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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un sees South Koreans' performance

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, and his wife Ri Sol Ju saw "Spring Comes", a performance given by a visiting south Korean art troupe at East Pyongyang Grand Theatre on April 1.

It was also seen by Kim Yong Nam, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly; Choe Hwi, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Yo Jong, first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee; Ri Son Gwon, chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Country; Pak Chun Nam, minister of Culture; and Pyongyang citizens.

The Supreme Leader was greeted at the entrance hall of the venue by To Jong Hwan, south Korean minister of culture, sports and tourism, Yun Sang, music director, and other leading members of the art troupe.

He exchanged greetings with them and warmly welcomed the art troupe's Pyongyang visit.

He said that he came to see the show of the invited art troupe, though it was late today, as he was anxious that he may not find time due to his tight political schedule in early April. And he expressed his gratitude to the art troupe for its sincere preparations for performance in a short time.

When he and his wife came to the platform followed by the south Korean officials, the entire audience burst into enthusiastic applause.

With the show name "Spring Comes" projected on the background screen, south Korean pop stars belted out their favourites.

The entertainers overwhelmed by fraternal feeling shared greetings with the audience and recounted what they feel about their visit, in ecstasy about presenting another platform for unity between the north and south.

The show ended with song "Our Wish Is Unification".

As a showcase of the unanimous desire of the people in the north and south for national unity, the performance captivated the audience and made them realize again that they are all fellow countrymen.

After the performance was over, some of the audience presented bouquets of flowers to the entertainers.



The Supreme Leader and his wife warmly waved to them in appreciation of their successful show.

Afterwards, he met with key members of the art troupe and shook hands with each of them to express his heartfelt gratitude for bringing delight to the northerners with their wonderful show.

He said that he was thrilled and excited to see the audience fully understand and appreciate the popular art of the south side.

As its name suggests, he noted, the Pyongyang performance of the south Korean art troupe has brought spring

of peace to all the fellow countrymen in the north and south. When keeping and building up such positive atmosphere with care, he added, there will always be a balmy spring with all things coming to life and a fruitful autumn with rich harvest ahead of the Korean people.

He was hopeful that the performance tour of the south side would mark an occasion to demonstrate oneness of the Korean nation, and had a photograph taken with the south Korean personnel.

By PT staff reporter



The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex increases molten iron production.

ECONOMY

Industrial sectors see boost in production

With the general offensive going on all fronts of building a powerful socialist country, the metallurgical and electric-power industries are stoking the flames of increased production.

Laudable achievements have been made at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex.

The complex which boosted production from the beginning of the year has carried out its plan for Juche iron production at 102 percent.

It took thoroughgoing

measures to reenergize production to meet the production plan which was set higher than last month, thus increasing output 1.5 times at the oxygen-blast furnace, to which a Korean-style iron production method has been applied.

It also finished an installation and reconstruction project of anthracite briquette production process for bulky gas generator in less than two months

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LEADING ARTICLE

Building up invincible might of Juche Korea

April 2012 is kept in the minds of the Korean people as a month of great pride which provided a full guarantee for the bright prospects and rosy future of socialist Korea.

All the days and months that have passed under the wise leadership of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un since the most auspicious, revolutionary day when he was elected to the top posts of the Party and state are the continuation of the sacred struggle to defend the supreme dignity and sovereignty of the country and nation and the course of glorious struggle in which Juche Korea has fully displayed its might and invincible spirit to the world.

The world political history knows no such prominent leader as Kim Jong Un who has achieved the greatest victory and successes in the most adverse conditions, brought about unprecedented leaps and changes in all fields of the revolution and construction

in such a short time and lifted the authority and dignity of the Party and state to the highest level.

He is an outstanding thinker and theoretician who brightly illumines the path to victory with brilliant wisdom and energetic ideological and theoretical activities.

At the turn of the century of the Juche era he declared it as the supreme programme of the Workers' Party of Korea to model the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and set it as the long-range strategy of the Korean revolution to follow the path of independence, Songun and socialism.

He authored many classical works to markedly enrich and develop Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and ensured its traction and vitality were given full play to. He energetically led the efforts to imbue the Party and revolutionary ranks with one ideology and further cement

the single-mindedness of all the service personnel and people.

He provided such a guideline that single-minded unity and invincible military capability plus industrial revolution in the new century make a socialist power and set forth lots of ideas and theories, including those that it is the WPK's mode of existence and revolutionary trait to wholeheartedly serve the people and the people-first principle should strictly be adhered to in the overall affairs of the Party. They serve as guidelines for the WPK to demonstrate its high prestige and invincible stamina as the great Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party and to hasten the final victory in the building of a powerful socialist country.

The Supreme Leader has raised the DPRK's dignity and national power to the top level.

It is his firm creed that the dignity, victory and prosperity of the country and nation are

fully guaranteed by strong arms.

Throughout his Party and state leadership he has devoted himself to faithfully carrying forward the revolutionary cause of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Under his outstanding leadership the Korean People's Army has further been strengthened politically and ideologically and in military technical terms and the sky, land and sea of the country have been turned into an impregnable fortress.

All his thinking and activities are consistent with an unshakeable will to bring happiness to the Korean people, who have overcome a multitude of difficulties following the Party single-mindedly, true to the lifetime wish of the great leaders.

To attach importance to, respect and love the people is the base and starting point of all his thinking and activities.

Thanks to his energetic leadership the looks of the country are spruced up every day, every minute and every second, while a legendary speed for the building of a socialist power has been created despite the worst adversity, and the people's dreams and ideals come true amidst the burning flames of the spirit of self-reliance and self-development and the dynamic movement of creating the Mallima speed across the country.

Indeed, the Supreme Leader is master of independent politics of the times, genius of creation and construction and defender of socialism.

Though it is not so long since he took the helm as leaders of the Party and revolution, he has extraordinarily exalted his leadership authority and greatness and raised the profile of Juche Korea in the world.

Ro Hyok Chol

CELEBRATION

Symposium held on anniv of political event

A social science symposium took place on April 3 at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang to mark the 25th anniversary of Kim Jong Il's election as chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission.

It was attended by President Ri Hye Jong of the Academy of Social Sciences and lecturers, researchers, curators, journalists, editors and officials in the fields of science, education, media and revolutionary relics preservation and party cadre training institution.

Study papers presented to the symposium gave in-depth explanation about and demonstrated the undying feats performed by the Chairman who strengthened and developed the DPRK into a socialist country of Juche with invincible might.

The speakers said the election of Kim Jong Il, endowed with personality traits and qualifications as a state leader, provided a sure guarantee for boosting the country's military capability remarkably and bringing about a fresh turn in overall socialist construction.

The defence-oriented state governing system established by him fully proved its effectiveness in making the DPRK government rapidly build up the defence capacity

of the country and wonderfully perform its function of national defence, they noted.

Thanks to the untiring efforts and patriotic devotion of the Chairman, who unfolded the grand blueprint for national prosperity during the Arduous March and forced march and kindled the flames of the industrial revolution in the new century, the country has now solid foundations for making a great leap forward towards a socialist economic giant and civilized power, they added.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un established a new state leadership system with the State Affairs Commission as the top political guidance organ of the state power, which marked a turning point in defending and brilliantly carrying forward the state-building ideology and exploits of the Chairman, they said. They also expressed their determination to add glory to the Chairman's socialist state building ideology and exploits and stoke up the fire of the revolutionary general offensive following the Supreme Leader, thereby contributing to winning fresh victory on all fronts of the building of a socialist power in this significant year which marks the 70th DPRK anniversary.

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INSPECTION

Premier inspects county renovation project

Premier Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, visited Samjiyon to check its renovation project.

Pak Pong Ju looked round Samjiyon Motka Railway Station, Samjiyon Youth Railway Station and other places to encourage the soldier builders and shock-brigade members.

At a consultative meeting he asked officers to organize operations and control scrupulously according to



Premier Pak Pong Ju (second from left) on an inspection tour of the renovation project for Samjiyon County.

phased plans so as to finish their tasks in time, and pointed to the need to ensure a timely and sufficient supply

of necessary raw and other materials.

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Russian seminar extends support to DPRK

A joint seminar of Russian political parties and organizations took place in Moscow on March 30 in support of the DPRK's peace initiative.

It was attended by Secretary Kazbek Taysaev of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, personages from other Russian political parties and

organizations including the Moscow group for the study of the Juche idea, the DPRK ambassador to the Russian Federation and his embassy staff.

Speakers said that the US and its vassal forces should remember that they will meet unimaginably catastrophic consequences as long as they are hell-bent on sanctions and

pressure against the DPRK and this has been testified by the past history, adding the DPRK is the model of defence of global peace.

The DPRK is invincible as it is led by respected Kim Jong Un, they noted. They sincerely wished the Korean people greater success in their efforts to build a powerful socialist country.

An appeal to the world's political parties, organizations and parliaments was adopted at the meeting.

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ECONOMY

Key industries bring about upsurge in production

FROM PAGE 1

and succeeded in the trial production.

The process contributes greatly to saving much manpower, electricity and fuel and ensures a full-capacity operation of heating furnaces in the rolling process.

Smelters of the oxygen-blast furnace at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, a large base of the metallurgical industry in the northern part of the country, keep increasing the output of Juche iron.

Since the inauguration of the oxygen-blast furnace, the

workers and technicians have continued to boost daily output 2.5 times in March as much as in the initial month.

They worked hard to introduce effective working methods conducive to shortening the melting time of the furnace and increasing the molten iron production per charge.

In the course of this, technical bottlenecks were tackled in lowering the consumption of anthracite as compared to the previous years and boosting Juche iron production, making it possible to double the molten iron production.

Similar successes have been made in the electric-power industry.

The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station overfulfilled its first quarterly economic plan by 28 percent as of March 27 by kindling the flames of collective innovation from the outset of the year and ensured 1.4 times of electricity generation as against the same period of last year.

This year alone, it launched a mass technical innovation campaign to newly make and introduce various measuring and protecting devices so as to ensure the normal operation of generating facilities.

The Sunchon Thermal Power Station also brought every generating facility into full operation to produce much more electric power over the same period of last year and hit the first quarterly target.

With an ambitious goal to exceed last year's highest production level again, the employees are redoubling efforts to overfulfil their assignments every month.

By Song Yong Sok PT



KCNA

Employees monitor gauges at the power distribution station in Central District, Pyongyang.

CEMENT INDUSTRY

Cement industry has prospects for sustainable development

Modern houses and bases for cultural and leisure activities are being built across the DPRK in the golden age of construction, which is reliably guaranteed by the country's cement industry.

The DPRK is rich in raw materials for cement industry.

Major raw materials such as limestone, magnesite, dolomite and cement rock are distributed in different parts of the country.

There are abundant deposits of quality limestone in Kangwon, North Hamgyong and North Hwanghae provinces, especially Sungho County of North Hwanghae, and the area of their distribution accounts for 25-30 percent of the territory.

Anthracite deposits are also found across the country including the Kaechon, Pukchang and Tokchon areas in South Phyongan Province.

Korea has a long history of cement making.

Archaeological studies show that Korean ancestors built underground structures with air setting cement more than 1 600 years ago. This tells that they attained such a level of technological development as to produce lime which requires 900-1 200°C of heat.

The local cement industry made a rapid development after Korea's liberation in August 1945.

Large-scale production bases were built at places with abundant raw materials along with the systematic increase in state investment, and the industry also improved in the level of technical equipment backed up by the growth of heavy industries including the machine-building industry.

Many cement factories have an annual capacity of millions of tons, including Sangwon and Sunchon cement complexes and the Chonnaeri Cement Factory, which have automated

production processes and continue to increase the scale of production.

The Sangwon Cement Complex is the country's leading cement producer located in Sangwon County, North Hwanghae Province.

The quality of cement sees a steady boost there.

All production lines are automated and a strict quality control system is in place.

The complex has also established a technology of producing a variety of high-grade cement that conforms to international standards and technical requirements. The compressive intensity of high-grade cement is over 400 MPa.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



RI SONG IK

Sacks of cement roll off the production line at the Sangwon Cement Complex.

PRODUCTION

New types of pumps turned out

The Anju Pump Factory channels big efforts into the development of pumping equipment.

Situated in Anju, South Phyongan Province, it is known as a model unit as it supplied pumps to such major construction projects as Changjon and Ryomyong streets and different economic sectors while overfulfilling its annual production plans.

It has recently refashioned the dry-type production process at the foundry into a greensand mould type and developed a variety of pumps including electricity-saving multi-stage centrifugal pump, high-pressure multi-stage centrifugal pump and pumps for underground ultra-saline water and condensate.

The power-saving centrifugal pump is highly efficient and used in urban management and the economic sectors for tap water supply and drainage.

Technicians rationally revamped vane wheel, guide blade and other sections of air ducts to maximize their efficiency, reduced the number of parts and replaced vanes and other parts with plastic ones, thereby improving the cleanness of air ducts and saving manpower and iron and steel materials.

They also installed packing water pipes and made it possible to reverse the pump's axial direction in order to prevent the frequent bearing damage caused by axial load and increase the serviceable life.

The high-pressure centrifugal pump designed for skyscrapers is used for the supply of drinking and industrial water



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A number of pumps are ready for shipment.

and drainage in pits.

The pump for underground ultra-saline water can pump up without suction valve and is also used for dry-field irrigation with motors.

The external mixed self-suction pump can pump water without filling the suction line with water at the start. So the suction ducts can be installed in any direction without a reflux valve. The pump has decreased in size and weight as compared to previous self-suction pumps and its structure is very convenient to make and use.

The condensate pump was developed to send to the feed pumps of boilers the coagulated water in the condenser of the waste heat generator of the oxygen blast furnace at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex. Though its condenser and separator are low in internal pressure and its condensate is high in temperature, no cavitation occurs and its structure is convenient to use.

The factory's pumps are being sent to the sites of major construction projects such as the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist zone and the Tanchon power station.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

LOCAL INDUSTRY

County benefits from mountain management

Yonthan County, North Hwanghae Province, is a mountainous county whose 64 percent of areas consist of forests and which has three big mountains including Mts. Jongbang and Myorak. Most of its areas are located at the height of 50-400 metres above sea level and plenty of farmland adjoins hills or is sloping land.

Though it is not a granary and industrial zone, the county has been developing the local industry and improving the people's livelihood by making the effective use of forest resources.

The Yonthan County Foodstuff Factory is a treasure factory from which all the county population benefits. Although it is not so big, it produces dozens of kinds of foods every year by solving all the problems arising in putting production on a normal track, such as raw materials and equipment. Forests of economic value around the locally-run factory are an important source of raw materials that guarantees its production revitalization. It annually gathers hundreds of tons of soybeans, maize and other grain crops from the sloping land by dint of agroforestry. It also extracts various food pigments from wild fruits and plants.

The county has developed

the wood processing industry in keeping with its geological features blessed with many forests. Most of furniture at schools, public buildings and cultural welfare facilities is locally made. The Yonthan County Furniture Production Cooperative turns out some 60 kinds of products, especially bedclothes chest, wardrobe, desk and decorative chest. It set up a base to produce various sizes of plywood and fitting board for different purposes and produces quality flakeboards by using idle materials and wooden by-products. A technology of making quality furniture paint with resin is winning public favour for its economic effectiveness.

Soap and hair oil are also made of locally-available raw materials.

The county's chemical factory produces soaps and laundry soaps with dozens of tons of *Evodia daniellii* Hemsl fruits picked in the forests of economic value. The hair oil made of camellia fruits is also popular in other counties.

Tens of other local industry factories shore up production by relying on forest resources.

Now the county is pushing ahead with afforestation in a far-sighted way to boost the local industry remarkably and improve the people's living standards by making the

effective use of forests and to increase forest resources.

Such undertakings are now under way to turn tens of thousands of hectares of forests into those of economic value and reclaim the hillocks. The

parent tree nursery in the county supplies tree saplings of good species including Changsong larch, pine-nut tree and *Pinus rigida*, and the hills near the county town have been rebuilt into aronia or apple tree forests. In particular, the output of aronia fruits known as a highly-efficacious medicinal material is on the rise, bringing much benefit to locals.

Yonthan became a "model local industry county" in 2016.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Candies are produced at the Yonthan County Foodstuff Factory in North Hwanghae Province.

CLOTHING

University develops garment design technology

A multi-dimensional design technology for clothing developed by Korean researchers is considered innovative in modernizing technical preparations in the clothing industry.

This technology is applicable to three-dimensional anthropometry and multi-

dimensional dressing simulation for the still and moving human body design, 4D and 5D garment design and luxury design.

It was developed by department chief Jong Won Il and researchers Hwangbo Ryong, Jon Kwang Jin and Ri Yong Chol of Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of

Light Industry and received the February 16 Science and Technology Prize, a top honour for research hits, this year.

Ten years back, they already completed the 3D garment design and proceeded to work on the project for 4D and 5D designs.

The design takes account of such essential elements as the drooping character for moving body and skin pressure in view of moving simulation and garment material based on 3D and 4D CADs.

The researchers tackled bottlenecks for 4D and 5D designs as they studied and analysed advanced technologies and succeeded in the dynamic simulation of human body and moving body dressing simulation, core of this technology, in a comparatively short period.

They then buckled down to developing a 3D anthropometry system, which could be established by only a few countries in the world, in a unique way so as to complete

the advanced design technology incorporating higher sensitivity.

As laser measurement devices cost much before, they decided to use IP camera for image recognition and finally established the 3D anthropometry capable of carrying out any kind of garment dressing simulation.

On the basis of this, they realized the 4D and 5D garment dressing simulation according to age and sex for the first time in the country and developed an automatic garment design system to complete an ordered garment production technology.

In addition, they realized the 2D and 3D designing of various luxury articles to make the designs of over 180 kinds of satchels, ornaments and other luxuries.

The new multi-dimensional design technology has put production and technical preparations, which relied only on experience and skill, on an IT basis and completed the technology of automatic garment design, thereby making it possible to save lots of materials, labour and fund.

The cost-effective research hit has been introduced into many clothing and bag factories across the country and proved effective.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Researchers at Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry work on a multi-dimensional design technology for clothing.

FOOD SAFETY

Analysis for food safety improved

As the level of dietary life improves worldwide, the demand for the hygienic safety and quality of foodstuffs is also on the rise. Such demand is met by sophisticated means of analysis and competent personnel.

The Pyongyang Analytical Technology Exchange Centre, which is staffed with a powerful scientific research force, provides technical service in this field at a high level.

The centre situated in Ryongbuk-dong, Taesong District, Pyongyang, carries on research into the methods of analysing the nutritive components, non-nutritive physiological activators, pollutants and additives in foods, while providing analytical service related to them. It evaluates the quality and hygienic safety of various foods, and also extracts, separates and analyses natural active ingredients.

It is engaged in R&D of functional foods, establishment of the food quality assurance system, assessment of organic functions of foods, analysis and test of food components and inspection for food safety, while exploring data and providing scientific advice for the promotion of health.

The institution breeds different species of pureline animals needed for experiments for examining the efficacy and hygienic safety of natural functional medication, judges the species of crops and livestock, discriminates bacteria, viruses and other microorganisms and analyses air, water, soil, ores, cosmetics, nano materials and the like.

It extracts and separates physiological activators from various natural raw materials including edible and medicinal animals, plants and microorganisms, elucidates their physicochemical properties and structural features and develops standardized natural materials for functional foods.

It takes an active part in international efforts to ensure the safety of food and various organisms that are used as foodstuffs.

It has notified FAO and WHO of findings of contents of food and pollutants including acrylamide, dioxin, ethyl carbamate and multinuclear aromatic hydrocarbon that have aroused serious concern worldwide for their carcinogenic and poisonous properties. It also attends workshops, meetings and practical training sponsored by relevant international organizations.

The centre seeks closer scientific and technological cooperation in food safety at home and abroad.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

EDUCATION

New school year begins

New school year 2018 started in the DPRK.

Last year the universal 12-year compulsory education was enforced in an all-round way, upgrading the socialist educational system and improving the educational environment.

Brimming with merry laughter of new students were Kim Il Sung University, Medical College of Pyongyang University, Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, Sungni Senior Middle School in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, Puyong Junior Middle School in Haeju, Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans and Sindo branch of Namhae Senior Middle School in Ongjin County.

Party and government officials, teachers, parents and seniors warmly congratulated new students who entered the

gates with floral decorations.

“A thousand emotions crowd on me as I see my children enter the gate to the 12-year compulsory education. It seems to be only the near past when I went to school thanks to the socialist educational system, but my twins have become pupils today. The state provides children with all school things and uniforms to make sure they can learn without any care. I keenly feel grateful to the socialist system. I’ll work hard to bring my children up to be the pillars of the country,” said Ri Sun Yong, mother of new pupils at Mangyongdae Primary School in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

Speakers at the ceremonies expressed their determination to take the lead in the efforts to implement the Workers’ Party

of Korea’s noble intention to bring about a revolutionary turn in education in the 21st century and thereby give full play to the advantages of the socialist educational system.

They called on officials and teachers in the educational sector to fulfil the responsibility and mission they assume for training children into comprehensively developed talents possessed of profound knowledge, great creative abilities, noble moral traits and physical fitness.

They hoped students would prepare themselves as future masters of a thriving Korea who would support it reliably by studying hard for their country.

After ceremonies first lessons were given at all schools.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

New pupils head for the classrooms at Mangyongdae Primary School amid hearty welcome.

CULINARY ART

Festival showcases development of culinary art

The 23rd Day of the Sun Culinary Festival opened on April 2 at the Pyongyang Noodle House.

Drawing some 70 units selected from committees at all levels of the Cooks Association of Korea, the three-day festival was held, divided into invented and compulsory food and sci-tech hits exhibitions, service contest, cuisine competition, demonstration and contest of students on cookery courses.

Over 1 100 pieces of traditional foods, delicacies, drinks and sweet foods were presented by public catering facilities and service workers across the country.

The sci-tech hits exhibition, which arranged last year’s achievements in the form of real

object, visual aid and multimedia presentation, reminded experts and visitors of the vitality of the policy of attaching importance to science and technology of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Exhibits of the Chongnyu Restaurant, Yanggakdo International Hotel, Changgwang Public Catering Service Management Bureau, Central District Restaurant in Pyongyang and Kangwon Province attracted particular interest of visitors as they presented cold and hot dishes and staple foods which they prepared with the same cooking materials, but are more delicious, highly nutritious and perfect in the artistic combination of colour and shape so that these can

be signature foods of their restaurants and localities.

The demonstration by officials, cooks, waiters and waitresses who were appreciated at the 8th Day of the Shining Star cookery competition, and the cookery contest of students added colours to the festive mood in the run-up to the major national holiday.

At the closing ceremony the results of judgments were announced and prizes, diplomas, medals and certificates were awarded to winners.

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PROFILE

Doctor rises to fame with Koryo medicine

Ko Sun Sil (pictured), head of the gynecology department of the Koryo Medicine Hospital of Kangwon Province, is one of renowned medical workers of the DPRK.

Recently she developed effective therapies combining Western medicine with Koryo therapies and applied them to clinical practice.

For example, she introduced a treatment method combining acupuncture and progesterone into the treatment of Ryom Chang Ok in Poptong County, Kangwon Province, who was diagnosed with impossible pregnancy after several times of miscarriages, to help her deliver a child.

At first she tried to improve the patient’s health by applying an adjustable acupuncture to suit her physical constitution, but failed. The patient was disappointed as she had already received all kinds of treatment and finally came to Koryo medicine hospital.

On the basis of experience she had obtained during her decades-long clinical practice she boldly decided to use progesterone and administered a Koryo medicine composed of various medicinal herbs.

The patient began to recover in eight months after the dosage started and finally gave a birth to a child.

Ko also helped a woman with sterility to recover her health and cure the disease.

Kim Un Byol from Wonsan failed to be pregnant after several years of marriage and felt very sorry for her husband and parents.

Ko first encouraged the patient to join efforts to cure her disease and devoted her all to the treatment of her.

She invented a new cauterization method to suit the physical constitution of the patient and gathered medicinal herbs by



HAM YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

climbing rugged mountains and hills to make medicines for her. Her devotion bore fruit: Kim finally gave a birth to a child.

Besides, she applied a variety of other therapies to cure threatened miscarriage, functional uterine hemorrhage and various kinds of purulent inflammation.

“I feel proud of being a doctor whenever I receive letters of thanks along with photos of sweet little children from the former patients. But I once regretted to become a Koryo medicine doctor,” said Ko.

Traditional medicine was not the major of the graduate of Wonsan University of Medicine. But she came to know the mysterious effects of traditional medicine and delved into traditional medical classics to acquire knowledge about Koryo medicine. In the course of it she applied needle to her own body thousands of times.

Such burning enthusiasm and passion enabled her to develop unique medical treatment methods which have given many women hope and joy for decades.

Still she directs time and energy to the discovery of a new therapy.

By Han Ryo Gyong PT



KCNA

The 23rd Day of the Sun Culinary Festival is held at the Pyongyang Noodle House.

MEDICAL SERVICE

Schoolgirl walks again thanks to hydropathists

Medical workers of the Munsu Rehabilitation Clinic have made various achievements in functional rehabilitation treatment.

They recently restored a schoolgirl who was unable to walk by herself.

She began to suffer from arthritis when she was 14. Though she underwent an operation, she was told that she might not walk if she failed to properly rehabilitate herself.

So she visited the rehabilitation clinic two years ago.

After examining her, a specialist described her health recovery as difficult,

saying foreign hospitals apply physiotherapy based on advanced technology for three years to cure the patients like her.

Medical workers did not give in despite apprehensions. It was not long after the clinic opened and its doctors lacked experience.

Chief Kim Myong Gun, hydropathist Chae Hak Bom and other doctors buckled down to her treatment with the belief that they could help her stand on her feet.

The orthopedic rehabilitation and other departments joined the bid.

It is a common practice that only patients enter the water to have access to functional rehabilitation treatment, but the doctors also stayed with her in water for two hours every day.

Her condition began to develop for the better. But when there were no signs of any improvement, it got the doctors' heart broken. The treatment was a journey of joy and disappointment.

After painstaking efforts for finding out a solution that suits her constitution, they established an original hydrotherapy for arthritis, cervical spondylosis and vertebral deformation.

The treatment which lasted for hundreds of days bore fruit.

Doctors restored her to health in two years, instead of the three-year norm.

She is now a college student.

"If we failed to buckle down to her treatment by regarding foreign technology as absolute, she would not have walked again. This time, we have keenly realized that there is no insurmountable difficulty when we believe in ourselves," said Chae Hak Bom.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

People receive treatment at the Munsu Rehabilitation Clinic.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

Rehabilitation centre starts new school year

An event was held on April 2 to celebrate the new school year at the Korean Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities.

It was attended by officials from the Central Committee of the Protection of the Disabled, as well as children, nurses, instructors and health workers of the rehabilitation centre and parents.

Remarkable achievements

Compiled from KCNA

have been made in rehabilitation, nursing and education of children with disabilities over recent years thanks to the benevolent policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on future generations, said Song Hyang Chun, director of the rehabilitation centre.

The participants looked round rooms for physiotherapy and hearing restoration test and other facilities of the centre.

New SRI established

With science-based farming sweeping the country, the Rice Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science has established a new system of rice intensification (SRI) to ensure high yield.

The new rice cultivation method proves advantageous as it needs transplanting a rice seedling per hill and helps reap rich harvest while using far less amount of manpower, water and farming materials

than before through intermittent irrigation and the use of organic fertilizers.

Agronomists say that as it not only strengthens roots but promotes the overall growth of rice plants, the new SRI saves much seed, water, labour and materials, boosts resistance to unfavourable climatic conditions and blights and increases crop yield.

Compiled from KCNA

Genome library constructed

Data about genome form the basis of genetic engineering, cell engineering and other biotechnological fields and serve as a means of study of life sciences embracing the understanding of the nature of life, treatment of genetic diseases, breeding of good varieties of animals and plants and synthesis of medicines.

Dean Kim Tong Il and department chief Ri Song Ryong of the faculty of life sciences of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education have completed a technology for constructing a genome library and selecting target genes.

"To construct a genome library containing genetic information of different species of animals

and plants and correctly single out target genes from it is a matter of primary importance in the study of biotechnology which involves the preservation of gene resources and breeding of genetically modified varieties with new characters," said Kim Tong Il.

They worked hard for years to construct the genome library in keeping with the world's trend.

As they solved difficult sci-tech problems one after another with novel ideas and passion, they constructed the genome library of scorpion and grass carp which are ideal for research into genome and succeeded in uncovering their characteristics.

They proceeded to develop a new method of selecting target genes.

The probability of finding any DNA arrangement in their library is 99.99 percent and it attained a high level in all the indexes. Its insert fragment is appropriate in size, comparatively even in size and distribution and large in capacity, so it is suitable for research into separation of genes.

The technology registered as a national sci-tech hit is more cost-effective and reliable than those of other countries.

The papers on this research finding have been carried on authoritative international journals.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

IT

Information agency upgrades service

The Central Information Agency for Science and Technology works to improve information services so as to contribute to developing the country's economy and making all people well versed in science and technology.

It has updated Kwangmyong by enhancing its performance and adding the function of questioning.

The program is very popular among scientists and technicians for its abundance of information and convenience.

It incorporates several hundred million pieces of sci-tech information classified by different foreign languages in such fields as basic science, applied science, bioengineering and medical science.

This year alone, it has provided tens of millions of pieces of technical data classified by businesses to many units including the Chollima Steel Complex, Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex and Namhung Youth Chemical Complex.

It has also developed and introduced database building, retrieval and browsing systems

for sci-tech learning spaces at hundreds of units.

In addition, it has laid a foundation for promptly analysing and processing advanced sci-tech information.

Its new assessment system can analyse and process latest sci-tech information by classifying it into different sectors and periods, in a comprehensive way and in a short time. It can also input and store data over 10 times faster and more accurately than previously. Based on this system, the agency timely provides different economic sectors with analysed data.

As befits a base for sci-tech exchange, data collection and advisory service, it compiles lots of e-books on new technologies and develops applications.

Such e-books as *Diagnoses and Treatments of 500 Diseases* and *Common Sense about Cultured*

Way of Family Life are winning growing popularity as they are helpful to everyday life. Crash Course for Developing Children's Brains and Illustrated Sci-Tech Encyclopaedia are apps for tablet PCs and smart phones which give profound knowledge not only to adults but to children.

By Jong Tang Song PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Officers at the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology discuss how to improve information service of advanced technologies.

US

Budget rise likely to trigger arms race

Most recently the US Senate has decided to increase the budget for the missile defense bureau to a record high, \$11.5 billion, this year.

This means an increase of 40 percent or US\$3.3 billion, compared with last year.

In this way, the US plans to build up defence capacity against ICBM attack including ground-based intermediate-orbit defence system, radar detection network and interceptor system.

And it also tries to step up the project for Kill Vehicle, a warhead which is designed to hit and destroy missiles.

The problem is that it also pushes the development of attack-oriented drone technology to provide against "missile threat".

The director of the US missile defense bureau told a recent Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that the development of attack drone capable of intercepting ballistic missiles is now under way and that it is the top priority to form an effective aerial network over the Korean peninsula with

drones capable of detecting and attacking missiles in order to intercept the DPRK's missiles in the open seas.

Experts refer to it as the technology to intercept ballistic missiles in the stage of rising to the air, meaning before it goes beyond the atmosphere, by deploying the drones in necessary places.

The US argues that it develops attack drones to defend itself from the DPRK's threat, but underlying the argument is a more sinister intention, that is, to contain its potential rivals, Russia and China.

Stressing the necessity to complete the development of attack drone and introduce it to provide against the countries that are likely to launch missile attack on his country, the director openly revealed the US intention.

The recent budget increase for the bureau arouses wariness from the neighbouring powers and it will trigger an arms race between big powers.

By Song Jong Ho PT

S. KOREA

Factional strife gets serious

With the local autonomous election coming nearer, the factional strife gets fiercer in the Liberty Korea Party.

Representative Hong Jun Phyoo and his cohorts removed almost all of the pro-Lee Myung Bak and Park Geun Hye factions from the party leadership and replaced them with their close associates while reforming the party. They also act audaciously in the nomination of candidates for the election by sending those of non-Hong Jun Phyoo faction to the areas where they are impossible to be elected and by naming close associates to those in which they will possibly win.

The non-Hong Jun Phyoo faction puts up challenge head-on. It formed a meeting, called the "Future of Conservatism", and demands Hong run for election to improve the low spirits in the party, asserting that Hong caused the crisis with self-righteous party management, loss of initiative in the "revision of the constitution", failure in the introduction of talents and conflict in the nomination of candidates.

Very upset, Hong Jun Phyoo browbeat the opposition factions, saying "a handful of opposition elements try to avail themselves of every opportunity to backbite" him and he "would

send them to places hard to win in the next general elections". Non-Hong faction, in turn, also defies him, pressurizing him to refrain from using foul language and arguing that the "good-for-nothing representative" is pushing the party already on the verge off the cliff.

Meanwhile, some of the party candidates have walked out of the party and declared they would run as independent candidates, saying "the LKP is following in the footsteps of the Saenuri Party" and "it is natural a monk leaves the temple if he dislikes it". Ordinary party members also leave the party in groups and move to the "righteous future party", sharpening the internal row.

The local public are critical of it, saying the internal feud of the LKP, successor to the Grand National Party and Saenuri, is too natural and its bad habit will never change.

Media also comment that though the LKP is going to change its name and move its headquarters while asserting it will "reinvent its bad image" and arguing for "bitter remorse" and "neo-conservatism", it will be impossible for it to come back to power through the local election.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

JAPAN

Military modernization arouses apprehension

Japan is now pushing a massive project for military modernization.

Referring to its hurried introduction of latest fighter jets and multipurpose aircraft carrier, UK Defence Journal on March 21 said that the Japanese Self-Defence Forces intensify cooperation with the US and the UK to introduce F-35 fighters and concentrate on the introduction of aircraft carrier needed for their takeoff and landing in the sea.

And it said that as it cannot build and introduce aircraft carrier the US and the UK possess now, the Japanese government is proceeding with the plan for introducing warships on which takeoff and landing of latest fighter jets are possible by widening or remodelling the runways of its warships.

It is clear that Japan is stepping up the modernization of military hardware like ants basking in honey to realize the old dream of overseas aggression.

Japan has revised the Japan-US defence cooperation guidelines in a bid to expand the scope of the SDF's overseas activities to the whole world and accordingly amended the security-related law in recent years.

The rightist Abe government is also pushing forward with the revision of Article 9 of the constitution which bans the SDF's overseas activities.

As for Japan's reckless attempts at increasing overseas activities, Russian foreign minister Lavrov expressed doubt about its missile defence system deployment programme and emphasized the need to take collective measures and ensure global balance in the field of strategic security at the talks with his Japanese counterpart Kono on March 21.

Japan's SDF modernization arouses due wariness among the neighbouring countries.

By Han Jong Chol PT

S. KOREA

Right punishment

Lee Myung Bak has been imprisoned since the Seoul central district court in south Korea issued a warrant for the arrest.

This means he is the fourth ex-president after Chun Doo Hwan, Roh Tae Woo and Park Geun Hye to be put behind bars for criminal investigation.

His detention has been lauded by democratic and reformist political organizations like the Democratic Party and Justice Party, as well as civil society organizations. They assert that the truth of history cannot be covered up and it is needed to fully disclose the crimes of Lee who abused his presidency in gratifying his personal interests and greed.

They also demand his illegally amassed property should be confiscated, arguing that his already confirmed illicit fortune

amounting to tens of billions of won including bribes, is the tip of the iceberg and that the sum of his wealth will turn out to reach some trillion won when his corruption is laid bare as regards the "four-river improvement project", "resources diplomacy" and munitions industry.

Lee Myung Bak, however, is shameless enough to refuse to undergo criminal investigation, saying "it is difficult to expect a fair investigation", only to invite fierce public denunciation.

The local people unanimously say that his refusal of inquiry only reveals his intention to cover up his crimes and that even though he refuses to go through investigation and stand trial like Park Geun Hye, his crimes will never vanish.

By Song Yong Sok PT

Fabrication of evidence sparks protest

According to local news reports, the south Korean prosecution said on March 28 that the Park Geun Hye regime had fabricated information about its activities on the day of Sewol ferry sinking, triggering a firestorm of protest.

The spokesman for the Democratic Party said the investigation results clearly showed why Park Geun Hye was in such a hurry to cover up the

truth about the disaster, asserting that during the ferry sinking, no "president" existed in south Korea and the authorities did not protect even a member of society, and demanded those who fabricated evidence be called to account for their action.

The spokesman for the Democracy and Peace Party deplored the fact that many people who might have been rescued lost

around the world

Russia expels 60 American diplomats

Reportedly, the US recently kicked out 60 Russian diplomats in the country and closed off the Russian consulate in Seattle in the wake of the attempted poison gas assassination of a former Russian reconnaissance officer and his daughter that occurred in Britain. In response, the Russian Foreign Ministry on March 29 called the US ambassador in Moscow to lodge a protest and inform him of its countermeasures.

Russia declared 60 Russia-based American diplomats "persona non grata" for the reason that they conducted activities unfit for their diplomatic duties and ordered them to leave the country by April 5.

The US was also urged to return its consulate building in St Petersburg to Russia by March 31.

Russia warned the American ambassador that any further US hostility would incur additional measures, demanding the US administration quit reckless accusations and calumny.

The Russian Foreign Ministry also called the British ambassador on March 30 and resolutely protested against the provocative and unjustified moves of the British side that instigated different countries to kick off Russian diplomats groundlessly.

Meanwhile, it took retaliatory steps in kind against some countries that decided to expel Russian diplomats at the instigation of the UK.

China retaliates against US trade war

The Chinese customs authorities have decided to cease from April 2 China's duty on tariff reduction for 128 imported goods of seven kinds made in the US and to add more tariffs to them based on the current rate.

They said such a step is aimed to protect China's interests and offset its losses caused by the US' raised tariff on China-made steel and aluminum imports.

Compiled from KCNA

their lives preposterously due to indifference and irresponsibility of the Park regime, saying it is unbelievable that she received the report on the accident in her bedroom in such a critical situation where hundreds of people were in their death throes.

The spokesman for the Justice Party also criticized Park for her misdemeanour, saying it caused anger beyond distress that she waited for only Choe Sun Sil even at such a critical moment. He demanded the former regime and its supporters be punished.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

SPORTS

Mangyongdae Prize Games start

The Mangyongdae Prize Games opened in celebration of the Day of the Sun.

The event has drawn over 10 000 sportspeople selected from over 100 sports clubs across the country, including April 25, Amnokgang, Pyongyang and

Taesongsan.

It takes place in Pyongyang, Nampho, Phyongsong, Sariwon and other places and the players compete in some 460 events of 37 sports such as football, basketball, volleyball, weightlifting, athletics and synchronized swimming.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the men's basketball match between April 25 and Amnokgang at the Mangyongdae Prize Games.

An opening ceremony took place on April 2 at the Basketball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street.

Kim Il Guk, minister of Physical Culture and Sports, in his opening remarks called on all players to give full play to the ideological, physical and technical capacity they have built through training and

set new records and new standards in the games.

After the opening ceremony there was a men's senior-level (first division) basketball match between April 25 and Amnokgang.

It was breathtaking as they were local powers.

The seesaw battles in the first and second rounds ended in 45-45 draw.

In the third round April 25 switched over to man-to-man defence to build up defence and reduce the score gap while raising points with long-distance shots to tip the balance in its favour.

The audience gave enthusiastic applause to the players who showed such thrilling scenes as skilful one-to-one dribbling, lay-ups based on two- to three-person combination and dunking.

Amnokgang launched powerful attacks in the fourth round to make up for the loss, but in vain, only to be faced with strong resistance of the opponents.

The match ended in April 25's 99-81 win.

By Jong Tang Song PT

PROFILE

First gold medallist of the year

This year's first gold medallist of the DPRK is wrestler Pak Yong Mi (pictured) in her 20s.

The 2018 Asian Wrestling Championships were held in Kirghizstan between February 27 and March 4, drawing hundreds of players from over 20 countries and regions including the DPRK, Mongolia, India and Kazakhstan.

Pak in the 53 kg category overpowered a Vietnamese 10-0 in the first match and advanced to the semifinal to confront a Japanese odds-on favourite.

The duel was fierce from the beginning as both of them had been successful at previous international games.

Pak who excels in defence gave full play to her forte to employ different techniques and score points in succession, thereby beating her opponent 6-3.

In the final with a Mongolian she efficiently used toehold, frontal two-leg hold, surprise counteroffensive and a variety of other skills to win her second Asian championship after 2013.

Tears rolled down her cheeks as she looked up at the national flag on the winner's rostrum.

Hailing from Pyongyang's



HAM YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Songyo District, she was so fond of fine art she was always engrossed in painting in her childhood.

But one day she said to her mother she wanted to learn wrestling to obtain gold medals. That day she happened to visit the Pyongyang Sports Club accompanying her mother who worked there, and see little girls like her practising the sport.

"I used to admire other girls playing wrestling at my club, and I was very glad to hear my daughter's request. But at that time I thought it was only a passing desire of a child and never dreamt that she would be a champion like today," Pak's mother recalled.

Thus she took up wrestling and learned the rudiments of the sport from coach Ri Won Il at the club and proceeded to hone her skills one by one.

Her diligent practice bore fruit a year later. She won the 48 kg category (class B) of the women's wrestling at the 2007 Mangyongdae Prize Games. In the same year she continued to emerge victorious at the Pochonbo Prize Games and the Youth Championships.

Since 2010, she has joined senior-level events and retained championship in such local games as the National Championships and the People's Games. She emerged as an Asian champion in 2013 as she won the 48 kg category at the Asian Wrestling Championships.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

CUISINE

Wild garlic kimchi

An indigenous dish of Korea, kimchi is eaten in all seasons.

It comes in dozens of kinds and is classified differently according to the time of year.

Belonging to spring kimchi, wild garlic pickle is especially unique in taste and aroma.

The perennial plant belonging to Alliaceae grows on hills and fields across the country. It contains protein, fat, glucide, such minerals as Ca, P, Fe and Co and vitamins B1, B2, C and PP. It invigorates people and protects their health and its decoction is good for treating gastric disorder, nervous prostration, insomnia, chronic bronchitis and pertussis. It is mashed to apply on bruises, aching shoulders and stings by poisonous insects and is efficacious in treating gastric cancer.

The ingredients of the dish with one kilogram of wild garlic are half kilogram of radish, 25 grams of powdered pepper and 30 grams of salt, and garlic and



Wild garlic kimchi.

Welsh onion are unnecessary.

First, wash wild garlic with roots and clean and grate radish. Put them in a container, sprinkle them with powdered pepper and salt and mix them evenly before packing them tightly into a pot. About 30 minutes later, pour one litre of 1% salt water over the preparation and cover with a lid to leave it ferment.

It begins to mature as bubbles form, and the kimchi is kept in a fridge or a cool place to take the fresh and tasty dish.

In early spring it is a good appetizer for locals.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

RIDING

Afterschool riding course starts

With many people showing interest in horse riding, the Mirim Riding Club pays particular attention to the running of the juvenile afterschool riding course.

The course which runs between April and October every year involves students between 12-15 age group.

During the training course the members take riding classes and acquire riding skills through practical training to learn knowledge about horse riding including characters of horses and their rearing.

After finishing the two-year course, the students have tests and those who pass them will qualify as horse riders.

As horse riding is very good for physical training and developing bravery and valour, it attracts the interest of an increasing number of schoolchildren.

A ceremony took place on April 3 at the Mirim Riding Club to begin the 4th juvenile extracurricular riding course.

Ri Ki Chol, director of the

club, said that students should take an active part in the afterschool group activities to become excellent horse riders and pillars for the development of the country's riding techniques.

Students expressed their resolve to study hard and join the group activities to get ready to become excellent riders by availing themselves of the opportunity to learn riding in such facility furnished with modern educational environment and conditions.

By Pang Un Ju PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

An opening ceremony of the fourth afterschool riding course takes place at the Mirim Riding Club.