A Pyongyang city army-people joint rally takes place to vow to carry out the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK in January 2021.
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Inside Back Cover: *I Sing in Praise of the Party*
Kim Jong Il’s Political Philosophy

“Single-hearted unity is my philosophy of revolution”—this is what Chairman Kim Jong Il said referring to his political creed. Firmly convinced of the absolute truth of single-hearted unity he steadily consolidated the single-hearted unity between the Workers’ Party of Korea and the popular masses throughout his revolutionary leadership. The following is some of the stories recorded in the annals of his revolutionary leadership.

Great Foundation of Revolution

One January day in 1985 Kim Jong Il expressed his will to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche by employing the single-hearted unity continuously as the great foundation of the revolution.

He said: Our unity is single-hearted unity. Our Party holds high the banner of single-hearted unity. Single-hearted unity is my philosophy of revolution. It is the solid foundation of our revolution. Today our people live and advance in the spirit of single-hearted unity and emerge victorious from the confrontation with the world’sreactionaries on the strength of that unity, stepping up the grand march toward the completion of the revolutionary cause of Juche. Our single-hearted unity is strong enough to turn adversity into prosperity and an unfavourable wind into a favourable one, and break through any obstacles and trials. No force in the world can upset the might of our single-hearted unity.

Comradeship Is Just Unity

One day in 2004 Kim Jong Il said to some officials: When I look back on the past road of revolution, there are many things that evoke memories in me; among them, what I look back on with the deepest emotion are the memories of the revolutionary comrades who have followed the Party invariably through trials and difficulties.

He went on to say: Love between comrades is unity, and there is no power stronger than that of the unity of revolutionary comrades. Love and trust between comrades, unity based on revolutionary comradeship, does not vacillate whatever the adversity, and demonstrates power that no force can equal. Without revolutionary comradeship, we could conceive of neither the existence and development of our Party, nor our single-hearted unity, nor the victorious advance of our revolution. Revolutionary comradeship is the basis of single-hearted unity, the moral strength of our Party and the driving force of our revolution.

Single-Hearted Unity and Military Might

One day in August 2000 Chairman Kim Jong Il received a delegation of the south Korean mass media.

During the talks he asked a senior executive, “How many years have you been engaged in journalism?”

The guest hesitated a while and replied that he had been involved in journalism for several decades.

Kim Jong Il said, “Then you must have written anti-communist articles for 80 to 90 per cent of your career.”

Laughter burst out among other guests.

This enlivened the atmosphere of the gathering. Earlier when they had been entertaining the officials of the north for an audience with Kim Jong Il, they had pledged that they would never ask him any questions during the talks or luncheon. Now instincts were prompting them to stand up one after another.

Unexpectedly, the gathering turned into an interview.

A member of the delegation raised a question as to where the source of his strength for defending socialism lay.

Kim Jong Il answered: It is military strength. The source of my strength is twofold. First, there is single-hearted unity and, second, there is military might. Only with a strong military force can one deal with relations with foreign countries from the independent standpoint. We will need this strong force even in the case of having close ties with other countries.

A Giant Tree and Its Roots

One February day in 2009 Kim Jong Il said that officials must become the roots that support the country and the revolution, like the roots of a tree.

He went on to say: For a tree to grow healthy, it must have strong roots. Only when its roots are strong can the tree grow into a giant one. A giant tree is imposing with its thick branches and leaves, because its roots continually provide nutritious elements from underground to the trunk. The giant tree is visible, but its roots are not. There are many people that admire the tree for its size, but few of them think of the roots supporting it. They work underground without rest, whether they are appreciated or not.

He said: In view of our revolution whose mainstay is the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses, revolutionaryaries should be determined to become the roots, that if roots struck deep underground suck nutritious elements properly then the tree will grow vigorously, that likewise, if revolutionaryaries are prepared firmly and united single-heartedly, the revolution will win one victory after another and the country will become ever more prosperous. I’m going to become the strong roots of the revolution together with you. Let us all work hard in one mind and for the single purpose.
The History of the Socialist Korea had periods called Golden Age of Pyongyang. The time of the 1970s and the 1980s turned out to be the heyday of creation and construction thanks to the wise leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Turning the capital city of Pyongyang into a people’s city was a dream cherished by Kim Jong Il from his childhood.

When Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialists’ military occupation in August 1945, there took place the Pothong River improvement project in Pyongyang the next year. One day in early summer that year Kim Jong Il went to the construction site with his mother. There he said that he would replace the traditional “Eight Scenic Wonders of Pyongyang” with “Eighty Scenic Wonders of Pyongyang” by building many houses for workers and peasants.

The latter half of the 1950s turned out to be a heyday in the history of construction of the nation. Kim Jong Il, too, took part in the project to rehabilitate Pyongyang which had been reduced to ashes during the three years of war.

One day in May 1958 he went up Moran Hill with some of his classmates after having lunch in the construction site. The hill offered a bird’s eye view of Pyongyang under reconstruction. Kim Jong Il said: One day immediately after the war I heard the news that Premier Kim Il Sung convened a Cabinet plenary meeting and made sure a Cabinet decision was adopted for rehabilitation of the city. That evening I saw a miniature of the construction plan of downtown Pyongyang and an article about it in a newspaper. I studied and read them time and again that night. And I decided to build the city into the revolutionary capital replete with the Korean people’s revolutionary spirit and into the one of the people which is beautiful and good to live in.

On the occasion he also said that the appearance of the capital was just that of the country, and that the project to rehabilitate and construct Pyongyang into the city of revolution and the people was an important task to demonstrate the authority and dignity of the country. And he said that, true to the intention of the Premier, high-rise apartment blocks had to be built in downtown Pyongyang, canals be built on the Taedong and Pothong Rivers with promenades lined with trees so that people could enjoy their recreational and leisure time to the full, and parks and pleasure grounds be built on Moran, Changgwang and Haebang Hills and...
Mt Taesong. It was really an authentic image of future Pyongyang.

With the beginning of the 1970s Chairman Kim Jong Il’s idea of the construction of Pyongyang started to develop into reality. The first project was Ragwon Street. The Chairman supervised the construction to form a street by building apartment houses for 3,000 households in Ragwon-dong, Pothonggang District. He understood the state of construction almost every day and often went to the site, solving knotty problems. As a result, the construction of the street finished in a matter of several months by the early October of 1975.

After the completion of Ragwon Street Kim Jong Il proposed another large project of removing an old loop street in the downtown and building a new street there.

Examining a plan of a new loop street in late October 1979 the Chairman said: The formation of the street should be done by a completely new method. It is necessary to develop a Korean-style method of street formation and Korean-type shapes of structures. We should make the new apartments tall and slender, while setting them sparsely so that they could stand high in green foliage with their own features.

When the construction began, the Chairman inspected the construction site several times, giving meticulous guidance. And when the new loop street (the first stage) was completed in ten months after the groundbreaking, he renamed it Changgwang Street after the nearby Changgwang Hill.

Chairman Kim Jong Il paid close attention to the construction of monumental edifices as well. The first edifice in the Golden Age of Pyongyang was the Mansudae Art Theatre. Examining in detail the elevation of the theatre and the designs of the stage, auditorium, lounge, dressing rooms and other facilities, he indicated the orientation and ways regarding how to perfect the designs. In this way a palace of art went up in a national style and with socialist contents.

Over the following 15 years many streets and monumental structures were built, including Pipha, Taehak, Munsu, An Sang Thaek, Chongchun and Kwangbok Streets, the Tower of the Juche Idea, the Arch of Triumph, the Pyongyang Koryo Hotel, the Changgwang Health Complex, the Ice Rink, the Chongnyu Restaurant, the Grand People’s Study House, the May Day Stadium and the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre.

In the 2000s another Golden Age of Pyongyang was unfolded with the construction of Mansudae Street, sprucing up the capital. Examining a miniature of apartment houses of Mansudae Street in December 2007, the Chairman gave detailed instructions to form the street in a unique way and build the best possible apartments. Thanks to his energetic guidance the construction of the street finished in a little over a year, and it was followed by the construction of Changjon Street. Meanwhile, the construction of apartments was propelled in different places of the city.

In his immortal classic work On Architecture published on May 21, 1991 the Chairman clarified that in the socialist society, architectural creation is the concern of the masses themselves, that architecture is created and developed rapidly drawing on their limitless strength and that architecture is a mixed art.

For its eternal vitality the work remains a valuable guideline in opening up the heyday of construction.

Kim Song Il
The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a letter to all the people, greeting the hope-filled new year, Juche 110 (2021).

The following is the full text of the letter:

Happy New Year.

As we mark the start of the new year, I extend my heartfelt greetings to you all.

I sincerely wish every family across the country greater happiness, and the beloved people good health.

In the new year I will continue striving to hasten the dawn of the new era in which the ideals and desires of our people will come true.

I offer thanks to the people for the unfailing trust and support you have given to our Party, even in the most difficult times.

Renewing my pledge always to remain faithful to our great people.

Kim Jong Un
January 1, 2021
The Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea took place in Pyongyang, the capital city of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, on January 5-12.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un mounted the platform of the congress together with members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

The congress was attended by the members of the leadership body of the Seventh Party Central Committee and the delegates elected by the Party organizations at all levels.

Invited to the platform were the chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, the chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, and the chief of the Pyongyang Mission of the Anti-Imperialist National Democratic Front.

Solemnly pledging, on behalf of all the participants in the congress, that the congress would remain thoroughly faithful to the revolutionary ideas and cause of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, the founder and builder of the WPK, Kim Jong Un declared the Eighth Congress of the WPK open.

The congress approved and seriously discussed and decided the following agenda items: First, review of the work of the WPK Central Committee; secondly, review of the work of the WPK Central Auditing Commission; thirdly, amendments to the Rules of the WPK; and fourthly, election of the central leadership body of the WPK.

The congress unanimously adopted the resolution on electing Kim Jong Un as general secretary of the WPK in reflection of the unanimous will and wish of all the delegates, all the Party members, other people across the country and service personnel of the Korean People’s Army.

On the basis of scientific analysis of the trend of the developing revolution and the demands of the prevailing subjective and objective situations, the congress discussed and decided new lines of struggle and strategic and tactical policies for strengthening and developing the Party and making a radical leap forward in socialist construction.

The congress adopted with the unanimous approval of all its participants the resolution “On thoroughly implementing the tasks set forth in the report on the work of the Seventh WPK Central Committee”.

Fully convinced that, thanks to the great fighting efficiency, power of unity, extraordinary patriotic enthusiasm and indomitable perseverance of the organizations and members of the entire Party, all other people and service personnel, the strategy and policies put forward by the congress would successfully be carried out and epoch-making progress would be made in the building of Korean-style socialism, Kim Jong Un declared the Eighth Congress of the WPK closed.

The Eighth Congress of the WPK, held at a time of crucial importance in the development of the revolution, was an expression of the Party’s definite self-confidence in its capability for leading the socialist cause to another stage of victory, and it is also a noteworthy political event of great significance in the course of the struggle of the glorious Party.

Yom Song Hui
Opening Speech at the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea

The Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made an opening speech at the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

The opening speech is as follows:

Dear delegates,

The Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea, for which millions of our Party members and service personnel across the country, I pay dear delegates, and all other Party members, people and service personnel across the country, I pay homage to the Party leaders and our people. The Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea is held to set forth for socialist construction.

In this period the unprecedented, worst-ever trials put great obstacles on the road of advance of our revolution, but our Party achieved great successes through tenacious and accurate practical activities aimed at implementing its fighting programme.

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee held in August last year made an in-depth analysis and judgment of the new trend of our developing revolution and the demands of the prevailing objective and subjective situations, and decided to convene the current congress of the WPK.

The convocation of the congress in the present-day arduous circumstances is a noteworthy political event of great significance in view of the influence it would exert on the change and development of the internal and external situations and of the future struggle of our Party, a socialist ruling party.

When the historic decision on holding this congress was made public, all the people across the country, enlivened by a great emotion, warmly supported it, and it dealt a telling blow to the reactionary forces of all hues, who were hostile to our cause and attempted to check its advance.

It was because the convocation of the highest-level meeting of the WPK was an expression of its definite self-confidence in its capability for leading the revolution to another stage of victory, and constituted demonstration of its ardent will and solemn pledge to live up to the people’s great trust and expectations by shouldering the future of the state and fully discharging its responsibilities and duties.

The Central Committee of our Party made it clear at home and abroad that it would make this congress a congress for work, struggle and progress.

This was a promise to the Party members and other people that it would strictly review its work in the period under review, explicitly decide once again the correct orientation and tasks of struggle for achieving fresh victories in building our style of socialism and take substantial measures to this end.

Never small are the successes our Party achieved in the revolutionary struggle and construction work over the last five years of arduous, yet glorious struggle.

By achieving miraculous victories and events noteworthy in the 5,000-year history of our nation after its Seventh Congress, the WPK provided a sure guarantee for reliably defending the destiny of the country and the people generation after generation and simultaneously won some meaningful and precious successes and foundations on which to promote economic construction and improve the people's standard of living.

However, though the period of implementing the Five-Year Strategy for the National Economic Development ended last year, almost all sectors fell a long way short of the set objectives. Still existing are the various external and internal challenges that hamper and hinder our efforts and advance for fresh and continuous victories in socialist construction.

The key to breaking through the existing manifold difficulties with utmost certainty and speed lies in consolidating our own strength, our internal force, in all respects. Proceeding from the principle of finding the causes of mistakes not in the objective conditions, but in the subjective conditions, and resolving all problems by enhancing the role of our motive force, the current congress is going to make a comprehensive and profound analysis and judgement of the experiences, lessons and mistakes we have made during the period under review and, on this basis, define the scientific goals and tasks of struggle, which we can and must accomplish without fail.

The successes we have already achieved are priceless for us, and so are the bitter lessons that have been accumulated.

All these are things that cannot be bartered even for gold, and constitute valuable assets for achieving fresh victories in the future.

We should further promote and expand the victories and successes we have gained at the cost of sweat and blood, and prevent the painful lessons from being repeated.

In particular, we should be bold enough to admit the mistakes which, if left unaddressed, will grow into bigger obstacles and stumbling blocks, and take resolute measures against their repetition.

This congress has been convened on the basis of this pluck and commitment.

If the Eighth Party Congress, a congress for struggle, carries out its work in a substantial manner and puts forth a correct line and strategic and tactical policies, the Korean revolution will greet an
era of a new leap forward and upsurge. Also, the WPK’s struggle for achieving national prosperity and people’s happiness will switch over to a new stage with the congress as a watershed.

Dear delegates,

To make this congress a substantial congress for work, struggle and progress, the WPK Central Committee focused on the following issues over the past four months:

First, it conducted the work of making a comprehensive, three-dimensional and detailed analysis and review of how the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress were implemented and drawing experiences and lessons for future progress and development.

To end this, the Party Central Committee formed a non-permanent central inspection commission and sent it to lower units on a mission to learn about the actual situations there and carefully study the opinions of workers, farmers and intellectuals who are Party members and involved in field labour.

The non-permanent central inspection commission conducted the work in the way of dispatching its teams to provinces and, after grasping the actual situations there, dispatching them to ministries and central institutions by direction and sector to make brisk, comprehensive and detailed inspections. The teams thoroughly examined all aspects of the actual situation including what was wrong, what was neglected among what could be carried out and what was implemented in a profitable way or formalistic way in executing the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress, and if there were shortcomings, what were their causes and what were the defects in Party guidance.

During the days when the Party congress was prepared, departments of the Party Central Committee and other Party organizations across the country submitted to the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and the preparatory committee for the congress reports of their work over the last five years and innovative and detailed opinions on the goals and plans of struggle in the future.

In the course of this, we confirmed once again the priceless truth that the masses are excellent teachers, and we convinced that it was right indeed that we had decided to take heed of the opinions of Party organizations and its members for the preparation of the congress.

What we did is of great significance in making this congress a revolutionary and militant one, both in name and in fact, in which the general will of all the Party members will be embodied, and the decisions to be adopted by it become an organizational will of the entire Party.

As part of the preparations for the Party congress, we analysed and reviewed the finances of the Party over the last ten years and studied the measures for improving them.

And we made a profound study aimed at revising the Party Rules, which were a mechanistic repetition of the past and outdated or that of others and did not suit the present reality; in conformity with the requirements of the developing revolution and the principles of building a Juche-oriented party.

We also comprehensively appraised the work of the members of the leadership body of the Seventh Party Central Committee and determined how much contribution they made to strengthening and developing the Party and the revolution.

In the lead-up to this Party congress, the basic Party organizations, provincial, city and county Party committees and the Party committees performing the same functions as the latter reviewed the work of their leadership bodies in an effective way and held successful meetings for electing delegates to the Party congress with the main emphasis on selecting the Party members who could play core roles in implementing the decisions of the Party congress in the future.

For the Eighth Party Congress, which would illuminate the road ahead of a new struggle for the Korean revolution, all the Party members and all other people across the country achieved brilliant successes by turn out in the 80-day campaign of loyalty after glorifying the 75th anniversary of the Party founding as a great auspicious event and what was implemented in a proactive way and held successful meetings for electing delegates to the congress.

At this moment, the interest, expectations and hope of all the Party members and other people across the country are very great and high for this congress which will review the revolutionary work of the last five years and decide the line of struggle and strategic and tactical policies for opening up a new road.

We shall provide the best conditions for the success of the congress and ensure its successful opening.

...
On Comrade Kim Jong Un’s Report to the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea

REPORT WAS MADE ON THE WORK OF the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK) from January 5 to 7, Juche 110 (2021) at the Eighth Congress of the Party, an important political event in the development of our Party and revolution.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made the report on the work of the Central Committee of the Party.

In his nine-hour report he comprehensively and deeply analyzed and reviewed the work of the Seventh Central Committee of the Party, laid down a fresh struggle line and strategic and tactical policies for making a radical advance in socialist construction and set forth important tasks for advancing the cause of national reunification and external relations and developing Party work.

The report on the work of the Central Committee of the Party is a great practical programme as it admits the subjective and objective factors checking our advance and serious mistakes under the preface of his report outlined the guidance provided by the Central Committee of the Party during the period under review for fulfilling its heavy yet honourable mission given by the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un in the preface of his report outlined the guidance provided by the Central Committee of the Party during the period under review for fulfilling its heavy yet honourable mission given by the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

The Central Committee of the Party took timely measures for implementing the decisions made at the Seventh Congress of the Party by regularly holding major Party meetings including the plenary meetings, and positively aroused the entire Party, holding major Party meetings including the plenary meetings, and positively aroused the entire Party, by the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un in the first part of his report reviewed with pride the proud achievements made by our Party and people during the period under review.

The WPK organized and waged indomitably offensive struggle for turning every obstacle into great victory for the last five years since the Seventh Congress of the Party, and the victory won in this course can be characterized by that it opened up an era of fresh development, an era of our state-first principle.

As mentioned in the report, the era of our state-first principle is a new era of self-respect and prosperity, which was born as a result that the WPK made all possible efforts for the people and determinedly built up its own force, boldly facing all kinds of challenges of history, as a result of its do-or-die struggle for exalting the dignity and position of the state.

The report firstly reviewed the successes achieved in embodying the politics based on the people-first principle during the period under review.

The biggest success achieved in the last five years of struggle for implementing the decisions made at the Seventh Party Congress is that the politico-ideological strength, the first motive force of our revolution, was radically augmented.

During the period under review the Party Central Committee achieved remarkable successes in consolidating the single-minded unity of the Party and the people as firm as a rock and building up the driving force of the socialist cause and enhancing its role by putting forward the politics based on the people-first principle as a fundamental issue and a main political mode decisive of the survival or ruin.
of the Party and the victory or failure of socialism and by vigorously and consistently unfolding it.

“Everything for the people and everything by relying on them” — this was the core of leadership idea to which the Party Central Committee held fast without an inch of deflection and slightest concession during the period under review.

When endeavoring to thoroughly make the people-first principle run through the Party and state activities, the Party Central Committee uninterruptedly carried on the struggle for eliminating all kinds of anti-people factors laying obstacles in realizing it.

The report analyzed the scrupulous political offensive waged by the Party Central Committee to secure the people-first principle as a firm political climate of the state and as a Party climate and national climate.

What was of special significance in the work of the Party Central Committee for consolidating the politico-ideological position was that it carried out more intensively the education in the revolutionary traditions as required by the period of succeeding difficulties and the change of the obstacles in realizing it.

The Party Central Committee has achieved precious successes in uniting our society to be a large family by making sure that all the Party organizations sincerely help the people experiencing ordeal and hardships in their life and lead them to a worthwhile life.

Thanks to the politics of the WPK based on the people-first principle full of trust, devotion, reward and obligation, the political and ideological position of our revolution was firmly consolidated, an unquenchable strength that can break through any obstacles and challenges was built up, and the advantages and vitality of Korean-style socialism centered on the masses were fully displayed.

The report stressed that it is a valuable philosophical principle proved once again during the period under review that it is a principle full of trust, devotion, reward and obligation, the political and ideological position of our revolution was firmly consolidated, an unquenchable strength that can break through any obstacles and challenges was built up, and the advantages and vitality of Korean-style socialism centered on the masses were fully displayed.

The spirit of self-reliance and the policies for its embodiment stressed at the Seventh Congress of the Party were detailed at Party plenary meetings and put into practice. In the course of this, the strategy of our Party for self-reliance was developed into a strategy for offensive for turning the mean sanctions by the hostile forces into a golden opportunity for strengthening our self-development capability and internal motive force and into a political line to be constantly adhered to in socialist construction.

Amid the all-people struggle for stepping up socialist construction by enhancing the self-development capability, self-reliance developed into a national trait of Juche Korea and the one and only fighting spirit of the Korean revolution.

Although economic construction failed to hit the expected strategic goals, a precious foundation for making sustained economic development by our own efforts was provided, the report said, adding: “The greatest of such successes is that the backbone of the self-supporting national economy, the socialist economy, which is the material basis of the existence and lifetime of our own style of socialism, was maintained and its arteries were preserved.

The Party Central Committee built up new potentialities and capabilities for self-reliance and developed the over-all national power by taking revolutionary measures for strengthening the unified guidance and strategic management of the state over economic work and making sure that the socialist principles were thoroughly observed in the economic field.

During the period under review the Party gave importance to construction as important political work for building up the overall national power and leading the people to socialist civilization, and remarkably changed the appearance of the country by vigorously accelerating the construction work.

The agricultural field waged an intensive drive for scientific farming and high yield despite persistent and severe drought, flooding and all kinds of shortages, and thus brought about an unprecedented increase in grain production.

A breakthrough was made in putting the metalurgical industry and chemical industry, the twin pillars supporting the independent economy, on a Juche-oriented and self-supporting basis and some achievements in the technical preparations and laying of foundations for shoring up the sectors of electric power, coal and machine-building industries and rail transport and for developing telecommunication.

Major factories and enterprises in the field of light industry were upgraded to secure potentials for radically boosting the quality and output of consumer goods, and a foundation for increasing production was systematically laid in the fishery sector.

Amid the nationwide and all-people campaign for increasing forest resources of the country, over a million hectares of forests were newly planted and the forces for and means of afforestation and watershed conservancy, land and environment protection and urban management were provided.

In the field of science and technology, key national projects were carried out and other valuable sci-tech successes and inventions were made, and in the sector of education, vigorous efforts were made to innovate teaching contents and methods and improve educational conditions and environment.

The material and technical foundations of the public health sector were further strengthened, and a well-regulated working system and foundations were built in the hygienic and anti-epidemic sector through the preemptive and powerful emergency epidemic prevention efforts for checking the inroads of the worldwide pandemic.

Positive efforts were made to put sports on a scientific basis and arouse the zeal for sports, and the work for establishing and developing the anti-disaster prevention and crisis management was pushed, thereby making it possible to flexibly cope with all sorts of disasters including natural calamities.

The successes made in the last five years of struggle for constantly building up our own strength are the fruits of our strenuous exertion and development, which are scores of times greater than any economic construction successes in normal times as they were achieved by our own efforts in the face of protracted wicked sanctions and blockade and awful disasters. And thanks to the enormous power of self-development which was accumulated despite difficulties, the great advance of our Party and people toward a powerful socialist nation will be accelerated more vigorously in greater scope and depth.

Kim Jong Un referred in the report to the successes made in the struggle for consolidating the country’s nuclear war deterrent and self-reliant defense capabilities.

To accomplish the great cause of building the national nuclear forces was a strategic and predominant goal that had to be primarily attained by our Party and people without fail in the course of build-
Korea was divided by the US, the world’s first superpower and arch-enemy, and the DPRK has been in direct confrontation with its aggressive forces for decades, and the peculiarities of the Korean revolution and the geopolitical features of our state demand that we press ahead uninterruptedly with the already-started building of our nuclear forces for the welfare of our people, the destiny of our revolution and the existence and independent development of our state.

The Party Central Committee, headed by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, has waged a death-defying struggle with an indomitable will to safeguard the destiny of the country and the nation, and to ensure the supreme interests and dignity of the country.

Recalling that the Party Central Committee declared with pride to the world the accomplishment of the historic cause of building the national nuclear forces, which was impossible to achieve even in 20 to 30 years in terms of existing formulas, was accomplished four years after the line of simultaneously promoting economic construction and building up our nuclear forces was set forth and one year after the Seventh Congress of the Party, this is a miracle, which would never be known even in history, and an exploit of greatest significance in the history of the Korean nation. The Seventh Central Committee performed for the Party and revolution, for the country and people and for posterity.

The Party Central Committee achieved new great victories by vigorously and uninterruptedly leading the struggle for upgrading the nuclear forces even after the great historic November event in 2017.

The report detailed the historic course that led to the great revolutionary turn for possessing the completely new nuclear capabilities aimed at attaining the goal of modernization of the nuclear forces. Under the direct guidance of the Party Central Committee, intermediate-range and intercontinental ballistic rockets of Hwasongpho series and submarine-launched and ground-launched ballistic rockets of Pukguksong series were manufactured in our own style to meet their unique operational missions. This gave a clearer description of the status of our state as a nuclear weapons state and enabled it to obtain a perfect nuclear shield and bolster its powerful and reliable strategic deterrent for coping with any threat.

During the period under review, the already accumulated nuclear technology developed to such a high degree as to make the nuclear weapons miniaturized, light, standardized and tactical and to complete the development of a super-large hydrogen bomb. By succeeding in the test-fire of intercontinental ballistic rocket Hwasongpho-15 on November 29, 2017, the Party declared with pride to the world the accomplishment of the historic cause of building the national nuclear forces and the cause of building a rocket power.

During the period under review the Party Central Committee successfully accomplished the great cause of building the country’s nuclear forces and brought about a great change in strengthening the state defence capabilities, thereby upraising the country to the position of a world nuclear power and military power in both name and reality and putting an end once and for all to the era in which big powers attempted to make bargain at their own will with the interests of our state and nation.

The most significant and proud victory achieved by the Seventh Central Committee was the declaration in the report of Kim Jong Un in implementing the decisions of the Party Congress that it made that sure that our people and posterity could create prosperity and happiness for ever.

After winning the great victory in carrying out the line of simultaneously pushing forward economic construction and upbuilding of our nuclear forces, the Party Central Committee conducted energetic external activities, placing the state’s dignity and prestige on a high level.

During the period under review, the external environment for the DPRK was the hardest in its history since its founding, due to the desperate offensives by the US and its followers characterized by frantic manoeuvres to pressurize and blockade the country.

The report reviewed the fact that during the period under review new cutting-edge weapon systems were developed one after another in the sector of national defence science to cope with the enemy’s desperate arms build-up, thus making our state’s superiority in military technology an irreversible one and putting its war deterrent and capability of fighting a war on the high crestedness.

The national defence science sector developed the super-large MLRS, a hyper-powerful attack weapon the world’s weaponry field had never known, and proceeded to develop ultra-modern tactical nuclear warheads and intermediate-range cruise missiles whose conventional warheads are the most powerful in the world. This enabled us to gain a reliable edge in military technology.

Our national defence scientists and workers in the munitions industry properly set the orientation of developing the leading cause of our own style following the world’s development trends and have begun to enter a new track of development while upgrading production processes. They also achieved such successes as developing world-class anti-aircraft rocket complex, self-propelled gun howitzer and anti-aircraft weapons.

The report also noted that during the period under review the sector of national defence science was conducting at the final stage the research into perfecting the technology of the multiple independently targetable reentry vehicles, finished research into developing warheads of different combat missions including the hypersonic gliding flight warheads for new-type ballistic rockets and was making preparations for their test manufacture.

The report detailed the historic course that led to the great revolutionary turn for possessing the鞍山 nuclear weapons and an improved warhead control system and carried out this historic task by relying on the patriotism and loyalty of national defence scientists, the report affirmed that the new-type completely self-propelled launcher displayed during the military parade in celebration of the 75th founding anniversary of the Party fully demonstrated the ultra-modernity and great striking capability of our nuclear forces.

The accomplishment of the great cause of building the national nuclear forces and its continued development constitute a vice-carnage in realizing the strategic plan of the Party and the Party Central Committee headed by Kim Jong Un and a great victory of the national defence scientists and all other Korean people who waged a death-defying struggle with an indomitable faith in independence and valiant spirit.

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The report evaluated that the bold leap forward brought about in the national defence science and munitions industry made sure that the country ranked high in the world in terms of defence capabilities and, at the same time, it was of great significance in realizing the strategic plan of the Party Central Committee for developing the overall Korean revolution.

The report said that a great advance was made in the decision to turn the People’s Army into elite forces during the period under review.

Under the leadership of the Party, the People’s Army performed miraculous feats on two fronts—national defence and socialist construction—to faithfully accomplish its revolutionary duty. It also reliably defended the land, the air and the seas of the country and put the provocative threats by the enemy under definite control by means of impregnable guard and full combat posture in the last five years fraught with the most acute and grave trials, thus ensuring peaceful environment for our socialist construction.

During the period under review the Party Central Committee successfully accomplished the great cause of building the country’s nuclear forces and brought about a great change in strengthening the state defence capabilities, thereby upraising the country to the position of a world nuclear power and military power in both name and reality and putting an end once and for all to the era in which big powers attempted to make bargain at their own will with the interests of our state and nation.
wards peace and atmosphere of dialogue, accepted by the international community, and oriented the external economic activities toward reinforcing the foundations and potentiality.

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China summit talks, and thus provided a new chapter in the DPRK-China relations of friendship with socialism as its core, the report stressed.

The proactive external activities conducted by the Party Central Committee gave a strong impetus to the socialist cause in the international arena, and demonstrated the prestige and authority of our Party and state, which is steering the new political and social course and the fraternal ties and unity between the Parties and peoples of the two countries which are inseparably bound up with each other in the struggle for their common cause.

At the one-on-one talks of the top leaders of the DPRK and the US during the period under review, the Parties and peoples of the two countries which are inseparably bound up with each other in the struggle for their common cause.

Attaching importance to the fresh development of the traditional DPRK-China relations as demanded by the times that required continuity in the fraternal ties and unity between the Parties and peoples of the two countries which are inseparably bound up with each other in the struggle for their common cause.

The report said that due to such obstacles, state investment and supplies intended to bolster the major economic sectors in the five-year strategy for the national economic development could not be carried out properly.

It gave the Party Central Committee’s analysis and appraisal of the cause of non-fulfilment of the five-year strategy for the national economic development during the period under review, seriously pointing out the dire conclusion that if one ascribes its failure to objective conditions, he can do nothing and the action and role of the driving force will be unnecessary, and it is impossible to accelerate the revolutionary struggle and construction work unless the unfavourable external factors are removed.

The Party Central Committee analyzed the current situation, in which the five-year strategy for the national economic development had not been properly set on the basis of scientific calculation and grounds, science and technology failed to actually play the role of propelling the economic work of the country and the work of readjusting and reinforcing the irrational economic work system and discipline was not properly done.

The report referred to the conclusive lesson that the economy of the country can never be boosted absolutely getting rid of the outdated work system, unreasonable and inefficient way of work and obstacles disturbing our advance, the report noted that only by doing so, is it possible to turn our struggle for socialist construction, including the one for attaining the future long-term goal of the national economy, into a great revolutionary undertaking aimed at bringing substantial benefits to the people.

The report clarified the strategy for the struggle in the economic field in the coming five years.

It stressed that our Party’s economic strategy at the present stage is the one for readjustment and reinforcement aimed at putting our economy on a normal track so that it can run smoothly without being affected by any external influence, by restoring and readjusting the economic work and the organic relations among sectors and pushing ahead with the work for cementing its self-supporting foundations.

The general orientation of the five-year plan for the national economic development is to lay solid foundations for reenergizing the overall national economy and improving the people’s standard of living by concentrating efforts on the main links in the whole chain of economic development.

The major tasks of the new five-year plan aim at focusing investment with the agrarian field and the chemical industry as key links so as to normalize production in all sectors of the national economy, consolidate the material and technical foundations of the agricultural field and supply enough raw and other materials to light industry for increased production of consumer goods.

The report brought for discussion the new five-year plan which has as its goal to advance toward sustained economic growth and vivid improvement of the people’s standard of living on the basis of the present situation and potentiality of the national economy.

The new five-year plan mainly presupposes that the Cabinet, as the economic headquarters of the country, properly enforces the Cabinet-responsibility system, Cabinet-centred system, for economic work, vigorously accelerates the work of strengthening the essential life line and integrity of the country’s economy, definitely improves its economic management, actively promotes the normalization of production, restoration and local provision of raw and other materials by dint of science and technology and orients the external economic activities toward reinforcing the foundations and potentiality.
of the self-supporting economy.

The new plan reflects the demands for perfecting the self-supporting structure of the national economy, lowering the proportion of dependence on imports and stabilizing the people’s living by taking the actual possibilities into consideration.

From the requirements of our developing revolution and from the urgent requirements of socialist construction, self-reliance during the period of the new long-term plan should develop into nationwide, planned and scientific self-reliance.

Kim Jong Un, in his report, referred in detail to the present conditions in the major economic sectors, and the issues related with their readjustment and development.

The report presented the situation of the key industrial fields which form the lifeline of the national economy and which must be propped up on a priority basis for the overall economic development and improvement of people’s standard of living, and ways of their readjustment and development.

The report stressed that the metal industry should technologically perfect our own system of iron making, expand its capacity and radically increase iron and steel production.

It was noted that in order to attain the goal of iron and steel production mentioned in the new five-year plan, scientific and technological problems must be solved to expand production capacity by renovating the existing production lines with advanced technology and building new energy-saving iron blast furnaces in major iron works and steel plants, to invigorate the production of iron ore and to use brown coal in the northern areas for the production of pig iron.

The report also referred to the direction of the development of the core industry of the country, the chemical industry, which can be likened to the lifeline for the construction of the self-supporting economy and the improvement of people’s standard of living.

The central task of the chemical industry in the new five-year plan period is to give precedence to building up its own technical forces, step up the improvement of its structure, and drastically increase the production of chemical goods necessary for economic construction and the improvement of the people’s standard of living.

The chemical industry should make sure that the whole process of the struggle for founding a Juche-based chemical industry becomes the process of holding a firm grasp on the know-how of the up-to-date technology and push forward the work of transforming the structure of the country’s chemical industry into that of a Juche-based industry that relies on our own raw materials.

The report set it as a precondition for stepping up economic construction and improving the people’s standard of living to increase the generation of electricity, key power of the self-supporting economy.

The major task facing the electric power industry during the new five-year plan period is to readjust and reinforce its production foundations as a whole and expand them on a long-term basis while waging an increased production drive for meeting the immediate demand for electricity so as to reliably guarantee the stable development of the national economy and the material and cultural living of the people.

The report mentioned the plans for concentrating the efforts of the state on the construction of tidal power stations under long-term and medium-term strategies and launching in real earnest into the founding of coal industry to cope with the long-range demands and the subjective and objective changes in the future.

It put an emphasis on important issues for developing the coal industry, an outpost for the development of the self-supporting economy.

Referred to were the issues of boldly unfolding and powerfully propelling the work of intensively supplying equipment, materials, labour and funds to the coal industry, securing more coalfields by giving precedence to prospecting and tunnelling in the coal industry, putting efforts into the development of the soft coal industry, pushing forward the work of improving the working and living conditions of coal miners as a priority task for increased coal production and taking measures for the effective use of coal.

The report defined the machine industry as an important sector leading and hauling the overall economic sectors, and set forth the immediate orientation of its development after examining the present situation facing the machine industry of the country and its causes.

The basic task facing the machine industry during the new five-year plan period is to make itself an industry with solid foundations and switch to an innovative way of production.

The machine industry should positively develop and produce modern and high-performance machine products including machine tools, vehicles, building machines, electric machines, mining machines and hydraulic machines, and produce modern and high-performance machineries and equipment.

The report stressed the need to attach importance to the mining industry and shore it up for the sake of the normal development of the national economy.

The basic tasks of the mining industry are to reinforce and expand its production foundations and meet the needs of the national economy for non-ferrous metallic and non-metallic minerals in the main during the new five-year plan period.

To this end, it is necessary to realistically program the work of building up the geological prospecting forces and effectively developing and using the underground natural resources of the country in a unified way, and to expand the production capacity of the mines, smelters and factories in the mining industry.

The report underlined the need for the forestry sector to strengthen its own material and technological foundations and satisfactorily meet the need for timber of the national economy while keeping the balance of timber production and afforestation.

The report mentioned the issues of more effective development of the forest industry, and the issues related with their readjustment in response to the present conditions in the major economic sectors.

The report stressed the need to build strong professional construction units and actively develop and produce ship-building technology, building an integrated management system of automotive transport and putting transport command on an IT basis so as to ease the strain on transport.

The report evaluated the remarkable development and achievements made in the construction field during the period under review, pointed out a series of deviations and raised new tasks and targets.

The basic tasks facing the construction field during the new five-year plan period are to massively carry out the capital construction including housing construction so as to provide the people with a higher civilized living conditions and radically change the appearances of the country.

The construction field should powerfully push forward the two fronts simultaneously—industrial construction for strengthening the economic foundations of the country and construction for meeting the material and cultural needs of the people.

The construction of a unified socialist society requires the construction of 50,000 flats in Pyongyang, it should set the annual plans for building 10,000 flats every year, starting from this year, scrupulously organize the construction operation and guidance for implementing the plans and thus basically settle the issue of dwelling houses for the Pyongyang citizens.

We should build 25,000 houses in the Komdok area, a leading nonferrous mineral producer where a large contingent of workers live, and thus build it into a mining city unique in the world.

It is imperative to build strong professional construction units and actively develop and produce equipment, gears and tools necessary for construction at the building machinery factories.

The report raised the tasks for further developing the building materials industry in keeping with the demand of the practical situation in which construction is progressing at an unprecedented speed.

The basic tasks facing the building materials industry during the new five-year plan period is to attain the goal of producing 8 million tons of cement and ensure self-sufficiency of the finishing materials.

It is necessary to renovate the existing cement
factories and, at the same time, build new large-capacity, up-to-date cement factories in the areas to make decisive progress in land development and ecological environment protection; thus steadily pushing ahead with the work of transforming the whole country into a socialist fairyland, a beautiful land as befitting the era of the Workers’ Party.

The report pointed out the matters of grasping through surveys the overall situation of the ecological environment including forests, dealing with their seasonal and annual changes correctly and promptly in accordance with the results of the relevant analysis, enacting right laws and regulations for the protection of land and environment and implementing them strictly, preventing natural disasters through an intensified campaign of afforestation and water conservation, continuously making great efforts for road construction and management, and pushing ahead with eastern and western coastal improvement projects in a big way through national mobilization to protect the lives and safety of the people, conserve land and spruce up the country’s coastal areas as befits a maritime nation.

The report stressed the importance of urban management which is directly related with the life of the people from A to Z, and set forth relevant tasks.

The field of urban management should take stringent measures for repairing houses, expand the capacity for producing drinking water while improving its quality, and build a larger number of sewage treatment plants to prevent environmental pollution.

It is necessary to decisively enhance the level of landscaping design, spruce up parks and recreation grounds and plant good species of trees, flowers and cover plants in good arrangement so as to give a facelift to cities.

The report, based on a detailed analysis of the external economic work and the objective and subjective conditions and environment of the country, raised directional issues including those of formulating a scientific strategy for the external economic field and implementing it purposefully.

It raised boosting tourism as an important unifying and diversified base for our people with a more civilized life and to carry on the world the ever-improving appearances of our country.

It is necessary to spruce up tourist attractions, improve methods of giving publicity to them and arrange diversified tourist courses and guidance.

Also important is to turn the Mt Kumgang coastal park area into a modern tourist resort of our own style.

The report advanced the tasks of removing all the facilities including the Haegungmang Hotel at a wharf of the Port of Kosong and constructing buildings of our own typical architectural style, which will go in harmony with the beautiful scenery of Mt Kumgang and suit the emotional and aesthetic feelings of our people.

According to the master plan for the development of the Mt Kumgang tourist area, the projects to build the Kosong port coastal tourist area, the Pirobong mountaineering tourist area, the Haegungmang coastal park area and a sports and culture area—which will all be of original forms—should be carried out on a yearly basis and in a phased way during the new five-year plan period.

The report set it as an important task to improve economic management.

Our national economy is a self-supporting and planned one that serves the people. The report set forth firm measures to improve economic management, and people-oriented characters of the national economy should be strengthened. To this end, it is necessary to raise the functions of the state that organizes economic affairs, and ensure unified management of products on the principle of making sure that the fruition of the economic activities is channelled into promoting the wellbeing of the people.

The fundamental requirement and direction in improving the management of the socialist economy are to put the masses of the people, the masters of society, at the centre of all considerations and give priority to their demands and interests.

The report also stressed the need to hold fast to reducing cost and improving quality as the key to improved economic management.

Basing themselves on the fundamental requirement and direction of improving the management of the socialist economy, the state economic guidance organs should readjust and reinforce the economy substantially.

The report underscored the need to tighten discipline in ensuring unified guidance of the state in the economic work, strengthen the national system of unified statistics, properly launch the work of boosting the mainstay of the national economy, and improve conditions of industrial establishments to carry on their management activities.

Productive forces should be redistributed in a reasonable way so that economic efficiency may increase in the whole realm of the national economy, weak links in the chain of each economic sector identified, and the sectors that are to be strengthened for the balanced development of the economy reinforced.

It is imperative to improve planning and make proper use of the economic leverages including financial, monetary and price administration so as to ensure rational management of the economy.

The scientific analysis and clear policies the report put forth with regard to the prevailing situation of the major economic sectors and their readjustment and development serve as a powerful weapon of practical importance in consolidating the material and technical foundations of the self-supporting economy and propelling economic construction in a planned and stable way irrespective of the change in the external environment.

Kim Jong Un declared in the report the unshakable determination of the Party to make a breakthrough in solving the people’s food, clothing and housing problems at any cost and effect tangible changes and innovations, which will benefit the people in reality, in the new five-year plan period.

The report set forth measures to increase agricultural production so as to decisively settle the problem of food supply for the people.

The central target in the agricultural field in the five-year plan is to unceasingly attain the goal of grain production the Party has already set and to consolidate the material and technical foundations for sustained development of agriculture.

In order to increase agricultural production, it is important to put efforts into seed improvement, scientific farming, increased output in low-yielding fields, cultivation of new land and tideland reclamation, while developing farming, animal husbandry and fruit growing and pushing irrigation and mechanization of agriculture as an important strategic priority.

The report emphasized the policies of taking scientific and technical measures and laying material and technical foundations for securing agricultural increase even in unfavourable climatic and weather conditions, boosting the zeal of agricultural workers for production and strengthening state assistance to the rural economy.

The main targets set forth for the agricultural sector are matters of paramount importance for the
state that must be attained whatever the cost in order to ensure self-sufficiency in food supply and thus to ensure national construction. The report referred to the importance of light industry which holds an absolute share in providing the people with an affluent and civilized life, and to the direction of its development. The light industrial field should step up its renovation while regarding it as the lifeline and main direction of development to tap locally available resources for raw and other materials and recycle used materials; it should also steadily build itself up by reinforcing the weak sectors and processes and setting up missing ones.

Also stressed were the issues of raising the quality of products on the principle of giving priority to quality over quantity, and directing efforts into developing various kinds of products. The report defined the fishing industry as one of the three fields directly related to the people’s diet. The fishing industry should modernize fishing vessels and implements, put fishing on a scientific basis and build up fishery stations and ship repair yards.

It is necessary to systematically increase seafood production by substantially conserving and propagating the nation’s aquatic resources in a planned way and launching a mass drive for aquaculture.

Raised in the report were important policy issues for self-reliant and multifaceted development of cities and counties. It is the consistent strategic policy our Party maintains in socialist construction to consolidate its revolutionary position and develop the rural economy and other sectors of the local economy and improve the people’s living standards with cities and counties as bases. Cities and counties constitute terminal units for the execution of our Party’s policies, regional planning and guiding the rural economy and other sectors of the local economy, and strong pillars supporting the overall development of the country.

The general goal defined by the report to build up cities and counties is to turn every city and county into a region characterized by a highly civilized and prosperous socialist state, into a developed region retaining their inherent characteristics.

Cities and counties should set their development strategies and long-term objectives in conformity with their regional characteristics and in a realistic way, and persistently and purposefully carry them out in a planned way and on an annual basis. It is necessary to channel efforts into development of the socialist rural communities, holding aloft the slogan “Forward towards fresh victory” so as to achieve cultural progress peculiar to rural areas, a new development of our own style.

The long-term objective for rural construction is to eliminate disparities between the working class and the peasantry, the gaps between industry and agriculture and differences between the urban and rural areas by pushing ahead with the three revolutions in the rural areas and thoroughly implementing the theses on the socialist rural question; and the immediate task is to give precedence to the work of transforming agricultural workers on the revolutionary and working-class patterns, boost state support to the rural areas and build up the rural communities in a balanced way so that they have regional characteristics of their own.

The report stressed the need for the Party and the state to pay close attention to the effort for building up the positions of rural hard-core elements.

It ran the way as a consistent political requirement to develop the local economy by using the raw and other materials available in relevant areas in accordance with the regional characteristics. It is also necessary to push ahead with the work of changing the appearances of city and county seats and put great efforts to improving urban management, afforestation, water conservation and environmental protection.

 Mentioned in the report was a task for city and county Party committees and people’s committees to become a powerful engine propelling the development of their regions, master of the local economy and administrator responsible for the livelihood of the people in their regions.

Kim Jong Un solemnly clarified the revolutionary standpoint that the national defense capabilities, the cornerstone for the existence of the state and a reliable guarantee for defending the dignify and security of the country and people and peace, should be strengthened continuously.

The report analyzed the fact that although our Party and the government of our Republic made well-meaning efforts and displayed the greatest patience to prevent the aggravation of the regional tension out of sheer desire to ensure peace and

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The report analyzed the fact that although our Party and the government of our Republic made well-meaning efforts and displayed the greatest patience to prevent the aggravation of the regional tension out of sheer desire to ensure peace and

curiosity of the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world; the hostile forces of the DPRK towards the US have gone from bad to worse, instead of becoming weakened.

Nothing is more foolish and dangerous than to idle our time away without steadily building up our strength while knowing well enough that the enemy’s hi-tech weapons aimed at our state are increasing in volume.

The reality shows that only when we bolster up our national defence capabilities without a moment’s halt will we be able to contain the military threat from the US and achieve peace and prosperity of the Korean peninsula.

Stressing that the strong defence capabilities of the state never precludes diplomacy but serves as a powerful means to propel it along the right course and guarantee its success, the report gave the analytical conclusion that the reality in the prevailing situation proves once again that there can never be satisfaction in strengthening the military strength.

As long as imperialism remains on the earth and the danger of war of aggression by the hostile forces against our state remains, the historic mission of our revolutionary armed forces can never be changed and our national defence capabilities must be steadily bolstered along the track of new development.

The report set forth important tasks for the Korean People’s Army to develop more firmly into a revolutionary army modelled on the Workers’ Party of Korea, a sophisticated hi-tech army and a reliable defender of our state and people by maintaining it as the general task for the army building to model itself on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

The report mentioned the core plan and strategic tasks of crucial importance in rapidly developing and strengthening the national defence industry. It is necessary to develop the nuclear technology to a higher level and make nuclear weapons smaller and lighter for more tactical uses; this will make it possible to develop tactical nuclear weapons to be used as various means according to the purposes of operational duty and targets of strike in modern warfare. And the production of super-sized nuclear warheads should be continuously pushed ahead. In this way we will be able to thoroughly contain, control and handle on our own initiative various military threats on the Korean peninsula, which are intruding and rising by the day, and the hostile forces.

The report also set a goal of attaining an advanced capability for making a preemptive and retaliatory nuclear strike by further raising the rate of precision good enough to strike and annihilate any strategic targets within a range of 15,000 kilometres with pinpoint accuracy.

And the tasks were brought up to develop and introduce hypersonic gliding flight warheads in a short period, push ahead with the development of solid-fuelled intercontinental underwater and ground ballistic rockets as scheduled, and possess a nuclear submarine and an underwater-launching nuclear strategic weapon which will be of great importance in raising the long-range nuclear striking capability.

The report also referred to the need to secure the ability of reconnaissance and information gathering based on operation of a military reconnaissance satellite in the near future, and conduct in real earnest the most important research to develop reconnaissance drones and other means of reconnaissance capable of precisely reconnoitering up to 500 km deep into the front.

It defined it as the main task facing the sector of defence science at present to rapidly advance the Korean People’s Army from the conventional type into an elite hi-tech one by developing the defence science and technology in every possible way and inventing more advanced weapons and combat equipment.

Making the military equipment intelligent, precise, unmanned, high-performance and lightweight should be set as the priority target of the munitions industry, and research and development oriented to this end.

The report mentioned the profound tasks for completing the preparations for all-people resistance, the matter of crucial importance that should never be neglected in firmly consolidating the national defence capabilities.

The important tasks for strengthening the national defence capabilities put forward by the report are expressive of the iron will and determination to continuously strengthen the country’s military capabilities until the vicious cycle of the brink of war and detente, tension and dialogue is removed once and for all and such words as threat and blackmail by the hostile forces disappear on this land, considering the situation in which the international balance of power is crumbling owing to the reckless arms buildup of the US and other hostile forces.

Kim Jong Un set forth in the report tasks for completing the preparations for all-people resistance, the matter of crucial importance that should never be neglected in firmly consolidating the national defence capabilities.
as a crucial task and an optimum policy in socialist construction, the report comprehensively analyzed the deviations revealed in the course of implementing the line of attaching importance to science and technology, and indicated the goals for the development of science and technology to be attained by each sector during the new five-year plan period, as well as the relevant ways and means for their achievement.

It is necessary to proactively solve urgent scientific and technical problems arising in implementing the new five-year plan for the national economic development and promote the development of core and advanced cutting-edge technology.

It is essential to establish a proper Party, state, administrative guidance and management system for the development of science and technology, share scientific research findings and vigorously push forward with the work of making all the people well versed in science and technology.

Kim Jong Un pointed out in the report the achievements, experience, mistakes and lessons made and drawn in developing socialist culture during the period under review.

It is our Party’s far-reaching goal and ideal to lead our people to civilization of our own style in the new century by opening up a new era of efflorescence of socialist culture.

The report analyzed and assessed the performance of education, public health, art and literature, mass media and sports sectors during the period under review, which play an important role in developing all members of society into powerful beings, in invigorating the advancing revolution and in successfully stepping up socialist construction.

Earnestly reiterated in the report were the general goal of making education the one which can be fully entrusted with our future and the goals and detailed tasks for the development of education for turning our country into an educational power, a talent power, by bringing about radical improvement in education in the new century.

The sector of secondary and higher education should include all state educational contents and methods and education management system to follow the current trend in the development of education and to meet the pedagogical demand, while methodologically enhancing the ability and qualifications of teachers who are responsible for bringing about a radical turn in education.

The state should increase its investment in and support for the educational field in order to powerfully conduct the work of renovating the educational conditions and environment including the building of schools.

The report dealt with detailed plans for providing people with better medical benefits by developing our socialist healthcare into the most advantageous and advanced public health.

The public health field should substantially carry out the work of renovating the treatment and prevention institutions and pharmaceutical and medical appliances factories, build up the ranks of medical workers and create a reliable anti-epidemic basis for coping with whatever world health crisis.

The report also made a serious analysis of the work in the field of art and literature, and set forth tasks for ushering in a new era of efflorescence of Juche-oriented art and literature by effecting a radical turn on all fronts of art and literature.

Creation guidance officials, creators and artists in the field of art and literature should display an enterprising working spirit with high discernment to produce excellent works embodying the Juche character, national identity and modernity, stage characters and performance fully carry out the training of reserves on a long-term basis by establishing a proper system and setting development strategy and clear goals.

Tasks were set forth for the mass media to raise the fierce flames of a new revolution in newspapers, news services, radio and TV broadcasting and publishing as required by the new era of drastic change and upsurge in socialist construction so as to wage a vigorous media campaign aimed at deeply instilling into all the people the core of the ideas, lines and policies of the Party Congress and inspiring them to the implementation of the decisions of the Party Congress, and for the field of physical culture and sports to redouble efforts for making our country gain the ranks of advanced sports nations in line with the prestige and position of our dignified state.

The innovative orientations for building socialist culture are a reflection of the grandiose plan for creating a new, Korean style of civilization by bringing about the grand extravaganza and mighty and of our style of socialism in the overall state affairs, including the building of the economy, national defence, culture and science and technology, in the prevailing situation.

3. For the Independent Reunification of the Country and Development of External Relations

In the third part of his report, Comrade Kim Jong Un mentioned the important issues for the independent reunification of the country and development of external relations.

The report studied the issues concerning south Korea in view of the demands of the prevailing situation and the changed times, and clarified our Party’s principled stand on the north-south relations.

As specified in the report, our nation is now standing on the crucial crossroads of whether to advance along the road of peace and reunification after breaking the serious deadlock in the north-south relations or to continue to suffer the pain resulting from division in the vicious cycle of confrontation and danger of war.

It is no exaggeration to say that the current inter-Korean relations have been brought back to the time before the publication of the Pannunjom Declaration and the hope for national reunification has become more distant. Hostile military acts and anti-DPRK smear campaign are still going in south Korea, aggravating the situation of the Korean peninsula and dimming the future of the inter-Korean relations.

Judging that the prevailing frozen north-south relations cannot thaw by the efforts of one side alone nor improve by themselves with the passage of time, the report stressed that if one sincerely aspires after the country’s peace and reunification and cares about the destiny of the nation and the future of posterity, one should not look on this grave situation with folded arms, but take proactive measures to redress and improve the present north-south relations facing a catastrophe.

The report clarified the principled stand on the inter-Korean relations as follows:

It is necessary to take stand and stance to resolve the basic problems first in the north-south relations, halt all acts hostile toward the other side and seriously approach and faithfully implement the north-south declarations.

The report pointed out the main reason why the north-south relations that had favorable developments developed in the past were frozen abruptly and brought back to those of confrontation.

The south Korean authorities are now giving...
the impression that they are concerned about the improvement of north-south relations by raising such inessential issues as cooperation in epidemic prevention and humanitarian field and individual tourism. They are going against the implementation of the north-south agreement on guaranteeing peace and developing stability on the Korean peninsula in disregard of our repeated warnings that they should stop introducing latest military hardware and conducting joint military exercises with the US.

Worse still, they are getting more frantic about modernizing their armed forces, labelling our development of various conventional weapons, which pertains entirely to our independent rights, a “provocation.”

If they want to find fault with it, they should first give an explanation for the chief executive’s personal remarks that south Korea should accelerate its efforts for obtaining and developing latest military assets, that it would develop ballistic and cruise missiles with more precision and power and longer range than the existing ones, and that it had already developed ballistic missiles with the world’s heaviest warhead. They should also provide a convincing explanation for the purpose and motivation in every way by doing the Party’s internal work effectively.

The report underscored the need to put major efforts to cement the single-hearted unity of the Party and steadily expand solidarity with the anti-imperialist, independent forces throughout the world.

The principal review and conclusion of our Party’s external activities during the period under review are that the strategy of power for power should be consistently maintained with regard to the hostile forces unwarrantedly running amuck and the big powers wielding high-handed policies.

After affirming this stance, the report set it as the general direction of the external work at present to comprehensively develop the foreign relations as befitting the strategic position of our state and thus provide reliable political and diplomatic guarantees to socialist construction.

Proceeding from this, it clarified matters of principle to be maintained in the field of external work.

The principal review and conclusion of our Party work during the last period to be reviewed.

The principal review and precious experience gained in the near future, as desired by all compatriots, should be paved only when the south Korean authorities’ attitude.

Whether the north-south relations can be restored and fault with it, they should provide a convincing explanation for the purpose and motivation in every way by doing the Party’s internal work effectively.

It underscored the need to frustrate the re-action offensive of the enemy and raise the prestige of the WPK by enhancing the role of the external information sector.

It is the main mission of the DPRK’s diplomacy to defend the dignity of the WPK, enhance the prestige of the nation and champion the interests of the state. It should wage offensive diplomacy to smash the attempts of the hostile forces to overthrow our sovereignty, and defend our state’s rights to normal development.

It should orient external political activities with the main emphasis put on prevailing over and subjugating the US, the fundamental obstacle to the development of our revolution and our principal enemy.

Noting that whoever takes power in the US, its entity and the real intention of its policy toward the DPRK would never change, the report stressed the need for the field of external work to adopt an adroit strategy toward the US and steadily expand solidarity with the anti-imperialist, independent forces.

It also referred to the need to frustrate the re-action offensive of the enemy and raise the prestige of the WPK by enhancing the role of the external information sector.

It stated that as the spring three years ago, depending on the south Korean authorities’ attitude.

In the report Kim Jong Un clarified the general direction and policy-oriented stand of the WPK for comprehensively developing the external relations. The report made an in-depth analysis of the current international situation and the external environment of the DPRK.

The report stressed that at the present moment we do not need to show goodwill to the south Korean authorities unilaterally as we did in the past, and that we should treat them according to how they respond to our just demands and how much effort they make to fulfill the north-south agreements.

It analyzed that the north-south relations may return to a new starting point of peace and prosperity in the near future, as desired by all compatriots, as they did in the spring three years ago, depending on the south Korean authorities’ attitude.

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In the report Kim Jong Un clarified the general direction and policy-oriented stand of the WPK for comprehensively developing the external relations.

The report expressed the steadfast will of the WPK to reliably defend peace and stability of the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world.

There is no country in this planet which is always exposed to war threat like the DPRK, and so much strong is its people’s desire for peace.

That we have built up the strongest war deterrent and steadily develop them is aimed at defending ourselves and opening up an era of genuine peace free from war for ever.

Now that our national defence capabilities has risen to such a level that it can preemptively contain outside our territory the hostile forces’ threat, in the future the worsening of tensions on the Korean peninsula will lead to the instability of security on the part of the forces posing threat to us.

Stating that the key to establishing new DPRK-US relationship lies in the US withdrawal of its hostile policy toward the DPRK, the report emphasized the following:

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efforts on building up the ranks of the cadres, the hard core of the Party and the leading officials of the revolution, to steadily strengthen the education and control of them to prevent them from getting ideologically degenerated and to improve the quality of Party ranks by strictly adhering to Party principle, the principle of rigidly selecting those who are recognized by everyone else as its members, in increasing Party membership.

The report referred to the need to continue directing great efforts to strengthening primary Party organizations and Party cells, the basic organizations of the Party, effectively press ahead with the organization of and guidance over Party life as a main link in the whole chain of Party work and rally the broad masses of people more closely behind the Party by channelling big efforts on the work with them.

The Party’s ideological work is one of the main tasks of the Party leading the revolution and an important work, which it should not neglect even a moment in the whole period of leading the revolution and construction.

The report advanced the tasks of strictly adhering to the principle of unitary guidance in Party ideological work, of correcting the deep-seated shortcomings of the Party information sector and of fundamentally improving the form and method of ideological education work in line with the requirements of the developing reality.

It also referred to the task of strengthening Party guidance, policy-oriented guidance, over the revolution and construction and pointed to the matter of properly forming Party committees, the political General Staffs of relevant units, and enhancing their role, the matter of adopting proper decisions by Party organizations and establishing the revolutionary traits of implementing them unconditionally, and the matter of resolving all the problems by the Party method, the political method, by Party organizations while strictly guarding against the practices of usurping administrative authority and tailing after the administrative workers rather than leading them in front.

The report set forth ways of radically improving Party work.

Above all, the irrational Party work system and methods should be improved in line with the requirements of the developing reality, and Party work should be switched to people-friendly and reality-friendly work true to the Party’s idea of “The people are God.”

The more thoroughly the people-friendly and reality-friendly characters are applied to Party work, the closer the whole Party will get to fact and truth and the higher the fighting efficiency of our Party will become—these are an important idea of the report.

The report stressed once again that abuse of power, bureaucracy and corruption are what the Party must guard most strictly against and its primary target of struggle at present, and pointed to the need for Party organizations to carry on an uncompromising struggle against even an iota of them.

The report stressed that it is also a way of improving Party work to intensify criticism, ideological struggle and study in the Party, to thoroughly establish the revolutionary discipline of working according to terms of reference and to decisively enhance the level and qualifications of Party officials.

Kim Jong Un said in the last part of the report that through the report on the work of the Party Central Committee, the participants could have an in-depth understanding of successes and shortcomings in their work, their causes and lessons and the orientation and detailed ways of future struggle and that through collective discussion, they became able to confirm strategic and tactical policies based on common opinions.

He expressed his expectation that all the delegates would make an in-depth study and discussion of the issues dealt in the report, based on the leadership ideology of the Party and with a high sense of Party responsibility, and earnestly called on them to vigorously fight on for a fresh leap forward and victory in socialist construction, for our great state and for our great people, rallied closely around the Party Central Committee under the uplifted banner of the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

The historic report of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un comprehensively clarifying the important guidelines for bringing about a new upswing in overall work of the Party and revolution received full support and approval of all the participants in the congress, and augurs well for the victorious advance and bright future of our socialist cause.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Kim Jong Un Elected as General Secretary of the WPK

THE EIGHTH CONGRESS OF THE Workers’ Party of Korea discussed the fourth item on the agenda “Election of the central leadership body of the WPK”.

There took place the election of general secretary of the Party after that of members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee. Delegate Ri Il Hwan cordially proposed to the congress to elect Kim Jong Un general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea. The proposal was fully supported and approved of by all the participants.

The resolution of the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea was adopted with the unanimous approval of all the participants. The resolution is as follows:

Resolution of the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea

On Election of General Secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea
The general secretary of the WPK is the head of the Party who represents and leads the whole Party.

For the revolutionary Party, the head of the Party is the top brain of the revolution embodying the organizational intention of the whole Party, and the centre of the leadership and the unity.

To correctly elect the head of the Party commits to a more important and vital requirement in the period of carrying forward the revolutionary cause and in the period of the fresh development.

The head of the Party vested with the most responsible and important mission by the times and the revolution possesses prominent qualities and capabilities for wisely leading the whole Party.

The current congress fully supported and approved of the courteous proposal for holding Comrade Kim Jong Un in the highest esteem as the general secretary of the WPK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un is the outstanding leader of the Juche revolution and the great symbol and representative of our dignified state and people, who has performed the greatest achievements for the Party and the revolution, the country and the people, with his gifted ideological and theoretical wisdom, extraordinary leadership and noble traits.

Comrade Kim Jong Un resolutely led the leadership and fighting efficiency of the Party in a detailed and all-round way, as required by the idea of building the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Party and the developing revolution, and successfully enforced the people-first politics, thus having developed our Party into the powerful political staff of the revolution, strengthened the strong elite vanguard ranks and genuine motherly party both in name and reality.

Comrade Kim Jong Un has put the overall national power and position of our Republic on the highest ever level with his outstanding and experienced leadership in a short period of history, the greatest exploit to be markedly etched in the history of our state.

Under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un, the great action programmes and strategic and tactical guidelines for the revolution and construction in our era have been fully provided, the single-minded unity, the greatest national power of Juche Korea, consolidated in every way, the ranks of successors to the revolution firmly prepared and the popular nature of our state and social system made stronger.

Comrade Kim Jong Un tremendously strengthened the armed forces of the Republic into the invincible revolutionary army of the Party and fought powerful army with his Juche-oriented military idea and superb leadership over the army and turned the country into a world-famous military power by successfully accomplishing the great historical cause of completing the state nuclear force.

Comrade Kim Jong Un firmly guaranteed the security and future of the country and the people by bolstering our national defence capability through development of powerful physical means for self-reliant defence as insurance against challenges from any aggression forces. This is a peerlessly patriotic feat to be lauded by the nation generations.

Comrade Kim Jong Un is defending independence, justice and peace with his outstanding diplomatic strategy and proficient external activities and steering the trend of the world politics to be favourable for our revolution.

It is the solemn demand of the times and history, the general will of all the Party members and the unanimous desire of our people to invariably hold in the highest esteem Comrade Kim Jong Un, the one and only heir to and leader of the Juche revolution, and symbol of the mightiness of our state and banner of all victories and glory, as the head of the WPK.

The Eighth Congress of the WPK has decided to elect Comrade Kim Jong Un as general secretary of the WPK in reflection of the unanimous will and wish of all the delegates, all the Party members, other people across the country and the service personnel of the KPA for the sake of the development of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Party and fresh victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche.

All the Party organizations and members, other people and service personnel of the KPA will make a vigorous advance towards the implementation of decisions of the Eighth Party Congress and a new victory in the building of a powerful socialist country under the leadership of Comrade General Secretary, keeping deep in mind the great pride and honour of holding in the highest esteem Comrade Kim Jong Un, the outstanding leader of the Juche revolution, as the general secretary of our great Party.

The Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea

Holding Kim Jong Un in the highest esteem as the general secretary of the WPK is the greatest fortune and happiest event to the Korean people, and a great political event that ensures a decisive guarantee for the victory of socialism and heralds a bright future.
The concluding speech made by General Secretary Kim Jong Un at the Eighth Congress of the WPK is as follows:

Dear delegates,

This congress, the eighth of its kind in the history of our Party, presented as its agenda items the immediate fighting plans for opening an era of a new upsurge and gigantic transformation in the revolution and construction and the important tasks in developing the Party, and made an in-depth discussion of them.

The congress first reviewed and analyzed the work of the Seventh Central Committee of the Party in a comprehensive, three-dimensional and detailed way, and made an in-depth discussion of the line and strategic and tactical problems for a new struggle.

The report, speeches and consultative meetings by sector reviewed and criticized in a detailed and severe manner the deviations and mistakes latent in all sectors, ranging from the Party, state and military affairs to the social life, and expressed a solemn determination and will to overcome them.

And an active study and discussion was made for finding the ways of hitting the goals and tasks in the new five-year plan period, and the constructive opinions raised in this course were brought to the committee for drafting the decisions of the Party congress.

Through the discussion of the first agenda item, what and how our Party, state and people must do in the future have become clearer, and our fighting strategies for a fresh victory in our revolution have become more definite.

That our Party at this congress, unlike the previous congresses, reviewed and analyzed its work from a critical viewpoint, not seeing only its merits, is of no less significance than the successes it achieved during the period under review.

The congress also reviewed the work of the Auditing Commission of the Seventh Central Committee of the Party in a critical and strict way, and adopted decisive measures for putting to rights in our own way and in line with the principles of its building the outdated ones of the past, the ones that did not suit the present reality, which were revealed in Party work and activities.

The Rules of the Workers’ Party of Korea were revised by correctly reflecting the principles of Party building and work and the demands of the developing reality, and thus an important framework has been built for strengthening the Party’s leadership abilities and fighting efficiency and achieving its sound development.

The congress has built the Eighth Central Committee of the Party with the comrades who are faithful to the Party and the revolution and highly qualified, and established a new discipline inspection system within the Party. This constitutes a drastic turning point for our Party to discharge its mission and role as the capable General Staff of the revolution.

Dear delegates,

At this congress, thanks to the great trust of you, dear delegates, will demonstrate its correct and seasoned leadership abilities to achieve a fresh victory in the building of our style of socialism and faithfully perform the duty the times have entrusted upon it, true to the high expectations and trust of all the organizations of the Party and its members.

Dear delegates,

The current external environment of our revolution is still grim and acute, and our revolutionary work will not be all plain sailing in the future as well.

But now there cannot be hardships insurmountable for our Party and people who have achieved great victories, which others would not dare achieve, in the worst conditions and difficulties.

With fresh confidence and courage, we must quickly take the road of sustainable advance and development by vigorously waging the struggle for consolidating the strength of our Party, revolutionary ranks and state in every way possible.

Achieving a great fresh victory on all fronts by remarkably increasing our own strength, our internal force, in socialist construction—this is the main idea and main spirit of the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

In other words, it is the revolutionary will of the Workers’ Party of Korea reaffirmed at this congress that we must readjust and rearrange our internal force in a comprehensive way and, on the basis of...
this, make a frontal attack against all hardships to open up a road of new advance.

The historic heavy tasks facing our revolution require the entire Party to cherish the ideals of “The people are God,” single-hearted unity and self-reliance deeply in mind once again and adhere more strictly to them.

Whereas the ideal of “The people are God” reflects our Party’s consistent demand that the entire Party must hold fast to the revolutionary Party trait of regarding it as the starting point and absolute and invariable principle of its building and activities to serve the people, the ideals of single-hearted unity and self-reliance embody in a concentrated way the ideological and theoretical viewpoint and political requirements concerning the lifespan and motive force of our revolution.

The ideals of “The people are God,” single-hearted unity and self-reliance–herein lie the fundamental key to enhancing the leadership abilities of our Party, the fundamental method for it to strike its roots deeper among the masses and the fundamental and sole guarantee for us to survive and open up our way ahead.

I would like to suggest substituting cherishing our Party’s three ennobling ideals of “The people are God,” single-hearted unity and self-reliance deeply in mind once again as the slogan of the Eighth Party Congress for putting up a high-sounding slogan.

The entire Party must make a historic, courageous advance in the direction indicated by the Party congress with unexcelled preparedness, self-confidence and enthusiasm for setting out on a new journey.

Above all, we should launch a do-or-die struggle to implement without fail the new five-year plan for the national economic development.

The socialist economic construction is the most important revolutionary task on which we should focus our all-out effort at present.

In order to break through the current difficulties facing us, stabilize and improve the people’s living standards as early as possible and provide a firm guarantee for self-prosperity, we must resolve the economic problems, the knottiest problems, as soon as possible.

First of all, we should fix the right direction for major thrust on the economic front and concentrate our efforts on it.

The central task of the new five-year plan for the national economic development is to substantially promote economic revitalization by holding fast to the metal and chemical industries as the main link in the whole chain of the economic development and consolidating the organic ties among the key industries, and improve the people’s living standards onto a new, higher level by enhancing the material and technical foundations of agricultural and increasing the proportion of domestically available materials in light industry.

We must follow the road of focusing our efforts on definitely putting the metal and chemical industries first back onto their normal track, the track of revitalization, and, based on it, shoring up other sectors all together.

We must efficiently organize nationwide economic work on the principle of giving priority to the development of the metal and chemical industries.

It is important to intensify economic operations and guidance in such a way as to make the most rational use of the national economic capabilities for radically increasing the capacity of steel and chemicals production, instead of dispersing them here and there without any calculation.

We must orient all economic work towards achieving balanced stability and improvement of the people’s living standards.

What is important here is to continue to direct efforts to agricultural production and thus solve the food problem of the people in the main.

During the new five-year plan period, the agricultural sector must rise up with redoubled efforts and the state must increase its investment in it, so as to attain the target of grain production without fail.

In particular, in the coming two to three years, the plan for compulsory procurement by the state must be set on the level similar to that in 2019 and implemented without fail and the amount to be procured must be increased in a prospective way, so as to make it possible to put the grain supply to the people on a regular basis.

During the new five-year plan period, the light-industry sector must increase the output of consumer goods by regarding it as the main link to obtain raw and other materials domestically and recycle wastes, and thereby bring about a fresh advance in the effort for improving the people’s living standards.

The state should take strong economic and technical measures so that all the sectors supplying the light-industry sector with raw and other materials can normalize their production.

Next, all sectors and units must identify their concrete tasks and ways for executing the new five-year plan for the national economic development, and implement them without fail.

By drawing on the lessons we learned during the period under review, the Party congress made an objective and strict examination of this plan and set new feasible fighting tasks by bringing them to the realities as close as possible.

It is very important that all sectors and units first set out well-worked-out plans by stage and by year while foreseeing the conditions and environments that can be created in the future.

Once their plans are set out, the relevant units must execute them without fail by conducting scientific and concrete operations and command, and the state must establish rigid discipline of strictly grasping, propelling and reviewing the implementation of the national economic plan in all indices.

The success or failure of the new five-year plan for the national economic development depends on how economic management is improved.

The economic departments of the Party Central Committee, the Cabinet, the State Planning Commission, factories, enterprises and all other sectors must work in concert to take decisive measures for improving economic management.

We must push forward energetically with the research and perfection of the economic management methods, which are both suited to our specific situation and geared to optimization and best effectiveness, for example, by combining the methods, which have been developed and introduced on a trial basis, and the experiences of the units, which are effective in their business and enterprise management.

During the new five-year plan period, the Party and state must direct their effort to restoring and strengthening the system and order by which the economy runs under the unified guidance and management of the state.

Strict sanctions must be imposed on whatever the units concerned if they hamper the unified guidance of the state, claiming their special importance even after this Party congress.

The Cabinet and the State Planning Commission must intensify organization and guidance of economic work so that sectors, factories and enterprises achieve full ties and cooperation in production with a view to strengthening the independence of the national economy and increasing production.

Science and technology must fully guarantee economic construction and improvement of the people’s standard of living with its practical development.

Science and technology is the engine of socialist construction and major driving force for the national economic development.

The sector of science and technology must set as its targets the high-priority tasks and other research projects aimed at accomplishing the new five-year plan for the national economic development, and concentrate its efforts on implementing them.

During the new five-year plan period, we must raise the level of the country’s science and technology to a higher level and strengthen the creative cooperation among scientists, technicians and producers so as to solve one by one the sci-tech problems arising in economic construction and improving the people’s standard of living.

We must lay the foundations for developing the local economy and improving the local people’s living standards by promoting the independent and diversified development of the cities and counties.

Now the living standards of the people in the local cities and counties including the rural communities are very low and backward.

We intend to pay attention from now on to developing the local economy and improving the local...
people’s standard of living.

The state must press ahead with the work of providing 10 000 tons of cement to every local city and county on an annual basis.

While taking favourable measures for the local cities and counties to have reliable economic foundations of their own and develop in conformity with their own characteristics, state economic guidance organs must provide them with accurate guidance and assistance.

We must vigorously step up the three revolutions–ideological, technological and cultural–in the rural communities and increase state support so as to decisively strengthen our rural position, consolidate the material and technical foundations of agricultural production and transform the socialist countryside into a civilized and rich one.

During the five-year plan period, nationwide efforts must be directed to developing education and public health, so that all the people, whether they live in the capital city or local areas, can enjoy tangible benefits of the socialist educational and public health systems.

We must give precedence to vigorous education and strict discipline in the entire Party and the whole country and amongst all the people, so as to staunchly suppress and control all forms of anti-socialist, non-socialist practices revealed in all fields of social life and all sorts of criminal acts such as the abuse of power, bureaucratism, corruption and imposition of extra economic burdens on the people.

We must regard it as an important task to further strengthen the national defence capability both in quality and quantity.

We must further strengthen the nuclear war deterrent while doing our best to build up the most powerful military strength.

We must continue to give a fresh spur to making the People’s Army elite and powerful armed forces, so that it is thoroughly prepared to fulfil its mission and role as the driving force of national defence in the face of any form of threat and emergency.

We must raise the defence science and technology to a higher level and carry out the goals and tasks of munitions production without fail, so as to guarantee the historic, onward march of our Party with the strongest military strength during the new five-year plan period.

In order to successfully carry out our responsible and important revolutionary tasks facing us today, we must, first of all, strengthen the Party and enhance its leadership role.

A great heyday of the development of the Party and the revolution will be ushered in when the organizations of the whole Party are built up into loyal vanguard ranks, work in a revolutionary and enterprising manner and satisfactorily perform their role as the political general staff of the relevant units.

By directing their main efforts to their internal work, all Party organizations must put the ranks of their cadre and members on a stream-lined basis and develop them into an elite force and intensify the guidance over Party life more than ever before, thereby steadily building up the organizational and ideological foundations of the Party.

We must establish a well-knit system and fresh method of Party work throughout the Party so as to make it a working party, a fighting party, a militant party.

Party organizations must brace themselves to launch organizational and political work in a brave, high-spirited manner to carry out the new line of struggle and strategic and tactical policies, and properly play the role of helmsman in their relevant units’ work.

They must eliminate such tendencies as taking administrative affairs upon themselves as they are engrossed only in economic work, and regard it as an iron rule to resolve all problems arising in the revolution and construction strictly in a Party-oriented, political way of giving full play to the spiritual strength of Party members and other working people.

In particular, the Organizational Leadership Department, Information and Publicity Department and other departments of the Party Central Committee should intensify Party-oriented, political leadership meticulously and offensively to implement the decisions of the Party congress.

Officials, the commanding personnel of the revolution, must fully discharge their responsibilities and duties in the vanguard of the advancing ranks. Their abilities and role decide the destiny of their units and sectors.

The manifold difficulties and trials facing our revolution at present and the great cause of building a powerful socialist country assigned to our generation demand that officials shoulder all the burdens and display extraordinary working ability, enthusiasm and devotion.

This is the very time which badly needs those officials who make painstaking efforts to reduce, even a bit, the concerns and worries of the Party and state, know nothing but the revolution and work and strive to do something for the good of the people, and expedite any tasks.

All officials, with a determination to prove their fidelity to the Party, revolution and people with their working ability and results in practice, must make completely new arrangements from the start of the grand journey after the Party congress.

Always remembering the expectations of the people, they must make redoubled efforts so that they can review their everyday result with pride and conscience.

They must learn with open mind what they do not know, improve their insufficient ability even burning the midnight oil and make increasingly exacting demand on themselves without allowing complacency and inertia, and thus bring about a drastic improvement in their fighting spirit and working style.

All the Party members must play the core, setter role in the effort for implementing the tasks set forth by the Party congress.

If they turn out with redoubled efforts to brave today’s hardship in the vanguard, there is no difficulty we cannot surmount nor fortress we cannot seize.

All Party members must play their part in the most difficult and labour-consuming work sites by carrying forward the soul and spirit of the preceding generations who won a great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with indomitable socialist strength and heroic struggle and successfully carried out postwar rehabilitation in a short span of time, even tightening their belts.

The heaviest and the duties entrusted to the newly elected members of the central leadership body of the Party and all the delegates here in carrying out with credit the sacred fighting goals and tasks set forth by the Eighth Party Congress.

The newly elected members of the Eighth Party Central Committee must remember the precious trust and expectations of Party members and other people at all times and at all places, and produce substantial results of their work by displaying a high sense of responsibility and devotion in the struggle for implementing the tasks set forth by the Party congress.

All the delegates must throw themselves heart and soul into and stubbornly struggle for making sure that the tasks set by the Party congress, which they personally discussed and decided on, are carried out without fail at their posts and workplaces.

The delegates, who know better than anyone else about the urgent requirements of the Party and the revolution, must deeply implant the idea and spirit of the Party congress in the hearts of the masses and arouse them by setting personal examples, so as to bring about a remarkable development in the work of their sectors and units.

Dear delegates,

We must be prepared to wage a more arduous frontal attack in order to achieve a fresh victory and brilliant advance of our socialist cause.

The hostile forces will try to check our advance more frantically, and the world will watch how the political declaration and fighting programme of our Party are realized.

As long as there are the burning loyalty and invincible might of the single-hearted unity of all Party members and other people and service personnel who support the ideas and decisions of our Party with their consistent actions and practices, we are sure to emerge victorious.

Let us all fight on more vigorously for the brilliant fulfilment of the fighting programme put forward by the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea, for the development of the glorious WPK, for the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche, and for our great people.
GENERAL SECRETARY Kim Jong Un of the Workers’ Party of Korea made a closing address at the Eighth Congress of the WPK:

Dear delegates,

The Eighth Congress of the WPK served as a congress of struggle and progress, which demonstrated the steadfast will of the revolutionaries to achieve the prosperity and development of our style of socialism with Juche spirit and courage and by invariably holding aloft the banner of the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

The congress made a close analysis of the subtle changes in the situations at home and abroad and the subjective and objective environment that influences our revolution, and correctly reviewed the work of the last five years. Accordingly, based on the new environment and revolutionary situation, it put forward scientific and correct strategic and tactical policies for readjusting and developing the foundations of the national economy and consolidating the state and social system, thereby clearly indicating the direction of advance of the overall work of the Party and the state.

I am convinced that this congress has provided a fresh motivation for our advance and set up a clear milestone and, therefore, it marked a turning point in powerfully propelling our sacred cause.

The Eighth Congress of our Party is of great significance as an important milestone and turning point in the strengthening and development of the Party.

Having gone through another great process in our country’s history, which the Eighth Congress of struggle and progress, which demonstrated the steadfast will of the revolutionaries to achieve the prosperity and development of our style of socialism without fail, with self-confidence, with unity and solidarity, with great enthusiasm and indomitable perseverance of the single-hearted unity of the Party and the masses, for the victory of the socialist cause, the revolutionary line and immediate tasks set by the Party congress from a noble standpoint and accept it seriously and with honour. We should thoroughly carry out the highly important tasks set by the Party congress without condition so as to bring about another upsurge in our revolution and provide our people with better and more stable living conditions and environment as early as possible.

We should arrange the study involving the whole Party for implementing the decisions of the Party congress so as to thoroughly accept the tasks and duties of struggle fixed by the Party congress, and wage a determined struggle so as to develop socialist construction onto a new stage.

The Eighth Congress at all levels should organize intensive studies for firmly arm- ing the people with the documents and decisions of the Party congress and conduct organizational and political work for implementing them, and work out elaborate tactics and wage a powerful struggle to implement the decisions of the Party congress.

They should galvanize Party members first into action so as to make them lead others to new miraculous achievements in their post role and make all the units and the whole country see with the efforts for implementing the decisions of the Party congress.

It is needed to organize the Party-wide study on the newly-revised Party Rules, and Party organiza-
tions should make efforts to establish a climate of observing the norms stipulated in Party Rules in every process and on every occasion of Party work.

Dear delegates,

Innumerable trials and difficulties are still challenging us, but our determination is de-

As in the past, so in the future, our Party will remain infinitely faithful to the people-first principle and do its best to continue to achieve fresh victory in socialist construction.

As the WPK holding aloft the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as its ever-victorious banner is correctly leading the revolution and construction and there is the invincible might of the single-hearted unity of the Party and the masses of our revolution will make steady progress, overcom-
ing every manner of difficulties.

Let us all advance dynamically towards a fresh victory of the revolution with strong confidence in the victory of the socialist cause, the revolutionary line and policies of struggle put forward by this congress will successfully be carried out and epoch-making progress will be achieved in the building of our own style of socialism, I declare the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea closed.
Kim Jong Un acknowledges the enthusiastic cheers of the participants in the military parade in January 2021.
Grand Artistic Performance
We Sing of the Party
in Celebration of the Eighth Congress of the WPK

In his message Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, said he, on behalf of the CPC Central Committee and on his own behalf, extended warm congratulations to Comrade Kim Jong Un and the WPK Central Committee on his election as general secretary of the Party at its Eighth Congress, and that he hoped the General Secretary would achieve fresh, bigger success by leading the Korean Party and people, and that his work would go smooth.

Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Bunthong Voraichith, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People’s Revolutionary Party and president of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, in their messages, warmly congratulated Kim Jong Un on his election as general secretary of the WPK at its Eighth Congress, and expressed their belief that the DPRK would be further consolidated and developed.

Raul Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, in his congratulatory message, expressed his belief that the Korean people would advance the socialist cause under the leadership of the General Secretary and wished success to the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, in his congratulatory message, hoped the General Secretary and the WPK would always make achievements in the work for the well-being of the friendly people of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un received congratulatory messages and letters from leaders of a lot of political parties of the world including the chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Russia, the national leader of the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist), the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, the general secretary of the PKP-1930, the national leader and the general secretary of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist), the general secretary and the international secretary of the Central Committee of the New Yugoslav Communist Party, the general secretary of the United Communist Party of Italy, the secretary general of the African National Congress of South Africa, the president of the Communist Party of Australia, the general secretary of the Islamic Coalition Party of Iran and the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belarus.

He also received similar messages and letters from the vice-president of the Brazilian Communist Party, the deputy general secretary of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana, the vice-director-general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, the secretary general of the International Kim Il Sung Prize Council and the International Kim Jong Il Prize Council, the director of the Asian Regional Institute of the Juche Idea, the president of the International Group of Italy, the secretary general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea and other personalities of political, public and economic circles in China, Russia, Nepal, Malaysia, Myanmar, Kuwait, Thailand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Turkey, Iran, Japan, Vietnam, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Belarus, Sweden, the UK, Italy, Romania, France, Austria, Spain, Nigeria, Uganda, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the US, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela and New Zealand, and representatives of organizations for the study of the Juche idea, organizations for support and friendship organizations.

In their messages and letters they expressed their warmest congratulations to Kim Jong Un on the occasion of the Eighth Congress of the WPK, and their belief that the WPK would lead the Korean people along the road of victory continuously under the guidance of the General Secretary.

In its congratulatory message sent to the Eighth Congress of the WPK the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China said that under the new situations the Chinese side is willing to successfully preserve, consolidate and develop China-DPRK relations, together with the DPRK side, guided by the important recognition of the top leaders of the two parties and the two countries, thereby providing the two countries and their peoples with greater happiness and making a fresh and positive contribution to achieving regional peace, stability, progress and prosperity. In the message the CPC Central Committee wished the Eighth Congress of the WPK a great success.

Meanwhile, the Central Committee of the WPK and the Eighth Congress of the WPK received congratulatory messages and letters from the general secretary of the Mongolian People’s Party, the general secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India, the international secretary of the Communist Party of South Africa, the secretary for International Relations of the Central Committee of the Spanish Communist Party and the general secretary and the secretary for International Relations of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Venezuela and many other political parties and similar party leaders in the world.
80-day Campaign Spotlights Eighth WPK Congress

The intensity of blockade and other preventive actions against COVID-19 increased following the expanded meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh WPK Central Committee held in the first half of the year. Consideration of the need to check the increasing of the virus-caused health crisis around the world where the outbreak of the virus continued to spread worldwide and the local health crisis took on increasing gravity, made it necessary to take emergency measures to fortify national disease prevention and control systems. The campaign aimed to raise every person’s awareness of the danger of the disease.

The campaign was launched in the face of the global health crisis, with the Workers’ Party of Korea organizing divisions in the areas of the Party members from the capital city of Pyongyang and the provinces of North and South Hamgyong, Cholla and Kangwon Provinces. The 12,000-odd members of the central and provincial Party organizations registered to be planning to highlight the idea that the Party is the main agency in the struggle for prevention of the world pandemic, building the public atmosphere of hard work to keep their state, themselves and their children safe from the danger of the disease.

The campaign called on the people and units to make their best efforts to develop and introduce the Korean style including the Korean disease prevention and control systems. The campaign was held to advance in the near future the reconstruction of hundreds of bridges, thousands and hundreds of broken road sections, many parts of irrigation waterways and structures and river improvement projects.

The successful completion of the campaign contributed to the revitalization of the entire national economy. The Party Central Committee set the main powerful target for local economic development by the end of this year. The workers of the general 12,000-odd member divisions of the Party members from the capital city of Pyongyang and the provinces of Hamgyong and the districts of North and South Hamgyong Provinces. The 12,000-odd members of the central and provincial Party organizations registered to be planning to highlight the idea that the Party is the main agency in the struggle for prevention of the world pandemic, building the public atmosphere of hard work to keep their state, themselves and their children safe from the danger of the disease.

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**I Sing in Praise of the Party**

ONE OF THE FAVOURITE songs of the Korean people is *I Sing in Praise of the Party* which was created in 2010.

This song in my heart
As the pearl lying deep in the sea.
You’re the loving sky
That has given me
The Star I yearn after
And trust with my life.
The Party, the deepest bosom
I’m nestling in, is my destiny.
You’ve given the highest glory
Of life.
I sing in praise of you.

Since its foundation the Workers’ Party of Korea has never been apart from the people, and advanced the revolution while regarding them as God. To the Korean people the WPK is the saviour of their destiny and the reliance of their mind. The course of the revolution and construction they have followed has not been smooth—there have been heavy battles, the sacri-

ces of the Party, the country, and the people. Thus they

rendered a considerable service to our people’s effort to adopt a militant and revolutionary way of life all over the country to bring the Arduous March and forced march to a victorious end.

In this way our People’s Army soldiers have fulfilled their mission as the army of the people on the forefront of defending socialism by displaying their revolu-
tionary optimism and militant spirit, whenever the country was in a hard time.

I believe our coming genera-
tions will advance unflinchingly for successful building of a pow-

erful socialist country while singing

revolutionary songs—just

like their older generations did.

In recent years the country

has been in a hard condition

all affairs of the revolution and construction to the promotion of the wellbeing of the people. So, whether they were happy or sad, the people would turn to the cause of the Party, and share their destiny with it.

In more recent years the country has been in a hard condition as never before, but the level of civilization the Korean people

enjoy has risen. Mindful of

books, Haebangaraj school things

and Sonamu satchels are sup-
plied to children equally. And monumental streets such as Kyo-

myong, Mirae and Unha streets appeared. And various bywords symbolizing new civilization have come into existence in its suc-
cess, including zeal for horse riding, zeal for skiing and hot spring culture.

Last year the Korean people had to undergo trials owing to the consecutive natural calamities, like those by floods and ty-

phoons, and the worldwide health crisis. The WPK, however, firmly

defended the destiny and future of the people in the country with ardent love for and devotion to them. Party meetings were held one after another to discuss and decide matters of crucial impor-
tance for the safety and happi-

ty of the people, and the state

mobilized and concentrated all its human, material and techni-
cal potentialities on the reha-

bilitation campaign. Thus, new dwelling houses mushroomed in a short span of time.

Today the WPK is pushing ahead with the building of a soci-

alistic power, absolutely believ-

ing in the future. The Party’s trust in the people makes them display their ardent zeal. Convinced that their future is rosy as they have the Great Party, the people are invariably singing the song.

Your red flag has brought up

Your sons and daughters

all as heroes.

As the flag reminds me of

your mother’s skirt,

I sing of your glory,

a lamp in my throat.

The Party, the dearest bosom

I’m nestling in, is my destiny.

You’ve given the highest glory

of life.

I sing in praise of you.

Yon Song Hui