

THIRD KIM IS NEW LEADER OF NORTH KOREA. “DARK-HORSE” OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

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Abstract: The article touches upon the situation that has arisen in North Korea after the death of the “Great leader”. Formerly unknown person was nominated for the post of head of the country. Also it describes the personal qualities and biography of the new leader of North Korea.

Keywords: Change of government in North Korea, the personal qualities, biography, new leader.

The relevance of this topic raises no doubts. Literally the whole world’s attention to the Korean Peninsula has increased by hundred times recently, and it is connected, above all, with the unpredictability of threats and actions that come from the new head of the DPRK: underground nuclear test, the introduction of martial law in the country, rupture of the agreement on reconciliation with the Republic of Korea, non-aggression, cooperation and exchanges, the aggravation of relations with the Western countries, and finally, the most recent and the most unpleasant (this is an understatement) - declaration of war against South Korea and the promise of a hard blow to the United States (Kim Jong-un - the new riddle of North Korea [сайт]. URL: <http://newsland.com/news/detail/id/942358/>). The world is in suspense, what happens next, because no one can guarantee if the North Korean leadership bluffs or his promises will be implemented in real action.

In connection with all this, a person who causes the interest is the one who, in fact, holds the world in suspense and whose behavior no one can predict, as it is largely, if not entirely, unknown figure to the world political analytics. The purpose of the report is to attempt, on the basis of available information on the Internet to describe the personal and political portrait of North Korean leader and formulate some probability forecasts of its foreign and domestic policy.

In recent years, it was clear to all that the rule of Kim Jong-il is coming to an end. Four years ago, the "Great Leader" suffered a stroke and perceptibly passed physically. In 2009 (according to various sources in 2007), he appointed his heir with great delay, while Kim Jong-il's father obviously prepared him for the fact that he inherits "the North Korean throne." The world and the North Korean society were lost in conjectures, who will be the third Kim. As a result it was Kim Jong-un – the third son of the second Kim. Nevertheless the death of Kim Jong-il and the appearance of Kim Jong-un at the head of the North Korean state was a surprise to the North Korean people and for the world community. Kim Jong-un's appointment as the head of the country came as a surprise not only to the USA and Europe but also for neighboring countries, including South Korea. During the life of his father not only the children but also other relatives claimed to be the successor. The candidacy of a young son has never been examined referring to his age. However, according to tradition, the legitimacy of the new head of the party and the state has not caused any doubt in North Korea, and the outside world did not expect anything new in modes of transmission of power and its legitimation (The North Korean general executed from a mortar for contempt of Kim Jong-il [сайт]. URL: <http://tengrinews.kz/asia/severokoreyskiy-general-kaznen-iz-minometa-za-neuvajenie-k-kim-chen-iru-222433/>).

Quite recently (in December 2011) Kim Jong-un, who became the head of the government, has already managed (before the latest crisis aggravation on the peninsula) to make a few public statements that even made international analysts and experts seek in his speeches and actions some hints on softening of regime and probably the beginning of reforms. But just as quickly the new ruler started the first public and hidden repression of the political elite.

One of the first manifestations of the terrible reprisals was the order to shoot from a mortar one of the generals, seen in a state of alcoholic intoxication at the time of official mourning for the new leader Kim Jong-il's father. The order was given by young North Korean leader almost immediately after the detection of misconduct. The leader who seemed to be soft at first sight demanded to destroy the guilty officer in such way that there must be left no remains for his later burial (The personality cult of Kim Jong-un or the Monarchy in North Korean [сайт]. URL: <http://www.vremia.ua/rubrics/zarubezhe/1550.php>).

Little is known about the youngest son of the former head of the DPRK. The country represents a closed country in terms of information, so even the most significant events in its life become the property of world news untimely. However, some information about the new political leader of North Korea Kim Jong-un is found in the media.

Thus, the date of birth Kim Jong-un is not known exactly. For North Korea it is unc customary to publish biographies of political figures, and the most significant figures in as a rule spend their lives in secrecy. Most frequently the information is transmitted for general use by the intelligence services of foreign states, especially South Korea. In the press January 8, 1982, 1983 and even 1984 are mentioned as the date of birth. Approximately the new leader should be about thirty years. His mother, a Japanese ballet dancer, beautiful Ko Yong-hee, was the third wife of Kim Jong-il, although some sources call her favorite but not wife of the former head of state. Kim Jong-un's father was an affectionate person and he had a lot of unions with different women, which explains his possession of many children. In 2004, Ko Yong-hee passed away, the exact cause of death is unknown.

The life of the youngest head of state is shrouded in mystery, since twenty years the information about him was kept in a secret, so it is extremely difficult to judge about his character and way of life, using only the data of public speaking, interviews and documents, as well as press releases, which are allowed to be published abroad. Back in 1999, the son of Korean dictator graduated from the International School in Berne and left Switzerland where he remained under the guise of the famous Korean diplomat's son for a long time. For the most part Kim Jong-un's training was conducted at home. If we believe Western sources, a person who came to power in the DPRK had problems with getting European education. First, he had problems with learning German language, which was a result of boy's transferring to the class with the students who were two years younger than him. Second, he missed classes for unknown reasons very often. Third, once Kim Jong-un simply failed the exam in science. And after that he got very low marks in such disciplines as cultural studies, mathematics, and social science. However, special intellectual abilities of the youngest son, Kim Jong-il are noted in the Korean press that supposedly was the basis of his accession to the presidency. However, such characteristics should be treated critically, as in North Korea there is a policy of leader's glorification (Where do reforms of Kim Jong-un lead North Korea [сайт]. URL: http://slon.ru/world/kuda_vedut_severnuyu_koreyu_reformy_kim_chen_yna-827006.xhtml).

In some notes attention is also paid to the physical health of the cruel dictator's son, some sources stated the presence of diabetes. Talking about hobbies, it is worth noting that during the stay in Europe, the current North Korean leader was fond of basketball, and closely followed the matches of the U.S. teams. Not much is known about the lifestyle of the leader. In the South Korean media printing, you can find the accusations against him of involvement in the so-called "pleasure parties" practiced by his father Kim Jong-il. The assertion seems plausible as most of the children of a dead leader were repeatedly seen in the places of entertainment with doubtful reputation. According to the data, Kim Jong-un's has an heir, born in 2010. If during the period of his stay in Europe, the heir appeared in public accompanied by Ri Chol, who served as ambassador to Switzerland, after his return to North Korea for a long time it was possible only to find his sketch. There is information that in this period of his life a new North Korean leader was trained at the university named after his father. It is unknown what events have occurred in his life in this mysterious time, and how they have influenced his political beliefs. His powerful father insisted on the baby's birth, fighting for the continuation of the dynasty. In general, very little is known about the personal life of the main North Korean.

However, even this little generated hopes among foreign politicians about some stabilization of the country and they have become thinking about the removal of some restrictions and limitations of the political and economic nature. Most of these expectations (which obviously were not justified) were based on the fact of the long stay of the new leader in Europe and the passage of training in accordance with the best western programs.

Public life began quite recently. Since 2006, there was information about the issuance of special badges featuring the youngest son of the current leader to the workers of Labour Party. In addition, the mother Ko Yong-hee, during her life, demanded to refer to her son as "The King of the Morning Star," hoping the given title to exalt his status and raise its public profile. The prerequisites for the rise of the young politician were also on the auspicious event honoring his mother.

The appearance of a little-known person in the international arena and, therefore, unpredictable figure made everyone follow closely every decision and event with his participation. According to Andrew Lankov's opinion, a professor of the university Kongming, new North Korean leader intentionally copies not his father's but grandfather's behavior- the founder of the dynasty, Kim Il Sung. These are intonation and tone of voice and even the costume that does not meet the modern fashion in the country. Most likely, a young Korean will hold the policies of his grandfather. In fact this was said in the first public appearance of Kim Jong-un (Where do reforms of Kim Jong-un lead North Korea [сайт]. URL: http://slon.ru/world/kuda_vedut_severnuyu_koreyu_reformy_kim_chen_yna-827006.xhtml). The professor also notes that the new leader of North Korea has speaking skills, which he recalls the legendary and highly respected in this country, Kim-il Sung.

Despite his relatively young age, the son of Kim Jong-il is already quite accomplished and experienced politician. This is a man with established views, having a clear idea about the direction of his country. The Russian press in 2009 reported that the youngest son was named the official receiver of the acting head of the DPRK. In fact, he became such person in 2007, as evidenced by reports of North Korean radio. Kim Jong-un also has experience in the field of national security. Father gave his son an excellent opportunity to study the internal structure of the state, so it was believed that people don't have to expect reckless and thoughtless decisions from the new leader.

It is believed that Kim Jong-un successfully uses the accumulated frustration of the people during the rule of his father and the authority of his grandfather, to whom he is very similar in appearance. Despite the fact that Kim Jong-il was more capable and far-sighted than his ancestor, the population associates years of his time in power with twenty years of chaos and disorder. The rule of the founder of the dynasty is represented to the modern people of North Korea as a period of stability. In relations with the military elite, there is a process focused on the removal of unwanted power and appointments to key positions of employees on a party line, and most of them are civilians (North Korea declared the United States «a hundred-year war» [сайт]. URL: <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=1013884>).

As to the conduct of the foreign policy of North Korea no doubt left after the next attempt to launch the rocket. Despite the fact that the tests were not successful, the government said to people that the threat of nuclear weapons, coming from enemies for a long time (there was a clear reference to the U.S.), was not scary anymore. In the field of military leadership there is also a tendency to the tightening. The army is still huge for such a small country. Only acting forces exceed 1 million people in number, and the new head of the DPRK is not intended to reduce the army (The North Korean general executed from a mortar for contempt of Kim Jong-il [сайт]. URL: <http://tengrinews.kz/asia/severokoreyskiy-general-kaznen-iz-minometa-za-neuvajenie-k-kim-chen-iru-222433/>).

Thus, in light of this information, the latter conduct of Kim Jong-un for the escalation of relations with South Korea and the United States can hardly be regarded as hysterical and ill-conceived. First, blackmailing of the international community and intimidation of neighbors to the south – is a long-term trend, as well as the military rhetoric against the United States. Second, it is possible that it all was calculated first of all for "internal consumption." There are certainly plenty of challenges to solution of which people have no strength, even if they try. But we know that the militant attitude, searching for external and internal enemies – is the best way to regimes, like North Korea, to distract public attention from these problems, to unite and mobilize it. One only has to hope that the third Kim with his militant attitude will not pass the "point of no return", and the situation on the Korean peninsula will not be realized by the worst scenario.

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