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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un pays homage to Chairman Kim Jong Il



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to pay tribute to Chairman Kim Jong Il at 00:00 on February 16, the Day of the Shining Star.

He was accompanied by Choe

Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the DPRK SAC and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, and vice-chairmen and other officials of the WPK Central Committee.

The Supreme Leader entered the hall where the statues of President

Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il stand.

A basket of flowers in the name of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un was laid at the statues.

A floral basket was also placed in the joint name of the WPK Central Committee and Central Military Commission and the DPRK State Affairs Commission.

Kim Jong Un paid homage to the President and the Chairman before their statues, together with the accompanying officials.

At the hall of immortality where the Chairman lies in state he paid tribute and made a deep bow to him.

By PT staff reporter

CELEBRATION

Nation celebrates Chairman Kim Jong Il's birth anniversary with lively events

Blessings

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad sent a congratulatory message to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on the occasion of the Day of the Shining

Star, the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Pyongyang-based foreign diplomatic envoys and military attaches, a director of the Board of Directors of the Kim Il Sung-Kim Jong Il

Foundation, a delegation of the Japanese Association for the Study of the Juche Idea and a delegation of the United Socialist Nationalist Party of Nepal presented baskets of flowers, congratulatory messages and

gifts to the Supreme Leader.

Floral baskets also came from the general secretary of the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party, the Asia-Pacific Regional Committee for Supporting Peaceful Reunification

of Korea, the Japanese Women's Society for Solidarity with the Korean Women, the Japan Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of

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ANNIVERSARY

National meeting highlights great leader's birth anniversary



PHOTOS BY KCNA

A national meeting is held in Pyongyang in celebration of the 76th anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

A national meeting was held in Pyongyang on February 15 in celebration of the 76th anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The platform was taken by Kim Yong Nam, president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, Choe Ryong Hae, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Pak Pong Ju, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs

Commission and premier of the Cabinet, who are all members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

Also seen on the platform were the leader of a friendly party, leading officials of military organs, exemplary military and civilian officials, persons of merit and heads of the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan and the delegation of the General Association of Koreans in China.

Choe Ryong Hae delivered

report "Let us carry through the great historic cause of building a socialist power of Juche, true to the lifelong will and desire of the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il".

The revolutionary career of Chairman Kim Jong Il was the fiery life of a peerless patriot who dedicated his all to implementing the plan to exalt the honour of Juche Korea to the world, he noted.

The speaker referred to the fact that the Chairman formulated and systematized

the theory on the building of a powerful socialist country to give full answers to theoretical and practical problems arising in the efforts to turn the DPRK into a politico-ideological power of single-hearted unity, invincible military power, thriving socialist economic giant and civilized power.

Lauding the Chairman as an outstanding statesman who built a powerful political force capable of undertaking the cause of building a powerful socialist state, he said that the Chairman put forward the idea of single-hearted unity based on one ideology and one centre for the first time in history and administered politics of love for the people, benevolent politics, and that under his prominent leadership the unity of revolutionary ranks around the leader as the one and only centre became an unbreakable one.

As he provided a powerful military guarantee for victoriously stepping up the building of a thriving country and a solid springboard for a leap to an economic giant and civilized power, he said, the DPRK could become a satellite manufacturer and launcher, lay a foundation for building a knowledge-based economic giant supported by cutting-edge industries, rezone farmlands as befits the land of socialist Korea

and build lots of monumental structures and bases for cultural and leisure activities showcasing the lofty ideal and civilization of the Korean people.

He also said the Chairman advanced the patriotic line and policies of independent reunification to open up a broad avenue for building a dignified and prosperous reunified power, and made a great contribution to the development of the world socialist movement and to the accomplishment of the cause of independence against imperialism with his outstanding diplomatic strategy and through his energetic external activities.

The Chairman's perfect solution to the question of giving continuity to leadership was the greatest patriotic exploit he performed to provide a sure guarantee for the everlasting future and eternal victory of Juche Korea, he stressed.

The speaker underlined the need to hold the Chairman in high esteem as the eternal leader of the Party and people and carry through his ideas and lifetime instructions with no slightest failure or concession so as to make the history of his leadership over the building of a thriving nation go on steadily.

Similar meetings took place in local areas and industrial establishments on the same day.



LEADING ARTICLE

The eternal sun of Juche Korea

The DPRK service personnel and people celebrated the Day of the Shining Star, one of the greatest national holidays.

On this significant day they looked back on the immortal revolutionary career of Chairman Kim Jong Il, who dedicated his whole life to the benefit of the country and people like a candlelight. He lives on as the eternal leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people and the sun of Juche.

His over-half-a-century-long revolutionary leadership is shining as a sacred history of having maintained the red flag of the revolution. The Chairman wisely led the revolution and construction with outstanding ideology and distinguished leadership despite the political turmoils of the 20th and 21st centuries, with firm confidence in the victory of the socialist cause of Juche pioneered on Mt Paektu.

He conducted energetic ideological and theoretical activities to illuminate the path towards the victory of Korean-style socialism.

From his early years these activities focused on putting socialism on a new scientific basis. He authored many works during the decades-long revolutionary leadership, including **On Some Problems of the Ideological Foundation of Socialism, The Historical**

Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party and Socialism Is a Science. They are still regarded as a great programme for the building of socialism for their rich and profound ideas and theories and originality and scientific accuracy. It was thanks to his activities that the historical limitations of the existing socialist theories were overcome, Juche-based view on the position and role of man, people-centred socio-historical principles and other thoughts and theories newly formulated and the scientific accuracy and invincibility of Korean-style socialism fully demonstrated.

His ideology and line were the militant banner which enabled the Korean revolution to advance along the road of socialism unswervingly in any tempest of history and the indomitable faith implanted by the Chairman was the major source of encouragement to the Korean people, who became the strongest in spiritual strength and performers of heroic feats.

The Chairman built up the political and military might of socialist Korea in every way with outstanding leadership.

Single-minded unity was his revolutionary philosophy and Songun was his revolutionary practice. Under his energetic leadership the WPK maintained its dignity as a revolutionary party in which the ideological

and leadership system of the leader has been established, a motherly party which serves the masses of the people forming a harmonious whole with them, and an invincible one with steel-strong discipline and combat power. The Chairman put forward the military buildup as an important affair decisive of the rise and fall of the country, developed the People's Army into a revolutionary army of the Party boundlessly faithful to the cause of the leader, and built up the country's defence industry to be a powerful arsenal of the revolution which can make any latest military hardware at its will. The chronicle of his Songun revolution is engraved in gold letters in the history of the country.

In particular, he built the one and only youth power in the world by holding fast to attaching importance to youth as a strategic line during the whole period of his revolutionary leadership. It is another great feat he performed for the brilliant future of the country and revolution.

The powerful political and military might he solidified by devoting his all is the foremost state power and the most powerful weapon of socialist Korea.

The daring spirit of Juche Korea, which advances like a storm with all its service personnel and people forming

citadels and shields in hundreds and thousands of folds to safeguard the Party Central Committee and mercilessly frustrating the high-handedness and tyranny of the imperialists with the treasured nuclear sword of justice, is inconceivable apart from the Songun revolutionary exploits of the Chairman. The reality that the imperialists' anti-socialist moves have gone to the extremes and lots of people of foreign countries wander the streets and even migrate to other countries in search of living clearly proves that the dignity and bright future of a country or nation rest on the unity and cohesion of the Party and revolutionary ranks and strong arms.

The Chairman also laid solid foundations for the building of a socialist power with burning patriotic devotion.

He unfolded the greatest blueprint for national prosperity in the history of the country and wisely led the efforts to put it into reality.

He continued his forced march of field inspection tour all his life for the building of a socialist power, covering over 669 840 km, the equivalent of a travel round the earth nearly 17 times. With the noble view on life "Let us live not merely for today but for tomorrow!" he worked day and night, even on holidays and on his birthdays, and it was an immortal heroic

epic of the peerless patriot. He always found himself on a long journey for the prosperity of the country with superhuman will and gave the Korean people wisdom and valour to foil the imperialists' economic blockade with the strategy of self-reliance. Under his energetic leadership the torch of a new revolutionary upsurge was kindled and an eye-opening reality unfolded on this land, in which the ideal and dreams of the people really come true.

Now the DPRK is advancing dynamically by dint of self-reliance and self-development even under the harshest-ever sanctions and pressure by the US and its vassal forces. The solid foundations of the self-supporting economy, an army of scientific and technical personnel, priceless fighting experience and models of the times the Chairman had provided with great efforts by foreseeing the distant future of the country serve as the invaluable asset for the building of a socialist power and a source of energy to make a great leap higher and faster towards the peak of final victory.

Chairman Kim Jong Il is, indeed, the eternal sun of Juche Korea who performed undying exploits on behalf of the country and nation, the times and history.

Ri Kyong Rim

FROM PAGE 1

Korea, Yuwen Middle School in Jilin of China, families of Zhang Weihua, a Chinese anti-Japanese revolutionary martyr, and Kanemaru Shin, former deputy prime minister of Japan, other foreign organizations and personages.

The Central Committee of the Anti-imperialist National Democratic Front, the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and the General Association of Koreans in China sent letters to the Supreme Leader.

Members of the country offices of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, WFP, WHO and other international organizations and a congratulatory group of Koreans from Japan climbed up Mansu Hill in Pyongyang to pay respects to the great leaders.

The Nigerian President and personages of various foreign countries sent baskets of flowers to their statues.

Floral baskets came from overseas families related to the revolutionary activities of the great leader.

Oath-taking meeting at Paektusan Secret Camp

A meeting was held at the Paektusan Secret Camp on February 12 to take an oath to accomplish the Juche revolutionary cause by holding Chairman Kim Jong Il in high esteem as the eternal leader of the Korean revolution and following Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

It was attended by senior Party and government officials including Pak Kwang Ho, An Jong Su, Ro Tu Chol and No Kwang Chol, Ri Sang Won, chairman of the Ryanggang Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials of the WPK Central Committee, military organs, working people's organizations, ministries and national agencies, service personnel, officers and members of Construction Division 216, officials and persons of merit in Ryanggang Province and Samjiyon County.

Speakers said that all the Korean service personnel and people were celebrating the greatest national holiday of February at the time when the Workers' Party of Korea has remarkably enhanced its dignity and leading authority and the DPRK has attained a strategic position to demonstrate its inexhaustible strength at the highest level. They praised the

undying exploits Chairman Kim Jong Il had performed for the Party, revolution, country and people all his life, true to the noble intention of President Kim Il Sung.

They said millions of Party members who grew up in the embrace of the peerlessly great men would hold the Chairman as the eternal leader of the WPK, work as he did and carry through his lifetime instructions.

Then a stunning display of fireworks adorned the sky over the Paektusan Secret Camp.

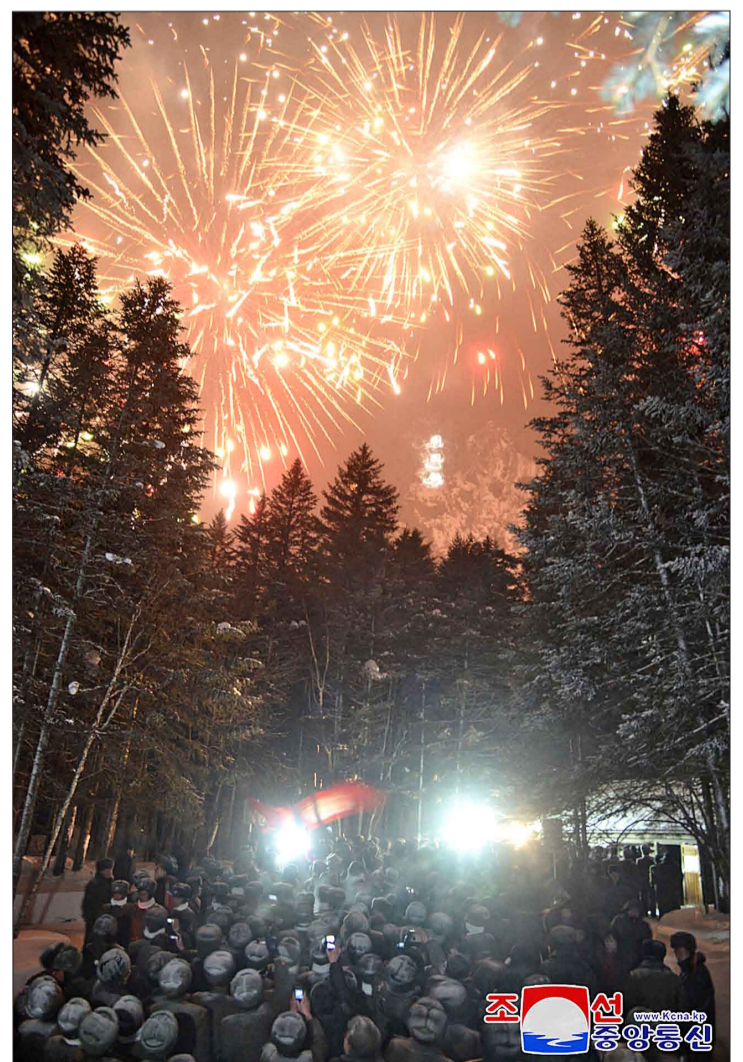
Kimjongilia festival

The 22nd Kimjongilia Festival, which opened in Pyongyang on February 13 as one of the major celebrations of the Day of the Shining Star, is still attracting many people every day.

The annual event is of particular significance this year as it marks the 30th anniversary of the naming of Kimjongilia, and it is adding more to the growing public yearning and reverence for Chairman Kim Jong Il.

With the theme of "Full-blown Kimjongilias of Juche Korea raising its profile as a great power", the festival has

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A dazzling display of fireworks lights up the nocturnal sky above the Paektusan Secret Camp.

KCNA

FROM PAGE 3

presented tens of thousands of potted Kimjongilias grown by military, government and national agencies, working people from all walks of life and schoolchildren. Among the exhibited flowers are those from the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, other overseas Koreans' organizations, compatriots, Pyongyang-based foreign embassies, country offices of international organizations, foreign friendship and solidarity organizations and public figures.

"It makes me feel again that Kimjongilia blooms regardless of seasons," a visitor said. "There are so many wonderful flowers here that I feel like I am in the middle of the sea of flowers. This shows the flower is always in bloom in the hearts of the people."

The festival is growing in terms of the number of the flowers on display and visitors, said Jang Sol Hyang, an employee of the Korea Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Committee. She added that the festival is held on a larger scale year on year backed by the profound yearning for the Chairman.

"This year marks the 30th anniversary of the birth of Kimjongilia. That is why this event registers a record number of the participating units and individuals. The same is true for the number of the visitors," she said.

Lively events

All service personnel and people throughout the DPRK are celebrating the Day of the Shining Star (February 16), one of the greatest national

holidays.

A constant stream of service members, working people from all walks of life, youth and schoolchildren flowed to the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and their statues and beaming images in different parts of the country. Baskets of flowers were laid at the Chairman's statue in Samjiyon County.

A central photo exhibition and week-long film show have opened in celebration of the 76th birth anniversary of the Chairman.

On display are photos showing the history of revolutionary activities of the Chairman who provided a solid guarantee for the country's prosperity and the people's well-being by leading the cause of independence for the people, the socialist cause, along the road of victory.

The Ice Sculpture Festival-2018 has taken place in Samjiyon County, Ryanggang Province.

The beaming image of the Chairman is hung at the festival venue against the background of Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, and Jongil Peak along with Kimjongilias, slogan-bearing trees and sculptures showcasing his patriotic devotion and the fervent reverence and loyalty of the service members and people for him.

A variety of original ice sculptures representing the inexhaustible strength of Juche Korea which has emerged as a world power and the eye-opening reality of the DPRK unfolded a breathtaking, mysterious world.

A singing and recital



PHOTOS BY KCNA

The 22nd Kimjongilia Festival adds beauty to the celebration of the Day of the Shining Star.

meeting was held by workers, a celebratory meeting by farmers and a study session on the Chairman by women. China-based Korean art trope gave music and dance performance. Art performances were given at central and local theatres, enlivening the atmosphere of celebration.

A large contingent of schoolchildren joined the Korean Children's Union, and youth league officials from across the country made a study tour of Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp.

The 7th national sketch festival and the 21st national youth and students festival of loyalty opened and performances were given by university students and artistic team members of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.

The figure skating festival opened and a demonstration of synchronized swimming



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Foreigners are attracted by full-blown Kimjongilias.

was given at the Ice Rink and the Swimming Pool of the Changgwang Health Complex.

The 8th cookery competition ran to add more to the festive mood of the February holiday, and the Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants and other public service amenities across the

country served special dishes.

The Paektusan Prize Games and the 23rd Paektusan Prize Games of Civil Servants were held.

Youth and students held dance parties in Pyongyang and local areas on February 16.

The State Stamp Bureau issued new stamps.

Korean stamps were exhibited to mark the Chairman's birthday and the 30th anniversary of the naming of Kimjongilia.

Resident members of foreign embassies and missions of international organizations and the economic and trade counsellors and military attaches corps visited the venue of the 22nd Kimjongilia Festival, and foreign embassy staff in charge of culture and friendship visited the venue of the 7th national sketch festival.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



A stamp show is one of the celebration events.



The ice sculpture makes the national holiday eventful.



Korean entertainers from Japan present a performance in Pyongyang.



The figure skating festival is a major event.



The synchronized swimming performance gives delight to the audience.

EDUCATION

Teachers training college reconstructed

Pyongyang Teachers Training College which was newly reconstructed in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, is an institution that trains primary school and kindergarten teachers in the city.

Thanks to the idea of attaching importance to education of the government which prioritizes teachers training colleges, the “pedigree farms” for the training of teachers in charge of the education of children, the college has undergone tremendous renovation in less than a year and made notable achievements in education.

New appearance

The college gives fresh and neat feelings to the viewers as it has buildings whose external walls are smartly decorated with blue plate glass and green and grey tiles, and an artificial turf-covered playground with rows of seats.

Covering a total floor space of over 24 100 square metres, it consists of college buildings which are linked with each other by the corridors outside the buildings, library, gym and dormitory.

It has some ten multifunctional lecture rooms where students can conduct specialized practical training, as well as 3D image input device, 3D printer, electronic board and other educational facilities, modern teaching tools and management and operation equipment.

The gym is designed not only to play different sports including basketball, volleyball and table tennis but also to hold cultural events.

At the library with a large book housing capacity, students can read data of the Grand People’s Study House and the Sci-Tech Complex through the national network and receive distance lectures by competent educators at Kim Il Sung University, Kim Chaek University of Technology and other universities.

The dormitory is also flawless.

Many lecturers and researchers in the education sector, who visited the college after the news about Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un’s field inspection tour of the reconstructed college was reported, keenly realized how great the government’s trust in and expectation on teachers of children are as they made the rounds of the modernly built college.

Strong roots

Sound fruits depend on strong roots—this is the common idea cherished by the teaching staff and students of the college.

The college has achieved lots of successes in the work of strengthening the staff of lecturers and steadily improving educational contents and methods.

It ensures that lecturers have good knowledge of the developing trend of modern education and advanced educational technology and improve their educational and practical qualifications through in-service training.

In order to improve educational contents, it pioneered some 50 subjects in accordance with the universal 12-year compulsory education programme and put educational contents to practical use and synthesized and

updated them on a high level.

It pushes ahead with the undertaking to create and generalize throughout the country profitable and advantageous teaching methods, namely the educational prediction technique which helps give lectures in a scientific way while focusing on the independent thinking of students and the education method in the multifunctional lecture room.

Teaching evaluation program, intelligence development program, fauna and flora education support program and dozens of other programs developed by the college are effectively used to promote the scholarly performance of students.

The educational science and administrative management

system comprising educational information, educational administration, guidance management and educational course management in the college makes it possible to oversee overall educational science work so as to focus all the educational administration work on raising the students’ zeal for study and their scholarly performance.

The students of the college consolidate what they learned in lectures in multifunctional lecture rooms where they conduct specialized practical training.

They also prepare themselves as capable future teachers while giving lessons in virtual and actual situations.

By Pang Un Ju PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Students practise teaching skills at the multifunctional training room.

PRODUCTION

New types of trolley buses bring smile to passengers

The Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory produces new models of trolley buses.

Over the past several decades it contributed to promoting the traffic of passengers in the capital city by manufacturing various models of trolley buses. It has recently undergone reconstruction.

Last year it set a goal to produce a new model, which would go well with the ever-changing appearance of streets in Pyongyang.

The factory established an integrated manufacturing system by introducing advanced technology.

It made chassis boring machining centre, traction-speed testing frame, side-wall moulding machine and other modern machinery by its own efforts to raise the proportion of domestic production up to 92 percent.

Workers and technicians applied a remote control system to the assembly line,

automated heat treatment, electrolytic plating, motor impregnation and drying processes and a power supply system and introduced a power-saving ironcore induction furnace and far infrared heating device to save manpower and electricity.

Especially, they designed a new motor with good control characters to increase the force of traction 1.2 times and made various kinds of parts including automatic breaker.

New model “Chollima 316” looks attractive and comfortable to use. The bus is designed for short-distance passenger transport.

The factory also developed a battery-powered trolley bus.

With an ambitious goal to become a world-class trolley bus producer it now works on modernizing, automating and introducing assembly lines into all production processes to hit the second-stage target.



KCNA

New types of trolley buses are on the assembly line.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

week news

Long-distance conveyor belt built in coal mine

A long-distance conveyor belt has been built in the Namyang Coal Mine under the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex, providing a sure guarantee for further increasing coal output.

The coal mine dismantled the component parts of the old conveyor belt, installed new ones in a short time and introduced advanced sci-tech hits including a computer-controlled real-time operating and monitoring system in collaboration with the related sector to put its operation on normal footing.

Socialist emulation between industrial establishments reviewed

A meeting took place on February 12 at the Kumsong Tractor Factory to review the 2017 socialist emulation between the four-brother industrial establishments, namely the Chollima Steel Complex, the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, the Kumsong Tractor Factory and the Taean Friendship Glass Factory.

The competition between the four factories was organized by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The four industrial giants

made remarkable achievements last year in their efforts to put production processes on a Juche, modern and scientific basis at a higher level and set a new standard and new record in production and construction.

The meeting stressed the necessity to make continuous collective innovations in this year’s general offensive.

The rankings of the competition were announced.

The rotating pennant of the socialist emulation and a commendation in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the DPRK Cabinet were awarded to the Kumsong Tractor Factory.

The plan for the 2018 socialist emulation was announced at the meeting.

Embankment project for tideland reclamation completed

The builders of the General Tideland Reclamation Enterprise of North Phyongan Province have made a proud achievement of finishing the thousands-of-metres-long embankment connection project in February.

It opened a bright prospect for stepping up the second-stage Honggondo tideland reclamation project in the first and second sections on a full scale.

By Yang Ryon Hui PT

CHILDCARE

Nursery becomes dear to infants and mothers

Kim Jong Suk Nursery located at the foot of picturesque Moran Hill is the first childcare facility built in the DPRK at the proposal of anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk.

On February 15 1948 it was inaugurated as March 8 Nursery, but after it was modernly rebuilt in the present place in April 1988, the nursery was renamed after her.

Its four large and small buildings form a harmonious architectural group with a total floor space of 7 800 square metres.

The weekly nursery has an accommodation capacity of over 400 children and is furnished with 19 bedrooms as well as rooms for play, nature study, dance and playing musical instruments, a general playing space, wading pool, playground, medical treatment room and dining hall.

Interior walls are embossed with leading characters in animations and world-famous nursery tales and scenes of starry night and happy life of children, adding to the cosy mood of the

children's facility.

The nursery admits children in the city, especially those of women journalists, artistes, lecturers and researchers, and children at the ages ranging from two and a half years to four years are under its care.

The nurses take maternal, meticulous care of kids like gardeners tending flowers in bud.

They tell children how to make the beds, wash their faces, clean their teeth, tidy up their rooms and keep their clothes in good order as well as table manners and order in living.

As they watch edited videos and animations, they cultivate love for their fellows and respect for their parents and seniors.

They also play with various intelligent playthings and learn how to observe nature in the dedicated study room to develop their intellectual and thinking faculties and have a correct understanding of things.

Singing and dancing take a large proportion in daily routine, which enables them to nurture rich emotion and artistic

talents.

The cooks prepare delicious meals and appetizing snacks for children according to the nutrition norms for each age to ensure their healthy growth.

At bedtime the nurses tell them interesting stories and sing lullabies.

Children spend Sundays at home with their families.

They vivaciously sing songs and do dances, and their occasional unexpected talks set their parents to laughter.

Children live in an orderly manner as they acquire such a habit at the nursery.

Parents are surprised at the rate of their growth in terms of both mind and body.

"Before he attended the nursery, my son was not so active. But now he is very lively and sociable. When he is at home, he longs for the nursery," said Jong Un Gyong, woman lecturer at the Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies.

Children's healthy growth is a source of great pleasure for their parents.

By Pang Un Ju PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Nurses measure children's height and teach them with toys.

HEALTH

Medicines for curing circulatory diseases developed

The Academy of Health and Foodstuff Science has recently developed health foods by using locally available natural plants.

It is a global trend to develop health foods, which are mainly made of extracts of natural foodstuffs that are effective in the treatment of various diseases.

Researchers raise the rate of utilization of natural active substances by developing a new extraction and separation technology of active

components.

Typical products include blood vessel restoring flavone and turmeric curcumin.

When people grow old, micro blood circulation disorder attacks them and cholesterol and neutral fat contents grow in blood to cause cerebral thrombosis and hemorrhage and develop different symptoms including headache, carpedal obdormition and vertigo.

Blood vessel restoring flavone made with locally available

natural plants is used to prevent and cure the above-mentioned symptoms.

It harmoniously contains some ten flavonoid components that help lower high blood coagulation, cholesterol in blood and neutral fat by dealing with the micro blood circulation disorder and enhancing the function of blood in blood vessels.

This flavonoid, which is as efficacious as such composite blood circulation ameliorators as cinnarizine, Trental and Aminophyllinum in improving the blood circulation in brain, is also good for treating alcoholic fatty liver, nephrosclerosis and other urinary diseases.

Turmeric curcumin is specially effective in the treatment of fatty liver which

TECHNOLOGY

New lighting system effective in the dark

The laser institute of the State Academy of Sciences has researched and developed various technologies by making an effective use of solar energy.

One of them is the core sunlighting system. It is an optical technology that induces sunlight to architectural space that does not let in sunlight. It provides natural lighting to the dark cores of buildings including windowless rooms and corridors without using electricity. This system is recognized worldwide as an energy-saving green architectural technology.

The system consists in light pipe and optical fibre according to the mode of light induction as well as a combined device that ensures lighting day and night.

The light guide pipe device is a most common and long-standing sunlighting device that collects sunlight with a light-condensing device and transfers the light to a space several metres away through the guide pipe.

The institute has made a metal guide pipe capable of transferring over 90 percent of the gathered light by further developing the light-condensing technique, according to seasons, climate and time. The pipe made of locally-available materials has a service life of decades and has a higher tightness and costs less than other guide pipes.

This device has been introduced into some public buildings and basements on Ryomyong Street and the illumination intensity of the sunlight at noon is 150 luxes, which is the equivalent of the lighting standard of ordinary office rooms. Dozens of watts of electricity are consumed per hour to ensure such brightness with existing lighting.

The optical fibre guide device is the most effective and profitable natural lighting device among the sunlighting modes. Unlike the light pipe, it transfers the gathered sunlight through optical fibre cable, so it is convenient to install it and light transfer can be extended as far as several kilometres. The illumination intensity can be regulated according to the size of a room and the device can be installed in already-built structures without much trouble.

The combined device is also an energy-saving lighting device that ensures daylighting by dint of light pipe or optical fibre cable during the day and room lighting by dint of the power source from solar panel during the night.

The green architectural technology has a wide application and adds elegance to structures while saving energy.

Technological exchange institutions are introducing the lighting system into families, industrial establishments, institutions of scientific research, education and public health and the fisheries sector, while working out building plans by taking natural lighting spaces into consideration. The technology reduces power consumption up to 20 percent when introduced into ordinary dwelling houses and makes it possible to do plant cultivation, freshwater fish farming and sunbathing in the building spaces with unfavourable natural lighting conditions.

"Human life has drawn nearer to the sun. All buildings will change in form and style in the near future," said Kim Hyon, PhD and chief developer.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

is often seen among obese people and those who like to drink liquor and beer.

It is made by extracting and harmoniously mixing active components of *Silybum marianum* in turmeric family, which has been well known as a medicinal herb with great liver protection power and anti-oxidation and anti-inflammation effects since olden times. It is helpful to curing and preventing chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, arthrosclerosis and osteoporosis.

According to a clinical test, those with fatty liver got better after dosing turmeric curcumin for a month and recovered their health after three to six months. The health food also lowered to normalcy the amino transfer enzyme activity and colloid indices of chronic hepatitis cases.

Blood vessel restoring flavone and turmeric curcumin have no side effects and guarantee hygienic safety as they are made of the active components of natural materials without changing their structures.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



Health food: blood vessel restoring flavone.

US

Trump's 'America First' argument slammed

The Korean Central News Agency has published an article to criticize US President Trump's State of the Union address, in which he advertised once again "America First" with a variety of showy remarks such as "building of a safe, powerful and proud US" and "the best time to realize US dream", instead of his conventional violent, rude language.

The following are excerpts from the article:

Trump's "America First" is the root cause of falsity, deception and disaster.

In his State of the Union address, he spat out the sophism that "we are one team, one nation and one family", but such an utterance is as queer as the attempt of a toad to fly in the sky as he made the US seethe with hatred and anger by dint of his harsh migrant policy and extremely vicious racism in the past one year of his reign.

He also hysterically advocated protectionism, saying that the "US has finally put an end to decades of unfair trade deals

which have sacrificed the prosperity of the American citizens and deprived them of businesses, jobs and property".

Back in the 1930s, the US enforced protectionist policies as it adopted such laws on applying tariffs on over 20 000 imported goods, which further aggravated the Great Depression which already swept the whole of the country. This in turn gave rise to worldwide economic instability which led to a world war.

Many around the world denounce Trump's "America First" as a source of evil that brings a new disaster to the world as well as to the US.

"America First" is in other words an "American isolationism" incurring the US' isolation from the international community.

In his address, he also said that "as the US is restoring its mightiness and self-confidence at home, it is restoring its mightiness and status abroad", but it is just Trump that has brought disgrace on the "superpower", rather than the restoration.

Lots of countries branded

the US as an "untrustworthy country" as they witnessed the behaviour of Trump who successively declared the withdrawal of his country from the Paris agreement on climate change, from the UNESCO and from the process of enactment of the UN world immigrant convention for the reason that they are against US interests and who is eager to scrap international laws and agreements that he finds unpleasant, while insisting that he would abrogate the Iranian nuclear deal and revise the North American free trade agreement.

The wild behaviour of the Trump administration, which wielded the sanctions stick at random against other countries for the reason that they challenge the US' hegemony-seeking policy, has rather revealed the incompetence of the "superpower" to the world. It raised the sanctions racket as it clamoured for "countermeasures against hostile states" and adopted sanctions against Iran, Russia and the DPRK, but the "challengers" are invariably

advancing along their own roads.

The Trump clan who ran amok imprudently, dizzy with "America First", only invited the US' isolation from the international community. A typical example is that at the time of adopting another resolution on ending the US' anti-Cuba sanctions in a UN General Assembly session, 191 UN member nations voted for it whereas only the US and Israel opposed it.

In September last year when Trump on his debut at the UN stage uttered the nefarious remark that he would exterminate the 25 million population of the DPRK, many UN member states expressed their indignation and even its allies denounced it as an utterance "going against the UN Charter" and a "challenge to the whole world", while asserting that he "is using the UN General Assembly as an arena for threatening war to other countries".

His address has proved once again that he is unfit for the US presidency and he is hastening the destruction of the

"superpower".

In the address he also slandered the DPRK, impudently saying the US is carrying on an offensive to apply the maximum pressure to it and it will cope with the "north Korea threat" by dint of "American resolution". In the past year he drove the situation of the Korean peninsula, one of the world's hot spots, from bad to worse through reckless nuclear war moves as he made much ado about "north Korea's nuclear threat", but the DPRK's buildup of its self-reliant defence made war weariness prevail in the US and its mainland be seized with unprecedented nuclear phobia.

The one who leaves the security of the US at risk and brings nuclear catastrophe to the world in the 21st century is Trump who acts rashly with huge nuclear assets, and as long as he remains in power, the bell of the times will toll louder foretelling the ruin of the US.

It is just a matter of time before the US plunges into the abyss of total ruin along with his "America First".

JAPAN

'North Korea threat' dubbed ridiculous

Jang Chol, fellow at the Division of Asian Studies of the Institute of International Studies, on February 13 published an article which laid bare the sinister intention of the Japanese authorities' insistence on the DPRK's "threat".

The following are the excerpts:

Japan's insistence on the "north Korea threat" is, first of all, aimed at laying political foundations for making it a country with the right of belligerency with the threat as an excuse.

It is well known that the Abe clique regards it as an indispensable pretext for remaining in office for a longer period, but hidden behind it is an ingrained political motivation.

Historically, Japan has used "foreign pressure" to realize its wild ambition of becoming a power.

Buoyed up by the ambition to realize the "theory of the conquest of Korea" since the "Meiji Restoration" in 1868, Japan annexed Korea on the pretext of the threat from the Qing Dynasty of China and Czarist Russia and ran amuck to conquer the Asian continent by taking advantage of the Second World War.

After its defeat in the war it effectively used the Korean and

Vietnam wars as an important occasion for "high growth" and military resurgence, and after the demise of the cold war it paved the way for overseas troop dispatch on the pretext of the US-led "anti-terror war".

The current Japanese authorities are now playing up the "north Korea threat" theory to put down political forces that stand in the way of building a warring state.

In the 1990s a "political reform" was carried out in Japan to crush reformist forces piecemeal and turn all political parties and political forces into conservative ones. Today they claim that "Abe's one-man system" has been set up, but the "pacifist constitution" championing forces and remnants of opposition parties still stand in their way.

In the middle of the past century there was a time when the Japanese fascist military forces confined all five political parties including the Party of Political Friends and Social Popular Party to a government-made organization, called the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, on the pretext of "threat to the state system" and made them voice their support for war moves.

The Japanese authorities now needs the same "foreign pressure" as that in the past and it is the DPRK's "nuclear and

missile threat".

The second reason why Japan insists on the "north Korea threat" is that it tries to rebuild the socio-economic foundations of a "country with the right of belligerency" with the threat as a golden opportunity.

Over seven decades have passed since Japan was defeated in the Second World War. Frustration and war-weariness have now taken root and post-war generations play the leading part in Japanese society.

Also in view of its economic structure, munitions industry has shrunk as against civilian industry and is lopsided in many parts as it is weighed down by the American war industry.

It is the urgent crisis consciousness of the Japanese authorities that if they fail to drastically transform such socio-economic structure, Japan will be reduced to a country which cannot fight a war for ever, and the most apt excuse they found is the DPRK's "nuclear and missile threat".

Japan's rightist rulers already threw wet blanket over the moves towards normalizing DPRK-Japan relations in the early 1990s, reduced the historic 2002 DPRK-Japan Pyongyang Declaration to a paper promise and viciously incited "dry up north Korea!" confrontation consciousness to make anti-

DPRK hostility infest Japanese society.

They fanned the flames of this animosity by staging the largest ever evacuation drill in the middle of Tokyo on the opening day of a regular parliamentary session on January 22. They mounted nearly 70 nationwide evacuation and information transmission drills allegedly to counter the "north Korea threat" from April last year and frequently orchestrated "error reports" on missile fire to "demonize" the DPRK.

Japan increases military expenditure to a record high for six consecutive years on the pretext of countering the threat and beefs up the main munitions companies to be world-class arms producers to rebuild and perfect the economic foundations qualitatively and quantitatively for carrying out a war.

Thirdly, Japan's insistence on the threat is designed to distract the sharp eyes of the international community on its attempt to be a military power with the threat as a shield.

The Abe regime has made big strides in a bid for a military power in a little over five years in office: it fixed the security strategy and set up the national security council in 2013, instituted the three principles of war equipment transfer in 2014, adopted a comprehensive security-related law in 2015 and revised the Japan-US agreement on mutual provision of goods and manpower in 2016. Accordingly, the Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defence Forces are allowed to expand the scope of their activities to cyber and outer space, completely free from the yoke of

"exclusive defence."

In order to play down and conceal this, Japan tries to use the DPRK's "nuclear and missile threat" as a shield.

Under the veil of "global diplomacy" the Japanese authorities trot across the world in an attempt to create an international atmosphere of sympathy with it, arguing that Japan faces a serious threat and it needs close cooperation to put pressure on the DPRK. Even if a partner nods a little as a sign of uncertainty, Japan says it has reached a consensus of views with it and dangles its purse to force a promise.

It is self-evident that F-35 stealth fighters capable of long-distance operation, KC-46A tanker plane with the flying range of over 12 000 km, E-2D early warning plane, Global Hawk high-tech drone and other latest attack military hardware introduced by Japan are not for defence.

Russia, China and other neighbouring countries sensitively respond to Japan's attempt to deploy ground-based missile defence system Aegis Ashore and long-range cruise missile, not because they want to take side of anyone but because these will target them.

In a word, the Japanese authorities magnify the "north Korea threat" even by staking their fate on the risky gamble because the escalated tension on the Korean peninsula gives a golden opportunity and benefit to them who have long desired to become a military power. This is the essence underlying their ill intention.

SPORTS

Volleyball tournament makes the holiday more festive

First-division men's and women's volleyball competitions are going on at the Volleyball Gymnasium in Chongchun Street, Pyongyang, as part of the Paektusan Prize Games.

Kigwancha, Amnokgang, April 25, Sobaeksu and Pyongyang compete on a round-robin basis in the men's event, while Sobaeksu, Chongchongang, April 25, Hyongjesan and Kigwancha in the women's contest.

On February 14, there was a men's volleyball match between April 25 and Amnokgang.

A winner of volleyball event at the national championships last year, April 25 takes the lead in the annual rankings. It is determined to retain its status as the champion in the ongoing competition.

It beat Kigwancha and Pyongyang 3-0 and came to play its third match against Amnokgang before clashing with Sobaeksu.

Amnokgang has an eye to reaching the top three in the tournament, but it is not so successful.

It already played three games in which it defeated Kigwancha but lost the matches with Pyongyang and Sobaeksu 2-3 respectively, securing only three points.

So, the fourth game with April 25 was crucial for it.

April 25 adopted a tactic of scoring by dint of spikes by relatively tall players with good jumping and hitting abilities.

Amnokgang employed diverse tactics relying on the spikes by player No. 7, light touches into the gap and instantaneous hits.

The match got fiercer as the cheering enthusiasm of each team grew.

The game ended 3-0 in favour of April 25.

That day, women of Sobaeksu and April 25 also had a match.

In the previous matches, April 25 overpowered Kigwancha, Hyongjesan and Chongchongang 3-0 respectively, and the game with Sobaeksu was the last one.

Sobaeksu also edged Kigwancha and Hyongjesan 3-2 and Chongchongang 3-0.

The match attracted particular interest of the spectators as it would decide the final winner of the tournament.

In the seesaw match, April 25 saw off the opponent 3-1.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A volleyball match between Sobaeksu and Pyongyang teams.

By Jong Tang Song PT

FOLKLORE

Tradition of greeting lunar New Year's Day

The Korean people have long celebrated lunar New Year's Day as a folk holiday. The first day of the first lunar month falls on February 16 this year.

The Korean lunar New Year greeting customs were handed down from Ancient Joseon through Koguryo, Koryo and feudal Joseon dynasty to the present time.

They can be largely divided into preparations for New Year greetings, New Year celebrations, holiday food and folk games.

The Korean ancestors made preparations for seeing in lunar New Year's Day in earnest.

As the day approached, they prepared new clothes and spring-cleaned their houses. On the lunar New Year's Eve they lived up all day and night making food for the holiday and playing various folk games.

The New Year celebrations started at dawn, when they held memorial services for their ancestors and wished elders of their families a Happy New Year and then made New Year's calls on seniors as well as their teachers in their villages.

The custom of making a New Year's call reflects the laudable traits of the Korean people who respect elders and value etiquette.

On lunar New Year's Day, families with old people prepared small gifts and gave fried glutinous rice cakes or sesame taffy to children and served simple foods to adults who visited them. Friends exchanged well-wishing remarks which were called toktam.

Lunar New Year's Day clothes were called *solbim* or *sejang*.

On the early morning of the day, all family members put on new clothes. The most conspicuous was women's *jogori* (jacket) with colourful strips.

Serving the holiday food was another important part of the celebration customs.

The food mostly included glutinous, steamed and fancy rice cakes, different pancakes, sweets, fruit punch, fermented fish, roast meat, fruits and wine. Especially, rice dumpling soup was a must for the day's dinner.

The Korean ancestors drank *tosoju*, or spiced liquor, in celebration of the New Year, which was distilled by adding various Koryo medicinal materials including cinnamon, Korean pepper, *rhizoma atratylodis*, roots of broad bellflower and *Siler divaricata*.

They believed a glass of tosoju on the day without warming up was a good medicine and it became one of their lunar New Year's Day customs.

Traditionally, they also enjoyed the holiday playing various folk games.

They were *yut*, seesawing, kite-flying, sledding and pinwheel-whirling and other games. Among them *yut* (four-stick game) was the most popular.

A national intangible cultural heritage element, the traditional lunar New Year greeting customs have been passed on from generation to generation.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

ICH

Water paint woodblock printing technique

The water paint woodblock printing technique is a cultural heritage element which left an indelible trace in the development of culture of the Korean nation and the history of its national arts.

Water paint woodblock print is a picture made by putting water paint on a woodblock and pressing it against paper or cloth.

Based on the descriptive principles of Korean painting, the woodblock print gives a clear and soft feeling in colour and the entire picture looks clean and neat.

The technique includes the method, skill and ability of drawing, carving and printing the original picture.

Unlike the oil paint print where the picture is drawn on

the basis of the principle of chiaroscuro, the original picture of the water paint print gives a unique portrayal providing a contrast between white space and the shapes of objects.

Woodblock is usually embossed with designs, and transparent, semitransparent and opaque water paints including those for Korean painting are mainly used for printing. Pictures are printed on traditional Korean papers *chamji* and *sonji* and other papers that absorb water evenly and do not fade and different kinds of cloths including silk.

The water paint woodblock print originated from the illustrations in books printed by xylography, an initial printing method in which letters and pictures were embossed on a

wooden block before being inked and printed on a paper.

In the course of this, such print began to be developed into an independent print-making technique under the influence of the development of Korean painting. *Mugung-jonggwangdaedaranigyong*, the first woodblock printing material on a Buddhist sutra unearthed in the DPRK, was published in 751, which can be claimed to be the oldest in the world.

In the period of Koryo many books printed in such a way were spread to many countries.

A typical relic of the Koryo period is the 80 000 Wooden Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Sutras with which more than 6 000 copies of the complete collection had been printed in over 70 years from 1011.

In the period of feudal Joseon dynasty, Korean painting saw rapid development and famous painters of those days including Kim Hong Do and Ri Sang Jwa were involved in book

publishing, an important factor in consolidating and developing the water paint print on the basis of the form of Korean painting.

Many water paint prints were produced in that period in the form of single-coloured illustrations to be added to such books as the Chronicles of the Feudal Joseon Dynasty and *Muyedobothongji* (Illustrated Book of Martial Arts).

As the industrial printing technology developed in the

latter half of the dynasty, the print was gradually separated from the publishing business and began to emerge as a form of art for publication for producing printed pictures on such independent themes as landscape on the basis of its various descriptive means and techniques.

The water paint print is now being further developed in line with the national traditions.

By Han Ryo Gyong PT



Coloured woodblock print "Bull Fight".

HWANG IN JE