

Priority Given to Ideological Work

If it secures ideology, socialism will triumph; if it loses ideology, socialism will go to ruin.

This is the gist of the work *Giving Priority to the Ideological Work Is Essential for the accomplishing Socialism* published by the leader Kim Jong Il of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on June 19, 1995.

The work made profound analysis of the law-governed nature of the establishment of socialist system and its consolidation and development, and the intrinsic features of socialist society and, based on this, clarified a unique idea that priority should be given to ideological work with the main emphasis on ideology in carrying out the Juche cause of socialism.

Main stress on ideology

Without the ideological work, it would be impossible for socialism to emerge, exist, and develop. Socialist ideology emerges as a reflection of the class demand of the exploited working masses who fight against domination by capital, and the socialist system is born of the struggle of the popular masses who awakened to socialist ideology. It is the socialist society that is guided by socialist ideology and developed mainly by the impetus of this ideology. In other words, unlike capitalist society, socialist society is essentially characterized by the fact that it develops based on the strength of ideology, by the conscious activities of the people armed with socialist ideology.

The consolidation, development and destiny of socialism depends on how ideological work is done and how people are prepared ideologically. Slighting ideological work when building socialism amounts to overlooking the key to socialism. This mistake will inevitably results in the corruption and collapse of socialism.

The collapse of socialism in some countries in the closing years of the last century is the consequence of the poverty and degeneration of the scientific, revolutionary ideas and theories and the outcome of disregards for ideological education of the popular masses and the abandonment of ideological work among them. As the ideological bulwark fell down, great economic and military power became impotent and, in the long run, it was impossible to defend socialism.

In the whole period of his leadership over the revolution and construction Kim Jong Il has consistently adhered to the principle of giving priority to the ideological work. He evolved a unique theory that ideology decides everything, elucidated the validity of the principle of giving precedence to ideological work in every aspects and ensured that the tasks arising in all fields and sectors carried out from A to Z on the strength of ideology and achieve the national prosperity by stimulating people ideologically.

The fact that socialist Korea remains unperturbed in the face of the imperialists' moves to isolate and stifle it, displaying its might as an impregnable fortress of socialism, clearly proves the validity and vitality of Kim Jong Il's leadership who has always stuck ideology as the main factor.

Modelling whole society on one ideology

Socialist ideology which reflects man's demands for independence and collectivism constitutes a powerful ideological weapon for transforming nature and society and carving out human destiny and an ideological basis for closely uniting all members of society into an integrated whole. Therefore, to arm people firmly with socialist ideology and bring them up into those strong in ideas is the basic factor for giving full play to the advantages of socialism and stepping up the revolution and construction by strengthening its power.

Kim Jong Il, bases himself on the Juche idea created by President Kim Il Sung, father of socialist Korea, believes that the independent ideological consciousness of the popular masses plays a decisive role in the revolution and construction and that nothing is impossible in the world when they are awakened and enlisted ideologically.

Regarding it as the key task of the ideological work to model whole society on one ideology by imbuing all its members with socialist ideology, he has led the work. He firmly equipped all people with a monolithic ideology by intensifying ideological education among them with the main emphasis on the education in the Juche idea.

Today the great ideological and mental strength of the Korean people and the lofty ideological and moral traits displayed by them testify to the vitality of ideological education. In the DPRK all the people are single-heartedly united behind their leader and the whole society forms a great harmonious family where everyone lives and works full of confidence and optimism.

By dint of ideology

The path traversed by socialist Korea for the past 15 years since the publication of the work eloquently shows the vitality of Kim Jong Il's idea and theories.

Korea is not large in size and population and, furthermore, is still suffering from the tragedy of national division forced by the United States for over a half a century. It, however, has defended socialism, adding more lustre to it without the slightest vacillation even in the face of the severest situation and hardship in the closing years of the last century as it has given priority over all other work to ideological work with the main stress on ideology.

Today in the DPRK world-startling innovations are ceaselessly wrought in its drive to build a great, prosperous and powerful nation as its service personnel and people are giving fullest display to their indomitable mental power in order to defend socialism by dint of ideology. Recent years witnessed eye-opening successes successfully including the manufacture and launch of the second artificial satellite Kwangmyongsong No 2 completely by its own efforts and techniques, the perfection of the Juche-bases steel-making system of using no coke and the mass-production of CNC machine tools and vinalon cotton.

Now it has become a fait accompli that the Korean people with strong ideas and faith will surely build a thriving socialist nation.

Kim Jong Il's work Giving Priority to Ideological Work Is Essential for Accomplishing Socialism serves an important guideline not only for the Korean people but for all parties

and people around the world aspiring after socialism to strictly adhere to in their work.