

Kim Jong Un's First Foreign Visit

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea paid an unofficial visit to the People's Republic of China.

This first foreign visit by Kim Jong Un as head of state was widely covered by major media organs of the world. They reported that the news of his visit came as a shock beyond everyone's imagination, and that it was his first foreign visit made in a very delicate situation.

This visit solidified friendly ties between the two countries and created an international environment for securing peace on the Korean peninsula and in the region surrounding it.

What is characteristic of this visit is that it was made at lightning speed on the initiative of Kim Jong Un.

As is known to others, on the occasion of the 23rd Winter Olympics held in south Korea, he made a crucial proposal for improving the north-south relations and took unprecedented measures, thus creating an atmosphere favourable for reconciliation and cooperation on the Korean peninsula.

When the whole world was focusing their eyes on the rapidly-changing situation on the Korean peninsula and making predictions of their own on its future development, Kim Jong Un made a visit to China at lightning speed to the surprise of all.

The Chinese side put great importance to this visit and accorded him a warm reception with all sincerity.

All the ceremonies welcoming him were held at the highest level possible, and President Xi Jinping unprecedentedly invited him to a luncheon arranged in a family-like atmosphere, where the leaders of the two countries had a frank and meaningful talk. This showed that China also attaches great importance to the relations with the DPRK, which had secured a strategically important position, and intends to play a leading role in maintaining security in the region through strategic and tactical cooperation with the DPRK.

Visit to China by Kim Jong Un is meaningful in that it set up a new milestone in developing the friendly ties between the two countries on a new high and in further strengthening the strategic cooperation and unity between them.

During the talks, Kim Jong Un and Xi Jinping confirmed their common will to consolidate the friendly relations between the two countries, develop their respective socialist systems and

provide happiness and bright future for the peoples of the two countries.

The DPRK and the PRC have long maintained friendly relations.

Kim Il Sung, eternal President of the DPRK, and Kim Jong Il, eternal Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, visited China several times and laid firm foundations for the friendship between the two countries.

Through his visit to China, Kim Jong Un opened a broad avenue for further developing the relations between the two countries, the legacy bequeathed by the leaders of his preceding generations, and the leaders of the two countries expressly stated their will to expand cooperation and collaboration with each other.

The visit is significant in that it contributed to defending peace not only on the Korean peninsula but also in the Asia-Pacific and the rest of the world.

The Korean question is a product of foreign forces. This means that the stand and attitude of the countries responsible for the question have a bearing on it.

The situation on the Korean peninsula was very complicated and acute owing to the different opinions and attitudes of the neighbouring countries.

During Kim Jong Un's visit to China, the two countries exchanged constructive opinions about important problems on managing the newly created situation on the Korean peninsula and arrived at a consensus. Now, the situation on the Korean peninsula, which was spinning out of control owing to the different opinions of the parties involved has come to be stabilized, and an atmosphere favourable for securing regional and world peace has been created.

A foreign political analyst commented that Kim Jong Un's visit to China was a strategically well-calculated one which allowed him to take the initiative amidst the complex situation on and around the Korean peninsula and made a breakthrough in the US-led international collaboration against north Korea.