

The 5th International festival of in Praise of the Great Persons of Mt. Peaktu

The 5th International festival of in Praise of the Great Persons of Mt. Peaktu of People's Korea was held in a grand scale on 15th August 2017. The main significance of this international ceremony was the importance of celebrating it at the birth place of the great leader Kim Jong Il that stands as the decisive historical location of the upsurge of Korean People which is much important not only to them but also to the existing socialist camp in the world. I and Mr. W.A. Duminduwardena the General Secretary of Sri Lanka - People's Korea Friendship Society were invited to participate at this festival.

A few months prior to this invitation a special conference was held with the participation of foreign delegates under the guidance and consultation of Mr. Duminduwardena, the President of Sri Lanka Society for self Reliance (Juche) Studies and Deputy Director of ARIJI. Representatives from Japan, India, Bangladesh & Nepal took part in the conference.

It is praiseworthy that several meaningful and successful lectures over the self Endeavour policy of the North Korean people and the nucleolus programme of the Republic against the American suppress. This in fact is resurgence for the progressive socialist anti imperialist struggle.

I take this opportunity to offer our gratitude to the Sri Lanka - People's Korea Friendship Society for providing us this great chance of visiting North Korean Republic. This is my Second tour and Twelfth of General Secretary Mr. Duminduwardena. Except for Mr. Duminduwardena and me the other four members consisted of members of local government institutions and professionals of business field.

A week before the Korean tour a meeting of the representatives was held where the importance of the trip and the celebration and also preparation for the journey was discussed. Further, the exhibition of commemorative gift naming the great leader Marshal Kim Jong Un and great leader Kim Jong Il as great leaders of the 21st century organized by Sri Lanka - People's Korea Friendship Society was much significant for us. Accordingly we took off to Korea from Bandaranaike International Airport on 11.08.2017 and we were warmly received at Beijing Airport by Mr. Ri Kan Jin of the KSLFS.

On the 12th from Beijing we boarded an Air Korea Plane to fly to People's Korea. The plane was full with foreign delegates whom I noticed to be contemporary friends of our General Secretary Mr. Duminduwardena. We arrived at Pyongyang International Airport at 15:35 where all of us were warmly received by Miss Ri Mi Han the Secretary General of KSLFS who requested to inspect the commemorative gifts processed by the Society that we had carried with utmost safety. Accordingly, we handed over them to her. By this time all foreign delegates who arrived by this plane had assembled opposite the Airport to pause for a group photograph.

Then, we were taken by a luxury bus to Yanggakdo Hotel with international facilities situated in a special island at river Taedonggang by around 4:30 PM. I, President and Mr. Duminduwardena, the General Secretary were invited to a special meeting at 7:00 PM in the hotel itself, which was named as a consultation meeting attended by the two chief officials of all delegations. It was addressed by some officials. The American terrorism carried out by the imperial camp including America to topple the regimes of other countries and the security measures adopted by People's Korea to counteract such atrocities and the able leadership of great Marshal Kim Jong Un safe guarding the policies and governance of legends Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, were discussed in length.

On 13.08.2017 at 09:00 AM we were led to witness a most important and unique place named "Kum Susan Palace of the Sun" where the bodies of Late leaders Kim Il Sung, the founder of North Korea who gifted the philosophy of Juche and Kim Jong Il who created the Songun Policy, are protected and kept for public honour. My Personal view is that the bodies

of such great leaders should be secured for the benefit of the next generation. The sceneries were surrounding the entrance and the photographs depicting important past incidents of the two unique leaders provide a great pride. The two exhibition halls with commemoration souvenirs awarded by various countries for the two leaders were of great value.

Then, in order to visit Mt. Peaktu a prominent destination of this tour we took off by Air Koryo to Samjyon AirPort. On 13th night we were provided with board and lodging facilities at a hotel. A grand show hosted by a group of school children that night well displayed the cultural development of North Korea.

Then the next day we had the opportunity of visiting the place of birth of Kim Jong Il from where the Korean revolution was begun. All delegates wearing caps, flags, banners etc provided by the hosts reached the top of Mt. Peaktu H.E. Kim Ki Naam, Vice chairman of Workers Party of Korea graced this occasion.

This was my first visit but according to Mr. Duminduwardena he had first participated in this festival in the year 2002. While the delegates observed this attractive place they took part in a procession depicting the war like stance of People's Korea appealing the world community to safeguard the sovereignty of North Korea from imperialists' threats. On the 15th we had the chance to view the Samgyon Band Display. Also we were able to view photographs and videos of International festival held earlier and cultural & Korean revolution the whole day. On the 16th I and Mr. Duminduwardene as President and General Secretary respectively were invited to the special meeting of Solidarity Meeting with Korean People'. At this meeting, warm and loyal response was received for the Korean state leadership for the anti-imperial struggle and all the delegates consented to work against the American force called Regime Change.

They also commended distinctive leader Marshal Kim Jong Un for facing all the imperial forces fearlessly. It was also adopted to notify to the U.N. Secretary General to withdraw all economic and other sanctions enacted against North Korea. It should be mentioned that I personally witnessed the war like attitude of the local representatives on their faces. I recall the occasion we had to visit the place where the historical moment that divided Korea was dawned, travelling for three hours from Pyongyang city. Throughout the three hours journey we noticed how every inch of land has been cultivated with crops. This is a fine example for a country like Sri Lanka. The dedication of the government as well as the people for these cultivations is astonishing. The vision of the present leader Kim Jong Un governing the country on the platform built by the past leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il is praise worthy. We salute the people of North Korea who live happily & independently not caring the empty threat of America to a cent.

Long live D.P.R of Korea. Long live Kim Jong Un.

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