

Independent reunification of Korea - the cornerstone ensuring peace and prosperity in Northeast Asia

(The memorial report of Institute for Disarmament and Peace, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, DPRK)

Seventy years have passed since our Korean nation was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' occupation. However, the 70-year-long period is also the history of national division forced by the US.

During the long period of time when two generations or more have been shifted, our nation, divided into two, has been suffering from unprecedented misery and pain.

In those decades the world has made a tremendous advance and the times has undergone dramatic changes.

At the time of our national division, colonies and semicolonies accounted for more than half of the world. However, those countries achieved national independence one after another and the tendency towards independence opposing domination and subordination became the main trend of the world development.

The Cold War between the East and the West which had started at the time of our national division ended before half a century has elapsed and the "sole superpower" entered into a decline.

Today even in Asia, northeast Asia finds itself becoming more important in terms of politics, the economy and military.

Geopolitically northeast Asia is a sensitive region since the big powers face each other and the Korean peninsula, divided by the US, stands in the middle of it. This makes the region an unparalleled yet highly explosive powder magazine in the world.

Considering the military concentration and the abundant economic potentiality

of the region, northeast Asia is likely to touch off World War III. On the other hand, the region can also serve as a foothold for preventing an outbreak of a new world war and propelling the world prosperity in the 21st century.

Whether northeast Asia will provide a detonating fuse of a new world war or a locomotive engine in effecting world prosperity is dependent on the settlement of the Korean peninsula issue.

The Korean peninsula issue is in essence an issue of reunification. The future of the Korean peninsula and northeast Asia is dependent on the independent reunification of our nation.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the fatherland liberation, the Institute for Disarmament and Peace, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, DPRK issues this memorial report to illustrate the scientific accuracy, validity and vitality of ideas of independent reunification of the respected Marshal **Kim Jong Un**.

1. Independence, a guarantee of reunification

National division of Korea, against the nation's will, was forced by the outside forces.

At the time when Korea was liberated, the US came up with a proposal that they should disarm the Japanese army stationed south of the 38th parallel and the then Soviet Union which had entered into the anti-Japanese war agreed on the US proposal, thus separating the peninsula into two parts.

The US occupied south Korea and established a military administration to suppress all the patriotic forces desirous of coordinated and balanced development of the Korean nation. The US hastily fabricated a separate puppet regime thus fixing the country's division.

Like this, Korea, although it was neither a war provoker nor a defeated nation like Germany, faced a new misery and pain right after its liberation. Behind these facts lie the interests of outside forces who had been keeping their eyes on the geopolitical value of the peninsula.

Historically, the Korean peninsula has been considered an unparalleled and ideal bridgehead to gain a foothold to the continent by those naval powers which dreamed of aggression on the continent.

The US, a naval force across the Pacific Ocean, dreaming of world hegemony, had a desire to swallow up the whole Korean peninsula, the eastern bridgehead of the Eurasian continent. But the US could not rival the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and the Red Army of the Soviet Union who were moving southward rapidly crushing the Japanese Army.

Under these circumstances, the US hastened to draw a line arbitrarily in the peninsula, totally ignoring the will and interests of the Korean nation, in order to gain at least the half of the Korean peninsula and the line was the 38th parallel. Five years later in 1950 the US filled with ambition to bring the whole Korean peninsula under its control provoked a war of aggression.

The US, being rolled back to their original place after a humiliating defeat in the Korean War, started a full-scale work to transform south Korea into an outpost for aggression against the DPRK and the continent.

However, the US ambition of aggression could not be realized as the defense capability and war deterrence of the DPRK strengthened day by day thanks to the line of simultaneously pushing forward the development of the economy and defence put forward by the great President **Kim Il Sung** in 1960s and the Songun politics of our Great Leaders and the political and military confrontation on the Korean peninsula has been protracted for a long time.

The DPRK government and people have made strenuous efforts to realize independent and peaceful reunification of the country, but these efforts have been doggedly blocked by the US, the practical ruler of south Korea.

It was the US strategic calculation that Korea should not be reunified peacefully on no account until the outbreak of the 2nd Korean war which was under its preparation.

This is the main cause of our national division that has been prolonged for 70

years.

It is none other than the outside forces who have gained interests in national division for the last 70 years just like fishing in troubled waters.

It is the outside forces who battered on arms dealings and justified their arms buildup for an aggression on the continent under the pretext of tension and confrontation between the north and the south which has been instigated and aggravated by the outside forces. It is also the outside forces who have risen as an “economic giant” from the defeated nation by exploiting imbalanced development of the divided Korean nation and now dreams of re-aggression by revitalising militarism.

There are also some outside forces who are keen on their own interests while giving lip service for the improved inter-Korean relations and keeping a foot in both camps. There are also some other kinds of outside forces who pursue their own interests while acting as if they are benefactors ready to grant a request from one side.

The antagonism and confrontation, rather than reconciliation and cooperation, between the north and the south, provide more profits to the outside forces.

Since the neighbouring outside forces around the Korean peninsula seek different interests in the Korean peninsula, their attitudes towards the north and the south are naturally different. Some of them, besieged by ideological confrontation mindset, have been continuously hostile to the DPRK from the first day of national division and some have shared the history of shedding blood in the same trench against the Japanese and the American imperialists.

Some outside forces blindly support the unilateral proposal for “reunification of systems” initiated by south Korea while others maintain dubious attitudes even towards the reunification formula agreed upon by both the north and the south.

Therefore, it is quite clear that the future of the Korean nation will be ruined by outside forces and Korea will fall a victim to a struggle among the outside forces if they were allowed to meddle in national reunification.

Independence is equal to reunification. Independence is the core principle, means and guarantee for reunification. This is the essence of idea of independent reunification put forward by the respected Marshal **Kim Jong Un**.

The only way leading to reunification and national survival lies in joining our nation's efforts while thoroughly rejecting all sorts of interference in internal matters of our nation and national reunification by any outside forces. Here lies the invincible truth of the independent reunification idea put forward by the respected Marshal **Kim Jong Un** based on the scientific analysis of historical lessons of 70-year-old division.

Recently the south Korean authorities make impure solicitation of doing harm to their fellow countrymen, travelling here and there under the guise of "reunification diplomacy". This is an extremely dangerous act of inviting a calamity of war again to the peninsula.

The neighbouring outside forces should be aware that granting any unilateral solicitation which was not agreed upon at all by the north and the south will be an act of interference in internal affairs of the Korean nation and obstructing reunification thus will be construed as hostilities of the Korean nation in the end. It is kindly requested that they should be prudent in dealing with the question of national reunification of Korea.

2. Peaceful environment and independent reunification

It is quite obvious that continued division constantly destroys the homogeneity of the nation and inseparably involves a possibility of war outbreak. This is the most dangerous point.

Distrust between the north and the south is growing serious and worse still the south Korean authorities are clinging to the military alliance with the US hostile to the DPRK thus heightening the military confrontation and increasing the danger of war in the Korean peninsula.

Therefore, creating a peaceful environment in the Korean peninsula is an

indispensable requirement for a smooth realization of independent reunification by removing the danger of war and ending the interference of the outside forces simultaneously.

At present stage, the most pressing task in creating a peaceful environment is to remove the impending danger of war and break the vicious cycle of tension on the Korean peninsula.

The large-scale war games staged annually in south Korea are the root cause of the actual danger of war and aggravation of tension in the peninsula

Even in the period of the worldwide Cold War, the issues related with restriction and limitation of the scale and the character of military exercises were discussed as the most serious and prime topics in the dialogues and negotiations for prevention of war between the East and the West.

The provocative and offensive military exercises staged by the US and the south Korean authorities against the DPRK is not only the most outspoken and specific demonstration of the hostile policy towards the latter but also the most clear expression of direct interference in the internal affairs of the Korean nation by the outside forces.

The respected Marshal **Kim Jong Un** said as follows; “The United States, the very one that divided our nation into two and has imposed the suffering of national division upon it for 70 years, should desist from pursuing the anachronistic policy hostile towards the DPRK and reckless acts of aggression and boldly make a policy switch.”

The US should see the change of the times and realize that the hostile policy to the DPRK is nothing but an expired drug on the market.

Now is high time for the US to realize that the provocative war moves bring much more loss than profit in the Korean peninsula.

Sixty years ago, the DPRK stood against the US with a rifle, but today it has full capability both to deter the latter’s nuclear threat with nuclear power and to retaliate the latter’s nuclear provocations.

It is a new reality that the DPRK has possessed the mailed fist to counter any kinds of war to be chosen by the US

If the US abandons its hostile policy towards the DPRK and shift the policy to respect the sovereignty, dignity and the will of independent reunification of the Korean nation and the US can also enjoy respect from the Korean nation.

First and foremost, the US should demonstrate its will of policy change by stopping large-scale war exercises in south Korea and its vicinity.

Now the US is trying to mislead the world public opinion alleging that their war drills are “defensive” and “annual”, but such sophism cannot befog the truth.

The war drills involve typical offensive moves such as landing operations and commandos operations supported by strategic nuclear strike means with a target of “occupation of Pyongyang”. Branding these war drills as “defensive” ones is nothing but a cut-and-dried choplogic calling the black as the white.

However, the US is describing these war drills as trivial daily affairs alleging them “annually staged”. Here lies their sinister intention to make the DPRK be accustomed to their war drills, so as to make a crack in the deterrence and defence posture of the DPRK while ceaselessly sharpening their hatchet.

The US insists that as the military exercises have been conducted for several decades and there’s no reason for stopping them. But it is absurd that one cannot correct wrongdoings because he has done it for a long time.

In 1992 and 1994 the US has suspended the joint military exercises according to the agreement with the DPRK.

This shows that the US can suspend the war drills if they make a courageous decision regardless of how long they have staged them.

Once a peaceful environment is created on the Korean peninsula, independent reunification will be accelerated. Once reunification is achieved, it will resolve one of the global hot spots and will further contribute to peace and prosperity in northeast Asia and the world.

It would be fortunate for the US to look the reality squarely and shift its policy.

If not, the DPRK is fully prepared to counter the US with its own options.

Peaceful environment is really dear to the Korean people, but begging can never bring about a real peace.

If the US loses the last chance of changing the hostile policy towards the DPRK failing to understand the change of the times, its hostile policy will inevitably lead to a war.

If a war breaks out again on the Korean peninsula after all, it will never be finished with armistice.

Seventy-year-old national division and more than sixty-year-old unstable state, neither a war nor a peace, confronting the world biggest nuclear power amid high tension for generations, can no longer be tolerated.

It is a burning sentiment of the Korean People's Army and a popular feeling of the Korean people to face a new war and stage a grand national reunification war if it is forced.

Liable preparations are already made to secure economic interests of foreign countries even in case the reunification is realized through war, let alone the case of peaceful reunification.

It is a consistent stand of the DPRK to ensure that Korea reunification will contribute to the common prosperity of the region including the neighbouring countries.

3. Improvement of inter-Korean relations and independent national reunification

The history of 70-year-old national division is the very history of the inter-Korean relations full of twists and turns.

For the last 70 years, the north and the south have respectively kept following the different paths of ideology and faith.

The inter-Korean relations cannot be improved if both sides keep seeking confrontation of systems while absolutizing one's own ideology and system.

Though the people-centered socialist system of our own style is the most advantageous one, the DPRK has never forced it on south Korea.

If they try to force their ideology and systems upon each other, they will never settle the national reunification issue in a peaceful way, only bringing confrontation and war. This is vividly proved by the history of past 70-year-long inter-Korean relations.

With 70 years of division, the Korean peninsula is forced to stand on the horns of dilemma of peace or nuclear disaster and the Korean nation is at the crossroad of reunification or permanent division. This reality demands a great turn and change in the inter-Korean relations.

If the neighbouring states and countries concerned sincerely wish for peace on and reunification of the Korean peninsula, they should observe a golden rule regarding the north-south relations.

The inter-Korean relations are seriously affected by outside forces due to the US continued substantial rule over south Korea.

During the discussion at the Yalta Meeting in February 1945, on the agenda of settling the colonies after defeat of Japan, Roosevelt, the then President of US asserted that the Korean nation was not capable of building a sovereign and independent state and that it should be placed under the guardianship of big powers for 20 to 30 years.

The US had disclosed its aggressive ambition of world domination by insulting the Korean nation in this way. And it is still administering its neo-colonialism over south Korea even today when 70 years have passed after the defeat of Japan and it is more than twice as long as Roosevelt's assertion.

The most sensitive and urgent subject of the Korean peninsula issue is to ease military tension and prevent conflicts. However, the US still exercises command control of armed forces in south Korea.

Even though the return of military control has become the agenda on the table, the south Korean authorities are soliciting the US for its continued control.

It is the historical reality that the directions of inter-Korean relations have been influenced by the attitude and stand of the US.

The north and south have demonstrated their will and spirit of national reunification by drawing up the charter and great program of national reunification including the July 4 Joint Statement, the historic June 15 Joint Declaration and the October 4 Declaration.

Yet, the south Korean authorities would abandon any joint agreements frightened by the US if they say no and every such occasion would freeze and bring ordeals to the inter-Korean relations.

If the US has a will to switch its policy, together with terminating joint military exercises with south Korea, it should not obstruct the Korean people's efforts to bring about a great turn and change in the north-south relations.

The other neighbouring countries should also be aware of the complication and sensitivity of the inter-Korean relations and should fully ensure impartiality and prudence in one's policy towards the Korean peninsula.

First of all, they should not instigate the north and the south to confront each other.

The inter-Korean history records many separatists among the successive rulers of south Korea, the wheelers and dealers who lived only for the sake of his or her own groups interests, ignoring the national interests by making rebellious solicitations upon the outside forces.

Inciting such separatists and confrontationists and accepting their solicitations are dangerous moves that would harm not only others but also oneself.

If another war breaks out on the Korean peninsula, its calamity and destructiveness will be totally different to that of 1950s and the range of the war will no longer be limited to the boundaries of the Korean peninsula.

Nuclear warheads with its explosive power tens of times greater than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima will be flying across the Pacific Ocean and nobody could predict which spark might misfall on which part of the peninsula's

vicinity during the turmoil.

It has been recorded in the world war history that one of the notorious traditions of the US military is accidental bombing on purpose.

The change of the times in which the nuclear map of northeast Asia has been drastically modified clearly shows that it is in favor of the basic interests of all countries in the region to ease the inter-Korean confrontation fundamentally and bring about a great turn and change in the north-south relations towards reconciliation and cooperation.

At current stage, in order to bring about this great turn and change, both parties are recommended to lower their own colours and stop arguments for and against and treasure the agreements already agreed upon by the north and the south and implement them one by one.

The neighbouring countries are also kindly advised to respect the inter-Korean agreed matters, while not lending one's ears to one-sided solicitations. Encouraging only the ways and efforts for co-existence and co-prosperity will be of support to the Korean nation.

It is the firm will of the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un to write down a new history by bringing about this great turn and change.

Upholding the idea of national reunification clarified by the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, the Korean People's Army and the Korean people will join the efforts of our nation itself and definitely realize independent reunification of the nation.

August 12, Juche 104(2015)

Pyongyang