

## **Eternal Chairman of National Defence Commission**

Kim Jong Il (1942-2011) is the eternal Chairman of the National Defence Commission (NDC) of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Chairman Kim Jong Il laid firm foundations for the prosperity of the DPRK by establishing a new state structure with the National Defence Commission as its pivot and legalizing Songun politics.

In the closing years of the last century socialist Korea had to face the severest trials in its history caused by the sudden demise of President Kim Il Sung (1912-1994), its founding father. Anti-socialist offensive of imperialists was directed to the DPRK after the collapse of socialism in several countries, and natural disasters hit the country for several consecutive years. Taking advantage of this situation the US and its followers unveiled their attempt to militarily stifle the DPRK.

The critical situation of the 1990s demanded urgently a new state structure should be established based on the army-first principle.

Shouldering the destiny of socialist Korea Chairman Kim Jong Il ensured that the government should direct all its efforts to strengthening the military power of the country and, on its basis, ceaselessly build up the overall national power. To this end, the DPRK's Socialist Constitution was revised so as to attach importance to national defence, and a new state structure was set up in which the NDC, being responsible for the defence affairs related to the supreme interests of the state, is the highest defence leadership body of state power, and the organ of overall defence administration that commands the entire armed forces of the country, organizes and guides the defence-building industry.

The establishment of the new state structure provided a sure guarantee for the full embodiment of Songun politics in the DPRK and a new turning point for the building of a socialist country.

The consequent reality on the Korean peninsula, the whole course of showdown between the US and the DPRK which drew the world attention in particular, proved that the state structure of attaching importance to national defence established by the NDC Chairman was the most advantageous one which enables the country to defend the sovereignty and dignity by consolidating the overall national power in every way amidst any trials and ordeals.

Chairman Kim Jong Il developed the DPRK into a power with invincible military capabilities.

Since the last decade of the previous century when he began to embody Songun politics to cope with the worst trials the country faced, he built up the army as the one strong in idea and faith and prepared thoroughly for both offensive and defensive through his ceaseless inspections of army units. The number of army units he inspected from 1995 to 2011, the last year of his life,

reached over 2 490.

He ensured that the self-reliant defence industry of the country was put on a solid basis of the cutting-edge science and technology by directing preferential efforts to its development, while building up the civilian defence forces to be invincible and turning the whole country into an impregnable fortress.

As the DPRK has prepared its nuclear deterrent countering the reckless threat of preemptive nuclear attack of the US, this put an end to the era when the US, a nuclear super power, would threaten and blackmail the former with atomic bombs and provided a sure guarantee for defending the peace and security not only in the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia but in the rest of the world.

Chairman Kim Jong Il consolidated the country's political and ideological position as firm as a rock and ushered in a new era of the building of a thriving socialist country.

He ensured that the army and people were fully equipped with the Juche idea and the Songun idea and make the whole people learn after the revolutionary soldier spirit, thus placing the traditional army-people unity onto the highest level. As a result, single-hearted unity of the whole society has been consolidated rock-solid with which all the service personnel and people are rallied firmly around their leader and share the same idea and destiny.

Through his ceaseless on-the-spot guidance flames of industrial revolution in the new century have been kindled and the potentialities of the self-reliant industry of the country developed to the maximum. Moreover, the whole country has been spruced up and modern production bases for the improvement of the people's living standards mushroomed. Large-scale projects of land realignment, gravitational waterway construction and reclamation of tidelands changed radically the appearance of the country. A new iron production system without using cokes and scrap iron was introduced in metallurgical industry, one of the major sectors of the economy, and the production lines in the chemical industry, including those of vinalon and fertilizers were modernized, fed by the resources abundant in the country.

In the course of realizing his intention of breaking through the cutting edge, the introduction of CNC technology to the machine-building industry is attaining a higher standard, and medium- and small-sized hydroelectric power stations as well as large ones have been erected and are under construction across the country.

As science and technology develop, the DPRK is now being recognized as a manufacturer and launcher of artificial satellites, which are only a few in the world.

Exploits performed by Chairman Kim Jong Il will shine forever along with the prosperity of the DPRK.

*Source: by email from DPRK embassy, Jakarta, 26 August 2013*