

President Kim Il Sung and an Ecuadorian

Umberto, general director of Voluntad publishing house in Ecuador, said, recalling what happened in the early 1950s.

“Before printing the pamphlets that my friend entrusted, I read them. The books were works by President Kim Il Sung of Korea. While reading them, I could not repress surging happiness and excitement at finding a new ‘bible.’ The works, which run through with man-centred ideas and affection for man indicate the genuine way of human life that humankind had desired, and give a glimpse of the ideal society in which all the people enjoy good life.”

Excited by the works, he immediately buckled down to printing the works. The printed copies evoked great sensations; phones in the publishing house rang continuously, letters were delivered to his house and people came to see him.

Expressing their impression, they asked him to print more of the works by President Kim Il Sung (1912-1994) of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Boundless reverence for President Kim Il Sung began to develop in him, and he just wanted to see him.

In 1974, he visited the DPRK and met him.

Appreciating his long journey, the President said thanks to him for supporting the cause of national reunification of the Korean people through publications in Latin America, continuing that he seemed to be meeting an old friend of his.

Umberto was deeply impressed by him as the latter received him unceremoniously and discussed with him, a mere publisher, political affairs of the world.

In October 1980, when Umberto visited Korea, the President knew that he would be celebrating his 50th birthday; he made sure that a birthday party was arranged for him.

One year, the President had a torte and a basket of fruits sent to Umberto’s second son, who greeted his birth anniversary on a visit to the DPRK; when his eldest daughter was going to marry, he ensured that gifts were sent to her, and invited the newly-wed to Pyongyang.

Umberto, who became sure that the DPRK under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung is an ideal society for humankind, published many works by Kim Il Sung.

Umberto did his best to give wide publicity to the great Juche idea, and now his children are following in his footsteps.