UNDERSTANDING KOREA

3

POLITICS

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1. Essence of Politics

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea pursues a mode of politics by the people themselves, the one that organizes and guides all members of society in a unified way to meet the interests of the working masses.

In other words, it fully guarantees the position of the working people as masters of the state and society and enables them to fulfil their role as those responsible for the revolution and construction.

In the DPRK the working people establish and manage organs of state power by themselves as genuine masters of political power and fully exercise their rights as such in all realms of social life.

Furthermore, they decide on all the lines and policies in their interests and carry them out by relying on their own efforts.

Conclusively speaking, the essence of the socialist politics administered in the DPRK is that it guarantees the position of the people as masters of the state and society and enables them to fulfil their role as those responsible for the revolution and construction.

2. Political Ideal

The political ideal of the DPRK is, in a nutshell, socialism.

The political ideal of socialism is the one of independence, democracy, unity, benevolence and Songun.

The attraction and source of the strength of Korean-style socialism lie in that the DPRK embodies the political ideal of independence, democracy, unity, benevolence and Songun.

3. Political Theory

The political theory of the DPRK is the Juche-oriented political theory.

In other words, it is a political theory that has been developed and systematized with the masses of the people, the motive force of history, at the centre of its consideration, and a scientific and revolutionary one that illumines the ways for them to realize their independence and for mankind to achieve well-being and prosperity.

The political theory is based on the Juche idea and the Songun idea created by Kim Il Sung and enriched by Kim Jong Il.

4. Juche Idea

The Juche idea is based on the philosophical principle that the masses of the people are the masters and driving force of the revolution and construction. In

other words, it holds that man is the master of his destiny and is capable of shaping it.

It consists of the man-centred philosophical principle, the socio-historical principle centred on the masses and the guiding principles of the revolution and construction.

The creation of the Juche idea heralded the dawn of the era of independence, a new era in the history of mankind.

5. Songun Idea

The Songun idea is an idea of directing topmost concern to strengthening the military capability on the principle of attaching importance to military affairs and giving priority to them over all other affairs, and of advancing the cause of socialism with the revolutionary army as its main force and buttress.

It elucidates the fundamentals of the revolution on prioritizing the force of arms and depending on it, sheds a new light on the problem of forming revolutionary forces with the revolutionary army as the core, and clarifies in a comprehensive way all the theoretical and practical problems countries and nations should tackle in achieving prosperity as demanded by the times.

The Songun idea is rooted in the Juche idea.

6. Creation of the Juche Idea and the Songun Idea

The Juche idea and the Songun idea were created by

Kim Il Sung [Juche 1 (1912)-Juche 83 (1994)], founding father of socialist Korea.

In the mid-1920s he embarked on the road of revolutionary struggle to liberate Korea from Japanese military occupation (1905-1945). In the course of searching for a new path of the Korean revolution, he found the truth of the Juche idea that the masters of the revolution are the masses of the people and that when one goes among them to educate and mobilize them one will be able to register victory in the revolution, and the truth of the Songun idea that the victory of the revolutionary cause and the independence, sovereignty and prosperity of a nation rest on the force of arms.

He stated the fundamentals of the Juche idea and the Songun idea at a meeting of leading cadres of the Young Communist League and the Anti-Imperialist Youth League held from June 30 to July 2, Juche 19 (1930) in Kalun, Northeast China. This marked the birth of those ideas.

7. Essential Features of Socialist Politics

First, the socialist politics of the DPRK guarantees the people's position as masters of the state and society and enables them to fulfil their role as such. This is expressed in the fact that the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK set it as the supreme principle of their activities to strive for the promotion of

the people's well-being, ensure them genuine freedom and rights, and provide them with an affluent and civilized life.

Second, the socialist politics is based on the solid political and ideological unity of the whole society. It is an important feature of the socialist society of the DPRK that all the service personnel and people are united with a single mind behind the WPK and the leader organizationally and ideologically and in moral obligation.

Third, the socialist politics is administered under the unified leadership of the leader through a people-oriented political system and method that conform to the aspirations and interests of the masses. It is also based on the trust in and affection for the people and effectuated through an integral system of political modes and methods for embodying them. That is why it provides a substantial guarantee for the people to occupy the position of masters of the state and society and fulfil their role as such.

8. Basic Principle Governing the Socialist Politics

The basic principle governing the socialist politics of the DPRK is to firmly establish monolithic ideology and unified leadership, adhere to independent politics and

properly combine politics with the military, politics with the economy, the class line with the mass line, and the national duty with the international duty in making the revolution.

9. Establishing Monolithic Ideology and Unified Leadership in Politics

To establish monolithic ideology and unified leadership in politics means to ensure that the ideology of the leader pervades the whole society and to set up iron discipline whereby all members of society support only the unified leadership of the leader.

The DPRK strives to establish monolithic ideology and unified leadership in order to develop society in conformity with the intrinsic requirements of socialist society and thus ensure the unity of ideology and action.

In the socialist politics of the DPRK the unity of ideology and leadership is ensured by centralist discipline and, on the basis of this, the demands of democratic centralism are properly embodied.

10. Maintaining Independence in Politics

To maintain independence in politics means to administer the politics of defending national independence and sovereignty and safeguarding the interests of the people by relying on their strength.

Independence in politics is the foremost criterion and lifeblood of an independent, sovereign country.

By maintaining independence in politics, the DPRK formulates and executes all lines and policies on its own and advocates complete equality and independence in dealing with foreign countries.

11. Properly Combining Politics with the Military

To properly combine politics with the military means to put forward military affairs as the top priority in politics and resolve all the problems arising in the revolution and construction accordingly.

The DPRK has defined military affairs as the most important of state affairs, resolving all the problems on the principle of giving priority to military affairs, set the army as the main force in carrying out the cause of socialism and, by relying on its revolutionary mettle and fighting efficiency, defended the country, the revolution and socialism and dynamically pushed ahead with the overall socialist construction.

12. Closely Combining Politics with the Economy

To closely combine politics with the economy means to embody both political and economic demands and interests

and bring them into close combination in resolving all the problems arising in the revolution and construction.

The DPRK closely combines politics with the economy, giving definite precedence to the former over the latter.

It gives foremost consideration to political demands and properly combines them with economic requirements in formulating all lines and policies. In building up revolutionary forces, it gives priority to strengthening political forces while paying due concern to developing economic forces. And in organizing and mobilizing the masses of the people in the revolution and construction it prioritizes political work and effectively combines it with administrative, economic and technical work, and places main emphasis on political and moral incentive and combines it with material incentive.

Today socialist Korea safeguards its cause of socialism in the face of the imperialists' tenacious and pernicious economic blockade, as the WPK has turned the country into a political power by adhering to the principle of giving precedence to politics.

13. Properly Combining the Class Line with the Mass Line

To properly combine the class line with the mass line means to properly embody the requirements of both the class

line and the mass line in strengthening the revolutionary ranks and conducting the revolution and construction.

To implement the class line means to maintain the working-class principles in the revolution and construction and resolve all problems from the working-class standpoint. The DPRK defends the class character and revolutionary character of the working class in pushing forward the revolution and construction, thereby advancing the cause of socialism victoriously without any deviation or deflection.

To implement the mass line means to safeguard the interests of the broad sections of the people and resolve all the problems arising in the revolution and construction by actively enlisting the people's inexhaustible creative strength and wisdom with confidence in them.

In politics the DPRK thoroughly embodies the principle of the Juche idea that the masses are the masters of the revolution and construction and they also have the strength to promote the revolution and construction. By doing so, it gives full play to the people's revolutionary enthusiasm and creative initiative and, by relying on them, propels the revolution and construction.

14. Combining the National Duty with the International Duty in Making the Revolution

To properly combine the national duty with the

international duty in making the revolution means to push ahead with the revolution and construction of one's own country and at the same time strengthen international solidarity in order to promote the overall development of the international revolutionary movement.

Socialist Korea makes consistent efforts to properly combine the national duty with the international duty from the standpoint of Juche.

In other words, it strives to conduct its own revolution well with it at the centre of consideration and, on the basis of this, fulfil its duty in promoting international solidarity and overall development of the international revolutionary movement.

15. Political System

The political system of the DPRK is an advantageous socialist political system that provides a substantial guarantee for the rights of the working people as masters of the state and society and defends their interests in every way possible.

It consists of the leader's unified leadership system, the WPK's leadership system, the political system of the socialist state and the system of the socialist political life.

16. The Leader's Unified Leadership System

The leader's unified leadership system is, in a

nutshell, a political system that guarantees the leading position and role of the leader in socialist politics.

In other words, it is a political system whereby the revolution and construction are conducted with the leader's ideology as the guideline and the whole WPK, the entire country and all the service personnel and other people move as one according to his orders and directives.

First, the leader's unified leadership system is a system of ideology whereby the revolution and construction are conducted with the leader's revolutionary ideology as the sole guideline.

Because they reflect the working people's aspirations and demands most correctly, the Juche idea and the Songun idea created by Kim Il Sung serve as the sole guideline in the revolution and construction and the activities of the WPK and the state.

Second, the leader's unified leadership system is a system of discipline and order whereby the people support only his organizational leadership and move as one according to his directives.

In the DPRK the leader's organizational leadership enables all political organizations and members of society to achieve unity of action since it reflects the will of the whole WPK and all the people.

That is why the whole WPK, the entire country and

all the service personnel and other people have achieved solid unity and cohesion, moving as one under the leader's unified leadership.

The leader's unified leadership system constitutes the core of the DPRK's socialist political system.

17. Leadership System of the Workers' Party of Korea

The WPK's leadership system is a political system that guarantees the leading position and role of the WPK in socialist politics.

It consists of the discipline and order whereby the revolution and construction are conducted under the leadership of the WPK. In other words, it is a system under which the whole WPK and society move as one according to the lines, policies, decisions and directives of the WPK.

The foremost aspect of the WPK's leadership system is that it is a political system in which the party of the working class holds undivided sway as the ruling party.

Besides the ruling WPK, there are some democratic parties in the DPRK.

These parties do not compete with the WPK for power, but they share fundamental interests with it, supporting and helping it.

Politicians in imperialist countries slander socialist

Korea's ruling WPK, talking about "one-party dictatorship" or "despotism of the party." This is a sophistry aimed at embellishing the multi-party system in capitalist society and undermining socialist Korea from within.

Another important aspect of the WPK's leadership system is that it is a collective leadership system established by the committees of the WPK at all levels.

This system enables all national organs and organizations to work under the leadership of their respective committees of the WPK and ensures that all important tasks facing relevant units are executed on the basis of collective discussion by the committees of the WPK.

In the DPRK all sectors and all units have organizations of the WPK, and the unified leadership system of the WPK has been established from its Central Committee down to the lowest echelon.

18. Socialist State Political System

The socialist state political system of the DPRK is a revolutionary and people-oriented state political system that represents and champions the independent rights of the masses as masters of the state and society, ensures the political and ideological unity of the whole society by enhancing the people's responsibility and role, and provides them with a genuinely independent and creative life.

The primary factor in the socialist state political system is that it is a system that regulates the order in which the state power is established and exercised so that the working masses become the masters of the state.

The type of socialist state defined by the socialist state political system of the DPRK is socialist republicanism in the aspect of the establishment of state power and socialist democracy in the aspect of the exercise of state power.

The DPRK pursues the socialist republicanism in which the organ of people's representatives, who have been elected by all the people by direct suffrage on the principle of democratic election, exercises state power and maintains socialist democracy as the basic mode of its activities.

Another important factor in the socialist state political system is to establish a well-knit work system whereby the state takes hold of and manages everything in society.

Essential in this regard are the socialist state machinery, the state system of administrative units and districts, the system of involving the masses of the people in state administration, and the discipline and order of managing the country's economy in a unified way.

19. Socialist Political Life System

The socialist political life system of the DPRK is an advanced political life system that provides the masses of the people with genuine political freedom and rights in a substantial way.

This socialist political life system provides the working masses with a happy material and cultural life, ensuring them all political freedom and rights such as the right to elect and to be elected and freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association and demonstration.

The broad sections of the people participate directly in state administration and politics as masters of state power, and all of them are enrolled in certain political parties and social organizations, leading a free socio-political life.

In the DPRK the independent and creative political life of the working masses is ensured by the voluntary socialist political life system, the socialist law observance system, the democratic election system, the state system of providing for the people's economic and cultural life, etc.

20. Mode of Politics

The DPRK's mode of politics is a people-oriented, socialist mode of politics that enables the masses of the

people, masters of the state and society, to perform the role of masters in social administration.

The essence of this political mode lies in that it relies on the people's strength in administering the state and society in conformity with their demands and interests, thereby providing a substantial guarantee for the people's independent position and ensuring that they fulfil their responsibility and role as befits masters.

21. Basis of the Socialist Mode of Politics

The DPRK's socialist mode of politics is based on collectivism.

In the socialist society of the DPRK state power and means of production have been socialized on the basis of collectivism, with the result that the masses of the people have become masters of the state and society and the state is administered by the collectivist method.

22. Elements of the Socialist Mode of Politics

The DPRK's socialist mode of politics comprises Songun politics, benevolent politics and socialist democracy.

23. Songun Politics

Songun politics is the basic political mode of socialism that raises military affairs as the most important of all

national affairs, and defends the country, revolution and socialism and promotes overall socialist construction dynamically with the Korean People's Army as the core and main force.

First of all, Songun politics raises military affairs as the most important of all national affairs.

This means that Songun politics regards it as the top priority in making and implementing state policy to attach importance to military affairs and strengthen the military capability.

The DPRK has set military affairs as the most important of all national affairs that is decisive of the destiny of the country and nation, and pays the greatest concern to building up the military capability.

Next, Songun politics defends the country, revolution and socialism and promotes overall socialist construction dynamically with the KPA as the core and main force.

This means that it is a political mode that puts forth the KPA as the standard-bearer in administering politics and inspires the broad sections of the people to emulate the service personnel's fighting spirit and mettle.

The DPRK encourages all members of society to learn from the fighting spirit and mettle displayed by the officers and men of the KPA, so as to rouse the broad

sections of the people to the revolution and construction.

24. Revolutionary Character of Songun Politics

The revolutionary character of Songun politics is that it is the most revolutionary politics of anti-imperialist independence, and politics of love for the country, the nation and the people.

That Songun politics is the one of anti-imperialist independence means that it opposes aggression and interference by imperialist nations, maintains the principle of self-determination, safeguards the independence of the people and the sovereignty of the country and nation, and promotes the cause of global independence dynamically.

That Songun politics is the one of love for the country, the nation and the people means that it absolutely serves the country, the nation and the people, and steers the way for national prosperity.

25. Purpose of Songun Politics

The purpose of Songun politics is twofold–to score a decisive victory in the anti-imperialist, anti-US confrontation by dealing with the US imperialists' aggressive moves in a positive manner, and to build a powerful socialist country by pressing on with overall socialist construction.

Songun politics is primarily aimed at dealing with the US imperialists' aggressive moves in a positive manner.

This means taking the initiative in the anti-US confrontation all the time to frustrate the imperialists' aggressive moves and waging a vigorous struggle to put a final end to them.

Songun politics is aimed not only at defending the country, revolution and socialism but also at building a powerful socialist country never before seen in the history of the Korean nation.

A powerful socialist country means the best country in the world, one with great national strength that is ever-prospering and whose people are living happily without envying anyone in the word.

To build a powerful socialist country is the goal of Songun politics, as well as the plan of the WPK and the ideal of the Korean people.

26. Benevolent Politics

Benevolent politics is, in a nutshell, politics of love and trust. In other words, it is a genuinely people-oriented politics that puts forward the people as an omnipotent entity in the world, great beings with eternal independent integrity, and is administered by relying on them and for the sake of their interests while sharing destiny with them.

27. Essential Characteristic of Benevolent Politics

The essential characteristic of benevolent politics lies in that it is politics of ennobling trust in and love for the people, all-embracing politics.

That benevolent politics is the one of trust in the people means that it is a type of politics which absolutely trusts in and relies on the creative abilities of the people to satisfy their independent demands for becoming masters of the world and their own destiny.

That benevolent politics is the one of love for the people means that it is a type of politics which puts forward the people as the most precious beings, accords all honour and grants all benefits to them, and renders devoted services to meeting their interests.

That benevolent politics is all-embracing politics means that it is a type of politics that bestows affection and trust on the working people and all others, irrespective of their classes and strata, who faithfully serve their country, nation and compatriots with love for them.

28. Socialist Democracy

Socialist democracy is a type of politics by the people, under which all members of society hold the

position of masters of the state and society, and fulfil their role as such.

It is underpinned by collectivism and its ultimate goal is to defend the socio-political integrity of the social collective and the common interests of society. That is why in the socialist society of the DPRK all the people lead an independent life, enjoying freedom and equality based on comradely love and mutual cooperation among them.

29. Essential Elements of Socialist Democracy and Important Problems in Effectuating It

The essential elements of socialist democracy are to adopt policies according to the aspirations of the broad sections of the working people and implement them in conformity with the masses' interests and by their own efforts, and to provide them with genuine freedom and rights and well-being in all realms of social life in a substantial way.

The important problems in effectuating socialist democracy are: to involve the working people in governance and enhance their role in the state political life; to strengthen the leadership of the party and the unified direction of the state in every way possible; to wage a vigorous struggle against all hostile moves that infringe upon the independence of the working people;

to promote socialist economic and cultural construction; and to eliminate practices of bureaucratism, a legacy of an outdated society.

In the DPRK all the lines and policies of the WPK and the state reflect the will and demands of the people, and they are carried out by dint of their voluntary enthusiasm and struggle.

30. Socio-Political Organism

A socio-political organism is a socio-political collective in which the leader, the party, the army and the people share one destiny with one life.

In the DPRK, in administering and developing socialist politics, the leader, the WPK, the army and the people form a socio-political organism with one life and accelerate political development.

Revolutionary obligation and comradeship run through the socio-political organism, as it is a social collective sharing one destiny with one life. This unites the leader, the WPK, the army and the people into an integral whole and gives full play to the might of their unity.

The socio-political organism is a social collective which not only embodies the people's independent demands at the highest level but also has a perfect creative ability to realize them.

31. Position of the Leader in the Socio-Political Organism

The leader holds the absolute position in the revolution and construction. This means that the leader is the top brain of the socio-political organism and the centre of its unity.

The position of the leader is absolute as the centre of the socio-political organism. As the brain of a man is the centre of his life, so the leader, the top brain of the socio-political community, is the centre of that community.

The leader is the top brain of the socio-political community because he fully embodies the will of the people and develops their ideological consciousness of independence and creative abilities onto the highest possible level.

That the leader is the centre of the life of the socio-political community means that he is the centre of unity of that community and the centre of leadership.

32. Role of the Leader in the Socio-Political Organism

As he holds the absolute position as the centre of the socio-political organism, the leader plays a decisive role in the revolution and construction.

He creates the guiding ideology of the revolution and continuously develops it to illuminate the way for the

people to follow in their struggle.

He also strengthens the party in every way, and awakens the people ideologically and organizes them, thereby preparing a powerful motive force of the revolution. And by dint of his seasoned art of leadership he motivates the people and gives full play to their strength so as to lead the revolution and construction along the road resplendent with victory.

33. Position and Role of the Party in the Socio-Political Organism

In the socio-political organism the party plays a pivotal role in uniting the people around the leader.

It effectuates the leader's political leadership over them, and it is only through its organizations that they can be closely linked to the leader.

Under the party's guidance they are equipped with the leader's ideology and rallied organizationally behind him.

It is through the party that the leader organizes and directs the people's activities in a unified way.

34. Position and Role of the Army in the Socio-Political Organism

In the socio-political organism the army is the core and main force.

The army is the most revolutionary, militant and powerful group. No group is equal to the revolutionary army in terms of the sense of revolution and organization and combat efficiency.

At present the main thrust of politics in defending and realizing the people's basic demands and interests is the anti-imperialist military front on which they struggle against the imperialists' moves for aggression and plunder. This is the major front on which depend the rise and fall of the country and nation, the revolution and socialism.

The revolutionary army defends the party and the revolution, the country and the people in direct confrontation with the imperialists, and it performs the role of the main force in pushing forward overall socialist construction.

Peace, socialism and the worthwhile, happy life of the people rest on the arms of the revolutionary army.

As explained above, in the socio-political organism the revolutionary army assumes the noble mission and the heaviest yet most honourable duty, for which neither the working class nor any other social group can substitute.

35. Position and Role of the People in the Socio-Political Organism

In the socio-political organism the masses of the people are substantially responsible for developing

politics. This means that they play a decisive role in administering and developing politics.

The masses of the people are a social group composed mainly of the working people and whose members are united on the basis of common independent demands and creative activities.

In socialist society they take hold of state power and means of production in their hands, create history consciously as masters of society and their own destiny, and administer politics in conformity with their own will and demands.

They form a socio-political organism led by such a political organization as the revolutionary party, with the outstanding leader at the helm and army as the main force. They hold the position and perform the role as befits true masters of politics.

36. Political Parties

The political parties in the DPRK are the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean Social Democratic Party and the Chondoist Chongu Party.

37. Workers' Party of Korea

The Workers' Party of Korea is a new type of revolutionary party with Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as its guiding ideology.

The WPK regards the Juche idea and the Songun idea created by Kim Il Sung and developed by Kim Jong Il as the basic guidelines in its building and activities, and it applies the fundamentals of those ideas to establish the leader's monolithic ideology and unified leadership across itself and the whole society and consolidate its single-hearted unity.

It is a dignified party which has maintained its revolutionary character and principles.

In former days, when great-power chauvinists and opportunists were dictating their opinions to others in the socialist movement, the WPK rejected them resolutely and chose to adhere to the line of independence and revolutionary principles. It has advanced the socialist cause, countering the imperialists' political and military pressure and aggressive moves with the do-or-die spirit and the Songun-based strategy, frustrating their despicable economic blockade and infiltration of reactionary ideas and culture by means of the spirit of self-reliance and revolutionary ideological offensive.

The WPK has been built up in a prospective way so as to accomplish the cause of the Juche revolution.

In its early years it paid close concern to resolving the problem of inheritance of the revolutionary cause, consolidating its foundations and establishing its leadership system whereby the whole WPK moves as

one in conformity with the leader's ideology and intentions. By doing so, it has laid a rock-solid basis for carrying the cause of the Juche revolution, the cause of the Songun-based revolution, to completion.

Today the WPK, founded on October 10, Juche 34 (1945) by Kim Il Sung, the founding father of socialist Korea, is advancing vigorously towards final victory in building a powerful socialist nation, upholding Kim Jong Il [Juche 31 (1942)-Juche 100 (2011)] as its eternal leader and united with a single mind around its Chairman Kim Jong Un.

38. Fundamentals of Building the Workers' Party of Korea

The fundamentals of building the WPK are to put the main stress on work with people and effectuate political leadership over the whole society.

To put the main stress on work with people is the basic way for the building and activities of the WPK, and to effectuate political leadership over the whole society is the WPK's basic mission and the main direction for its building and activities.

39. Basic Principles in Building the Workers' Party of Korea

The basic principles in building the WPK are: to

establish the monolithic ideological system within the WPK; to form a harmonious whole with the masses of the people; and to ensure continuity in the building of the WPK.

To establish the monolithic ideological system within the WPK means to imbue the whole WPK with one ideology and, on the basis of it, establish unified leadership. More specifically, it means to achieve oneness in ideology–equipping the whole WPK with the leader's revolutionary ideology and tolerating no other ideology than his ideology–and ensure community of action–making the whole WPK move as one under his unified leadership.

That the WPK forms a harmonious whole with the masses of the people means that the former and the latter are integrated into a socio-political organism in which they share one destiny.

To ensure continuity in the building of the WPK means to carry forward the WPK's bloodline provided by the leader pure and clean in the whole course of this process and consistently adhere to the basic principles for its building.

40. Establishment of the Monolithic Ideological System within the Workers' Party of Korea

Since the day of its founding the WPK has maintained establishing the monolithic ideological

system within itself under the leadership of the leader as the most important problem in party building, and made strenuous efforts to this end.

It has endeavoured to equip its members and other working people with Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and ensured that they devote all their energy and wisdom to safeguarding and adding eternal brilliance to the great leaders' imperishable revolutionary exploits.

It has also made certain that its organizations work in a responsible manner to ensure the safety of the leader death-defyingly, and intensified education to infuse absolute trust in the leader into its members and other working people. It has cemented the single-hearted unity between it and the revolutionary ranks with the leader as the centre, and established rigid revolutionary discipline whereby the whole WPK, the entire country, and all the service personnel and people move as one under the unified leadership of the leader.

As a result, it has established the leader's ideological and leadership systems across itself and consolidated its unity and cohesion, thus propelling the revolution and construction along the road filled with victory.

41. Forming a Harmonious Whole with the People

Since the early days of its founding the WPK has

directed attention to building up its mass foundation in order to form a harmonious whole with the people. To build a mass-based party means to build a party that embraces the progressive elements of the working masses, including the working class, and safeguards the interests of the broad sections of the working people.

The WPK set forth a theory on building a mass-based party for the first time in history and has developed it in depth. By doing so, it shed a fresh light on the character and features of a working-class party and illuminated a new road for the building of a revolutionary party leading the socialist cause.

The WPK has developed itself as a motherly party to form a harmonious whole with the masses.

A motherly party is the one that bears responsibility for the destiny of the people, takes warm care of them and leads them.

The WPK has developed itself as a motherly party under the wise leadership of the leader, effectuating benevolent politics and all-embracing politics, both of which are its traditional modes of politics, and demonstrating their vitality to the international community.

42. Ensuring Continuity in the Building of the Workers' Party of Korea

In order to ensure continuity in its building the WPK

has guaranteed the inheritance of the leader's ideology and leadership, and defended and developed its revolutionary traditions created in the course of the arduous revolutionary struggle.

In particular, it found a correct solution to the problem of the heir to the leader.

It nominated as the heir to the leader an outstanding man loved by the people, who is boundlessly faithful to the leader, the pioneer of the revolution, and his cause, and is possessed of the personality, qualifications and abilities with which to effectuate political leadership over the whole WPK and society. Then it strove to establish the heir's leadership system.

Today the WPK upholds Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il as its eternal leaders and has thoroughly established Kim Jong Un's unified leadership system, satisfactorily resolving the problem of the heir. This is a sure guarantee for developing it into a Juche-oriented revolutionary party.

43. Fundamental Principle in the Activities of the Workers' Party of Korea

The fundamental principle in the WPK's activities is to combine its leadership with the revolutionary mass line.

To combine the WPK's leadership with the

revolutionary mass line means to implement the revolutionary mass line on condition of thoroughly establishing the leader's unified leadership.

In order to apply this fundamental principle to the letter, the WPK has effectuated its leadership in conformity with the people's aspirations and demands and encouraged its organizations and officials to go among them and conduct effective organizational and political work, so that they would support its leadership with a whole heart.

44. Work System of the Workers' Party of Korea

The work system of the WPK is characterized by important revolutionary discipline and order: to ensure that the whole WPK moves as one under the leader's unified leadership; to ensure that the committees of the WPK at all levels, as the highest leadership bodies in the relevant units, guide all their affairs in a unified way; and to ensure that the organizations of the WPK at all levels guide the work of their subordinate organizations systematically.

As it has established a well-regulated revolutionary work system within itself, the WPK has been strengthened into a united force with invincible might to thoroughly effectuate the leader's leadership over

the revolution and construction.

45. Method of Work of the Workers' Party of Korea

The method of work of the WPK is to give priority to political work to educate and unite the people around it and motivate them so that they will take part in the revolution and construction voluntarily.

The essential features of this method are: to give definite priority to political work over all other undertakings; to ensure that superiors help their subordinates and officials at higher echelons mingle with the masses all the time to carry out revolutionary tasks by relying on them; to work in a scientific and creative manner in keeping with the objective realities and specific conditions; and to launch vigorous mass movements aimed at carrying out the tasks advanced by the WPK.

46. Style of Work of the Workers' Party of Korea

The style of work of the WPK consists of the spirit of work displayed by the working-class party in the course of its leading the revolutionary struggle and construction work, and the political and moral traits of the officials

and other members of the WPK in conducting revolutionary work and dealing with the masses.

The important features of this style of work are the spirit of continuous innovation and progress, spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, vivacious and enthusiastic lifestyle, principled and fair attitude, benevolent trait of making the people trust and follow the WPK as they would do their mothers, loyal devotion to the WPK and the revolution, spirit of setting a personal example, and traits of modesty, simplicity, rectitude and purity.

47. Ultimate Programme of the Workers' Party of Korea

The ultimate programme of the WPK is to model the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is an integral system of the idea, theory and method of Juche. It is a great revolutionary ideology representative of the Juche era.

The modelling of the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism constitutes a revolutionary inheritance of the modelling of the whole society on Kimilsungism and a new, higher stage of its development.

48. Flag of the Workers' Party of Korea

The flag of the WPK is a red panel inscribed at its

centre with the emblem of the WPK bearing a hammer, a sickle and a writing brush.

The red panel symbolizes the purity of the bloodline of Juche and the revolutionary traditions created by the revolutionary forerunners at the cost of their blood, and it represents the revolutionary banner of the Juche idea and the banner of socialism.

The emblem of the WPK symbolizes the revolutionary character and mass character of the WPK that is composed of the working class, farmers and working intellectuals.

There are some political parties whose flags bear a hammer and a sickle, and there is no other party that has a writing brush in its flag.

49. Korean Social Democratic Party

The Korean Social Democratic Party is a democratic party that, by embodying the idea of love for the country, nation and people, struggles to safeguard the demands of the broad sections of the Korean people and the interests of the nation and realize social justice.

Its predecessor is the Democratic Party of Korea, which was founded on November 3, Juche 34 (1945) on the initiative of progressive democratic activists, nationalists and religionists.

In January Juche 70 (1981) the Democratic Party of

Korea was reorganized into the Korean Social Democratic Party to meet the objective demands of social development and the law-governed requirement of its own development.

The mission and duty of the party is to take part in the struggle to advance the cause of independence of the nation and mankind, with the ideal of independence as its guideline. Its immediate goal is to build an independent society and achieve independent reunification of the country, and its ultimate goal is to create a world in which independence of human beings, the nation and mankind has been realized.

Since the early days of its founding the party has taken an active part in the people's power, maintaining the united front with the WPK. It has rendered great services to building a new society, winning victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, rehabilitating the country after the war, conducting the socialist revolution and socialist construction, expediting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, and promoting friendship, cooperation and solidarity with democratic parties of the world.

The party has a well-knit organizational system from its Central Committee to the lowest echelons according to administrative districts and residential areas.

It publishes *KSDP* as its organ.

50. Chondoist Chongu Party

The Chondoist Chongu Party is an independent and democratic party that is committed to safeguarding the interests of Chondoists and other Korean people.

It was founded on February 8, Juche 35 (1946) in reflection of the requirements of the people who were desirous of eradicating the after-effects of Japanese colonial rule and building a new society.

Its guideline is Tonghak (Eastern Learning), the basic idea of which is “God-man identity” or “Man and God are one.”

The party carries forward the independent spirit of the Korean people who have demonstrated to the world the dignity of the homogeneous nation with a time-honoured history of 5 000 years. It has also inherited the spirit of love for the country and nation and the traditions of national unity created by the martyrs who laid down their lives in the sacred war against the Japanese imperialists to achieve national liberation.

The party’s ultimate goal is to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country through great national unity, build an equal society in which no one is superior or inferior to another and secure an earthly paradise, that is, a peaceful world.

The basic duty of the party is to found a pan-national reunified state where all the working people lead a happy

life by rejecting foreign aggression and interference in the spirit of national self-determination, the one of "driving out the Westerners and the Japanese."

Since its founding the party, as a member of the democratic national united front, has taken an active part, with other democratic parties, in the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, Fatherland Liberation War, socialist revolution and socialist construction. It has rendered active support to the south Korean people of different strata in their struggle for independence, democracy and national reunification and to the overseas compatriots in their patriotic struggle for justice. It has also strengthened solidarity with democratic parties and organizations the world over.

51. Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Founded on September 9, Juche 37 (1948), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a people-centred, independent socialist state representing the will and interests of all the Korean people.

The DPRK is guided by the Juche idea and the Songun idea, which were created by Kim Il Sung and developed by Kim Jong Il. Under the leadership of the WPK it fully embodies these ideas in state building and state activities.

The sovereignty of the DPRK resides in the workers, farmers, soldiers, working intellectuals and all other working people.

52. Fundamental Principle in State Building

The DPRK maintains “Believe in people as in heaven” as the fundamental principle in state building.

It adheres to this principle in adopting all its lines and conducting state activities, and its social system and laws including the Socialist Constitution are oriented towards defending the people’s independent rights and interests.

53. Basic Mission of the State

The basic mission of the DPRK is to provide the people with an independent and creative life in the political, economic, cultural and all other sectors of social life.

The DPRK represents the people’s independent rights.

The state crystallizes the people’s independent aspirations and demands through its organizations, and directs the struggle for their realization in a unified way.

It organizes the people’s creative abilities.

It is the most comprehensive political entity representing the people’s interests. It embraces them in its organizations, unites them on the basis of the

community of their social status, purpose and interests, and coordinates their creative abilities to develop them into a strong force capable of transforming nature and society.

It bears full responsibility for their material and cultural life. It provides everything needed for and looks after the living of all members of society on its own responsibility.

It also protects their independent and creative life.

It firmly defends their rights, lives and property through its organizations.

54. Political Base

The DPRK is underpinned by a wide spectrum of socio-political base that embraces the broad sections of the working people including workers, farmers, service personnel and intellectuals.

The sovereignty of the DPRK resides in all the classes and strata of people who are interested in the revolution, and the people's power ensures them equal political rights and freedom in all realms of state and social life.

The power of the DPRK is the most reliable socialist power based on the unity and cohesion of all the people.

The unity of the service personnel and people is rock-solid as they have been united politically,

ideologically and in moral obligation around the WPK and the leader.

55. Military Base

The DPRK relies on the nationwide, all-people defence system with the Korean People's Army as the core.

The military base of the DPRK is one and the same as its political base.

It is based on the all-people defence system under which the service personnel and people have achieved solid unity under the unified leadership of the WPK and the leader and all of them are under arms.

56. Economic Base

The DPRK is supported by the socialist economic system based on socialist ownership of the means of production and the foundations of the developed independent national economy.

The socialist ownership, which consists of all-people ownership and social, cooperative ownership, is the economic basis of the DPRK. The solid foundations of the independent national economy, which is made up of effective defence industry, heavy industry, modern light industry and developed rural economy, constitute the secure material basis of the state.

57. Functions of the State

The basic function of the DPRK is to give unified guidance over society. Its important function is the dictatorship of the people's democracy aimed at frustrating the hostile elements' moves, so as to provide the people with an independent and creative life.

58. Unified Guidance over Society

In the DPRK the unified guidance over society is a comprehensive function of the state to bring all realms of social life and all the regions of the country under its control and make arrangements for and regulate their development, and a function to realize the independent demands of the people across society and provide for their creative activities.

The state's unified guidance over the political sector is geared to ensuring the people's independent rights so that they will hold the position of genuine masters of the state and society. The state guarantees the people's political rights and improves social relations in keeping with the level of development of their independent ideological consciousness and creative abilities.

The state's unified guidance over the sector of national defence is aimed at bringing under its control and directing in a unified way all the undertakings for strengthening the country's defence capability.

The state reliably defends socialism against the imperialists' aggressive moves by preparing the service personnel and people politico-ideologically and in military techniques, developing military hardware including weapons and other combat and technical means, and upgrading them in line with the demands of modern warfare.

The state's unified guidance over the economic sector is the one of controlling and directing in a coordinated way the overall socialist economic activities. The state draws up a viable national economic plan, makes careful arrangements for economic work, ensures a reasonable balance between accumulation and consumption and proper distribution according to the work done, and improves the people's standard of living in a balanced way.

The state's unified guidance over the cultural sector is designed for the coordinated development of socialist ideology and culture. The state creates ideological and spiritual assets and disseminates them widely to equip the people with them, so as to transform all members of society into fully-developed social beings and satisfy their cultural and spiritual needs.

The state's unified guidance over the sector of foreign affairs is aimed at safeguarding the sovereignty of the country and nation in dealing with foreign

countries. The state makes effort to achieve unity with the revolutionary peoples the world over who champion self-determination, to accomplish the cause of global independence and to defend socialism against all sorts of vicious schemes by imperialists and reactionaries.

59. Dictatorship of the People's Democracy

In the DPRK the dictatorship of the people's democracy is the state's authority function to thwart all counterrevolutionary schemes and elements designed to undermine socialism and infringe upon the people's interests, while guaranteeing their democratic rights and freedom.

As the strict enforcer of the dictatorship of the people's democracy, the state keeps watchful eyes on and deals out merciless punishment to the remnants of the exploiting class who attempt to undermine the socialist system, and the imperialists' spies and subversive elements who infiltrate from outside. Thus it safeguards the socialist system and the gains of the revolution.

It applies legal sanctions against law violators. It imposes legal responsibilities upon the organs, enterprises, organizations and citizens that commit such offences as delinquencies, misappropriation and squandering of state and social property, bribery and graft.

60. State Machinery

The state machinery of the DPRK includes organs of state power, administrative and executive organs, and judicial and procuratorial organs.

61. Characteristics of the State Machinery

The state machinery of the DPRK is, in essence, the major instrument for political domination over society that is in the hands of the people.

It has some characteristics that make it differ fundamentally from other state machineries of the past.

First, it was formed and works on the principle of effectuating the unified leadership of the leader. Second, it was established to meet the people's demands. Third, it involves the people actively in state administration and renders services to promoting their interests. It is also opposed to bureaucratism and ensures strict law observance in state administration.

The basic mode of its activities is socialist democracy.

62. Organs of State Power

The organs of state power of the DPRK hold a pivotal position in the state machinery. As the people's representative organs composed of the representatives who are elected on the set principle, they exercise state

power. In other words, they are made up of the people's representatives who are elected on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot, and embody and exercise state power.

They comprise the supreme power organ and other power organs at all levels.

63. Supreme Power Organ

The supreme power organ of the DPRK takes complete hold of and exercises state power on a countrywide scale. As a national organ with the highest authority, it is a people's representative organ composed of deputies that are elected by all the people on the principle of direct suffrage.

The supreme power organ formulates laws, ordinances and policies of the state, establishes administrative and executive organs and judicial organs, and performs the role of directing, supervising and controlling their activities as a body that exercises state power.

The supreme power organ of the DPRK is the Supreme People's Assembly and its permanent body is the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly.

64. Supreme People's Assembly

The Supreme People's Assembly is the highest organ

of state power in the DPRK.

It is composed of deputies elected on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Deputies to the SPA are representatives of the working people including workers, farmers, intellectuals and service personnel.

They are guaranteed inviolability. Unless he or she is caught in the act any one of them cannot be arrested or subjected to criminal punishment without the consent of the SPA or, when it is not in session, without the consent of its Presidium.

The SPA is elected for a term of five years.

A new SPA is elected according to a decision of the Presidium of the SPA prior to the expiry of the former's term of office.

When unavoidable circumstances render an election impossible, the term of office of the SPA is prolonged until an election can be held.

65. Authority of the Supreme People's Assembly

The SPA has the authority to adopt laws; organize major state organs; establish the basic principles of the state's domestic and foreign policies; deliberate and approve the state plan for the development of the

national economy and the report on its implementation; deliberate and approve the state budget and the report on its implementation; hear a report on the work of the Cabinet and the central bodies when necessary, and adopt relevant measures; decide on ratification and nullification of treaties suggested to the SPA.

66. Composition of the Supreme People's Assembly

The SPA holds regular and extraordinary sessions.

Regular sessions are convened once or twice a year by the Presidium of the SPA and extraordinary sessions are convened when the Presidium of the SPA deems them necessary, or at the request of a minimum of one-third of the total number of deputies.

The SPA requires a quorum of at least two-thirds of the total number of deputies in order to meet.

The SPA elects its Speaker and Deputy Speaker, and the Speaker presides over the sessions.

Items to be considered at the SPA are submitted by the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission, the State Affairs Commission, the Presidium of the SPA, the Cabinet and the Committees of the SPA of the DPRK. Items can also be presented by deputies.

The first session of each SPA elects the Credentials Committee and, on hearing the Committee's report,

adopts a decision confirming the credentials of deputies. The SPA issues laws, ordinances and decisions.

Laws, ordinances and decisions of the SPA are adopted when more than half of the deputies attending signify approval by a show of hands. The constitution is amended or supplemented with the approval of more than two-thirds of the total number of deputies to the SPA.

The SPA appoints the Bills Committee, the Budget Committee and other committees.

67. Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission

The Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission is the supreme leader of the DPRK.

The office of the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission is the highest office in the state machinery; the Chairman controls all the political, economic and military affairs of the country to safeguard the state system of socialist Korea and its people's destiny, and organizes and leads the work of consolidating and developing its defence capability and overall national strength.

The Chairman is the supreme commander of all the armed forces of the country.

The term of office of the Chairman of the DPRK

State Affairs Commission is the same as that of the SPA.

68. Authority of the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission

The Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission has the authority to direct the overall affairs of the state and personally guide the work of the SAC, appoint or remove key cadres of the state, ratify or rescind major treaties concluded with other countries, exercise the right of granting special pardon, proclaim a state of emergency, a state of war and mobilization order within the country, and organize and direct a National Defence Committee in wartime.

The Chairman issues orders and is accountable to the SPA.

69. State Affairs Commission

The State Affairs Commission of the DPRK is the supreme policy-oriented guidance body of the state power.

It consists of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and members, and the term of office is the same as that of the SPA.

70. Authority of the State Affairs Commission

The SAC discusses and decides on important policies

of the state, including those related to defence building. And it exercises supervision over the implementation of the orders of the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and the decisions and directives of the SAC, and takes measures for their fulfilment, and abrogates the decisions and directives of state organs which run counter to his orders and the decisions and directives of the SAC.

It issues decisions and directives, and is accountable to the SPA.

71. Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly

The Presidium of the SPA is the highest organ of state power when the SPA is not in session.

It means that the Presidium of the SPA is an organ that exercises the highest state power normally when the SPA is not in session.

The Presidium of the SPA consists of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and members.

It may have a few Honorary Vice-Presidents. The Honorary Vice-Presidents may be deputies to the SPA who have participated in the work of state building for a long time and rendered distinguished services.

The term of office of the Presidium of the SPA is the same as that of the SPA. The Presidium of the SPA continues its work until a new Presidium is elected, even

after the term of the SPA expires.

72. Authority of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly

The Presidium of the SPA has the duties and authority to convene sessions of the SPA; adopt laws in intervals between sessions of the SPA; supervise law observance by the state organs and take relevant measures; conduct the election of deputies to the SPA and work with them; set up some state bodies; rescind the decisions and directives of state bodies which run counter to the Constitution, laws, ordinances and decisions of the SPA, orders of the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, decisions and directives of the SAC, and decrees, decisions and directives of the Presidium of the SPA; suspend the implementation of unwarranted decisions of local People's Assemblies.

And it has the authority to decide and make public the appointment or recall of diplomatic representatives to other countries; approve or nullify treaties concluded with other countries; confer decorations, medals and titles of honour.

It also has the duties and authority to grant amnesties; establish or alter administrative units and districts; conduct external activities including contacts with

foreign parliaments and inter-parliamentary organizations.

The President of the Presidium of the SPA represents the state and receives the credentials and letters of recall of diplomatic representatives accredited by foreign countries.

The Presidium of the SPA is accountable to the SPA.

73. Composition of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly

The Presidium of the SPA convenes Plenary Meetings and Meetings of the Permanent Committee.

The Plenary Meeting consists of all the members, and deliberates and decides on important matters arising in fulfilling the duties of the Presidium and exercising its authority. The Meeting of the Permanent Committee consists of the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary, and deliberates and decides on matters entrusted to it by the Plenary Meeting.

74. Local Organ of State Power

The local organ of state power of the DPRK is the organ which assumes and exercises state power in its own region.

It is organized according to the administrative district and consists of the representatives elected by citizens in

the relevant region.

It consists of a non-permanent organ which works by convening a meeting and a permanent organ which exercises state power when the non-permanent organ is not in session.

The local organ of state power is subordinate to the highest organ of state power and the organs of state power at higher levels, deliberates and decides on matters of local significance, and organs, enterprises, groups and citizens in the relevant region are duty-bound to implement its decisions and directives.

The local organ of state power of the DPRK consists of the local People's Assembly and local People's Committee when the Assembly is not in session.

75. Local People's Assembly

The local People's Assembly is the local organ of state power.

It adopts decisions to realize the demands and will of the local people and exercises the function of the local organ of state power in the course of their implementation at the corresponding level as a people's representative organ of its own region.

Every province (or municipality directly under central authority), city (or district) and county has its own local People's Assembly and it consists of deputies

elected on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Its term of office is four years.

A new local People's Assembly is elected according to the decision of the local People's Committee at the corresponding level prior to the expiry of the term of office of the existing local People's Assembly. When unavoidable circumstances render an election impossible, the term of office of the local People's Assembly is prolonged until an election can be held.

76. Authority of the Local People's Assembly

The local People's Assembly has the authority to deliberate and approve the local plan for the development of the national economy, the local budget and the report on their implementation and adopt measures to observe state laws in the region concerned.

It also has the duties and authority related to the exercising of local power including those to elect or recall the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and members of the People's Committee, as well as the Judges and People's Assessors of the Court at the corresponding level.

77. Local People's Committee

The local People's Committee exercises the function

of the local organ of state power when the People's Assembly at the corresponding level is not in session and of the administrative and executive organ of state power at the corresponding level.

It consists of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and members and its term of office is the same as that of the corresponding People's Assembly.

78. Authority of the Local People's Committee

The local People's Committee has the authority to convene sessions of the People's Assembly; organize the election of deputies to the People's Assembly and work with them; implement the decisions and directives of the corresponding local People's Assembly and the People's Committee at higher levels, the laws, ordinances and decisions of the SPA, the orders of the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, the decisions and directives of the SAC, the decisions of the Presidium of the SPA, and the decisions and directives of the Cabinet and the Commissions and Ministries of the Cabinet.

And it carries out all administrative affairs in the given region, drafts the local plan for the development of the national economy, and compiles the local budget and adopts measures for their implementation.

It adopts measures to maintain public order, protect

the property and interests of the state, social and cooperative organizations and safeguard the rights of citizens in the given region, and inspects and controls the establishment of order in state administration in the given region.

It also directs the work of the People's Committee at lower levels and has the duties and authority to rescind unwarranted decisions and directives of the People's Committee at lower levels and suspend their implementation.

It issues decisions and directives and is accountable to the corresponding People's Assembly. It is subordinate to the People's Committees at higher levels, the Cabinet and the Presidium of the SPA.

79. Administrative and Executive Bodies

The administrative and executive bodies of the DPRK organize and carry out state affairs with the authority delegated by the power organs.

They hold the position of executive bodies that implement the laws, ordinances, orders, decrees, decisions and directives issued by the power organs.

In the course of implementing the laws, ordinances, orders, decrees, decisions and directives of the power organs they make administrative arrangements for and carry out all policies in the fields of the economy, culture

and foreign relations, maintain state and public order and take responsible care of the people's living conditions.

They conduct all undertakings by relying on the people and enlisting their creative wisdom and strength.

They are established by the power organs and are accountable to them.

They consist of central administrative and executive organs and their subordinate departmental management bodies, and local administrative and executive organs.

80. Central Administrative and Executive Organs

The central administrative and executive organs include the Cabinet and its Commissions and Ministries.

The Cabinet is the administrative and executive body of the state power and organ of overall state administration.

The Commissions and Ministries are departmental executive organs of the Cabinet and central departmental organs of administration.

The central administrative and executive organs have the duties and authority to implement on a society-wide scale the laws, ordinances and decisions adopted by the highest organ of state power, and organize and direct the

work of developing all realms of social life.

They adopt measures to implement the policies of the WPK and the laws, ordinances, orders, decrees, decisions and directives of the power organs; direct in a responsible manner the work of all fields under their charge; guide population and land administration, economic and cultural work; take steps to maintain public order and protect the interests of the state and the rights of citizens; conclude treaties with foreign countries and conduct external affairs.

The departmental executive organs of the central administrative and executive organs conduct planning, supply of materials, technical guidance over production and labour administration, supervise and control production and construction in their respective sectors, in order to implement the lines and policies of the WPK, and the laws, ordinances, decisions and directives of the state.

The central departmental organs of administration direct the work of their subordinate organs and the departments of the local administrative and executive organs on the principle of democratic centralism, and issue directives to carry out their own duties.

The central administrative and executive organs are established by the highest organ of state power, and they are accountable to it.

81. Cabinet

The Cabinet is the administrative and executive body of the state power and organ of overall state administration.

That the Cabinet is the administrative and executive body of the state power means that it is the administrative and executive organ which implements the laws, ordinances, orders, decisions and directives of the highest organ of state power on a nationwide scale, and that the Cabinet is the organ of overall state administration means that it is the organ which exercises unified control over all units for state administration except those related with national defence.

The Cabinet consists of the Premier, Vice-Premiers, Chairmen, Ministers and other members, and its term of office is the same as that of the SPA.

82. Authority of the Cabinet

The Cabinet has the duties and authority appropriate for its legal status to adopt measures for implementation of state policies; adopt, amend or supplement the regulations on state administration on the basis of the Constitution and the sector-specific laws; draft the state plan for the development of the national economy and adopt measures to put it into effect; compile the state budget and adopt measures to implement it; organize and

execute all affairs of state administration; inspect and control the establishment of order in state administration.

It issues decisions and directives and is accountable to the SPA and to the Presidium of the SPA when the SPA is not in session.

The Premier of the Cabinet organizes and guides the work of the Cabinet, and represents the Government of the DPRK.

83. Local Administrative and Executive Organs

The local administrative and executive organs implement the decisions and directives of the local organs of state power, and carry out the tasks facing the political, economic, cultural and all other sectors in their respective regions.

They work under the constant guidance and supervision of the latter, and are accountable to them.

And they are duty-bound to report on its activities to the administrative and executive organs at higher levels, and they are placed under the unified guidance of and subordinate to the central administrative and executive organs.

84. Authority of the Local Administrative and Executive Organs

The local administrative and executive organs,

through their administrative functions, exercise direct control over such affairs related to population administration as education, culture, public health, commerce, finance and labour administration; draft the local plan for the development of the national economy and adopt measures to put it into effect; compile the local budget and adopt measures to implement it; maintain public order; protect the property and interests of the state and social and cooperative organizations; safeguard the rights of citizens in the given regions.

They have departmental executive bodies in charge of the specific sectors of administrative work in the given regions, and conduct administrative work through them.

85. Judicial and Procuratorial Organs

The judicial and procuratorial organs of the DPRK supervise and control observance of the laws of the state and take direct charge of their application and execution.

They are set up by the organ of state power and vested by it with a certain degree of authority to exercise the state power.

In the system of state administration they occupy the position of organs that supervise and control strict observance and implementation of the laws and policies

of the state.

They perform the role of supervising and controlling law observance and applying sanctions by legal means, thereby defending the social system from all illegal practices and crimes and ensuring correct and prompt implementation of the policies, laws and ordinances of the state.

They constitute the instrument of the dictatorship of the people's democracy which safeguards the gains of socialism, and the people's lives and property.

They safeguard the people's lives, property and rights, taking it as their special duty to struggle against all sorts of illegal practices that infringe on the independence of the working people.

They repress the anti-state and counterrevolutionary manoeuvres thoroughly, and detect in advance and punish the destructive moves by the hostile elements. In addition, they wage a legal struggle to ensure that all units defend and implement the economic policies of the state unconditionally and to the letter.

86. Investigation and Prosecution

The purpose of the investigation and prosecution of the DPRK is to ensure the strict observance of state laws, and identify and institute legal proceedings against

criminals and offenders.

Investigation and prosecution are conducted by the Central Public Prosecutors Office, the Public Prosecutors Offices of a province (or municipality directly under central authority), city (or district) or county and the Special Public Prosecutors Office.

The functions of the Public Prosecutors Office are to ensure the strict observance of state laws by institutions, enterprises, organizations and citizens; to ensure that the decisions and directives of state bodies conform with the Constitution, the ordinances and decisions of the SPA, the orders of the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, the decisions and directives of the SAC, the decrees, decisions and directives of the Presidium of the SPA, and the decisions and directives of the Cabinet; to identify and institute legal proceedings against criminals and offenders in order to protect the state power of the DPRK, the socialist system, the property of the state and social, cooperative organizations, personal rights as guaranteed by the Constitution and the people's lives and property.

Investigation and prosecution are conducted under the unified direction of the Central Public Prosecutors Office, and all Public Prosecutors Offices are subordinate to their higher offices and the Central Public Prosecutors Office.

87. Functions of the Central Public Prosecutors Office

The Central Public Prosecutors Office is the highest state organ of investigation and prosecution.

It gives unified guidance over all aspects of investigation and prosecution, and performs executive functions as well.

The essential aspect of the work of the Central Public Prosecutors Office is to give unified guidance over the whole of investigation and prosecution.

It discharges executive functions in dealing with important units and sectors of the state.

It has authority to set up the lower echelons of public prosecutors offices.

It is accountable to the SPA and to the Presidium of the SPA when the SPA is not in session.

The term of office of the Prosecutor General of the Central Public Prosecutors Office is the same as that of the SPA.

88. Functions of the Local Public Prosecutors Office

Local Public Prosecutors Offices are organs of investigation and prosecution established in the given areas.

They ensure law observance by state institutions,

enterprises, and social and cooperative organizations, and combat crimes.

They are under the unified guidance and control of the Central Public Prosecutors Office, and are accountable to it.

89. Justice

Justice is administered by the Central Court, the Court of a province (or municipality directly under central authority), the City (or District) or County People's Courts, and the Special Court.

The functions of the Court are to protect through judicial procedure the state power of the DPRK and its socialist system, the property of the state and social, cooperative organizations, personal rights as guaranteed by the Constitution, and the lives and property of citizens; to ensure that all institutions, enterprises, organizations and citizens abide strictly by state laws and staunchly combat class enemies and all law-breakers; to give judgements and findings with regard to property and conduct notarial work.

Justice is administered by a Court consisting of one Judge and two People's Assessors. In special cases there may be three Judges.

Court cases are heard in public and the accused is guaranteed the right of defence. Hearings may be closed

to the public as stipulated by law. Judicial proceedings are conducted in the Korean language and foreign citizens may use their own language during court proceedings.

In administering justice, the Court is independent, and judicial proceedings are carried out in strict accordance with the law.

Verdicts are delivered in the name of the DPRK.

The term of office of the President of the Central Court is the same as that of the SPA and the term of office of Judges and People's Assessors of the Central Court and the local Court is the same as that of the People's Assembly at the corresponding level. The President and Judges of the Special Court are appointed or removed by the Central Court and the People's Assessors of the Special Court are elected by the soldiers of the army unit concerned or by employees at their meetings.

90. Functions of the Central Court

The Central Court is the highest judicial organ of the state.

It deliberates and decides on important criminal and civil cases and discusses the appeals concerning the cases judged by the local courts.

It has the authority to deal with cases and direct the

work of the local courts, and supervises the justice by the courts at all levels.

It is established by the highest organ of state power and is accountable to the SPA and to the Presidium of the SPA when the SPA is not in session.

91. Functions of the Local Court

The local court is the judicial organ established in the given area.

It deliberates and decides on the cases that occur in the given area under the unified guidance of the Central Court.

It is set up by the organ of state power in the given area and is accountable to the organ.

92. Meaning of the Name "Democratic People's Republic of Korea"

The name "Democratic People's Republic of Korea" means that it is an independent socialist state which represents the interests of all the Korean people and strives for socialist construction in the northern half of Korea and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The name reflects the class nature of the state, and the basic goal and immediate duty of the Korean revolution.

93. National Emblem

The national emblem of the DPRK was enacted with the founding of the state on September 9, Juche 37 (1948).

It bears the design of a grand hydroelectric power station under Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the Korean revolution, and the beaming light of a five-pointed red star, with ears of rice forming an oval frame, bound with a red ribbon bearing the inscription, "Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

The red star and its beaming light represent the brilliant future of the Korean people who struggle for the building of a powerful socialist nation, the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and the accomplishment of the cause of the Juche revolution. Mt Paektu epitomizes the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered by Kim Il Sung, the founding father of socialist Korea, and the revolutionary traditions created in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle he led in the first half of the last century. The hydroelectric power station stands for the powerful heavy industry and working class of the state and the ears of rice, the socialist rural economy and cooperative farmers. The oval frame represents the invincible unity of the Korean people around the WPK. The name

“Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” inscribed on the red ribbon shows that it is an independent, democratic and people’s state which represents the interests of the Korean people.

The national emblem was designed by Kim Il Sung who founded the DPRK.

94. National Flag

The national flag of the DPRK was enacted with the founding of the state on September 9, Juche 37 (1948).

It consists of a central red panel, bordered both above and below by a narrow white stripe and a broad blue stripe. The central red panel bears a five-pointed red star within a white circle near the hoist. The ratio of the width to the length is 1:2.

The red colour symbolizes the red blood of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners who fought for the freedom and independence of the country, and the invincible might of the Korean people rallied behind the DPRK.

The white colour implies that it is the state of a homogeneous nation that has lived on one expanse of territory sharing one bloodline, language and culture.

The blue colour represents the spirit of the Korean people who struggle for the victory of the socialist cause and global peace and progress, and it symbolizes the

sovereignty of the DPRK.

The five-pointed red star depicts the spirit of the Korean people who advance vigorously, carrying forward the revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese struggle, and the prospects of the DPRK.

The national flag was designed by Kim Il Sung.

95. National Anthem

The national anthem of the DPRK is *Patriotic Song*, created in Juche 36 (1947).

Patriotic Song

1. *Shine bright, you dawn, on this land so fair,*
   The country of three thousand ri,
   So rich in silver and in gold you are,
   Five thousand years your history.
   Our people ever were renowned and sage,
   And rich in cultural heritage,
   And as with heart and soul we strive,
   Korea shall forever thrive!

2. *And in the spirit of Mount Paektu,*
   With love of toil that shall never die,
   With will of iron fostered by the truth,
   We'll lead the whole world by and by.

We have the might to foil the angry sea,
Our land more prosperous still shall be,
As by the people's will we strive,
Korea shall forever thrive!

The song reflects the dignity and self-respect of the Korean people who have beautiful nature, abundant resources, a 5 000-year-old history and excellent tradition of culture, and the passionate patriotism of the Korean people to build a powerful country under the leadership of the WPK.

96. National Flower

The national flower of the DPRK is magnolia.

A deciduous shrub or a high tree, it grows well in valleys and on mountain slopes of Korea except some of its northern highlands.

It grows 2-5m tall, and the fragrant flowers bloom white between May and June. Each magnolia tree flowers for 50-60 days and each flower lasts for about one week.

The flower is 7-10cm in diameter, the largest 15cm, and has 9-12 petals including 3 sepals at the outer edge.

It is highly resistant to cold and grows well in the climate of Korea.

Beautiful, fragrant and with simple and lofty looks, it

is a flower that represents the spirit of the stout-hearted Korean people.

97. National Bird

The national bird of the DPRK is goshawk.

It lives in Korea's central and northern highlands.

It is 48-61cm long and weighs 0.7-1.2kg. Its wings are about 30-37cm long each and, when spread out, it measures 105-130cm. Its beak looks like a sharp hook and its talons are strong. Its body colour is yellowish brown and there are four dark-brown strips crossed on the upper part of the tail.

It is not so large but has a balanced figure, penetrating eyes, sharp beak and strong talons. It is clever and resolute, and flies fast.

It symbolizes the temperament of the Korean people who hate being fettered by anything and tide over difficulties in a valiant manner.

98. National Tree

The national tree of the DPRK is pine.

It is an evergreen conifer of the family *Pinaceae* which grows on a vast area below 800m above sea level except the northern highlands of Korea.

It is 20-40m tall and 60cm in diameter.

Its furrowed bark is reddish brown or dark brown.

Buds, cylindrical or elliptical in shape, appear in winter, three or four or even six at the end of a branch.

Bundles of leaves come out in pairs at the end of a sprig or by threes in some young trees and well-grown trees. The leaves are 7-12cm long each, the longest 14cm.

Evergreen and viable, the pine tree symbolizes the unflinching spirit of the Korean people.

99. National Dog

The national dog of the DPRK is Phungsan dog.

Registered as a natural monument of the country, the dog is native to Kim Hyong Gwon County (the then Phungsan County), Ryanggang Province, in the northern part of Korea. Clever and nimble, it fights its opponents to the last.

It has a slim figure, thick and firm rear legs, and runs fast in an upright position even in a mountainous area.

The eyes are rather small and the pupils are black or ash grey. The ears are small and straight, tilting to the front or sideways. The thick and short neck is well-developed.

The fur is usually white, or sometimes yellowish brown.

The DPRK pays great concern to preserving the pure breed.

100. Working People's Organizations

The working people's organizations of the DPRK are Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League, General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea and Democratic Women's Union of Korea.

These organizations have achieved brilliant successes in the struggle to defend and develop the people-centred socialism under the leadership of the WPK.

Now they are playing a significant role in inspiring the working people to build a powerful socialist nation.

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Author: Han Su Yong
Editor: Kim Ji Ho
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№. 683568

E-mail: flph@star-co.net.kp
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