

Long-standing Aspiration of Kim Jong Un

More than ten years have passed since Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs, started to lead the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In this period, which can be called a moment in history, the country has remarkably raised its overall national strength and strategic position and greeted a new era of prosperity and civilization. Witnessing this reality, some people may think that it is because the country's situation has improved in that period.

On the contrary, it underwent the worst-ever trials due to the unprecedentedly cruel sanctions and challenges by the forces hostile to it, consecutive natural disasters and public health crisis.

Kim Jong Un provided a physical guarantee, an absolute power, for putting an end to the moves for aggression and interference by the foreign forces and thereby realized the long-cherished desire of the Korean people to live in a land free from the threat of war and intervention by the outside forces.

To look back upon the history of the Korean nation, the country's rich natural resources and favourable geo-political location were the root cause of its misfortune. It suffered from constant invasion and interference by big powers and ended up as a ruined nation.

In the first half of last century the Korean people liberated their country from the military occupation of Japan (1905-1945) through an all-people resistance. But they were compelled to experience the tragedy of national division and have lived in a hair-trigger situation for over half a century owing to the arbitrariness of the foreign forces.

In the present merciless world which is governed by the law of jungle, the only way of the DPRK for its survival was to possess strong self-defence capability which no one would dare to defy.

With a courageous determination for everlasting prosperity of his nation, Kim Jong Un energetically led the effort to further consolidate the war deterrent in terms of both quality and scale and to step up the development and production of strategic and tactical means essential for defending national security.

Under his leadership the sector of national defence created world-shaking miracles one after another.

The country successfully test-fired newly-developed long-range cruise

missile, anti-aircraft missile and SLBM last year and this year hypersonic missile and *Hwasongpho 17* ICBM. This proves that its war deterrent, the capability for guaranteeing its security, has developed onto a new high level in terms of both quality and scale.

As was demonstrated in the military parade held in April this year in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, the DPRK is possessed of power with which it can crush any attempt of the hostile forces in advance.

It owes its tremendous self-defence capability not only to the modern character of its military hardware. The Korean People's Army is a powerful army which is well prepared spiritually and morally and capable of coping with war and crisis of any type on its own initiative.

Over the past ten years, the country has continuously achieved and expanded transformative successes under Kim Jong Un's leadership, successes which enable its people to enjoy the real benefits of socialist civilization.

Modern streets like Changjon Street, Mirae Scientists Street, Ryomyong Street and Songhwa Street were built in the capital city, and the city of Samjiyon was renovated into a model of modern mountain city. In addition, modern medical service institutions like the Okryu Children's Hospital, Ryugyong Dental Hospital and Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital and bases of cultural and leisure activities like the Rungna People's Recreation Ground, Munsu Water Park, Masikryong Ski Resort, Mirim Riding Club and Yangdok Hot Spring Resort were built.

While visiting the newly-built Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm a few years ago, Kim Jong Un said that it was his long-cherished desire to have a modern greenhouse farm built in each province and supply the local people with fresh vegetables of various kinds all year round. In his speech at the ground-breaking ceremony for a project to build 10 000 flats in Pyongyang held in March last year, he said that building 50 000 modern flats in Pyongyang was something the Workers' Party of Korea had long intended, prepared and aspired to, in order to provide its citizens with more cultured and stable living conditions.

In March this year when he visited the construction site of 10 000 flats in Songsin and Songhwa area which was near completion, he said with great satisfaction that he would soon see the people cutting a ribbon and moving into

new houses and that another wish of his would be fulfilled.

Whereas the city of Samjiyon renovated into a model of regional construction represents the prospect of cities and counties which will be transformed in the near future, the luxurious Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District in Pyongyang is clear evidence that the Korean people have already started to enjoy the highest quality of civilization in their daily life.

Construction of 10 000 flats is now under way in the Hwasong area in Pyongyang. According to a report, the area will be turned into a majestic community filled with tens of thousands of houses and service amenities within about three years. Meanwhile, a modern greenhouse farm, the biggest of its kind in the country, is being built in the Ryonpho area, which will provide vegetables to the population in Hamhung, which is the country's major industrial city and science hub, and other areas of South Hamgyong Province. The area of the greenhouse farm will be developed into virtually a rural district which encompasses about 1 000 houses of novel and various styles, schools, hall of culture and full-service facilities.

Housing construction is briskly under way also in the mountain gorges of the Komdok area, the country's leading mineral production base. 5 000 flats were already built last year and another 5 000 flats are being built now. It is reported that a total of 250 000 flats will be built in the area by 2025.

It is an ideal and objective of Kim Jong Un to bring about a drastic improvement in the people's living standards so as to ensure the Korean people enjoy the highest quality of civilization, and within 20-30 years' time at that.



Columns of KPA units marching in fine array across Kim Il Sung Square in
Pyongyang



ICBM *Hwasongpho 17*



Songhwa Street, an architectural group of 10 000 flats



Part of Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District