

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

KIM JONG UN

**I EXTEND WARM AFFECTION
AND BEST WISHES TO ALL
THE BEAUTIFUL AND
GREAT WOMEN OF KOREA**

Congratulatory Speech to Women Across the Country
on the Occasion of March 8 International Women's Day
March 8, 2026

**Foreign Languages Publishing House
DPR Korea
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In greeting March 8, I extend my warmest feelings of congratulations to all the Korean women, for whom I have constant affection and respect.

My hearty congratulations go also to all the Korean women overseas.

As they have always done, our women are adding harmony, beauty, warmth and affection to our society.

Today is a joyful holiday when the whole country is brimming over with tender feelings of gratitude, best wishes and respect for our women.

Since we are celebrating women's day just a few days after the Ninth Congress of our Party, in which we reviewed the precious successes achieved for the good of the country, I was reminded of all the exceptional, unsung contributions made by the women of this country for those successes. Wanting to express my special thanks to them for what they have done, I have decided to take the opportunity offered by this occasion today to make some brief remarks.

I am making a deep bow as an expression of my thanks to our women for the unsung efforts and sincerity they have devoted for the sake of the country and its men.

However, I think thank you is too simple a word; it is not sufficient to encourage and repay our women even a little for the extraordinary troubles and difficulties they have experienced.

I can picture in my mind's eye the appearance of the women of this country, wearing a gentle smile as if they have gained a full reward for their silent efforts, after they receive a simple congratulatory remark, a greetings card or a flower from a beloved husband, child, boyfriend, relative, acquaintance or student.

I can find no better way of describing these women, than truly beautiful.

This expression is not simply a reference to the beautiful appearance of Korean women.

They may be physically weak, but they are obviously strong-willed; their honest faces that reveal their courage and the wrinkles on them that denote their strenuous exertion arouse enormous respect. They are beautiful beyond compare, and I think this is a charm unique to our Korean women.

In the images of our grandmothers' and mothers' generations we can see signs of the severe hardship they endured, the tenacity with which they succeeded against all odds, and the strength of genuine love and benevolent affection which they cherished while

working hard to develop this country.

When we see the faces of our contemporary women of the new generation, we can sense the fresh vigour with which they are working to advance this country towards a bright future, and their optimism and self-confidence in overcoming trials cheerfully.

I would like to state with pride that all the Korean women who are dear to us—mothers, wives, daughters and girlfriends—are truly beautiful and great, compared with women in other countries.

The women of Korea, in remaining honest in times of difficulty, stout-hearted in moments of sorrow and courageous even in the face of death, have recorded remarkable exploits in the annals of the revolution and in the pages of history. These exploits still remain in our memory and serve as our strong spiritual mainstay.

Korean women are by nature pure-hearted, upright and strong-willed, qualities they have inherited without blemish for generations. Today's women, too, have become a solid buttress of the revolution; they bring affection and delight to all the other people in this country and inspire in them strength, courage and victory.

In all the positions of our revolution, whether posts of national defence, sites of socialist construction,

factories or farms, and wherever we go in the country, we can see our women, strong-willed, tenacious, pure-hearted and honest, refusing to reveal their physical weakness and lag behind the men.

The distinguished service rendered by our countless heroes, both known and unknown, as well as the meritorious persons and innovators of this country, is associated with the immeasurable pains that our women, who are their mothers or wives, have endured without any expectation of reward.

Our women devote themselves without seeking self-interest or reward, and find the worth of their life in doing so. This fine attitude constitutes the basis of a spiritual strength that engenders boundless love and encourages others to defy death without hesitation in defence of that love.

Our soldiers are so brave in life-and-death battles because they are determined to bring not an iota of shame on their dear mothers, wives, girlfriends or daughters, whom they associate with the sacred appellation, *motherland*.

The strength of women is so incredible.

With the passage of time, wrinkles will appear on their beautiful faces. However, the genuine beauty of our Korean women never fades, as they are so honest and

upright that they can endure anything while concerning themselves more with the country and revolution than their families.

Encouraged by the warm care of such excellent women, their husbands and children achieve innovations at their workplaces. Our revolution is progressing much faster thanks to their unique strength, talent and ennobling self-sacrificing devotion.

In the future, too, our women will play a significant role in making this country more harmonious and prosperous.

This is how important and irreplaceable their responsibility and role are, in developing the socialist society of our own style and finding proper solutions to numerous social problems, big and small.

When they at all times behave as a role model for their children, encourage their husbands and become a source of happiness and pride for their parents, and when they carry forward the tradition of patriotism as faithfully as ever, our society will become more beautiful, more powerful and more prosperous.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to extend my special thanks and greetings to all the mothers across the country.

Indeed, the sacred appellation *mother* is a source of

great spiritual strength for everyone.

A woman is weak but a mother is strong, as the saying goes. As our mothers cherish genuine maternal affection in making unassuming efforts to bring up their children as outstanding individuals, there are so many patriots in this country. With such strong-willed mothers constituting a solid foundation, our rosy future is fully guaranteed.

I am hardening my resolve to make unsparing and strenuous efforts to do much more for the sake of these admirable mothers, for the wellbeing of our women.

I earnestly request all our women to fulfil the sacred mission and duty, which they have assumed before the times, history and the motherland, of achieving our country's prosperity and development and promoting our society's harmony and unity.

In the hope that all the women of Korea will be happy and healthy and remain beautiful for the good of our country, the revolution and the future, I once again extend my warm affection and best wishes to them.

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