

## **Kim Il Sung and Down-with-Imperialism Union**

The Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU) is the first revolutionary organization, Kim Il Sung (1912-1994), eternal president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, formed with the determination that he would devote his all to the sacred cause of liberating his country from the Japanese imperialists and winning back freedom and emancipation of his people.

In June 1926 Kim Il Sung entered Hwasong Uisuk School, a two-year military and political school for training cadres for the Independence Army. In that period, he demonstrated his remarkable abilities with outstanding humanity and diligence, uncommon faculty of thinking and judgment, extraordinary courage and leadership ability.

Once there was a football match between the school and another school. When the match was about to end, a player of the school team collided with a player of the other team, and got injured. Kim Il Sung carried him on his back to the doctor's. From that day on, he shared board and lodging with the student every night and took care of him; he obtained medicines as well as tasty dishes for him, and explained what he had learned for the patient's study and wrote them down on his book. Thanks to his sincere devotion, the student's injured leg was completely treated. Students of the school began to follow Kim Il Sung, and decided to share the same will with him.

Kim Il Sung rallied these like-minded students. In those days the school banned progressive books; when a student was found reading such books a strict punishment was meted out. Despite the school's policy hostile towards the progressive trend of the times, he propagated advanced ideas among the students, insisting that it was wrong that the school authorities blocked the way to the truth. During a class seminar, he boldly said that when Korea was liberated, neither feudal society nor capitalist society but a society free from exploitation and oppression, a society where the working masses like workers and peasants can live happily, should be built in the country, thus receiving full support of the students. In the course of this, he transformed his schoolmates one after one into his comrades of sharing the same will and destiny in the revolution.

Rallying them behind him, he formed the DIU.

When he formed it on October 17, 1926, he was in his teens. All other members of the organization were over 5-10 years older than him and some even had fathered children, but they elected young Kim Il Sung their leader and pledged to become his eternal revolutionary comrades.

The formation of the DIU was the proclamation of a decisive battle to overthrow Japanese imperialism and the declaration of a showdown with all the imperialist forces throughout the world. It was also the starting point of the struggle to found a party in Korea. The independent principle set by the DIU became the principle in conducting party building and its activities, and DIU members, the young people of a new generation, constituted the backbone in the activities for founding the party.

Many people were recorded in human history for their great exploits, but such a leader as Kim Il Sung, who formed a revolutionary organization in his teens, has never been witnessed.