

KIM JONG UN

**ON APPLYING THE
PEOPLE-FIRST PRINCIPLE**

**Foreign Languages Publishing House
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Juche 110 (2021)**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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PEOPLE-FIRST PRINCIPLE**

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**LET US BRILLIANTLY ACCOMPLISH
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(Excerpts)

**Talk to Senior Officials of the Central Committee
of the Workers' Party of Korea**

April 6, Juche 101 (2012)

...

We should boundlessly respect the people, regard their interests as supreme and take care of them with maternal affection.

True to the noble will of President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il, who regarded “The people are my God” as their motto, we should regard the people as our God, boundlessly respect them, give prominence to them and conduct every undertaking with their demands and interests at the centre. Party organizations, out of maternal feelings, should always value and love the people, guarantee their political integrity to the last and help them add lustre to it. Just as a mother does not abandon an ugly or mischievous child but is more anxious and concerned about him or her, so Party organizations should ensure that

all the people are embraced by the Party and feel the General's affection. They should not turn their backs on those who make mistakes while performing their tasks, but embrace them and educate them perseveringly so that they can add lustre to their life in the ranks of the revolution.

...

We should ensure that the priceless assets bequeathed by the General through a painstaking effort fulfil their potential, thus making our people who have invariably trusted and followed our Party the happiest in the world. This was the ardent desire of the General, and is the firm determination and will of our Party.

...

Officials should devote their all to the people. The people do not exist for the sake of officials, but officials exist for the sake of the people.

By learning from the President's and the General's view of the people, all officials should go among the people, sharing good times and bad with them, and make tireless efforts for their good. They should always put the people first in their consideration, direct primary concern to their livelihood, always think and work sincerely to solve the problems in their living and do more for their benefit. They should be true servants of the people who know nothing other than working for the people, are faithful and effective in undertaking it and find pleasure and pride in the efforts they make for them.

...

**LET US STEP UP THE BUILDING
OF A THRIVING COUNTRY
BY APPLYING KIM JONG IL'S
PATRIOTISM**

(Excerpts)

**Talk to Senior Officials of the Central Committee
of the Workers' Party of Korea**

July 26, Juche 101 (2012)

...

“The people are my God” was the General Kim Jong Il’s motto throughout his life. He said that if there is an omnipotent entity in this world, it is the masses, not any god; it was his patriotic creed that the country exists because the people exist. His patriotic mind was always filled with the word people. If it is the wish of the people, I will pluck a star from the heavens or grow flowers even on a rock—this was the noble expression of his affection for the people, and his will. Even now, whenever I listen to the Song of Affection for the People, describing how the General’s lifelong exploits that are as wide as the sea and as high as the sky were for the people alone, I cannot help shedding tears as I recall the benevolent image of the General who valued the people all his life.

...

**LET US USHER IN A GREAT
GOLDEN AGE OF CONSTRUCTION
BY THOROUGHLY APPLYING
THE PARTY'S JUCHE-ORIENTED
IDEA ON ARCHITECTURE**

(Excerpts)

**Letter to Those Attending the Grand Short
Course of Officials in the Construction Sector**

December 8, Juche 102 (2013)

...

Juche-oriented socialist architecture is, in essence, based on the principle of giving first and foremost importance to the masses of the people, who are responsible for the country's architecture. It is the people themselves who create it and benefit from it. So it is a natural requirement in construction to give top priority to the aspirations and demands of the people and their convenience and to ensure its perfect ideological and artistic value and usability in conformity with their emotions and aesthetic sense. In construction we should preserve the Juche character by applying the principle of giving first and foremost importance to the masses of the people, combine national identity properly with modernity, and build at an extraordinary speed monumental structures that will

surpass global standards and remain immaculate even in the distant future. This is the basic principle which we must abide by in construction and the core of the Juche-oriented idea on architecture.

...

In drawing the designs for a structure, primary attention should be paid to providing the people, its users, with convenience for their comfort and then to creating an environment and conditions with the highest levels of safety, hygiene, sanitation, culture and aesthetics. It is also important to constantly update the formative and artistic features of architecture.

...

NEW YEAR ADDRESS

(Excerpts)

January 1, Juche 104 (2015)

...

We should ensure that the people-first principle runs through the whole of Party work as appropriate for its nature as a motherly party, so as to make the climate of respecting, loving and depending on them pervade it and Party work focus on improving their living standards. All Party organizations and officials should eliminate abuses of power and bureaucratism, and take warm care of the people and lead them properly to make sure that the latter trust and rely on it as they would do their mothers, and throw in their lot with it.

...

Officials should faithfully serve the country's and people's prosperity and well-being with a noble outlook on patriotism and firm preparedness to conduct devoted service and, shouldering the heavy burden by themselves, redouble their efforts in the vanguard of the masses. With a full understanding of the Party's ideas and intentions, officials should go deep among the masses and rouse them to carry through its lines and policies unconditionally, even at the cost of their lives.

...

**THE CAUSE OF THE GREAT
PARTY OF COMRADES
KIM IL SUNG AND KIM JONG IL
IS EVER-VICTORIOUS**

(Excerpts)

**On the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary
of the Founding of the Workers’**

Party of Korea

October 4, Juche 104 (2015)

...

The Workers’ Party of Korea has been built into an invincible revolutionary party that serves the people and has formed an integral whole with them.

The leader, the party and the masses form a community in which they share their destiny in implementing the cause of the independence of the masses. Just as the masses cannot forge their destiny independently if they are separated from the leadership of the party and the leader, so the party cannot become a powerful political organization or satisfactorily perform its role as a political guide if it is separated from the masses.

Comrade Kim Il Sung ensured that the WPK was built into a mass-based party with workers, farmers and intellectuals as its component elements, that it oriented all

its activities to defending and realizing the demands and interests of the masses, and that it thus struck root deep among them and formed an integral whole with them.

Comrade Kim Jong Il ensured that the WPK developed into a genuine motherly party that takes care of the destiny of the masses on its responsibility, administered comprehensive benevolent and all-embracing politics based on affection for and trust in them, and thus formed inseparable ties of kinship with them.

The WPK has striven to take responsibility for the people's destiny and look after them with motherly affection, and to provide our people, who have supported it with single-hearted loyalty, with a rich and happy life. It has also led officials to eliminate such practices as the abuse of authority and bureaucratism and to work as true servants for the people.

As the WPK is fully discharging its responsibility and duty as a motherly party that serves the people, our people, regarding its embrace as a genuine motherly embrace, have entrusted their destiny and future entirely to it, and are displaying their loyalty to prove themselves worthy of its trust and affection.

The integral whole of the WPK and the masses based on the former's trust in and affection for the latter and the latter's absolute support for and trust in the former—herein lies the source of the solidity and might of our revolutionary ranks and the basic guarantee for all our victories. As it has been supported by the might of this integral whole, the WPK has been able to advance with confidence in sure victory against the trials and difficulties

facing the revolution and to perform its sacred mission in a splendid fashion.

...

Resolving all the problems arising in the revolution and construction by relying on the masses of the people, the motive force of the revolution, and on their efforts is the WPK's traditional leadership method, created and applied by the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

The might of the masses is immediately that of ideology and collectivism. The WPK has consistently adhered to the principle of formulating its lines and policies by understanding the demands and opinions of the masses and carrying them out by stimulating their thinking. It has applied the Juche-oriented theory that ideas are a key aspect of the revolution and construction and ideological consciousness decides everything. By doing so, it has given definite precedence over all other types of work to ideological work aimed at giving free rein to the people's spiritual strength and creativity, and ensured that the might of their collectivism and mass heroism are displayed to the full by launching mass movements of various forms on a wide scale at every stage of the developing revolution.

In the course of bringing about a continuous leap forward in the revolution and construction by relying on the masses and enlisting their spiritual strength, the WPK has developed into a seasoned revolutionary party possessed of unexcelled organizing ability and art of leadership.

...

The socialism that has been built in our country according to the Juche-oriented line of the WPK and under

its wise leadership is people-centred socialism whereby the masses have become true masters of the state and society and their demands for independence are fully realized.

Our people exercise their rights as masters in all spheres of state and social life, and the politics of respecting and loving them, that of giving absolute priority to their demands and interests, is administered in our country. As ours is genuine socialism for the people, people-centred socialism, they regard it as their lifeblood and work with devotion to beautify their socialist land and develop it into a thriving socialist country as soon as possible.

...

The entire WPK should hold high the slogan, “Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!” Cherishing the view of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il on the people, all officials should believe in them as in heaven, give prominence to them and become their faithful servants who always go deep among them, share weal and woe with them and work with devotion for their benefit.

...

**MAKING SELFLESS, DEVOTED
EFFORTS FOR THE GOOD
OF THE PEOPLE IS THE MODE
OF EXISTENCE AND SOURCE
OF INVINCIBLE MIGHT OF THE
WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA**

(Excerpts)

**Speech Delivered at the Military Parade
and Public Procession of the Pyongyang Citizens
Held in Celebration of the 70th Anniversary
of the Founding of the Workers' Party of Korea**

October 10, Juche 104 (2015)

...

Our Party has been able to propel the revolution over the past 70 years without flinching whatever the storms, achieving only victory and glory, because this great people have entrusted their own destiny entirely to it and followed it in faithful support of its cause.

The history of our Party is just the path travelled by our great people, its might is their might, its greatness is their greatness, and its victory is the victory achieved by them.

...

In the whirlwind of history, our Party has trusted our

great people only, and they have been its only supporters, advisers and assistants.

...

The Workers' Party of Korea is an invincible one that has achieved oneness with the masses of the people.

In the whole period of leading the revolution, our Party used to call the people first, lend an ear to their opinions, though simple, and draw unquenchable courage from their sincerity whenever it was trying to identify a course it must follow and whenever it faced grave trials.

The creative strength of the omnipotent masses was the source of the great miracles our Party worked while building a powerful socialist bulwark, independent, self-supporting and self-reliant in national defence, on this land where centuries-old backwardness and poverty had prevailed and ushering in a new era of building a powerful country in the face of pernicious blockade imposed by the imperialists.

Bearing full responsibility for the political integrity and material and cultural life of the people and taking care of them has been a matter of paramount importance for our Party and a mission it cannot neglect even for a moment.

That our Party, even in the worst situation decisive of the country's destiny, has prepared precious seeds and socialist assets for the happiness of the people through painstaking efforts and invariably pursued the people-oriented policies is an expression of the politics of love for the people that can be administered only by our Party that has shouldered the responsibility for their destiny.

As our Party has always regarded the masses of the people as the root of its life and as the source of its inexhaustible strength and given top and absolute priority to their interests, our people have followed it believing it as the genuine guiding light of their destiny and as their mother, and a grand flower garden of single-hearted unity has made its proud appearance on this land.

...

The great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is, in essence, the people-first principle, and the mode of existence of our Party is serving the people.

True to the ennobling intentions of the great President and General who administered for the first time in history the politics of prioritizing, respecting and loving the people and devoted their all throughout their lives to the good of the people, our Party will, in the future, too, strive to add glory to the sacred history of the people-first principle.

The entire Party will conduct its building and activities only as instructed by the great President and General, and make selfless, devoted efforts for the benefit of the people by thoroughly applying the people-first principle to its overall work, thereby enhancing its fighting efficiency in every way possible.

The genuine feature of the Workers' Party of Korea will be expressed in the appearance of the country that is transformed under its leadership and in the looks of the people who always smile happily.

The people are the most precious as they constitute the foundation of the country, and nothing is more sacred than their interests.

Our Party will cherish the people's sincere loyalty to it as the greatest asset of the revolution and bring earlier everything splendid of the future by shouldering all the burdens and clearing a thorny path for the sake of our brave, resourceful and beautiful people.

It will, in the future, too, endeavour to fulfil its heavy yet sacred mission as a motherly party that, full of infinite vitality and untiring zeal, invariably works with affection for the people and devotes its all to their interests. It will also remain boundlessly faithful to its basic duty of taking full responsibility for their destiny whatever the storms.

The Korean revolution advances not by dint of any mysterious divine power but on the great strength of our people including the heroic Kim Il Sung's and Kim Jong Il's working class who follow and safeguard their Party with a single mind.

The Party respects and believes in the people as in heaven and regards them as its mentors, and they boundlessly trust and follow it as they would do their mothers—this single-hearted unity is precisely the true appearance of Korea and the great foundation of the Songun revolution.

Our officials should imbue their hearts with the Party's intention of respecting the people and its affection for them, be infinitely polite to them and clear a path, whether snowy or muddy, to realize all their wishes. In this way they can ensure that cheers for the Workers' Party, for the single-hearted unity and for socialism resound throughout the country.

...

Comrades,

As the working people exist for ever, lasting justice and victory will be ensured by the struggle for the people and together with the people.

Regarding as a paragon the noble ideas and achievements of the great President and General, who devoted their whole life to training the people by believing in them as in heaven and exalted the brilliance of Korea, our Party will continue to love the people and fight for them, and strive to translate their beautiful dreams and ideals into reality.

Any challenges of history and frantic attempts by the enemy will never check the advance of our service personnel and people, who have achieved oneness with the Party, nor can they slow down the fighting speed of the Korean people, who are rushing forward towards a bright future, regarding the Party's revolutionary ideology and the blizzards of Paektu as the motive power for advance and the red flag of our dignified Party as the sail.

The world will see vividly how the Workers' Party of Korea gives full play to the strength and wisdom of our great people and builds a great Paektusan nation, which will be most prosperous and powerful on this planet.

As the great Workers' Party of Korea that believes in the people as in heaven, the people who are one and the same with the name of our sacred revolution and its 70 years of victory, is the locomotive leading the revolution and holds the switch weight of history, the avenue of the

cause of the Juche revolution will always be adorned with victory and glory.

I appeal to all the Party members.

Let us all make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the great people.

Long live the great Korean people, united single-heartedly around the invincible party, the Workers' Party of Korea!

NEW YEAR ADDRESS

(Excerpts)

January 1, Juche 106 (2017)

...

We should fully apply the people-first doctrine, the crystallization of the Juche-oriented view on the people, a people-oriented philosophy, in Party work and all spheres of state and social life, and wage an intensive struggle to root out abuses of power, bureaucratism and corruption, which infest the flower garden of single-hearted unity. We should resolutely thwart the enemy's sinister and pernicious schemes for checking the warm and pure-hearted aspiration of our people to follow the Party single-heartedly and alienating the Party from them.

...

Comrades,

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

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

sake of the people this year and make redoubled, devoted efforts to this end.

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

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

...

NEW YEAR ADDRESS

(Excerpts)

January 1, Juche 108 (2019)

...

It is necessary to unite the broad sections of the masses solidly around the Party by thoroughly applying the Juche-oriented view on the people, a people-oriented philosophy, in Party and state activities.

Party and government organs and working people's organizations should give top and absolute priority to the people's interests whatever they plan and whatever they conduct; they should lend an ear to their sincere opinions, prioritize their wants and anything beneficial to them, and strive to translate them into reality without any conditions attached. Anywhere, anytime and under any circumstances, they should make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, direct primary attention to their livelihood, and ensure that everybody benefits from the politics of affection and trust, the one of embracing and taking care of them all.

...

**ON SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION
AND THE INTERNAL AND
EXTERNAL POLICIES OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
AT THE PRESENT STAGE**

(Excerpts)

**Policy Speech at the First Session of the 14th
Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic
People's Republic of Korea**

April 12, Juche 108 (2019)

...

It is essential to apply the people-first principle to the letter in all aspects of state activities and social life.

This principle is a political ideal of regarding the masses of the people as masters of the revolution and construction, relying on them and making selfless, devoted efforts for their sake. It embodies the Juche-oriented revolutionary philosophy that the people are the most precious and powerful beings in the world; it reflects the unwavering commitment of our Party and the government of our Republic to love the people dearly and satisfy their demands and interests.

The people are the root of our socialist state and its foundation; and they are responsible for developing it. All

the activities of our Party and government organs should be wholly oriented and subordinated to safeguarding and realizing the people's demands and interests and faithfully serving them—this is the way to promote the revolution and construction with success and bring the viability and advantages of socialism into full play.

...

With a view to carrying forward and holding high the ennobling ideas and intentions of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, who believed in the people as in heaven and devoted their lives to the interests of the people, our Party defined the essence of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, the guiding ideology of our revolution, as the people-first principle; it then gave absolute priority to applying the Juche-oriented view on the people, a people-oriented philosophy, in the activities of the Party and the state.

The slogan “Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!” encapsulates the people-first principle maintained by our Party and the government of our Republic. In all spheres of state and social life we have given top and absolute priority to that which is oriented to the people and popular among them; and we have spared no investment in their wellbeing. In recent years our state has launched gigantic construction projects in a bold manner. This is not because there is a surplus of funds in the country's coffers; these projects are aimed at providing our people, who are the best in the world, with better conditions for leading a happy, cultured life.

...

In the course of the endeavour to apply the people-first principle in all the activities of the Party and the state and in all fields of social life, the Party, the state and the people have formed a community in which they share the same destiny with one another; and our Republic has advanced dynamically along the orbit of its development, never flinching in the face of unprecedented trials and difficulties.

As socialist construction progresses, we should pay closer attention to applying the people-first principle. Then we can double the dynamic for the advancement of our revolution and continue to demonstrate the advantages unique to our style of socialism, those which other countries cannot imitate.

That the Party and the state make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, and the people support their Party and state whole-heartedly, entrusting their destiny and future entirely to them, is the genuine features of our state, which embodies the people-first principle.

The government of the Republic will invariably hold fast to the people-first principle as the core of its mainstay, and, by relying on the strength of the people, strive to hasten the bright future of socialism that they aspire after.

...

**LET US BUILD A SPLENDID
PYONGYANG GENERAL HOSPITAL
TO MARK THE 75TH FOUNDING
ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORKERS'
PARTY OF KOREA**

(Excerpts)

**Speech at the Ground-breaking Ceremony
of the Pyongyang General Hospital**

March 17, Juche 109 (2020)

...

Our Party regards the people-first principle as its inherent nature and sacred political creed. So, protecting and improving the health of the people is a most pressing and honourable revolutionary undertaking, which it should shoulder and fulfil without fail, whatever the situation.

It is a source of the greatest happiness and encouragement for our Party that our people, the younger generations in particular, should be leading a healthy and cultured life by benefitting from the most advanced medical services provided under the socialist public health system.

In recent years, modern ophthalmic, dental and other specialist hospitals, as well as a children's hospital, have been built in Pyongyang. However, we cannot be satisfied

with these achievements, as they are merely like grains of sand on a mountain when compared to the lofty ideals and ambitions of our Party.

Now, with the mindset that we are starting everything from scratch, we should take the first step in building our public health service into one that is people-oriented and advanced.

If they had heard that a large, modern general hospital for our people was going to be built here, in such an ideal location in Pyongyang, Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il would have been delighted. The news will also bring pleasure to all our people, men and women, young and old.

The general hospital, when it is built, will be another priceless asset for better protecting the precious health and safety of our people. As a central base from which the country's public health sector can achieve a significant leap forward, it will serve as a springboard for consolidating and developing the socialist public health system.

...

**SPEECH AT THE MILITARY
PARADE CELEBRATING
THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FOUNDING OF THE
WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA**

(Excerpts)

October 10, Juche 109 (2020)

...

As I stand here on this emotive and delightful night that is brimming over with the great joy of all our people, I am afraid that I do not know how I should start to address them.

I carefully considered what I might say first at this moment, when we are looking back on every page of our Party's glorious 75-year history. But I have only one heartfelt, sincere word for our people: Thanks.

First of all, I thank them for being healthy and free from illness.

This is something I surely wanted to say.

I thank them for their good health, without any one of them having fallen victim to the malignant virus.

The fact that we have protected all our people from the harmful pandemic that is sweeping the whole world could be described as the natural duty and a natural success of our

Party. Yet I am moved by this success, and seeing how healthy everyone is I can find no word other than thanks.

This victory, which is admired by the whole world, is a great victory achieved by our people themselves.

For our Party, nothing is more precious than the life of every one of our people. Their good health is essential to the very existence of our Party, our state, and everything on this land.

However, in the world today, there are too many unstable elements threatening and attempting to harm the priceless lives of our people.

In fact, at the beginning of this year I was very worried, even fearful, owing to the onset of the global health crisis and the unfavourable situation surrounding us.

Yet our people rose up and, in a display of great commitment, expressed absolute support for and trust in the measures adopted by the Party and state. In this way, they not only resolutely safeguarded their destiny, but also bravely and with great vigour overcame the severe hardships and trials.

Were it not for such excellent people who worry about, care for and protect one another, and were it not for our socialist society in which these people work together in a spirit of patriotism and self-awareness, we would not have prevented the dreadful catastrophe.

All our people turned out as one in the struggle to defend their state, themselves and their children, voluntarily becoming the motive force in the infectious disease prevention effort. In this way the country's infectious disease prevention sector, which had been

backward and lacking in everything, could be revitalized, and stability in the face of the pandemic could be maintained that would be inconceivable to others.

I find it very gratifying and encouraging that everybody is living as part of a large, harmonious family, although they are not yet well-off, and that everybody is healthy, without a single person having fallen victim to the evil virus.

Of all the world's people, ours alone recognize and truly understand that when their state faces a difficult situation, they themselves should handle it by regarding it as a domestic matter.

On this planet, ours is the only country that is currently facing such huge challenges and difficulties, including dealing with the pandemic emergency and recovering from the catastrophic natural disasters, while everything is in short supply owing to the harsh and prolonged sanctions.

All these hardships are, without doubt, a heavy burden and a source of pain for every family and every citizen in our country.

However, our people are true patriots who place the affairs of the nation ahead of those of their families, who share with the state every difficulty it experiences, and who firmly support their country with their honest sweat and effort.

This is why our Party, in facing up to every manner of national hardship, believes in and relies on the people, since they always respond as one if it unburdens itself of a situation.

Our people have always been grateful to our Party. But

it is our great people themselves who surely deserve a bow of gratitude.

Over the past 75 years, our people have supported the Party with a single heart and defended our sacred revolutionary cause by shedding their sweat, and even their blood, unsparingly and without hesitation.

The secret of how our Party, in following a revolutionary road that is particularly arduous and beset with trials, has adorned this bloody road with victory and glory, is that our people have sincerely trusted and supported it and defended its cause.

It is impossible to conceive of even a moment of our Party's glorious 75-year history without our great people, the all-powerful creators of history. They have always offered it the wisdom and resourcefulness of a wise mentor, infused it with inexhaustible strength and courage, defended it at the cost of their lives, supported it sincerely, and turned its plans and lines into reality.

When it called on them to bring about a great upsurge, our great people responded with the mettle of Chollima; when it mapped out an operation for grand construction, they responded with a speed campaign. In this way, by going through fire and water, they unflinchingly carried out the Party's decisions. With such great people as a constant companion, our Party has always been resolute and able to record miracles in the annals of this nation, whatever the adversity.

In achieving the victory of the great October holiday, our people have overcome every manner of hardship by displaying boundless, loyal and filial devotion, an

indomitable fighting spirit, and sincere efforts. In their faces I see, with great pride, the overwhelming strength to follow and defend the Party for another 75 years, nay, 750 years, and even 7 500 years.

Comrades,

The trust our people have placed in me is as high as the sky and as deep as the ocean. But I have failed at times to live up to it satisfactorily. For this, I am truly sorry.

Thanks to the trust of all the people, I have been handed the important responsibility of leading this country, upholding the cause of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il. Yet my efforts and sincerity have fallen short of ridding our people of all the hardships they face.

Our people, however, have always believed in and fully trusted me, and supported every one of my plans and decisions.

Even though more suffering may lie ahead, our people's trust in me and our Party remains absolute and steadfast.

Their ardent, sincere trust and encouragement are my most valuable asset, which cannot be bartered for fame or millions of tons of gold; they are also a source of inexhaustible strength which motivates me to have no fear and recognize no impossibility.

Because I enjoy greater trust than anyone else in the world could even imagine, I have been able to confront without hesitation every challenge; in doing so, I have been conscious of my duty and will to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, throwing myself into do-or-die battles that could even lead to war, and acting

uncompromisingly in dealing with disasters on a scale unprecedented in history.

I will cherish it as the highest honour to have, serve and struggle for such excellent people.

Here tonight, I solemnly swear once again that I will live up to the people's trust without fail, even if my body is torn and crushed to pieces in the course of defending their great trust, and that I will remain faithful to it.

Dear guests, and all other people across the country,
Thank you, indeed.

I extend my thanks to you with humble reverence from my own heart, and from the hearts of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

Comrades,

It is our Party's and my own duty and steadfast resolve, first and foremost, to firmly defend our people, hold them in higher regard, and ensure that they lead a happy life with nothing to envy.

...

KIM JONG UN
ON APPLYING THE PEOPLE-FIRST
PRINCIPLE

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