

***ON IMPROVING THE WORK OF DONG AND PEOPLE'S  
NEIGHBOURHOOD UNITS***

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Talk to the Officials of Hasin-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang  
July 11, 1972

The Hasin-dong area was once a stretch of rice paddies and marshes, but thanks to the wise guidance and the consideration of the great leader, it has now become a large residential area with many modern high-rise blocks of flats. No one would believe nowadays that this area was once unfit for human habitation because of frequent flooding.

The children here will be delighted with the amusement park laid out for them. Vacant lots still exist there, and more amusement facilities should be set up in these areas and around the houses. Horizontal bars and a variety of other gymnastic apparatus should be set up in the amusement park so that schoolchildren can practise gymnastics so as to grow taller and stronger. More trees should be planted and benches placed under the trees. Then schoolboys, schoolgirls and other children will feel encouraged to visit the park to play and study there.

Thanks to the great leader, all the children in our country are growing up under the care of the state and society so that their mothers can go to work, free from worries.

Bringing up all the children collectively under state care is a major communist measure that has been adopted by our Party and our state. Bringing the younger generation up in this manner will help them to become used to leading an organizational and disciplined life from childhood on and to grow up into people who have acquired the collectivist spirit and communist morality. It also helps women to take jobs and transform themselves into revolutionaries.

Whenever new factories or houses are constructed, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung ensures that nurseries and kindergartens are built first; he also ensures that every dong is provided with a day-care centre. Thanks to his kind consideration, mothers can go to work leaving their children in the care of nurseries and kindergartens. The leader's care of and solicitude for our women and children are limitless.

In Hasin-dong, however, no kindergarten has yet been built, so working mothers have to take their children to kindergartens at their work places, and those women who have no jobs cannot send their children anywhere. Hasin-dong must build a kindergarten as soon as possible and see that all its children attend it. Then all the children

and women will benefit from the great leader's love and consideration for them.

Child-care facilities at the dong level should be constructed through a public campaign. There is a great number of dong in Pyongyang alone, and the state cannot afford to construct nurseries and kindergartens for them all. Institutions and enterprises should undertake their construction as a public campaign, and each dong, too, must construct them by its own efforts.

There are many women who do not work, so if you organize them and mobilize them ideologically in a proper manner, the construction of kindergartens for the dong will pose no major problem. Although construction is a difficult undertaking, the housewives, if they are encouraged to make a concerted effort, will be perfectly able to build nurseries and kindergartens for the dong. On Sundays and in the early morning, the husbands must also take part in this work.

If the housewives in Hasin-dong are working with resolve to build their own kindergarten, it is a very good thing.

The work of dong should be improved.

The dong deals with households from various sections of the population, people with different jobs and different levels of awareness, and in particular with housewives who do not work. So its work is difficult but very honourable and important. The dong is made up of families, the cells of our society. Therefore, the strengthening of society depends largely on how the dong does its job.

Dong officials must always pay meticulous attention to making sure that the benefits granted to our people by the great leader reach them evenly. They must make families revolutionary and unite all the inhabitants of their dong closely behind the leader. By doing so they will contribute to accelerating the revolutionary transformation of society.

The great leader expects much from the dong. In order to improve the work of dong and of people's neighbourhood units, he not only gives them frequent on-the-spot guidance, but also has now placed great political trust in the heads of the people's neighbourhood units and has shown them kind consideration by listing them as full-time workers.

You should feel great honour in having been entrusted with such important work, perform your duties in a responsible manner, thus proving yourselves worthy of his great political trust and meeting his expectations in a loyal way.

Dong officials must educate the inhabitants of their dong well and take responsible care of them. They must know all about the lives of these inhabitants and find prompt solutions to any problems they may have. They must travel around frequently to ensure that supplies of nonstaple food and coal for the inhabitants are not running out, and that the people are free from even the slightest discomfort.

Housewives' workteams or something similar should be formed to provide employment for the women who have no jobs. If housewives do sideline work at home as the leader has instructed,

they will add to their family's income and improve their standard of living. In Hasin-dong, too, housewives' workteams should be formed and run properly.

A healthy environment should prevail in dong.

The instructions the great leader gave at Puksae-dong, Moranbong District, must be implemented in Hasin-dong as well. Things in Hasin-dong now seem gloomy. The dong should be made clean, tidy and smart, and the inhabitants encouraged to keep their houses clean. In order to make Pyongyang an example in creating a healthy environment for the whole country, it is necessary for all the dong in the city to be laid out like Puksae-dong. The roads between the houses should be surfaced with cement, the immediate surroundings of the houses landscaped neatly, and thick foliage provided so that the houses appear to be in a park. Since there are only multi-storeyed blocks of flats and no single-storeyed houses in Hasin-dong, it will be fully possible to smarten up the dong if officials organize the work properly.

The movement to win the title of Chollima People's Neighbourhood Unit must be intensified so as to improve the dong and prevent the infiltration of a single spy or subversive element. Dong officials must work more efficiently among the heads of people's neighbourhood units<sup>19</sup>. They should encourage the heads of people's neighbourhood units to be prompt in implementing the leader's instructions and the Party's lines and policies, the embodiment of these instructions, and to carry out the economic tasks facing their dong without fail.

In our country all the members of our society belong to a people's neighbourhood unit. Therefore, whether they keep their homes smart, transform their families in a revolutionary manner and enjoy a comfortable life depend on how people's neighbourhood units work. If the units improve their work, they will be able to prevent undesirable elements from gaining a foothold and safeguard our socialist system more effectively.

The great leader is extremely interested in the work of people's neighbourhood units and guides it with constant and meticulous care. The introduction of full-time heads of people's neighbourhood units is an expression of how great are the leader's expectations from the work of these units. It is also an expression of how great is his trust in the heads of the people's neighbourhood units. These neighbourhood leaders must be clearly aware of the great political trust placed in them by the Party and must perform their duties better. The 50th people's neighbourhood unit in Hasin-dong, Sosong District, must not rest content with having won the title of Chollima People's Neighbourhood Unit, but do its work even better and win the title of Twice Chollima People's Neighbourhood Unit. In order to win this title, the head of the unit must work harder in high spirits. The Chollima Workteam Movement is a grand communist movement of advance, the aim of which is to speed up the building of socialism by equipping all the members of society with communist ideology and by transforming every workteam into a communist

collective. In order to become a Twice Chollima People's Neighbourhood Unit, all the members of the unit must fully equip themselves with the great leader's revolutionary ideology, and the people's neighbourhood unit must become united into one family. Every member of the unit without exception must not only study hard to acquire the Party's monolithic ideological system, but also participate in the unit's work enthusiastically. Cadres, too, must all participate in carrying out the tasks of people's neighbourhood units.

The great leader has given instructions that in order to help the people's neighbourhood units to accomplish more, cadres must set an example in participating in the work of these units. Some cadres do not even know to which neighbourhood unit they belong or who the head of their unit is. This is a serious shortcoming.

Cadres must take the lead in helping the units in their work and make their own families exemplary. Unit heads must keep the cadres who live in their neighbourhood informed of what is happening in their units and invite them frequently to unit meetings.

The work of maintaining a healthy environment must be regarded and energetically promoted as a major task for people's neighbourhood units.

By doing this work efficiently, people's neighbourhood units can relieve the great leader of some of his worries. All families and households must be encouraged to strive to become exemplary in keeping their houses clean and tidy. The areas surrounding houses must be laid out well and the roads surfaced so as to make the neighbourhoods neat. In this way Pyongyang will set an example for the whole country in the work of maintaining a sanitary environment. Some people, however, are upsetting the leader by not keeping their own houses clean.

Having lived in dugouts or hovels in the past because they had no proper housing, our people are now living in good homes, thanks to the benevolence of the great leader. But some of them are upsetting the leader because they are not looking after their houses properly. This is truly regrettable.

The heads of people's neighbourhood units must set an example in smartening up their own houses and encourage the members of their neighbourhood units to work hard to create a clean environment in their neighbourhood units.

People's neighbourhood units must educate schoolchildren on a planned basis to prevent them from becoming delinquent. At home after school, schoolchildren whose mother and father both go to work are often not looked after by anyone. So the heads of neighbourhood units must take responsible care of them. Rooms must be provided for them to go to after school where they can study in groups instead of going out to play in the streets. This will prevent them from becoming delinquent.

The heads of people's neighbourhood units must also pay close attention to keeping the members of their neighbourhood units vigilant at all times and encouraging them to lead a socialist way of

life.

For the heads of people's neighbourhood units to perform their duties properly, they must be better informed of the great leader's instructions and the Party's policies than anyone else and take the lead in implementing them. They must know how to do political and organizational work and must keep themselves fully informed of how each family in their neighbourhood unit is living. They must know the number of members in each family—even how many spoons each family has—make sure that supplies of coal and nonstaple food are not running short for them, and look after them with care.

If a mother is to bring up her children properly, she must be a communist. Likewise, in order to build up a people's neighbourhood unit properly, its head must be a faithful servant of the people and a communist.

The secretary of the seventh Party cell in Hasin-dong is said to have worked as cell secretary for seven years; this is a long time. The work of the Party cell in a residential quarter is very important.

The most important task for a Party cell is to establish the Party's monolithic ideological system thoroughly among Party members. And thoroughly setting up the Party's monolithic ideological system throughout all of society is the most important task facing our Party today.

In order to put into effect the Party's monolithic ideological system thoroughly among Party members, it is essential to intensify the study needed to equip all Party members with the Party's monolithic ideology, the leader's great revolutionary thought.

Party cells must organize Party study sessions regularly and on a planned basis, and explain the leader's instructions and the Party's lines and policies, the embodiment of these instructions, to Party members at all places and at all times. In this way all Party members in a cell will become fully equipped with the great leader's revolutionary ideology and implement Party policy as one man. This is the primary task of Party cells.

A Party cell must organize and encourage all of its Party members to set an example in carrying out their economic tasks.

Party cells in residential areas must encourage Party members to be exemplary in breeding castor silkworms. With this activity they can earn a considerable amount of foreign currency and help the country. All households should therefore be encouraged to breed silkworms.

A Party cell must ensure that all the Party members in the cell and all housewives manage the affairs of the dong, their neighbourhood units and their family lives properly and assiduously, and develop a strong economy campaign.

Party cells in residential quarters must ensure that Party members and housewives give active labour support to carrying out the Six-Year National Economic Plan at the same time as they implement the tasks assigned to them by the Party.

Party cells must also organize and guide the Party life of Party members.

Party cells must hold general meetings regularly and give

assignments to all their members.

Unlike Party cells at factories and other enterprises and institutions, Party cells in residential quarters are made up of housewives and elderly people who do not work. Therefore, assignments should be given to suit this situation. Housewives should be given tasks appropriate to their position, and old people should be given tasks appropriate for old people. Political assignments—for instance, to study certain subjects and debate about them at meetings—should be combined properly with assignments to carry out economic tasks. Various tasks should be assigned to all Party members, and assistance then be given to them in implementing these tasks. The course of the Party life of Party members is the course of carrying out the assignments they have received from the Party organization. If Party members complete their assignments well, the work of Party cells can go so much the more smoothly.

Party cells must make great efforts to convert housewives into revolutionaries and assimilate them to the working class.

As the great leader has said, the revolutionary transformation and assimilation to the working class of women is very important in the revolutionary transformation of the whole of society and assimilation of it to the working class.

Women account for half the population of our country, and the number of housewives in residential areas in urban communities is considerable. If these housewives are all transformed in a revolutionary manner through intensive education, not only the revolutionary conversion of women but also the revolutionary conversion of their families will be expedited. Therefore, Party cells in residential quarters must put great efforts into helping housewives undergo a revolutionary change. They must begin with the transformation of those housewives who are Party members in cells and then ensure that these women take the lead in making all other housewives revolutionaries.

Some women nowadays neither go to work, nor take part in the work of their neighbourhood units properly, nor keep their own houses tidy. They are living indolently and in a slipshod manner and in many cases they even have a bad influence on their children. Unless we root out the egoism and selfishness that remain in the minds of such housewives, it will be impossible to make them and their families into revolutionaries.

Tireless ideological education and an uncompromising ideological struggle are essential for wiping out remnants of egoism, selfishness and other outmoded ideas in people, and for eradicating obsolete conventions.

Party cells in residential areas must combine collective education properly with individual education and work tirelessly to remove the remnants of outmoded ideas from people's minds and throw out old-fashioned conventions. The education of people should be carried out to the point where their shortcomings are corrected, even if this means meeting them ten or twenty times, if once is not enough. Housewives must be encouraged to take jobs. Working outside the

home is a good method of revolutionary transformation for women. Party cells in residential quarters must direct efforts to the education of housewives, transform them into revolutionaries, assimilate them to the working class and unite them closely behind the Party so as to weld families and neighbourhood units into a communist collective.

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