



# KOREA TODAY

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## Italian Republic Medallion of the Italian Socialist Party



Chairman Kim Jong Il received the Italian Republic Medallion of the Italian Socialist Party on October 10, 1980 on the occasion of the 35<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Workers' Party of Korea.



## C O N T E N T S

3 Road to Peace and Prosperity Illuminated

10 No Calculation in Work for the People

The DPRK regards the problem of the people's living as an important matter, and unstintingly invests in solving the problem.



10

12 People Are God

13 *We Love You, Socialism*

14 For the Good of the People

15 During Visit to Korea

16 Supreme Leader and Youth Power



17



**Front Cover:** At a *Pomhyanggi* Cosmetics Exhibition

*Photo by Ra Jin Hyok*



**Back Cover:** Manphok Ravine in Mt Kumgang in autumn

*Photo by An Kang Rim*

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 Magazines 2018

- 18 Popular *Pomhyanggi* Cosmetics Produced
  - 20 Masters of Science and Technology
  - 22 WIPO Prize Winners
  - 24 Small But Important
  - 25 For Better Educational Conditions and Environment
  - 27 Koryo Medicine Doctors
  - 28 Thanks to Science and Technology
  - 29 People Who Run towards Victory
  - 30 New Sapling Producer
  - 32 *Paduk* Widens in Domain
  - 34 To Landscape Streets
  - 36 Literary Circle Members
  - 38 Farm Village Changes
  - 40 Mother's Mind
  - 42 National Intangible Cultural Heritage (24)  
     Tales about Pongi Kim Sondal
  - 43 *Ssirum*
  - 44 Mt Myohyang
  - 46 Result of Flexible Diplomacy
  - 47 Trade War Gets Fiercer
  - 48 Invalid "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty"
- Inside Back Cover: Jewol Pavilion

*Common Knowledge*

- 22 *Roedung* Stone Gun
- 26 Koryo Veterinary Medicine
- 45 Gate to Sea Kumgang





**Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, together with President Moon Jae In, acknowledges cheers of the crowds in September 2018.**

## **Road to Peace and Prosperity Illuminated**

**N**OW THE CAUSE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE for one Korea has entered a new phase of development. Discarding the atmosphere of distrust and confrontation the Korean peninsula has got on the breeze of national concord and unity with dramatic changes between the two sides of the peninsula. The gate to inter-Korean dialogue, contact and travel has opened widely, leading to events that entertain hopes for peace, prosperity and reunification.

### **Significance of the Fifth Inter-Korean Summit**

Pyongyang witnessed the historic fifth north-south summit meeting and talks last September, the third of its kind this year. The talks carried tremendous significance in that it demonstrated the

firm determination of the top leaders of the north and the south to carry through the Panmunjom Declaration which was adopted last April.

In retrospect, the international community was surprised to see dramatic events—which had been beyond expectation until the end of last year—take place in the Korean peninsula this year opening a new era of peace and reunification. It was not a product of any mysterious divine power or fortuitous outcome of intervention by history that the north-south relations which had been rushing to extreme confrontation and war have undergone a huge change and a new era of independent reunification has opened in the peninsula. The inter-Korean summit meetings and talks unfolded scenes of making a breakthrough in the effort for independent reunification by means of dialogue and cooperation free from old fetters in order



**Kim Jong Un and Moon Jae In make joint statements relating to the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration in September 2018.**

► to accomplish the desire of the Koreans who have been eager to meet a new era of unity, reunification, peace and prosperity of the whole nation.

In January this year a patriotic appeal for national reconciliation, unity, peace and reunification was made in Pyongyang, breaking the ice of distrust and antagonism. The author was Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who, making the New Year Address, put forth a new policy of improving north-south relations. This was followed by a round of high-level north-south talks in the southern part of Panmunjom amidst the great interest at home and abroad. Soon after, north and south Korean sportspeople entered the arena of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Winter Olympics flying the One Korea flag and launched into competitions in a single united team, encouraging one another and thus displaying the spiritual and technical unity to the world. The performance by the Samjiyon Orchestra which shed sun-like lights on the snow field in the south, the performance of the brass band of the north's cheering group, and the demonstration of the north's Taekwon-Do practitioners turned out helpful to the effort to bring in the warm spring-like atmosphere of national reconciliation and unity while driving out

the mid-winter cold.

At the time south Koreans said that they wished the warm atmosphere created by these events would reach the ceasefire line and melt the damned iron entanglements, and that they were wonderful performances that drove them into a fantasy of experiencing the June 15 era. President Moon Jae In commented that visit to south Korea by the north side's delegation turned out to be a seed of improved north-south relations and peace in the Korean peninsula.

Amidst this atmosphere the third north-south summit, the first one this year, took place bringing a hope of peace and reunification to the Korean people. On April 27, the north and south top leaders met in Panmunjom, stepping across the Demarcation Line freely hand in hand. This came as an image of demolishing the wall of division which has been in existence for more than 70 years. The Panmunjom Declaration adopted in the ensuing talks set a new milestone of epochal importance in reconnecting the severed blood ties of the nation and advancing the future of common prosperity and independent reunification by achieving radical and all-round



- ▶ development of north-south relations so as to meet the unanimous desire and demand of all the Koreans for peace and reunification.

Another summit of the two sides took place in the Thongil House in Panmunjom on May 26. It was a historic event that was indicative of the truth that prosperity and reunification of the nation depends entirely on the effort of the Korean people and of the will of the top leaders of the two sides to meet at any time to have positive dialogue and pool wisdom and efforts on the road to peace and prosperity. At the summit meeting and talks the leaders agreed that both sides should trust and care for each other and make joint effort to ensure that the Panmunjom Declaration agreed on at their earlier meeting would be implemented as early as possible. The meeting, in which they freely and open-heartedly heard each other's views on crucial pending issues and had a candid dialogue, marked another milestone that opened up a new chapter in the development of the north-south relations.

The inter-Korean summit last September was of huge importance in opening a new era of peace, prosperity and reunification of the Korean peninsula by accelerating the development of the north-south relations in the spirit of the historic Panmunjom Declaration and By Our Nation Itself. The meeting and talks reaffirmed the will of both sides to implement the historic Panmunjom Declaration to the letter, formulated important issues and detailed measures to be maintained in implementing the declaration and agreed on a series of immediate practical measures to be taken by the north and south. The historic September Pyongyang meeting and talks served as an epochal event in consolidating the valuable achievements the north and south have made together and opening the heyday of reunification by accelerating the development of the inter-Korean relations along a new road of peace, reconciliation and cooperation.

### Joining Hands to Achieve Peace and Prosperity

While the Panmunjom Declaration adopted last April was a great event that brought the north-south relations into the stage of reunification, the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration carries in it a new hope of the Korean nation, their strong will to win national reunification and their dream which will come into reality in the near future.

Reconfirming the principles of national independence and national self-determination, the top leaders of the north and the south agreed to develop the inter-Korean ties in a consistent and sustained way for national reconciliation, cooperation, solid peace and common prosperity, and strive to provide policy guarantee for the realization of the aspirations of all the fellow countrymen to lead the present improved north-south ties to reunification.

1. The north and the south decided to lead the termination of military hostility in the areas of confrontation including the Demilitarized Zone to the substantial removal of the danger of war and fundamental eradication of hostility in the whole of the Korean peninsula.

First, the north and the south agreed to adopt the "military agreement to implement the Panmunjom Declaration" concluded in the period of the Pyongyang summit talks as an annexe to the Pyongyang Joint Declaration, strictly adhere to and sincerely implement it and take practical measures proactively to make the Korean peninsula a lasting peace zone.

Second, the north and the south agreed to put the north-south joint military committee in operation as early as possible, examine the implementation of the military agreement and have constant contact and discussion for the prevention of accidental armed clashes.

2. The north and the south decided to take practical measures to further boost exchanges and cooperation and to develop the nation's economy in a balanced way on the principle of mutual benefits and common interests and prosperity.

First, the north and the south agreed to hold groundbreaking ceremonies for reconnecting severed railways and roads on the east and west coasts and modernizing them within this year.

Second, the north and the south agreed to put the operation of the Kaesong Industrial Park and Mt Kungang tourism on normal track first as conditions get ripe and hold consultations over the establishment of the West Sea joint special economic zone and the East Sea joint special tourism zone.

Third, the north and the south agreed to actively promote the north-south environmental cooperation for the protection and restoration of the natural ecosystem and to work primarily to achieve practical success in the cooperation project in the forestry field now underway.



**Kim Jong Un makes a meaningful speech after seeing a grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance together with Moon Jae In in September 2018.**

- ▶ Fourth, the north and the south agreed to bolster up cooperation in the anti-epidemic and public health fields including emergency measures for the prevention of inflow and spread of infectious diseases.

3. The north and the south decided to further promote humanitarian cooperation for the fundamental settlement of the issue of separated families and relatives.

First, the north and the south agreed to open the reunion building for separated families and relatives in the Mt Kungang area as early as possible and to restore its facilities at an early date to this end.

Second, the north and the south agreed to discuss and settle the issue of online meeting and exchange of video messages between separated families and relatives on a priority basis through Red Cross talks.

4. The north and the south decided to actively promote cooperation and exchanges in various fields so as to stoke the atmosphere of reconciliation and unity and demonstrate at home and abroad the stamina of the Korean nation.

First, the north and the south agreed to further boost exchanges in the fields of culture and arts and

to ensure the Pyongyang art troupe's performance in Seoul within October above all.

Second, the north and the south agreed to make active joint advance to international games including the 2020 Summer Olympic Games and to cooperate to win a joint bid to host the 2032 Summer Olympics.

Third, the north and the south agreed to hold significant events to meaningfully commemorate the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the October 4 Declaration, to jointly commemorate the centenary of the March First Popular Uprising and to discuss technical plans for them.

5. The north and the south shared the view that the Korean peninsula should be turned into a peace zone free from nuclear weapons and nuclear threat and necessary practical progress should be made as early as possible to this end.

First, the north side decided to permanently shut down the Tongchang-ri engine test ground and rocket launch pad with the participation of experts from related countries above all.

Second, the north side expressed its willingness to continue to take additional steps such as the



**Kim Jong Un and his wife Ri Sol Ju, together with Moon Jae In and his wife, pose for a photograph on Mt Paektu in September 2018.**

► permanent shutdown of the Nyongbyon nuclear facility if the United States takes corresponding steps in line with the spirit of the June 12 DPRK-US joint statement.

Third, the north and the south agreed to closely cooperate in the course of pushing ahead with the complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

6. Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un agreed to visit Seoul in the near future at the invitation of President Moon Jae In.

Making a joint statement on the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration, Kim Jong Un said that the north and south leaders had discussed practical measures to comprehensively develop the inter-Korean ties on the principle of national independence, had an agreement in the military field adopted and agreed to strive to make the Korean peninsula a peaceful land free from nuclear weapons and nuclear threat. They had also discussed, he noted, detailed ways of invigorating visits, contacts, many-sided dialogue and cooperation and diverse exchanges between people of all social standings so as to make the strong trend of national reconciliation

and reunification prevail in the 3 000-ri land of the north and south of Korea.

Moon Jae In said with pleasure that the seeds of peace and prosperity were sown on the Korean peninsula in spring last and that the fruits of peace and prosperity were bearing in Pyongyang that fall, confirming that the south-north relations would continue to make a steady progress.

The recent declaration is now enjoying great sympathy and support from the international community as well as the entire Korean nation.

### **Strong Will to Open a New Era of Peace and Prosperity**

In the period of the fifth inter-Korean summit the Korean people clearly demonstrated their fervent desire and aspiration for establishment of a prosperous one Korea without fail with the concerted efforts of the whole nation.

As many as 100 000 Pyongyang citizens turned out to streets to accord a warm compatriotic welcome to President Moon Jae In and his party on their visit

► to Pyongyang.

An artistic performance in honour of Moon on a Pyongyang visit and a grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance in May Day Stadium also in his honour were filled with thanks to the top leaders for their setting another milestone in developing the north-south relations. The artistic performance in Moon's honour carried the Pyongyang citizens' warm welcome to the south Korean compatriots. The orchestral piece for kayagum "Arirang," male solo "Thinking of Fellow," stringed instrumental ensemble and song "Morning Star" and other programmes full of the national flavor that were presented by means of beautiful melodies and dancing movements were all strongly expressive of the unanimous aspiration of the nation for reunification. Also put on the stage were songs popular with the south Koreans and world-famous musical pieces. The stage, on which an ecstatic musical world was unfolded to show the excellence of the Korean nation with a 5 000 years of history and brilliant culture, was now mounted with light instrumental music piece "Pyongyang Is Best" and song and dance "Dash toward Future," making the atmosphere more excited. The performance received a big hand from the audience who were filled with warm feelings for national reconciliation.

The grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance in May Day Stadium was also filled with enthusiasm for national reunification. Amidst the playing of the tune of "Arirang" which is a landmark in the history and culture of the Korean nation, a huge One Korea flag was hoisted while the characters of *Paektu* and *Halla* were shaped on the floor along with waves of flowers and welcoming dance. The performers presented an excellent performance characterized by beautiful and graceful rhythms, dynamic gymnastics, rich national flavour, artistic skills and ever-changing scenes of large-scale background. A special chapter prepared to welcome President Moon Jae In visiting Pyongyang for the historic north-south summit was presented. The stadium was full of the atmosphere of national reconciliation and unity prevailing in the 3 000-ri land of Korea when a video, which showed the scenes of the significant Panmunjom summit that marked the starting line of history in which the north and south ushered in a new era of reunification with the concerted efforts of the nation itself for the one and the same purpose, helped refresh the memory of the great significance of the day, April 27. The

performance showed that when they open an avenue for peace and prosperity with joint efforts the north and south would be able to make world-admiring one Korea which will be handed down through generations to come.

After the performance, Kim Jong Un made a meaningful speech. He said that he and Moon Jae In just made another fruition marking a fresh landmark in the development of the north-south ties, expressing thanks to Moon for his tireless efforts.

Moon also made an address, where he conveyed his sincere gratitude to Pyongyang citizens for warmly greeting him and his party and according cordial hospitality with compatriotic feelings and expressed his will to improve the south-north relations in an overall way and bring the peaceful future earlier.

The top leaders of the north and south climbed the nation's sacred mountain of Paektu, which is an epoch-making event in the history of over 70 years of national division. The ancestral mountain with all the mountains in the country under its wing was making an imposing appearance, its miraculous qualities to be felt from every sky-soaring peak.

Standing on the top of Janggun Peak, the highest peak in the range of Mt Paektu, Kim Jong Un, together with Moon Jae In, feasted his eyes long on the natural beauty of the majestic and magnificent peaks, spectacular scenery of the limpid and blue Lake Chon and the vast sea of forests that extended like the blood vein of the nation.

Moon Jae In expressed his impression of climbing the holy mountain symbolic of the soul and spirit of the Korean nation and voiced his expectation and conviction that the first step he made that day would be followed by a new era desired by all the fellow countrymen.

The historic September Pyongyang meeting and talks will be etched in the history of national reunification as they brought about another fruition marking a new milestone in putting an end to the history of division spanning more than 70 years and in pushing development of the inter-Korean relations.

The three rounds of north-south summit meetings and talks this year showed a new appearance of dialogue through which to settle issues with trust and cooperation, away from the force of habit of the past characterized by mistrust and disputes. They serve as historic turning points that turned the outdated era of confrontation and severance into a fresh era of dialogue and cooperation.

*Kim Il Bong*



# No Calculation in Work for the People

WHETHER IT PAYS OR not—this is the most fundamental issue in business management and economic affairs.

In Korea, however, things are boldly done if they are what the people want and if they are for the sake of them even though the balance of the account is not even accompanied by some economic loss. This is because the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the country find greater pleasure and satisfaction in investing much more in things for the welfare of the people and for posterity.

The socialist system of Korea is the one which implements the politics of considering the people's happiness and laughter ahead of the State's economic loss.

President Kim Il Sung, the father of socialist Korea and the founder of the WPK, said in his reminiscences *With the Cen-*

*ture*, "A 'loss' incurred by the state for the good of the people is not a loss. The more money it spends on the people's welfare, the greater happiness our Party feels; and the greater the 'loss' it incurs for the children's sake, the more our state is satisfied."

One year Chairman Kim Jong Il called a consultation of officials from the food processing sector. The officials expressed their intention to put off the construction of a factory on account of the tight situation of fund. Then the Chairman said: Of course calculation is necessary for the construction of a factory. But think of your mothers. When they have no cloth, they cut even their only clothes to make clothes for their children, and when they have no rice, they cut and sell even their hair to buy and cook rice for their

children. Their loving care knows no calculation. Only with such care can we do even one more thing for the people. People often say it is useless to do a losing business. But we should be ready to do it if it is for the good of the people. Let us not think of calculation first if it is for the sake of the people—this is my calculation and my method of counting.

The great men's view on the people that a state is necessary for the people and their love for them gave birth to the slogan "We serve the people!" current in the country and the new method of counting to see how much the people benefit.

The State's sincere love for the people similar to maternal love produced lots of things, for example, a free medical care system; a free education system; soya milk supplied to children without interruptions; condiments, soap, tooth

brushes and other daily necessities supplied at a very low price; and bus and underground fares next to nothing.

The method of counting still remains. The issue of housing can be cited.

It was in 2009 when Mansudae Street was under construction in the centre of the capital city of Pyongyang. Reporting on the project, one of the foreign media guessingly commented that the high-class apartment houses in this scenic spot would be allotted to cadres of the State and social "elites." Contrary to the guess, ordinary workers and intellectuals moved into the apartment houses to the amazement of people.

The same was the case with Changjon Street. It is already known that Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited families of ordinary working people who had moved into new apartment houses on the street.

When a foreigner visited a worker's family who had moved into an apartment house on the street, he asked them about the

price of the flat. They, however, could not know the price because it was allotted to them free of charge. Later, back home, the foreigner said to his colleagues, "The residents in Korea are 'happy fools' with no idea of the floor area and prices of their flats. They don't know why they should know them. It seems to be their right."

Afterwards, apartment houses for teachers of Kim Il Sung University were erected at the Ryonghung crossroads, and those for teachers of Kim Chaek University of Technology on the bank of the Taedong River.

Such apartment houses on Mirae Scientists Street and Romyong Street are also for teachers and researchers.

Other apartment houses for ordinary working people appear on the places in the capital city referred to as flourishing quarters.

Kim Ji Yong, a Korean resident in America, wrote in his article after his visit to the country, "I want to ask those who claim that capitalism is the 'destination of human society's development.' How many years later can you give houses to the people free of charge and build fine highly artistic apartments for them like in North Korea? 10, 100 or 1 000 years later? None of you can answer.

"I have many other questions to ask. How much should the national income increase to free the people from tax? How much should the economy develop to see the day when planes fly to save the lives of ordinary people, a branch school is established for a pupil on an islet and a school train runs for a few pupils?... I will not be able to

hear the answer even several hundred or thousand years later. The motherland is at a height capitalism can never imitate or follow."

That's not all.

The Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital built in recent years is equipped with latest medical facilities. One of them costs as much money as that for dozens of high-class cars. Women use such facilities free of charge, and they never think of the price.

During a visit to the Ryugyong Dental Hospital the Supreme Leader said that the Party had the hospital built not to boast that they have such a world-standard special hospital but have the people enjoy all the benefits of socialism in good health.

If priority was given to economic calculation there could not have been built the present world-standard Munsu Water Park and Masikryong Ski Resort full of the people's laughter of joy.

Recently, thanks to a measure taken by the State, millions of schoolchildren across the country have been provided with better uniforms designed as required by the new century as well as new school bags and notebooks.

Does all this mean that the State has so much money? No. The country is still in a difficult situation with lots of things in short supply.

The State, however, regards the people as the most valuable, and the issue of their living as the most important, and unstintingly invests in the affairs concerned.

An Song Duk

Children greatly benefit from free education and free medical care.



# People Are God

THE PEOPLE ARE GOD—this is Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's motto.

It is said that if one wants to know about a great man, one should know about his lifetime motto, for it shows his creed and personality reflected in his activities. All famous people in all ages and countries had their own motto; some of them regarded unabated struggle as their motto and dedicated themselves to carving out the independent destiny of the working people and the cause of liberation of the oppressed people, and others rendered service to their country, regarding patriotism as their motto. However, none has regarded the people as God.

The Supreme Leader regards President Kim Il Sung's and Chairman Kim Jong Il's political philosophy of "The people are my God" as his motto. Thanks to his benevolent politics, that of love and respect for the people, cheering for socialism resounds throughout Korea.

"Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!" is the slogan for attaching importance to the people and serving the people, and all lines and policies of the State and benefits it grants to the people are run through with the idea of giving top and absolute priority to the people's demands and interests.

The Supreme Leader is dedicating his all to the people's ideal and happiness. The People's Theatre, Rungna People's Sports Park, Munsu Water Park, Mirim Rid-

ing Club, Masikryong Ski Resort, Unha Scientists Street, Wisong Scientists Residential District, Yonphung Scientists Holiday Camp, Songdowon International Children's Camp, Pyongyang Orphanage, Pyongyang Baby Home and all other structures and creations reflect his love and devotion for the people.

It was when he was looking around the Ryugyong Health Complex nearing completion. In the central hall, he was told that the hall was planned to be laid out as a resting place. He said that a carpet would not go with its floor as it was not a theatre, and that they had better arrange part of the floor raised, place stone sculptures in the space, and set up stands to serve soft drinks to the people.

When he dropped in at a sauna, he felt a glass wall, teaching how to decorate it and prevent heat loss at the same time. He also took measures for sterilizing and filtering bath water. In a public bathroom, he said, good sanitary conditions were more important than splendour, otherwise people might be affected by diseases.

After acquainting himself with the details of the project, he stressed that there could be no satisfaction in the work for the people.

Once, during a talk with officials, he said: We should boundlessly respect the people, regard their interests as absolute and take care of them with maternal affection; we should regard the people as our God, boundlessly respect them, give prominence to

them and conduct every undertaking with their demands and interests at the centre.

In 2015, a splendid celebration was held on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea. Reporting on it, one of the south Korean media reported: First Chairman Kim Jong Un mentioned the word *people* 97 times in his 25-minute speech.

This speech enabled the world to understand the political philosophy of the leader who is making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people. Both the Party and the State might lose their value of existence separated from the people, and they can maintain their vitality only when they solely serve the people—this is his intention and noble political programme. So he said that the Party would regard the people's sincere loyalty to it as the greatest asset of the revolution, and bring earlier everything splendid in the future by shouldering all the burdens and clearing a thorny path for the sake of the brave, resourceful and beautiful people.

Referring to the people as the greatest, he intends to defend and faithfully serve the people through thick and thin and push his way through a thorny thicket cheerfully for such fine people—this is his noble outlook on the people. His loving care and devotion guarantee the security and happiness of the people, bringing earlier the future of a powerful socialist country.

*Ri Jong Nam*

# We Love You, Socialism

CREATED IN 2009, THE song sings of how happy the Korean people are to have chosen socialism, and how much they love it.

*Birds sing in your embrace,  
And people live harmoniously  
as brothers and sisters  
It is a sunny house provided  
by the leader.*

*(refrain)  
Socialism, socialism,  
we love you  
We love and love  
our socialist country*

The Korean people lead a harmonious life to their heart's content, helping and leading one another under the slogan of "One for all and all for one!" More and more people bring up the children of their late colleagues into fine sons and daughters to be faithful to the country like their parents were. And many young people look after childless war veterans like they should do their own parents.

In Korea each person has the right to work, learn and get medical treatment, and industrial workers, farm workers and intellectuals become deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly which discusses the political affairs of the country, and Heroes. So the Korean people are all referring to their socialist country as the leader's embrace, and exclaiming that they love socialism established by President Kim Il Sung.

*Children grow up into kings  
and queens in your embrace,*

*And all cherished dreams  
come true.  
It is a happy house defended  
by the General.*

In the 1990s, when socialism collapsed in different countries of the world, the imperialists talked vociferously about the "end" of socialism. However, socialist Korea did not vacillate in the political upheavals. Rather, it turned a new page in all fields of politics, military affairs, the economy and culture. In the period of the Arduous March and the forced march it invariably enforced free medical treatment and free education, and the vans delivering soya milk to children ran along the streets incessantly. The children's camps across the country always kept the doors open to schoolchildren, and the schoolchildren's palaces always resounded with happy singing.

Still the Korean people do not forget the happiness and joy of May 1, 2009. That evening a firework display took place at the picturesque Pothong River in Pyongyang in celebration of the May Day, the international holiday of the working people in the world, and a banquet was held in honour of 15 000 labour innovators from the metal industry and the sectors concerned. When the fireworks were shot off lighting up the nocturnal sky, smelters and miners shed tears of gratitude. The second verse of the song tells that socialist Korea is the place that guarantees the life and future of the people for ever as it is led by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

*We know no fear of storm  
in your embrace,  
And history goes down with  
the people as masters  
of the country.  
It is a house under the  
fluttering red flag of Songun.*

Nearly a decade has passed since its creation, but the song still touches the people's heartstrings, reverberating far and wide. At the great loss of the nation (demise of the Chairman in December 2011) the Korean people turned out to mourn for the Chairman. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un took all necessary measures for giving the utmost and absolute priority to the convenience of the people. At that time they keenly felt that the history of the President and the Chairman continued invariably, and that they were blessed with leaders generation after generation.

Today the Korean people are witnessing day after day the field guidance activities of the Supreme Leader who is striving day and night to translate into reality the people's ideal and dream as the President and the Chairman wished. They are convinced that a bright future is coming when they will enjoy the highest quality of civilization on the highest level.

*Socialism, socialism,  
we love you  
We love and love  
our socialist country*

*Sim Yong Jin*

## For the Good of the People

### Top and Absolute Priority

ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2013 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, together with officials, visited the construction site of a dental hospital nearing completion. Entering the vestibule, he stopped. After looking at the place for a while, he said it was also designed to serve as a carriage porch.

The officials did not understand what he meant.

Looking at them, he admonishingly said: Carriage porch is for cadres riding in cars. The dental hospital will be visited by lots of people. How many of them do you think will come by car?

The officials had nothing to reply seized with remorse for their failing to follow the intention of the leader who always thinks of the people's convenience first.

He went on to say: Stairs are enough for access to the vestibule, and people will walk up them. Now carriage porches can be seen at buildings everywhere. The porches of shops and factories are all built in one and the same form. This just means fixed formality. The vestibule of a shop does not need to be high so that people can freely go in and out pulling shopping trolleys. Porch should be built in various forms in accordance with purposes of buildings and in such a way as to meet the convenience of the people.

His words meant that officials should regard the convenience of the people as the starting point and yardstick in all

their thought and work.

Like this the dental hospital was built under his warm care.

### Pass Develops into Ski Resort

Masik Pass was filled with only the chirping of wild birds and the sound of running water for thousands of years. But now it has changed into a modern ski resort.

The pass is so high and rough that it is difficult for even a horse to cross it without a rest. Hence the name Masik Pass.

It is the Supreme Leader who proposed building the Masikryong Ski Resort on the pass. On May 26, 2013, some time after the beginning of the project, he visited the construction site. After hearing a detailed report about the state of progress in the project on an observation platform, he expressed great satisfaction at the fact that soldier builders had built, in an area of hundreds of thousands of square metres, skiing slopes divided into those for beginners, intermediates and advanced skiers, which are nearly 110 000 metres in total length and 40 to 120 metres in width. He went on to say with satisfaction that skiing can be done there for a long period as it snows there from November to March in the following year, that the place is favourable for traffic and that the ski resort is in an excellent location. If the resort was completed the entire country would be filled with enthusiasm for skiing like that for roller-skating, he said, full

of joy as if he were seeing people enjoying themselves there while building up their physical strength and relishing the natural scenery.

After acquainting himself with the state of progress in the construction of the gatepost of the resort, a hotel, a storehouse of skiing materials, a helipad and so on, he climbed up to the top of the resort over 1 360 metres above sea level. Looking down happily at thick forests whose ecological environment remains intact and the skiing slopes, he said that this good scenery of the resort would turn into better one in winter.

When officials told him that the top of the resort overlooked the Kalma Peninsula in the east and Soljae Pass in the west, Kim Jong Un, saying that the sunrise in the East Sea seen from there would be spectacular, observed the mountain ranges for a long while. Then he stressed the need to build even a single thing in a big way and so neatly as to be absolutely perfect, and said emphatically that it was the Party's firm resolution to build a world-famous ski resort.

That day he taught in detail how to solve problems arising in the project.

On June 4 that year he made public a historic appeal *Let Us Usher in a Fresh Heyday on All the Fronts of Socialist Construction by Creating the Speed on Masik Pass*. It was an expression of his strong desire to realize the people's dreams and ideals as soon as possible.

Sim Chol Yong



### Amazing National Pride

MY IMPRESSIONS ARE very excellent. I'm deeply moved by what I saw. One of the core things I'm taking with me in this trip is the profound single heart that the Korean people have. They take tremendous pride in the nation. Their national pride that I saw in this trip is amazing to me.

The Korean people have tremendous love for their leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. I mean I've never seen anything like that anywhere else I've been. So it's very unique to me.

What's also quite unique to me is the artistic endowment of the people of the DPRK. The torchlight show by the youth in celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the DPRK was excellent. I wondered how hundreds or thousands of young people can come together and synchronize the activities in the most amazing way. The same kind of thing we also saw at the gymnastics. I wondered how the young people can usually come together and produce something with one single heart, one single

## During Visit to Korea

mind and one single focus. So I'm very delighted that I've seen this.

I'm going back to Nigeria with quite a deeper appreciation of the DPRK, culture of the people and how strong the people are. Above all, I'm going back to Nigeria with a story of the love that the people showed for the leaders, the love that they showed for their culture, the love they showed for one another, and particularly the love and warmth they showed to us and our friends.

And I went to Mangyongdae. It's probably my third time of visiting there. Every time I go there I can't help but still get the impression of the humble background of His Excellency Kim Il Sung.

The story of how he left his father, mother and family at the age of 13 with a determination not to come back until Korea was liberated from imperialist Japan, is an awesome story. And you look at the background that he came from. Then you can tell how he grew up with the people in his heart.

The place tells all its visitors that the leader came from a humble background to lead the Koreans against imperialist powers. Such a huge undertaking is something that attributes to his spirit, his enduring character, and the people of Korea who saw in him the leader that would be able to lead them out of the problems, out of the imperialism, and out of their oppression.

Today the DPRK is a global power that nobody else can come and touch again. In fact it is an amazing thing, amazing story. Every time I go to his birthplace I feel this sense over and over again.

### For Peace in the Korean Peninsula

I want to give honour to

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. I want to congratulate him for taking a very wise move. And that pushed the US in the crucible so that the world can see if the US is really interested in ending their belligerence on the Korean peninsula. Now there are people in the US, who do not want to see peace in the Korean peninsula. There are people in the United States, who want to see war and destruction on the peninsula, not peace or development.

I'm sure that if the effort between Pyongyang and Seoul continues, the US will have no choice but to respect the will of Koreans. The US cannot continue to enforce unilaterally its will on the Korean people forever. It can't happen. The Korean peninsula belongs to Koreans. It is important for the US to take part in this discussion because it has its troops stationed in south Korea. As long as the US troops are in the peninsula there will never be peace.

I am personally optimistic because both the north and the south want to end the state of war, demilitarize the peninsula, cooperate in development and come back into one single harmony. And as long as the two sides have begun to go in this direction the US will have no choice but to come in and negotiate an end to the war so that it can withdraw its troops. When the US gets out from the Korean peninsula, the Koreans will once again own their country and own their peninsula without interference.

*Damian Uzoma Ogbonna, national chairman of the People's Progressive Party of Nigeria and chairman of the African Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People*

# Supreme Leader and Youth Power

**Y**OUNG PEOPLE OF KOREA ARE DISPLAYING the might of the youth power by working historic miracles and bringing about epoch-making changes under the guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

## Enduring Tradition

In January 2012 the whole country was still in sorrow over the nation's unexpected great loss (the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il), and the imperialists took advantage of the situation to further intensify their challenges against the country and their schemes to stifle it, causing it severe trials and ordeals. On the occasion of the birthday of the then Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League its officials and members wrote a letter to the Supreme Leader out of their strong yearning for the Chairman. The letter reflected their firm determination to revere the great leaders (President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il) as the eternal Sun and faithfully support the guidance of the Supreme Leader. They wrote in the letter, "Please entrust the most arduous task first to our youth league, the reserve combat unit and special detachment of the Supreme Commander.

"In the offensive spirit of Paektu and the Huichon spirit of 'At a Go' whereby to level mountains and fill up the sea as a whole we will vigorously wage a general offensive looking forward to the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the fatherly leader (President Kim Il Sung), and thus become your closest enthusiastic young comrades and most reliable young vanguard who do our best to relieve you of your heavy burden."

After reading the letter that reflected the ardent determination of five million-strong young vanguard, the Supreme Leader sent them his autograph which reads, **"A prosperous tomorrow will be achieved earlier by young people taking vigorous steps. Always march straight ahead, following the Party!"**

### Kim Jong Un January 26, 2012"

The autograph reflected his firm will to achieve earlier the final victory in the building of a socialist power by encouraging all youth of the country to wage a vigorous struggle.

That year he saw to it that an unprecedentedly large-scale ceremony took place to celebrate Youth Day, and sent a congratulatory message to the participants in a relevant conference and all other young people of the country.

In the message he said:

**"Our Party is planning new projects aimed**

**at making the nation prosperous, believing in the great patriotic enthusiasm, limitless mental strength and inexhaustible courage of our young people, who cherish Kim Jong Il's patriotism and apply it in their everyday lives.**

**"We will go through fire and water in response to the Party's call!"—this is the patriotic cry emanating from the hearts of the millions of young people. Our young people, with their hot blood and soaring ambition and aims, should have the quality of organizing their work on a grand scale and performing world-shaking feats, like moving mountains and filling up the rough sea at one go.**

**"I feel confident because we have the dependable ranks of our young people, the main force that will wage the revolution with me until the day of its final victory.**

**"Our Party will brilliantly carry forward the outstanding policy pursued by the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il of giving prominence to young people and, by relying on their strength, hasten the final victory of the historic cause of national reunification and the building of a thriving country."**

To love young people and give prominence to them is a consistent strategic line of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and the country's enduring tradition carried on from century to century, and reflects the Supreme Leader's firm trust in and warm love for millions of young people.

## Bright Future

The Supreme Leader placed young people in the vanguard of the ranks of the general onward march as masters of the times. Thinking of his trust in them, they are developing into creators of miracles and heroes in building a thriving nation. They do not hesitate to give up their lives for the development of the country and the prosperity of posterity. This can be proved by what happened during the construction of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station up the Sodu River in Paegam County, Ryanggang Province.

The construction of the power station consisting of three power plants was a difficult and enormous project to be done in the most unfavourable natural, geological and climatic conditions in the history of hydroelectric power station projects.

The young builders engaged in the project unsparingly devoted the strength and passion of their precious youth in the deep, rugged mountain valleys. ▶



Young builders perform miracles in the construction of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station (August 2015).

▶ During the period of the project the Supreme Leader visited the construction site time and again to encourage the young builders.

On his first visit to the site in April 2015, he highly appreciated what they had done, and said he felt as if he had won the world. Out of his great trust in young people he went on to say that the country is, both in name and in reality, a youth power as it has millions of young people educated and trained under the care of the great leaders (President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il) and infinitely faithful to the cause of the Party.

Later they completed within 120-odd days an amount of work equal to what they had done in the previous ten years by working day and night, and thus built the dam for power station No. 1.

On October 3 there was a grand ceremony for the completion of the power station in the presence of the Supreme Leader. He then said:

**"The dam rising over there is the embodiment of the burning patriotism and loyalty cherished by our young vanguard, and the height of the dam at power station No. 1 is the height of the dignity of our country with heroic young people, a youth power."**

Encouraged by his trust and care the young builders completed within the following six months power station No. 3, the downstream project of the aforesaid dam and the renovation of the Paektu Youth Recuperation Home.

Young people also took the lead in the struggle to carry out the Party's plan of laying a new railway and building fish farms, stockbreeding farms and other monumental structures for the sake of the

people. As a result there appeared Changjon Street, Rungna People's Pleasure Ground, Munsu Water Park, Mirim Riding Club, Masikryong Ski Resort, Mirae Scientists Street, Ryomyong Street and other monuments including those with the word *youth* in their names such as Kanggye Youth Power Station, Youth Hero Road, Youth Park Open-Air Theatre and Kaeson Youth Park Amusement Park.

Young scientists fully displayed their wisdom and knowledge in launching artificial earth satellites, and making the machine-building industry CNC-based, resulting in a nationwide campaign to go beyond the cutting edge.

True to the Party's plan of building a sports power, young sportspersons demonstrated the mettle of the country and the nation in international competitions.

Young soldiers are not only safeguarding their posts but also volunteering to do good things for the people under the slogan "Let us take upon ourselves both national defence and socialist construction!"

At the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League held in August 2016 the Supreme Leader saw to it that the youth league was renamed Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League as it had fulfilled its mission and duty as a reliable reserve force of the WPK and a vanguard for the building of a thriving country.

Young people of the country are constantly striving to bring earlier the bright future while displaying the nation's prestige as a youth power, following the course of the Korean revolution indicated by the Supreme Leader.

Kim Son Myong

# Popular *Pomhyanggi* Cosmetics Produced

**I**N SEPTEMBER, WE VISITED the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory which is producing *Pomhyanggi* cosmetics. The factory is located in the area of Sokha-dong, Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province, surrounded with good species of trees like dawn redwood and maple. The scenery was as beautiful as a picture.

What made us more pleasant



was the aroma from the flowers in full bloom and the fruits of trees growing in the compound of the factory. First we met Kim Hye Yong, general manager of the factory.

She said, “Our factory has a history of nearly 70 years. It is now producing more than 270 kinds of cosmetics—basic cosmetics, men’s cosmetics, functional cosmetics and medicinal cosmetics.”

Then she guided us to the soap

workshop. The workshop was neat and clean, and its production lines were germ- and dust-free. As we were looking at bars of toilet soap falling off the conveyor of the flow line, she told us that the workshop produces thousands of tons of toilet soap and over a thousand ton of soap powder a year.

Next we went to the basic cosmetics workshop, where all the

processes—mixing, aging, injection, packaging and container sterilization—were put on an automatic, flow-line basis.

Kim said with pride that many of the equipment of the factory including AGVs were designed and manufactured by its technicians and skilled workers and at the machine factories in the province.

Then we went to the integrated production control room, where two technicians were controlling

all the production processes of the factory. They were controlling the production command, the management of technical processes and business management scientifically and comprehensively, she said. Then she told us about the workers’ devoted efforts to develop their factory.

Her story enabled us to feel the spiritual world of the workers who had overcome all bottlenecks and difficulties by their own efforts and made a great progress. The more we looked round the factory,

**Cosmetics are under production.**



Some of *Pomhyanggi* cosmetics.

▶ the better we could understand their spirit of self-reliance and self-development.

Now the general manager led us to the *Pomhyanggi* cosmetics exhibition room, where varieties of cosmetics were displayed.

The *Pomhyanggi* cosmetics are now very popular at home and abroad, she said and added that they would develop more cosmetics suited to the tastes, ages and constitution of the customers of various social strata.

With a firm belief that the fragrance of *Pomhyanggi* would spread farther and faster along with the spirit of self-reliance and self-development, we left the factory.

*Pak Yong Il*

# Masters of Science and Technology

**T**HE PYONGYANG OPTICAL Fibre Communication Cable Factory fulfilled its annual cable production plan in September this year, the third year of carrying out the five-year strategy for national economic development.

One day in June 2016, almost all junior officials of the factory including members of its technical affairs department gathered in the room of the general manager. In the meeting they discussed the issues on implementing the tasks set forth at the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. What mainly mattered was how to establish an integrated production system with all the equipment of the factory made modern and how to normalize production. Son Kwang, head of the technical affairs department, quietly stood up from his seat and said, "In order to keep production activated all workers of the factory should attach importance to science and technology and take an active part in putting forth at least one idea of invention."

The meeting served as a turning point in further intensifying their mass-based technical innovation campaign. Scientists and technicians of the factory mapped out a plan to equip it with the integrated production system. They studied the relevant documents to realize the communication for different types of PLC, and analysed the data on on-the-spot monitoring and control to ensure real time accuracy of communication hour and reduce time delay and overload, thus pushing ahead with the research to choose the optimum plan.

But it was not an easy job for the technical forces of the factory alone. There were many bottlenecks. They, however, pooled their wisdom to be familiar with machines in each workshop and workteam, thus establishing the overall integrated production system in three months. As a result, business activities and management including process management, quality control, power management and organization of

production were made scientific, automatic and information-based on a high level.

A campaign to put forth at least one idea of invention was under way among the producer masses. Now they mastered their machines and others in their workshops and workteams, and exchanged opinions to correct defects. The workers of the copper cable workshop intensified cooperation with scientists and technicians, and completed on a high level the manufacture of the hydraulic packing for a 75-mm flow line, thus ensuring the productiv-

ity of the products and its quality. They also made by themselves various electric wire coating jigs and a 90-mm steel band winding jig so as to make a contribution to the perfect material and technical preparation for production.

It was when there was under way the transformation of the brake bands of the bellows moulding machine and the secondary covering tube loosening device in a 90-mm flow line at the copper cable workshop. But it was not an easy job for the workers because there were many technical problems to be solved. The workers had to design many circuits, make boards and do their test. They, however, managed to design the circuits and succeeded in the making and trial of the boards in close cooperation with the researchers

of the industrial laboratory. They thus transformed the brake band of the loosening device ideally and applied it into production.

They also completed a new hot-water cooling circulation system by dint of their own creative ingenuity, thus ensuring normal production without using water pumps.

Thanks to the devoted efforts of the scientists, technicians and workers of the factory, dozens of ideas of invention were introduced into production, and it fulfilled its annual national economic plan three months ahead of schedule. They say that they could achieve such a success because they attached importance to the mass-based technical innovation campaign.

They are still devoting their all to the cable production, true to the

call of the Workers' Party of Korea to actively turn out in the drive for increased production to implement the goal of the five-year strategy for national economic development.

*Sim Hyon Jin*



Cable production is accelerated.



# WIPO Prize Winners



Kim Song Un.



Jang Yong Man.



Jang Kum Ju.

NOT LONG AGO TEACHERS and researchers of Kim Il Sung University received a WIPO diploma and medal (WIPO Prize) for their invention related to the making and use of bone resorption inhibitor.

## Twice WIPO Prize Winners

Kim Song Un, official of the university's advanced science and technology exchange centre, and Jang Yong Man, researcher at the university's academy of natural sciences, are both of the same age, and, amazingly, their birthdays fall on the same month.

They, however, are different in birthplace and personality. Jang hails from Hyesan, Ryanggang Province, and he is a mild man of close application. Kim comes from Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province, and he is a sharp man of decision.

But the two are partners in and out of work. They have been engrossed in joint research for over ten years. Both of them finished the courses of the chemical faculty and graduate school of the university, and began to work as researchers of the faculty.

Full of enthusiasm for creation they both took part in developing risedronate, a bone metabo-

lism activator, in their twenties. Though there were difficulties and failures they pooled their efforts to pioneer the advanced technology. They thus succeeded in developing the activator in capsule form. Soon afterwards they developed a better bone resorption inhibitor. The inhibitor turned out effective in the treatment of osteoporosis, aseptic osteonecrosis, osteitis deformans and especially the spread of breast cancer, lung cancer, liver cancer and other cancers to bones.

Their research findings made a great sensation at international seminars, and were introduced in SCI-class magazines and other international scientific journals. ▶

▶ They won the first WIPO Prize for developing risedronate in 2016, and another for developing the bone resorption inhibitor in 2018, thus becoming twice winners of the prize for the first time in the country.

And they were allotted flats in the apartment blocks for teachers of the university on one and the same day, that is, flat No. 361 of entrance No. 1 for Kim, and flat No. 361 of entrance No. 2 for Jang.

Though different in position and job now, they are engrossed in a new joint research project.

They say, "We'll become twin pillars to exalt the honour of both the university and the country."

## "This Is for You"

Jang Kum Ju, a department head of the chemical faculty, is an elderly researcher and teacher

who won a doctorate in 2008. He guided the aforesaid men in developing the inhibitor.

He says it is attributable to his wife that he has made achievements in research for decades.

His wife is a graduate of Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce. A well-known cook, she is excellent at making good use of nutritive substances' structural, microbiological and physicochemical changes in processing food. She always understands his work and encourages him by dint of her wisdom.

The following happened in the course of developing the inhibitor.

When he was trying to find a way to enhance the efficacy of the inhibitor, she said, "In order to check bone destruction caused by necrosis, I think, the medicine should be quickly carried to the focus."

Her words made him think of something. It was the idea that it would be possible if the function of enzyme as an obstacle to medicine is checked.

Yong Man and Song Un agreed with his idea.

They covered the inhibitor with protective film so that the medicine could be easily carried to the focus. This made it possible to enhance the efficacy of the medicine remarkably.

The elderly researcher also reduced the stages of the medicine's synthesis reaction by one stage as compared with established methods, and established the technology of refining and analyzing the medicine.

The day he received the WIPO Prize he handed the diploma to his wife, saying, "This is for you."

Rim Ok

Wisdom is pooled to attain a higher goal.



## Roedung Stone Gun

IT WAS A HIGH-ANGLE stone gun in the early years of the Koryo dynasty. It used black powder, and caused lightning and a thunderous sound

when it was fired. The gun was one of the four major weapons of Koryo, and it was produced in large quantity in 1032 and from 1122 to 1127 to be installed at fortresses across the country.

The gun was an advanced kind of the powder stone gun developed in the period of the Three Kingdoms. In 1122 the

barrel of the gun was made of iron. The gun was widely used in wars in 1135-1136, in 1270-1273, and in 1274. It was called *Ryukhwa* stone gun in the closing days of Koryo.

The gun is known as the oldest one in the history of powder stone guns registered in the world historical record. □

## Small But Important

**A**T PRESENT RESEARCH on CNC machine tool, robot and flexible manufacturing system is the focus of the academic world.

Only ten odd years have passed since a research team of the automatic engineering faculty at Kim Chaek University of Technology launched into the venture, but the 10-odd members have brought about not a few successes.

Entering the IT era in the new century, the world has an increasing interest in and expectation of the robot control system and engineering based on the rapid development of science and technology.

Having intensified its research as required by the developing reality, the team has made an active contribution to making the national economy Juche-oriented and modern.

Their first project was related with the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, a leading base of the metallurgical industry in the country. As soon as they arrived at the complex in March 2010, they looked round the wide area of the enterprise, and even climbed up

to the top of the blast furnace scores of metres high, so as to grasp the actual conditions in detail.

After tens of rounds of technical consultation and a collective research for several months, they completed a large-scale integrated production control system program for the first time in Korea by way of object-oriented analysis and design.

Then they buckled down to the research for making the high-temperature air combustion heating furnace CNC-based. In merely a month they designed as many as 500 plans, worked out a control algorithm of a complicated control system consisting of lots of control loops for switching control, pressure control, etc., and confirmed its effectiveness through a computer simulation. On the basis of this they conducted a partial test run and a total interlocking test successfully, thus making it possible to control the furnace by computer. It took them only one year to introduce these advanced methods in metallurgical production.

One year later they distinguished themselves once again in modernizing the production lines

at the Tanchon Mining Machine Factory.

Through months of research they succeeded in developing a Juche-oriented, open CNC system whereby everything is done in accordance with programs by using a soft CNC & soft PLC system based only on a computer connection board without a dedicated control device.

This made it possible to put the production of 4- and 10-metre turning lathes, a 100-mm boring machine and a planer on a CNC basis, making an active contribution to fully producing parts of large-sized equipment for the Komdok Mining Complex.

In August 2016 they completed the computer control system of a RH vacuum refining furnace at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, and in January 2018 an integrated automation system for oxygen-blast furnace and comprehensive refining process at the same complex, thus establishing a Juche-based system of iron production.

Candidate academician, Dr. and Prof. Pak Ji Min, department head of the university, says, "The development level of science is not directly proportional to the number of scientists and the accumulation of years. What is important is to have confidence that one can do anything if one decides to and have an intention to compete with the world in the field of advanced technology. Otherwise, we couldn't have done what we have done until now."

Now they are devoting all their wisdom and energy to solving the sci-tech problems arising in the establishment of the C<sub>1</sub> chemical industry which will take a big share in the Juche-oriented development of the chemical industry, which constitutes one of the two pillars (the other being the metallurgical industry) of the national economy.

*Kim Hyon Ju*

Researchers are full of joy over their successful project.



## For Better Educational Conditions and Environment

**L**AST AUGUST, I VISITED the Kuchon Technical Senior Middle School situated in Sariwon. Entering the gate, I could smell the pleasant fragrance of dawn redwood, ginkgo and wild-walnut trees growing in the school garden and varieties of flowers in the compound.

First I could meet the headmaster Kim Son Ok, who had just finished an inspection of a class at work. Welcoming me, she said, "Good educational conditions and environment are a valuable foundation for training talented personnel. As a tree grows well in a good soil and bears rich fruits in autumn, students can get much more knowledge in good educational conditions and environ-

ment, and do their bits in society."

Then she guided me to school building No. 1. Inside the building I found the walls of the corridor hung with boards dedicated to the introduction of common knowledge and formulas.

First we dropped in at the network control room. In this room I could see on TV all classes at work, for multimedia-based lessons are given in all classrooms. Then the headmaster said, "The multimedia presentations were developed by the teachers themselves according to their teaching plans. As all the classrooms and laboratories are multifunctional, the teachers should improve their qualifications as much."

Soon the lessons were over, and students were coming out of the classrooms for a break. We entered the room of 1-2 class and saw some students still doing something with computers. I asked them what they were doing. A girl, Kim Hyang Byol, answered, "We are reviewing what we have learnt through the school's intranet. This enables us to understand better what we've learnt at lesson and read any reference books we want. It's very good indeed."

We looked round the foreign language, physical and chemical laboratories, and then proceeded to the biological specimen room. A rock covered with lichen, a bear sitting like a door-keeper, birds on

At a specimen room.







More efforts are put in the educational work.



► trees and everything else in the room reminded me of a natural history museum. The headmaster said, "In this room are more than 350 kinds of stuffed specimens and over 450 immersed specimens. The students learn a lot about animals and plants through the visual aids."

Out of the room, I could hear singing from somewhere. The headmaster led me to the music and dance room, where girls were singing to a light tune re-

flecting their joy of learning to their heart's content. Then other students played a piece of light music skillfully under the guidance of a music teacher. Kim now said, "We run music, fine arts, football and other circles after class for the students to develop their respective skills. This year, too, Kim Tae Song, a student of 3-4 class, participated in the national children's literary work contest and won the first place. Meanwhile, members of the fine

arts class ranked in the top three in the national drawing contest, and those of the football class do not yield the palm to others in the province."

We will keep improving the school's educational conditions and environment as required by the developing reality to bring up all the students into talented personnel, she added.

Picturing its bright future in my mind, I left the school.

Pak Thae Ho

## Koryo Veterinary Medicine

**K**ORYO VETERINARY medicine has been long used to treat and prevent animal diseases by means of acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping and medicinal herbs on the basis of practical experience and theory.

How the medicine was developed can be known from different old books. In 1398, *Mauibang*, a supplement to *Hyangyakje-saengjipsongbang*, came out, and in the 1640s the world's first professional veterinary book was published. Later, the book was published in four volumes in all, and the third and fourth volumes are on the methods of cultivating

medicinal herbs, and of breeding dog, pig, chicken and so on.

*Pukhakui*, which was published in the 1770s, deals with the methods of breeding cattle, horse and donkey and of diagnosing their diseases, and parturition and impregnation and other general reproductive physiology of domestic animals. It also criticizes crude breeding of domestic animals, and old and wrong methods of managing them.

*Kwanongsocho* compiled in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century has a chapter on breeding of cattle and some medicines needed for treat-

ing its diseases. Stressing the importance of cattle the chapter explains the methods of breeding draught ox, those of treating flatulence, eye disease and fever, and some other treatment methods including that of feeding cattle on a mixture of sliced sumac leaves and other grasses in case there are signs of catching epizootic.

The Koryo veterinary medicine developed for a long period of time, is now being enriched through close connection with modern science and technology.

Ri Song Chol

## Koryo Medicine Doctors

**H**AN CHOL, A DOCTOR OF the clinic affiliated to the Ryugyong Training Centre for External Constructors, and Pak Yong Ae, a gynecological department head of the Pyongyang Municipal Koryo Medicine Hospital, are man and wife. When I asked Pak how she became a Koryo medicine doctor, she answered that it was because of her father's advice.

Once Pak's younger sister suddenly lost consciousness and was rushed to hospital in her childhood. She received different treatments for resuscitation, but in vain. Her father placed his last hope on a Koryo medicine expert who mastered acupuncture. No sooner had the doctor applied acupuncture to the girl than she regained consciousness miraculously. Pak's father then became an admirer of Koryo medicine. He wanted any of his three daughters to surely become a Koryo medicine doctor. His wish was so earnest that Pak took the career of doctor contrary to her dream of becoming a teacher.

Han's case was different from hers. In his childhood Koryo medicine attracted him by its being capable of curing different diseases with medicinal herbs available in the country and simple medical apparatuses. Because of their common desire to make a contribution to the development of Koryo medicine, Han and Pak, who were university alumni, married after graduation.

It was a usual occurrence to

their family that they were asked to pay a sick call. One night Han was asked to go to see a patient. Yong Ae followed him. The patient complained of headache, stomachache and sore hands and feet, and the couple had difficulty in diagnosing the patient correctly. After examining the case they concluded that it was a trouble caused by biliary dyskinesia, and applied necessary acupuncture. The stomachache disappeared forty minutes later, and the patient became calm.

The world of Koryo medicine was really wonderful. The patients who had complained of their pains recovered soon after getting some acupuncture. This pleased the man and wife very much.

One year Han, who was working in a Koryo medical institution, volunteered to work at the aforesaid clinic. When I told him that it seemed that he had retreated from the *first line*, he said, "Absolutely not. Rather, my post can be said to be the foremost for I have to master surgical treatment as well as Koryo medical treatment such as acupuncture, moxibustion and manual therapy. Now I tell my wife about much more clinical experience."

Han is an able doctor to patients, and at the same time a reliable man who readily becomes a subject of his wife's acupuncture to find out a new method of treatment. Thanks to his help and support, Pak became a competent doctor in her line. She developed different Koryo medicines effica-

cious in the treatment of female disorders, and was highly appreciated more than once at national medical science symposiums. Now she has many certificates of contrivance and invention.

She said, "I was obsessed with a question of how a single application of acupuncture can save a life on the brink of death. To find an answer to it, I studied repeatedly. It was not easy to get the knack of Koryo medicine. The cause of a disease is different according to individual physical constitutions. So the doctor should be careful in diagnosing and treating."

It is the couple's view that one should not take an acupuncture needle carelessly when he has no sense of responsibility and love for human life.

They tried to bring their daughter up into a Koryo medicine doctor, but she showed an aptitude for music. To relieve her parents of their regret the daughter specialized in a national musical instrument. This year she enrolled at the Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

In their house in Kwangbok Street the daughter is absorbed in playing the *Taehaegum*, and the couple discuss on medical science and treatment of patients—creating a sweet family atmosphere.

Han and Pak say that it is their goal to become authorities in the field of Koryo medicine, adding that they have more things to do than what they have done.

Rim Ok



Han Chol's family.



## Thanks to Science and Technology

**T**HE SARIWON DISABLED SOLDIERS' Koryo Medicine Factory produces quality medicines for everyday and general uses. Silymarin tablets in particular are favourably commented upon by patients with liver diseases for their obvious remedial value.

When visitors to the factory ask how they produce scores of sorts of medicines with only a small number of workers, the managers answer that it is thanks to science and technology.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century was the era of vitamins, and the 21<sup>st</sup> is that of mineral matters. In Korea it is a growing trend to develop varieties of semisynthetic medicines, whose ingredients include half essential microelements and half Koryo medicinal materials, to be especially conducive to prevention and treatment of various diseases.

As required by the developing reality the factory has put great efforts in developing science and technology to produce highly efficacious Koryo medicines. The management has seen to it that the sci-tech learning space was effectively run for the purpose of helping the workers enhance their technical and practical skills. Meanwhile, the factory formed a research team with able workers to develop new products and solve problems by their concerted efforts.

The research team succeeded in making a highly efficacious Koryo medicine with thistle fruit available in the locality. This showed that introduction of science and technology makes it possible to do anything.

What is important in processing the fruit is to separate oil from the seeds. At that time it was commonplace to use alcohol in separation of oil, but the factory decided to separate oil from the seeds by a new method. An idea proposed by Kwak Yong Guk, a member of the technical preparation section, led to the invention of the new method. In the course of various experiments, Kwak witnessed oily stains being removed from his hands while washing them in an extract from Koryo medicinal materials. Then he hit on the idea that such an extract could be used to separate oil from the aforesaid seeds. On the basis of the idea he started the research for a natural surface active agent. He met with failures as he was strange to the research. But he managed to make the active agent, and this helped the factory produce the Silymarin tablets using the abovementioned fruit. And the active agent ranked among the first three winners at the 31<sup>st</sup> national sci-tech festival.



The factory is now engrossed in developing a Koryo medicine to be used for diagnosis of gastric cancer by combining microelements and Koryo medicinal components.

While making highly efficacious Koryo medicines with medicinal herbs available in the locality, the factory is striving to make its machinery and equipment Juche-oriented. In the course of this it manufactured such machinery and equipment as mixing machine, dough-making machine and inverter.

Rim Yong Nam, officer in charge of production and technical development, says, "Seeing the fully operating equipment made by our technical staff, we were confident that we can do anything if we believe in our strength and rely on our technology."

Some workers of the factory were distrustful of themselves when they were to make the equipment by themselves. They regarded it as difficult to do so as theirs is a medicine factory, not a machine-building factory. The officers of the factory decided to turn the making of the equipment into an opportunity to help the workers realize that only self-reliance is the way to survive, and encouraged them to display their spiritual strength. Thus, in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development, the workers managed to make the mixing machine and other machinery and equipment which they had thought they could not do by themselves.

The factory is making strenuous efforts to turn the equipment and production processes into labour- and electricity-saving ones by relying on science and technology, and produce much more and various quality Koryo medicines using raw and other materials available in the locality.

Kim Hyon Ju

## People Who Run towards Victory

**S**OME TIME AGO I VISITED THE PYONG-Syang Municipal Taekwon-Do Club in Rangnang District, Pyongyang.

When I arrived there, Kim Yong Sun, vice head in charge of technical affairs of the club, welcomed me, saying, "It is only ten-odd years since my club was established, but it has produced lots of famous practitioners who distinguished themselves at national and international competitions." Then she guided me to the room dedicated to the history of the club.

When I entered the room, I saw a noticeboard titled *Meritorious Taekwon-Do Practitioners*. Pasted on it were photos of over ten familiar Taekwon-Do coaches and practitioners including People's Athletes Ri Hyang and Pak Mi Hyang who had previously displayed the honour of the country at the Taekwon-Do World Championships and national competitions and a photo of Son Nam Sun, a famous *paduk* (go) coach. Seeing the photos, I could know a bit about the history of the club.

Then we went to the training hall, where men and women trainees were engrossed in training. Kim then said, "Taekwon-Do is a martial art of checking a rival's attack or attacking them with hands and feet, and the relevant competition consists of pattern, power, sparring and forte events. And a team event includes a display of self-defence art."

There I met People's Athlete Pak Mi Hyang who fully displayed her forte in several international competitions and won first place. Seeing on TV several times her competitions in which she attacked her rivals with self-confidence, I had considered her to be unusual, but now I found her not different from other ordinary girls.

When I told her that the final of the 20<sup>th</sup> Taekwon-Do World Championships held in Pyongyang in September last year was well worth seeing, she said, "The final was really difficult for me. My rival was a Russian girl good at fist thrust. To check her attack, I dealt instant counterattacks and second attacks to put her on the defensive and won an overwhelming victory. After competition, I could not help shedding tears at the thought that I would have our national flag fly in the sky of my country."

Her words made me feel their strong patriotism. When I asked what she had felt on the honour platform, she said, "The honour is just the fruit of effort. Though the height of the honour platform is not so high, but it is associated with our sweat and enthusiasm. Only when we sweat much in training can we display the honour and dignity of the country."

Hwang Su Yong, leader of the training team, said that though she had participated in many national and international competitions, she was still inferior to Mi Hyang, and that she would strive to overtake her.

Then we dropped in at the sci-tech learning space

equipped with over ten desktop computers. In the room the Taekwon-Do coaches and practitioners study new sci-tech data and conduct the analysis and appreciation of the previous competitions, Kim explained. Its walls were hung with boards dedicated to the explanation of scientific selection of practitioners and the way to put teaching and training on a scientific basis.

She then said, "At present sports are based on science and technology. Without possessing modern science and technology, the practitioners cannot achieve the best success in training and competitions. So they are engrossed in technical study here. As a result they took first place in total at the Jongilbong Prize national youth and schoolchildren's Taekwon-Do championships held in August by winning seven medals in Taekwon-Do event and six medals in go event."

Looking around the club, I could understand the noble spiritual world of the practitioners who are striving to display the honour of the country in international competitions by further developing the orthodox martial art of Korea.

Believing that they would win victory in every competition, I left the club.

Sim Yong Jin

Athletes are full of delight at their win.



# New Sapling Producer

THE KANGWON PROVINCIAL Tree Nursery was built in the suburbs of Wonsan in the province. As a fruit of the provincial officials and working people's efforts it is a large-scale modern sapling production base capable of annually producing over 20 million saplings. Covering an area of scores of hectares the tree nursery consists of 57 buildings and facilities including a sapling production quarter, a management building, welfare facilities and dwelling houses. The sapling production quarter is divided into plastic pane greenhouses, an outdoor cultivation ground, round cutting beds, a light substrate production ground, and a seed selection and sowing ground.

The province produced by itself the majority of building materials and finishing materials for the construction of the tree nursery. It also manufactured and installed necessary equipment for light substrate production and seed selection and planting in connection with the State Academy of Sciences and other relevant or-

gans, thus raising the rate of domestic production of equipment.

On his recent visit to the tree nursery on the occasion of a tree planting month, a *Korea Today* reporter heard many other visitors unstintingly admire the way the tree nursery had become a nationwide model.

Ri Mun Chol, senior engineer of the tree nursery, said to the visitors, "What is important in a tree nursery is how it grows saplings rather than how large it is."

An integrated control system consisting of automatic control, business management and production management systems is playing a pivotal role in the overall management of the tree nursery. It provides the best conditions for the growth of saplings including temperature, humidity, sunshine amount, carbon dioxide content, ventilation, and application rate of nutritive solution. Actually, all the environmental and meteorological data from plastic pane greenhouses, PVC sheet-covered greenhouses, the outdoor cultivation ground and an area



Sapling production is getting on a more scientific footing.

of test acclimatization, are transferred to the general control room via the integrated control system. Based on this, appropriate conditions are provided for the growth of saplings.

Saplings in the greenhouses go through the process of selection and sowing beforehand, which is equipped with facilities for selecting, treating and sowing seeds. They include a flow line integrated from substrate conveying to mixing, conveying, hardening, sowing and container supply. Jon Myong Gum, a worker, said, "This flow line is of high productivity and consumes power much less. And it is easy to handle as its structure and operation are simple. What we make by our own efforts and

▶ technology is the best."

A substrate production workshop is also well furnished. All its processes ranging from input of raw material to crushing, selecting, mixing, fermenting, drying and supplying are conducted in keeping with the scientific and technical requirement, thus providing the optimization of substrate.

Researchers of the analysing laboratory are reliable pioneers in the afforestation project of the province. They scientifically manage nutritive conditions of saplings, analyse nutrient component of soil and nutritive contents of soil and organic fertilizer and

classify and examine wood-rotting pathogens, and take necessary detailed measures.

All this guarantees the stable production of saplings of good species including Changsong larch, Weymouth pine and black pine.

Pae Yong Suk, manager of the tree nursery, said, "Our success and experience now give impetus to the construction of tree nurseries in other provinces. By improving scientific level of sapling production we'll mass-produce saplings of good species suitable for the climatic and soil conditions of our province."

*Chae Kwang Myong*





In a training room of the *Paduk* House.

## *Paduk* Widens in Domain

**P**ADUK, OR GO, DEVELOPED AND improved from of old as an interesting play for intellectual development. It is Koreans' favourite game widely encouraged as one of national sports.

*Paduk* houses as professional *paduk* education institutions are in operation in Pyongyang and all provinces. In the houses people, according to their tastes, learn the rudiments, moves and various ways and tactics. The houses also give systematic extracurricular education to pre-school children and schoolchildren for the purpose of developing them into professional *paduk* players equipped with the expertise of the game. After work or on holiday people, regardless of age and sex, go to play *paduk*.

Varieties of *paduk* competitions take place in the country in keeping with the increasing public interest in the game. They are divided into professional and amateur categories.

Meanwhile, there take place competitions of *paduk* circle members included in the Jongilbong Prize National Juvenile Taekwon-Do Championships and the national *paduk* competition of *paduk* houses, and district and regional competitions including spring and autumn Pyongyang children's *paduk* competitions, thus widening the scope of ▶

▶ competitions and diversifying the relevant technical exchange.

The participants in the competitions and amateurs are of the same opinion that *paduk* is good for training the brain, promoting friendship and unity among people and ensuring a long life in good health.

In particular it has, people say, a great effect on the upbringing and early education of children. In August this year Sok Won Ung, first-grader of Sangsin Primary School in Sosong District, Pyongyang, took first place at a national *paduk* competition of *paduk* houses. The winner's mother An Yun Ok says, "When my son said he wanted to learn *paduk* I thought it was only for fun out of childish curiosity. But after he began to learn it his power of thought and observation conspicuously developed and his concentration improved. One year later he began to take part in different competitions, emerging the winner, and his school record improved. Only then did I come to understand the merits of the game. So I began to learn it myself. Now all members of my family have become *paduk* enthusiasts."

With the increasing interest in and expectation of *paduk* in the country the domain of *paduk* is widening day by day.

*Kim Son Myong*



Children are learning knowledge and techniques of *paduk*.

Sok Won Ung has won a number of *paduk* competitions.



Ri Se Chung who won the national *paduk* fans' competition 2018.

Father and son are in a *paduk* game.



# To Landscape Streets

AMONG THE PEOPLE WHO are decorating the streets of Pyongyang with beautiful flowers are workers of the Pothonggang District Floricultural Farm.

They cultivate more than 50 000 flowering plants every year in several hothouses covering an area of hundreds of square metres, and plant the district's streets and parks with the plants. The flowers they grow are French marigold, cockscomb, geranium

and calendula and so on for flower beds and flowerpot stands. Their beauty and freshness heighten people's pleasure, and they are in great demand at flower shops.

What is more beautiful than the flowers is the spiritual world of the workers at the farm who are raising the flowers. Through the study-while-working system, they gained rich knowledge of horticulture, which enables them to solve all technical problems

arising in flower production by their own efforts.

This year harmful insects became brisk due to the consecutive sultry weather. So the workers developed new horticultural chemicals whose material is rice bran in a short period of ten odd days in cooperation with the scientists of a relative institution. They thus protected the flowers from the damage caused by harmful

▶ insects, and grew them well.

Several years ago, they developed a bio-fertilizer good for the growth of flowers by themselves.

It is their unanimous desire to further beautify the streets of the capital city that changes for the better day by day and give people greater pleasure.

Thanks to their tireless efforts and desire, there appeared a floating flower bed on the Pothong River, inspiring a new emotion in people. Most of them are women, so it was not easy for them to create the flower bed by their own efforts. And they had no duty to do it. However, they managed to do the project by pooling their efforts and wisdom.

Now they are expanding the flower bed, making it possible to improve the quality of the river water.



Streets are decorated with beautiful and fragrant flowers.

Thanks to such workers' ardent desire and tireless efforts to be creators of beauty, not merely its enjoyers, the city is growing beautiful.

*Sim Chol Yong*

A view of a floating flower bed on the Pothong River.





## Literary Circle Members

AT KWANMUN JUNIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL, Rangnang District, Pyongyang, there is a literary circle, which is a major topic of conversation among its pupils.

The school organizes an exhibition of the circle members' works once a month, which is a matter of common interest to all the pupils of the school. Non-members of the circle are also eager to take part in the exhibition with their own works. They long for the circle and envy its members not merely for the exhibition.

Sometimes poems and stories written by the circle members are carried on newspapers or literary

**Jon Kyong Sil guides pupils in nature observation.**



magazines. The circle has produced many winners of literary prizes such as the National Juvenile Literary Prize and Our Classroom Literary Prize. Among them are a twice winner, a winner of the national composition contest and others who presented collections of their works.

The circle has a history of 20 years and its instructor is Jon Kyong Sil. When the circle was organized, its members numbered only four. They were those whom Jon had carefully picked out one by one.

Though twenty years have passed since then, she still remembers their names and the details of their life. In particular, she has unusual memories of Ri

**Pupils are on a field trip to get the knack of creation.**



**Jin Song (centre) and his mother and brother.**

► Song Hwa, one of the four.

During a mother tongue lesson, Jon noticed that Song Hwa had talent for literature. So she met her father. But her father hesitated to entrust her daughter to the young teacher who had graduated from university a few months before. He said, "I'll have my daughter study music."

"But Song Hwa has talent for literature. If we teach her well, she'll surely become a literary prodigy. And I can do it. Please trust me," the teacher entreated.

Moved by her earnest appeal, Song Hwa's father agreed with her. But something that angered him happened. Song Hwa failed the admission examination for the literary class aimed at training reserve literary persons.

Jon went to the examiners with a knapsack full of Song Hwa's pocket-books for creative work. The books contained hundreds of children's songs and poems, compositions and short stories. Reading the works in admiration, the examiners said that they had nearly missed a precious literary talent, explaining that they had failed her in the examination because they could not believe that the 13-year-old girl wrote a short story in the examination of 45 minutes.



They had judged that she copied it from a collection.

At last Song Hwa passed the examination with the highest mark. Later she enrolled at the College of Literature, Kim Il Sung University. After graduation she became a teacher of the college.

Jon's first three other disciples became able literary experts after receiving professional education at the aforesaid literary class.

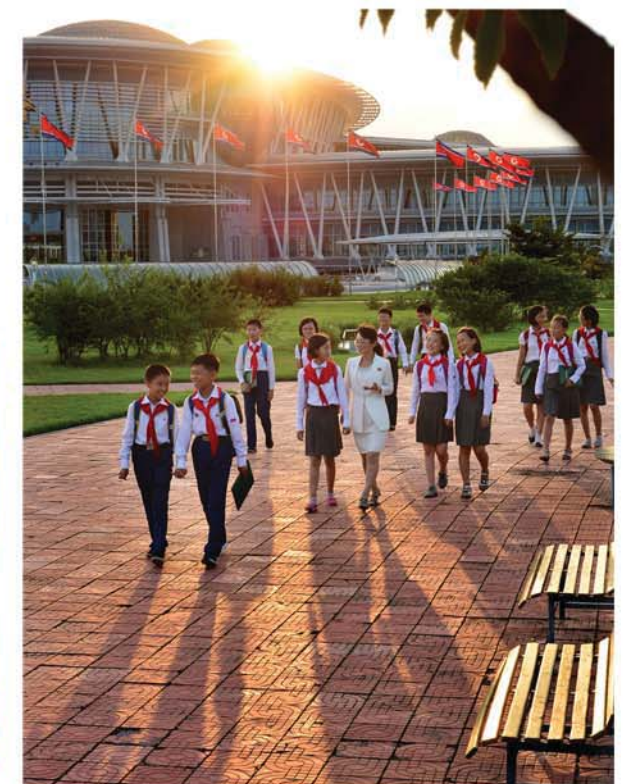
Jon redoubled her efforts full of confidence. She thus produced a number of reserve literary persons for 20 years. Over 130 of them received literary prizes. Most of them have become journalists, writers and literary teachers.

Jin Song, one of the present circle members, says, "During a class, the teacher read my diary which I had written during a camp life in Mt Myohyang, and advised me to write a short story as the theme was good. When the diary *A Day in a Camp* was completed into the short story *A Pebble*, I was very delighted. I am proud of my ability to write stories. I'll become a writer in future."

Jon, who takes pride in seeing her students develop, says, "The circle members are very much interested in the study of literature. Perhaps, I think, it is because literature belongs to humanics. Describing themselves and their friends in their works and finding out something significant in their life, they understand the truth of life."

Through literary lessons, the circle members not only get the knack of creation but develop into persons with deep emotion and the ability to understand the beautiful aspects of life.

*Rim Ok*





**W**IDE ROADS EXTENDING in all directions, modern houses lining the roads, fruit trees surrounding the houses, the Songchon Health Complex, a house of culture, a nursery, a kindergarten, a school, an agricultural sci-tech learning space, distinctive public establishments and places of relaxation arranged here and there—these constitute a panoramic view of the village of the Songchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Wonsan, Kangwon Province.

Every visitor to the village is reluctant to leave it charmed by its scenery. Ri Yong Sil, chairwoman of the management board of the farm, often tells them about its history.

In the past the villagers made their living by cultivating low-yielding crops because other crops yielded less.

Then the State made sure that it was confirmed that the soil of the farm is good for cultivation of vegetables, and opened up bright prospects for its vegetable farming. The government's intention was to enable the farm to increase

its workers' income by supplying fresh vegetables to the citizens of Wonsan all the year round. True to the intention the farm began to cultivate vegetables extensively, thus putting an end to the local

people's lamentation over the soil and writing a new history.

The scale of the farm gradually enlarged, and it turned into a base specializing in producing and supplying vegetables to the

▶ Wonsan citizens. And its workers became better off thanks to the State measures for according preferential treatment to them in each period.

Then the State set a goal of

providing rural communities with amenities of modern life. Thus machines were introduced in the work of the farm, freeing the workers from hard labour. Recently it has changed for the better in

appearance.

Furthermore, the workers are engrossed in learning to do scientific farming. After the day's work they all gather in the agricultural sci-tech learning space. Among them are elderly people who used to make the rounds of the neighbourhood or play Korean chess after work, and housewives who are busy looking after their children and managing their household affairs. In particular, young workers are quite enthusiastically learning saving every minute so as to develop into well-informed workers as required by the era.

All members of the farm have a dream of turning their village into a paradise by dint of science. They produced a good idea of introducing choice seeds and a method of increasing yields to suit the actual conditions of the farm, thus opening up a prospect for increasing the production of vegetables rapidly.

The chairwoman says, "The development of my farm enables all of us to picture a better future in our mind."

*Kim Chol Ung*

## Farm Village Changes



# Mother's Mind

**A** MOTHER OF 39 CHILDREN lives in Neighbourhood Unit No. 50, Misan-dong No. 2, Taesong District, Pyongyang. She is O Cho Ok, worker of the Taesong

District Water Supply and Sewerage Management Station.

It is said that it takes a ten thousand days' work to bring up even a single child. Then what

had O bring up those children?

Some time ago I had an opportunity to hear the following story from Choe Hyo Sim, 38, her second daughter.

I would like to say before anything else that my mother adopted nearly 40 children and devoted her all to bringing them up well lest they should have any wrong in their life. Several days may not be enough to talk about my mother. And I'll say some facts I know about her.

I heard from the head of our neighbourhood unit that in October 20 years ago my elder sister Choe Chung Sim and I came to O's house.

One day my father Choe Kwang Il, back home from work, was unusually silent. When O asked him what had happened, he could not reply. Then, late at night, he said with much trouble that a couple of well-known innovators in his factory died unexpectedly, leaving their two daughters behind. He added that the workteam had discussed on the matter of the children, but no result. I was told that as a junior official of the workteam, he had a heavy heart. My mother read his mind, but she could not give a ready answer because they had their own child younger than us.

The next day their eyes were bloodshot as they had a sleepless night, but they grasped each other's hands in agreement. This is how my elder sister and I came to their house led by them. Father and mother soon registered us as their own children and devoted their parental affection to us.

When they knew that I was interested in music, they bought an accordion for me, and tried hard to prepare special food for my weak sister.

It was during the period of the

Arduous March when the country was in difficulty. Though it was difficult to look after even one child, my mother managed the household affairs assiduously. In the course of this, she brought another 13 children to the home. Her burden increased gradually, but her face always beamed.

Now I attained my years of discretion. One year mother brought a boy to the house. He limped heavily owing to arthritis. Seeing him, people asked her why she troubled herself to bring the limping boy instead of a healthy child. Then she said that she would surely have the boy's disease cured.

She carried him on her back to hospital almost every day. She even made a long journey to attain healthy tonics for him and learned Koryo medical treatment to apply moxa to his leg through a night. When they saw him frolicking on the yard several months later, the neighbours said that her sincere devotion had him rise up at last, and that her care for the boy was deeper than that for her own child.

She always got up in early morning to cook several pots of rice for many children. And she washed a good deal of clothes every day. But she never absented herself from her work or left her workplace earlier than other workers.

The names of us children have meanings associated with her aspirations, for example, Chung Hyo (loyalty), Un Hye (benefit), Po Dap (repayment), Hon Yon Il Che (harmonious whole) and Jo Son Ro Dong Dang (Workers' Party of Korea). My elder sister's name is

Choe Chung Sim, and my name is Choe Hyo Sim, so when the central letters of both names are put together, they mean loyalty. My mother gave us such names wishing we would love the country like our own parents did and surely repay the benefit of the Party by which we grow up with nothing to envy in the world.

However, we grew up without fully understanding the meanings of our names. When the country had to undergo trials, the life of our family, too, faced difficulties. Still my mother tried hard to manage the family economy lest we should go hungry. When we were to have a sports meeting and go for nature observation, she prepared scores of lunch boxes through all night. She put foods equally in the boxes, saying that we should share the foods with our teachers and friends. Her image reminded me of my own mother.

As the saying goes that "a mother with a large brood never has a peaceful day," there were some children who made the mother worry.

It happened one late night of December a dozen years ago. I remember that it was windy and cold. Hon Chol, still with a habit of leading a careless sort of life after losing his parents in his childhood, left the house (his name has the first letter of the words *Hon Yon Il Che*). Then the other children said that he was a bad boy and that it was better to let him go on his own way. But the mother looked around the village several days to find him, and finally she brought him back to the house.

Then the mother had us all



O Cho Ok receives congratulations from her children on Mother's Day.

gather, and said, "The State provided us with the new house larger than the previous one lest our big family should feel inconvenience, and gives you new school uniforms by season. The saleswoman comes to our home first to inform us to buy the early fruits. And doctors of the clinic frequently come to see us lest we should be sick. It is because they want you to grow up into pillars of the country. And your names reflect the wish."

Now we gradually understood her mind. She wanted us to grow up into fine sons and daughters supporting the country.

The mother embraced Hon Chol closely. She went a long way to prepare his birthday spread, and had him take a special food before anyone else. Her selfless sincerity touched Hon Chol's heartstrings, and later he became a pupil good at his studies and drawing (He is now an officer of the Korean People's Army).

Time passed, and we became adults. The eldest son Myong Jin (As the mother's own son, he died

a soldier in combat task, and the family was awarded a certificate of the bereaved family of a patriotic martyr), the second son Ha Chol and the third son Hyok Chol joined the army. Some of the daughters enrolled at colleges, the others volunteered to work at a socialist construction site.

My family has 26 certificates of enlistment in the KPA. Three of them are officers. The units of the brothers and sisters have sent many letters to the mother. They expressed their thanks to her for having reared them into good soldiers. The envelopes also contained photos of the brothers and sisters. Looking at the photos, I thought that it was the mother who brought them up like that.

When those who have made new homes gather in the mother's house or on the occasion of Mother's Day we make a deep bow to her, inwardly telling her that we will bring our sons and daughters into strong pillars who support the Workers' Party of Korea all the time.

In June last, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un came to know that five of our family members were to be married at the same time, and sent them wedding spreads and dozens of kinds of household articles and tableware. On their wedding day all of us wept tears, exclaiming that we are not orphans. Then we sang the song *We Are the Happiest in the World*. And we brothers and sisters resolved to surely repay the State's concern for us, true to our names given by the mother.

She still tells us that we should have a pure mind in supporting the country though we have grown up. I think it is just the mind of a mother. Availing myself of this opportunity I would like to make a deep bow of thanks to this grateful socialist country which has brought us up into fine persons.

It is an ordinary story anyone can hear anywhere else in Korea.

*Sim Chol Yong*



## Tales about Pongi Kim Sondal

MY MOTHER USED TO tell me stories about Pongi Kim Sondal when I was young. "Once upon a time there lived Pongi Kim Sondal," she began to reel her story, and I was instantly hypnotized. I always begged her for a tale of Pongi Kim Sondal, often falling asleep over her narrative at night.

When I was a pupil, my teacher asked, "Do you know how he was named Pongi Kim Sondal?" Then, she explained.

One day Kim Sondal went shopping in the market, when he saw a chicken trader fool some ill-advised people into paying several times more than the normal price. He decided to make a fool of the chicken trader. He approached him and, pointing to a red-billed cock, asked what it was. Judging Kim to be stupid, the trader said it was *Pongi* or phoenix, and demanded 20 *nyang* for it, an exorbitant price. Kim paid, and rushed in haste to Jong Avenue where he heard the king was just passing on his inspection trip.

With the cock in arms, Kim knelt down in front of the king, said in a humble and respectful voice that he, a subject from the town, would like to offer a phoenix to His Majesty. The king looked down and noticed it was a cock instead of phoenix. After hearing a story from Kim, the king ordered to take the chicken trader to his place at once. While the trader was confessing that he had sold the chicken for 20 *nyang* by falsely describing it as phoenix, Kim sprang up to tell the king that he had bought it for 300 *nyang* instead of 20. Exasperated at the trader lying, the king ordered to bind the trader to the rack and give him good flogging before making him pay back the 300 *nyang*. The trader could not but pay back the 300 *nyang* without any complaint.

Since Kim got the price of phoenix instead of chicken, he was given the nickname of *Pongi* or phoenix.

Sondal is far from his name. It means a person who passed the state examination for military qualifications in the past but failed to get a government post. According to what I confirmed

while talking to Dr Kang Pok Sil, teacher at the college of literature, Kim Il Sung University, Kim Sondal was a real man who lived in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and who was a famous narrator. Nevertheless, the tales about his life used to be orally handed down, leaving no written statements.



Kang said, "The tales of Pongi Kim Sondal came into existence in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. While they found their way to all parts along with ceaseless processing and trimming, a lot of varieties have come into being, making up a train of narratives. The tales have got on everyone's lips because they carry the people's hatred against the ruling and exploiting class that torment the people while behaving themselves arrogantly."

The popularity of the tales is to be easily ascertained by the proverbs like "Just like Pongi Kim Sondal fools the firewood trader," "Just like Pongi Kim Sondal sells a paddy field," and "Just like Pongi Kim Sondal sells off the water of the Taedong River."

The tales still remain a strong magnet. I dare say all the Koreans have more or less idea of Pongi Kim Sondal. One of the best-informed folks was Yun Song Bae (b. September 1933-d. March 2017) who lived at Neighbourhood Unit No. 107, Wonju-dong, Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province. Born in Mirim, Sadong District, Pyongyang, where Kim was said to be born, Yun as child heard a lot about Pongi Kim Sondal from his grandfather, father and senior neighbours. Later he moved to Sariwon where he often told stories about Pongi Kim Sondal to the local people and children.

The tales of Kim Sondal, which used to be handed down by oral means alone, are now widely spread through literary works, films, TV and other media.

Since they hold an important position in the Korean folk tales with great vitality and attraction, the tales about Pongi Kim Sondal got on the list of national intangible cultural heritage.

Rim Ok

## Ssirum

SSIRUM IS KOREAN Wrestling in which two wrestlers struggle in a stooped posture to throw each other to the ground. They hold each other by the thigh band and the belt. *Ssirum* helps one nurture strength. And it can be played by anyone anywhere and anytime.

*Ssirum* was developed by Koreans over their working life. Its content, style and method have steadily changed and developed with different names such as *kak-jo*, *kangnyok* and *kakhui*. From of old the Korean people did *ssirum* at breaks of rice-transplantation, weeding and harvesting at the edge of a field or on the sandbank or grass. It was a little different in style according to the customs and tastes of the people in different localities. But it was basically divided into senior, junior and juvenile categories in keeping with age and level.

In Korea today *ssirum* is a regular event of the national folk sports contest, and put on the list of major events of large and small sports competitions held in Pyongyang and provinces.

Generally, its kinds include left *ssirum*, right *ssirum* and belt-holding *ssirum*.

*Ssirum* is a match of three rounds divided into body-weight (team event) and catch-weight category events. The team event is divided into 55kg, 60kg, 65kg, 70kg, 75kg, 80kg and over 85kg categories or is done regardless of body weight. And the catch-weight event has no time limit.

*Ssirum* is based on lots of different technical tricks such as leg tricks, hand tricks and body tricks. The leg tricks include outside-leg-reaping, inside-leg-reaping, knee trip and leg lock and inside foot whack. The hand tricks are knee-whack, ankle-whack, arm trip and leg pulling.

And the body tricks are buttock throw, body-twist throw, whirling throw and turnover.

In the past it was considered that a man of power was certain to win *ssirum* match. However, with the passage of time, many *ssirum* techniques and tricks have been studied, arranged and generalized, so win or loss mainly depends on what kind of trick a wrestler uses against his opponent taking advantage of the latter's weak point.

Fouls in *ssirum* include the acts of intentionally gripping and wringing the opponent's neck, holding the opponent's head under his arm for an excessively long while, grasping the opponent's hair or fingers, and intentionally pulling the opponent out of the wrestling court. Wrestlers wear sleeveless undershirt, trunks and safety underpants, and tie bands on the waist and a thigh. The members of each team put their marks on their chests, and wear uniforms of the same colour.

A floor matting or sand ground is used for the match. The floor matting is 144 square metres. Eight-metre-long sidelines are drawn on four sides, and the lines are 10 cm wide. The centre of the ground is marked with a circle 2 metres in diameter. The sand ground is prepared by digging the earth out 20 cm deep in a ground of 64 square metres and spreading sand there 30 cm thick. Then, a white line with a width of one cm is drawn one metre away from its circumference to mark a safety area.

*Ssirum* is a sport which can be played by anyone regardless of condition, time, place and rival. It helps people develop strength, patience, bravery and fighting spirit.

Pak Thae Ho

# Mt Myohyang

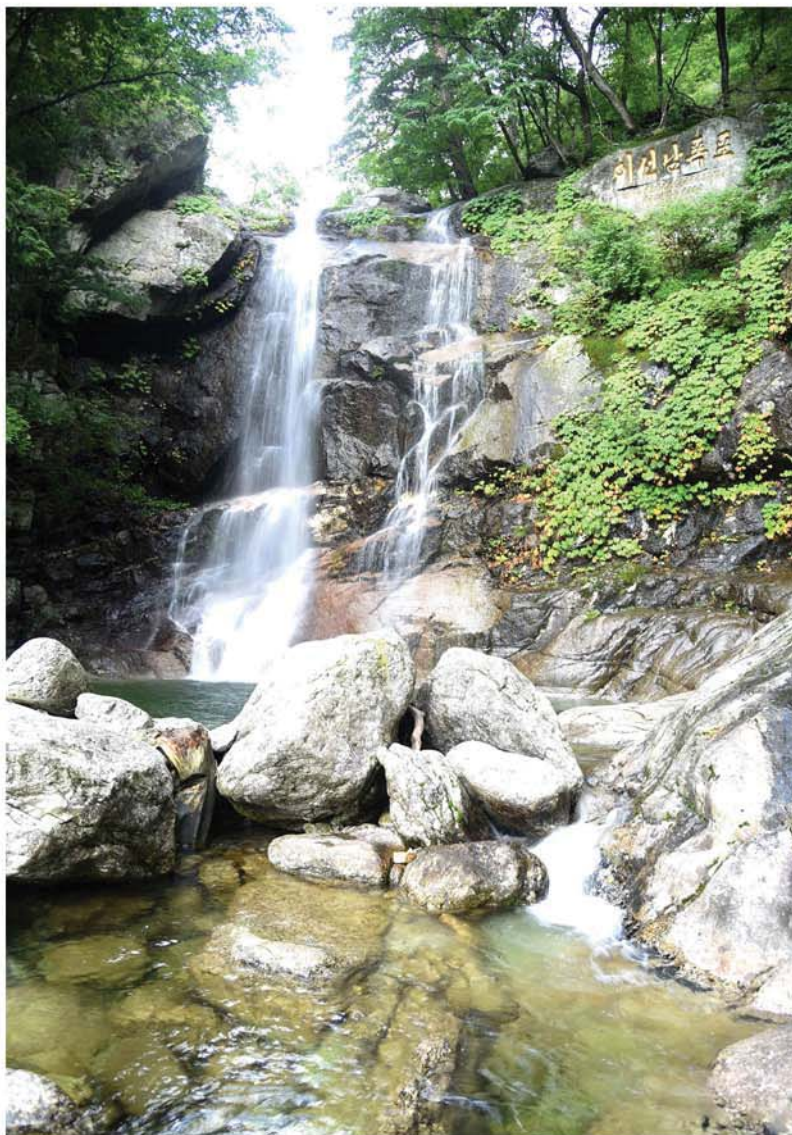
(Continued from the last issue)

## Scenic Spots in the Area of Piro Peak

ONE CAN SAY THAT ONE HAS ENJOYED all the scenery of Mt Myohyang only after climbing up to Piro Peak past Paegun Rock.

Piro Peak, 1 909 metres high, is the highest of the

### Isonnam Falls.



numerous peaks in Mt Myohyang. From of old, the Korean ancestors called the highest peak Piro, hence its name.

It is linked with Jingwi Peak to the west and Chilsong Peak to the southeast. The top of the peak has some rocks and a flat grass field. Various flowers are in full bloom in July and August, not in spring because of low temperature. So, while it is early summer down on the shores of the Hyangsan Stream, it is spring now for the flowers on the top of Piro Peak.

Creeping pine-nut trees cover the ground from Piro Peak to Chilsong Peak to the southeast. One can enjoy a panoramic view of the high and low mountain ranges and plains in Nyongbyon, Pakchon and Anju areas and the vast expanse of the West Sea of Korea far away.

Around the mountain-hiking paths to Piro Peak there are many scenic spots: Chonthae Valley, famous for its many waterfalls; a resting place at Piro Gate, the beginning of the paths to both Chilsongdong Valley and Piro Peak; a place where one can see three scenic beauties—crystal-clear water, fragrant thick forests and peculiar rocks; Habiro Hermitage, Kumgang Hermitage, Poryon Rock and Kangson Rock; a spring called Myongansu; Chonthae Falls and Isonnam Falls in Chonthae Valley; another resting place on the way to Piro Peak; Paegun Rock; and different waterfalls, ponds, pools, gorges and Sollyong Rock associated with legends in Chilsongdong Valley. ▶

▶ What is the most famous in the area is Paegun Rock. The rock towers above the forest with fleecy clouds girding its waist, from which came its name, and commands a bird's eye view of the chains of peaks of Mt Myohyang. The place is fragrant with cypress, where you can have a look round over all ravines and peaks such as Sangwon Ravine and Manphok Ravine along the Hyangsan Stream. To the north you will see precipices and peaks made up of rocks of fantastic shapes such as Wonmanbong, Sokkabong, Chonthaebong and to the south peaks resembling many horses on the run.

So there is an old saying that warns people against commenting on the charm of Mt Myohyang before climbing Paegun Rock to have a look round. In particular, when fleecy clouds appear along the ravines, many ravines of the mountain would disappear into the clouds excepting high cliffs and peaks soaring over the clouds. Further, you will see the beautiful autumn scenery of Mt Myohyang dressed up with red and yellow leaves. For this reason, the Korean ancestors picked this scenery as one of the "eight beautiful views of Mt Myohyang."

Sollyong Rock is also one of the famous rocks in the mountain. Its gigantic and fantastic shape goes well with surrounding scenery to present a superb view. As it stands on a high place, it is well known as a noted place. Originally there was a temple called Sollyongdae, hence the name. The scene of clouds girding the rock is designated as one of the "eight beautiful scenes of Mt Myohyang."

The rock, frequented by travellers from of old, is associated with a legendary tale about a flute, the one about the contradicting class relations and people's emotional life of those days.

And in the area of Outer Hyangsan (Kujang area) there are the Ryongmun Cave and Paengnyong Cave. These caves came into being as the underground layers of limestone had been dissolved and washed by rainwater and underground water for a long time. For the numerous stalactites and stalagmites of myriad shapes, the caves are well known as wonderful underground scenic spots.

(To be continued)

## Gate to Sea Kumgang



THE GATE TO SEA KUMGANG IS about 20 km away from the seat of Kosong County, Kangwon Province. Two curious granite rocks, which had been worn and trimmed by waves for a long period of time, strike deep root under the sea and face each other, and another rock lies on them, and they thus look like a gate.

The rock on the right side is large and flat, and pine trees are growing thickly on it. The sea water in a hollow inside the gate is blue and quiet like the water of a pool, but once a wind blows, towering waves beat upon the shore. The white-crested waves hitting the gate soar high in the sky like a white smoke shot up from a chimney.

The area has many fish, shellfish and seaweeds, and large and small hills, peaks and cliffs on the coast add beauty to the gate. In an area of one kilometre inside the gate there can be seen the kaleidoscopic scenery.

The local people have long called the rocks Gate to Sea Kumgang as it looks like an entrance to Sea Kumgang.

For its natural scenery and academic significance the gate was designated as natural monument No. 229 and is now preserved well.

Kim Un Jong

# Result of Flexible Diplomacy

AS SOON AS HE ASCENDED the throne in the early fourth century BC, the king of a neighbouring country of Ancient Joseon (early 30<sup>th</sup> century BC-108 BC) began to develop a wild dream of becoming the sovereign of a big power by occupying Ancient Joseon. After making preparations for ten years he, in 323 BC, amassed dozens of thousands of troops including thousands of cavalrymen and hundreds of combat carriages along the border with Ancient Joseon in order to launch aggression.

At the moment he was told that an envoy came to see him from Ancient Joseon. Questioning himself what kind of mission the envoy would be undertaking for his country which would soon be exposed to violent attack, the king received him.

The envoy made a formal salute, saying, "It is a great honour for me, *Taebu* Rye, to offer my best wishes to Your Majesty as envoy of our Great King."

One of the subjects present on the occasion told the king in a humble voice, "*Taebu* is a high position next to the minister in their country's government, Your Majesty."

"For what did your king send you to me?" the king asked almost shoutingly to dampen the spirit of the envoy.

Nevertheless, there was no sign of fear in Rye's face. Such a bluff was the last thing to work on the spirit of Rye who had stood firm and straight even when he had passed by the huge legion of the enemy carriages and troops in the border area and when he had walked into the capital that was filled with a forest of spears and swords.

"I would like to convey the message of our Great King," the envoy said. "He demands that your country stop the wrong at-

tempt of aggression against our country."

Earlier, when he had heard the secret report that the foreign invaders were swarming to the border, the king of Ancient Joseon had been terribly angry. He had cried, "I can't stand it when the rats dare to attack my great country." Then, he had issued a general mobilization order and a royal decree that all warriors smash the enemy with their iron instruments ruthlessly.

Yet *Taebu* Rye had been of the opinion that since war was always a dangerous thing to deal with and inevitably caused damage to the people in general it would be advantageous to avoid it by persuading the enemy to recede of their own accord. Counting on his counsel, the king had sent Rye to the enemy country.

Casting a ridiculous glance at the arrogant king of the enemy country, Rye began to talk about the three reasons for his country to give up its intention to invade Ancient Joseon:

First, an old saying goes that he that slights his enemy dies by his hand. This demands that you see even a small opponent as big. Nevertheless, when you have a small country, you are going to attack Ancient Joseon which is a big power. This is as reckless as trying to break the rock with an egg. My country has a thousand miles of boundary and hundreds of thousands of troops deployed along the border. The number of your troops is too small to deal with our forces.

Secondly, your country is in an unfavourable situation because of public troubles. What would you do if a neighbour pounces upon you when you have sent all your forces to the far east? You know, my country has long exchanged envoys with the country while promoting active trade and maintain-

ing peaceful relations. Hundreds of years ago the country's chancellor proposed to buy our country's fur-lined clothes and leopard furs even at the cost of gold. We were also glad to receive such a suggestion for good neighbourliness, and we have maintained the exchange of envoys for hundreds of years whenever opportunities presented themselves. Probably, you have a good idea of the policy of befriending distant states and of antagonizing neighbours. If you intrude into my country, that country will see it as a good chance to attack you with large forces. Then, where would you turn?

Thirdly, my king is worried about the sufferings your people are likely to undergo in the coming war and the slavery your country may be subjected to after your defeat in the war. He is a wise and kind-hearted man inheriting the long-standing bloodline of the Tangun dynasty. He takes pity on your people as well as his own. You had better stop preparing invasion right away.

Hearing Rye dwelling on the internal situation of his country—like the palm of his own hand—the bellicose king found himself ready to agree to him inwardly. It was what he himself was worried about. He felt as if all his strength were ebbing at once. Is it still premature? Are we really still weak? He asked himself remorsefully.

Days later the king bid farewell to the envoy of Ancient Joseon along with a large amount of gifts, when he promised to withdraw all his forces from the border and maintain friendly relationship.

In this way Rye thwarted the imminent intrusion of the foreign country by dint of flexible diplomacy and demonstrated the prestige of his country.

*Choe Sol Mi*

# Trade War Gets Fiercer

MONTHS AGO THE UNITED States launched a trade war against China. On July 6 last, customs duties began to be imposed on Chinese commodities worth US\$ 34 billion. The list of the duty-levied commodities includes IT-based telecommunication, robot, aerospace and other products of cutting-edge technology into which China has been channeling concentrated efforts.

Recently the US published a second list of customs duty-levied commodities of China worth US\$ 200 billion, which includes a strategic resource of rare earth, household electrical appliances, foodstuff, cosmetics, animal fodder and the like. This is estimated to account for nearly half the total amount of China's export to the US last year. The White House declared that they would hear related opinions by late August and make a final decision on imposition of additional customs duties on relevant items.

China revolted furiously. Arguing that the US was going against the rule of world trade simply to accommodate its own interest and started the largest ever trade war in history, China denounced that the Americans revealed their ferocious and coercive image nakedly by wielding the club of sanctions self-conceitedly in defiance of the world trade order to get absolute hegemony. Although China committed itself to avoiding firing the first shot regarding the controversial trade war, it could not but launch a counterattack in order to defend the vital interest of its state, China declared.

Beijing levied customs duties of the equal size on American products from the time when the American customs measure took effect. The China-US trade war is exacerbating without any sign of suspension.

China and the US have suffered from mutual feuds over

trade, but none of them have been so furious as the ongoing one, which is no less than war.

Early this year the trade dispute between China and the US became the focus of the international community. Early last March the US released a statement that it would impose 25% and 10% of customs duties on iron and steel materials and aluminum products it was importing from abroad. Washington openly said that it was unhappy with the fact that cheap iron and steel products of China were flooding into America causing a lot of loss on the American side. China, denouncing the American choice as something selfish, took retaliatory steps. The customs commission of the Chinese State Council decided to suspend the obligation of imposing decreased customs duties on imports of 128 varieties of seven categories which come from the US and impose additional customs duties on the basis of the present rate of customs.

Worsening the tense situation of China and the US over the matter of competitive imposition of customs duties, the US adopted another decision to impose customs duties on nearly 1300 kinds of commodities imported from China and soon released the list of products liable to pay greater customs duties. Meanwhile, the White House made a new regulation that limits China's investment into the US in order to prevent the Chinese state-owned enterprises from purchasing American businesses for the military purpose. Explaining the reason, the US pronounced its policy of cutting its trade deficit down to US\$100 billion since it is losing a colossal sum—hundreds of billions of US dollars—while dealing with China.

Condemning it as a typically unilateral and protectionist act, China has brought a case before the World Trade Organization.

The spokesperson for the Chinese Ministry of Commerce said that they would take a corresponding step additionally to levy customs duties on imports including agricultural products like beans, automobiles, chemical products and planes in order to defend the legitimate rights and interest of the country.

Both China and the US do not hesitate to say openly that they are not afraid of the trade war, and blame each other for the outbreak of the trade war which will bring tremendous harm to the trade throughout the world.

A huge amount of goods which have been flooding into one another's market are now crashing against the higher tariff walls. The US is trying to take hold of the hegemony in the economic relations with other countries by adopting a hardline attitude like hinting at its intention to impose plus customs duties on European cars entering the American market. This is getting on the nerves of a number of countries that have close relations with the US. They are now hastily taking countermeasures to contain the US.

Then, why is the conflict going worse and worse? The answer is simple and clear. The present-day turbulences and unstable situation are all ascribable to the inclination to domination, a noxious lust which infringes the dignity, sovereignty and interest of other countries and nations by tying their hands and feet.

The seed of discord on the earth is just the thought of domination. A new, peaceful and prosperous world would be possible only when such a thought is eradicated and the relations of equality and mutual respect between states, just and fair international relations, are established so as to help countries create an environment of solidarity and cooperation.

*An Mu Gwang*

# Invalid “Ulsa Five-Point Treaty”

THE “ULSA FIVE-POINT Treaty” is an illegal and invalid document fabricated by the Japanese imperialists in 1905 to establish their colonial supremacy over Korea. Soon after defeating Russia, one of its rivals in invading Korea, by winning the 1904–1905 Russo-Japanese War, Japan set about establishing colonial dominion over Korea.

On November 9, 1905, Ito Hirobumi, the mastermind behind Japan’s invasion of Korea, came to the country on a mission to force the “Protectorate Treaty” upon the government of the feudal Joseon dynasty so as to turn it into a Japanese protectorate, that is, a colony. When he met King Kojong of Korea, he put forth the treaty they made and forced the king to accept it unconditionally. But Kojong flatly rejected Ito’s gangster-like demand. Then Ito and Hayashi Kongske, Japan’s diplomatic minister in Korea, lured the ministers of the feudal government to the Japanese legation and Ito’s lodging house in an attempt to reduce them to submission by means of threat, blackmail, appeasement and deception to realize their scheme, but in vain.

Having understood that they could not subdue the feudal government by means of threat and coercion the Japanese imperialists brought their aggression troops massively into the Walled City of Seoul, occupying it completely and encircled the interior and exterior of the royal palace manifoldly. Moreover, they had one infantry battalion, an artillery company and a cavalry regiment conduct military exercises around Jongno Street before the palace, threatening the Korean side. Amidst such a warlike atmosphere Ito fraudulently cooked up the “Ulsa Five-Point Treaty” on November

17, 1905 despite King Kojong and other ministers’ opposition.

The treaty with five articles stipulated that Japan shall seize Korea’s diplomatic right and establish the Residency-General, a colonial ruling mechanism, in the country. The treaty, however, hadn’t been ratified by Kojong, supreme ruler of the feudal Joseon dynasty, and it was a fabricated document signed by Pak Je Sun, Minister of Foreign Affairs, who did not have a commission of full power, and Hayashi, the Japanese diplomatic minister in Korea. After cooking up the treaty the aggressors tried to keep it secret for fear of public opinion.

At that time Jang Ji Yon, director of the newspaper *Hwang-song Sinmun*, came to know it, and put the leading article *Let’s wail bitterly and loudly* on the November 20, 1905 issue of the paper. It disclosed Japan’s brigandish acts and the indelible crimes of the pro-Japanese traitors who had betrayed the country and nation while flattering and yielding to the enemy. The Japanese imperialists confiscated all the copies of the issue of the paper to check the worldwide spread of the article. They also arrested Jang and banned the newspaper.

Japan was not content with its announcement of its turning Korea into its “protectorate,” and its enforcement of a colonial rule through the Residency-General. Its ultimate goal was to forcibly annex the territory of Korea to it, thus eliminating the name of Korea from the map. So it fabricated the “Jongmi Seven-Point Treaty” and the treaty of “Annexation of Korea by Japan” to set up a “legal procedure” to annex the country at last.

Over 100 years have passed

since then. However, Japan’s ambition of territorial seizure has not changed; rather it goes from bad to worse. Japan’s claim of “dominium over Tok Islets” can be cited.

The islets are an inseparable part of Korea in view of history and international law. It is Koreans who discovered the islets first and annexed it to their territory. And they reaffirmed its dominium over the islets according to the requirement of the international law and proclaimed it at home and abroad before anyone else.

The Japanese reactionaries, however, are clamouring for their “dominium over Tok Islets” without interruption—this means a prelude to re-aggression. In parallel with its groundless assertion of “dominium over Tok Islets” Japan is frenziedly clinging to arms build-up and war exercises.

It has increased its military expenditure to the highest in history for six years. Being completely free from the yoke of “total defence” Japan’s “Self-Defense Forces” possess huge land, sea and air forces and expand its sphere of activity into cyber outer space. The SDF has shipped into the country the latest equipment, and is scheming to deploy supersonic air-to-ship missiles and long-range cruise missiles for action. And it frequently conducts landing and airlifting exercises based on simulated “recapture of an isolated island.” It is needless to say that all those actions are aimed at territorial plunder.

Japan, however, is miscalculating. There is a Korean proverb which says “Do not dwell upon what you cannot obtain.” The entire Korean nation will never tolerate Japan’s dangerous scheme to grab the territory of Korea.

An Nam Hui

# Jewol Pavilion

JEWOL PAVILION IS SITUATED AT THE foot of Tonghung Hill, Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province. Originally, it was an attachment to the Hamhung Confucian School set up during the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910). The school consisted of a number of buildings at the time of its establishment, but all of them but the abovementioned pavilion were reduced to debris during the Korean war (June 1950-July 1953).

Jewol Pavilion was first erected after the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598). Later in 1832 it was rebuilt at the present place some way down from the original site.

The pavilion is a double-eaves gable-roofed house which is 10.3m wide and 5.6m long. It stands on a floor which is 2.5m high above the ground. The cornerstones lie on a granite foundation, supporting the pot-bellied pillars which stand erect piercing through the base floor. There is a balustrade around the upper floor outside the pillars.

The upper part of the middle beam in the ceiling is painted after a lotus pattern with the remaining

part left bare, so that the ceiling looks gorgeous and spacious. This style of ceiling making is rare to be seen in other double-floor pavilions in the country.

Jewol Pavilion remains a valuable thing indicative of the structure and features of the pavilion architecture in the closing years of the feudal Joseon dynasty.

Kim Kwang Hyok



The ceiling of the pavilion.

A general view of the Jewol Pavilion.



