

KIM IL SUNG

**ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS
RAISED BY THE PRESIDENT
OF THE NEPAL JOURNALIST
ASSOCIATION**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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Question: The Juche idea propounded by President Kim Il Sung has won worldwide appreciation and this apart, this idea has influenced deeply both the communist and anti-communist camps throughout the world equally. Your Excellency, will you please explain what is the inspiring element behind this idea and about its impact on mankind?

Answer: The Juche idea is, in a nutshell, a man-centred outlook on the world; it is a revolutionary thought for the realization of the independence of the masses. The Juche idea shows the correct way of shaping man's destiny on the basis of the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything.

It was not until our people who had long fought against all manner of domination and subjugation and for their social and class emancipation and national liberation acquired the Juche idea that they were able to become true masters of their own destiny and shape it successfully by their own efforts.

The degree of influence a progressive idea has on historical advance depends on how correctly this idea reflects the people's aspirations and the requirements of the period. You have said that the Juche idea has now won worldwide appreciation and deeply influenced the world. I think this is precisely because the Juche idea reflects the masses' aspirations to independence and the requirements of our times and lights the path of their struggle for independence.

To live independently, free from any form of domination

and fetters, is the natural desire of social man. No one in this world wishes to live as a slave of another man. It is the common desire of all peoples to shape their destiny independently as the masters of the world; it is the requirement of this age to do away with any form of domination and subjugation and build an independent new world of which the masses are true masters.

The masses themselves are capable of realizing their independence. Man is the most powerful being in the world. Man has the creative ability to shape his destiny himself. People, united solidly into a social collective, acquire tremendous strength, and their united strength constitutes the decisive factor in the transformation of nature and society.

The masses shape their destiny through the revolution and construction which are aimed at transforming nature and society. The Juche idea shows the revolutionary truth that the masses are the masters of the revolution and construction as well as their driving force, and that, when they push them forward with the attitude befitting masters and from the unshakable standpoint of independence and creativity, they will emerge victorious without fail. When they have become aware of this revolutionary truth, the people become conscious of their historical mission, believe in their own strength and fight for their independence. It is natural and reasonable that the masses with the independent spirit follow the path to independence.

The proud history of our people's struggle proves the validity of the Juche idea. Through the people's struggle for independence, the future events will prove the validity and vitality of the Juche idea more clearly.

Question: It is indeed quite astonishing that at a time when in most countries of the world communist establishments are collapsing and when imperialist forces are conspiring to eliminate communism, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea should be able not only in holding steadfastly to this ideology of communism but also in taking its people ahead on the path of all-round progress on the basis of same political philosophy. Your Excellency, will you please explain what is the driving force behind this in your country?

Answer: Owing to the imperialists' manoeuvres against socialism, the present situation is very complicated. The serious antagonism and struggle between socialism and imperialism are continuing on the international arena and, in the course of this, various unexpected and complicated events are taking place one after another.

Nevertheless, our people, under the unfurled banner of revolution, continue to advance steadfastly along the road of socialism without the slightest vacillation.

In fact, it is none other than our country to which the imperialists' anti-socialist manoeuvres are directed most blatantly. In the situation in which the country is divided and they are in direct confrontation with the imperialists, our people are working hard to build socialism and reunify their country. We can say that it is our country that is the scene of acute conflicts between socialism and imperialism. Nevertheless, our people are holding fast to the cause of socialism with an unshakable determination, and many people now want to know the secret.

Socialism in our country is forging ahead triumphantly even under the present complex situation because the

guiding ideology of our revolution, above all else, is correct and our people's confidence in socialism is firm.

In order to build socialism successfully, it is imperative to have a correct guiding ideology. The guiding ideology plays the role of a compass in the socio-historical movement. The construction of socialism and communism is the most sacred cause for realizing the ideal of mankind and a difficult struggle to blaze the trail. The countries building socialism have different characteristics and are in different situations. It is impossible, therefore, to build socialism successfully by copying ready-made formulae or the methods used by other countries, without one's own correct guiding ideology. This is clearly shown by the lessons of some countries which are suffering disorder and setbacks in socialist construction today.

The Korean people have built an excellent socialism of our own style on this land by applying their guiding ideology, the Juche idea, the socialism which develops steadily on the solid foundations of independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant national defence.

The essential feature of our socialism in which the Juche idea has been embodied in all respects lies in the fact that ours is the genuine people's society of which the masses are true masters and in which everything serves the masses. Under the socialist system our people's past lot has changed radically and all the members of our society are realizing their hopes and ideals, enjoying happy and worthwhile lives in full. They are now leading the most valuable political life as independent people with complete political freedom and rights and enjoying noble and rich ideological and cultural lives as well as a sound and equitable material life.

Through their life experience our people are convinced that the man-centred socialist society of our own style is the best society that meets man's intrinsic desire to live independently free from exploitation and oppression; they feel great pride in and strong attachment for the socialist life they are leading. In our country socialism has taken deep root in the people's minds and their faith in socialism can never be broken.

Socialism in our country continues to advance stoutly and triumphantly also because our Party is mighty and the Party and the masses are united solidly in mind and purpose.

The working-class party is the leading political organization which guides the revolution and construction to victory; it is the hard core of the driving force of the revolution. Therefore, the strength of the party and the leadership role it plays are the decisive factor in the victory of the revolution and construction.

The Workers' Party of Korea is the revolutionary party of Juche that has grown from the deep root of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle; it is a veteran party which has rich struggle experience and seasoned leadership capability. Our Party is leading the cause of socialism along the road of victory with correct fighting objectives and revolutionary policies based on the Juche idea.

In our country the unconquerable Workers' Party of Korea now stands firm in the centre of the revolutionary ranks, and the masses who have shared the destiny with the Party during the long-drawn-out revolutionary struggle are united closely behind the Party. Our Party believes in the masses as the source of inexhaustible strength and depends on them in the fight; our people entrust their destiny entirely

to the Party and support its leadership with loyalty. Nothing can ever break the unity and cohesion of our Party and the masses that have been welded into one socio-political organism.

The fact that the great Workers' Party of Korea is giving leadership to the revolution and construction and that the Party and the masses have been welded into a socio-political organism, into an unbreakable driving force of our revolution constitutes the indestructible source of our socialism as well as a sure guarantee for all our victories.

No matter how complex the world situation is and no matter what winds may blow, our Party and our people are firmly determined to follow the road of socialism to the end. Our socialism may encounter tortuous events on its advance, but there is not a shadow of doubt that it will triumph. Our people are full of conviction and optimism that the further the building of socialism makes progress, the better life they will enjoy. They will accomplish the cause of socialism brilliantly by working harder under the unfurling banner of the Juche idea.

Question: Efforts for achieving reunification of Korea are on and only recently high-level negotiations too were held. The DPRK right from the beginning has desired a quick accomplishment of this objective of peaceful national reunification without any foreign interference. Even all the peace-loving people of the world, too, have been expressing their ardent hope for this reunification. Will Your Excellency shed some light on the solution of this issue?

Answer: Our Party and the Government of our Republic

have consistently maintained the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity in their struggle for national reunification.

These three principles represent the standpoint and will of our own nation with regard to the question of national reunification. The three principles of national reunification are the most reasonable programme for national reunification that accords with all Koreans' desire for independence and their fundamental interests and also conforms with the trend of our times and the aspirations of the world progressive people.

The most realistic and reasonable way to reunify our country independently, peacefully and on the principle of great national unity is to join the north and the south and form a federal state.

The policy of the Government of our Republic on establishing the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo is to unite the north and the south into a single state, leaving the ideas and social systems in the north and south as they are, and putting into effect regional autonomy within the state, by which the north and the south exercise equal rights and perform equal duties. At present, different ideas and social systems actually exist in the north and the south of our country. In these circumstances the only way to reunify the country fairly and peacefully without one conquering the other or one being conquered by the other is to institute a federation which is based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

At present, some people in south Korea assert the "unification of systems" by copying another country's way of unification. It means extending one side's social system

to the other's. In the condition of our country it is impossible to reunify the country by amalgamating systems. If the north or the south were to force its own ideology and social system on the other side and extend them to it, the country would never be reunified, and, worse still, conflicts and fratricide would inevitably take place between the north and the south. The "unification of systems" means, in the final analysis, rejecting national reunification. It is nothing but a camouflage for those who try to keep the country divided to cover their true colours.

Reunifying the country into one nation and one state leaving two systems and two governments in the north and the south of Korea as they are is not only a feasible reunification proposal, but also a just policy suited to the actual situation in our country. As it envisages our country developing as a neutral state after reunification, not as a satellite of any other nation, the proposal conforms with the desires of the peoples of our neighbouring countries and the peace-loving people around the world.

The foremost, pressing task in realizing national reunification is to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula and create a peaceful climate for national reunification.

On both sides of the Military Demarcation Line between the north and the south of our country enormous armed forces are now confronted with each other. This is the cause of the constant tension on the Korean peninsula. Without easing the tension, it is impossible to remove misunderstanding and distrust between north and south, achieve national reconciliation and unity and solve the question of the country's reunification peacefully. From a sincere desire to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula

and ensure peace, the Government of our Republic maintains that a nonaggression declaration between north and south be adopted, that a peace agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States be signed, and that the armed forces in north and south be reduced, by stage, each to the level lower than 100,000 troops. If our proposal is put into effect, it will be possible to put an end to the relations of confrontation and the state of armistice which have continued to date on the Korean peninsula, remove distrust and misunderstanding between north and south and create a decisively favourable climate for national reunification.

To develop dialogues is an important way to find a peaceful settlement of the question of the reunification of our country.

Because the reunification of the country is an important issue affecting the destiny of the whole nation, the dialogue for reunification must be a dialogue for all nation, a democratic representation of the will of the administrative authorities, political parties, social organizations and the people from all walks of life. The talks of high-level delegations, headed by the prime ministers, are now being held between north and south for the first time since the division of the nation. I think that it is a good thing which affords the prospects of improving north-south relations and of reunifying the country. In the future, too, we will make every effort to broaden and develop dialogues for reunification between north and south in various fields, particularly the north-south high-level talks.

The cause of reunification is a cause of the whole nation to achieve the independence of our nation, and the driving

force of national reunification is the entire Korean nation. All our fellow countrymen in north, south and abroad unanimously desire the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and have courageously taken up the cause of national reunification under the banner of great national unity. Today, the trend of our nation towards reunification has mounted higher than ever, and the movement for the reunification of the country is developing on to a new height. The progressive people of the world are giving strong support and encouragement to our people in their cause for the reunification of their country.

It is a historical inevitability that a nation which has been divided artificially by outside forces is reunified. No matter how those at home and abroad who wish to keep the country divided may scheme, they cannot check the unshakable will of the entire nation to reunify the country and the general trend of the times towards national reunification. We have an optimistic view of the prospects of national reunification. We are convinced that the hope and goal of our people to accomplish the cause of national reunification in the 1990s will be realized without fail.

Question: The friendly relations between Nepal and the DPRK have been increasing constantly and there has never arisen any problem between our two countries. Your Excellency, how do you feel about these encouraging developments and what are your suggestions to further strengthen these ties of friendship and mutual cooperation and understanding?

Answer: Historically, the relations between Korea and Nepal have been developing favourably. Since the

establishment of the diplomatic relations between the DPRK and the Kingdom of Nepal in May 1974, the peoples of the two countries have been supporting and cooperating with each other in the political, economic, cultural and other fields. At present the relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Nepal are developing still better with every passing day, thanks to the joint efforts of their governments and peoples.

Both Korea and Nepal are independent countries that value the ideals of non-alignment, peace and friendship. Ours are the relations of genuine friendship and cooperation on equal terms, based on mutual understanding and confidence.

Our two countries have good prospects for developing these relations continuously and favourably in the future.

Korea and Nepal are situated in Asia. Today's Asia is entering a new stage of development, focusing the attention of the international community. The Asian people are industrious, talented and strong in the spirit of independence. Judging from its natural and geographical conditions, Asia has great potentials for rapid progress. The Asian people must oppose imperialist aggression and intervention, rid themselves of backwardness and poverty handed down from the past, and build an independent, peaceful and prosperous new Asia. To this end, the Asian countries must further develop solidarity and cooperation.

Expanding and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Nepal will not only help the two peoples build a new society but also contribute to strengthening solidarity among the Asian people and cooperation among the Asian nations.

It is the consistent foreign policy of the Government of our Republic to unite with the peoples of all countries who champion independence and to further the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Asian countries in particular. The Government and people of the DPRK will, as in the past, make every effort to develop the many-sided relations of friendship and cooperation with the Nepalese people under the banner of independence, peace and friendship.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I send warm greetings to the friendly Nepalese people and wish them a fresh success in their efforts to safeguard the independence of the country and the unity of the nation and to build a new society which is democratic and non-aligned.