected Marshal KIM JONG UN at the military parade on the 15th of April 2012 to mark the centenary of the birth of President KIM IL SUNG . Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN said that “ ***It is our party's resolute determination to let our people who are the best in the world — our people who have overcome all obstacles and ordeals to uphold the party faithfully — not tighten their belts again and enjoy the wealth and prosperity of socialism as much as they like***”

The speech can be said to have heralded the new era of Marshal KIM JONG UN in the DPRK which saw the country emerge as a nuclear power of Juche, an ICBM power and big advances in the economy and living standards .It was a declaration that Marshal KIM JONG UN was about to set about the work of building a powerful thriving socialist nation.

Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN has carried forward the ideas , policies and lines of the great leaders comrade KIM IL SUNG and comrade KIM JONG IL, which have at their core the Juche Idea .

Marshal KIM JONG UN has always stressed self-reliance ,self-development and self-sufficiency saying that “***The Juche character is the***

nature of socialism." , he also said that the inclination towards importing should be ended . Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN was delighted when the DPRK produced its own metro train and light aircraft . At the trial run of the new metro train on the 20th of November 2015 he said " ***Our heroic and resourceful Kim Il Sung's and Kim Jong Il's working class, scientists and technicians boundlessly faithful to the Party proved in practice, not with words, that the words "proclivity to import" should be eliminated from people's minds through the successful trial operation***".

In 2013 the line of *Pyongjin* which meant building the economy and nuclear force in parallel was put forward by respected Marshal KIM JONG UN at the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea . The implementation of the *Pyongjin* line was victoriously concluded in April 2018.

Marshak KIM JONG UN has always attacked bureaucracy and inefficiency. He does not believe in inefficiency , incompetence and backsliding under socialism. His basic policy is the people-orientated one. 'Inefficient ' and 'incompetent' socialism is actually a very dangerous phenomenon . In the past revisionist-led socialist countries such as the Soviet Union and the eastern European socialist countries became associated with bureaucracy and stagnation , although the people of these countries enjoyed advantages such as full employment there were some shortcomings in people's lives. These were exaggerated and used by the enemies of socialism. Here in the UK there never was socialism however the social democratic policies of post-war Labour governments were often described as "socialist " or "socialism " by the Tories and even by some on the Left . The 'reforms' of the Labour governments became quickly associated with inefficiency and incompetence(queues for hospital treatment , poor quality education with working class children just given colouring pencils and not educated, bureaucrats at dole offices and long waits for council housing). Thus socialism had a bad name with the British people.

The respected Marshal KIM JONG UN clearly is a very dynamic and

strong leader. Under his leadership the DPRK brought about a great upsurge in socialist construction. Many new health care , cultural and recreational facilities were constructed such as the Rungna People's Pleasure Park , the Masikryong Ski Resort , the Okryu Children's Hospital and the Sci-Tech Complex . At the same time the construction of housing was pressed ahead; whole new streets such as Changjon Street , Mirae Scientists Street and Ryomyong Street were constructed in a short space of time .Not just streets but a new city , Samjiyon city was built in the north of the country . In the so-called 'advanced' imperialist countries such projects would cost billions of pounds but People's Korea was able to carry out such projects without outside help and under conditions of blockade and sanctions .

Recently the DPRK was hit by floods and typhoons which destroyed or damaged many houses . Marshal KIM JONG UN went straight to the scene and ordered the army and party members to build new homes to replace those that had been destroyed . In a matter of weeks people moved into new homes , free of charge This is something unimaginable to us . In the UK you would either wait for 3 years (or longer) or be forced to privately rent at an extortionate rate or struggle to find money for a mortgage to buy a property and then spend the rest of your life trying to pay it back.

Under the leadership of respected Marshal KIM JONG UN the Korean people upholding the glorious revolutionary banner of self -reliance are building a thriving socialist nation and a people's paradise . Now they have embarked on a 80 day campaign to greet the 8th of Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea . Final victory is in store for the Korean people .We are in the UK KFA are proud of the great achievements of People's Korea and will do our best to defend .

Dr Dermot Hudson

Official Delegate KFA for the UK . Chairman UK KFA.

