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Epoch-making summit opens up a new chapter in DPRK-US relations

First-ever DPRK-US summit held Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un issues a joint statement with US President Trump

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, met with US President Donald J. Trump on Sentosa Island, Singapore, on June 12 to hold the DPRK-US summit meeting and talks for the first time in history.

The first DPRK-US summit in the 21st century reflects the firm decision and will of the top leaders to put an end to the extremely acute hostility between the two countries that has persisted for the longest time in the world and to open up a new future in the interests of the two peoples and for the sake of global peace and security.

Thousands of paparazzi from across the world and numerous people gathered in different places of Singapore to watch every second of the long-awaited, defining moment.

Kim Jong Un left the lodging hotel at 8:10 am local time and arrived at Capella Hotel on Sentosa Island, the venue of the summit.

The flags of the DPRK and the US hung alongside at the lobby.

At 9:00 am local time, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un met and took the first handshake with US President Donald J. Trump.

This signalled the first step the top leaders of the two countries have taken towards reconciliation, coming face to face with each other for dialogue, for the first time in over 70 years—a period of conflict and



antagonism since the division of the Korean peninsula.

Kim Jong Un posed for a photograph with Trump before heading for the conference hall talking with the latter.

There were one-on-one talks between the two leaders.

It was really not that easy we have got to where we are, Kim Jong Un said, adding that we were once hostage to the past and had our eyes and ears covered by ingrained prejudice and practices. But we have braved it out, and we are now here at the new starting point, he noted.

The two leaders shared candid views on the pending issues of vital significance in ending the decades-long hostile relationship between the DPRK and the US and ensuring peace and stability on the Korean peninsula.

The tete-a-tete was followed by enlarged talks.

Present from the DPRK side

were Kim Yong Chol and Ri Su Yong, vice-chairmen of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho.

From the US side were Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, National Security Advisor John Bolton and White House Chief of Staff John Kelly.

Both sides held a comprehensive and in-depth discussion about the establishment of a new DPRK-US relationship and the setup of a permanent and stable peace regime on the Korean peninsula.

Noting that he is glad to sit together with President Trump and other members of the US delegation, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un highly appreciated Trump's willingness and passion to seek a negotiated, realistic settlement of the issues despite the past history of hostility between the two countries.

President Trump was hopeful that the summit would lead to the improvement of bilateral relations,

and attributed the current atmosphere of peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and beyond, which was teetering on the brink of military conflict even some months ago, to the proactive peace initiatives the Supreme Leader has taken from the outset of the year.

Many issues have stemmed from the deep-rooted distrust and hostility between the two countries, Kim Jong Un said, noting that both countries need to be understanding towards each other, promise to refrain from antagonizing the other party and

take legal and institutional measures to guarantee it in order to ensure peace and stability on the peninsula and denuclearize it.

He also stressed the need for both sides to take practical measures at an early date for implementing the issues dealt with at the talks and the joint statement.

He accepted on the spot Trump's request for recovering the remains of American soldiers and repatriating those already identified and gave an instruction on taking a step to address the issue as early as possible.

To build a permanent and stable peace regime on the Korean peninsula is vital for ensuring peace and security in the region and the rest of the world, said Kim Jong Un. And he pointed to the need to make a courageous decision to halt the provocative, hostile military actions for now.

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Summit: DPRK, US leaders agree to reset relations for a fine future

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Expressing his sympathy with it, Trump voiced his willingness to stop the US-south Korea joint military exercises, which the DPRK side regards as provocative, while the dialogue of goodwill is under way between the two countries, to offer a security assurance to the DPRK and to lift sanctions against it in keeping with the improvement of bilateral relations through dialogue and negotiations.

Kim Jong Un stated that if the US side takes genuine confidence-building measures to improve relations the DPRK is also ready to take additional goodwill measures of the next stage in kind.

The two leaders agreed that it is important to observe the principle of taking step-by-step and simultaneous action in the course of the effort to ensure peace, stability and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

After the talks, both sides got together for a luncheon.

They exchanged views on further promoting bilateral communication, contact and visit to build on the achievements made at the talks and drastically develop the bilateral ties.

After the luncheon, the two leaders had a walk, deepening rapport.

Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Donald J. Trump signed a joint statement of the Singapore summit.



Today both sides are to sign the historic joint statement which marks the departure from the past for a new start, Kim Jong Un said, adding that the world would witness a remarkable change.

Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Trump had a photograph taken as a token of the adoption of the momentous document and said their farewells.

They expressed their expectation and belief that the two countries would let bygones be bygones free

from hostility, distrust and hatred, move forward towards a fine, proud future that is mutually beneficial and usher in another new era, an age of cooperation.

Kim Jong Un invited Trump to visit Pyongyang at a convenient time and Trump also invited Kim Jong Un to visit the US.

They accepted each other's invitation with pleasure, believing that such invitation would provide another chance to improve relations.

The successful Singapore summit which drew enthusiastic support and welcome from around the world marks a megaevent of paramount importance in stimulating the current trend toward reconciliation, peace, stability and prosperity on the Korean peninsula and beyond and in effecting a dramatic turn in the relationship between the long-time foes as required by the developing times.

Compiled from KCNA



Joint statement of Singapore summit between Kim Jong Un, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, and Donald J. Trump, president of the USA

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Donald J. Trump, president of the United States of America, held the first historic summit in Singapore on June 12, 2018.

Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Trump conducted a comprehensive, in-depth and sincere exchange of opinions on the issues related to the establishment of new DPRK-US relations and the building of a lasting and robust peace regime on the Korean Peninsula.

President Trump committed to provide security guarantees to the DPRK and Chairman Kim Jong Un reaffirmed his firm and unwavering commitment to complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Convinced that the establishment of new DPRK-US relations will contribute to the peace and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula and of the world, and recognizing that mutual confidence building can promote the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Trump state the following:

1. The DPRK and the United States commit to establish new DPRK-US relations in accordance with the desire of the peoples of the two countries for peace and prosperity.
2. The DPRK and the United States will join their efforts to build a lasting

and stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula.

3. Reaffirming the April 27, 2018 Panmunjom Declaration, the DPRK commits to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

4. The DPRK and the United States commit to recovering POW/MIA remains, including the immediate repatriation of those already identified.

Having acknowledged that the DPRK-US summit, the first in history, was an epochal event of great significance in overcoming decades of tensions and hostilities between the two countries and for opening of a new future, Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Trump commit to implement the stipulations in this joint statement fully and expeditiously.

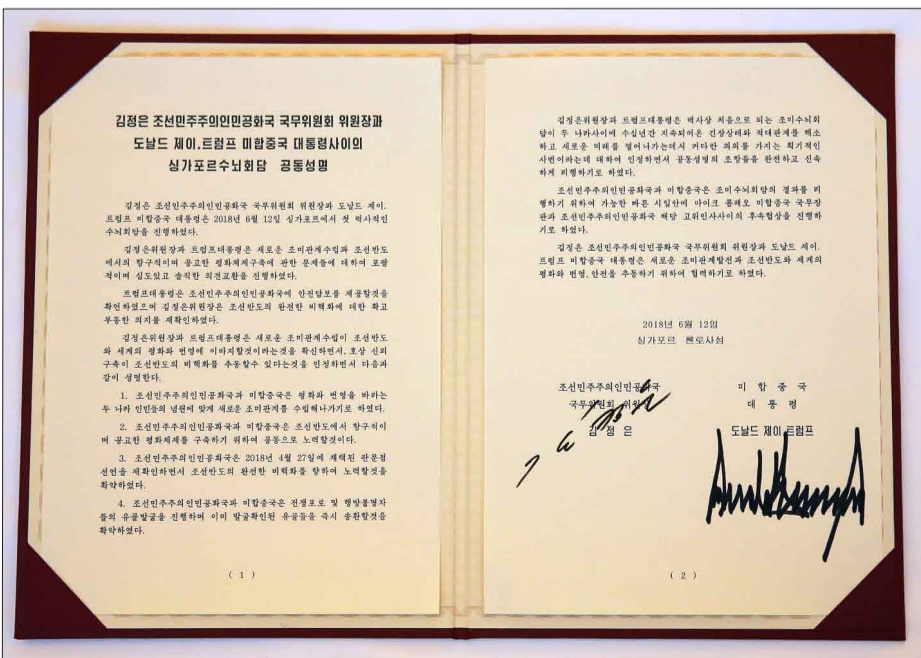
The DPRK and the United States commit to hold follow-on negotiations led by the US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and a relevant high-level DPRK official, at the earliest possible date, to implement the outcomes of the DPRK-US summit.

Chairman Kim Jong Un of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and President Donald J. Trump of the United States of America have committed to cooperate for the development of new DPRK-US relations and for the promotion of peace, prosperity, and security of the Korean Peninsula and of the world.

June 12, 2018
Sentosa Island of Singapore

Kim Jong Un
Chairman of the State Affairs Commission
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Donald J. Trump
President
of the United States of America



Singapore PM congratulates DPRK leader on successful summit

Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on June 12 sent a letter to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un in congratulation of the successful DPRK-US summit talks.

In his letter the Singaporean leader, extending congratulations to the Supreme Leader with regard to the successful conclusion of the historic summit meeting between the DPRK and the US, described the joint statement signed by Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump as a dramatic step forward and the first step of great significance in the long journey towards lasting peace

and stability on a denuclearized Korean peninsula.

He also said Singapore deems it an honour to have hosted such an important summit, congratulates together with the international community the DPRK on the successful meeting and wishes the DPRK and the US success in implementing their agreements.

With the belief that the Chairman would have had a good time in Singapore, touring around the Marina Bay, he said he would look forward to meeting him again in the near future.

Supreme leader Kim Jong Un visits Singapore for summit with US President

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, left Pyongyang on the morning of June 10 aboard a chartered Chinese plane to pay a visit to Singapore where the DPRK-US summit would take place.

He was accompanied by Kim Yong Chol and Ri Su Yong, members of the Political Bureau and vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee; Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho who is also member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; No Kwang Chol, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Kim Yo Jong, alternate member of the Political Bureau and first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee; Choe Son Hui, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs; and members of the WPK Central Committee and the DPRK SAC.

A ceremony was held at Pyongyang International Airport to bid farewell to him.

He shook hands with the senior Party and government officials including Kim Yong Nam, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, before getting on board.

Kim Jong Un arrived in Singapore in the afternoon on June 10.

Vivian Balakrishnan, foreign minister of Singapore, Ong Ye Kung, minister of Education, Chee Wee Kiong, permanent secretary of Foreign Affairs, and the director-general of the Department of Northeast Asian Affairs of the Foreign Ministry were at the airport to greet him.



Kim Jong Un met with Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the presidential palace.

Present there were Kim Yong Chol and Ri Su Yong, vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, and No Kwang Chol, minister of the People's Armed Forces.

Also present from the Singaporean side were Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan, Education Minister Ong Ye Kung, Maliki Bin Osman, senior minister of State for foreign affairs and defence, and the senior minister of State for culture, community, youth, trade and industry.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un shared warm greetings with Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and wrote his signature on the visitors' book before having a friendly talk with the latter.

He extended sincere regards and best wishes to the Singaporean government and people on behalf of the DPRK government and people, saying he was pleased to visit what he called a wonderful and beautiful country.

He expressed deep appreciation to the Singaporean government for providing all sorts of conditions and convenience for the historic DPRK-US summit meeting and talks.

Lee Hsien Loong said he was honoured by the DPRK's choosing of his country as the venue for the DPRK-US summit, and was hopeful that the unprecedented summit would mark an important occasion in ensuring peace and stability on the Korean peninsula.

Both sides agreed to maintain the fine relationship and promote rapport between the two countries and to boost broad exchange and cooperation, so as to develop bilateral ties in a wide range of fields.

Kim Jong Un inspected different places of Singapore on June 11 while staying in the city state.

He was shown around by Singaporean Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan and Education Minister Ong Ye Kung.

He acquainted himself with Singapore's socio-economic development as he looked round its

iconic Great Flower Garden, the Sky Park atop the world's renowned Marina Bay Sands building and the Port of Singapore.

On the way to the Port of Singapore he stopped on the Jubilee Bridge to be briefed about the future city layout and the Durian Theatre.

He expressed appreciation to the Singaporean officials for accompanying him till late at night to provide kind guide and introduction.

Kim Jong Un left his lodging hotel late on June 12, and set off on his journey back home after wrapping up the unprecedentedly

epoch-making DPRK-US summit in Singapore.

Vivian Balakrishnan, foreign minister of Singapore, and Ong Ye Kung, minister of Education, came to Changi International Airport to see him off.

They congratulated Kim Jong Un on his role in the successful DPRK-US summit.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un expressed appreciation again to the Singaporean government for the great effort and sincerity it devoted to hosting the DPRK-US summit.

He shared farewells with the Singaporean officials and got aboard the chartered Chinese plane, which landed on Pyongyang International Airport at 7:00 am on June 13.

A ceremony was held at the airport in honour of him.

Senior Party and government officials greeted him.

He shook hands with each official and sent his warm greetings to his beloved people around the country.

By PT staff reporter



RENOVATION

A facelift given to well-known village

Poman-ri in Sohng County, North Hwanghae Province, is known as a socialist fairyland.

The villagers proudly say that during the Arduous March when the country underwent unprecedented hardships people spruced up their villages full of optimism about the future, but Poman-ri can be claimed to be a fairyland.

The village nestles in such low mountains as Mangyong and Koridok, and its name "Poman" derives from its triangular shape like a wild goose taking wing.

The farming village presents a wonderful picture with cosy, modern houses and public buildings standing in rows at the sunny foot of hills that are covered with such fruit trees as peach, apple and jujube, extensive fish ponds teeming with rainbow trout, carps and silver carps and verdant farm fields.

It continues to be given a facelift as befits a modern socialist rural village.

It recently built or rebuilt many structures including several low apartment blocks,

dozens of blocks of houses for two families each, the Poman Health Complex, hall of culture, shop, hospital, senior middle school and vegetable greenhouse.

Rows of cottages with nameplates produce a pastoral mood.

In the yard of each house, sweet apricot, plum and peach trees spread their luxuriant branches and kidney bean plants grow up along the fence. And there are a vast kitchen garden in the front and animal sheds at the back. Each cottage has two or three living rooms, a kitchen and washroom and every element is convenient for farmers.

The farm benefits from the Poman Power Station built by damming the Sohng River flowing north.

The power plant, equipped with dozens of sluice gates and a generator with a gradient of 45 degrees, generates electricity all the year round, unaffected by seasonal influence.

The electricity is supplied

to dwelling houses, nursery, kindergarten, senior middle school, sci-tech learning space, thrashing ground, health complex and other public buildings and used for decorative illumination as well.

The health complex which is cylindrical in shape is furnished with an outdoor wading pool as well as bathrooms, a barber's shop and beauty parlour.

The ri people's hospital, kindergarten and school are equipped with modern treatment and educational facilities and environment. And the farm produces lots of fish to supply them to farmers though it is far away from sea. The farmers work hard to repay the favour shown by the country for their better living conditions.

"We've set a higher grain production target and introduce advanced farming methods including sparse cultivation in order to gather a bumper crop this year," said Chu Yong Chol, chief engineer of the farm.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Renowned Poman-ri has been given a facelift.

FISH FARMING

Catfish farm appears in remote village



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A catfish farm has been built in Rinsan County, North Hwanghae Province.

Rinsan County of North Hwanghae Province is a mountainous county, with mountains and forests covering 70 % of its cultivation area. As the Myorak Mountains stretch down the middle of the county, most of its farmland is the hills and strips of plains that are high. It has no large rivers and is far away from the sea, so fish which is abundant in the plain areas was considered a delicacy here. It was so rare that locals told old stories that their ancestors prepared sumptuous feasts of local specialities without fish.

A modern catfish farm has been built in such a place to satisfy the needs of the local people. The farm is located in Taechon-ri. It has solid material and technical foundations and favourable geographical conditions for farming catfish, tropical goldfish, carp, silver carp and their fries as fish farming has been put on a scientific and intensive basis.

In the thousands-of-square-metre compound of the farm, there are dozens of hot springs where 24-32°C quality tepid water comes up under the ground. With the daily yield of dozens of cubic metres, it contains useful elements including bicarbonate, sulphuric acid, calcium and magnesium.

The farm is furnished with

full conditions to put fish breeding on an industrial footing including a hatching house, vinyl sheet house for fattening, outdoor ponds, feed mill and protein-rich feed breeding ground. Water temperature, humidity and indoor temperature are adjusted automatically by the double power supply system, and the growth of fish and management of breeding are monitored and measured in the production control room in real time.

The breeding system is promising and the feed is supplied to suit its specific conditions to increase production. The technical staff raise the hatching rate of catfish in such a way as to stimulate the sexual growth of mother fish by using the brain of scaled freshwater fish and put the breeding and management of seed fish on a scientific basis to shorten the spawning period.

The food production cycle linking fish farm and animal husbandry set up in the farm, in particular, is a beneficial production method to increase the fattening rate of fish with less feed. The farm grows dozens of pigs, chickens and ducks in the non-heating solar-heated greenhouse, and passes their excrement to the protein-rich feed breeding ground to produce protein-rich insect and rotifers, which take a large proportion of non-cereal feed. It also draws the waste water from fish-breeding ponds into the tubificid breeding ground through *azolla filliculoides* cultivating ground to produce feed for fries and animals while reducing the damage to the surrounding environment by the waste water.

The farm now focuses on increasing the production of various fish and supplying fries to other units in the province.

KCNA



Farmers move into new homes with a ceremony.

Compiled from KCNA

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

INAUGURATION

Vegetable farm built in port city

The Songchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Wonsan, Kangwon Province has been inaugurated.

The farm consists of cosy modern houses, a hall of culture, nursery, kindergarten and agricultural sci-tech learning space.

The inaugural ceremony took place on June 12.

Pak Jong Nam, chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said that builders splendidly built lots of dwellings and public buildings in a short time by displaying

the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance as befit the creators of the spirit of Kangwon Province.

He called on farmers to increase vegetable production by widely introducing seeds of superior strains and high-yield farming methods and doing farm work properly as required by the Juche farming methods and to spruce up the farm.

After the ceremony was over, the participants looked round the farm.

EXHIBITION

New designs of furniture and acoustic building materials on display

A national exhibition of sci-tech achievements in the field of furniture, fittings and acoustic building materials took place at the Sci-Tech Complex between June 11 and 15.

The exhibition, on the theme of "Making furniture, fittings and acoustic building materials Juche-based, diversified, multifunctional and qualitatively good", drew more than 90 units including ministries, national agencies, scientific and educational institutions and industrial establishments under the provincial people's committees, which presented more than 400 research findings and products.

It was held in the form of exhibition, sci-tech presentation and exchange and service of new technologies and products, divided into furniture, fittings, acoustic building materials, material and design sectors.

Furniture pieces for houses, office rooms, educational institutions, public buildings and the outdoors and vehicles drew the attention of visitors as they were so designed to enrich emotion and add beauty to rooms and ensure a high level of cleanness and illuminance.

Also attractive were many pieces of light furniture and fittings which use less wood or have a high utility rate of wood as they

were made of various compound materials or byproducts of wood processing including wheat straw board, chipboard and wood fibre board.

Among them were a kind of furniture that uses honeycomb compressed paper board, the one which increases the utility rate of corrugated paper in the making of fittings, a fold-up piece of furniture using chipboard, the one that minimizes twist and change of the structure by wooden mosaic, compound board using plastic waste and wood by-product and wood window frame of three-layer glass using little wood. Some were made of natural coloured stones abundant in the country without using wood.

Other standouts were green furniture pieces good for the protection of ecological

environment and health such as bedclothes chest and table for table-tennis made from light burned magnesia, floorboard made of oak, harmful wave shielding bed, and highly effective sound- and cold-proof door, multipurpose and multifunctional furniture pieces, rotary wooden armchair and round cloth-covered chair, and teaching desk for primary school designed to use a variety of electronic equipment and cultural facilities.

On show were also antibiotic acrylic paint and various other glossy paints made of locally available raw and other materials, sound absorption and reflection boards, plastic and metal fittings and traditional lacquered furniture pieces.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

New designs of furniture, fittings and acoustic building materials attract the interest of viewers.

HEALTH FOOD

Research institute makes health foods with mushroom

The Central Mushroom Research Institute has recently developed a health food and medicine by using such mushrooms as *Ganoderma*, *Hericium erinaceum*, *Phellinus yucatanensis* and *Flammulina velutipes*.

The medicinal mushrooms are recognized as the "guardian of health" and ideal natural medicine that enhances the power of resistance to diseases and immunocompetence of organisms as they richly contain physiologically active substances including mushroom polysaccharides which have immunity control and anti-cancer effects, essential amino acid and vitamins.

A research team has worked on mushroom-based foods and medicines in recent years.

Researchers directed primary efforts to completing the artificial cultivation technique of *Ganoderma* and solved technical problems, establishing an efficient component extracting and separating technique for different mushrooms with the help of advanced technologies.

On this basis, they confirmed the content of efficient components and their pharmacological and clinical effectiveness, and combined the traditional drug manufacturing method with advanced processing one to maximize the properties of medicines, thereby manufacturing new health

foods, *Hericium erinaceum* and mushroom digestive nourishing pills.

The two health foods made with *Ganoderma* and *Hericium erinaceum* are effective for the treatment of stomach ulcer, indigestion and other digestive troubles.

They help enhance the power of resistance to diseases and relieve fatigue and stress by improving the overall immune function of organisms.

As they are rich in polysaccharide, they prove effective in preventing cancer.

They won high appraisal at last year's intellectual products exhibition and national sci-tech festival since they have not any inhibitory action against Western medicines but reduce their side-effects.

Liver-protecting capsules are also winning popularity.

The main raw materials are artificially-cultivated *Ganoderma*, *Phellinus yucatanensis* and *Poria cocos*.

As Koryo medicines, the mushrooms improve health and memory. They protect liver, lower blood-sugar levels and blood pressure, control immunity and have anti-oxidation and anti-cancer effects.

Clinical tests show that the capsules are specially efficacious for the prevention and treatment of liver troubles including chronic interstitial hepatitis and their effect is as good as silymarin.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Ganoderma capsules for liver protection developed by the Central Mushroom Research Institute.

WORLD EVENT

Event calls for voluntary blood donation

An event took place at the National Blood Centre in

Pyongyang on June 14 to mark World Blood Donor Day.

It was attended by health officials, those from relevant units, blood donors and resident members of the missions of international organizations.

Speakers expressed thanks to the blood donors, and referred to the successes and experiences gained in the blood transfusion in the DPRK.

The event serves as a good occasion in helping the donors take pride in their activities to save others' lives and encourage many others to follow suit with an awareness of blood donation, they



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

An event for World Blood Donor Day takes place at the National Blood Centre.

said.

The theme of this year's campaign is "Be there for someone else. Give blood. Share life", they noted, adding the theme calls on all the people to voluntarily take part in blood donation.

The blood transfusion services face a challenge: ensuring the quantity, quality and safety of blood, given safe blood is still in short supply in many countries, they stated.

The voluntary donation systems play an important role

in encouraging people to care for others and forge social ties and a united community, they said, underscoring the need to conduct brisk activities to inspire more people to donate blood voluntarily.

After the meeting the participants looked at the photos on display, visited the blood donation room and saw a performance given by the central artistic motivational team for increased production.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

CELEBRATED MOUNTAINS

Mt Paektu, Korea's ancestral mountain

Korea has so many scenic attractions that from time immemorial it was likened to a golden tapestry on which patterns of beautiful mountains and rivers are stitched.

Among such attractions are celebrated mountains, namely Paektu, Kumgang, Myohyang, Kuwol and Chilbo.

Mt Paektu stands north of Samjiyon County, Ryanggang Province.

As the highest mountain in Korea, 2 750 metres high, with a large lake on the summit, Paektu boasts unique scenery unseen in other mountains in terms of majesty, sublimity and enchantment.

When it comes to geological and geographical aspects, all of the Korean mountains and ranges have their origin in Mt Paektu, hence local people have long regarded it as their ancestral mountain.

The mountain is all the more held dear as a sacred mountain of the revolution because it is associated with the brilliant revolutionary history of President Kim Il Sung, who waged an anti-Japanese armed struggle there to win back the country's independence.

Mt Paektu derives its name from the fact that it is capped with snow all the year round.

It has different names. Some call it Thaeback (highest mountain) or Tothae (celestial mountain), while others call it Jangback or Sangback as it is covered with snow and ice throughout the year.

Mt Paektu was formed by four rounds of volcanic eruptions that occurred about a million years ago.

It consists of a chain of majestic peaks such as Janggun, Hyangdo, Ssangmujigae, Chongsok and Paegun, all over 2 500 metres above sea level, and Lake Chon on the summit adds to its mystery.

Lake Chon, with an area 9.16 km² and a maximum depth of 384 metres, was formed as water filled the caldera. The lake is incomparably larger and deeper than any other natural lakes.

The lake drains into the Amnok and Tuman rivers. Surrounded by steep cliffs, the water of the lake reflects a kaleidoscopic scene of the peaks.

Rare natural phenomena can be experienced on the summit.

The lake water is believed to be good for health and longevity as it contains major ions found in underground water or mineral water. Legend has it that if you drink a mouthful of the water you can live to be 100 years old.

The mountain area is the coldest in the country with its climate the most changeable.

The climate is so capricious that Korean ancestors described it as a freak of wind and cloud or the wonder of nature.

A panoramic view of Mt



A distant view of snow-capped Mt Paektu.

Paektu, with a vast expanse of primeval forests stretching out below and shrouded in a cascade of clouds, is really a sight to behold.

The mountain is well known for its "eight famous scenes".

What stands out of them is the spectacular sunrise on top of the mountain. It is quite thrilling to see the sun rise above the summit, casting a golden glow over the sky in early hours.

Majestic is a chain of high and low peaks that resembles a folding screen. The blizzards of Paektu are uniquely severe in such a way as to blast great drifts of snow high in the sky and raise rough waves on the

lake.

Janggun Peak commands a bird's-eye view of an endless fascinating vista of rolling fields—a sight that cannot be enjoyed in any other mountains. Lake Chon unfolds a unique combination of scenery of four seasons. Rhododendron flowers in snow and a shoal of char in the lake are rare sights to be seen.

The dense forests are a rich stock of resources.

The mountain and its vicinity are home to wild fruit, medicinal and edible herbs and aromatic plants. They also provide a good habitat to tiger, musk, bear, deer, owl, pheasant and other birds.

Mt Paektu is one of the major tourist destinations in the DPRK.

It is 385 kilometres straight away from Pyongyang. Air and rail services are available. It will take an hour to fly to the mountain.

A 1 570-metre-long staircase that runs from the summit to the lakeside will make it enjoyable to see the sight of the shore.

Mt Paektu was inscribed on the international biosphere reserves list in 1989.

Ri Ok Suk, lecturer at the Earth Environmental Science Department of Kim Il Sung University



An overall view of Lake Chon on top of Mt Paektu.



The sunrise on Mt Paektu.



The blizzard on Mt Paektu.



The shore of Lake Chon in summer.



Char inhabiting Lake Chon.

VOLLEYBALL

Senior first-division volleyball competition ends

The senior first-division volleyball competition of the Pochonbo Torch Prize Games that started on June 7 came to a close.

Men of Kigwancha, Amnokgang, Pyongyang, April 25 and Sobaeksu and women of Amnokgang, Sobaeksu, Pyongyang, Hyongjesan and Kigwancha played round-robins first and then the first three of them proceeded to compete with each other, and the final rankings of the games were decided by putting together the results of the two events.

Amnokgang and April 25 played their final match at the Volleyball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on June 13.

April 25 had won the first-division competitions both at the Paektusan Prize Games in Celebration of the Day of the Shining Star and the Mangyongdae Prize Games in Celebration of the Day of the Sun held in February and April.

It made a clean sweep of the recent round-robin and overpowered Sobaeksu 3-0 in the first match of the latter event.

Amnokgang that finished runner-up in the round-robin with three wins and one loss beat Sobaeksu 3-2 and came to fight the final match with April 25.

Earlier, on June 10, April 25 outvalled Amnokgang 3-0.

In the final match, the former won the first and second rounds by dint of powerful smash, tight defence and instantaneous hit, and the latter outplayed the former in the third round employing light touch and turning and rear smashes.

In the fourth round, April 25 increased the scoring rate with a fantastic combination of attack and defence to outdo the opponent 25-12.

On the same day women of Amnokgang defeated those of Hyongjesan 3-1.

As a result, April 25 men and Amnokgang women led others in total rankings, Amnokgang men and Sobaeksu women finished runners-up and Sobaeksu men and Hyongjesan women came third.

By **Jong Tang Song** PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the match between April 25 and Amnokgang in the senior first-division volleyball competition.

Kangryong Unjong Tea

Harvest of tea leaves is in full swing at the Unjong Tea Plantation in Kangryong County, South Hwanghae Province, the DPRK.

Last year, the plantation expanded over 30 hectares of fields.

According to experts, the local topography has a positive effect on flavour and aroma of tea, though it lies in the latitudinally northern area as compared to other countries.

President Kim Il Sung organized a research group and designated the area for pilot project.

Chairman Kim Jong Il paid deep attention to the research into tea cultivation to make people enjoy tasty tea. When the cultivation of tea trees was succeeded, he took a measure to inaugurate the Kangryong Unjong Tea Plantation.

Now, the Unjong tea serves as a specialty adding fragrance to the local way of life.

It is divided into Kangryong black and green teas.

It is rich in various medicinal elements like catechin and essential amino acids and vitamins.

It is efficacious for senile arteriosclerosis, hypertension and cardiomegaly and has the urinary, detox, anti-cancer and anti-aging effects with excellent savour and peculiar aroma.

Compiled from KCNA

TRADITIONAL FOOD

Mung-bean pancake

The Korean people have used mung bean to make various foods since ancient times.

Among them mung-bean pancake is a traditional food.

It is made by milling watered mung beans and frying them in a round and flat shape.

According to an old record, in the late 17th century mung-bean pancake was made by scooping thickly milled watered mung beans in a pan a little, mixing boiled chestnut and honey on it and covering it with another scoop of milled mung beans before stuffing pine nuts and jujubes into it.

Mung bean has a rich content of substances good for health like protein, oil, carbohydrate, minerals and vitamins. It is unique in taste and fragrance, highly nutritious and has detoxifying effect on the body.

The traditional recipes for mung-bean pancake vary according to localities.

In Pyongyang, for example,



Boil pork with lard, or pork fat, cut some into thin pieces and other part into slices. Put prepared mung beans, kimchi, pork, red pepper and Welsh onion in a dish and mix

them. Sprinkle it with powdered pepper and season it with salt. Pour pork fat on the frying-pan, scoop the prepared material on it and fry it round and flat. Put a sliced meat with lard in the middle of each pancake while frying.

Mung-bean pancake is a favourite food of the Korean people and one of the four specialities of Pyongyang. The traditional recipe for it is on the national intangible cultural heritage list.

Sim In Dok

NATIONAL ICH

Beekeeping

The Korean people have raised bees since olden times.

Beekeeping was encouraged and spread in wider areas during the feudal Joseon dynasty through the periods of ancient times and Three Kingdoms.

The season suitable for beekeeping is generally from May to late August.

The varieties of bees the Korean people have widely raised include golden, black and native kinds.

With deep understanding of the habit of bees that collect, process, store and have feed by themselves, the Korean ancestors raised bees in quiet and open places with no obstacles.

They made beehives so that mother bees could feed young bees on beeswax generated from their abdomen and keep feed there, and used movable-frame hives and their protecting fixtures, bee-handling appliances and honey processing tools.

They harvested honey two times a year, in summer and autumn, and sometimes skipped a year to gather much honey next year.

Beekeeping consists of

bee breeding, raising and management, honey harvest and prevention of harmful insects and wild bees, and the bee breeding is divided into raising of queen bee and creating of a new family.

It produces tasty and nutritious honey, as well as beeswax, bee milk, and bee-toxin.

It also helps the pollination of crops to increase their yield.

The bee yards run by many families, cooperative farms and enterprises now turn out a great deal of honey every year by introducing advanced science and technology and management methods into the management of bees and honey processing while drawing on the valuable experiences and manner of beekeeping created

by the ancestors.

The traditional beekeeping custom is on the national intangible cultural heritage list.

Ri Song Gyu



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A beekeeper takes care of bees.