

KIM IL SUNG

**NON-ALIGNED AND
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
SHOULD SOLVE THE
AGRICULTURAL
PROBLEM THROUGH
THEIR OWN EFFORTS**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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NON-ALIGNED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SHOULD SOLVE THE AGRICULTURAL PROBLEM THROUGH THEIR OWN EFFORTS

Speech at the Banquet Given to Welcome the
Delegations Attending the Symposium of the
Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries
on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production

August 26, 1981

Respected delegates,
Comrades and friends,

The grand Symposium of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production opened today in Pyongyang, the capital of our country, with the progressive people all over the world showing great expectations for and interest in it.

It gives our people great pleasure that the first symposium on increasing food and agricultural production which is of great significance in the struggle of the peoples of the non-aligned and other developing countries to build a new society, has been convened in our country.

I warmly welcome the delegates from friendly countries and representatives of international organizations to this symposium and all foreign comrades and friends present here, and I heartily hope that the symposium will be successful.

This symposium is held at a time when we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the non-aligned movement.

Twenty years have passed since the heads of non-aligned countries met in Belgrade for the first summit conference with the sublime desire for peace and progress. Over the past two decades the non-alignment which appeared on the arena of history, reflecting the trend of our time towards independence, has covered the glorious path of struggle and played a great role in the international political life.

The non-aligned movement is an international movement of the peoples of the newly-emerging countries who fight for national independence and sovereignty, peace and social progress, opposing all kinds of domination and subjugation. The

sublime ideas of anti-imperialism and independence incorporated in the non-aligned movement have evoked the sympathy of hundreds of millions of people all over the world and vigorously roused the progressive people to struggle for freedom and liberation.

This movement has further expanded and developed its ranks, frustrating the vicious disruptive and subversive manoeuvres of imperialists, and steadily strengthened its might in the crucible of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggle.

Today the peoples of the non-aligned countries are striving to defend their national independence and sovereignty against all dominating forces, including imperialism, and to build a new, free and prosperous society, under the revolutionary banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

The food problem, that is, the agricultural problem, is a highly important and urgent one that the non-aligned and developing countries should unfailingly settle in building a new society.

Increasing agricultural production and thus solving the food problem provide the non-aligned and developing countries with an important condition for eliminating the consequences of imperialist colonial rule, consolidating their national independence and achieving their independent development.

The basic way of settling the food problem in these countries is to develop their own agriculture and thus attain self-sufficiency in food.

The food problem is precisely the agricultural problem. Without developing agriculture, one can neither solve the food problem nor get rid of dependence on and subordination to other countries.

The non-aligned and developing countries should regard agriculture as one of the major issues in building a new society

and they should work hard to develop an independent agriculture and increase farm production, by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

Today these countries are striving to solve the food problem, that is, the problem of agriculture, under the slogan of “individual and collective self-reliance.” We believe that this is very good. If these countries actively develop agriculture by fully mobilizing their own forces on the principle of self-reliance and strengthening mutual cooperation, they will be able to attain self-sufficiency in food.

Strengthening economic and technical cooperation and exchanges among the newly-emerging nations is of tremendous importance in developing agriculture and solving the food problem in the non-aligned and other developing countries.

Among the newly-emerging countries, there are those with good farming experience and advanced technology, those with a wealth of material resources and funds and those with particularly good natural conditions for agricultural production. If the developing countries make good use of these favourable conditions and possibilities and effect active mutual exchanges and close cooperation, they will be able to increase agricultural production quickly. Adhering to the principle of self-reliance, the developing countries should conduct lively exchanges and closely cooperate with one another, each contributing what it has—whether it is technology, material resources or money.

If they are to rapidly develop agriculture and successfully build an independent new society, the non-aligned and developing countries should strengthen the non-aligned movement still further.

The non-aligned movement is a powerful revolutionary force

which defends the right to independence and interests of the newly-emerging countries, and it is a strong tie which links and unites these countries for the same purpose. Only when this movement is strengthened, can the imperialist manoeuvres to control and exploit developing countries be crushed, and economic and technical cooperation and exchanges among the newly-emerging countries be realized satisfactorily.

For the strengthening of the non-aligned movement, all its member nations must hold fast to independence and closely unite behind the banner of anti-imperialism and independence. When all non-aligned countries refuse to follow any dominating forces, maintain a principled stand towards imperialism and firmly unite in their struggle, regardless of the differences in ideas, systems and religious beliefs, the non-aligned movement will, with an unbreakable vitality, champion the interests of the peoples of the newly-emerging countries more creditably on the international arena and powerfully encourage the developing countries in their struggle to build a new society.

Delegates,

Our nation is a member of the non-aligned movement and one of the developing countries. It has a past and aspirations similar to those of many newly-emerging nations of the world and is struggling to build an independent, prosperous and new society.

Formerly, our country was a very backward agricultural colony. When it was liberated from Japanese imperialist colonial rule, the material and technical foundations of its agriculture were very weak, and the people were very badly off. Therefore, on the very day we started building a new society we regarded the solution to the rural problem as our major task, and ever since have made great efforts to develop agriculture.

We set up an advanced rural economic system and, on this basis, have striven for a rapid development of agricultural production by vigorously carrying on the technological transformation of agriculture and widely applying advanced farming methods.

We defined irrigation, electrification, mechanization and chemicalization as the basic tasks of the rural technical revolution, which we have strenuously carried on.

In carrying out the rural technical revolution, our Party maintained the policy of giving priority to irrigation in view of the specific conditions of our country and the characteristics of agricultural production. We carried out nationwide irrigation construction, afforestation and flood control projects in a big way. In this way, we have completely resolved the water problem which is of great significance in agricultural production, and laid solid foundations for farming safely, free from drought and flood damages in any weather conditions. Along with this, we have pushed ahead with the electrification, mechanization and chemicalization of agriculture. As a result, all our farm villages are now receiving electricity supplies, and our farmers, freed from laborious work, are doing nearly all farm work with the help of machinery and chemical means.

We have evolved a scientific farming method in keeping with the specific scene of our country based on the brilliant achievement in the rural technical revolution. We have widely applied this method and thus brought about an epochal change in agricultural production.

The new farming method applied in our country is now called the Juche farming method. This method is scientific in that it is a method of growing crops on a scientific and technological basis—in conformity to the climatic and soil

conditions of our country and to the biological characteristics of crops. It is a method of cultivating crops most intensively by drawing on modern science and technology. The Juche farming method enables us to use most effectively the land, water, farm machinery, chemical fertilizers and other means of agricultural production so as to raise per-unit-area yields; it enables us to successfully overcome the influence of cold front and reap rich crops always without risk. The brilliant success achieved in our agricultural production in recent years is a patent proof of the advantage and vitality of the Juche farming method.

The splendid achievement in the development of our agriculture is due to our Party's unique line and correct leadership and our people's heroic struggle to carry out the Party's line.

Our agriculture is now developing quickly on the strength of the advanced system of the socialist rural economy and the solid material and technical foundations, and our agricultural production has attained a very high level. The problem of food was completely solved long ago. Our country has been definitely transformed from a land short of food into a land with enough provisions and even provisions to spare.

The experience of our country clearly shows that if correct lines and policies are adopted to suit the legitimate law of social progress and the specific conditions of one's own country and they are carried out by mobilizing the efforts and talents of the masses of the people on the principle of self-reliance, even the underdeveloped countries will be fully able to develop agriculture, attain self-sufficiency in food and find a good solution to the rural problem.

Esteemed delegates,

It is very useful that delegates from non-aligned and

developing countries fighting for the building of a new society under the banner of independence are gathered together with a common desire, to share experience with each other and discuss solutions to the food and agricultural problems which need urgent attention.

This symposium on increasing food and agricultural production will be an important occasion in promoting agricultural development in non-aligned and other developing nations, and will contribute greatly to the strengthening of solidarity and cooperation among newly-emerging countries and to the expansion and development of the non-aligned movement.

Our people regard it as their sacred duty to strive for the common cause of the progressive people of the world, while successfully making the revolution and construction in their own country. They will do all they can to succeed in solving the food and agricultural problems of non-aligned and other developing countries, and will conscientiously fulfil their responsibilities and obligations in this field. They will make active efforts to increase solidarity and cooperation among the peoples of all newly-emerging countries and strengthen and develop the non-aligned movement.

I am sure that through the active endeavours of you delegates, this symposium will have an effective discussion on all items on the agenda and fulfil its mission admirably, so as to unflinchingly meet the great expectations of the world's progressive people.