

Modern Korea – Preface

The modern history of Korea was pioneered by President Kim Il Sung and advanced victoriously by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

In the early 20th century, the Korean people who had remained bound in the fetters of age-old backwardness, poverty and feudalism were driven into a miserable plight under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists (1905-1945).

In those days of national ruin Kim Il Sung was born on April 15, 1912. Regarding love for his country, nation and people as his lifetime motto, he embarked on the road of revolution in his early days and performed great exploits that would be handed down for ages. He liberated Korea by commanding the 20-year-long anti-Japanese revolutionary war to victory. He built a powerful socialist country—independent in politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in national defence—by leading the building of a new society, the Fatherland Liberation War, the post-war rehabilitation, the social revolutions of two stages and the socialist construction to victory.

Kim Jong Il formulated the revolutionary ideas of Kim Il Sung as Kimilsungism and enriched them as the guiding ideology of the independent era. He developed the Workers' Party of Korea into an invincible revolutionary party that struck its root deep into the masses of the people and achieved steel-strong unity. In order to cope with the collapse of the socialist system in the world community and the ever-increasing schemes of the allied imperialist forces to isolate and stifle the DPRK in the closing years of the 20th century he administered a unique Songun politics on a full scale. As a result, he defended socialism that represents the supreme interests of his country and nation and turned the Arduous March and forced march into the drive to build a powerful socialist country.

Today the Korean people have turned out as one in the efforts to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered by Kim Il Sung and advanced victoriously by Kim Jong Il, under the guidance of Marshal Kim Jong Un.