

October and the Workers' Party of Korea

The Korean People have several anniversaries in October which are significantly related with the founding and development of the Workers' Party of Korea.

October 17, 1926

After the Japanese imperialists occupied Korea militarily in the early 20th century, the Korean people launched mass struggles of all kinds against the invaders, but their desperate efforts ended in setbacks and failure thanks to the nationalist and leaders of the communist movement in the early days in the country, who, without any guiding idea or strategy or tactics suitable to the historical conditions and specific realities of the country, were engrossed in blindly following existing theories and experience of foreign countries while resorting to factional strife for hegemony.

Learning a serious lesson from the critical faults of the nationalists and early-day communists, Kim Il Sung was convinced of the truth that national liberation was possibly only when they relied on the exertions of the popular masses and solved all problems in an independent and creativity manner.

On October 17, 1926 he formed the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU) as vanguard organization in the anti-Japanese national liberation movement of Korea. He mentioned the fact in his reminiscences *With the Century* Vol.1: **“The Down-with-Imperialism Union was a pure, fresh political organism of a new type created in the throes of a historic cause by young people of the rising generation who aspired to socialism and communism, for the realization of national liberation and class emancipation with the ideal of anti-imperialism, independence and sovereignty”**

The formation of the DIU meant the starting point in the effort to found the Workers' Party of Korea and the beginning of the WPK striking its root. The programme of the DIU became the basis of the Party's programme, and the principle of independence advanced by this organization became the principle of the Party building and activity; and the organization became the backbone in the establishment of the Party. Later the DIU expanded and developed into the Anti-imperialist Youth League and the Young Communist League.

The meeting of leading personnel of the Young Communist League and the Anti-imperialist Youth League held at Kalun on June 30-July 2, 1930 declared the creation of the Juche idea and the Songun idea, the guiding ideas of the Workers' Party of Korea. And the birth of the Juche-oriented revolutionary line and Songun-based revolutionary line. On July 3 the same year the first party organization was formed with leading personnel of the Young Communist League and the Anti-imperialist Youth League. Called the Society for Rallying Comrades, the organization was the origin of the WPK.

Whenever October 17 comes round, the Korean people pay high tribute to President Kim Il Sung for his laying the historic foundation of the Party.

October 10, 1945

On October 10, 1945, less than two months after the country was liberated from the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists, the Central Organizing Committee of the Communist Party of North Korea was established as the Party's central leadership. This was a brilliant fruition of the long-standing and energetic struggle of the Korean people for the founding of the Party.

In the earlier days the Korean people, according to the party-founding policy put forward by Kim Il Sung at the Kalun Meeting, formed rudimentary party organizations first and expanded and strengthened them steadily while pushing forward preparations for the Party founding in close combination with the anti-Japanese struggle. With the Society for Rallying Comrades as the parent organization the first Party organization in the homeland was born on Turu Hill in Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province, in October 1930, which was followed by the Homeland Party Working Committee organized in December 1936 which assumed the function of affording a unified guidance to the effort to build party organizations as well as the anti-Japanese struggle in the homeland. In March 1936 the East Manchurian Party Working Committee was established and in February 1937 the Changbai Party County came into existence: regional party guidance organs, party cells and party groups were built in different regions of east, south and north Manchuria to mobilize masses in the anti-Japanese struggle forcefully.

In the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA) whose predecessor was the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army the KPLA Party Committee was formed as the supreme leadership organ to organize and control the Korean revolution as a whole regarding armed struggle, the preparations of the party founding, the anti-Japanese national united front movement, and the mass-based anti-Japanese struggle, while supervising party organizations in the KPRA units and those of all levels in the homeland and overseas in a unified manner.

A mass foundation for the party founding was also laid through the anti-Japanese struggle of all forms. The Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland was established in May 1936 which enlisted all people who kept antipathy against the Japanese imperialists. The ARP branched out all over the homeland including northern Korea and wide areas of Manchuria where Koreans were inhabited: it spread even to different parts of Japan.

Under Kim Il Sung's guidance the backbone for the founding of the Party was trained, and the primary Party organizations and mass foundation were laid in the anti-Japanese armed struggle and the fierce struggle of all people resistance. This resulted in the completion of the cause of the Party founding in a short span of time soon after the liberation of the country.

With the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea the Korean people attained a radical turning point in their effort to hew out their destiny. Under the leadership of the WPK the Korean people established the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that is ruled by the masses of the people and built up an independent national economy and set up a people-centric socialist system in their land. And they shattered the imperialists' vicious schemes to stifle their country, thus exalting the prestige of their country. The Korean people hold

colourful celebratory functions on the occasion of October 10.

October 8, 1997

President Kim Il Sung, who had long been the leader of the Korean people, passed away on July 8, 1994, which meant the greatest loss to the nation. Now the people were eager to have their great leader Kim Jong Il in the supreme position of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state since he had performed outstanding exploits while leading the Party and the overall Korean revolution for more than 30 years as the closest comrade and the most faithful assistant of the President. Nevertheless, the event of Kim Jong Il's assumption of the position of the general secretary of the Party took place only three years later, that is, on October 8, 1997.

Over the years he had accomplished the great cause of exalting the President as the eternal leader of the nation and the state and safeguarded the country and the people from the intensive offensive of the imperialists by administering Songun politics in an all-round way.

After he began to work as the general secretary of the Party he continued his energetic Songun-based revolutionary leadership, thus flatly repelling the vicious offensives of the imperialists and laying a rock-firm foundation for the building of a thriving socialist nation, for which he had put forward a concrete plan earlier.

Towards the close of his life in 2011, too, he visited many places around the country, including the Kwangbok Area Supermarket, in an effort to improve the living standards of the people until he died while traveling on a train for local guidance.

Such being his life, the Korean people, whenever October 8 comes round, are gripped with heart-warming recollection of his lofty sense of moral obligation towards President Kim Il Sung and his successful leadership of the Party and the revolution with iron will and patriotic devotion to the nation in the hardest time.

The Fourth Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea in April 2012 acclaimed him as the eternal general secretary of the Party. This is a manifestation of the unanimous will of the Korean people to be faithful to his ideas and intentions in conducting the Party building and activities.

Source: by email from Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Jakarta, 10 October, 2013