

# Let Us Restore the Dignity of Africa with the Strength of Independence

Prof. Jean MBONGOPASI Kinshasa University

## Introduction

At the moment when the great socio-economic changes are being made in the world, Africa gives an impression that it is still infected with conservatism although there exist different trends. African people failed to draw due lesson from their past mistake. We strongly oppose those African people who have left their destiny in the hands of Western countries and chosen the strategies that invite disasters in economic, social and scientific domains.

We would like to tell our simple thought to the brothers and sisters in Africa who suffer from poverty even today. Extreme hatred, division and poverty prevail in Africa. It is the time when we all unite and mobilize our entire efforts for the ultimate struggle to restore our dignity. It should be done through labour and the labour is an only way to do so.

The Chinese proverb says that "A wise man finds out his shortcomings himself but a fool asks the others." Therefore, Africa should not lament over its destiny but restore its past dignity and glory through labour. Such dignity and glory are those of Africa built by the great conquerors and builders, Africa built by many people including NzingaNkuvu and Ngongoluteta, Soumangourou Kante, Soundiata Keita and the kings in Egypt.

Inexhaustible wealth of Korea has been described in great numbers. The Juche philosophy transformed the Korean people and eventually transformed Korea. It would be better to say not "transformed" but "created". Since I found such excellent theory on man and society, I have considered how such model could lend assistance to restore dignity of Africa today.

## 1. The culture of “Independence” among the African people

We have witnessed the disastrous result of the policies for development in which the Western countries formulated and pilots disregarding the social, cultural and economic realities in African countries and the African governments approved.

The mission of African civilization advocated by the colonialists is based on the strategy to make the people in colonies to despise themselves and recognize that they are inferior.

Today, African people should reverse such tendency in all domains through the culture of “Independence”, in other words, freedom, independence and sovereignty. It is the most essential attribute of man to live and develop independently as the master of the world and his own destiny.

- In the cultural and economic aspects.

Colonization makes the African people to despise their own language and accept the barbarous, infidel, savage and incomplete statutes and thus hampered their development. African people should use their languages and give full play to the cultural superiorities to build the world in their appearance and in their own style.

Juche which is the philosophy of “Independence” and creativity clearly recommended that one should thoroughly rely on one’s own concrete realities when one apply the ideological system or theory of other countries. We have come to know the remarkable developments made in Juche Korea that chose the road of giving priority to heavy industry in the course of socialist construction. Korea built powerful and independent economy in a short span of time. Under the condition that the Juche is atheism and the general traditions of Africa can not be regarded as atheism, a problem is presented whether Africa today can choose such priority.

Even if we do not consider Korea as a model, I regard it is correct to recognize that there is a positive aspect in the policy of giving priority to heavy industry as it is indispensable to develop light industry and agriculture. The African people should hasten the industrialization in conformity with its potentials by manifesting the political consciousness. It is possible to do so only

when the traditional alliance is enhanced and cooperation is diversified.

As the Juche philosophy that enabled the Korean people to take responsibility for their own history illuminated, Africa should, first of all, win back its historic creativity which has been trampled down by colonization and project the future in order to realize its project to exist. Such future does not serve as that of other continents but it can not be disregarded to do so.

Cultural exchange with the other countries is important in perceiving and assimilating the culture of other countries, especially the positive values of modern culture. It is imperative to recover traditional values and principles through strenuous efforts to enable them to contribute to the independent restoration of Africa.

## **2. Aspects of education and ideological transformation.**

Today we recognize what the role and position of man are in the struggle against imperialism and flunkeyism, furthermore in the revolutionary transformation of society.

The theory of Juche insists the remolding of man, the performer and motor of social development in order to transform society in a revolutionary way.

Eventually, we are able to eradicate the remnants of outdated ideas and customs and create a fundamentally new spirit that can understand accepts new demands.

It is remarkable that President Kim Il Sung, the leader of the Korean people always insisted a verb "create". It means that all the revolutionaries should be the creation of a new society. Creation requires a creativity which can be formed only through the decisive ideological campaign against outdated ideas.

Education of African people is of primary significance in this ideological transformation. Education that awakens, encourage and liberate the people is needed. In other words, education that illuminates the road ahead of man and respect man's dignity is needed. It should not be the corrupted, racial and normal education but serve as the effective education that enables it to free

African society from all sorts of bondages.

#### Conclusion.

The Jcuhe idea constitutes the world cultural heritage of humankind and it is logic that only man can have high sense of responsibility. We consider that only creative man has such capabilities and the creation is a revolution. And it clearly define man's role in shaping his destiny and cooperation with social life. As a Cameroonian-Marcien Towa said, Africa should disarm the Western countries of its weapons in order to restore its dignity. The Western countries surpassed Africa in science and technology, industry and fiancé by dint of it. It is imperative to remove distrust and direct the efforts to attain object that coincides with individual demand.