

New Year Address

January 1, Juche 106(2017)

Dear Comrades,

Having seen out 2016, a year in which, by glorifying each and every day with gigantic struggle, we created a new era of great prosperity unprecedented in the history of the Juche revolution, we are seeing in the new year 2017.

Availing myself of this meaningful opportunity, when we are looking back with dignity on a great year that was filled with proud miracles wrought by our great people, I, with the noblest respect, offer warm greetings to all the Korean people, who overcame with optimism trials of every hue that were unprecedented in history, sharing weal and woe with the Party and aligning their fate with it by forming an integral whole with it in idea, intention and will, and extend glory and blessing for the hope-filled new year to them.

My warm greetings go also to our compatriots in the south and abroad and to the progressive peoples of the world and other foreign friends who aspire after independence and justice.

The year 2016 was a year of revolutionary significance, a year of great change, a noteworthy year in the history of our Party and country.

Last year, amid the soaring revolutionary enthusiasm of all our Party members, service personnel and other people and the great interest of the world, the meaningful and splendid Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea was held as a grand political festival.

The congress proudly reviewed our Party's glorious history of advancing the revolutionary cause of Juche along the road of victory under the wise leadership of the great Comrades **Kim Il Sung** and **Kim Jong Il**, and unfolded an ambitious blueprint for accomplishing the socialist cause under the banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism. Through this historic congress, the iron determination of our service

personnel and people to march continuously along the road of Juche following the Party was fully demonstrated, and lasting foundations for the Korean revolution were laid. It will be inscribed in the history of our country as a meeting of victors that demonstrated the invincible might of the great Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party, as a glorious meeting that established another milestone in carrying out the revolutionary cause of Juche.

Last year a historic turn was brought about in consolidating the defence capability of Juche Korea, and our country achieved the status of a nuclear power, a military giant in the East, which no enemy, however formidable, would dare to provoke.

We successfully conducted our first H-bomb test, test-firing of various strike means and nuclear warhead to cope with the imperialists' nuclear war threats, which were growing more wicked by the day; we rapidly developed state-of-the-art military hardware, and entered the final stage of preparation for the test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile; we achieved other marvellous breakthroughs in succession for consolidating our defence capability. This provided us with a powerful military guarantee for defending the destiny of the country and nation and victoriously advancing the cause of building a powerful socialist country. Our valiant People's Army reliably defended the security of the country and the gains of the revolution by resolutely frustrating the enemy's reckless moves for aggression and war, and added the finishing touches to its political and ideological qualities and its military and technical preparations, as befits an invincible army. The brilliant successes achieved in the sector of national defence instilled great national dignity and courage in our people, condemned the imperialists and other reactionary forces into ignominious defeat, and raised the strategic position of our country remarkably.

Last year we achieved proud successes in the 70-day and 200-day campaigns organized for glorifying the Seventh Party Congress .

These campaigns were a do-or-die struggle in which all the people smashed the enemy's vicious schemes to isolate and suffocate our country and brought about

a turning point on all fronts where a powerful socialist country is being built; it was a massive struggle of creation that gave birth to the new Mallima era.

Thanks to the heroic struggle of the **Kim Il Sung** and **Kim Jong Il** working class and all the other people, the ambitious goals the Party set for the 70-day and 200-day campaigns were attained with success and fresh breakthroughs were made in the development of the national economy.

Our resourceful, talented scientists and technicians, following the successful launch of the earth observation satellite Kwangmyongsong 4, succeeded in the static test-firing of a new type of high-thrust motor for the launch vehicle of a geostationary satellite. By doing so, they have opened up a broad avenue for the exploration of outer space. Also, they established fully-automated, model production systems of our own style, bred high-yielding crop strains with a view to boosting agricultural production, and achieved other laudable scientific and technological breakthroughs one after another. All this is of great significance in developing the country's economy and improving the people's livelihood. The electric-power, coal-mining, metallurgical, chemical and building-materials industries, rail transport and other major sectors of the national economy attained their respective production and transport goals, thereby demonstrating the potential of our self-reliant economy and giving a powerful impetus to building a socialist economic giant. Numerous industrial establishments and cooperative farms registered a proud success by surpassing the peak-year level. The People's Army stood in the vanguard in adding lustre to the history of "gold seas, " and a legendary speed was created at major construction sites. The sectors of education, public health and sports also made admirable achievements. When some areas of North Hamgyong Province were devastated by a sudden natural calamity, the whole country turned out in the recovery effort in hearty response to the Party's appeal, achieving miraculous success in a short span of time.

During the 70-day and 200-day campaigns, we created a new spirit of the times for building a powerful socialist country, and our people's trust in the Party and confidence in socialism grew firmer. Last year, when the whole country

seethed with vigour day and night, all Party members and all the other working people, youth and service personnel gave full rein to their indomitable spirit of braving ordeals and difficulties, their death-defying mettle of answering the Party's call with devotion and action in any adversity, and the collectivist might of helping one another and leading one another forward in advancing by leaps and bounds.

The brilliant successes we achieved in all areas of the revolution and construction last year are by no means attributable to good conditions, nor are they the fortuitous outcome of divine intervention. The power that brought about all these miraculous successes is the single-hearted unity of all the service personnel and people and their great capacity for self-development. Even though the enemy grew more blatant in their obstructive schemes and severe difficulties cropped up one after another, all the service personnel and people drew closer together around the Party and waged a vigorous struggle in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. This was how they achieved such world-startling, miraculous successes under such trying circumstances. Single-hearted unity is the lifeblood of Juche Korea and the dynamic force for achieving a leap forward, and we must invariably follow the road of self-reliance and self-development—this is the invaluable truth of the Juche revolution confirmed by our army's and people's gigantic struggle in 2016.

I extend my heartfelt thanks once again to all the service personnel and people who, with unshakeable confidence in the final victory of the revolution, adorned the eventful and arduous past year with laudable exploits by devoting their patriotic loyalty, sweat and blood to building a powerful socialist country.

Comrades,

We should turn out again in the new year's march towards greater victory.

To build on the successes already gained and turn a heyday in the revolution into a great golden age is an ideological and spiritual characteristic and the work style of all our service personnel and people who were trained under the care of the great leaders. In this significant year, by further encouraging the revolutionary spirit that was heightened to an incomparable degree in the course of the previous

miraculous year, we should make remarkable progress in implementing the decisions adopted at the Seventh Congress of the Party and thus translate the people's ideals and dreams into brilliant reality on this land.

We should concentrate our efforts on implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development.

This year is of key importance in carrying out this strategy. In order to open up good prospects for implementing the strategy and develop the country's overall economy on a higher plane, while building on the successes gained last year, we should attain the goals for this year's struggle without fail.

“Let us accelerate the victorious advance of socialism with the great spirit of self-reliance and self-development as the dynamic force!”—this is the militant slogan we should uphold on this new year's march. We should wage a vigorous all-people, general offensive to hit the targets of the five-year strategy on the strength of self-reliance and self-development.

The strength of self-reliance and self-development is that of science and technology, and the shortcut to implementing the five-year strategy is to give precedence to science and technology.

The science and technology sector should concentrate its efforts on solving the scientific and technological problems that arise in modernizing factories and enterprises and putting their production on a regular footing with the main emphasis on ensuring the domestic production of raw materials, fuel and equipment. Production units and scientific research institutes should intensify their mutual cooperation, and enterprises should build up their own technological development forces and conduct a proactive mass-based technological innovation drive; in this way they can push forward economic development with valuable sci-tech achievements conducive to expanded production and the improvement of business operation and management.

The electric-power, metallurgical and chemical industries should take the lead in the effort to hit the targets of the economic strategy.

The electric-power industry should carry out its production plan without fail

by properly maintaining the generating equipment and facilities and stepping up its technical upgrading. It should run the nationwide integrated power control system effectively and organize alternated production scrupulously so as to ensure a balance between power generation and consumption; it should also develop the various sources of power to create a new large-scale generating capacity.

The metallurgical industry should introduce advanced technologies to reduce iron production costs and ensure the normal operation of Juche-based production lines so that they turn out iron and steel in larger amounts. The state should adopt stringent measures to supply raw materials, fuel and power to the Kim Chaek and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes and other metallurgical factories.

The chemical industry is a foundation for all other industries and plays an important role in consolidating the independence of the economy and improving the people's living standards. This sector should revitalize production at the February 8 Vinalon Complex, expand the capacity of other major chemical factories and transform their technical processes in a unique way, thus increasing the output of various chemical products. It should direct efforts to establishing a C1 chemical industry by carrying out the tasks at every stage promptly and satisfactorily.

The coal-mining industry and the rail transport sector should make it their priority to meet the demands of power stations and metallurgical and chemical factories for coal, and its transport.

The machine-building industry should be rapidly developed. Machine factories should step up their modernization, perfect the processes for the serial production of new-type tractors, vehicles and multi-purpose farm machinery, and produce and supply various kinds of high-performance and quality machinery and equipment.

This year light industry, agriculture and fishing should be radically developed to make greater progress in improving the people's living standards.

Light industry should work out proper management strategies, regarding the use of domestically-available raw and other materials as their core, so as to revitalize production and bring about a turn in diversifying the range and types of

consumer goods and improving their quality. It should normalize production at the mines and enterprises in the Tanchon area so that they prove effective in improving the people's living standards.

The agricultural front, the major point of attack in building an economic giant, should raise a strong wind of scientific farming and promote the movement for increasing crop yields. It should widely introduce seeds of superior strains and scientific farming methods the advantages of which have been proved in practice, expand the area of land under two-crop farming, and be proactive in inventing and introducing high-performance farm machinery. By doing so, it can attain the production goal for grain. It should adopt measures to run the livestock farming base in the Sepho area on a normal basis and increase the production of fruit, mushrooms and vegetables so that the people can enjoy them.

The fishing sector should conduct a dynamic drive for increasing the catch and push ahead with aquatic farming. It should build modern fishing vessels in greater numbers and establish a comprehensive fishing equipment production base in the east coast area so as to consolidate the material and technical foundations of the fishing industry.

The construction sector should complete Ryomyong Street at the highest level and concentrate its forces on such major construction projects as the Tanchon Power Station, the modernization of the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex and the development of the Wonsan area. It should also build more excellent educational and cultural facilities and houses.

Upholding the slogan of self-reliance and self-sufficiency, every field and every unit of the national economy should launch a dynamic struggle to increase production and practise economy to the maximum, and thus carry out the plan for this year in all its indices.

The whole country should turn out in land administration effort. We should further transform the appearance of our country's land by building modern tree nurseries in the provinces, pressing ahead with the forest restoration campaign and conducting river management, road repair and environmental conservation on a

planned basis.

In order to bring about a turn in implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development, it is imperative to conduct economic guidance and business management with clear objectives and in an innovative way. The Cabinet and other economic guidance organs should work out a plan to ensure sustainable economic development aimed at putting the overall national economy definitely on an upward track, and implement it with unflinching perseverance.

All the fronts in the sector of culture, including education, public health, sport, literature and the arts, should effect a new, revolutionary upsurge to accelerate the building of a civilized power. The whole country and the whole society should launch a dynamic drive this year, a year of science and education, to improve the facilities and environment for science and education.

The political and military position of socialism should be further cemented so that it becomes an impregnable fortress.

Single-hearted unity is the precious revolutionary legacy the great Comrades **Kim Il Sung** and **Kim Jong Il** bequeathed to us, and in it lies the invincible might of our style of socialism. All service personnel and all the people should establish ties of kinship with the Party, their hearts pulsating to the same beat as it, and unite closely behind it in ideology, purpose and moral obligation, so that they can struggle staunchly to achieve the prosperity of the country. We should fully apply the people-first doctrine, the crystallization of the Juche-oriented view on the people, a popular philosophy, in Party work and all spheres of state and social life, and wage an intensive struggle to root out abuses of power, bureaucratism and corruption, which infest the flower garden of single-hearted unity. We should resolutely thwart the enemy's sinister and pernicious schemes for checking the warm and pure-hearted aspiration of our people to follow the Party single-heartedly and alienating the Party from them.

In this year of the 85th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army, we should raise the fierce flames of increasing our military capability.

The People's Army should conduct the Party's political work in a proactive

manner so as to ensure that it is pervaded with the ideology and intentions of the Party alone. It should designate this year as another year of training, another year of perfecting its combat preparedness, and ensure that all its units in the different arms, services and corps raise a hot wind of perfecting their combat preparedness and so train all its officers and men as a-match-for-a-hundred combatants, as the tigers of Mt Paektu, who are capable of annihilating any aggressor force at a stroke. The officers and men of the Korean People's Internal Security Forces and the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and Young Red Guards should prepare themselves politically and militarily and maintain full combat readiness for firmly defending the socialist system and the people's lives and property.

Officials, scientists and workers in the defence industry, their hearts burning with the "Yongil bomb spirit" of the days of the anti-Japanese struggle and the revolutionary spirit of the workers of Kunja-ri of the days of the Fatherland Liberation War, should develop and produce larger quantities of powerful military hardware of our own type. By doing so, they can build up the arsenal of the Songun revolution.

Success or failure in this year's struggle aimed at carrying out the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress depends on the role played by Party and working people's organizations.

Party organizations should concentrate their work on carrying out the Party's policies and the major revolutionary tasks for their respective sectors and units. They should correctly identify those problems to which the Party attaches importance and which are the main links in the whole chain of achieving an upsurge in production, and should resolve them by enlisting all their forces. They should move the theatre of political work to the seething production sites and launch a revolutionary ideological offensive there. In this way they can powerfully arouse the masses to the general mobilization struggle for carrying out the Party's ideas and policies. All primary Party organizations, by embracing the spirit of the First Conference of Chairpersons of the Primary Committees of the Workers' Party of Korea, should ensure that the spirit of continuous innovation and advance is

displayed to the full in this year's all-people, general offensive.

All youth league, trade union, agricultural workers' union and women's union organizations should rouse their members to join the advance for great upsurge, and ensure that they become innovators and creators of the Mallima speed.

The current stirring era demands that our officials, who are the standard-bearers in carrying out the Party's policies, improve their work style and attitude along revolutionary lines.

Our people's enthusiasm for labour is very high now; when this enthusiasm is supported by officials' bold and scientific operations, effective command and personal examples, there is no fortress we cannot conquer and no difficulty we cannot overcome. All officials, fully cognizant of the noble mission they have assumed before the Party and revolution, should become engines leading the masses forward from the vanguard. They should plan their work on a grand scale with innovative insight, always consider what should be done and work in a keyed-up and militant manner. They should resolutely break with defeatism, self-preservation, formalism and expediency, and devote themselves heart and soul to the struggle for carrying out the Party's plans and intentions.

Last year, reflecting the national desire for reunification and the requirements of the times, we put forward the Juche-oriented line and policy of reunification at the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, and made strenuous efforts to achieve it. However, the south Korean authorities turned a deaf ear to our patriotic appeal and ignored our sincere proposal. Instead, they clung to their sanctions-and-pressure schemes against the DPRK and continued their clamour for war, thus driving inter-Korean relations towards even greater catastrophe.

Last year, south Korea witnessed a massive anti-"government" struggle which spread far and wide and shook the reactionary ruling machinery to its foundations. This resistance, which involved all the south Korean people, has left an indelible mark in the history of their struggle; it was an outburst of pent-up grudges and indignation against the conservative regime that had been resorting to fascist dictatorship, anti-popular policies, sycophantic and traitorous acts and

confrontation with their compatriots.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the historic July 4 Joint Statement and the 10th anniversary of the October 4 Declaration. This year we should open up a broad avenue to independent reunification through a concerted effort by the whole nation.

Positive steps should be taken to improve inter-Korean relations, defuse the acute military confrontation and remove the danger of war between north and south.

An improvement in inter-Korean relations is the starting-point for peace and reunification, and it is the pressing demand of the whole nation. Any politician, if he or she remains a passive onlooker to the current deadlock between the two sides, can neither claim to be fully discharging his or her responsibility and role before the nation nor enjoy public support. Abuse and slander aimed at offending the other party and inciting confrontation can on no account be justified, and an immediate stop should be put to the malicious smear campaign and other acts of hostility towards the DPRK, all designed for the overthrow of its system or some other “change.”

We are consistent in our stand to safeguard the security of our compatriots and peace in the country without fighting our fellow countrymen. The south Korean authorities should not aggravate the situation by finding fault with our exercise of the right to self-defence, but respond positively to our sincere efforts to prevent military conflict between north and south and to ease the tension.

They should also discontinue their arms build-up and war games.

The whole nation should pool their will and efforts to usher in a golden age in the nationwide reunification movement.

All the Korean people in the north, in the south and abroad should achieve solidarity, make concerted efforts and unite on the principle of subordinating everything to national reunification, the common cause of the nation, and should revitalize the reunification movement on a nationwide scale. They should promote active contact and exchange with each other irrespective of differences in their ideologies and systems, regions and ideals, and classes and social strata, and hold a

pan-national, grand meeting for reunification involving all political parties and organizations, including the authorities in the north and south, as well as compatriots of all backgrounds at home and abroad. We will readily join hands with anyone who prioritizes the fundamental interests of the nation and is desirous of improving inter-Korean relations.

We need to frustrate the challenges from the anti-reunification forces at home and abroad who are acting against the nation's aspiration for reunification.

We must put an end to the moves for aggression and intervention being committed by foreign forces, particularly the United States that is occupying south Korea and is trying to realize its hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region, and wage a dynamic pan-national struggle to thwart the moves by the traitorous and sycophantic anti-reunification forces like Park Geun Hye who, failing to see clearly who is true arch-enemy of the nation, is trying to save herself through confrontation with the fellow countrymen.

Well aware of the will of the Korean nation to reunify their country, the United States must no longer cling to the scheme of whipping up national alienation by inciting the anti-reunification forces in south Korea to confront their fellow countrymen and wage war. It must make a courageous decision to roll back its anachronistic policy hostility towards the DPRK. In the international community, where independence and justice are valued, the moves by the United States and its vassal forces aimed at wrecking peace on the Korean peninsula and checking its reunification should be opposed, and the neighbouring countries should act in support of our nation's aspiration and efforts for reunification.

All fellow countrymen in the north, in the south and abroad should do something to make this year a meaningful one when a new phase is opened up in independent reunification by stepping up a nationwide grand march towards reunification through a concerted effort by the nation.

Last year the imperialist reactionary forces' moves to exert political and military pressure and impose sanctions on our country reached an extreme. But they failed to break the belief of our service personnel and people in victory, and

could not check the vigorous revolutionary advance of Juche Korea.

We will continue to build up our self-defence forces, the pivot of which is the nuclear capability, and the capacity for a preemptive strike as long as the United States and its vassal forces maintain their nuclear threat and blackmail and as long as they do not stop the war games they stage on our doorstep in the guise of annual events. We will defend peace and security at all costs and by our own efforts, and make a positive contribution to safeguarding global peace and stability.

Our Party and the government of our Republic will remain committed to our foreign policy ideals of independence, peace and friendship, expand and develop our relations of good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation with those countries that champion independence, and make concerted efforts with them to ensure genuine international justice.

Comrades,

As I stand here proclaiming the beginning of another year, I feel a surge of anxiety about what I should do to hold in greater reverence our people, the best people in the world who have warmly supported me with a single mind out of their firm trust in me.

My desire was burning all the time, but I spent the past year feeling anxious and remorseful over my lack of ability. I am hardening my resolve to seek out more tasks for the sake of the people this year and make redoubled, devoted efforts to this end.

All our people used to sing the song *We Are the Happiest in the World*, feeling optimistic about the future with confidence in the great Comrades **Kim Il Sung** and **Kim Jong Il**. I will work with devotion to ensure that the past era does not remain a moment in history but is re-created in the present era. On this first morning of the new year I swear to become a true servant who is loyal to our people and supports them faithfully with a pure conscience.

I will also promote the effort to set up throughout the Party a revolutionary climate of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people.

As long as the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is illuminating the road

ahead of us and we have the single-hearted unity of all the service personnel and people around the Party, we are sure to emerge victorious.

Let us all march forward dynamically towards a bright future, holding high the splendid blueprint unfolded by the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea to develop ours into a powerful socialist country.