

Dear friends,

It is our great pleasure that E-celebration Forum, "**Kim Il Sung**, Eternal Sun of Humankind" is open under the joint auspices of the Organizing Committee of International Festival in Praise of Great Persons of Mt. Paektu and Korean Friendship Association on the occasion of the 110th birth anniversary of President **Kim Il Sung**, the illustrious leader of the Korean revolution and the global cause of independence.

First of all, I would like to extend the highest tribute to President **Kim Il Sung** who rendered the undying contribution to accomplishment of the cause of global independence in reflection of the unanimous minds of the progressive peoples.

At the same time, I, on behalf of OCIFPGPP, would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the organizations and personnel from various countries across the world for your dedicated efforts to the success of the E-celebration Forum.

Dear friends,

Though a number of great persons are registered in the history of humankind, it is difficult to find such a great man as President **Kim Il Sung** in terms of the long-standing leadership, versatile talents and achievements.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to recall in retrospect the ennobling activities and exploits of President **Kim Il Sung**.

President **Kim Il Sung** was born in a patriotic and revolutionary family on April 15th 1912 when Korea was under the Japanese colonial rule and he grew up to be possessed of ardent patriotism and the unbreakable spirit of national independence under his parents' education and in the revolutionary practice.

At the age of 14, he started with forming an organization with its goal to defeat the Japanese imperialists and liberate Korea and finally bring down all kinds of imperialism of the world and then he devoted his everything to freedom and liberation of the oppressed working people and their new independent life for nearly 70 years.

As already known, the most brilliant contribution of President **Kim Il Sung** is that he authored the Juche idea, the great guiding ideology of the age of independence.

The Juche idea briefly defines that man is the master of everything and decides everything. In other words, the popular masses are the masters of the revolution and construction, and they are its motive force.

The Juche idea illustrates in the most correct way the intrinsic nature of human being with independence as its lifeblood and the way of shaping the life, which aroused the absolute support and sympathy of the world's progressive peoples. Especially, the principle of independence in politics, self-sufficiency in economy and self-defense in national defense which was laid forth by the Juche idea serves as the rock-firm guiding principle in building an independent state.

President **Kim Il Sung** led two rounds of the revolutionary wars and two phases of the social revolutions to brilliant victory by applying the great Juche idea, thus testifying to its

validity and vitality in practice.

He liberated Korea in August 1945 after 15 years of anti-Japanese armed struggle and continued to win brilliant victory in the three-year-long Father Liberation War against the world imperialist allied forces headed by the United States in the early 1950s. In doing so, he won the world acknowledgment and appreciation as the iron-willed brilliant commander and lodestar of the national liberation struggle who defeated two imperialists within one generation.

President **Kim Il Sung** worked a historic miracle by turning the DPRK, which was once a backward and colonial agricultural state and later on was completely destroyed during the Korean War, into a powerful socialist industrial state with his extraordinary leadership in a short span of time.

He set forth an original line of economic construction that required giving priority to the development of the heavy industry while simultaneously developing the light industry and agriculture and gave a brilliant guidance to its implementation, thus realizing the industrialization in only 14 years. In doing so, he demonstrated the spirit and prestige of heroic Korea once again all over the world.

The DPRK built a powerful independent national economy that relied entirely on its own scientific and technical forces, raw materials and natural resources, thereby pushing ahead with the socialist construction unaffected by any global political and economic upheavals.

In later days, though socialism collapsed in some East European countries, the DPRK not only maintained its political system but further strengthened it, the credit of which goes to the independent politics consistently maintained by President and the solid foundation of the self-reliant national economy.

President **Kim Il Sung** believed in people as in heaven and ardently loved them and built a people-centered socialist country in which the most advantageous and good policies are executed and the people's fate is taken into account and cared for by the state.

The DPRK enforced the comprehensive democratic reforms including the Agrarian Reform, the Nationalization of Major Industries, the Labour Law and the Law on Gender Equality as early as the following year after the national liberation, and the universal free medical care system during the Korean War, and the universal 11-year free compulsory education system and the spare-time educational system after the war. Such people-oriented policies were executed one after another and moreover, the DPRK has been turned into an only one and single tax-free country in the world.

Highly praising the DPRK as "Chollima Korea" and "Juche Korea", people all over the world associate all its eye-opening achievements with the extraordinary and seasoned leadership of President.

President **Kim Il Sung** had such ardent love for the country and the people that he keenly felt painful about the national division forced by the outside forces and devoted everything to the country's reunification all his life.

In particular, he put forward the three principles of national reunification-independent reunification, peaceful reunification and great national unity, the proposal of founding the

Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo and the ten-point program of the great unity of the whole nation. These constitute three charters that serve as a systematic integrity and crystallization of the fundamental principles and methods for the national reunification.

President **Kim Il Sung** was an outstanding leader of the world revolution, who led the cause of global independence in the van, with a heartfelt wish for the global peace, prosperity and happiness beyond a single nation, a single country.

He set forward the original idea of building a new independent world where all kinds of dominationism and colonialism are abolished and all the countries and nations are fully independent, and he energetically led the struggle for its implementation.

He ensured that friendly and cooperative relations among the socialist countries and developing countries were further promoted and the unity of the non-alignment movement were built up under the banner of the slogan, "Let the world's peoples aspiring after independence unite!"

Besides, he fully supported the revolutionary countries and people who are against imperialism and desirous of independence, and rendered material and moral support to them.

Especially, whenever many newly independent countries tried to learn experiences seeking for the way of their development from the realities of the DPRK and even when they asked for the economic assistance, President gave enormous support to them in many fields without any hesitation, saying that if he did not help those countries which cast off the colonial yoke, they would go under the imperialists' economic yoke again and we would rather assist with them despite the national difficulties.

I would like to reaffirm that the history has not witnessed such a great man possessed of brilliant ideas and theories, outstanding leadership and noble virtue as President **Kim Il Sung**.

Therefore, the world peoples regardless of their country, nationality, ideology and political view admired him as the eternal sun of humanity, not to say when he was alive but also even today after a century.

The ideology and cause of President **Kim Il Sung** were creditably carried forward by Leader **Kim Jong Il** and today the DPRK has ushered in the golden age of its development thanks to His Excellency **Kim Jong Un**

His Excellency **Kim Jong Un** comprehensively applied the politics of devotion for people and people-first principle which carried forward and further developed the idea of believing in people as in heaven, the life-long motto of President **Kim Il Sung** to cement the single-minded unity of the society and provide the Korean people with more affluent and civilized living conditions and environment

Now the DPRK has entered the heyday of creation and construction when the appearances of the country were changed and the economy was revitalized and is being developed while many fields including space industry has made remarkable achievement.

He also highly uplifted the international position of the DPRK and brought a change to the global political balance by his blitz and bold external activities with the world powers

including China, Russia and the US. He adopted the DPRK-US joint declaration and inter-Korean joint declarations and laid a mighty self-defensive deterrent, thus firmly defending the peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in the region and furthermore of the world.

Today, the DPRK is standing as a powerful nation both in name and reality righteously in the center of the world politics thanks to His Excellency **Kim Jong Un**, another illustriously great man.

Dear Friends,

As stated above, the august name and exploits of President **Kim Il Sung**, the founder of the socialist Korea and the sun of humankind will shine more and more with the passing time while the just cause of the Korean people to build a socialist thriving nation and reunify the country and the cause of global independence will emerge victorious for sure.

I remain confident that this celebration forum which is open at the meaningful time that marks the 110th birth anniversary of President **Kim Il Sung** and the 10th anniversary of having His Excellency **Kim Jong Un** in the highest post of the Party and State of Korea will serve as a significant occasion that adds luster to the greatness and achievements of the peerlessly great men of Korea and turn out to be successful.

Jesús Antonio Carlos Hernández

Co-chairman

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