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Editorial Bureau

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[Article not translated]

Political and Ideological

Achieving the State's Centralized Guidance is an Intrinsic Demand of Socialist Society
922D00034 Yangyang KULLOJA in Korean
No 8, Aug 91 pp 7-11

[Article by Chi Chang-ik]

[Text] In his historic document Our Style of Socialism Centered About the Masses Is Invincible, the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il profoundly explained that our country's socialism is a socialism of the masses of the people, which embodies chuche thought. He proved its great superiority and vitality while setting forth the unique idea of nation-building that guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state is an intrinsic requirement of socialist society.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK], pointed out as follows:

"Guaranteeing the Centralized Guidance of the State Is An Intrinsic Requirement of Socialist Society." (Our Style of Socialism Centered About the Masses Is Invincible, monograph, p 21)

To realize the centralized guidance of the state is one of the basic principles of state activity directed toward consolidating and developing the entire socialist society in conformity with its intrinsic nature and guarantee genuine democratic freedom and rights to the masses of the people.

Socialist society is a genuine democratic society that actually guarantees the people genuine political freedoms and rights. All the workers in the socialist society, in which the toiling masses of the people are the masters of state sovereignty and of the means of production, are equal members of the state and the society. They have equal political rights and participate in a manner befitting a master in the exercise of sovereignty and management of the state and freely carry out socialist political activities. The toiling masses of the people in the socialist society are completely guaranteed human rights by the state. The socialist state actually guarantees to the people all sovereign rights of mankind, from the right to work to the right to have food, clothing, and shelter, and to learn.

In capitalist society, however, where the exploiting class behaves as the master, democracy and unlimited freedom is exercised by a small number of exploiters. To the broad masses of working people, however, it is an anti-people society where a cruel dictatorship is practiced. In capitalist society, which ruthlessly tramples the struggle of the working masses for the right to life and democratic freedom, there can be no real democracy. The imperialists and reactionaries are espousing the bourgeois parliamentary system and bourgeois multiparty system as some kind of "democracy," but the real manipulators of the bourgeois parliamentary system and multiparty system who pull the strings from behind are the big monopoly capitalists. When the imperialists and the reactionaries, deem that the formal parliamentary system and multiparty system impede the preservation of their reactionary rule, they turn their back on them and institute a blatant fascist rule. This is precisely the real face of the so-called "democracy" in capitalist society.

In socialist society, where the masses of the people are the masters of the state and society and enjoy a worthwhile life while exercising real political freedom and rights, democracy is achieved through the centralized guidance of the state under the leadership of the party of the working class. Democracy in socialist society is intimately linked to the centralized guidance of the state. The centralized guidance of the state is the intrinsic requirement that makes it possible to synthesize the ideas of the masses into one will and to make all the people think and act according to the thought of the party and the leader. There can be no pure democracy apart from centralized guidance in socialist society, and there can be no centralized guidance that does not accord with democracy. Only by strengthening centralized guidance is it possible for the socialist state to accurately implement the lines and policies of the state that are synthesis of the ideas and demands of the masses and to overcome in good time all sorts of negative elements that infringe on democracy and to have the masses broadly participate in the management of the state. If the centralized guidance of the state in socialist society is denied and only pure democracy is advocated in a one-sided manner, mutually differing demands would arise. If that happens, the ideas of the masses of the people cannot be synthesized into one, and in the end the state would not be able to properly guarantee them democratic freedom and rights. Pure democracy that departs from democracy and runs counter to the thought and leadership of the party, the unified guidance of the state, can be nothing but bourgeois democracy and liberalism. For that reason, to deny the centralized guidance of the state in the socialist society, which is a real democratic society, opens the doors to the anti-socialist schemes of the imperialists and destroys the socialist life of the masses. If we really want to guarantee the people genuine democratic freedom and rights and smoothly accomplish their mission and duties in brilliantly exercising their sovereignty, we must grasp the centralized guidance of
the state as one of the basic principles of state activities and thoroughly guarantee it.

Achieving the centralized guidance of the state is an intrinsic requirement of the entire socialist society.

Socialist society is a society based on collectivism, and the life of socialism is in every respect collectivism.

Collectivism has always been the intrinsic demand of people—social beings who live and carry out their activities within the framework of social relationships. Inasmuch as they are social beings, people individually can forge their own destinies, but only within the social collectivity can they brilliantly forge their own destinies. Therefore, people have collectivism as an intrinsic requirement. Collectivism, which is the intrinsic demand of people, who are social beings, is the dominant thought of socialist society, which is a society in which the working class has appeared on the stage of history and transformed it with its class-oriented thought. State sovereignty and the means of production in socialist society, which is a society based on collectivism, are owned in common by the collectivity and are exercised according to the intent of the masses of the people. This is precisely one of the fundamental characteristics of socialist society that distinguishes a society based on collectivism from the exploiting society, particularly capitalist society.

In the socialist society, which is a collectivist society, the masses of people form a socio-political organism, help and lead one another and struggle together. For the masses—the real masters of state and society—to form a single socio-political organism and achieve their common objectives and ideals, the socialist society, which is struggling forward, requires, of necessity, the centralized guidance of the state. Only under the centralized guidance of the state can the thoughts and demands of the masses of the people, which are a composite of the one single socio-political organism be synthesized and thoroughly implemented by being transformed into the will of the masses themselves. If the socialist state should weaken its own centralized guidance function ever so slightly, various alien elements can take root and grow and swagger about. If that happens, it leads to the grave consequence of damaging the life and livelihood of the masses, which have been formed into a single socio-political organism. Only under the centralized guidance of the state is it possible to really guarantee an independent and creative life to the masses so as to meet the intrinsic demands of socialist society, which is based on collectivism.

In socialist society, in which the masses are combined into a single socio-political organism, the state takes responsibility for and looks after the livelihood of the people through centralized guidance. The state's taking responsibility for and looking after the livelihood of the people is the intrinsic superiority of socialism compared with capitalist society. In capitalist society the life of the people is organized spontaneously by individual considerations; bourgeois states are not concerned about whether people lose their jobs or are starving. This is because the capitalist society is based on individualism and the state does not take responsibility for people's lives and livelihood.

In socialist society, the state function of assuming responsibility for and looking after people's livelihood is achieved through centralized guidance. In the socialist society, which is a collectivist society, the function of centralized guidance is not a purely power function. Of course insofar as the socialist state is also a power organ which carries out absolute rule, it exercises its power function that accords with its characteristics. In socialist society, however, where the masses are the masters of state sovereignty, power is the power of the masses themselves and becomes the power of the people. For this reason, the socialist state does not act taking power as omnipotent. Rather, it sets forth serving the people as the important principle of its activities. The omnipotence of power is traditional to the states of the exploiting class, which achieve political domination over the people on the basis of individualism. The power of the exploiting class forcibly rams down the throats of the popular masses the ideas and demands of the ruling class and mobilizes their tools of power to obliterate the ideas and demands of the masses. In contrast to this, the centralized guidance of the socialist state respects equally the independent demands of the collectivity and those of the individual members of the collectivity and aims at executing its mission and duty as the genuine servant of the people, which assumes responsibility for and looks after their lives and livelihood. In socialist society, only by strengthening the centralized guidance of the state is it possible to carry out the mission and duty of the socialist authority as the representative of the independent rights of the people, the organizer of creative abilities and activities, the head of household which is responsible for the people's livelihood, and the protector of the interests of the people.

If one does not correctly guarantee the centralized guidance of the socialist state as the servant of the people, not only can the state not guarantee and look after the livelihood of the people, but it also brings the serious consequence of endangering socialism by creating a state of anarchy in socialist society. Today the imperialists and reactionaries, the enemies of the people, are wearing the mask of "democracy" and "protection of human rights," but the objective of their frantic opposition to the centralized guidance of the socialist state is precisely to destroy the unity and solidarity of the socialist society and damage the independent and creative activities of the people.

Therefore, if we want to solidify and continuously develop socialist society in accordance with its intrinsic requirements and to really guarantee genuine democratic freedom and rights to the people, we must thoroughly achieve the centralized guidance of the state.
In this way, the centralized guidance of the socialist state becomes one of the basic principles of state activities which arises from the intrinsic demands of the socialist society, and has collectivism as its life.

The idea that guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state is an intrinsic demand of socialist society—which was explained by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in his historic document “Our Style Socialism Centered About the People Is Invincible”—is a programmatic guideline that makes it possible to smash the anti-socialist schemes that the imperialists and reactionaries are today carrying out under the signboard of “democracy” and “protection of human rights” and to continuously solidify and develop socialist society so as to meet its intrinsic demands. By having it explained in the document that guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state is an intrinsic demand of socialist society, the way is flung open for further strengthening the centralized guidance of the socialist state and actually guaranteeing the people genuine democratic freedom and rights and continuously strengthening and developing socialist society.

Indeed, the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il’s explanation in that document of the idea concerning guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state is an immortal achievement that develops and perfects the theory of chuche relating to the building of the socialist state. It is a great feat that clarifies the future path of the struggle of progressive peoples for the socialist cause.

The idea that guaranteeing the state's centralized guidance is an intrinsic requirement of the socialist society is a truth proven by practical experience in the struggle of the government of the republic under the leadership of our party to consolidate and develop our style of chuche socialist system.

Our party has always devoted deep concern to the problem of thoroughly guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state to solidify and develop our style of socialism, which embodies chuche thought and highly display its superiority and vitality. And the party has wisely led the struggle for its attainment.

The most important problem in achieving the centralized guidance of the state is to guarantee the unitary leadership of the leader [suryong] over state activity.

The working-class state is an important component of the proletariat dictatorship, which moves under the unitary guidance of the leader. It is a political weapon guaranteeing unified leadership over socialist society on the basis of the leader's revolutionary thought. Therefore, only under the unitary leadership of the leader is it possible to flawlessly achieve the state's centralized guidance and for the state to carry out its activities so as to suit the ideas and demands of the masses.

Our party has firmly seized upon the epochal measure of creating a new state structure headed by the president in order to firmly guarantee the unitary leadership of the leader over state activity corresponding to the new environment in which the socialist system has been established and is being continuously consolidated and developed.

The emergence of a new state organ system with the great Comrade Kim Il-song as the president has made it possible for the unitary leadership of the respected and beloved leader to be achieved in state work and the activities of state organs and has made it possible for the unified guidance of the state to be brilliantly guaranteed in accordance with the orderly state structure. Thus, a powerful state discipline and revolutionary system and order have been firmly established under which the entire country and all the people move together as one according to the thought and intention of the leader.

Ensuring that the rank and file of government functionaries have been firmly managed and that they have thoroughly overcome bureaucratism is one of the important aspects of the leadership of the party in strengthening the people’s power organs and guaranteeing the state's centralized guidance.

Firmly managing the rank and file of functionaries of governing organs and enhancing their political and business attributes and improving their work method and work style is an important requirement for strengthening the state governing organs and enhancing their role and achieving the state’s centralized guidance. Our party has seen to it that the functionaries of state governing organs have been firmly strengthened with capable persons who have a high sense of loyalty to the party and the leader and have overcome bureaucratism, and who carry out their activities on the basis of the masses by going among the masses according to the requirements of the Chongsan-ri spirit and the Chongsan-ri method. Under the leadership of the party, our people's power organs have been continuously strengthened, and the work method and work spirit of the functionaries has been improved. As a result there has been a further strengthening of the state's centralized guidance aimed at actually guaranteeing the genuine democratic freedom and rights to the masses.

To thoroughly achieve the state’s centralized guidance, our party has wisely provided leadership so that the socialist law-abiding life has been strengthened. Making people move in a unified manner in accordance with laws and regulations and guaranteeing their common behavior is one of the intrinsic requirements of socialist society.

To strengthen socialist law-abiding life, our party has set up a revolutionary law-abiding ethos throughout the entire society, explained about strengthening the guidance of the people's power organs over law-abiding life, and provided wise leadership. Therefore, unified guidance of the state according to law has become more perfectly guaranteed, and the revolutionary law-abiding ethos has come to be thoroughly established throughout the entire society. Because of the wise leadership of the
party and the leader, which is directed toward guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state, under our country's socialist system the toiling masses have genuine political freedom and rights and are enjoying to their heart's content a rewarding political life and living a happy life, and our style of socialism is continuously being strengthened and developed to meet its intrinsic requirements.

Today, through their centralized guidance under the leadership of the party, our state governing organs are faithfully serving the people as the representatives of the sovereign rights of the masses, the organizer of creative abilities and activities, the head of household who assumes responsibility for the livelihood of the people, and the protector of the interests of the people. In the genuine state and social system, our people are the real masters of the state and society, and they actually exercise political freedom and rights. They are firmly fused into a single life in the socio-political organism in which the entire people are centered around the leader, and are enjoying to their heart's content a happy and fruitful life. Our people are struggling to continuously strengthen and develop our country's socialism, which is providing genuine life and happiness to them. By virtue of the heroic struggle of our people under the leadership of the party, our country's state-social system is soundly smashing the anti-socialist machinations of the imperialists and their lackeys and is highly displaying its superiority and vitality and continuously strengthening and developing it.

The worthwhile and happy life enjoyed by our people today as the masters of the state and the society and the fact that our style of socialism is being continuously strengthened and developed is significantly related to the fact that the state's centralized guidance is being continuously strengthened so as to meet the intrinsic requirements of socialist society under the leadership of our party.

We must even more thoroughly embody in all fields of state activity the idea that guaranteeing the centralized guidance of the state is an intrinsic requirement of socialist society, which was elucidated by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in the historic document Our Style of Socialism Centered About the Masses Is Invincible.

Above all, we must strengthen the people's political power in every way and continuously enhance its function and role. The centralized guidance of the socialist state is achieved through the people's power organs. Whether the state's centralized guidance is strengthened or not is significantly determined by how firmly the people's power organs are managed and how much their function and role are enhanced. We must firmly manage the rank and file of functionaries of the people's power organs and set up systematic work systems within the power organs and even more thoroughly establish a revolutionary law-abiding ethos and democratic life style. Therefore, we must perfectly achieve the state's centralized guidance and demonstrate socialist democracy across the board.

An important problem in guaranteeing the state's centralized guidance is to embody the revolutionary mass line among the functionaries of power organs and establish the correct work methods and work styles.

Inasmuch as the master of the socialist state is the working masses and the power of the state is the power of the masses themselves, state activities must be thoroughly based on the mass line and embody methods that organize and mobilize the masses to revolution and construction. Functionaries of power organs must overcome bureaucratism and become faithful servants of the people, working according to the demands of the Chongsan-ri spirit and the Chongsan-ri method and always serving the masses. Therefore, we must brilliantly accomplish our mission and duty as the head of household responsible for the livelihood of the people by thoroughly implementing the party's lines and policies by correctly organizing and mobilizing the broad masses of working people.

To firmly guarantee the party's leadership over the work of people's power organs is a basic problem for correctly achieving the state's centralized guidance. Only by firmly guaranteeing the party's leadership over governmental activities is it possible to achieve the state's centralized guidance in accordance with the thought and intention of the leader, who embodies at the most sublime level the ideas and demands of the working masses. We must firmly set up the party's unitary ideological system within governmental organs and establish a strong revolutionary discipline of moving as one under the leadership of the party.

We must make the socialist life of the people blossom even more fully and continuously consolidate and develop our style of socialism by thoroughly embodying in state activities the ideology and theory elucidated by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il concerning achieving the state's centralized guidance so as to meet the intrinsic demands of socialist society.

People's Absolute Support and Trust Are Source of Invincible Might of Socialism
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[Article by Cha Yong-chin; not translated]

Strengthening Social Ownership Is an Inevitable Requirement of Socialist Social Development
922D0003B Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean
No 8, Aug 91 pp 17-21

[Article by Kim Chae-so]

[Text] In his immortal classic work Our Style of Socialism Centered About the Masses Is Invincible, the
dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il once again stressed that in order to provide the masses with a free and abundant economic life above all we must strengthen social ownership based on the inevitable demands of socialist social development and the historical experiences of our country's socialism building.

Because the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has perceived the meaning and importance of ownership relations in the economic life of people and provided perfect answers to theoretical and practical problems emerging in the development of social ownership, the correct course has been explained for smashing all manner of machinations of imperialists and reactionaries and consolidating and developing the socialist system and providing an independent and creative life for the toiling masses, who have become the masters of the state and society.

Firmly grasping the banner of revolution and continuing to highly display the superiority of our style of socialism, we must hasten the ultimate victory of the chuche clause by firmly protecting and further strengthening and developing social ownership, thoroughly implementing the unique ideology and theory elucidated in that document by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The ownership system always occupies an important position in the social life of people. Whether the masses become the masters in social and economic life is determined by the economic system of the society, particularly the ownership system.

Of course, what is most important in the social life of people is the sovereignty of the state. Inasmuch as the sovereignty of the state is political control and the basic factor determining the position and role of people, whether the working masses occupy the dominant position in society or not depends upon whether or not the working masses hold sovereignty.

In addition to state sovereignty, the ownership of the means of production is also an important factor determining people's position and role.

The ownership system is a relationship revolving about the ownership of material wealth which binds people together. It is the basis of all social relationships and reflects most keenly the demands and interests of diverse social groupings and classes. For that reason, people's positions are determined according to who is in control of the means of production, as well as by state sovereignty. Only when the working masses carry out the socialist revolution and hold in their hands the basic means of production of the state is it possible for them to occupy the position of master in social life and to carry out independent and creative activities.

In socialist society, where state sovereignty and the means of production are in the hands of the working masses, if we want to provide a freer, more abundant life for the people, it is important to strengthen even further social ownership and socialistic ownership, which have already been firmly established.

By social ownership is meant the ownership in common by all the members of the society or group of the means of production and products. Ownership relations of the means of production are a basic factor regulating all economic relationships including the distribution, exchange, and consumption of products.

There are two types of social ownership of the means of production, which have different levels of socialization—ownership by all the people and cooperative ownership. But the one that plays the most decisive and leading role by far is ownership by all the people.

Ownership by all the people—socialist state ownership of the means of production and product by joint ownership of all the members of society—is the basic type of social ownership. All-people ownership is not restricted with regard to the objects of ownership, and when we reach the communist society, in which the sovereignty of the working masses will be completely achieved, it will be the only type of ownership remaining. In the case of cooperative ownership, the objects of ownership are limited to within the cooperative economy and it is a transitional type of ownership that must gradually be converted to an all-people ownership. From this, strengthening socialist ownership means continuously enhancing the guiding role of all-people ownership, state-ownership, which is the highest form of social ownership, and heightening the socialization level of ownership in the direction of continuously converting cooperative ownership to all-people ownership, and firmly enhancing its material and technical foundations.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, pointed out as follows:

"Strengthening Social Ownership is a Natural-Law Governed Requirement of Socialist Social Development." (Our Style of Socialism Centered About the People Is Invincible, monograph, p. 26.)

Strengthening social ownership emerges as an inevitable requirement of the development of socialist society, in which the working masses are the masters of society and everything in the society serves the working masses.

The reason that strengthening social ownership emerges as an inevitable demand of socialist social development lies in the fact that it is a basic guarantee for maintaining and consolidating the socialist system.

Socialist society is a new form of society born from the rejection by revolution of every sort of outmoded exploiting society and a superior social system that is distinguished qualitatively from the capitalist society. Preserving and consolidating the socialist system that has already been established is a foundation for
remolding and perfecting all social relationships and successfully achieving the sovereignty of the working masses.

If we want to preserve and solidify the socialist system, further enlarging and developing socialist ownership is urgently required.

Social ownership of the means of production performs an important function in strengthening the material and technical foundations that form the economic base of socialist society. Socialist society rests upon a socialist economic foundation. When we continuously strengthen the socialist economic base, we can continuously strengthen the political and socio-cultural systems and all other social systems in socialist society, not to mention the economic system. All manner of waste is also eliminated and all resources are utilized with maximum effectiveness, and new economic sectors and units are created and sectoral structures and sectoral infrastructures can be better perfected so that the country's overall economic life can be improved.

Social ownership is a foundation that gives rise to new socialist ownership. The more social ownership is strengthened, the more new socialist state-managed complexes and cooperative bodies can be organized and socialist society's economic base splendidly reinforced.

As the country's economic base is strengthened, the socialist system is solidified and becomes more vigorous and the country's overall might is strengthened.

Should the social ownership not be strengthened, the result will be that capitalistic elements in socialist society will gradually grow and later on will debase the socialist system itself. Whether or not social ownership—state-ownership, all-people ownership—is expanded and developed is an important problem that is linked to the question of whether or not socialism is protected.

Since socialism was originally created on the basis of the abolishment of private ownership of the means of production and the establishment of a socialist ownership system, socialist society cannot tolerate private ownership. Private ownership is an economic foundation that gives rise to all manner of suppression and exploitation and social evils—a material foundation that tramples the independence of the masses while guaranteeing the amassing of fortune by the exploiting class.

Even though we say we will build socialism, if social ownership—socialist ownership—is dismantled and the privatization of ownership and private management is facilitated, all manner of reactionaries such as landlords and capitalists of the old days and their descendants will again take over government power and the means of production, and the capitalist system that oppresses and exploits the people will be brought back to life. The way to protect the banner of socialism and aggressively accelerate socialist development lies in firmly preserving the state-ownership, all-people ownership and continuously expanding and strengthening it.

Another reason why strengthening social ownership is an inevitable demand of socialist social development is that it is a firm guarantee for being able to continuously develop socialist economy to a fast pace.

The endlessly fast pace of economic development is the objective inevitability of the socialist economy and the intrinsic superiority of the socialist economy compared with the capitalist economy. The capitalist economy, which is based on private ownership, has its ups and downs with endless recurrences of rises and declines and advances and retreats, but the socialist economy, which is based on social ownership, grows at a constant high rate of speed.

In the socialist society, since human and material resources are rationally utilized throughout the entire society and production and consumption connections among sectors and units and production links are correctly intermeshed and science and technology develop the revolutionary ardor of the producing masses rises, the economy comes to develop at a fast pace.

Social ownership of the means of production combines all production sectors and enterprises into a single economic organism and all workers have the same objectives and stakes and display the same high revolutionary zeal and creative positiveness in production. Therefore, if we strengthen social ownership of the means of production, we can grasp in a unified manner the production resources in the whole of society under the unified guidance of the state and distribute and utilize them in a planned manner, and we will be able to guarantee a rational balance among reproduction opportunities. In addition, we can develop science and technology at a rapid pace and lift the nation's economy onto a modern science and technology base and provide more favorable working conditions to the workers, who are the masters of the state and society.

Should we not overcome those transitory difficulties that arise in economic construction and destroy the social ownership of the means of production, the foundation of the socialist planned economy will collapse and the socialist economy will be degraded into a market economy.

The market economy can never be compatible with the socialist economy. Inasmuch as the market economy is an economy based on private ownership and individualism, it permits unlimited law-of-the-jungle competition and the law of value, with the result that it brings waste of social labor and continuous interruptions in the reproduction process. If privatization of the means of production in the interests of introducing a market economy comes to pass, the unity of economic development will be destroyed and severe imbalances will be created, bringing about a wholesale collapse of socioeconomic life.

That the rapid and continuous development of social production can be achieved solely by means of the socialist planned economy is a truth that has already
been proved by history. Only when social ownership is strengthened and all-people, socialist ownership of the means of production is more firmly established and a planned economy established throughout the entire state does the economy grow at a continuous, fast rate of speed.

Another reason that strengthening social ownership is an inevitable requirement for socialist development lies in the fact that it is an important guarantee for securing an equal and abundant material and cultural life for the masses.

Socialist society is a society in which everyone lives equally well, without a gap between rich and poor. One of the essential superiorities of socialism lies in the fact that the people are the real masters of the economy and they enjoy an abundant and civilized life.

If we want to guarantee a comfortable and civilized material and cultural life to the people, then the necessary social conditions and material conditions must be provided. Above all, the working masses themselves must be given a share of the material wealth that has been created, and all conditions for adequately supplying required goods to the people must be provided. No matter how many goods you produce, if the working masses do not become the masters of society and economic life, not only will the people not receive any benefits from it, but also it will bring aberrations to material life. If we want to smoothly guarantee to the workers the everyday necessities of life necessary for material life, the material conditions must be firmly prepared.

Social ownership of the means of production function as a social condition that can provide the working masses with abundant and civilized material and cultural lives. In the socialist society, in which everything in the society serves the working masses, the masses are the masters and creators of social ownership, state ownership, and the ones who enjoy all the wealth. The socialist state being based on socialist ownership, distributes and uses in a planned manner the wealth that have been created for the development of the whole society and the advancement of the welfare of the people and methodically raises the material and cultural life of the people. Therefore, the more we strengthen social ownership and establish a monolithic all-people ownership and firmly solidify its material and technological foundations, the more the social production will grow without letup and the material and financial sources that can boost economic construction and the livelihood of the people will come to be securely provided. As such sources grow, the socialist state can give more material benefits to the people and more extensively institute various people-oriented measures. Strengthening social ownership like this is a firm guarantee that will guarantee the people's ever-growing demands for a material and cultural life and systematically raise the people's standard of living.

Should we weaken social ownership, all-people ownership, and it should come to be privatized, class differentiation would occur in society, the exploitative relations of man by man would be revived, and inequality and aberrations in material life would be created. Private ownership is what inflicts all manner of misfortune and suffering—such as unemployment and poverty—on the people.

If we want to guarantee to the masses a worthwhile and abundant socialist material life, then we must go forward only along the path of protecting the all-people ownership system and continuously expanding and developing it.

The imperialists and the reactionaries are making a commotion about the “superiority” of the private ownership system and demanding that the socialist countries abandon their social ownership and bring back private ownership. What the imperialists and the reactionaries are referring to when they shout about the “superiority” of the private ownership system is uncontrolled cut-throat competition in order to make off with others' more wealth. The cut-throat competition based on private ownership indisputably gives rise to exploitation and oppression and reduces the workers to slaves of capital.

Our country's reality shows clearly that only in socialist society, which is based on social ownership, can the masses enjoy to their heart's content a free and creative life as the real masters of the state and society.

In our country, with socialist ownership becoming more expanded and strengthened with each passing day under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the economy and culture, science and technology are developing at a rapid pace. With the strengthening of socialist ownership, our people are enjoying a worthwhile, happy life as the dignified masters of state and society. Today's reality, in which our people know no problems or concerns and are all enjoying a happy life, proves clearly the justness of our party's policy of strengthening and developing social ownership. It shows that, no matter what adversities there may be, we must further expand, strengthen, develop, and staunchly protect the socialist ownership system, which was won with blood.

Our people are experiencing through real life the fact that only socialist ownership guarantees them a happy life, and they consider it vitally important and are devotedly struggling to strengthen and develop it.

We must continuously strengthen and develop social ownership, one of the precious gains of the revolution which were won with blood through a long, arduous struggle.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, pointed out as follows:
"We must successfully accomplish the historic task of establishing a unified all-people system of ownership by continuously enhancing the guiding role of all-people ownership and moving cooperative ownership towards all-people ownership." (Ibid p. 26)

The basic direction of the solution of the problem of ownership in socialist society is to ceaselessly expand and strengthen all-people ownership and elevate cooperative ownership to all-people ownership.

Establishing the unitary domination of all-people ownership by converting cooperative ownership to all-people ownership is one of the basic conditions for eliminating class differences between the working class and the farmers and achieving the complete victory of socialism. We must achieve the unitary dominance of a single all-people ownership as quickly as possible, by enhancing the guiding role of all-people ownership with respect to cooperative ownership.

To strengthen social ownership, we must enhance the state's economic organizer functions and continuously accelerate socialist economic construction.

Firmly consolidating and expanding the state-owned state-managed enterprises and strengthening their material and technological foundations is a firm guarantee for enhancing the leadership role of state ownership and guaranteeing a high speed of economic development.

We must thoroughly implement the party's economic construction lines and policies, further enhance the role of state economic organs, protect state ownership, and firmly equip state-run enterprises with modern technology and highly demonstrate their superiority and vitality.

Thoroughly adhering to socialist principles and methods in economic management is an important guarantee for strengthening socialist ownership and further solidifying and developing it.

The basic method for embodying socialist principles and methods in the field of economic management is to thoroughly implement the Taen Work System, which was created by the great leader. We must thoroughly implement the Taen Work System and thoroughly embody the principles of the party's revolutionary mass line and scientifiveness in economic management.

We must fully implement the "Theses on Our Country's Socialist Agrarian Problem," our party's great program of socialist agrarian construction, and aggressively push forward the work of converting cooperative ownership to all-people ownership. We must hasten the establishment of unified socialist ownership by implementing the agrarian theses and vigorously pushing forward in rural areas the three revolutions, ideological, technological, and cultural, and strengthening the organic combining of the two ownership forms.

Holding high the revolutionary banner of chuche under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, we must achieve a continuous upsurge in socialist economic construction and further hasten the ultimate victory of our revolutionary cause by vigorously carrying out a struggle to further expand and strengthen social ownership, socialist ownership.

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[Article by Sung Sang-sop; not translated]

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[Article by Kim Chong-ho; not translated]

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[Article by Chon Kun-sop; not translated]
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