



# BULLETIN

Embassy of DPR Korea in Abuja, Nigeria  
*11<sup>th</sup> January, 2018*

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## **Inter-Korean High-Level Talks Held**

Panmunjom, January 9 (KCNA) -- Inter-Korean high-level talks were held on Tuesday at the "house of peace" in the south side portion of Panmunjom amid great expectations and interests of all the fellow countrymen and people at home and abroad.

Present there were a delegation of the north side led by Ri Son Gwon, chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Country of the DPRK, and a delegation of south side with Minister of Unification Jo Myong Gyun as chief delegate.

At the talks the north and south authorities discussed in earnest the principled issues arising in successfully holding the 23rd Winter Olympics in south Korea and improving the inter-Korean relations, and adopted the following joint press release.

Joint press release of inter-Korean high-level talks Inter-Korean high-level talks were held at Panmunjom on Jan. 9.

At the talks both sides had sincere discussions of the participation of a delegation of the north side in the 23rd Winter Olympics and Paralympics and the improvement of the inter-Korean relations in conformity with the desire and expectations of all the Koreans and agreed as follows:

The north and the south agreed to proactively cooperate in ensuring that the 23rd Winter Olympics and Paralympics in the south side area would be successfully held, providing an occasion for enhancing the prestige of the nation.

In this regard the north side agreed to send a delegation of the National Olympic Committee, sports teams, a cheer group, an art troupe, a Taekwon-do demonstration group and a press corps along with a high-level delegation to the Olympics, and the south side agreed to provide conveniences needed for them.

Both sides agreed to open working-level talks with regard to the north's dispatching of an advance party for a field tour beforehand and participation in the Winter Olympics, and agreed to discuss a schedule in the way of exchange of documents hereafter.

The north and the south agreed to make concerted efforts to ease the military tension, create a peaceful environment on the Korean peninsula and promote national reconciliation and unity.

They shared the viewpoint that the present military tension should be ironed out and for this agreed to have talks between the military authorities.

They agreed to promote national reconciliation and unity by invigorating contacts and travels, and exchange and cooperation in various fields.

The north and the south agreed to respect the north-south declarations and solve all problems arising in inter-Korean relations through dialogue and negotiations on the principle of By Our Nation Itself.

For doing this, both sides agreed to have talks of every field along with high-level talks between the north and the south aimed at improving the inter-Korean relations.

## **FM Spokesman Flays U.S. Trumpeting about "Religious Freedom"**

Pyongyang, January 11 (KCNA) -- A spokesman of the Institute for American Studies at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK gave the following answer to a question raised by KCNA on January 11 as regards the fact that the U.S. Department of State re-listed the DPRK as a "state of special concern for religious freedom".

On December 22, 2017, Rex Tillerson, secretary of State of the U.S., designated 10 countries including the DPRK, China, Iran and Saudi Arabia as so-called "states of special concern for religious freedom" and following his designation, the U.S. Department of State issued its official statement on January 4 that it re-listed those countries as "the states of special concern for religious freedom".

The "religious freedom" much chanted like monk's prayers by the U.S. is nothing more than a means to seek internal disintegration and overthrow of systems in the countries that are not in its favor and hence the U.S. chanting of "religious freedom" is being subject to condemnation and rejection in many countries around the globe.

The U.S. is the world's worst state of religious oppression and discrimination that is indulged in acts of infringing upon the religious freedom and it even forbids citizens of some Islamic countries from their normal travels under the pretext of anti-terrorism. The U.S. has already lost any right to say this and that about religious freedom.

The DPRK is the most superior socialist state that legally guarantees the freedom of religions.

To us who have accomplished the great historic cause of perfecting the national nuclear forces with confidence in the final victory in the showdown with imperialism and the U.S., the stereotyped talk of "religious freedom" by the U.S. is nothing more than a scream of a loser. -0-

## **U.S. Denounced for Abusing Religion in Its Moves against DPRK**

Pyongyang, January 11 (KCNA) -- A spokesman for the Korean Council of Religionists issued a statement Thursday over the fact that the Trump group of the U.S. started a smear campaign against the DPRK under the pretext of "religious issue" from the outset of the new year.

The statement said:

The U.S. State Department in a statement of its spokesman on Jan. 4 re-listed the DPRK as a "state of special concerns for religious freedom" where "religious freedom" is seriously encroached upon.

This is the last-ditch efforts of those lost to senses, being taken aback by the DPRK's successful completion of its state nuclear force, and it is part of the vicious smear campaign to tarnish the dignity of the DPRK and its drastically enhanced strategic position over the religious issue.

The U.S. is a matchless monster state, the world's biggest rogue state devoid of any right and face to talk about religious freedom.

The religionists of the DPRK consider the U.S. to be a group of Satans and Asuras as it barbarously bombed and destroyed religious facilities in Korea like churches, Buddhist temples and cathedrals and mercilessly massacred a large number of religionists.

During the last Korean War, thousands of religious facilities that had existed in the northern half of Korea were leveled by the barbarous bombardment of the U.S. who often advocates "religious freedom" and hundreds of thousands of innocent believers were ruthlessly massacred by the American ogres.

The U.S. is keen on getting braced for a nuclear war against the DPRK while openly calling for "total destruction" of the DPRK and "extermination of the nation", thereby seriously threatening the sacred cradle of the religious life of the believers in the DPRK.

The U.S. is trying hard to insult the dignified DPRK and shake the faith of the believers in the DPRK while trumpeting about the "religious freedom". But it is nothing but an anachronistic wild dream.

The faith and will of the believers of the Republic who trust and follow the great leader, Heaven of Korea, as savior of the destiny remain unchanged and they are unbreakable.

The U.S. has to immediately stop the mean and vicious act of finding fault with the DPRK, being pursuant to the anachronistic hostile policy toward it.

The Korean Council of Religionists will strongly counter the U.S. ferocious tyranny and hostile policy toward the DPRK in solidarity with the religionists of different countries valuing love, peace and justice, in the future, too.