

Warm Feeling of Humanity Associated with the Institution of “International Kim Il Sung Prize”

The institution of "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" is the cream of ardent desire of the world progressive peoples to add glory to the immortal contribution made by the great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung** to humanity.

Long time before the institution of the prize, distinguished figures over the world including Vishwanath, an Indian Juche idea follower formed a group to institute an international prize that carries the name of the great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, with ardent desire to add glory to his contribution, making energetic activities in international arena. Nobody knows how many documents they sent and received through fax and telex and how many nights they sat up to communicate the organizations concerned and the Juche idea study groups.

Vishwanath, director-general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea who initiated "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" said. "Those busy days spent for the creation of the International **Kim Il Sung** Prize were the noble days of learning the greatness of the beloved President **Kim Il Sung** who had enjoyed warm respect of all people and were also moving days of feeling the warm devotion of the world's people of all strata for the creation of the International **Kim Il Sung** Prize, as the highest international prize."

Vishwanath is a well known progressive figure of India and activist for the international dissemination of the Juche idea. He is popular in India as journalist, advertiser and business man and as a winner of "National Prize", the highest prize of India. He was favored by Indira Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India. He is one of the first generation of the Juche idea followers who has worked long in the van of disseminating the Juche idea in India and all over the world, after he was awakened to the validity of the Juche idea.

He had long been thinking that if an international prize bearing the august name of President **Kim Il Sung** who enjoys respect of humanity is created, it would serve to make the international commendation relations to be sound and become a great event in implanting deep sentiments of respect for the great person.

This plan of his was connected with his unusual course of growth.

From his early days he worshipped saints, great men and heroes. This is perhaps due to the fact that in his early days he heard from his grandfather every evening about Hindi Saints and various legends and stories about heroes looking down the Vias river at the Bibi village in Hoshiapur District, Punjab State, India.

His worship for great man has become his strong philosophical faith that one has to have an outstanding great man as one's spiritual pillar to pave out the road of genuine human life, during his study at the faculty of journalism in Maiyo Art School and from his social experiences gained as journalist and through his ideological writhe. Though he read many biographies of great men till late at night in libraries and met many prominent political figures of India and heads of state, he could not find a great man he dreamed of. He writhed many a time with futility and at last came to the conclusion that it was the great tragedy of the human world that even though people were looking for a "savior of destiny", such a great person exists only in legends and religious bibles but not in actual life.

It was however a great fortune for him that he could know about the great leader President **Kim Il Sung**. In December 1973, ambassadorial level diplomatic relation was established between the DPRK and India and Korean Embassy was opened in New Delhi. Then he would come to the Embassy and read eagerly classic works of **Kim Il Sung** and books on Korea. In those days he learned that in Korea, there is a profound philosophy and great guiding idea that regards man as the greatest being and an outstanding leader who founded it. How deeply he was attracted by the Juche idea could be explained by the fact that in August 1977, he organized the Indian Juche Idea Study Society with Denith Singh, former Foreign Minister of India, as its president and the fact that he played key role in the seminar on the Juche idea held in Patna, not staying at home where his old father was facing death.

Recalling those days, he said that he could not stay at home to see the death of his father who pushed him off saying "your job seems to be not an ordinary one, you must think your social duty before your family obligation", telling that the Juche idea is exactly the whole of his life.

The more he was attracted by the Juche idea, the more hardly he could repress his desire to see President **Kim Il Sung**, the founder of the great idea. His dream came true.

Vishwanath always remembers September 15, 1979, the day when he was received by President **Kim Il Sung**.

President **Kim Il Sung** who warmly received his couple said that he called them to spend the whole day with them having lunch together since they would miss their home as that day was the birthday of Vishwanath. At that moment, he doubted his ears as he himself did not remember that it was his birthday because he was enjoying busy and interesting days in Korea.

The President congratulated his birthday and gave him precious gifts to be handed over from generation to generation. Vishwanath could not control himself for the strong emotion. The President spent the whole day having meals, walking together and boating together with them.

Later, he said about his emotion of that day as follows:

"We can never find such a great man as President **Kim Il Sung**. Our hearts were beating with the honor of meeting him in our guest house and pledged to be loyal to him to the end of our life respecting him as our father. We determined to live as Juche soldier forever as Korean comrades say."

He was imbued with the Hindu doctrine from his early age, so he would use religious terms habitually in judging any phenomena. So he would say with emotion that "The great leader President **Kim Il Sung** is the saint of saints who descended on the earth from the Heaven."

He wrote in September 1990 as follows in an article;

"No one can deny the truth that the sun is the source of all living matters for their existence and development. Likewise, the human world also exists and develops thanks to the sun. The sun means the leader whom the whole humanity respect and follow. However, according to my judgment, such a sun of humanity does not appear simply because people want it, nor comes at any time.

Fortunately enough we have become a proud people who live worshipping the great sun of humanity since we have in high esteem the great leader President **Kim Il Sung**. Indeed, President **Kim Il Sung** is the great man of great men who descended from the Heaven."

Vishwanath thought with burning respect for the President that it is his noble task and duty as contemporaries who live holding the outstanding great man in high esteem to disseminate the greatness of the President to the

whole world from generation to generation. So he initiated the publication of "**Kim Il Sung** Encyclopedia" and worked with all his efforts to publish this book to the world and now he initiated the institution of "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize". His initiation enjoyed support from his international colleagues and it became an occasion of bigger international respect for the President.

Some wrote poems, songs and books on his greatness while others expressed their wish to erect a gold monument in the centre of the Pacific Ocean to hand over the immortal exploits of the President for humanity forever from generation to generation. It was a great joy for such progressive figures of the world to hear the initiative to set an international prize bearing the august name of the President.

Alba Chavez, vice-Rector of Guayaquil University of Ecuador said as follows expressing her full support to this proposal;

"The International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" can never be compared with the "Nobel Prize" or "Lenin Prize", since it bears the august name of the outstanding leader who authored the Juche idea, the great idea shining the road of shaping the destiny of humanity and who made immortal contribution to the cause of human independence. I am sure with confidence that 'The International **Kim Il Sung** Prize' shall be the highest international prize not only in our times but also in the future."

A consultative meeting of initiators for the institution of this prize was held in early 1992.

Vishwanath recommended to organize "**Kim Il Sung** Foundation" and create and confer the "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize". After serious discussions, they agreed that the "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" should be awarded to those progressive figures who made special contributions to the cause of independence of the whole world, and the main stress should be placed on political and ideological appraisal rather than on bonus, unlike the other international prizes for the figures who made contribution to science and technology or the world peace. And they agreed to prepare ever-memorable gifts for the winner.

In mid-March that year, Vishwanath came to Korea. His purpose was to meet the President **Kim Il Sung** and report him about the plan of the broad people of the world to create the "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" and get his advice. But he felt his heart strained. It was because the President could refuse their desire as he was so modest. Vishwanath was at a loss. But he firmly believed this prize must be created in reflection of the world progressive humanity.

On March 19, 1992, the great leader received him.

The President warmly embraced him with big smile. At that moment, he felt parental affection from the President.

He became brave and told the President that they are going to create an international prize bearing the name of the President reflecting the unanimous desire of the world people.

But the President dissuaded it firmly.

The President was looking modest and after sometime he changed the dialogue to the greatness of **Kim Jong Il**, the people's leader. Vishwanath was moved deeply by the President who was lowering himself and nominating the people's leader.

As days go by the desire of various figures of the world to create "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" grew stronger. Stating that it was their noble mission given by the history and humanity to create an international prize

bearing the name of world's greatest man in his lifetime, they pushed ahead with the preparation for creating "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize".

Thus, the Council for "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" was inaugurated. In early April 1993, the Council opened its office in New Delhi and registered it to the Indian government. Vishwanath, Secretary General of the Council for "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" held a press conference and informed the press peoples at home and abroad of the formation of the Council and the creation of "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize".

This news was widely reported by mass media all over the world arousing great repercussions.

Shuhachi Inoue(Director-General of the International Institute of the Juche Idea), Guy Dupure (Secretary General of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea), Dorank Assifat Diasseny (Minister of Youth, Sports and Arts of Guinea), Alba Chavez (vice-rector, Guayaquil University of Ecuador) ...

The council members are all different in their nationality, race, occupation, belief, language and custom. But they are the same in respecting the President as the sun of humanity. For this community, they formed the Council for "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" and work energetically to make the whole world move along the strong current of independence. In those days together with the creation of "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize", progressive people of the world also ardently wished to create another international prize bearing the august name of the great leader **Kim Jong Il**.

Professor T.B. Mukherjee, Director-General of Asian Regional Institute of the Juche Idea said fervently to his colleagues as follows;

"I reckon that the 'International **Kim Jong Il** Prize' should also be created. It will be great joy to Juche idea followers and revolutionary peoples of the world who are striving for the final victory of independence of humanity under the outstanding leadership of Marshal **Kim Jong Il**.

We all should work hard to see the day when the two prizes shine the breast of all Juche idea followers and revolutionary peoples of the world."

These words deeply moved his colleagues and got their approval. At the international seminar on the Juche idea held in India on the occasion of the 50th birthday of leader **Kim Jong Il**, he also strongly appealed that the Juche idea seminar must be held in future, too, on the occasion of his birthday since they cannot think of the Juche idea authored by President **Kim Il Sung** apart from leader **Kim Jong Il**.

Deeply moved by the news of creating "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize", the progressive people of the world expressed their ardent desire that leader **Kim Jong Il** should be the first to win this honorable prize.

Shuhachi Inoue, honorary professor of Rikkyo University of Japan, the first recipient of "International **Kim Il Sung** Prize" said in high pitch at the awarding ceremony as follows;

"The leadership of HE **Kim Jong Il** is the basic guarantee at present for shaping the destiny of socialism and humanity. Therefore, it is none other than HE **Kim Jong Il** to have the greatest international honour first."

A stormy cheers shock the hall.

He is an economist of Japan who has unusually warm respect for leader **Kim Jong Il**.

On May 11, 1982 when he was received by President **Kim Il Sung** he told the President he would write a book on the Juche idea and leader **Kim Jong Il** whom he warmly respect as the lode star of humanity.

As promised he wrote a book with the title of "Modern Korea and Secretary **Kim Jong Il**". In the introduction of this book, he wrote that "this is a book a modern man must read", and those who read it commented that "It is the biography of **Kim Jong Il** written for the first time and a book explained the Juche idea in a modern way."

Inoue could not repress his emotion at the awarding ceremony of the "International **Kim Il Sung Prize**" recalling past days.

He received warm congratulations from his international friends. Among them were the head of a chair of Padue University of Italy, secretary general of the Greek Writers Union, head of a chair of Delhi University of India and many other prominent figures of the world.

His emotion reached the zenith when he was received by President **Kim Il Sung** on September 8, 1993.

On this day the President highly praised the efforts of the council members of the "International **Kim Il Sung Prize**" and congratulated Shuhachi Inoue, the first winner of this prize.

At this moment, he could not control his emotion. He could not believe at all to have the honour of being highly praised by the President, since it was like a dream to be the winner of highest international prize bearing the august name of the great man of the whole humanity.

The more the President highly appreciated him, the more strongly he felt that the greatest honour must be given to leader **Kim Jong Il** before him.

In his interview with the "Choson Shinbo" reporter, he said;

"I have been doing small things so far. I could not pay back throughout my life the love and affection I received up to now. But today I became the first winner of "International **Kim Il Sung Prize**" to be recorded in history. I think it is the expression of trust and encouragement of President **Kim Il Sung** and HE **Kim Jong Il** who expect me to work devotedly for the cause of independence of the whole world. The gold medal and the diploma of honour and the precious gift to be handed over from generation to generation as the family treasure—this is the eternal proof of my political life."

From then on, the winners of the "International Kim Il Sung Prize" are increasing year after year.

It is the conviction of all progressive people of the world who aspire after genuine life of independence to follow the Juche idea founded by the President and developed and enriched by Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

The "International **Kim Il Sung Prize**" shall shine forever in the hearts of humanity as the highest international prize with the strong support of the progressive people of the world and with the steady progress of the cause of independence of the whole world.