

# The Pyongyang Times

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## RESPONSE

# Nation concentrates all energy on building economy

Reporting on revolutionary activities of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un this year, the world media and experts exceptionally analysed his on-site inspection tours of economic sectors.

What is noticeable here is that the Supreme Leader put forward a new strategic line of concentrating all efforts on socialist economic construction in the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea last April and directed all to reenergizing the overall national economy throughout the year.

He energetically guided economic construction while encouraging his people with uninterrupted field guidance.

He visited the Sindo County Integrated Reed Farm, the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory and others in North Phyongan Province from late June to early July, inspected the Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory in Ryanggang Province and then gave field guidance to the Chongjin Bag Factory, the construction site of Orangchon Power Station, Kangwon Provincial Tree Nursery, Songdown General Foodstuff Factory and elsewhere as he travelled down along the east coast. In early August, he provided on-the-spot guidance

to the Samchon Catfish Farm and the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory.

In late September he visited Kim Chaek University of Technology and emphasized the important position and role the university assumes in the building of an economic giant, and in October he inspected the Theatre for the Samjiyon Orchestra, Samjiyon County and the construction sites of spa tourist area in Yangdok County and the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area. In November, he examined the master plan for the construction of the border city of Sinuiju and inspected fishery stations on the east coast.

Commenting that Chairman Kim Jong Un's economic guidance between June and August has many distinguishing features, US newspaper *The Wall Street Journal* and its diplomatic policy institute and south Korea's major media outlets and research institutions said that his inspections were carried on in the form of touring the country clockwise starting from North Phyongan Province through Ryanggang, North Hamgyong and Kangwon provinces to South Hwanghae Province, they took much time and the number of field guidance is growing by which he

looks round the neighbourhood centring on a region. Now the Chairman focuses on the economy, they said, adding that he sets economic guidance as the top priority, devotes utmost attention to the people's life and concentrates on improving their standard of living as he visits all parts of the country despite record-high intense heat.

Reporting that a drive for increased production is briskly being conducted as the mass movement in the DPRK under the guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, they said that he still stresses self-sustenance as the core element in the course of stepping up the drive, describing self-reliance as a strategic policy that should be upheld permanently, rather than a stopgap measure to cope with the sanctions and blockade by hostile forces.

The mass movement is gaining strength as the days go by since the Supreme Leader encourages working masses to give the fullest play to their spiritual strength and specifies detailed tasks and ways for relevant sectors while visiting different economic sectors including factories, construction sites, farms and fish farms.

By Om Ryoung PT

## HONOUR

# State commendations conferred on people of merit

State commendations were conferred on scientists, technicians, teachers and other working people and officials, who made labor achievements in this year's struggle, with due ceremony at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on Monday.

Ryong Kun Chol was awarded Order of Kim Jong Il; Song Man Ho and Pak Ho Chol the title of Labor Hero, Gold Medal (Hammer and Sickle) and Order of National Flag First Class; Kang Chang Su and Song Un Sun watches bearing the name of President Kim Il Sung; Rim Sun Hui and Hong Thae Sik watches bearing the name of Chairman Kim Jong Il; Jong Pu Chan, Hong Kwang Il, Pak Yong Chol, Jon Yong Bom, Pak Jun Il, Ok Kwang Il and Kim Won Yong the citations of Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea;

Hyon Chol Jin the citation of Kim Jong Un, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army; Jo Ryu Gyong, Kim Hyok and Kim Kwang Chol Kim Il Sung Youth Honor Prize and Cha Myong Nam Kim Jong Il Youth Honor Prize.

The title of People's Scientist went to Kang Ung Gwon, the title of People's Teacher to Choe Jong Hwa and Ri Hyang and honorary titles were conferred on 24 people.

Order of National Flag First Class was awarded to 50 people including Kim Chang Gun and Ra Yong Chan.

Order of Labour and Order of National Flag Second Class were conferred on 83 others.

Labor achievements greatly conducive to the building of a powerful socialist country this year were mentioned at the ceremony.

Compiled from KCNA



State commendations are awarded to people of merit at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

## ECONOMY

# Various economic sectors hit annual targets

Some ten tunnelling groups of the Kangdong Area Coal-mining Complex attained their annual goals ahead of schedule as of December 8.

The Sungni Motor Complex and the Kumsong and Chungsong tractor

factories finished their lorry and tractor production tasks before the time planned, while the Huichon Precision Machine Factory, Kangso Engine Accessory Factory, Pyongyang Gauge Factory, Hamhung Wheel Factory and

Pyongyang Disabled Soldiers' Filter Factory register good results in the production of goods under contract every day.

The units under the Ministry of Mining Industry have fulfilled their production quotas.

The December 5 Youth Mine wound up a project for expanding the production capacity of refined thenardite and contrived and introduced over ten rational technical innovation

plans, thus overfulfilling the annual economic plan by 58 percent. The Taedonggang Battery Factory is continuing to increase battery production after finishing its annual assignments, and the Munphyong Smeltery and Unpha Mine implemented the plans for total industrial output value.

The Ryonggang Granite Mine is maximizing production in the spirit of having overfulfilled the yearly production plan.

Workers of the mine boost the yield of rough stone by increasing the operational rate of self-propelled stone cutter and produce different sizes of handrails and other processed stones to send them to major construction sites. They also applied dozens of technical innovation plans including the establishment of PLC system in

a cutter to save manpower and raise productivity.

Mine prop production companies under the North Hamgyong provincial forestry management bureau produced over 1 600 cubic metres of more prop timber than that in the same period of last year to send them to coal mines, and the Ryanggang provincial forestry management bureau also increases prop timber production.

Cocoon producers across the country concentrated efforts on production, with the result that 17 workteams (sub-workteams) turned out over 500 kg of cocoons per hectare of mulberry fields, and hundreds of sericulturists produced more than 500 kg or one ton at maximum per hectare.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



A great deal of fish is caught by fishery stations on the east coast.

RI TONG GYU / RODONG SINMUN

## LEADING ARTICLE

# Chairman Kim Jong Il lives on in the hearts of the people

In December the Korean people recall Chairman Kim Jong Il with infinite yearning and profound emotion.

They have missed the benevolent image of him since December 17 seven years back when the whole country was grief-stricken over the unexpected loss of the Chairman.

Snowflakes falling from the sky remind them of the untiring efforts the Chairman made always finding himself on the way of selfless devotion to them despite the cold weather. And seeing the snow-covered roads stretching along the foot of the mountains, they come to tears as they remember him who was on a field guidance tour of every part of the country till the last moment of his life.

The Chairman always kept the beloved country and people in his mind.

He regarded it as a great pleasure to be among the people and was pleased to see them enjoying growing happiness.

He toured nearly 670 000 kilometres for field inspection in the whole period of his life, the equivalent of nearly 17 travels round the earth, while inspecting over 14 290 units.

Still vivid in the memory

of the Korean people is the unprecedented forced march of field inspection tour of the Chairman in the hard times of the country.

Everything was in short supply and the people had to undergo extreme hardships at the time of the Arduous March. But the Chairman unfolded the grand plan for building a thriving country and mounted a high-intensity forced march for economic construction and the improvement of the people's living standards.

His forced march continued day and night, rain or shine.

He visited the power station construction sites in rugged mountains, metallurgical plants, machine-building bases, mines, smelters, light industry factories, and fruit, livestock and fish farms across the country.

His energetic leadership brought about great innovations and rapid progress in the country as he organized brave operations, set high goals and found the ways and best methods to perform miracles everywhere he went.

The continued on-the-spot guidance he provided without relieving mental and physical fatigue kindled the torch for a new revolutionary upsurge and the flames of the industrial revolution in the new century,

lifted the national power of the country to a new high stage and opened a world-startling reality.

He also worked every day in December 2011, the last month of his life, energetically.

On the first Sunday of December he visited the Kaeson Youth Amusement Park despite cold wind to look round the amusement facilities

to be used by the people and gave important instructions. On December 15 he inspected the Hana Musical Information Centre and Kwangbok Area Supermarket. And he set out on the road of field inspection tour on the last day of his life.

Everywhere across the country the image of the Chairman beaming like the sun and his name give great

encouragement to the people to redouble efforts and take a great leap forward.

The Korean people are now working hard to carry out his instructions, his behests, with a determination to add eternal glory to his brilliant career and undying exploits generation after generation.

By Pak Song Min PT



Chairman Kim Jong Il continued field inspection tours by train till the end of his life.

## REMEMBRANCE

## Keeping the great man's intention in mind



RI KWANG SONG / PICTORIAL KOREA

The entrance hall at the e-library of Kim Il Sung University with Kim Jong Il's autographic writing on the front wall.

Every December I am overwhelmed by deep yearning and reverence for Chairman Kim Jong Il.

"Keep your feet planted firmly on this land and look out over the world! Become reliable pillars of the Songun revolution with an ennobling spirit and profound knowledge! Redouble your efforts for the great Party and Kim Il Sung's Korea to be admired by the world!"

This is the writing the

Chairman sent to the e-library of Kim Il Sung University on December 17 2009.

The day we received his autographic writing the whole university bubbled with excitement.

There is a reason why he sent us the handwriting.

After he proposed building an e-library as required by the era of information industry in the main building of our university, he gave instructions related to its construction on dozens of

occasions, paying meticulous attention to construction force, design and everything. One December day when the construction project was at the final stage, he learned from an official about the progress of construction and asked him what they were going to do with the front wall of the entrance hall.

The official suggested hanging a picture of the Chairman there since the main building was where he studied during his

university days.

After being lost in deep thought for a while, the Chairman proposed inscribing meaningful words there and offered to write and send them. On his inspection tour of a faraway northern area later, he wrote and sent them to a relevant official and got the Mansudae Art Studio to represent them finely in a short time so that the writing could be put up.

On April 10 2010 the Chairman visited the completed e-library of the university and expressed great satisfaction with the wonderfully-built five-storey structure as he looked round it from the entrance hall through the reading halls to the hall for education in computer science, academic exchange room and online lecture hall and the corridor linked with the science library as well.

At that time I was the librarian of the e-library and I could hardly hold back my tears as I saw the Chairman looking round all places of it as he went up the stairs with difficulty for excessive mental and physical exhaustion and beaming broadly as he was so happy with the provision of such a splendid library.

Today, our lecturers and students study to their heart's content at the library where there is his writing of trust and encouragement and which is associated with his warm affection.

In the library, the lecturers, researchers and students of the university work hard to push back the frontiers of science and technology as they look out over and compete with the world, and international symposiums are arranged there to boost the image of the university as a world-level institution.

Kim Il Sung University Online was established in 2015 by drawing on the experience obtained through the operation of the e-library and it plays a role as a national online education base for the social science sector.

These achievements are attributable to the Chairman who sent us the handwriting filled with trust and expectation.

The writing will always remain in the hearts of all the lecturers, researchers and students of Kim Il Sung University as words of faith.

Song Hyon Jun, rector of Kim Il Sung University Online

## MACHINERY

# Self-reliance gives a boost to machine-building industry

Lots of achievements have been made in the machine-building industry sector this year. Machine factories and enterprises throughout the country pushed the modernization of production processes and produced great numbers of machinery and equipment including new types of tractor, lorry, trolley bus and tramcar by relying on domestic raw and other materials. The qualitative and quantitative progress made in the machine-building industry in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development and by dint of science and technology has opened up a bright prospect for the development of the national economy and the improvement of the people's living standards.

## Increase in tractor and lorry production

A great improvement in production has been brought about in the Kumsong Tractor Factory, the Chungsong Tractor Factory and the Sungni Motor Complex.

The Kumsong Tractor Factory speeded up the production of new-type tractor Chollima-804 and the renovation of overall production processes. The new type of tractor is an all-purpose wheel-type tractor designed to install different farm machines and do various farm works.

The factory introduced the CNC technology into cutting and processing facilities to improve the accuracy of finishing all parts and newly set up the general assembly line and system assembly lines to realize specialization in assembly, thus maximizing working efficiency. The technical performance of tractors has been updated more than last year. The factory reformed the initial design of transmission part to rationally arrange the position of controlling gear and remarkably improve the performance of braking and controlling by increasing the processing precision of transmission gears. It developed a general device for testing the working data of hydraulic steering lever to ensure the serviceable life of systems and the security of driving. In particular, it innovatively remodelled the working cylinder of hoist to help increase working efficiency more than previously. The tractor is popular with farms as it not only ploughs paddy and dry fields, sows seeds of all grain crops and sprays agrochemicals but also carries out excavation and transshipment of compost. The factory fulfilled the tractor production plan for this year, which was set 25 percent higher



A new-type tramcar rolls off.



New trolley buses made by the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory.



Lorries manufactured by the Sungni Motor Complex.



Rows of tractors produced at the Kumsong Tractor Factory.

than last year, as of October 29.

Similar successes have been made in the production of small tractors by the Chungsong Tractor Factory. Chungsong-122 tractor is an all-purpose one which consumes less oil and has higher security in driving as compared to previous tractors and can effectively be used in vegetable fields, greenhouses, orchards and tree nurseries.

The factory ensured the qualitative indexes of tractor accessories on a high level and the ratio of reliance on them at more than 90 percent by actively introducing technical innovation achievements. While pressing on with the modernization of its processes, it completed diverse jigs and equipment to double the production speed of iron and steel castings. It finished the annual tractor production assignments to mark the anniversary of the DPRK

(September 9).

The Sungni Motor Complex carried out this year's production plan for a new type of five-ton lorries by November 20. Technicians of the complex saved huge costs and increased productivity twice by solving the problem of material for the manufacture of crankshafts to meet domestic conditions.

They applied an efficient cutting tool to the production processes of three kinds of gears such as timing gear to increase the lifespan and qualitative indexes of engine, remarkably enhanced the performance of transmission and introduced dozens of technical innovation plans. They increased the efficiency of such products as the main engine body and cylinder head over 95 percent by making all jigs and equipment in a modern style and ensured the serial production of a new

type of lorries by reasonably refashioning different kinds of presses, main engine body washer, grinding machine and scores of other facilities. They also developed some ten kinds of parts.

## Passenger service sector in Pyongyang revitalized

The Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory, Bus Repair Shop and other units under the Bureau of Passenger Service in Pyongyang have made notable achievements.

The Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory turned out dozens of new-type trolley buses.

The body of new-type trolley bus Chollima-321 has a modern sense of beauty and its engineering data has markedly been updated as compared to

the previous trolley buses. It is equipped with a real-time monitoring system for line, battery voltage and speed and, in particular, an efficient electric motor installed in the bus reduces the consumption of electricity, while increasing traction power.

The factory remodelled an induction furnace and heating furnace for forging by applying advanced technology to produce enough workpieces for iron parts whose varieties have been increased. And it increased the speed and quality of part processing by introducing the CNC technology into processing machines and installing more efficient plasma cutters. It completed the sectoral production process for producing different kinds of electric motors in a serial way and introduced advanced manufacturing technologies to increase the lifespan and working efficiency of motors.

It is now pushing ahead with technical preparations for its second-stage modernization project.

A new-type tramcar has also been developed in the passenger service sector in Pyongyang. The tramcar was made with locally available raw and other materials. Technicians remodelled traction motors into three-phase asynchronous motors to reduce manufacturing and operation costs and installed an efficient control shifter. The development and introduction of a new speed control program helped offer convenience to passengers by improving the mobility, speed and braking features of tramcars. Besides, a lot of sci-tech problems were solved to boost the performance of mechanical and electrical parts and diminish noise and vibration during running.

"The manufacturing cost of a new type of tramcar is only one tenth of that of previous one and the factory ensures the domestic production of tramcars 100 percent," said Ri Chol Yong, an official at the Bureau of Passenger Service in Pyongyang.

## In the spirit of self-reliance

The industrial establishments in the machine-building industry sector have modernized production processes and produced sophisticated machinery and equipment in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development and by dint of science and technology.

The Ryongsong Machine Complex produced dozens of

## TREE NURSERY

# Sapling producer economizes on soil and labour

The Kangwon Provincial Tree Nursery is a land-saving and labour-saving sapling producer with an annual production capacity of over 20 million saplings.

The integrated manufacturing system and plastic panel greenhouse are the pride of the tree nursery.

The integrated manufacturing system has been established to monitor, control and even estimate overall production and management activities in the vast tree nursery. Now it measures the temperatures and humidity of greenhouses in real time and controls water supply and temperatures to suit the growth conditions of saplings, while managing all business activities and production by scientifically simulating all the problems arising in them including the supply of materials and planning.

The plastic panel greenhouse is the first of its kind built in the country in order to produce many saplings in a very limited area of land. All processes are automatically controlled in this greenhouse

to provide the most suitable conditions and environment for the cultivation of saplings in terms of temperature, humidity, sunshine, content of carbon dioxide, ventilation and irrigation. The sophisticated highplatform-shaped irrigation facility sprays fine particles of water over saplings of various species of trees in the spacious greenhouses.

Each block is tended by three employees and more than 560 000 saplings are grown in a round. With two rounds of cultivation a year it produces at least 1 120 000 saplings annually.

Seedlings of good tree species that are of great economic value and suit the climatic and soil conditions of the province are selected and grown scientifically.

It is said that there are many advantages in growing saplings in plastic panel greenhouse.

First of all, the production period of saplings is shortened and per-hectare productivity raised. And sapling production is put on normal track even under unfavourable climate

conditions and blight damage prevented.

Saplings grown at the greenhouses are acclimatized at the outdoor acclimatization area before they are transplanted to the outdoor cultivation ground.

All production processes in the light substrate production ground and seed selection and sowing ground have been automated from substrate production to seed selection and sowing and from sapling separation to container washing. And the sowing production line is equipped with high precision machines for the supply of containers and substrates and the sowing and covering of seeds with soil.

“All machines and equipment were made by our own efforts and technology. And the sapling production area including outdoor cultivation ground and round cutting bed and other facilities such as the office building, sapling exhibition hall, service amenities and dozens of dwelling houses were also built by the provincial population,” said Pae Yong Suk, manageress of the nursery. “As we have consolidated the material and technical foundations for safe sapling production, we will work hard to produce more saplings in the future in order to contribute to afforesting and landscaping the whole country.”



KCNA

A panoramic view of the Kangwon Provincial Tree Nursery.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

## Machinery: Machine industry is booming

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kinds of equipment to be sent to major construction sites, factories, enterprises, and coal and other mines. This year, it made large-size gears conducive to enhancing the capacity of crushers in mines and the testing equipment which can correctly evaluate the quality and serviceable life of heating facilities. Especially, it established a serial production process for newly-developed 10 m<sup>3</sup>/min V air compressor and developed a new type of 20 m<sup>3</sup>/min V air compressor. The latter is one third of previous compressor in weight and outer dimension and its serviceable life is more than three times longer.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex increased the quality and efficiency of generating facilities by modernizing

equipment. It introduced the CNC technology into conventional large-size machine tools to ensure precision in the processing of complex products including the water turbine blade and increase productivity over two times. It also set up the production process of stainless steel turbine blade based on a combustion model and developed and produced various kinds of machine products such as a new type of air transformer and submersible pump with high working efficiency.

The Ragwon Machine Complex brought about an innovation in the production of hydraulic excavators and other equipment needed in major construction projects. It boosted production by further completing the serial production process of one-cubic-metre-capacity hydraulic excavators scientifically and made significant progress in the

technical reconstruction for improving the performance of excavating facilities. And it built liquid oxygen plants to be sent to medical oxygen factories and produced dozens of kinds of equipment including concrete pressure pump and vacuum pump.

The Kusong Machine Tool Factory manufactured diverse kinds of CNC machine tools and the Anju Insulator Factory overfulfilled its production plan and developed new products with high insulating grade.

The Huichon Precision Machine Factory, Kangso Engine Accessory Factory, Kyongsong Insulator Factory, Hamhung Youth Electrical Appliances Factory and many other industrial establishments in the machine-building industry executed their yearly economic plans and stepped up the development of products.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

## IT

# Informatization strategy bears fruit

Today's world is getting ever more informatized.

All spheres of society are connected through a single information communications network, and information is regarded as one of the important strategic resources of businesses and nations.

Legal, institutional and social environments have been created in the DPRK for promoting informatization and therefore national informatization projects make steady progress.

The DPRK promulgated the law on informatization and its enforcement rules and regulations, established a well-organized system of guidance for informatization from national to local levels and is implementing the national informatization strategy for 2016-2020.

All economic sectors are pressing on with the projects for making production processes fully automated and intelligent by setting them as their strategic target for informatization.

High-end CNC machine tools were brought out by the machine-building industry and the distributed control system and flexible and integrated manufacturing systems were established in different industrial sectors, going a long way towards reenergizing the economy.

In the course of this, the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory, Pyongyang Catfish Farm and many other units grew into models in informatization.

Among the production control software systems introduced into industrial establishments is the integrated production system of the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory.

Its developers created a simulated environment of pickle production for the first time to provide a technical guarantee for maturing and found a rational and optimal production process simulation method that suits the peculiarity of pickles.

Remarkable progress has also been made in informatizing crop yield estimation, forest fire prevention, fishing ground

search, weather forecast and sluice control.

Especially, the flood control and simulation system for the Taedong River provides the environment and conditions for simulating the river flood control through the synthesis and analysis of the amount of precipitation, integration of various flood prediction models, suggestion of optimal plan for flood control, 3D modelling of hydraulic structures and major buildings and realistic 3D imaging of the flood flux using water level information collected in real time.

The online education system and telemedicine service were also established to facilitate educational and medical practices.

The annual national exhibitions of informatization and IT achievements play a big part in making the whole country bubble with enthusiasm for informatization.

The participants and exhibits increase in number every year.

Many products made by applying such high technology as AI and big data were presented to the national exhibition of informatization achievements-2018 held on the theme of "Age of knowledge economy and zeal for informatization".

Eye-catchers included a program which analyses and assesses human health conditions reflected in the iris with very high accuracy and in an instant, an intelligent house in which all the appliances are controlled by an intelligent loudspeaker and a maritime command system which helps direct all ships in fishing grounds, get information about their positions and fish hauls in real time and promptly respond to SOS calls.

The exhibition chooses top ten IT businesses, products and model units in informatization.

We are optimistic about future informatization work in the country.

**Ri Myong Chol**, director of the General Bureau of National Software Industry



KCNA

University students work with the help of advanced IT means.

## HUMAN RIGHTS

# People-centred system guarantees genuine human rights

Today, human rights are high on the agenda in the international community.

Many countries and nations are subjected to various forms of sanctions and pressure by the imperialists and their lackeys and swept into the vortex of war launched at their instigation. More and more people are reduced to refugees and those below the poverty line lead depraved lives on the streets or commit suicide as they cannot fulfil the most basic requirements for living.

However, the DPRK sets examples of human rights protection that cannot be found in the capitalist world nor imitated by capitalist countries.

The Workers' Party of Korea put forward a new strategic line on directing all efforts to socialist economic construction at its plenary meeting last April, a manifestation of its will to further accelerate socialist construction and provide the people with an affluent and cultured life.

According to the strategic line, the country enhances the Juche-orientation of the national economy by dint of science and technology and self-reliance and puts national efforts to crop farming, animal husbandry and fishing so as to bring substantial

benefits to the people.

In order to make the universal free medical service system prove effective, the country has methodically increased investment in the health sector to build more medical facilities in a modern fashion and refurbish hospitals and pharmaceutical factories. Nationwide measures have been taken to make all the people well versed in science and technology, bringing about a radical turn in conditions and environment of scientific and educational institutions.

The country steadily pursues the policy of building dwelling houses at the state expense and supplying them to people free of charge and many houses and welfare service facilities are built in mountain villages and islands as well as Pyongyang and other cities.

The country prioritizes and strives for the protection of the rights of the vulnerable such as children, women and old and disabled people.

Especially, according to the principle whereby the state takes responsible care of parentless children, the state pays special attention to the health care and education of students of primary and middle schools for orphans and takes every step for the construction of baby homes

and orphanages, promotion of orphans' health and nutritive conditions and provision of clothes and school supplies.

Referring to the reality in the DPRK, *The Nigerian Observer* said its social policy is the focus of international attention, because it pursues a policy of holding the people in the highest esteem and making everything serve the people. After visiting the country, an American journalist wrote that the features of the DPRK are vividly reflected on its achievements in free education, no homelessness and pride and confidence of the dignified people, that the West including the US does not really understand the DPRK and that those who visited the country are actually surprised at the complete difference between their prior knowledge and experience in the country.

Though the US and other Western countries are persistent in their vicious human rights racket against the DPRK, the Korean people are enjoying genuine human rights under the people-centred socialist system of the Korean style.

**Ri Kyong Chol, PhD**  
section chief at the Academy of Social Sciences

North Phyongan Province and Pongchon Deaf School of South Hwanghae Province.

It also arranged the 2018 spring and autumn table-tennis tournaments for disabled persons and amateurs, the music and dance performance of members of the art group of the Disabled and other cultural events.

Persons with disabilities proved successful at the 12th Winter Paralympics, the 3rd Asian Paralympic Games and other international games.

Progress was also made in the exchange and cooperation with international bodies, national associations and overseas Koreans' organizations related to the protection of the disabled this year. More than 50 delegations visited the



A scene from the art performance given by members of an art group of disabled persons.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY

# Park raises children's awareness of road safety



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Children learn traffic safety regulations at the traffic safety park in Pyongyang.

Recently I visited the Pyongyang Municipal Traffic Safety Education Park for Children which is much favoured by children and students.

The traffic safety education hall, extensive roads for all purposes and traffic safety facilities in miniature and amusement facilities are all invitingly attractive.

At the hall little guests acquire broad knowledge of traffic safety.

As I entered traffic safety classroom No.1 of the hall, pupils of Pulgunbyol Primary School in Taesong District were having a lesson.

A traffic security woman was plainly explaining to them what various road signs mean and how to behave when red, amber or green traffic light is on.

Suddenly, the class erupted into laughter. When the instructor asked a boy how he felt as he narrowly escaped a traffic accident, he answered that he was so late to go to school one day that he crossed the road where cars were passing at full speed. And he thought he was agile, he added.

It was commendable that the pupils repented of their past errors while learning traffic

safety regulations, I thought.

When the bell rang for a break, they disappeared into the e-library and amusement rooms in a flash.

The e-library, mock drill ground, rhythm action game room, amusement arcade and children's traffic safety playground were jam-packed with children.

Some studied traffic safety regulations at desktops and others drove cars by using VR driving machines or watched 3D films about traffic rules. And still others were immersed in car racing games on arcade machines.

"Lessons on traffic safety here are really different from those at school," said their teacher Kim Hye Gyong. "It is noticeable that they have become well aware of traffic safety regulations. And they really like to come here."

After the break, there was a field practice at the outdoor traffic safety practice ground.

The pupils consolidated what they learned at the lessons by walking along the pedestrian bridge and zebra crossing according to the traffic lights.

Similar traffic education parks for children are running across the country.

By Pang Un Ju PT

## DISABLED CARE

# Measures taken to care for persons with disabilities

The protection of the disabled has further been expanded in the DPRK.

This year, brisk preparations for implementing the DPRK strategy for developing work to protect persons with disabilities (2019-2020) were conducted in recovery, education, culture, provision of working conditions and other major fields.

The Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled propelled the work to draw up the first-stage development strategy and implement it in close cooperation with commissions, ministries, national institutions and organizations of the disabled.

On the basis of the achievements and experience gained in implementing the 2017 anti-disaster plan, it worked out the action program for 2018 and pushed ahead with its implementation.

It also expanded free ride service for the disabled in some local areas, including North Phyongan and South Hamgyong

provinces.

Seminars and passing-on-techniques for rehabilitation were frequently organized and a large number of children with disabilities underwent successful operations.

Meanwhile, the KFPD Central Committee carried on such work as medical check-up, repair of prosthetic apparatuses and supply of auxiliary tools for thousands of persons with disabilities and provided provincial hospitals with materials needed for the recovery of eyesight disorder.

It created a model of sign language education and provided a foundation to generalize it in cooperation with the Korean Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities and the training course for early sign language education of the Korean Economic and Cultural Exchange Centre for the Deaf, Blind and Dumb.

And it improved the content and method of vocational education and helped build greenhouses with big capacity at Unjon Deaf School of

## Home-use hydrogen generator developed

The Institute of Nano Science and Physics Engineering of Kim Chaek University of Technology developed a highly-efficient hydrogen water-making machine for home use.

The machine with less electricity consumption is based on the method of solid polymer electrolyte.

Hydrogen water produced by this machine is twice higher in concentration than that by other machines and has no chlorine.

Users can make high-purity hydrogen water and ozone water respectively according to their purpose.

Compiled from KCNA

facilities for the protection of the disabled, while the KFPD worked in close cooperation with the missions of the UNICEF and the European Union Programme Support here in various fields.

Compiled from KCNA

## COSMETICS

# Kumgangsan cosmetics give youth, beauty and pleasure

The Kumgangsan cosmetics exhibition hall located in Moranbong District, Pyongyang, always bustles with visitors.

All kinds of cosmetics are eye-catching, such as those made mainly with world-famous Kaesong Koryo insam, items rich in vitamins, articles to which stem cell technology has been applied and rose cosmetics. What is particularly distinctive is the room for disseminating make-up methods.

“Cosmetics are luxury items for women. It is good to select make-up according to your skin types and facial shapes. What is very important here is to correctly know your skin condition and use suitable cosmetics. So we offer our beauty-seekers scientific assistance,” said Kim Hyang Ok, manageress of the exhibition hall.

Visitors to the exhibition hall

first go to the make-up method dissemination room to undergo a scientific examination of face skin based on a sophisticated measuring instrument using various lights.

The device accurately shows oil and moisture conditions in the skin as well as the degrees of pigmentation and elasticity. According to the results, clients are recommended appropriate cosmetics.

Saleswoman Ryu Kyong Ae said Kumgangsan-brand cosmetics are multifunctional ones made of rare medicinal plants, over 30 kinds of extracts and crystal-clear spring water from Korea's celebrated mountain of Kumgang, plus biotechnologically active substances obtained with the help of latest technologies, and therefore they are found on domestic and world markets.

Kumgangsan-brand Kaesong Koryo insam cosmetics contain nutrients and natural active substances needed for the human body, and accordingly they make the skin glossy and enable it to preserve natural beauty and youth.

Beauty treatments are available including laser light treatment to remove moles and freckles.

Ri Song Hui from Ryugyong-dong No. 1 of Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, had suffered side-effects of cosmetics and frostbite and so her face got so ugly she was unable to raise her face in public. Therefore, she said, she received treatment there four times on the basis of correct diagnosis and her skin got smooth and beautiful.

The exhibition hall has got so well-known that women come from local areas to have examinations and buy cosmetics.

A woman living in Hangu District in Nampho said: “I had a facial skin examination which showed that it lacked oil. So I applied the moisturizing Kaesong Koryo insam lotion and nourishing milk I purchased at the exhibition hall. They are really better than foreign cosmetics.”

The kindness of its saleswomen also contributes to making visitors more vivacious and beautiful.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

An employee informs a woman of her facial skin measurement results at the Kumgangsan cosmetics exhibition hall.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

## HERITAGE

# Hourglass-shaped drum enriches folk music

*Janggo* (hourglass drum) is a national percussion instrument which has come into wide use among the Koreans for a long historical period.

A variety of drum, it dates back to the period of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668). It was first called *yogo* as it is carried at one's side.

Murals at tombs Nos. 4 and 5 of the five Koguryo tombs in Ji'an show the pictures of *yogo* which is similar to the appearance of present-day *janggo*, and *Thongjon* and other history books say that Koguryo had a musical instrument of *yogo*.

*Yogo* was carried forward in an all-round way in the period of Koguryo and Palhae, and it was called *janggo* in a meaning that it is a long drum or it is beaten with a stick in the period of Koryo (918-1392). Its shape and playing techniques have been improved and developed further.

It has a box with surface beaten with hand on the left and the similar one with surface beaten with a drumstick on the right with the slender connection body as the centre and they are connected by clamping string.

The surface beaten with hand produces low tune and grand and soft sound, while the one beaten with a drumstick makes high tune and elastic and lively sound.

The clamping string which is designed to tighten both sides with string by holding it on several hangers is used to adjust the expansion degree of leather cover, set tune and get desired timbre.

*Janggo* was widely used as an instrument to play accompaniments to songs in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) and it has become an important percussion instrument which is indispensable even for

professional folk artistes, together with drum.

The “Picture of court dance music” drawn by famous painter Kim Hong Do in those days shows a cheerful scene of playing such national instruments as *janggo*, Korean flute, *haegum* (Korean four-string fiddle) and flute.

*Janggo*, which plays the role of two drums and can freely represent the change of diverse tunes and tones, plays a pivotal role in preserving the national tune for its singular sound.

Wood of paulownia tree which has grown 15 to 20 years is suitable for the making of the musical instrument and it can be substituted by spruce, fir and pine-nut trees. Roe deer and dog skins are used as material for sound cover.

The *janggo* making technique has been listed as a national intangible cultural heritage element this year.

By Kil Chung Il PT

## PROFILE

# Doctor noted for moxibustion therapy



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Ri Ae Ryong (pictured), head of the family doctor department of the Chukjon Polyclinic, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, is well-known as an excellent doctor for having cured many patients with moxibustion over the past 30-odd years.

Moxibustion, a traditional therapy of the Korean nation, helps improve blood circulation, remove chill from the body and balance mental and physical energy.

When the therapy is applied, it acts on cell and humoral immune systems to increase the number of white and red blood corpuscles and the amount of haemoglobin, enhance migration speed and phagocytosis and have positive effects on the amount of blood sugar and the time of blood coagulation. It also accelerates the vermicular motion of gastrointestinal tract and affects the endocrine system to have pain-killing and sedative effects.

*Tonguibogam* (Encyclopaedia of Traditional Medicine of Korea), a collection of the developments of Koryo medicine till the 16th century, also says that the best therapy is moxibustion, the second acupuncture and the third drug.

Ri Ae Ryong devoted herself entirely to curing all diseases with moxibustion, a traditional therapy with a long history which reflects national wisdom.

It was not an easy job for her

to master moxibustion of the traditional Korean medicine as she majored in internal medicine at Pyongyang University of Medicine (at the time).

During the Arduous March and forced march, the hardest time of the country, she took it as her duty to save the people's lives and promote their health with the Koryo therapy, which costs less than Western medicines and suits the physical constitution of the Korean people.

She embarked on a new career, reading many old books on moxibustion, scientifically classifying moxibustion points on the body according to illnesses by combining principles of moxibustion with modern medicine and gaining experience by applying the therapy to herself and her family members.

“People say that I have good medical skills, but I think love for people is more important. When a doctor treats a patient like his or her family member, they feel trust and intimacy with each other. It produces an amazing treatment effect. I've come to know it through my experience,” said Ri.

She warmly treats all patients like her kith and kin and encourages them to have medical treatment with confidence, providing necessary Koryo medicines and health foods.

Seeing her treating patients with care, her fellow doctors say that “she looks like a mother taking care of her own children”.

With such warm humanity and high moxibustion application skills she has so far treated various diseases including cerebral haemorrhage, cerebral thrombosis, myocardial infarction, congenital respiratory cardiac arrhythmia, various kinds of cancers, abscess and eczema. She published over 20 essays and wrote several books related to them. And she was awarded a certificate of registration of moxibustion therapy as a national ICH element in 2015.

The 60-odd-year-old is still engrossed in medical treatment of patients with moxibustion at her small medical treatment room, which is often flooded with visitors who come to present bouquets to her full of joy after convalescing from illnesses and letters of thanks to her.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



CHOE MI GYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

National instrument of *janggo*.

## REVIEW

# Calls for peace, prosperity and reconciliation remain high all year round

Today the enthusiasm for national reconciliation and unity, peace, prosperity and reunification is growing more than ever before in the Korean peninsula.

All the Korean people want to put an end to the 70-odd-year history of national division and confrontation and open up a new era of peace and reunification.

The DPRK put forward a policy for a great turnaround in inter-Korean relations in the beginning of the year to meet the desire of the nation, making it possible for the nation to take the first step of the historic course towards reconciliation, unity and peace and bringing about a dramatic turn in the situation of the Korean peninsula. The Korean peninsula peace initiative was an important landmark in ushering in a new heyday of the national movement for achieving national reconciliation, unity and reunification.

In February the DPRK dispatched a high-level delegation, rosters, a contingent of athletes and art troupe to the 23rd Winter Olympic Games in south Korea, making it brimful with the atmosphere of national reconciliation and unity.

As a result, distrust, silence and confrontation which had long persisted between the north and south of Korea came to an end and valuable achievements were made in the national reunification movement.

This year inter-Korean relations have witnessed a series of dramatic moments and good agreements reached amid the great interest of the Korean people and international community.

On April 27 the historic inter-Korean summit meeting and talks were held at Panmunjom and the Panmunjom Declaration was adopted, opening a new chapter for the development of inter-Korean relations and

peace and prosperity on the Korean peninsula.

The declaration embraces all practical issues for making an all-round and rapid improvement and progress in inter-Korean relations, for easing the acute military tension and removing the danger of war and for building a permanent and durable peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula.

The fourth inter-Korean summit meeting and talks took place with lightning speed on May 26, only 29 days after the third summit, and reached an agreement on solving the problems arising in implementing the Panmunjom Declaration as soon as possible. In September the fifth inter-Korean summit meeting and talks were held in Pyongyang, in which the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration was adopted to faithfully carry out the April 27 Panmunjom Declaration in line with the

aspiration and demand of all the fellow countrymen.

The joint declaration is an action programme for opening up the era of peace and prosperity to meet the unanimous desire and demand of all compatriots. It is a declaration of common prosperity of the nation designed to develop the nation's economy in a balanced way by boosting exchange and cooperation between the north and south on the principle of mutual benefits and common interests and prosperity. And it is a realistic peace declaration for making the Korean peninsula a lasting and durable peace zone by rooting out war danger and hostility in the peninsula.

It specifies practical issues geared to making inter-Korean relations consistent with national reconciliation and cooperation, durable peace and common prosperity, sustainably developing them and leading the current progress of the

inter-Korean relationship to reunification.

As the declaration was adopted, the south Korean public of all backgrounds hailed it as a "declaration powering the engine running to peace and prosperity" and "statement opening the door to peace in the Korean peninsula", saying that "the north and south put an end to their seemingly endless confrontation and antagonism and opened the door to end the war."

It is the radical progress in Korea's reunification process that dramatic events no one had ever predicted took place and good agreements were reached in inter-Korean relations this year, putting the tragic inter-Korean relationship which had long come off the track back on the right one and bringing about remarkable achievements for national reconciliation and peace.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

## COMMENT

## Human rights should not be political tool

December 10 is world human rights day.

The United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with an eye to making all states in the world have a common understanding of human rights and regard it as their obligation to guarantee them and to preventing human rights violation worldwide.

However, human rights are being abused for political purposes by a handful of countries.

A typical example is the adoption of a "north Korean human rights resolution" at the recent 3rd Committee of the UN General Assembly.

This resolution was also cooked up by those countries with a deep-seated prejudice against the DPRK.

The "north Korean human rights issue" they are playing up is nothing but a fiction based on evidence produced by human scum who deserted their homeland after committing unpardonable crimes.

The DPRK grants its people genuine rights and provides them with a happy life.

Its people enjoy the benefits of free medical care and universal 12-year compulsory education and the state provides ordinary teachers, researchers and workers with houses free.

For example, when a natural

disaster devastated Rason City years ago and lots of people were left homeless, the government mobilized a huge construction force to build better houses and provide victims with them for free.

Many foreign visitors including Singaporean journalists said the reality of the DPRK is different from what they heard and the Koreans are the happiest people in the world.

By striking contrast, the right to existence, the most important of human rights, is being violated around the world.

The Western allied forces make air raids on Afghanistan and Syria under the pretext of anti-terror, only to kill many civilians including women and children. But such human rights abuses are not called to account in the UN.

For the UN to spread the rumour of non-existent "north Korean human rights problem" while conniving at such human rights violations is tantamount to aligning itself with the impure forces.

The UN should adhere to the principles of impartiality and objectivity and remain alert for some countries' moves to politicize human rights issues in the UN arena.

By Song Jong Ho PT

## OPINION

## Japan lambasted as 'barbarian nation in the 21st century'

No country on this planet has earned as many nicknames as Japan: criminal state, political dwarf, villain, economic animal, lonely insular nation, etc.

The world curses and jeers at it especially as a "barbarian nation in the 21st century".

At the recent international conference on peace and prosperity of Asia-Pacific, many participants denounced Japan as a barbarian nation as it behaves arrogantly and imprudently, far from making an apology for the unethical crimes it committed against Korean and other Asian nations in the previous century.

The Japanese imperialists took away over 8.4 million young and middle-aged Koreans to battlefields and places of slave labour, abducted as many as 200 000 Korean women including teenagers and married women to reduce them to sex slaves and massacred over a million Koreans.

The aggressors even ate Koreans for "food" like cannibals.

As for the recent decision of the south Korean court that Japan should compensate the victims of the forcible drafting, the Japanese shamelessly clamoured that the judgment is against common sense and that they would bring the case to the International Court of Justice unless an appropriate measure

is taken. They also protested against the decision of the south Korean court on dissolving the foundation for reconciliation and recovery which the clans of Park Geun Hye and Abe cooked up behind closed doors to cover up the sexual slavery for the imperial Japanese army.

Reason, conscience, ethics and morality are the qualities of humans that differentiate them from animals.

Japan will never be able to rid itself of the brand of barbarian as it holds its bloodstained head high instead of atoning for its heinous atrocities that are so nefarious as to make even animals blush with shame.

Germany, another state that started the Second World War, sincerely apologized to and compensated dozens of countries and tens of millions of victims for its past crimes, saying such crimes and sufferings should never be repeated. And it abrogated the statute of limitations for war crimes so as to harshly punish Nazi criminals irrespective of their ages.

The Germans advise the Japanese that Japan will never be able to become a normal state unless it admits its past wrongs and breaks with its wrongful past.

However, Japan obstinately refuses to take responsibility for its horrible war crimes and make

an apology and compensation for them.

It is now hell-bent on revising the "pacifist constitution" into a warlike constitution, flying the flag of the former Japanese army, whose use is prohibited internationally, on the international stage feeling no shame. It also claims that Tok Islets "belong to the Japanese territory" based on a gangster-like logic.

It has redeployed the Self-Defence Forces in an attack-oriented way by introducing attack aircraft and various missiles in a frantic bid to turn the archipelago into a base for aggression on the Asian continent and a launch pad for war.

The DPRK has now strength great enough to bury the fate of the insular nation into the Pacific together with its indelible past crimes.

If it is to remove its infamous stigmas, though belatedly, Japan should apologize and atone for the past wrongdoings to the Korean nation and the international community and wake from the pipedream about reinvasion.

It should learn what shame and conscience are.

This will be the first step to a bright world from the dark enclosure of crime-ridden past.

Kim Yon I

GAMES

# Stunning scenes seen through sporting calendar

This year's sporting calendar started with the 23rd Paektusan Prize Games of Civil Servants. The event unfolded a series of impressive and thrilling scenes, stoking up the growing enthusiasm for sports across the country.

The Paektusan Prize Games held in February in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star were the first competition of professional players in over 70 events of 11 sports including football, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, speed skating, ice hockey and skiing.

Ice hockey was one of the most attractive sports of the competition.

Players fully exhibited their scoring capacity based on two-to three-person combinations to remarkably increase the rate of success of their attack and shooting.

The Taesongsan Sports Club topped the total rankings by winning ice hockey again and several other events including speed skating and distance skiing.

New national records were set in various events including swimming, track and field and

shooting at the Mangyongdae Prize Games, which took place two months later to mark the Day of the Sun.

Amid the growing public interest in the Korean orthodox martial art, Taekwon-Do competitions took place on various occasions.

The Mangyongdae Prize national martial arts championships were held in April to celebrate the Day of the Sun, followed by the Taekwon-Do technical innovation competition. Jongsung Cup national Taekwon-Do all-star tournament and Jongilbong Prize national junior Taekwon-Do championships took place in July and August respectively.

The Jongsung Cup national Taekwon-Do all-star tournament drew particular attention of experts and fans as it brought together martial art aces who were successful at the Mangyongdae Prize national martial arts championships to celebrate the Day of the Sun and the Taekwon-Do technical innovation competition to decide the country's top Taekwon-Do player.

Rim Wi Sok and Pak Mi Hyang, winners of local and international events, defeated all opponents to win the tournament, defending their positions as the

nation's top man and woman Taekwon-Doists.

The Jongilbong Prize national junior Taekwon-Do championships were an important occasion for demonstrating the ardent zeal of young Taekwon-Do players who are successfully carrying forward the tradition of national martial art.

"At the championships all experts are of the opinion that young Taekwon-Do players' technical skills have been improved a level higher," said Pak Jin Myong, a Taekwon-Do expert.

Football matches were also very popular.

The 2017-2018 DPRK Premier League was an occasion for estimating the general capability of all clubs.

April 25 lifted the trophy in the event.

Kigwancha and Wolmido won the male and female football matches at the Mangyongdae Prize Games and Ryomyong came first in the Hwaepul Cup men's football tournament which was held to mark Youth Day.



A scene from the men's football match between Rimyongsu and Kigwancha at the 2017-2018 DPRK Premier League.

The National Inter-provincial Games-2018 in autumn added substantially to the growing sports zeal across the country.

The games included basketball, volleyball, badminton, *ssirum*, Taekwon-Do, tug of war and other sports, plus amusement games. Artistic and enthusiastic cheering of each cheering squad reminded viewers of an artistic performance, adding colours to the atmosphere of the games.

The year's sports events climaxed with the National Championships.

The championships were held, divided into some 470 events of 37 sports. April 25 won many

events including basketball and volleyball and the Korean People's Army defence sports club renewed national records in shooting.

Many other sports events were also held, injecting fresh vigour into society. They included sports contests in the fields of public health and the arts, national workers sports contest, the 11th national farmers sports games, September 5 Prize national university students sports games, the 15th Grand Bull Prize national *ssirum* contest and amateur riders competition.

By Jong Tang Song PT



A scene from a basketball match at the Mangyongdae Prize Games.



A volleyball match between April 25 and Amnokgang at the Pochonbo Torch Prize Games.



A martial artist shows off power breaking technique at the Jongilbong Prize national junior Taekwon-Do championships.



A *ssirum* (Korean wrestling) match played to mark the Day of Songun.



A scene from a swimming contest of officials of commissions, ministries and national agencies.



Rooters from North Hwanghae Province cheer for their team at the National Inter-provincial Games.

