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**Congress of Struggle and Advance Which Will Mark Great
Watershed in Overall Development of Korean-style Socialism
Historic Eighth Congress of WPK Opens**









The 8th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) opened in Pyongyang, the capital of the revolution, on January 5, Juche 110 (2021) amid the great attention, expectations and aspiration of all Party members, people and service personnel across the country.

The WPK Central Committee convened the congress, the eighth of its kind in the sacred history of the WPK, in order to comprehensively and strictly review the work of the Party Central Committee, clearly reconfirm the exact orientation and duty in its struggle for winning a bigger victory in the socialist cause and take measures for substantial improvement, as required by the times witnessing a new upsurge and great turn in the development of the Korean revolution.

The convention of the 8th Congress of the Party, which will indicate the path to be followed by the Korean revolution in its fresh struggle, is an expression of our Party's firm self-confidence to lead the socialist cause to a next-stage victory. It also serves as a political event of great significance to be etched in the glorious history of the WPK's struggle.

In the period under review, our Party vigorously struggled for enhancing its leadership and fighting efficiency, realizing the great cause of building a prosperous country with strong army and more thoroughly applying the people-first principle to all fields of the revolution and construction, guided by great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

The 8th Congress of the WPK will discuss and decide on a fresh line of struggle and strategic and tactical policies for making a radical leap forward in the development of the Party and socialist construction on the basis of a scientific analysis of the trends of the developing revolution and the prevailing situations in existence.

Our people, who have absolutely supported and trusted the WPK, the ever-victorious guide, and faithfully upheld its idea and determination, are paying highest tribute and extending warm congratulations to its historic 8th Congress which will indicate the orientation of new development and progress in accomplishing the revolutionary cause of Juche.

At 9 a.m. Tuesday, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, the great head of our Party, state and people and outstanding leader of the Juche revolution, took the platform of the congress together with the members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party.

All the participants broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" in reverence for Kim Jong Un who is confidently leading the Party and people to shining victory and glory with his gifted wisdom, prominent leadership and strong courage and will.

Under the outstanding and seasoned leadership of the Party Central Committee led by Kim Jong Un, the revolutionary nature of the WPK as the guiding force of the revolutionary cause of Juche has become purer, a new era of self-dependence and prosperity, a brilliant era of the our state-first principle, has been ushered in, and the dignity of our Republic, its international prestige and overall national power have been put on a remarkably high level in the period under review.

The single-hearted unity of the Party and the revolutionary ranks has been strengthened in every way and the absolute superiority of Korean-style socialism with the people-first principle as its lifeblood and the brave spirit of Juche Korea advancing under the uplifted banner of self-reliance have been demonstrated to the world in the course of devotedly upholding the leadership of the Party Central Committee and standing and combating the unprecedentedly harsh trials and difficulties.

The congress was attended by the members of the leadership body of the 7th Party Central Committee and the delegates elected by the Party organizations at all levels.

Kim Jong Un made an opening address.

He paid the noblest respect and extended the highest glory to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in reflection of the boundless loyalty of all the delegates, all other Party members, and other people and servicepersons of the People's Army.

Taking a solemn oath on behalf of all the delegates that the congress will consistently remain faithful to the revolutionary idea and cause of the President and the Chairman, the great leaders who are the founder and builder of our Party, he declared the 8th Congress of the WPK open.

The National Anthem was solemnly played, instilling fresh enthusiasm for revolution and struggle into the participants who were gripped by boundless emotion.

Upon the authorization from the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Jae Ryong presided over the congress.

The congress elected its presidium.

The congress elected Kim Jong Un to the presidium in token of the unanimous will and desire of all the Party members and other people and service personnel across the country.

The participants in the congress gave enthusiastic cheers of "Hurrah!" in reflection of their ardent trust in and loyalty to Kim Jong Un.

Members of the presidium are as follows:

Kim Jong Un

Choe Ryong Hae, Ri Pyong Chol, Kim Tok Hun, Pak Pong Ju, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Jae Ryong, Ri Il Hwan, Choe Hwi, Pak Thae Dok, Kim Yong Chol, Choe Pu Il, Kim Su Gil, Thae Hyong Chol, O Su Yong, Kim Hyong Jun, Ho Chol Man, Pak Myong Sun, Jo Yong Won, Kim Yo Jong, Kim Jong Gwan, Jong Kyong Thaek, Kim Il Chol, Im Chol Ung, Ri Ryong Nam, Kim Yong Hwan, Pak Jong Nam, Yang Sung Ho, Ri Ju O, Tong Jong Ho, Ko In Ho, Kim Hyong Sik, Choe Sang Gon, O Il Jong, Kim Yong Su, Ri Sang Won, Ri Yong Gil, Kim Myong Gil, Kang Yun Sok

The congress nominated members to the platform.

Appeared on the platform were the presidium members of the 8th WPK Congress and officials of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee and exemplary officials of principal units who have made efforts to fulfill their responsible duty in the struggle for implementing the decisions made at the 7th WPK Congress during the period under review, amid warm applause by the participants.

Invited to the platform were Pak Yong Il, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, Ri Myong Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, and Pak Su Chol, chief of the Pyongyang Mission of the Anti-Imperialist National Democratic Front.

The congress elected its secretariat.

The following are the members of the secretariat:

Sin Ryong Man, Ham Ryong Chol, So Kyong Nam, Kim Pong Chol, Kang Jong Gwan, Kim Jong Min, Ri Hyong Jin

The congress approved the following agenda items:

First, Review of the work of the WPK Central Committee

Second, Review of the work of the Central Audit Commission of the WPK

Third, On amendments to the Rules of the WPK

Fourth, Election of the central leadership body of the WPK

A discussion on the first agenda item was started at the congress.

Kim Jong Un started a report on the work of the 7th Central Committee of the WPK.

All the participants are listening to the historic report on the work of the Party Central Committee with deep attention.

The congress continues.

Political News Team

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un Makes Opening Speech at 8th WPK

Congress



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un made an opening speech at the 8th Congress of the

Workers' Party of Korea (WPK).

The full text of the speech is as follows:

Dear delegates,

The Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, for which millions of our Party members have made preparations with sincerity and to which they have so looked forward with their hearts burning with patriotism and loyalty, has been convened at an important and crucial time in the development of our revolution.

First, in reflection of the boundless loyalty of you, dear delegates, and all other Party members, people and service personnel across the country, I pay the noblest respect and greatest glory to the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, the founder and builder of the Workers' Party of Korea and the eternal leaders of our Party, state and people.

Dear delegates,

Five years have passed since our Party and all our people started a new advance to attain the immediate goals and tasks the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea set forth for socialist construction.

In this period the unprecedented, worst-ever trials put great obstacles on the road of advance of our revolution, but our Party achieved great successes through tenacious and accurate practical activities aimed at implementing its fighting programmes.

During the period under review our internal force further expanded and strengthened, and the external prestige of the country was raised remarkably. This is a clear signal that a period of a new upsurge, a period of gigantic transformation, has arrived for socialist construction.

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK held in August last year made an in-depth analysis and judgment of the new trend of our developing revolution and the demands of the prevailing objective and subjective situations, and decided to convene the current congress of the WPK.

The convocation of the congress in the present-day arduous circumstances is a noteworthy political event of great significance in view of the influence it would exert on the change and development of the internal and external situations and of the future struggle of our Party, a socialist ruling party.

When the decision on holding this congress was made public, all the people across the country, engulfed by a great emotion, warmly supported it, and it dealt a telling blow to the reactionary forces of all hues, who were hostile to our cause and attempted to check its

advance.

It was because the convocation of the highest-level meeting of the WPK was an expression of its definite self-confidence in its capability for leading the revolution to another stage of victory, and constituted demonstration of its ardent will and solemn pledge to live up to the people's great trust and expectations by shouldering the future of the state and fully discharging its responsibilities and duties.

The Central Committee of our Party made it clear at home and abroad that it would make this congress a congress for work, struggle and progress.

This was a promise to the Party members and other people that it would strictly review its work in the period under review, explicitly decide once again the correct orientation and tasks of struggle for achieving fresh victories in building our style of socialism and take substantial measures to this end.

Never little are the successes our Party achieved in the revolutionary struggle and construction work over the last five years of arduous, yet glorious struggle.

By achieving miraculous victories and events noteworthy in the 5 000-year history of our nation after its Seventh Congress, the WPK provided a sure guarantee for reliably defending the destiny of the country and the people generation after generation and simultaneously achieved some meaningful and precious successes and foundations on which to promote economic construction and improve the people's standard of living.

However, though the period of implementing the Five-Year Strategy for the National Economic Development ended last year, almost all sectors fell a long way short of the set objectives.

Still existing are the various external and internal challenges that hamper and hinder our efforts and advance for fresh and continuous victories in socialist construction.

The key to breaking through the existing manifold difficulties with utmost certainty and speed lies in consolidating our own strength, our internal force, in all respects.

Proceeding from the principle of finding the cause of mistakes not in the objective conditions, but in the subjective conditions, and resolving all problems by enhancing the role of our motive force, the current congress is going to make a comprehensive and profound analysis and judgement of the experiences, lessons and mistakes we have made during the period under review and, on this basis, define the scientific goals and tasks of struggle, which we can and must accomplish without fail.

The successes we have already achieved are priceless for us, and so are the bitter lessons

that have been accumulated.

All these are things that cannot be bartered even for gold, and constitute valuable assets for achieving fresh victories in the future.

We should further promote and expand the victories and successes we have gained at the cost of sweat and blood, and prevent the painful lessons from being repeated.

In particular, we should be bold enough to recognize the mistakes which, if left unaddressed, will grow into bigger obstacles and stumbling blocks, and take resolute measures against their repetition.

This congress has been convened on the basis of this pluck and commitment.

If the Eighth Party Congress, a congress for struggle, carries out its work in a substantial manner and puts forth a correct line and strategic and tactical policies, the Korean revolution will greet an era of a new leap forward and upswing.

Also, the WPK's struggle for achieving national prosperity and people's happiness will switch over to a new stage with the congress as a watershed.

Dear delegates,

To make this congress a substantial congress for work, struggle and progress, the WPK Central Committee focused on the following issues over the past four months.

First, it conducted the work of making a comprehensive, three-dimensional and detailed analysis and review of how the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress were implemented and drawing experiences and lessons for future progress and development.

To this end, the Party Central Committee formed a non-permanent central inspection committee and sent it to lower units on a mission to learn about the actual situations there and carefully listen to the opinions of workers, farmers and intellectuals who are Party members and work in the field.

The non-permanent central inspection committee conducted the work in the way of dispatching its teams to provinces and, after grasping the actual situations there, dispatching them to ministries and central institutions by direction and sector to make brisk, comprehensive and detailed inspections.

The teams thoroughly examined all aspects of the actual situation including what was wrong, what was neglected among what could be carried out and what was implemented in a profitable way or formalistic way in executing the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress, and if there were shortcomings, what were their causes and what were the defects in Party guidance.

During the days when the Party congress was prepared, departments of the Party Central Committee and other Party organizations across the country submitted to the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and the preparatory committee of the congress reports of their work over the last five years and innovative and detailed opinions on the goals and plans of struggle in the future.

In the course of this, we confirmed once again the priceless truth that the masses are excellent teachers, and were convinced that it was right indeed that we had decided to take heed of the opinions of Party organizations and its members for the preparation of the congress.

What we did is of great significance in making this congress a revolutionary and militant one, both in name and reality, in which the general will of all the Party members will be embodied, and the decisions to be adopted by it become an organizational will of the entire Party.

As part of the preparations for the Party congress, we analyzed and reviewed the finances of the Party over the last five years and studied the measures for improving them.

And we made a profound study aimed at putting to rights the problems in Party Rules, which were a mechanical repetition of the outdated of the past or of others' and did not suit the present reality, in conformity with the requirements of the developing revolution and the principles of building a Juche-oriented party.

We also comprehensively appraised the work of the members of the leadership body of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK, and evaluated how much contribution they made to strengthening and developing the Party and the revolution.

In the lead-up to this Party congress, the basic Party organizations, provincial, city and county Party committees and the Party committees performing the same functions as the latter reviewed the work of their leadership bodies in an effective way and held successful meetings for electing delegates to the Party congress with the main emphasis on selecting the Party members who could play core roles in implementing the decisions of the Party congress in the future.

For the Eighth Party Congress, which would illuminate the road ahead of a new struggle for the Korean revolution, all the Party members and all other people across the country achieved brilliant successes by turning out as one in the 80-day campaign of loyalty after glorifying the 75th anniversary of the Party founding as a great auspicious event through a frontal attack for achieving a breakthrough, thus ensuring its successful opening.

The high political zeal of our Party members and other people, who made sincere efforts

to add glory and strength to their dignified Party before its congress, is an eruption of their extraordinary revolutionary spirit which can never be found elsewhere in the present world.

Last year was a quite difficult year; in the circumstances of the world public health crisis that lasted unprecedentedly long in history, they consistently ensured a thoroughgoing stable situation in infectious disease prevention by stubbornly overcoming the difficulties, maintaining the conscious unity of all the people in the effort and regarding it as a patriotic duty devolving on them; they also rose up in the struggle for recovering from the natural disasters and built more than 20 000 new splendid houses in different parts of the country. This great achievement left another proud page in our Party's record of struggle.

In addition, our Party members and other working people from all walks of life sent to the Party Central Committee the reports full of valuable successes they made at many theatres of struggle across the country.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and militant greetings to all the Party members and other people and service personnel across the country, who firmly defended the Eighth Congress of the Party with burning patriotic devotion and great victory by demonstrating on a higher level the might of their firm unity around the Party in the flames of arduous struggle for overcoming manifold difficulties.

And as I stand on this glorious podium, I would like to extend warm greetings to the organizations of our overseas compatriots, including the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan, and all other overseas compatriots.

On behalf of the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, I extend a noble tribute to all the patriotic martyrs, recollecting with deep reverence the revolutionary comrades who devoted their precious lives to the development of the Party, the prosperity of the country, the happiness of the people and the future of posterity, the unforgettable comrades-in-arms who failed to be present here.

Dear delegates,

Now we have gathered at this significant venue at a quite important and crucial moment with a very honourable and sacred mission.

We stand at a great turning point of leading the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered in Mt Paektu to another fresh victory and at a decisive moment of firmly linking the 75 years of ruling history of the glorious Workers' Party of Korea to its 80 years; we are here representing the destiny, future, resourcefulness and wisdom of millions of members of the Workers' Party of Korea and tens of millions of the Korean people.

We are all entrusted with an important mission to make our country more powerful and

wealthy and indicate to our people a shortcut to happiness in this world full of severe challenges and instability.

At this moment, the interest, expectations and hope of all the Party members and other people across the country are very great and high for this congress which will review the revolutionary work of the last five years and decide the lines of struggle and strategic and tactical policies for opening up a new road.

We should display the highest sense of responsibility and passion in the work of the congress in order to live up to the great trust and expectations of the people who have always shared their destiny with the Party, absolutely trusted and supported the Party and defended the Eighth Congress with unsparing, devoted efforts.

Attending this congress are 250 members of the leadership body of the Seventh Party Central Committee and 4 750 delegates elected by organizations at all levels throughout the Party.

Among them, 1 959 are delegates of Party and political workers, 801 delegates of state administrative and economic officials, 408 delegates of service personnel, 44 delegates of officials of the working people's organizations, 333 delegates of officials in the sectors of science, education, public health, art, literature and the mass media and 1 455 delegates of hardcore Party members involved in field labour.

Of them, women delegates number 501 and account for ten per cent.

Present at the congress are 2 000 observers.

Solemnly pledging, on behalf of all the participants in this congress, which constitutes the eighth one in the sacred history of the Workers' Party of Korea, that the current congress will remain thoroughly faithful to the revolutionary ideas and cause of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il,

Fully convinced that this congress will serve as a stepping stone and a historic milestone in making a radical leap forward in the struggle for strengthening and developing our Party, accomplishing the socialist cause, building up the national strength and improving the people's living standards, and

Hoping that all the delegates will participate in the congress with sincere, responsible and proactive attitude,

I declare the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea open.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un Starts Report on Work of 7th

Central Committee of WPK



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, started his historic report on the work of the 7th Central Committee of the Party at the first-day sitting of the 8th Congress of the WPK.

The venue of the congress was full of great excitement of all the participants who would receive the immortal programme for dynamically advancing the socialist cause under the uplifted banner of great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and illuminating the broad avenue toward a fresh victory in the Korean revolution.

In his report, the Supreme Leader of our Party, state and armed forces generally reviewed the work of the 7th Central Committee of the Party which has dynamically propelled the cause of building Korean-style socialism in the direction of great progress indicated at the 7th Congress of the WPK.

He said that he is going to suggest through the report the key line of struggle and strategic and tactical policies for the epochal advance of the socialist construction and other important issues arising in accomplishing the cause of national reunification, promoting external relations and strengthening the work of the Party after strictly reviewing the work of the 7th Central Committee in the aspects of success and mistake.

The Supreme Leader reviewed the shining successes achieved by our Party and people in the period under review.

He also analyzed the mistakes manifested in the efforts for implementing the 5-year strategy for national economic development and their subjective and objective factors.

Underlining the need to start the work for further developing the overall economy of the country under a new five-year plan, the Supreme Leader analyzed the present states of the key industrial sectors including metal, chemical, electricity, coal, machine and mining industries and set forth the tasks for future development.

The report continues.

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