Exploring the DRPK literature as more than an imitation of the Soviet model, but rather as an ideological stream subordinated to the Party’s needs with its own Korean “way” of narrative building and unique heroes.
The research of North Korean literature has been of little interest because of many reasons, mostly for being considered a part of the worldwide ideological stream of badly written works full of prescribed and naïve heroes, highly influenced by the Soviet models, a typical product of the cold war era. This idea is not wrong, but the post-war literature in DPRK featured some distinguished aspects that witness the specific Korean “way” of narrative-building and heroes that cannot be associated with the Soviet model, but also to the domestic pre-war proletarian wave and the KWP politics of the 1950s.

DPRK literature had few fixed (prescribed and recommended) themes, newly modelled heroes and narrative strategy. We have to understand it as part of official ideology. Literature has been slowly developed into the simplified ideological stream subordinated to the Party needs and subsequently it turned into literature subordinated directly to Kim Ilsung and his family. This literature had their prominent authors and platforms, plans that have to be performed and the victims of factional struggle in I950-I960s.

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