

KIM JONG UN

**ON THE DUTIES OF THE
WORKING CLASS OF
KIM IL SUNG AND KIM JONG IL
FOR THE TIMES AND
THE TASKS FACING TRADE
UNION ORGANIZATIONS**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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Letter to Those Attending the Seventh Congress of the
General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea
October 25, Juche 105 (2016)

In this period of a revolutionary upsurge, when the whole Party, the entire army and all the people are stepping up the general offensive to hasten final victory in building a powerful socialist country, holding high the gigantic programme advanced by the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Seventh Congress of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea is being held.

This congress will constitute a historic occasion for demonstrating to the whole world the strength of our working class rallied firmly behind the Party and their confidence in sure victory. Also, by further improving the functions and fighting efficiency of trade union organizations, it will enlist the working class and all other trade union members in the Mallima advance of the new era.

I extend warm congratulations to the congress and wish it great success.

The GFTUK is a mass political organization of the working class that is faithful to the Party. As an organization founded and steadily developed thanks to the energetic leadership and deep trust of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, it is a powerful combat force in implementing the revolutionary cause of Juche.

With an understanding of the importance of the position and role of the working class in the revolution and construction, Comrade Kim Il Sung, after founding the Party following the country's liberation, formed the General Federation of Labour Unions of North Korea as a unitary political organization embracing broad sections of the working class. In every period and at every stage of the developing revolution he indicated the road ahead of the organization and wisely led it so that the

working class could perform their responsibilities and basic duties as a vanguard detachment in the revolution.

On the basis of the Juche-oriented idea on building working people's organizations, Comrade Kim Jong Il provided clear guidelines for developing the GFTUK into a reliable assistant and champion of the Party, and led it so that its organizations could fulfil its mission and tasks as a body providing political and ideological education. He lit torches for several mass movements, ensuring that the flames of collective, collaborative innovation flared up in socialist construction.

The great leaders called on the working class first whenever difficult and daunting tasks arose in the revolution, and ushered in fresh golden ages of the revolution by relying on them. Under their warm affection and trust and their wise leadership the working class and other trade union members could be trained into heroes of the times and the GFTUK could follow the road of loyalty alone, without changing course even when confronted with the whirlwind of history.

Cherishing absolute trust in and a revolutionary obligation to the great leaders, the working class and the GFTUK supported the Party and the leaders with loyalty, braving the serious ordeals and hardships in the vanguard. Holding high the banner of self-reliance, our working class, in the spirit of Chollima, built on the debris a socialist industrial state on this land in a short period after the war. In the trying days of the Arduous March and anti-US confrontation, they fought with a do-or-die determination and will and thus made a great contribution to the development of the self-reliant defence industry and to the cause of building a powerful socialist country. The world-startling, miraculous events including those of turning misfortune into blessing, that are now taking place in various parts of the country are associated with the sweat and blood of patriotic loyalty shed by

the working class and other trade union members who support the Party's leadership with one mind and will, standing shoulder to shoulder with the service personnel.

I extend warm thanks and militant greetings to the working class, other trade union members and officials of the GFTUK across the country who, believing only in our Party with a single mind both in good times and bad, have devoted their patriotic enthusiasm and wisdom to the prosperity of the socialist country, in answer to the call of the Party and the leaders.

Today our people are turning out forcefully in the grandiose struggle to build a powerful socialist country under the banner of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, as advanced by the historic Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In today's all-people general onward march, the working class, which is strong in the spirit of the revolution and organization and possessed of inexhaustible creative strength, should take charge and play a leading, pioneering role.

Our Party conferred the honourable title "heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il" on our working class in recognition of their loyal support for the great leaders' ideas and leadership. This title bears the unshakeable will and determination of our Party to carry forward in their entirety the idea of prioritizing the working class and the leadership of the great leaders who, by placing the working class in the vanguard, effected gigantic social and historical changes and tided over the hardships; it also reflects the Party's great trust and expectation that they will fulfil their basic duties as the working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il in implementing the revolutionary cause of Juche.

The heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, holding aloft the banner of modelling the whole society on

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, should become the engine driving the masses forward on the general onward march and an example for all other members of society to follow in stepping up the building of a powerful socialist country. This is the noble duty they have assumed before the country and the revolution in the new era of the Juche revolution.

Bearing in mind the great trust of the Party and people, our working class should creditably perform this honourable mission and duty as befits the advance force of the Juche revolution and the eldest sons of the nation who have been trained under the close concern of the great leaders.

If they are to fulfil their sacred duty before the times, it is important to bring about a decisive improvement in the work of the GFTUK.

The GFTUK is a powerful political instrument for training its members, including the working class, into Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists who are unfailingly loyal to the Party and the leader, and for mobilizing them to implement the revolutionary cause of Juche.

It should make modelling itself on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism its general task.

Our revolution advances and wins victories on the strength of the unity of the Party, the army and broad sections of the working masses. Modelling the whole Party, the entire army and all the working people's organizations, including the youth league and the GFTUK, on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is the very way to carry out the cause of imbuing the whole society with Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism. It is also the key to the final victory of the socialist cause, the revolutionary cause of Juche.

Modelling the GFTUK on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is a fundamental guarantee for making the working class revolutionary, developing them into an elite force and enhancing

their core leadership role in every way possible. When the working class, who constitute the progressive force and hardcore of our society, become the engine and play an exemplary role in leading its other members forward, the great cause can be successfully carried out of transforming all members of society and all realms of social life in keeping with the requirements of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

The Party's unified leadership system should be established more firmly across the GFTUK.

Modelling the GFTUK on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is an undertaking for developing it into a body that is ideologically pure and organizationally integrated, an organization over which Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism holds undivided sway and which moves as one under the Party's unified leadership.

The permanent guiding ideology of the GFTUK is the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism. The GFTUK should conduct its building and activities with this ideology as its sole guideline. It should staunchly defend the great leaders' ideas and theories on building trade union and their undying leadership exploits, and apply them to the letter. It should also carry out the instructions they gave in their lifetime, holding fast to them as its lifeblood.

It should remain infinitely loyal to the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea. Its organizations should adhere to our Party's ideas, lines and policies in planning and executing their work. They should establish rigid discipline and a strict order whereby all the problems that arise in their work are brought promptly to the Party and dealt with according to its decisions. They should defy death in implementing the Party's lines and policies. They should promptly transmit its policies and directives to the lowest echelons and carry them out in the shortest possible time and at the highest possible standard. Just as the eldest child empathizes with and supports his or her parents

ahead of his or her siblings, so the working class, who are the eldest sons of the nation, should take the lead in translating the Party's intentions and demands into reality.

Defending the Party Central Committee to the last is the lifeblood and a proud tradition of the Korean working class. One generation of the working class may be replaced by another, but their tradition of faithfully supporting the Party and the leader and the history of single-hearted unity should be carried forward for ever. The working class and other trade union members should absolutely trust and follow at all times the Party alone and throw in their lot with it to the last as the workers of Kunja-ri and Ragwon who worked indomitably for victory amid the flames of war did, by cherishing the firm conviction that they would surely win as they were led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, and as those of Kangson who guarded the Party and the leader at the risk of their lives did, by effecting the great Chollima upsurge. They should thoroughly defend the ideology and authority of the Party in the spirit they displayed in the postwar days when they safeguarded the Party, shouting that they would throw the factionalists into the electric furnace; they should never ignore or compromise with the anti-Party and unsound practices of every hue revealed in implementing the Party's policies, but resolutely smash them with an iron fist.

It is necessary to strengthen guidance of the organizational and ideological life in the trade union so as to prepare all its members fully as true Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists.

An organizational and ideological life in the trade union is a school for ideological education to train its members to be Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists and a crucible for organizational training. Trade union organizations should take the guidance of organizational and ideological life as their main line and give top priority to it.

Every effort should be concentrated on the ideological education of trade union members.

Trade union organizations should vigorously implement the five-point education programme advanced by the Party in order to make all their members people who are strong in ideas and faith, ardent patriots, vanguard class champions and the epitome of noble morality who are fully equipped with the ideological and spiritual qualities becoming of Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists. They should strive to educate their members so that they learn from the revolutionary soldier spirit and the spirit of the Paektusan hero youth. They should implant in them the Party's idea and line on prioritizing military affairs so as to ensure that they study military affairs with sincerity and remain alert and prepared at all times with the weapon of the revolution held firmly in one hand and the hammer of their class in the other. They should intensify ideological education and the ideological struggle, which are aimed at smashing the reactionary ideological and cultural infiltration by the imperialists and their followers. By doing so they can keep their members from being contaminated by the capitalist poison and lead them all to hold fast to the working-class stand and live and work in a sound and revolutionary manner.

Their ideological education should be conducted in various forms, by various methods and in a novel manner in keeping with their preparedness and characteristics. The Party's precisely-targeted method of ideological work should be applied positively in order to step up the ideological remoulding of the working class and other trade union members and make the whole country seethe with enthusiasm for effecting a great upswing. It is important to equip the educational bases of the trade union properly and conduct education by means of them in a planned and regular way. The education system set up in trade

union organizations should be used effectively, and every means and method of information and motivation work enlisted in carrying out the tasks prioritized by the Party, which are key policy-oriented tasks.

Guidance to the organizational life of trade union members should be intensified.

Trade union organizations should make scrupulous arrangements for guiding them in their organizational life, with the focus on improving their loyalty to the Party and the leader and in combination with the implementation of their revolutionary assignments. They should encourage them to get into the habit of participating voluntarily in an organizational life so that they always rely on their organizations in and out of work and implement the decisions and assignments of their organizations promptly and without fail. They should improve the level of the organizational life review sessions so as to make them an important occasion for educating and training their members in a revolutionary way.

They should establish rigid organizational discipline and make strict demands for an organizational life. They should arrange the organizational life in compliance with the union's Rules and the regulations of a union life and strengthen organizational control of their members so as to prevent them from living divorced from their organizations.

The working class and other trade union members should be enlisted in the building of a powerful socialist country.

Trade union organizations should conduct dynamic political work, information and motivation work, aimed at unleashing the spiritual strength of the working class and other trade union members who are taking part in socialist construction, and thus encourage them to perform fresh miracles. This will make it possible to help the working class and other trade union members

conduct a vigorous production campaign to implement the five-year strategy for national economic development, fulfil their daily, monthly and quarterly assignments without fail and become honourable Mallima riders who perform miracles of innovation in science, education, public health, literature, the arts and all other fields. They should also work with devotion at their workplaces, regarding them as outposts in the grand campaign to build a powerful socialist country, and thus create more assets that are conducive to strengthening the country's defence capability, developing the economy and promoting the people's well-being.

It is important in building a powerful socialist country to apply the spirit of self-development first comprehensively. Cherishing the firm conviction that our own things are the best and our own strength is the greatest, the working class and other trade union members should give full play to their fighting spirit of self-reliance so as boldly to effect the domestic production of the materials and equipment needed and the upgrading of the technical processes of production, and to create the highest standard of socialist civilization. With the self-respect and courage befitting the working class of Korea, everything they produce should be better than anyone else's, and thus the proclivity to imports can be swept away and the resourcefulness of the nation and the honour of the country demonstrated.

If they are to have a strong self-development capability and play the major role in the era of the knowledge-based economy, the working class and other trade union members should master modern science and technology. Nothing is impossible when the revolutionary spirit of the working class is combined with modern science and technology. The working class and other trade union members, bearing in mind the Party's intention to prepare all the people as intelligent workers, as scientific and

technical personnel, should enroll in the study-while-you-work system, such as in distance learning courses, and study hard to raise the level of their knowledge of modern science and technology and their cultural attainments. They should reject the tendencies to rely solely on experience and to think of technology as something mysterious, and they should present new inventions and valuable technical innovations, thus making a positive contribution to the scientific and technological development of their respective units and to the building of a knowledge-based economy. Trade union organizations should support and lead the working class and other trade union members so that they can stand in the vanguard of the campaign to make all the people well-versed in science and technology.

Trade union organizations should ensure that the working class and other trade union members conduct mass-based sporting, cultural and artistic activities on a regular basis and establish a cultured way of production and life, so as to create a new culture of the working class and make the whole society seethe with a vibrant spirit.

A mass movement is a powerful means for bringing about an uninterrupted upsurge in socialist construction on the strength of collective innovation. Trade union organizations should organize and briskly conduct socialist emulation campaign, mass technical innovation drive, movement to create model lathes following the example of Lathe No. 26, good-conduct movement and other mass movements as demanded by the reality of a powerful socialist country being built on a new level. In this way they can encourage the working class and other trade union members to devote all their enthusiasm and wisdom to socialist construction. They should set ambitious targets for the movements, with the main stress on implementing the strategic tasks advanced by the Seventh Congress of the Party and reflecting the aspirations and

demands of the masses, and strive persistently to attain them; then the vitality of these movements can be given fullest play. They should make sure that the working class and other trade union members have a correct understanding of the objectives of the movements and ways of achieving them, generalize positive examples and properly review and evaluate the results, so as to inspire them with an interest in and enthusiasm for the movements and enliven the social atmosphere.

It is an important task facing the working class and the GFTUK to strive for the realization of the independent reunification of the country and global independence.

The working class and other trade union members should equip themselves fully with our Party's line and policy on independent national reunification, and stand in the vanguard of the struggle to implement them. They should actively support and encourage the workers in south Korea in their struggle for anti-US independence, the democratization of society and their right to existence, promote solidarity and collaboration with the labour union organizations in south Korea under the ideal of By Our Nation Itself, and thus open up the road to independent reunification.

The GFTUK should defend and apply our Party's foreign policy idea and principles, encourage the progressive peoples of the world in their struggle for independence, peace and socialism, and develop relations of good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation with the trade unions in other countries and international labour organizations. In this way it can expand the ranks of the supporters of and sympathizers with our revolution and accelerate the cause of global independence.

For the successful implementation of the tasks facing the GFTUK, its organizations at all levels should be strengthened and their functions and role enhanced.

Guidance organs for the GFTUK should be developed, and their members should fully discharge their responsibilities. These organs at all levels should be formed of many hard-core trade union members working on the shop floor, as well as of officials of the GFTUK and from the administrative and economic sectors. The organs should work proactively to carry out the tasks facing trade union organizations and should give assignments to their members on a regular basis, thus making them active in their work.

The main link in the whole chain of improving trade union work is to enhance the role of its primary organizations, including those at the lowest echelons, which are the basic combat units in implementing the Party's policies for the GFTUK. They should give priority to work with their members so as to rally them all firmly behind the Party and inspire them forcefully to implement its policies. By working effectively with their hard-core, active members, they should remould the masses in such a way that one educates ten and ten, one hundred, and thus strengthen themselves. As for those members who have revealed shortcomings in their work and life, they should make earnest efforts to educate them and help them with sincerity, so that all their members can keep pace with the dynamic advance of the times, their hearts pulsating to the same beat. It is also necessary to step up the movement for creating the Model Organization of Loyalty and to organize on an extensive scale the campaigns in which one overtakes and learns from others and swaps experience with them, so that all primary organizations work with unabated vigour and the whole of the GFTUK brims over with enthusiasm.

Provincial, city and county committees of the GFTUK should enhance their role. Provincial committees of the GFTUK, as its regional guidance units, should establish a well-regulated

organizational life guidance system and strengthen control and guidance over their subordinate organizations, so as to make them functioning political entities. City and county trade union organizations should put the main emphasis on their internal work and work with the lower-echelon organizations, with the aim of steadily enhancing their fighting efficiency.

The Central Committee of the GFTUK is the General Staff responsible for the overall planning of trade union work and providing unified guidance over it under the leadership of the Party. It should take the great leaders' instructions and the Party's policies as its sole guideline and orient all aspects of its work to implementing them. It should ensure that its departments and sections cooperate with one another under a detailed plan, and exercise effective control and guidance over its subordinates.

The fighting efficiency and role of trade union organizations depend largely on the qualifications and work methods of their officials who are in charge of organizing and guiding trade union work.

Trade union officials should make efforts to improve their political and practical qualifications. They should equip themselves firmly with Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and be fully conversant with the great leaders' instructions and the Party's policies for their respective sectors, making them an element of their firm faith. They should become able political workers who are proficient in trade union work and skilled at organizing and conducting it creatively on their own initiative. They should acquire multi-faceted knowledge, including that of modern science and technology, and enhance their cultural attainments, mixing unceremoniously with the masses and enlisting them effectively in the creation of a Mallima speed.

Trade union officials should equip themselves fully with Comrade Kim Jong Il's work methods and apply them in

practice. They should follow the ennobling examples he set in educating and guiding the masses, and do everything as instructed by him. They should go down to the lower echelons as a matter of routine, mingling with the masses in and out of work and helping them and leading them forward. They should eliminate such outdated and backward methods of working as merely conveying the Party's policies to the lower-echelon organizations or confining trade union work to meetings and paperwork. Instead, they should always go deep among the masses, sowing seeds and harvesting fruit by themselves.

Party organizations should prioritize trade union work and throw their full weight behind it.

They should build up the ranks of trade union officials with able people who are faithful to the Party, popular among the masses, tempered through labour and possessed of practical abilities. They should pay close concern to educating these officials to ensure that they are fully aware of their basic duties and they should make strenuous efforts to fulfil their responsibilities and role. They should identify, among trade union members on the shop floor, those who are particularly loyal to the Party and promising, as reserve cadres of the GFTUK, temper them through practice and send them to training institutions so as to develop them systematically.

Trade union organizations should be encouraged to enhance their sense of independence and creativity. Party committees at all levels should promptly inform them of the Party's policies in each period so that they can conduct their work and activities in conformity with the Party's ideas and intentions. Party organizations should lead them to draw up their work plans in a proactive way and carry them out boldly. They should do away with the practice of shouldering the work of trade union organizations instead of them; they should be bold in assigning

tasks to trade union officials and inspire them to carry them out by their own efforts. They should provide trade union organizations with working conditions and give prominence and praise to their officials for the work done, so that they can work to the best of their abilities with a sense of dignity and honour.

When the working class redouble their efforts and trade union organizations are full of vigour, the might of our revolutionary ranks will be further strengthened and bigger strides will be taken in building a powerful socialist country.

I firmly believe that the working class and all other members of the GFTUK and its organizations will fully demonstrate the heroic mettle appropriate to the working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and make an active contribution to hastening final victory in building a powerful socialist country by fulfilling with credit the noble mission and duty they have assumed before the country and the revolution, true to the noble intentions of the great leaders.