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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un declares simultaneous-push policy victorious, sets forth a new strategy at third plenary meeting of seventh WPK central committee

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, presided over the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee in Pyongyang on April 20.

The plenary meeting was attended by members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, members and alternate members of the Political Bureau and members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee, and members of the Party Central Auditing Commission.

Present as observers were staff members of the Party Central Committee, Party and administrative officials of ministries, national agencies, provinces, cities, counties, major industrial establishments, institutions and cooperative farms, as well as those from military organs.

The agenda items involved the task for the Party to step up socialist construction in line with the requirements of a new stage of the developing revolution, effecting of a revolutionary turn in science and education, and organizational matter.

Chairman Kim Jong Un delivered a report on the first agenda item.

He said that the plenary meeting was held to discuss and decide crucial issues arising in meeting the targets of a higher level of socialist construction—as required by the developing revolution and the prevailing situation.

The overall situation has been fast changing in favour of our revolution thanks to our proactive action and efforts since we declared the completion of the national nuclear arms programme last year, he said, referring to a new tendency towards détente and peace in the Korean peninsula and the rest of the region and the dramatic shifts in international political landscape.

Such a remarkable reality in which a series of events that could not have been imagined only a few months before are occurring is a brilliant



outcome of the Party's "simultaneous-push" line, he said.

He said that five years ago the Party put forth a revolutionary strategic line of pushing economic construction and nuclear arms buildup simultaneously in the March 2013 plenary meeting—given the requirements of the then situation and developing revolution.

Our Party has advanced constantly along the thorny path of the simultaneous push, braving trials and difficulties, out of firm confidence in the validity of its cause and its people, he noted. The gigantic strength of the single-minded unity of the Party and all the people has served as the driving force and main secret behind the country's re-emergence as a world-class nuclear power and its presence at the centre of the world political landscape.

Noting that such a historic cause as the national nuclear arms programme has been perfectly accomplished in a matter of less than five years, he described this miraculous achievement as a great victory of the WPK's simultaneous-push line and also as a brilliant victory that can only be achieved by the heroic Korean people.

He referred to the economic progress which has been made while the entire Party, whole nation and all the people have been out to carry out

the simultaneous-push line.

Bright prospects of the self-reliant national economy and the upward trend of the overall economy illustrate the validity and vitality of our Party's simultaneous-push line, he stated.

Chairman Kim Jong Un declared with pride that the historic tasks of the strategic simultaneous-push line set forth in the March 2013 plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee have been brought to brilliant completion.

The victory of the simultaneous-push line, he said, means the successful conclusion of the efforts of our people who have tightened their belt and endured a host of difficulties to build a powerful treasure sword with which to protect peace, and it also provides a sure guarantee that our future generations can lead the most dignified and happy life in the world.

Given the scientific and orderly implementation of the whole process of the nuclear arms programme, the scientific development of delivery and strike means and the verified completion of nuclear weaponization, he said, we see no point in conducting any nuclear tests and test launches of intermediate and intercontinental ballistic missiles anymore and, accordingly, the northern nuclear testing ground has accomplished its

mission in this regard.

He outlined the Party's peace-loving stand, saying that we would make a positive contribution to building a nuke-free world in response to the common desire and demand of mankind, now that we have built up our strength to such a level we want and we have provided a sure guarantee for ensuring the security of our state and people.

With the successful implementation of the historic tasks of the simultaneous-push line, he noted, our Party is now faced with a crucial revolutionary task of bringing earlier the final victory of the cause of socialism by speeding up the advance of the revolution with confidence

in victory.

He set it as the Party's strategic line to concentrate Party-wide and nationwide efforts on socialist economic construction, now that the DPRK has emerged as a full-fledged world power in political, ideological and military terms.

We have the masses of the people endowed with inexhaustible creativity, an army of scientists and technicians trained by the Party, and the foundation of the self-reliant economy immune to any upheavals, he said, adding that the new strategic line of focusing on economic construction is the most scientific and revolutionary line.

He pointed to the need to launch a general revolutionary offensive, a dynamic campaign for economic construction, holding up such a militant slogan as "Let us further accelerate the advance of our revolution by concentrating all our efforts on socialist economic construction!"

The immediate targets for the implementation of the new strategic line, he noted, are to put production on track at all industrial establishments and gather rich harvests in every field during the period of the five-year strategy for the development of

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the national economy, thus bringing delight to the people across the country.

Long-term goals are to make the national economy Juche-oriented, modern, IT-based and scientific at high levels and to bring a satisfactory life, affluent and civilized, to all people, he said.

He specified tasks and ways to carry out the new strategic line, stressing the need to prioritize the economic affairs across the work of the Party and state and to devote every ounce of the country's human, material and technological potentials into boosting the economy.

The spirit of self-reliance and science and technology are a powerful engine of socialist economic construction, he said, adding that all units and sectors should build their capacity for self-development in a constant manner and bring about an upsurge and leap forward in production, upholding the solgan of self-reliance and self-sufficiency and relying on science and technology.

As our Party's simultaneous-push line has emerged victorious, the new strategic line will also prove successful, he said. And he called for redoubling efforts to speed up the victorious advance of the revolution.

Speeches on the first agenda item were made by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Premier Pak Pong Ju, also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and Kim Jong Gak, director of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army.

They expressed full support and approval for the Chairman's report on the historic victory that has raised the DPRK to the status of strategic state and the new strategic line of concentrating all efforts on socialist economic construction.

Saying the Party's new line correctly reflecting the demand of the times and the aspirations of the people will further accelerate the Korean revolution, they pledged themselves to focus on socialist economic construction as intended by the Party to exalt the dignity of the DPRK and its spirit of leap forward.

Resolutions were adopted on the first item with unanimous approval.

Resolution "On proclaiming the great victory of the line of simultaneously pushing economic construction and nuclear arms buildup" specifies the following decisions:

First, we solemnly declare that we have realized nuclear weaponization with credit by carrying out subcritical and underground nuclear tests, making nuclear weapons smaller and lighter and developing super-large nuclear weapons and delivery means in order in the course of the campaign for implementing the Party's simultaneous-push line.

Second, we will discontinue nuclear test and intercontinental ballistic



missile test-fire from April 21.

The northern nuclear testing ground will be dismantled to transparently guarantee the discontinuation of nuclear test.

Third, the discontinuation of nuclear test is an important process for global nuclear disarmament, and the DPRK will join the international community in its aspirations and efforts for the total nuclear test ban.

Fourth, the DPRK will never use nuclear weapons unless there is nuclear threat or nuclear provocation against it, and in no case will it transfer nuclear weapons and technology.

Fifth, we will concentrate all efforts on building a powerful socialist economy and radically improving the people's living standards by mobilizing all human and material resources of the country.

Sixth, we will create an international environment favourable for socialist economic construction and restart contact and dialogue with neighbouring countries and the international community in order to defend peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and beyond.

Resolution "On concentrating all efforts on socialist economic construction in line with the requirements of a new stage of the developing revolution" stipulated the following decisions:

First, we will orientate overall Party and state work to socialist economic construction and concentrate all efforts on it.

Second, Party and working people's organizations and government, judicial and military organs shall enhance their roles in the efforts to concentrate all efforts on socialist economic construction.

Third, Party organizations and political organs at all levels shall make a regular control and review of the implementation of the decisions of the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee to ensure the thorough implementation of them.

Fourth, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet shall take legal, administrative and technical measures to carry out the tasks set forth in the resolutions of the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee.

Then the meeting discussed the second agenda item.

Chairman Kim Jong Un made a report on the item.

He referred to the need to bring about a revolutionary turn in science and education, saying that the issue of concentrating all efforts on economic construction, which has been discussed as the first item, is unthinkable apart from their rapid development.

Science and education are the foundation of nation building and a major index to national strength, he said, adding that great sci-tech force and high educational standard make it possible to build a powerful state and maintain independence as well.

Noting that to develop science and education is an undertaking to carry on the lifeline of the revolution successfully for the eternal prosperity of the country, he said that in order to develop the country in a sustainable and far-sighted manner, priority should be given to them and efforts be channelled into their development, rather than visible successes.

In recent years our Party has made substantial achievements in these fields by taking proactive measures to boost them as required by a higher stage of the developing revolution, he said. And he analysed and reviewed drawbacks in the fields and their causes.

He set forth a strategic slogan "Let us make a leap forward by dint of science and guarantee the future by dint of education!" and specified the tasks and ways to put spurs to building a sci-tech and talent power.

He pointed to the need to pay primary attention to ensuring strategic concentration in working out plans and providing guidance for

sci-tech development and to expand the nationwide sci-tech diffusion network and decisively improve the operation of sci-tech learning space in each region, sector and unit as required by the undertaking to make all the people well-versed in science and technology.

To effect a great revolution in education work provides a decisive guarantee for implementing the Party's plan for making our country filled with talents, he said, underlining the necessity to put primary efforts to building up the camp of teachers and enhancing their qualifications and responsibility.

To bring about a revolutionary turn in science and education, he noted, it is imperative to radically increase state investment in them and make a climate of prioritizing them prevail throughout society.

He called on each of the members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee to take charge of one problem arising in science and education and resolve it in a responsible manner so as to set an example for officials and Party members to follow, and take the lead in making the whole society brim with the climate.

The mightiness of the country and the happiness of posterity hinge on how we who shoulder heavy responsibility for a prosperous socialist country and beloved younger generation toil and moil, he said, and appealed for making strenuous efforts for a revolutionary turn in science and education with a high sense of responsibility as Party members and patriotism.

Speeches were made on the second agenda item by Pak Thae Song, member of the Political Bureau and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Su Gil, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the Pyongyang

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Kim Jong Un pays homage to great leaders



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the

Sun to pay homage to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on April 15, the Day of the Sun.

He was accompanied 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 WPK Central Committee, and Premier Pak Pong

Ju, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, who are all members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, as well as other senior Party and government officials.

The Supreme Leader entered the hall where the statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il stand.

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

Also placed before the statues were a floral basket in the joint name of the WPK Central Committee and Central Military Commission and the DPRK State Affairs Commission and another in the joint name of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

The Supreme Leader paid homage to the President and the Chairman before their statues, together with the accompanying officials.

At the hall of immortality where the President lies in state he made a deep bow paying profound respect to him.

He then entered the hall of immortality where the Chairman lies in state and paid homage to him with utmost reverence.

Compiled from KCNA

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Municipal Party Committee, and Kim Sung Du, chairman of the Education Commission.

They said in unison that discussing science and education first at the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee which was held to declare the great victory of the simultaneous-push policy and put forward a new strategic line fully shows the Party attaches great importance and gives priority to science and education.

They said that Juche-oriented science and education have made rapid progress and lots of achievements have been made under the wise leadership and meticulous care of Chairman Kim Jong Un, demonstrating the advantages and might of Korean-style socialism.

They expressed their resolve to fulfil their responsibility and role in developing the country into a sci-tech power, a country of education and a talent power, cherishing the lofty intention of the Supreme Leader who attaches utmost importance to science and education and puts them forward as the top priority task for the development of the revolution.

Resolution on the second agenda item "On bringing about a revolutionary turn in science and education" was adopted.

It contains the following decisions: First, a broad avenue to the building

of an economic giant will be opened by dint of science and technology.

Second, a lot of energy will be directed to making the country a socialist educational power, a talent power, in line with the requirements of the knowledge economy era.

Third, the movement for overtaking, modelling after and sharing experience with frontrunners will be conducted vigorously and selfishness be strictly eliminated in the fields of science and education.

Fourth, state investment in science and technology and education will be increased and a habit of giving priority to science and education be established more thoroughly all over society.

Fifth, Party organizations at all levels will take detailed measures to implement the resolution and control and review its implementation regularly to carry it out.

Sixth, the Cabinet will take administrative and practical steps to carry out the resolution.

The meeting discussed the third agenda item, organizational matter.

Kim Jong Gak was elected member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee to fill the vacancy.

Members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee were recalled and elected to replace them.

Members of the Party Central Auditing Commission were recalled and elected to fill vacancies.

Chairman Kim Jong Un made a

conclusion at the meeting.

He said that it is a political event of historic significance in achieving the socialist cause of Juche that the current plenary meeting has declared the victory of the simultaneous-push line and laid down the line of concentrating all energies on economic construction.

The main spirit of the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee is to attain the higher goals of socialist construction set forth by the Seventh Party Congress earlier than scheduled by further accelerating the progress of the Korean revolution under the unfurled banner of self-reliance on the basis of the great victory of the simultaneous-push line, he declared.

The core, the fundamental principle, which runs through the Party's new revolutionary line is self-reliance, he noted, adding self-reliance and persevering efforts are, as in the past, the only way to open a broad avenue to prosperity and bring rosy future earlier.

The goal we should achieve in our struggle is to reenergize the overall national economy and get it back on upward track in the period of implementing the five-year strategy for the development of the national economy, and then build a socialist economy, a knowledge economy independent and modern, he said.

The Chairman said it is important to

give precedence to and develop science and education in order to hit the higher target of socialist construction by fully implementing the new revolutionary line put forward by the Party.

If the front of science and technology is the front line of utmost importance in safeguarding the Party and revolution and advancing our cause, scientists and technicians are its driving force, he said, calling on all of them to keep in mind the trust and expectation of the Party and people and buckle down to scientific research and development to fully perform their mission as pioneers and pacemakers in socialist construction.

To translate the Party's revolutionary line and policy into reality, he said, officials should get themselves fully ready, redouble their efforts and work hard with high credentials to take their units and sectors to the levels desired by the Party.

He stressed the necessity to conduct political and ideological work in an offensive fashion to make the whole country seethe with activities to carry out the new Party line and policy.

The Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee that set forth a new strategic line will mark a milestone in turning the DPRK into a thriving socialist nation and bringing the people's independent ideal and happiness into full bloom.

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Kind-hearted hospitality given to senior Chinese Party official and troupe

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, on April 14 met Song Tao, head of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on a visit to the DPRK.

Very pleased to see him again, the Supreme Leader exchanged greetings with Song Tao and warmly welcomed him who visited Pyongyang leading a large prestigious art troupe. And he talked with the Chinese official and his entourage.

Song Tao conveyed warm greetings President Xi Jinping sent to the Supreme Leader.

Kim Jong Un expressed thanks for this and gave his regard to Xi Jinping and other Chinese Party and government leaders.

He recalled with emotion the cordial hospitality they accorded to him with utmost sincerity reflecting their warm comradely and friendly feelings during his recent China tour.

Song Tao said that he was especially greatly moved to see the warm feelings and enthusiastic and special hospitality the Korean Party and government showed to the Chinese art troupe from the first moment of his arrival in Pyongyang, referring to his impression.

He expressed heartfelt thanks to the Supreme Leader, the WPK and DPRK government and the Korean people.

They shared serious and in-depth views on important matters of mutual concern between the two Parties and the international situation.

Expressing satisfaction with the recent development of relations between the two Parties and two countries, the Supreme Leader said that Party ties would be bolstered up in the future, especially through the exchange of high-level delegations between the two Parties, and cooperation and visits promoted in various fields and sectors so that the traditional DPRK-China friendship could be taken to a new level in line with the requirements of the times.

Song Tao said it is the steadfast policy of the Chinese Party and government to protect, consolidate and develop the Sino-DPRK ties for the better. China would develop bilateral relations on a long-term and steady basis, provide peoples of the two countries with happiness and make a fresh contribution to safeguarding peace and stability in the Korean peninsula.

Kim Jong Un on April 14 hosted a grand reception to welcome the Chinese art troupe.

Present there were 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 other officials.

Invited there were Song Tao, all members of the Chinese art troupe, Li Jinjun, Chinese ambassador to the DPRK, and his embassy staff members.

At the venue the Supreme Leader and his wife, together with Song Tao and other Chinese officials, were greeted enthusiastically by all the participants with thunderous applause.

DPRK performing artists including those of the Samjiyon Orchestra gave a performance first to welcome the visiting Chinese art troupe.

Choe Ryong Hae and Song Tao made a toast at the reception.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly and amicable atmosphere.

Kim Jong Un on April 17 met and talked again with Song Tao.

He congratulated the Chinese art troupe headed by Song Tao on its successful tour of the DPRK amid the special interest and expectation of the two Parties and governments, and highly appreciated the effort made by the Chinese comrades to grace the 31st April Spring Friendship Art Festival.

Speaking with emotion about the fact that the Korean people welcomed them most warmly and grandiosely out of fraternity everywhere they went, Song Tao attributed their successful visit to the extraordinary rapport between the top leaders of the two Parties and countries and their close concern.

The Chinese art mission's tour of

Pyongyang is a very wonderful visit that has come at a good time and brought about a good result, he said, adding that it has strengthened the special bond between the two Parties and peoples and their sentiment of mutual respect and that it has set a good example of bilateral exchanges in culture and the arts.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said that our Party Central Committee would continue to strive to further promote the political trust between the two Parties and countries and to take the bilateral ties to a new level in line with the requirements of the new era and on the basis of the foundation of the traditional friendship and unity between the two countries.

And he shared in-depth views on such issues as boosting exchange and visits in different fields and enhancing the tactical and strategic collaboration between the two Parties.

He asked Song Tao, back home, to give his sincere regards to General Secretary Xi Jinping, whom he described as the best friend and the closest comrade of the Korean people, and the Chinese people as well for sending an art troupe at an eventful time to bring great delight to the Korean people.

Kim Jong Un and his wife Ri Sol Ju saw a ballet of the visiting Chinese art troupe at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre on April 16.

With fine artistic rendition, the ballet brought to life the indomitable spirit of Chinese women who were trained through a bloody revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, drawing enthusiastic applause and acclaim

from the audience.

The Supreme Leader and the first lady climbed onto the stage to shake hands with each of the lead dancers and congratulated them on their successful performance.

The Supreme Leader had a photograph taken with them.

He talked with Song Tao and other Chinese guests in an amicable atmosphere.

He highly appreciated the Chinese art troupe, saying that it presented an excellent performance of high ideological and artistic value which combines the Chinese folk dance with ballet in a distinctive manner. Through the occasion, it conveyed the Chinese people's friendship toward the Korean people, he noted.

He referred to the issues arising in promoting the cultural exchange between the two countries.

Kim Jong Un hosted a dinner on April 17 in honour of Song Tao and the members of the Chinese art troupe.

At the entrance hall of the venue the Supreme Leader and the first lady greeted the Chinese guests.

The dinner with the Chinese friends who have got more intimate and familiar to the Koreans went along in a friendly, amicable atmosphere.

After the dinner, the Supreme Leader and his wife bade farewell to the Chinese guests.

Song Tao on behalf of the art troupe members expressed his sincere gratitude again to the Supreme Leader for such special and exceptional hospitality they enjoyed during their stay in Pyongyang.

By PT staff reporter

ANNIVERSARY

Great history of overall national unity

It has been 70 years since representatives of political parties and public organizations in north and south of Korea gathered for the first time to discuss how to achieve national reunification on the initiative and under the guidance of President Kim Il Sung.

The President had set national reunification as the nation's top priority from the beginning of Korea's division and found the fundamental way to realize it in achieving great unity of the nation by transcending the differences in ideology, system, creed and political view.

Seeing that the nation could be united on the basis of the common ideal of patriotism, he called the historic April north-south joint conference in Pyongyang in 1948 when there was a danger that national division would be fixed and perpetuated due to the attempts at "separate election" and "separate government" of the US and pro-US flunkeyist forces.

At the conference, which drew representatives of 56 political parties and public organizations in the north and south, the President, on the basis of scientific analysis of the political situation prevailing in the country, set it as the most important political task facing the Korean nation to check and foil the plots for holding a "separate election" and rigging up a "separate government" in south Korea and to reunify the country by establishing a democratic unified government. And he laid down the policy which encouraged all nationals who worried about the destiny of the country and nation to unite irrespective of party affiliation,



Kim Il Sung presiding over the Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea in April 1948.

political grouping and political view as the way to carry it out.

The idea of overall national unity of the President, who was endowed with a noble sense of patriotism and broadmindedness, gained enthusiastic welcome from all nationals who truly loved the country.

After the Korean armistice agreement was concluded on July 27 1953, the US and south Korean anti-reunification forces escalated tension in the country with vicious attempts to start a new war. At the time he advanced a policy of removing military confrontation and realizing cooperation and exchange between both sides of Korea and other proposals to provide a radical phase for

reunification.

In particular, he proposed holding wide-ranging political negotiations in the 1970s and ensured that the authorities of both sides successfully held dialogue and published the landmark July 4 Joint Statement with the three principles of the country's reunification as the main content. In the 1980s he proposed reunifying the country by founding a Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo, a realistic and reasonable method of reunification by the federation formula based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments in line with the prevailing condition that different ideas and systems exist in the north and south of

Korea.

He also published the "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country", comprehensively elucidated the goal, ideological basis, principle and method of overall national unity and developed national unity and the reunification movement onto a nationwide scale by ensuring that the tripartite solidarity was achieved between the north, south and overseas Koreans in the 1990s.

The President's idea of great national unity was successfully inherited by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

An inter-Korean summit was held in Pyongyang for the first time in June 2000, 55 years

after the country's division, which adopted the historic June 15 Joint Declaration based on the ideal of By Our Nation Itself to usher in the "June 15 reunification era".

In October 2007 another inter-Korean summit took place and announced the October 4 Declaration for the reunification, peace and prosperity of the country, adding to the reunification fever of the nation.

The country's reunification cause, which is closely associated with the revolutionary careers of the great leaders, has now reached a fresh turning point under the wise leadership of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

His idea of great national unity mirrors his firm conviction and will to value and carry forward the great programme and tradition of overall national unity and patriotism which were created through the protracted struggle to achieve the country's independence and national reunification.

As he has brought about a dramatic turn in inter-Korean relations with noble intention and bold decision of great national unity, the desire for national reunification of the Korean people has now grown higher than ever before and national reconciliation and unity have become the mainstream of the times.

Bright prospect of great national unity and rosy future of national reunification are in store for the Korean people who uphold the idea and intention of patriotism of the Supreme Leader.

Han Kum Hyang

First Lady sees Chinese performance

The Chinese art troupe participating in the 31st April Spring Friendship Art Festival gave its premiere at the Mansudae Art Theatre on April 14.

First Lady Ri Sol Ju saw a classic ballet, *Giselle*, performed by the National Ballet of China, together with Choe Ryong Hae, Ri Su Yong and other senior Party and government officials.

She warmly welcomed the Chinese art troupe's DPRK visit and talked with Song Tao and other Chinese officials in an amicable and friendly atmosphere before seeing the performance.

The National Ballet of China, the first professional ballet in China with a nearly

60-year history, wonderfully represented *Giselle*, a classic European ballet, by fully displaying high artistic skills as the world's top-class art troupe, capturing the imagination of the audience.

After the performance was over, some of the audience climbed up the stage to present bouquets to the Chinese dancers and lavished praise on them, while others responded with long thunderous applause.

Ri Sol Ju heartily congratulated the Chinese dancers on their excellent performance, with Party and government officials, and extended warm greetings to them.

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CELEBRATION

Nation celebrates Kim Il Sung's 106th anniversary with grandeur

Messages and gifts

On the occasion of the Day of the Sun (April 15), one of the greatest holidays in the DPRK, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un received a congratulatory message from the Syrian President and baskets of flowers from the Palestinian and Laotian presidents.

He also received flower baskets and congratulatory letters from Pyongyang-based military attaches and diplomatic corps, congratulatory letters and messages from the Central Committee of the Anti-imperialist National Democratic Front, the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and its other organizations, and floral baskets and gifts from delegations of Juche idea study organizations.

National meeting

A national meeting took place on April 14 in Pyongyang in celebration of the 106th anniversary of the birth of Kim Il Sung, founder of socialist Korea and eternal President of the DPRK.

It was attended by members of the Party central leadership body in Pyongyang, officials of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, military organs, ministries and national agencies, the faculties and students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School and Kang Pan Sok Revolutionary School, officials and labour innovators of institutions and industrial establishments in Pyongyang and bereaved families of revolutionary martyrs.

Also present were congratulatory groups, delegations and individuals from overseas Korean organizations including those in Japan and China and the representative of the Pyongyang Mission of the Anti-imperialist National Democratic Front.

Resident diplomatic envoys and representatives of international organizations, military attachés and other foreign guests were

invited to the meeting.

The platform was taken by Kim Yong Nam, president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, and Premier Pak Pong Ju, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, who are members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

Also seen at the platform were Party and government officials, the chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, and other officials and persons of meritorious deeds.

Ri Ki Sok, advisor to the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, Ri Sun Nam, vice-chairman of the General Association of Koreans in China, and Kim Chil Song, first vice-chairman of the International United Confederation of Koreans, also took seats on the platform.

Kim Yong Nam delivered the report "Let us hasten the final victory of socialism along the road of independence opened up by President Kim Il Sung".

Describing April 15 when the President was born as the most auspicious day in the 5 000-year history of the Korean nation and the revolutionary day common to mankind of having acclaimed a peerlessly great man born of heaven, he said that the President had brought about the greatest changes in the Korean revolution and construction with the firm faith and courage of independence from the first days of his revolutionary career.

He highly praised the President as a master thinker and theoretician who brightly illumined the way in the era of independence by creating the immortal Juche idea, peerless veteran statesman who set an example of the times in advancing the revolution and construction on the principle of independence and unprecedentedly great man who cemented the eternal cornerstone for accomplishing the cause of



Crowds of people pay floral tribute to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on the Day of the Sun.

independence of the popular masses, the cause of socialism.

The President provided a powerful political weapon for the revolution and construction by founding the revolutionary party, the state and the army of Juche-type, and laid the eternal foundations for independent and creative life and wellbeing of the people by building a people-centred socialism, he said.

Korean-style socialism, a priceless revolutionary heritage created and passed on to the future generations by the President is a people-centred one embodying the Juche-oriented view on people, people-centred philosophy, he said, adding that Juche-oriented socialism, which manifested its scientific truthfulness and unlimited vitality by remaining unperturbed in the face of vicious challenges of the imperialists and the world political turmoils, has taken root deeply into the life of the people as their lifeline and the vibrant spirit and dynamic advance of socialist Korea serve as a powerful driving force for the implementation of the cause of independence of humankind.

The revolutionary idea and cause of the President have been faithfully carried on winning victory after victory



Senior Party and government officials visit the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Museum.

through decades under the leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, he said, calling on all people to work hard to build a powerful socialist country and achieve the revolutionary cause of Juche, holding aloft the banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

On the same day similar meetings were held in provinces, cities, counties and industrial complexes.

Kimilsungia Festival

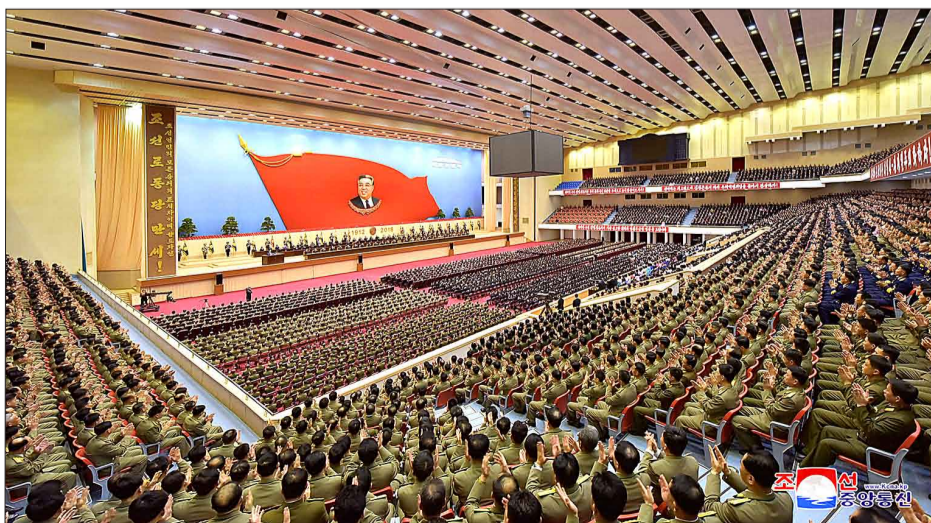
The 20th Kimilsungia Festival ran from April 12 to 19

in Pyongyang to mark the Day of the Sun, one of the greatest national holidays.

The theme for this year's festival was "Kimilsungias in fuller bloom with the yearning for our President". On show were tens of thousands of potted Kimilsungias cultivated by over 80 units including ministries, national agencies and military organs, as well as people from all walks of life, youth and students.

Also among the exhibits were the flowers grown by the General Association of

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A national meeting is held in celebration of the 106th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.



Visitors look round the venue of the annual Kimilsungia Festival.



People visit the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state.



Boys and girls join the Korean Children's Union.

Celebration: Day of the Sun observed

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Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon), overseas Koreans, foreign embassies and missions of international organizations in Pyongyang, foreign friendship and solidarity organizations and personages.

The festival venue which was beautifully decorated by the

flowers of the Sun in the era of independence drew many visitors.

Seeing lots of the immortal flowers reflective of the fervent loyalty and sincerity of the people, the visitors looked back upon the revolutionary life of President Kim Il Sung, a peerless patriot and great man born of Heaven.

Crowd-pullers were the booths of Kim Song Dok-led army unit, the State Academy

of Sciences, youth league central committee, Education Commission, Academy of Koryo Medicine and Sangwon Cement Complex which had devoted themselves to growing the flowers with the feeling of loyalty to celebrate the April spring holiday splendidly.

Other draws included those presented by the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, Pyongyang-based diplomatic missions and country offices of international organizations, foreign friendship organizations and personages.

A closing ceremony took place at the Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia Exhibition House on April 19.

Prizes and diplomas were awarded to such units as the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces, the youth league central committee and the Kyonghung Guidance Bureau, growers, curators and other exemplary participants that were highly appreciated at the festival, and certificates were given to individual participants.

Diplomas were conferred on the General Association

of Korean Residents in Japan, overseas Koreans, the Indonesian embassy in Pyongyang and foreigners.

Social events

Service personnel and people throughout the country celebrated the birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung with splendour.

His birthplace of Mangyongdae was visited by senior Party and government officials including Kim Yong Nam, the chairman of a friendly party and officials of ministries and national agencies.

An endless stream of visitors flowed to the plaza of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, supreme temple of Juche where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state.

Service members, working people, youth and students also paid homage at the statues and large portraits of the great leaders on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and other places across the country.

The Nigerian President sent a basket of flowers to their statues

on Mansu Hill.

Members of country offices of international organizations and families residing overseas of those related to the revolutionary activities of the great leaders placed baskets of flowers at the statues, while foreign organizations and personages sent flower baskets there.

A banquet was given in Pyongyang on April 15.

There were a national oratorical contest of trade union officials and members, a meeting of agricultural workers and performances by the central youth artistic motivational team and members of artistic groups of the women's union and the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.

Visitors to the Songhwa fine art exhibition and other art shows in Pyongyang and local areas looked at art works showing the sacred revolutionary activities of President Kim Il Sung and history of great changes of the country.

Artistic performances given at theatres and outdoors across the country added a festive mood to the holiday.

There was a firework display in Pyongyang on the same day.

Many schoolchildren joined the Korean Children's Union with a firm resolve to prepare themselves as masters of the future and reliable pillars of socialist Korea in the embrace of the Supreme Leader.

The first-term camping began at all the children's camps.

A basketball match was played between April 25 and Amnokgang at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on the Day of the Sun.

Youth and students had dances in Pyongyang and local areas.

The Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House published Volume 107 of *Among the People*, a collection of reminiscences, while the State Stamp Bureau produced a miniature sheet and two individual stamps.

The 20th Kimilsungia Festival was visited by resident diplomatic envoys and representatives of international organizations and the economic and trade counsellors corps and Mangyongdae by economic and trade counsellors.



Foreigners enjoy dancing with young Koreans.



A dazzling display of fireworks lights the nocturnal sky of Pyongyang.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Jong Sun Bok PT

FESTIVAL

Friendship art festival adds splendour to DPRK's biggest holiday

The 31st April Spring Friendship Art Festival ran in Pyongyang between April 11 and 17.

The venues of the event were all crowd-pullers, including the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, Ponghwa Art Theatre and Pyongyang Circus Theatre.

Entertainers of the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Mongolian Army, which has participated in the festival on several occasions, sang *Song of General Kim Il Sung* and *General Kim Jong Il, Here Is the Front Line* in praise of the DPRK great leaders, earning the high acclaim of the audience.

Those from the M. E. Pyatnichki State Academic Folk Chorus of Russia reflected their respect for Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on chorus *Our Leader Beloved of the People*, while those from the Chelyabinsk State Ural Dance Group and the Volinaya Stepi Cossack Art Troupe of Russia deepened the feeling of DPRK-Russia friendship with a variety of pieces they had prepared with sincerity.

Other vocal, instrumental and dance pieces were staged to show the fervent patriotism, traditional customs and sentiments of different nations.

What were conspicuous were the acrobatic and jugglery performances given by Russian, Belorussian, Thai and Singaporean entertainers who carried out movements of high degrees of difficulty in terms of formative arts.

Foreign vocalists who had flaunted their artistry at the First Pyongyang International Vocal Competition also brought delight to the audience.

Art troupes of Koreans from Japan, China and the International United Confederation of Koreans adorned the stages splendidly by

representing songs overflowing with great admiration for the DPRK great leaders and ardent love for their dignified socialist homeland.

The Chinese art troupe, who had left a deep impression on the audience with their first performance of classic ballet, *Giselle*, in this 31st festival, performed ballet choreodrama *Red Women Company* at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre on April 15 in celebration of the Day of the Sun.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK arranged a banquet for the participants in the festival at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang.

At the closing ceremony held at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre on April 17, jury findings were announced and prizes were awarded.

The group special prize, top award of the festival, went to the National Ballet of China.

And group prizes were awarded to the M. E. Pyatnichki State Academic Folk Chorus of Russia, the Classical Ballet of the State Music Academy Theatre of Belarus, the Chelyabinsk State Ural Dance Group of Russia, the Volinaya Stepi Cossack Art Troupe of Russia and the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Mongolian Army, and ensemble, individual, creation and merit prizes to excellent artistes and art pieces.

Pak Chun Nam, minister of Culture and chairman of the festival organizing committee, delivered a closing address.

After the ceremony there was a performance by artistes from different countries.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



The 31st April Spring Friendship Art Festival is a major event for celebrating the Day of the Sun. PHOTOS BY KCNA

With a feeling of respect

This is my eighth visit to Pyongyang, a beautiful city.

My first visit came in 1994 when I participated in the April Spring Friendship Art Festival as a university student and met and had a photo taken with President Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people. I feel as if it was yesterday but over 20 years have passed.

My mother came to the DPRK as an actress of the Song and Dance Ensemble of



the Mongolian Army in 1953 when the Korean war was raging. She was honoured to sing a song for President Kim Il Sung and met him. My elder sister also performed in the festival several times.

As I feel the same every time I visit Pyongyang, I feel at home here, so I sing better and seem invigorated, full of vigour.

Whenever I visited Pyongyang, I learnt Korean songs and so far I've learned

30 of them. I think that's enough to give a solo recital.

This time I've prepared *Where Are You, Dear General?* and *General Kim Jong Il, Here Is the Front Line*, which sing of profound yearning for the President.

If the festival continues and I have a chance to come to the festival again, I would like to sing highly of the infinite yearning and reverence of my family members for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Chadraaval Vayarmaa, *merited actress of the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Mongolian Army and winner of national vocal contest*

