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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un provides on-site guidance to different units

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, inspected the preparations for the construction of the Onpho greenhouse farm in Kyongsong County of North Hamgyong Province.

One month ago he visited the county to designate the site for a large-scale greenhouse farm capable of raising different sorts of vegetables all the year round. He came to the spot again and checked the layout of the farm and the map showing the current situation before touring the area.

Given the huge area of the farm, he noted, it is needed to turn the area into the one that embodies the Party's popular and patriotic policies by adding to the area a modern tree nursery.

He underscored the need to deeply study the world's trend of the development of science and technology and advanced sci-tech materials on greenhouse farming so as to work out the most reasonable plan that suits the specific conditions of the country and build the greenhouse farm at the top level.

Saying the greenhouse farm project is an important undertaking to help improve the dietary life of the local people, he called for finishing the project as early as possible and turning the area into a "gold land" to prove the validity and vitality of the



Party's policies in practice and give full play to them.

Kim Jong Un revisited the construction sites in Samjiyon County, with his wife Ri Sol Ju.

He expressed great satisfaction, saying that it is only 40 days since he came to the construction sites in the county town of Samjiyon and they have changed beyond recognition in the meantime. He

added that a majestic town has begun to take shape thanks to the strenuous efforts the builders have made with pure loyalty true to the Party's intention to facelift Samjiyon County, where the home of the revolution is located, into a fabulous mountainous town in the era of the Workers' Party.

This year marking the 70th anniversary of the DPRK, he said,

gigantic structures are springing up like mushrooms as dramatic changes are taking place in Samjiyon County, Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area, power station projects and other construction sites across the country, and numerous units are competitively making tangible achievements. There are still grave obstacles standing in the way of our socialism due to the hostile forces' tenacious moves for sanctions and suffocation, but the correspondingly

growing enthusiasm of the people who have turned out in high spirits in response to the Party's call results in a miraculous reality against all odds, he said. This is a testimony to the high morale of our army and people and the strength of our country where all the people are united single-mindedly around the Party, he noted.

We should have a high sense of class consciousness that it is an acute standoff with hostile forces to remodel the county with the home of the revolution, not regarding it as a mere construction project, and build up a modern town epitomizing our socialist civilization—just at the foot of Mt Paektu, he stressed.

This construction project in the northern area to which the Party attaches so much importance is not just aimed at sprucing up Samjiyon County alone but at getting experience and setting an example for working out the future plan to facelift most counties to be highly civilized ones, he said. It is needed first to create archetypes before setting examples for lowland, mountainous and coastal counties so as to generalize them, he said.

Feasting his eyes on a panoramic view of the seething construction



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sites, he said that builders have come from across the country in response to the Party's call to rebuild the county where Chairman Kim Jong Il was born as devotedly as they do their home yards while working up a sweat of pure conscience and obligation. He asked the relevant officials to give his warm comradely greetings to all the builders.

Kim Jong Un inspected the Myohyangsan Medical Appliances Factory.

He looked round the hall dedicated to education with revolutionary relics, sci-tech learning space and different workshops of the factory to familiarize himself with the production of medical apparatuses.

In order to make our people fully enjoy the benefits of modern and quality medical service under the free medical care system, he noted, it is imperative to decisively solidify the material and technical foundations of the public health sector. He said that state measures should be taken and efforts should be concentrated so as to develop pharmaceutical and medical appliances industries and increase the production of over-the-counter medicines and medical apparatuses and thereby give full play to the advantages of our socialist health system centred on the people.

He proposed arranging production environment to meet the international

standard, modernizing production processes on the basis of the latest science and technology and turning the factory into the ultra-modern one capable of producing highly efficient and quality medical equipment and appliances that are up to international standards.

After modernizing the Myohyangsan Medical Appliances Factory, he said, it is needed to upgrade and reenergize the whole of medical appliances factories under the Medical Appliances Industry Management Bureau of the Ministry of Public Health and improve the level of their technical equipment by drawing on the experience so as to radically innovate the material and technical foundations of the health sector.

He told relevant officials to better design the universal dentist's chair and appliances for treating diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat that are manufactured at the factory in keeping with the developing reality, improve their quality and mass-produce them at a high level so as to supply them to hospitals throughout



the country, and to press on with the expansion of the variety of medical equipment and appliances.

In order to ensure the long-range development of the medical appliances industry, he pointed out, it is needed to work out realistic annual and phased plans for three to four years and dynamically press ahead with them while strictly reviewing the results, thereby turning the medical appliances factories of the country into modern ones producing excellent medical facilities on the basis of advanced science and technology.

Noting that he would undertake the

upgrading of the factory, he specified the direction of the tasks facing the relevant sectors.

During his inspection tours, he was accompanied by Hwang Pyong So, first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee; Jo Yong Won, O Il Jong, Pak Song Chol and Kim Yong Su, deputy department directors of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Chang Son, department director of the State Affairs Commission; and Ma Won Chun, bureau director of the SAC.

By PT staff reporter

State funeral of Marshal Kim Yong Chun held with the Supreme Leader in attendance

A state funeral of Marshal of the Korean People's Army Kim Yong Chun, member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, deputy to the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly and general adviser to the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces, solemnly took place in Pyongyang on August 20.

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, attended the ceremony of bidding the last farewell to the deceased.

There was a ceremony of carrying the coffin out of the April 25 House of Culture.

It was attended by members of the

state funeral committee.

The coffin was carried out of the house amid the playing of the funeral music.

The armoured car carrying the coffin left for the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri, escorted by motorcycles.

The streets of the capital, including Pipha Street, Hasin Street and Ryonmot-dong, were crowded with service personnel of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Internal Security Forces and Pyongyang citizens who bade farewell to the deceased in deep sorrow.

A ceremony of bidding the last farewell to the deceased took place at the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un climbed the cemetery with members of the state funeral committee, following the coffin.

Army General Kim Su Gil, director of the KPA General Political Bureau, made a eulogy.

The remains of the deceased were buried amid the playing of funeral music and the firing of a volley for the deceased.

The Supreme Leader spread earth on the remains with bitter grief over the loss of the revolutionary comrade-in-arms boundlessly loyal to the Party.

Senior officials of military organs and bereaved family members spread earth on the remains.

A wreath bearing the name of Kim Jong Un and wreaths in the names of the WPK Central Committee, the WPK Central Military Commission, the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly and the DPRK Cabinet were laid at the grave amid the playing of wreath-laying music.

The Supreme Leader observed a moment's silence in memory of Kim Yong Chun.

Members of the state funeral committee, bereaved family members and officials of Party and military organs observed a minute's silence in memory of the deceased.

Compiled from KCNA



DPRK  70th anniversary

Towards final victory

With the 70th anniversary of the DPRK just in the offing, the Korean people proudly look back upon the years when they worked heroically and made miraculous achievements under the leadership of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, full of confidence in their final victory.

In the past six years replete with stirring events and eye-opening achievements socialist Korea maximized its national power.

The Supreme Leader firmly consolidated the foundations of the Juche-based revolution laid by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il and ushered in an era of great turn unprecedented in the history of the nation by wisely leading socialist construction to make great innovations and leaps forward on all the fronts.

At the historical watershed marking the start of a new century of Juche era he declared the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the eternal guiding ideology of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state and unfolded the long-term strategy for the Korean revolution and the grand plan for building a powerful country, thereby brightly illuminating the path to be followed to build up national strength.

A new state leadership system was established in line with the requirements of the times and the developing revolution and the unified leadership of the Party over all state affairs strictly ensured to invariably carry on the popular character of the DPRK and further consolidate the socialist state political system.

The DPRK government further solidified single-minded unity into the most pure-hearted and firmest ideological, spiritual

and moral unity pulsating with one ideology, intention and feeling and radically increased the country's political and ideological strength by setting the people-first principle as the principle of state activities and its mode of existence and prioritizing and making absolute their demands and interests.

It ushered in a heyday in the building of a socialist power by building up the country's scientific and technological force and independent economic power upholding the banner of self-development-first principle.

With the climate of acknowledging the importance of science and technology prevailing the whole country a huge army of scientists and technicians were trained, the ranks of intelligent working people increased and the country's science and technology developed rapidly.

In particular, earth observation satellite Kwangmyongsong 4 was successfully put into orbit, paving the way for conquering the outer space. The core basic technology, space technology and other advanced science and technology also saw rapid progress.

The Korean-style oxygen blast furnace was built at the Kim Chack Iron and Steel Complex, consumer goods were diversified in many light industry factories, while projects were dynamically pushed to put the national economy on a Juche, modern and IT basis, Juche-oriented production systems were established and model production bases of the knowledge economy age sprang up.

The agricultural sector widely introduced scientific farming methods to increase the number of high-yield farms and workteams and reap unprecedentedly rich fruit



A bird's eye view of Pyongyang's landmark Sci-Tech Complex.

KCNA

harvest despite unfavourable weather conditions.

World-class cultural and leisure activity centres and modern streets were built one after another in a short time.

As the spiritual strength of self-reliance and self-development was given full play to and science and technology steadily developed, the whole country seethed with activities to create the spirit and speed of the times.

Many units set examples in the drive to create the Mallima speed, and many factories and enterprises carried out their annual economic plans ahead of schedule and broke the peak production year records.

Today the Korean people make continuous innovations and advance to achieve the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic development while demonstrating the power of its independent economy and

the advantages and might of Korean-style socialism to the full.

The DPRK government has set it as one of the major goals for the building of a socialist power to build a civilized country and directs a great deal of energies to radically improving education, public health, sports, art and literature and other fields.

The universal 12-year compulsory education was in force, the all-people study system and large institutions and bases for the diffusion of latest science and technology were established and a nationwide drive was staged to upgrade scientific and educational facilities and environment.

World-class health institutions sprang up and a nationwide healthcare system was established as befits a civilized nation, providing people with better conditions to enjoy free medical care.

Today the DPRK has emerged as a strategic nation demonstrating to the world the independent dignity and national power of the country by building up the most powerful self-defensive military capability under the wise leadership of the Supreme Leader.

The past six years were, indeed, a period when the country witnessed significant events and made proud achievements exalting the dignity and national power of the country one after another in all fields.

The DPRK, which adorned its 70-year history with gigantic creations and changes, will continue to fight and advance till it wins final victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche and bring earlier without fail the future of a socialist power where all people live a dignified and happy life.

Ri Yong Su

Journey of devotion in scorching weather

Last midsummer was extraordinarily hot, but the Korean people's excitement did not wilt in the face of the searing heat.

They have been overwhelmed by deep gratitude to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un for having continued an inspection journey of love and devotion in the suffocating hotness around 40 degrees centigrade.

At the news of the continuous inspection tours he made despite the most extreme heat wave the country's meteorological observation has ever recorded, the people were filled with deep

emotion as it reminded them of the "midsummer forced march" of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

According to official news reports alone, he inspected as many as nearly 30 units in North Phyongan, Ryanggang, North Hamgyong, Kangwon and South Phyongan provinces, Pyongyang and elsewhere in some 50 days from early July.

In Samjiyon County he looked round different construction sites to inspire people to create a model of mountainous city epitomizing modern civilization. And at the factory that broke new ground in potato-processing industry

he took scrupulous measures to mass-produce potato products, before proceeding with his forced march towards North Hamgyong Province. He unfolded a plan for doing offshore fish farming on a large scale at a leading salmon production base, so as to enrich the diet of the people, and designated the site for a large greenhouse farm capable of satisfying the needs of the provincial people for vegetables and specified the direction of its construction.

He also toured different units in Kangwon Province in succession to encourage working people to further efforts.

August 3 was one of a few days that drew special attention of people.

That day it was forecast that the high temperature would reach its extremes.

But the extremes of weather could not block his way to the trolleybus factory and tramcar station.

Although it was late at night, it was choking hot as the heated asphalt road sent out boiling steam. Overseeing the test run of a new trolleybus and tramcar, he was very satisfied all the way as he pictured the happy people using the modern means of public transport with better internal environment and fittings.

And he was dripping with perspiration when he gave thanks to those who manufactured the vehicles by local efforts and technology.

Seeing his image on TV, the

Koreans felt his intense love for them more keenly.

He continued his inspection tours to the Samchon Catfish Farm, the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory and the Station for Stocking Lake Yonphung with Fishes with an eye to improving the people's living standards.

One late night in mid-August he looked round the hot spring area in Yangdok County, South Phyongan Province with a plan to build a comprehensive, modern and exemplary recuperation and tourist resort.

Midsummer passed this way on this land.

His devotion to the people has built up their reverence for and trust in him and all of them are filled with the resolve to repay his favour.

Pyon Mun Yong

STEEL

Making Juche iron production more scientific

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex is striving to update the technical and economic indices of Juche iron production.

A new automatic feeder and mixer have been developed and applied to the raw material supply system and charge measurement has been put on a scientific basis to eliminate fluctuations in the supply of raw materials and fuel, which has made it possible to save 5 000 tons of fuel in a year.

Technicians of the blast furnace workshop contrived and applied a method of repairing the lower part of the furnace using carbon refractory to increase the repair cycle by more than five months, and introduced a technique of drying and heating the furnace with graphite lunkerite to hasten the date of normal operation after repair by over 10 days on average while saving a great deal of ignition fuel and oxygen. Especially, the workshop employed an innovative method of operating the furnace efficiently and ensuring sufficient heat exchange in it under conditions of different raw and other materials, thereby raising secondary combustion rate and

increasing the productivity of the furnace by 10-15 percent. It cut the time of slag formation by a third and the first tapping time by half in order to shorten the initial kindling time. It also applied a new gas analysis device and system to boost the level of scientific operation of the furnace.

The oxygen plant workshop repaired the expander, remodelled the water cooler and updated the program of high voltage-frequency converter to operate the oxygen plant at full capacity, thus increasing oxygen production by more than 30 percent.

Technicians of the generating system introduced a method of reducing temperature and pressure and a synchronizing technique to increase generating efficiency and keep production up unaffected by load fluctuations, and lengthened the service life of the channels of molten iron and slag over 10 times with locally abundant raw and other materials.

At the oxygen blast furnace at present, the consumption per unit of oxygen and fuel has been lowered by over 24 percent as compared to its initial days and the cost

of Juche iron production by nearly 20 percent, while the monthly average output has been doubled.

By drawing on such successes, the complex is pressing ahead with the projects for updating the technical and economic indices of Juche iron production, including the remodelling of large-capacity facilities and the introduction of dozens of technical innovation plans.

An oxygen electric furnace was built and given a general trial run on August 15 at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex.

The crimson molten iron that met technical indices poured out from the furnace charged with that from the oxygen blast furnace.

The workers and technicians made ingot steel by sending the well-done molten iron to the continuous ingot moulder.

As a result, the oxygen electric furnace proved its advantages with high productivity and economic efficiency.

The complex now focuses on putting the operation of this furnace on normal footing.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



Steel output picks up at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex.

GRASSWORK

Housewives produce popular grasswork



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Members of the Pothonggang District Housewives' Cooperative discuss how to improve grasswork products.

The grasswork booth at Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 is now unprecedentedly crowded, with the demand for straw hats growing sharply due to weeks-long sweltering weather. Customers—young and old, men and women—are eager to choose their own things among straw hats in different sizes and shapes.

The delicate and exquisite hats made of narrow sedge have been produced by housewives. In their leisure time, they get together and make a variety of sundry goods including grasswork, toys, gloves and brushes. Among the products straw hats are very popular throughout the country, to say nothing of Pyongyang.

"Until six years ago, we did not make grasswork. Five women learned first how to make it and they brought up 20 skilled workers to form a workteam. Now we teach our skills to other units," said Rim Hyang Gwon, a workteam leader of the housewives' cooperatives in Pothonggang District.

Grasswork requires a large proportion of manual work, so the workteam is furnished

with different machines like a sedge thread twisting device, as well as high-pressure steam sterilization and pigment-making processes. The pigments made by the workteam do not spread and discolour even if they are exposed to rain or get soaked. Housewives produce shoe liner, doily and other goods with by-products.

In recent years, this small cooperative produced well over a dozen kinds of grasswork. Various hat moulds, patterns, framework techniques and pigments applied to production were all invented and completed by pooling the intelligence of women. The producers are now striving to diversify products based on different raw materials.

"Our skills are not gifted ones. We have acquired them while learning and working together. We will pool our wisdom to produce better products," said Jon Myong Sun, chairwoman of the management board of the cooperative.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

PAINT

Paint provides germ-free environment

Antibiotic functional epoxy resin paint developed by the Kumpit Trading Company is now very popular with customers.

It is a green paint which can provide germ-free environment without using sterilizing facilities or disinfectants in workplaces of the public health sector and pharmaceutical, foodstuff, chemical and high-tech products factories.

"People want to become healthier and demand higher hygienic environment as their living standards improve.

Their wish has been realized by inorganic nano antibiotics which are regarded as one of the advanced functional materials of the new generation as they have a wide antibiotic range and long durability with no negative effect on environment. Today, the inorganic nano antibiotics have come deep into our everyday life, including a variety of daily necessities such as smartphone, computer keyboard, TV, refrigerator handle, washing machine and toy as well as environment-friendly paint," said key

developer Paek Yong Chol.

According to him, nano zinc oxide and silver are typical inorganic nano antibiotics.

Nano silver is the best inorganic nano antibiotic. It is strong against over 650 kinds of bacteria and viruses, but very expensive.

But nano zinc oxide has antibiotic effects even without light. It is cheaper and costs less than such a precious metal as silver. More important is that it has no danger of being accumulated in human body as it is dissociated as Zn²⁺ in it.

It has also a strong ultraviolet-blocking capacity, which is helpful to improving the aging-retarding performance of paints and lengthening their serviceable life.

The technical staff of the company conducted intensive research to enhance the antibiotic characters against various pathogenic bacteria and finally succeeded in establishing a compound manufacturing technology of nano zinc oxide and silver.

On the basis of it, they introduced the surface treatment agent and method of nano materials to suit the properties of epoxy resins and solved the problems of dispersibility and compatibility between nano and epoxy resin substrate materials.

As a result, though previously bacteria and germs

were not killed on the floors or walls painted with those to which nano materials were not applied, the epoxy resin paint using nano compound antibiotic materials kills more than 99.5 percent of colon bacilli and yellow staphylococcus, screens the ultraviolet rays at over 80 percent and has a more than two times longer servable life.

The nano antibiotic epoxy resin paint was highly appreciated at the national nanotechnology show and obtained national patent last year. It has been introduced into the Pyongyang Taegyong Laver-processing Factory, Ryugyong Fermented Soybean Factory and many other units, winning growing popularity with customers.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

GIFT

Treasure house showcases worldwide reverence for great men

The International Friendship Exhibition House nestles in Mt Myohyang, adding to the majestic beauty of one of the six celebrated mountains of Korea.

It houses more than 115 000 gifts presented to President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un by heads of state and government, party leaders and personages from over 180 countries and international organizations as well.

Many years back the President and the Chairman said the gifts to them were not personal property but public one and wealth of the country and saw that the International Friendship Exhibition House was built on picturesque Mt Myohyang to hand them down to posterity.

It is 40 years since the exhibition house was built on the banks of the Myohyang Stream at the proposal of the President, and now it has become the most valuable treasure of the nation and the greatest pride in the 5 000-year history of the Korean nation.

The gable roofs of its buildings blend in so well with their traditional colourful paintings and the surrounding landscape that they remind viewers of a flock of flying cranes.

Flower patterns of Kimilsungia, magnolia and azalea painted on angle rafters and walls, wind bells hanging

from the eaves and flower-embossed bronze gates of the house, each weighing four tons, offer a glimpse of the developing features of the national architecture.

The exhibits range from works of art depicting the images of the great leaders to their classical works translated in different languages, books explaining their revolutionary ideas and history, poems and songs praising their wise leadership and noble personality traits, rare medicines, clothes and pieces of furniture, cars and aircraft, handicrafts including gold and silver ornaments, other valuable articles and stuffed animals. Every piece of them is associated with ardent reverence for and warm devotion to the peerlessly great men of Mt Paektu who performed great feats for the Korean revolution and the cause of independence of humankind.

On show at the exhibition house are more than 71 000 gifts to the President from party and government leaders and other people of over 170 countries. They include a portrait of him drawn with 3 000 Arabic letters that form a translation of his work *The Non-Aligned Movement Is a Mighty Anti-imperialist Revolutionary Force of Our Times* from the director of the Arabian Gulf information organization of Syria, ivory sculpture "President



PHOTOS BY PAK CHANG BOK

The International Friendship Exhibition House is visited by lots of people every year.

Kim Il Sung's old home at Mangyongdae" decorated with 65 magnolias signifying his 65th birthday from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, a fountain pen bearing all 620 letters of the speech made by the then Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, when the President visited China in November 1958, a crocodile skin briefcase from former Cuban President Fidel Castro Ruz on the occasion of his 65th birthday, a car from Chairman Joseph Stalin of

the Council of Ministers of the former Soviet Union and two tusks, each of which is 2.5 metres long and weighs 55 kg, from Central Africa. They fully mirror the boundless respect and reverence of the world people for the President.

Gifts to Chairman Kim Jong Il reflect the great admiration of the world's progressives for his benevolent personality and wise leadership and their passionate loyalty to him.

A company director from Hong Kong and his party presented him a shell craft "Sunrise on Mt Paektu". Made by crushing and trimming into billions of pieces coloured shells purchased from different parts of the world, the solemnly depicted sunrise shows their wish for good health of the Chairman who was born with the spirit of Mt Paektu.

Among over 40 000 gifts presented to him are wooden sculpture "Angkor Wat" from Cambodian Great King Norodom Sihanouk and an autograph and crystal vessel from former US

president Jimmy Carter and his wife.

Profound respect of the world people for Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un is seen on the many gifts presented to him.

Among them is oil painting "General Kim Jong Un, the sun of guidance" which shows his image in the centre surrounded by sunflowers with the globe in the background. It was presented by the international preparatory committee for the celebration of the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung by reflecting the excitement and joy of having acclaimed another outstanding leader who would lead the world revolution and the cause of independence for humankind.

Others include those from the Mongolian President and former NBA player Dennis Rodman.

An endless stream of foreign and local visitors flow to the International Friendship Exhibition House every day.

By Jong Tang Song PT



COSMETICS

Pomhyanggi enjoys growing popularity

The Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory develops and produces various Pomhyanggi-brand cosmetics that are favoured by consumers.

The factory strives to develop new products, update techniques and raise the quality of its goods by motivating all employees including workshop managers, workteam leaders and skilled workers as well as researchers.

Steady efforts are made to develop various functional raw materials and cosmetics, and their effects on the skin are examined scrupulously.

There are different laboratories and an industrial experimental station. They develop new goods, manage

GMP and update standards and design processes, programs and equipment in keeping with the trend of development of modern cosmetic industry while mapping out sales strategy on the basis of steady marketing.

Workers who work concurrently as researchers make up half the total research staff of the factory.

The factory also positively collects and use information.

The factory has built a large database embracing latest information on successes made in chemical and light industries and the medical field around the world to keep abreast of the trend of the development of cosmetic industry. It

analyses and synthesizes the data constantly to develop new products, improve their quality and ensure domestic production of raw materials.

It turns out hundreds of kinds of articles including the world's trendy functional cosmetics.

It developed various functional materials such as whitening, moisture-keeping and ageing-retarding agents, ideally combined different ingredients to maximize the efficiency of products and ensured their serial production according to the users' ages, skin characters and sex.

Especially favoured cosmetics are those for actors and actresses, brides and other people, skincare products designed to treat pimples and inflammation, repair skin damage caused by cosmetics and redress imbalance in skin moisture, those that are good for dry skin, foundation for adolescent girls and middle-aged women and whitening and anti-ageing cosmetics.

The factory's anti-ageing cosmetics, anti-ultraviolet lotion, acne treatment cream and anti-inflammatory cream for babies were highly appreciated at the recent 16th national inventions exhibition for their beauty effects and skin-protection and pharmacological functions.



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Pomhyanggi-brand cosmetics are packaged at the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

HEALTH FOOD

Loach dishes good for health

Loach is a freshwater fish found anywhere in Korea, which has many rivers and streams.

It contains a large amount of quality protein rich in essential amino acids including tryptophan and methionine and of vitamin B group as well as calcium, iron and other minerals. In particular, it has more vitamin B2 than animal livers and more iron than spinach. As it helps warm internal organs and promote blood circulation, it has tonic effect and is helpful to reducing swellings, neutralizing poison, recovering liver functions and treating hemorrhoids and anemia.

For such pharmacological action, the Korean people have made various dishes with it since olden times.

A typical example is loach soup.

Loach soup is boiled with various other materials and the recipe for it differs from each other according to localities.

The first process is to put loaches into one percent salt water to remove silt from them,

wash them clean, and spread salt again over them to clean the ooze from the surface.

Put sliced ginger and Welsh onion into light salt water and boil it a little before putting into it loaches cut into certain lengths. When loaches are cooked, roast minced beef slightly, add it to the soup and boil it. Add bean paste or hot pepper paste, crown daisy and parsley to it and boil it again before putting sliced tofu (bean curd) into it. When it rises to the surface, season the soup with salt and spread largely cut pepper and Welsh onion, smashed garlic, powdered black pepper and juicy ginger. Loach soup develops savoury taste only when it is boiled in bean paste or hot pepper paste.

Loach soup can also be made by washing loaches and putting them into hot uncurdled bean curd before wrapping it in a cloth to make

bean curd blocks and cutting them into small pieces to make soup.

Loach gruel is a good food for nourishing weak children.

Hard-boiled loach is often prepared as a special dish for significant events or holidays.

It is easy to make loach dishes and they are good health-promoting foods liked by all from children to the elderly.

Kim Jong Sun, PhD and Merited Cook at Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Loach soup, a health-promoting food.

PROFILE

Rising to int'l fame as vocalist



HAM YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A DPRK contralto won the first prize at the First Pyongyang International Vocal Competition in April.

Kim Kyong Ju (pictured) from the National Folk Art Troupe overpowered over 30 competitors to stand on the rostrum.

It was hard to predict who would win as the competition drew talented singers including international and national contest winners from many countries.

But the 25-year-old who had only one-year professional career attracted special attention from the international jury all through the competition.

In the first and second parts of the competition, she sang Korean song *Night of Home Village* and a song from Mozart's opera *The Marriage of Figaro* to captivate the jury and the audience.

In the third appearance, she flawlessly sang Korean song

Arirang and songs from world-famous operas in her rich, characteristic voice.

All the members of the jury including a professor from the Salzburg Mozart conservatory of music in Austria lavished praise on her for her superb artistry and rendition.

When the competition result was announced many competitors sincerely congratulated her, saying they were unaware of the high level of the Korean arts.

After the competition she participated in the 31st April Spring Friendship Art Festival to give free play to her vocal virtuosity, giving a deep impression to music lovers at home and abroad.

Kim started to learn singing at the age of 12.

She was born with a good voice and lungs taking after her mother who was also a vocalist. She studied scientific vocalism and acquired artistic ability at Pyongyang Music School No. 1 and Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

At university, she entered the rankings at the February 16 art prize individual competition, the top domestic art contest, to come into the limelight as a promising singer.

As she worked at the National Folk Art Troupe, she honed her techniques and improved her tone quality, and left a good impression on audiences at several performances.

Many people expect her to achieve higher goals in future.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

HIGH-TECH

Artificial skull made by 3D printing

The neurosurgery department of the Kim Man Yu Hospital succeeded in making artificial skull from high-purity titanium.

As it is easy to handle and convenient to process, the homemade artificial skull shortens the time of operation. And it has a property to unite with organism and induces no antigen-antibody reaction of human body to it.

"After operation, I have studied and lived together with my classmates. Time has passed since I left the hospital, and I felt no inconveniences," said Kim Un Yong, student at Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry. "One year has passed since I had a surgery. But I have never had any strange

symptoms. I am fine," said Sin Nam Chol, worker of the Phyongchon disabled soldiers factory.

Other hospitals want to introduce the artificial skull, whose safety and effectiveness have been confirmed through clinical practice.

"Our product is now popular, but I don't think it is perfect. Many problems have yet to be solved, including the one to make it look better," said Ri Hyon Ho, one of key developers.

Doctors and researchers of the hospital intensify research to complete artificial skull making based on 3D printing technology.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

VIEW

DPRK-US relations must never fall victim to US political battle

"The handshake of the leaders of the DPRK and the US is the greatest event in the current century which declares that the Cold War, the longest and incomparably fierce on this planet, has finally come to an end."

"Both sides of the DPRK and the US will continue to unfold dramatic events while boldly fulfilling their promises."

Many people in the world said thus with great excitement and joy over the Singapore DPRK-US summit and joint statement.

It is only over two months since then, but the deadlock in the DPRK-US relationship changes the expectations and desire of the world public into anxiety and disappointment.

The world public is analysing the causes of this situation, asking why the DPRK-US high-level talks in July ended with no success and why the US changed its "soft" expression and attitude into "hardline", and saying the US in Pyongyang was not what it was in Singapore.

The unanimous conclusion was that the US disregarded the goodwill and sincerity of the DPRK and insisted on its unilateral, gangster-like "denuclearization first", leading the talks to a rupture.

It is needless to talk about it again as who is to blame is so clear that it does not need any further discussion.

What is clear is that DPRK-US relations have reached a stalemate, mainly because they are under the adverse effect of the political battle in the US.

In late June, only a few days before the DPRK-US high-level talks, the US media suddenly began to talk about the "suspicious north Korean secret nuclear facility".

The argument was wrongly used by the political rivals of President Trump as a material to downplay the success of the Singapore summit and criticize his north Korea policy and as a leverage to pressurize the US State Department's negotiating team into insisting on the "reporting and verification of the nuclear facility".

How severely the US negotiating team suffered from psychological pressure was evidenced by State Secretary Pompeo, who told foreign experts prior to the talks that the duty of the negotiation on denuclearization was destined to be miserable from the beginning.

Who then subjected the US negotiating team to a "miserable fate"?

First, the US itself is to blame for having approached the issue impolitely, oblivious of the fact that the basis of good negotiation is confidence and respect and of whom the dialogue partner is. And then it has to curse the

behind-the-scene black devils that stripped the negotiating team of the reason and blurred its judgment.

Recently the US internet website "38 North" exclusively dealing with satellite-beamed photographs and intelligence about the DPRK presented convincing arguments that the facility the anti-Trump forces described as a "secret nuclear facility" in late June is not a "nuclear facility".

After all, the "suspicious north Korean secret nuclear facility" was a base plot of the opposition forces to manipulate the public opinion in order to foil the DPRK-US high-level talks.

Still the anti-dialogue group try hard to make President Trump and his administration distrust the DPRK and lead them to "maximum pressure".

They fabricated "suspicious missile development" after the "suspicious secret nuclear facility", and, not content with it, they cast doubt on the dismantlement of the northern nuclear test site, a step the DPRK took by inviting journalists from different countries.

In future they will get intelligence agencies under their control and government-patronized media to mass-produce various doubts and use them to make the diplomatic affairs of the Trump

administration go awry.

President Trump, who dreams of achieving the epoch-making cause of improved DPRK-US relations and global peace, has too many foes.

The Congress binds the President hand and foot, the Department of Justice grabs him by the scruff of the neck and the media pressurizes him.

The presidential aides as well as the administration have an axe to grind. They say and act quite differently from the President's will and induce him to make inadvertent decisions by distorting the truth and dimming the eyes and ears of the President.

American politicians should realize that though they embellish such an absurd phenomenon as a fact of liberal democracy, it lowers the image of and confidence in the US in the world and makes the sign of its ruin much clearer.

They should not obstruct the President in every way to seek their own factional interests as they do now, but throw their weight behind him so that he can honour the promise he made in front of the world on behalf of the US and boost the DPRK-US relationship. It is the only way to serve the interests of the US and save the face of the "superpower".

The DPRK has no confidence and guarantee to be optimistic

about the future of DPRK-US relations as the rival factions are dominant enough to disregard the Singapore joint statement signed by the President and prevent the declaration of the end of war, a mere political declaration, promised by the President from being adopted.

The current stalemate in the DPRK-US relationship demands President Trump make a bold and resolute decision.

He could win worldwide acclaim and gather public support by realizing the "fantastic meeting" no American presidents had ever achieved in the US history, because, as he said, he did not blindly follow the advice of his aides, but acted according to his own decision and will without wavering under the pressure of his oppositions.

State Secretary Pompeo is also advised not to be subjected to a "miserable fate", but resolutely refute the unreasonable and foolish arguments of the oppositions according to his own opinion and courage and demonstrate his wisdom and negotiating ability as the top US diplomat to put the President's will into reality.

DPRK-US relations can never fall prey to the political battle of the US.

Jo Nam Jin

COMMENT

By Our Nation Itself leads to improved inter-Korean relations

This year, the north and south drove away the dark cloud of war that loomed larger in the Korean peninsula and opened up a new era of national reconciliation and unity, peace and prosperity by holding the historic summit meetings and adopting the Panmunjom Declaration.

The leaders of the north and south held a very meaningful meeting on April 27 at Panmunjom, symbolic of division and confrontation, and committed themselves to wisely usher in a new era of inter-Korean relations.

What is important now is to translate into reality the great significance of the historic summit and declaration.

At present, the north and south are taking follow-up measures for the implementation of the declaration. High-level, general-level and sectoral talks are held and inter-Korean cooperation and exchange projects are under way.

Regrettably, however, all these do not measure up to the ardent desire and demand of the compatriots.

Projects have been undertaken only to create an atmosphere, producing no practical and decisive changes.

It is largely attributable to the attitude of the south Korean authorities, a party to the improvement of inter-Korean relations.

While clamouring for improved relations with the DPRK, they still cling more desperately to the boosting of alliance with outside forces and the creation of conditions and even come out with a theory of "adjusting the speed".

The issue of inter-Korean relations is not just a matter of mutual relations between the entities of the north and south, but the one related to peace, security, prosperity and reunification of the Korean nation. In other words, it is directly linked with the rise and fall of the nation.

No one can be more interested in or play a more responsible role for the improvement of inter-Korean relations than Koreans.

Therefore, the matter should

be resolved by the efforts of the north and south that are the masters under the ideal of By Our Nation Itself.

Even now, the outside forces insist on the unilateral demand for the denuclearization of the DPRK and maximum sanctions and pressure to lay obstacles in the way to improved inter-Korean relations.

Genuine improvement of relations cannot be expected as long as the south Korean authorities persist in the well-worn sanctions and pressure racket while studying the face of outsiders.

It is high time they sincerely worked for the improvement of inter-Korean relations with a mind of their own, instead of seeking their political interests or saving their face while studying other's face.

The DPRK has taken exceptional measures and made wholehearted efforts beyond established practices for the implementation of the Panmunjom Declaration.

The key to the implementation of the Panmunjom Declaration and improvement of inter-Korean relations is for the south Korean authorities to boldly and fearlessly fulfil their responsibility and role as master.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

JAPAN

No future without redressing wrongs

On August 24 1945 the Japanese imperialists blew up their naval transport ship Ukishimamaru with thousands of Koreans on board.

As a result, thousands of Koreans who were returning to their homeland with the joy of national liberation were buried in the sea, failing to get to their country.

In retrospect, the Japanese imperialists were hell-bent on the massacre of Koreans from the first day of their occupation of Korea in the early 20th century in order to exterminate the nation.

They slaughtered the Koreans in groups not only in Korea but also in Japan. They killed them after working them like slaves at lots of construction sites for military installations as well as at mines and factories in Japan.

Typical of the many massacres are those during the March 1 1919 popular

uprising, large-scale "punitive operation" in 1920, great Kanto earthquake in 1923 and the June 10 Independence Movement in 1926. Japan's carnage of Koreans was an unheard-of crime unimaginable in terms of cruelty, viciousness and scale.

This notwithstanding, Japan has not yet made a sincere apology for the past crimes though 73 years have passed since its defeat in WWII. Rather, its politicians are engrossed in reviving militarism as they visit the Yasukuni Shrine to honour war criminals. On August 15 this year, Prime Minister Abe sent offerings to the shrine and more than 50 Dietmen visited it collectively.

Japan must keep in mind that there will be no future without settlement of its sinful past.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

GAMES

Korean athletes successful at Asian Games

DPRK athletes have bagged gold medals in weightlifting and wrestling events in the ongoing 18th Asian Games.

On August 20, Om Yun Chol claimed the men's 56 kg title in weightlifting by snatching 127 kg, jerking 160 kg and thereby lifting a total of 287 kg.

Ri Song Gum also won the women's 48 kg category by snatching 87 kg and jerking 112 kg, with a total lift of

199 kg.

Weightlifter O Kang Chol won another gold medal for the DPRK in the 18th Asian Games.

On August 22 he fully performed successive movements of weightlifting, snatching 151 kg, jerking 185 kg and lifting a total of 336 kg in the men's 69 kg category.

Pak Yong Mi and Jong Myong Suk clinched women's wrestling titles in 53 kg and 57 kg categories.

Meanwhile, Kang Kum Song finished runner-up in men's freestyle 57 kg division and Kim Son Hyang and Rim Jong Sim came third in women's 50 kg and 62 kg divisions.

DPRK women's artistic gymnastics team finished runners-up and Kim Su Jong came third in the women's artistic gymnastics individual total ranking.

Compiled from KCNA



Ri Song Gum (left) and O Kang Chol.

SOCCER

Hwaepul Cup group preliminaries end

The group league matches of the Hwaepul Cup men's football tournament which kicked off on August 1 is drawing to a close.

Amid fierce battles to take the first two places in group to advance to the semifinals, all matches of Group B has already finished.

But there was a heated debate about the hopefuls in Group A, a matter of special interest of all fans, from the beginning.

It was not so surprising or doubtful as such odds-on favourites as Ryomyong, Kigwancha, Hwaepul and Amnokgang were all in the group.

As was expected, every match of Group A was a fierce battle.

With every team having only one leg to play, Ryomyong and Hwaepul had 8 points and Kigwancha and Amnokgang 7 points.

While Ryomyong beat Jebi 2-0 in its final league match and secured a berth in the next stage, Hwaepul was defeated by Amnokgang and lost the chance of advance.

The last group league match between Kigwancha and Jebi took place on August 22 at Kim Il Sung Stadium.

If Kigwancha won the match, it could earn 10 points and look forward to advancement. But a draw or defeat would make it lose the chance to Amnokgang

which has already won 10 points.

As they knew each other through matches during the previous premier league, both teams tried fierce offensive from the kick-off.

In the course of the fiery seesaw battle, Kigwancha opened the scoring.

In the 22nd minute, Kigwancha's No. 24 Rim Kwang Hyok broke through Jebi's defence line by dint of well-organized short passes, tricked the goalkeeper and netted the opener.

In the second half, Kigwancha maintained the initiative by speeding up attack.

Its slashing attacks threatened the opponent's goal several times. In the 80th minute, its midfielder No.14 scored the decisive second goal with a powerful long-distance shot.

Jebi attempted desperately to make up for the loss, but in vain.

After concluding the game with 2-0 victory, Kigwancha took the second place in the group as it was ahead of Amnokgang in the number of goals scored and allowed.

Ryomyong and Kigwancha will play the semifinals against Sobaeksu and Rimyongsu from Group B respectively on August 25.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the football match between Kigwancha and Jebi in the Hwaepul Cup men's soccer tournament.

By Jong Tang Song PT

ICH

Korean alphabet rational and scientific



An old record in the Korean Central History Museum explains Korean alphabet Hunminjeongeum.

Hunminjeongeum is the Korean alphabet created in January 1444 (December 1443 by lunar calendar) based on the long-standing writing customs of the Korean people.

Hunminjeongeum is literally "correct sound for teaching the common people", which signifies the meaning that it is an excellent alphabet recording correct sound for teaching the people.

As to its creation, Sejong Sillok (Chronicles of King Sejong) which was compiled in 1454 says that the "king personally made 28 Korean characters in December in his 25th year and they are called Hunminjeongeum".

Under the supervision of King Sejong (1419-1450), Jong Rin Ji, Choe Hang, Pak Phaeng Nyon, Sin Suk Ju, Song Sam Mun, Kang Hui An, Ri Kae and Ri Hyon Ro put their heads together to make the Korean alphabet.

Above all, it was created on the principle of imitating the shape of speech organs.

It is the nature of letters to express sounds made by the human speech organs.

The principle adopted by the Korean ancestors can be claimed to be the height of alphabet-making rule as the shapes of letters show what their sound values are and which speech organs produce them.

Many foreign linguists praised the principle as the most ideal, saying that Korea had already reached the top level of alphabet-creating principle at one try centuries ago.

Hunminjeongeum was also created on the principles of adding strokes to the letters in the same series and repeating the same consonants.

And the shapes of its letters are the simplest.

Compared to scripts of many other nations, the Korean letters have the simplest strokes and the most extensive convertibility.

Korean characters are the simplest in strokes among all other letters including Chinese ideograms representative of hieroglyphics, Japanese syllabic characters, as well as English, Russian, Arabic, Jurchen and Manchu letters.

These simple strokes of Hunminjeongeum form letters to properly denote any pronunciations of any other languages.

A textbook published in 1960 at Harvard University noted that the Korean alphabet might be the most scientific system of all those now in use. And the July 2004 issue of Chinese magazine Popular Science said: "The college of linguistics of Oxford University, which boasts of being the best in the field of linguistic research, decided the rankings of all the scripts of the world by the criteria of rationality, scientific accuracy and originality and the first place was taken by the Korean script. It was also praised as the best and recognized as the 'world's simplest yet excellent script' as a result of the selection of the most suitable script out of 2 900 languages of the world made between 1998 and 2002."

The principles of creating Hunminjeongeum were registered as national intangible cultural heritage No. 71.

An Kyong Sang, PhD, associate professor and department chief at the Linguistics Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences

