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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visits Vietnam, meets President Nguyen Phu Trong

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, met Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at the Presidential Palace on the afternoon of March 1.

The DPRK Supreme Leader was warmly greeted by the Vietnamese President as he arrived at the plaza of the Presidential Palace.

They exchanged greetings with a warm hug.

An official ceremony took place at the plaza to welcome the Korean leader.

The national flags of the DPRK and Vietnam were standing and the guards of honour of the three services of the Vietnam People's Army lined up at the plaza.

Children holding the national flags of the two countries were also seen standing in lines.

As Kim Jong Un and Nguyen Phu Trong reached the group of welcoming children a pretty child presented a bouquet to him and others enthusiastically cheered,

waving high the national flags of the two countries.

The Supreme Leader acknowledged them by waving his hand to the children and climbed up the reviewing stand.

As the leaders of the two countries mounted the reviewing stand, the national anthems of the two countries were played solemnly.

The commander of the honour guard of the three services of the Vietnam People's Army reported to the Supreme Leader.

Guided by the Vietnamese President, he inspected the honour guard.



of the People's Armed Forces, Kim Yo Jong, alternate member of the Political Bureau and first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee, Choe Son Hui, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, and other officials from the DPRK side.

Present there from the Vietnamese side were Tran Quoc Vuong, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and standing secretary of its Secretariat, Pham Minh Chinh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central

The two leaders shook hands and exchanged greetings with each of the Party and government officials of the other side.

There was a march past of the honour guard.

The ceremony was attended by Kim Yong Chol, Ri Su Yong, Kim Phyo Hae and O Su Yong, members of the Political Bureau and vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and foreign minister, No Kwang Chol, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister

Committee and chairman of its Organizational Commission, Nguyen Van Binh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of its Economic Commission, Pham Binh Minh, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, General To Lam, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and minister of Public Security, Nguyen Van Nen, secretary of the CPV Central Committee and director

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DPRK leader holds talks with Vietnamese counterpart

Talks were held between Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, and Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the Presidential Palace on March 1.

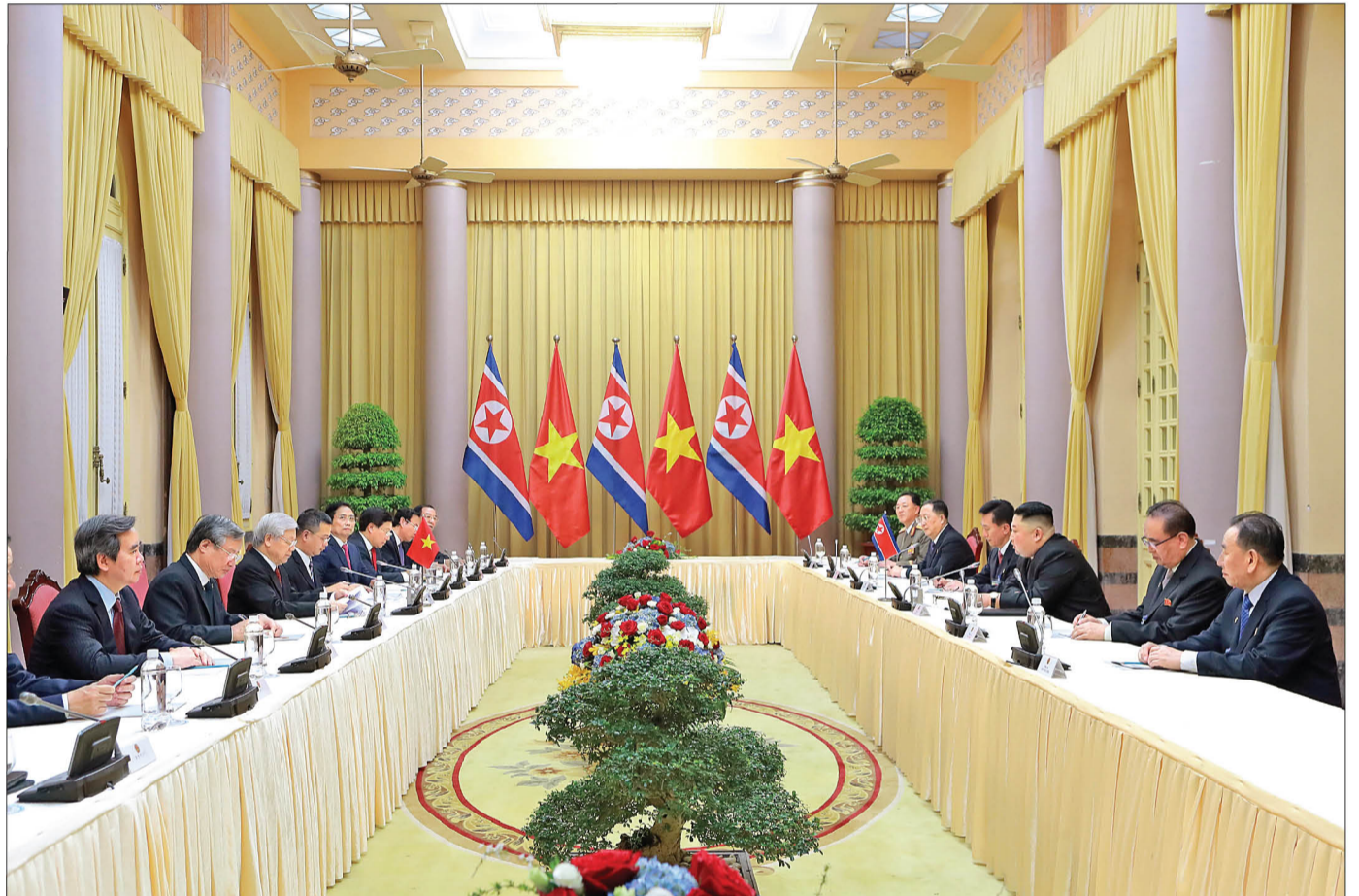
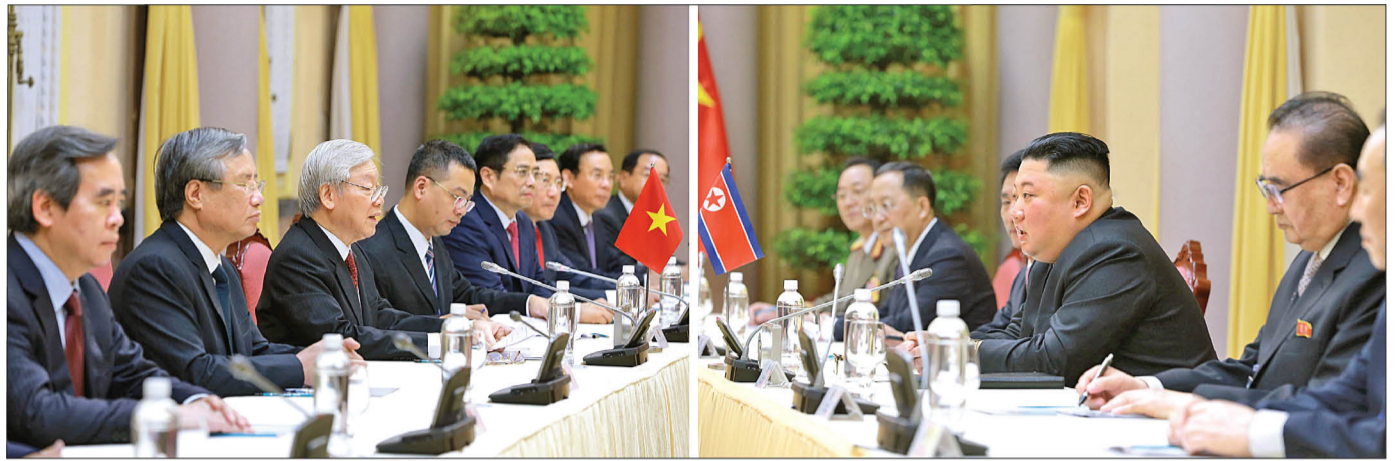
They were attended by Kim Yong Chol and Ri Su Yong, members of the Political Bureau and vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and foreign minister, and No Kwang Chol, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces.

Present there from the Vietnamese side were Tran Quoc Vuong, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and standing secretary of its Secretariat, Pham Minh Chinh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of its Organizational Commission, Nguyen Van Binh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of its Economic Commission, Pham Binh Minh, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, General To Lam, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and minister of Public Security, Nguyen Van Nen, secretary of the CPV Central Committee and director of its General Office, Hoang Binh Quan, chairman of the Commission for External Affairs of the CPV Central Committee, and Dao Viet Trung, director of the General Office of the Presidency.

At the talks both sides informed each other of the political and economic situations of their countries and exchanged opinions on boosting relations of friendship and cooperation between the two Parties and the two countries in various fields in line with the requirements of the new era and matters of common concern.

Kim Jong Un said he was very pleased to visit the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the first time, meet General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong and make acquaintances with Vietnamese comrades, expressing his heartfelt gratitude to the Vietnamese Party, government and people for according warm welcome and cordial hospitality.

It is the consistent stand of the Korean Party and state to carry on



generation after generation the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and the two Parties forged with blood true to the intentions of the older generation leaders, he said. Party- and government-level exchange of visits should be promoted vigorously and cooperation and exchange normalized and developed onto a new higher level in all fields of the economy, science and technology, national defence, sports, culture, the arts and the media, he noted.

He sincerely hoped that the Vietnamese people would achieve greater successes in their effort to attain the "goals for rich people and a prosperous, democratic, fair and civilized state" under the banner of socialism, closely rallied around the Communist Party of Vietnam headed by General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong.

He expressed his thanks to the Vietnamese Party and government

for rendering positive and sincere support and wonderful assistance for the successful holding of the second DPRK-US summit meeting and talks.

Nguyen Phu Trong warmly welcomed Chairman Kim Jong Un's visit to Vietnam on behalf of the Vietnamese Party, state and people. His visit marked a milestone in the development of the relationship between the two Parties and countries, he said.

The friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and the DPRK are the traditional ones provided and cultivated by President Ho Chi Minh and President Kim Il Sung and the Vietnamese Party, government and people always remember and are thankful to the DPRK for having rendered great support to the struggle for independence of Vietnam and its national liberation, he said. It is the steadfast stand of the Vietnamese Party and government to always

attach importance to the bilateral ties and bolster up the relationship between the two Parties and countries in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and regional peace and stability, he noted.

He expressed the belief that the Korean people would make great achievements in socialist construction, development of the country and improvement of their livelihood under the leadership of the WPK headed by Chairman Kim Jong Un.

Saying that the choice of Hanoi as the venue of the second DPRK-US summit meeting shows the trust between the two countries, he highly appreciated the constructive and proactive stand of the DPRK and the US manifested at the talks.

The talks proceeded in a comradely, candid and friendly atmosphere.

Compiled from KCNA

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of its General Office, Hoang Binh Quan, chairman of the Commission

for External Affairs of the CPV Central Committee, Dao Viet Trung, director of the General Office of the Presidency, Le Hoai Trung, deputy

minister of Foreign Affairs, Nguyen Duc Chung, chairman of the Hanoi City People's Committee, Le Ba Binh, Vietnamese ambassador to the

DPRK, and other senior Party and government officials.

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DPRK Supreme Leader talks with Vietnamese Prime Minister

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, met with Nguyen Xuan Phuc, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on the afternoon of March 1.

He was greeted at the Vietnamese government building by Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Truong Hoa Binh, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist

Party of Vietnam and standing deputy prime minister, Vuong Dinh Hue, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and deputy prime minister, General Ngo Xuan Lich, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and minister of Defence, Dao Viet Trung, director of the General Office of the Presidency, Mai Tien Dung, minister-chairman of the Government Office, Tran Tuan Anh, minister of Industry and Commerce, Nguyen Xuan Cuong, minister of Agriculture and Rural

Development, Le Hoai Trung, deputy minister of Foreign Affairs, and other senior officials of the Vietnamese government.

The Supreme Leader exchanged warm greetings with the Vietnamese Prime Minister.

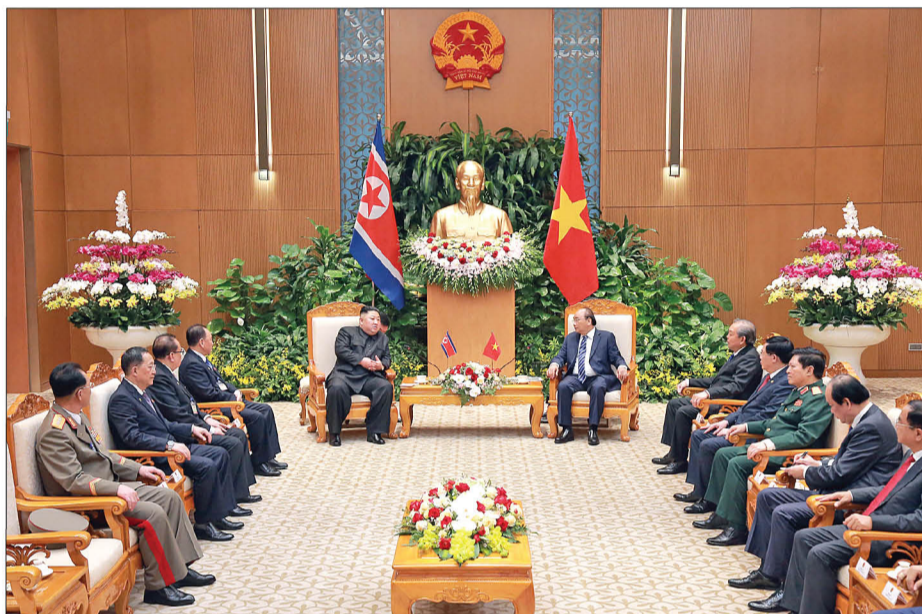
Nguyen Xuan Phuc guided him into a hall to show the photos of President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on display.

Kim Jong Un had a photo taken with Nguyen Xuan Phuc before

having a friendly talk.

Present there were Kim Yong Chol and Ri Su Yong, members of the Political Bureau and vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of Foreign Affairs, and No Kwang Chol, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces.

Compiled from KCNA



Korean leader meets with Vietnamese national assembly chief

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, met with Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan, chairwoman of the Vietnamese National Assembly, on the afternoon of March 1.

He visited the Vietnamese National Assembly building and exchanged warm greetings with Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan.

He was greeted by Tong Thi Phong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and standing vice-chairperson of the National Assembly, Uong Chu Luu, vice-chairperson of the National Assembly, Dao Viet Trung, director of the General Office of the Presidency, Nguyen Manh Dau, chairman of the Committee for External Affairs of the National Assembly, Le Hoai Trung, deputy minister of Foreign Affairs, and other senior officials of the Vietnamese government.

Kim Jong Un had a photograph taken with Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan and talked with her in an amicable atmosphere.

Present there were Kim Yong



Chol, Ri Su Yong, Ri Yong Ho and No Kwang Chol.

Kim Jong Un and Nguyen Thi Kim

Ngan had a photo session together with senior Party and government officials of the two countries who

attended the talk.

Compiled from KCNA

Vietnamese leader hosts banquet in honour of Korean counterpart

Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, arranged a grand banquet at the International Convention Centre on March 1 to welcome Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission.

The reception was attended by Kim Yong Chol, Ri Su Yong, Kim Phyoong Hae and O Su Yong, members of the Political Bureau and vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee; Ri Yong Ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of Foreign Affairs; No Kwang Chol, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Kim Yo Jong, alternate member of the Political Bureau and first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee; Choe Son Hui, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs; and other members of the entourage.

Also present there at invitation were DPRK ambassador Kim Myong Gil in Hanoi and staff members of his embassy.

Vietnamese attendees were Tran Quoc Vuong, member of the Political Bureau and standing secretary of the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee; Pham Minh Chinh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of its Organizational Commission; Vo Van Thuong, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of its Commission for Education and Information; and other senior Party and government officials.

Amid the playing of a welcome music, the DPRK Supreme Leader appeared in the banquet hall together with his Vietnamese counterpart.

Prior to the banquet, the national anthems of the two countries were played.

At the reception, Nguyen Phu Trong delivered a congratulatory address and Kim Jong Un spoke in reply.

Warmly welcoming the Korean leader, the Vietnamese counterpart described his visit to Vietnam as the first one made 55 years after President Kim Il Sung visited the country in 1964 and a manifestation of the stand of the Korean Party and government valuing the traditional friendly ties with Vietnam.

He said the traditional friendship between the Parties, states and peoples of the two countries that President Ho Chi Minh and President Kim Il Sung had built and cultivated with much effort has been inherited



and developed uninterruptedly in the face of enormous challenges, and expressed his conviction that Chairman Kim Jong Un's current visit made ahead of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries would greatly contribute to promoting the interests of the peoples of the two countries and global peace, stability, cooperation and development.

He said Vietnam and the DPRK are far apart, but they are close to each other in mind like real brothers, and hoped that the bilateral traditional ties of friendship would continue to be cemented and developed.

The Korean leader expressed his heartfelt thanks to the Vietnamese counterpart for according him hospitality in all sincerity while showing particular concern though he was busy leading the overall affairs of the Party and state, and said he visited the Socialist Republic of Vietnam out of a desire to invariably inherit the historical tradition of the DPRK-Vietnam friendship in the rapidly-changing world political situation and develop bilateral relations onto a higher

stage in line with the requirements of the new era.

He said it is quite natural, a due obligation, for him to visit Vietnam which is associated with the noble souls of the preceding leaders of the two countries and the common spirit of the martyrs of the two countries who made the history of the bilateral friendship with blood, and affirmed his will to make joint efforts in the sacred struggle for further consolidating and developing the bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation as required by the new era and for bringing happiness and rosy future to the peoples of the two countries.

He said that through his first visit to Vietnam and the meaningful meeting with General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong he was convinced of the vitality and rosy future of the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two Parties and the peoples of the two countries, which had been forged and consolidated by Comrade Kim Il Sung and Comrade Ho Chi Minh, and expressed his determination to firmly defend the bilateral friendship, a precious legacy

left by the preceding leaders of the two countries, and add eternal brilliance to it generation after generation.

At the banquet, there was an art performance of colourful programme the Vietnamese artistes had specially prepared to welcome the DPRK Supreme Leader.

Put on the stage were male solo *Song of Loyalty* and female solo *Attraction* sung by Vietnamese stars who had taken part in the April Spring Friendship Art Festival in Pyongyang and other Korean songs and Vietnam's traditional and graceful instrumental music and dance pieces, which enlivened the welcoming atmosphere and left deep impressions on the participants.

The leaders of the two countries mounted the stage to express thanks to the performers for their sincere and distinctive presentation and had a photograph taken with them.

Kim Jong Un expressed thanks once again for the sincere, warm hospitality shown by the Vietnamese Party and government before saying goodbye to Nguyen Phu Trong.

Kim Jong Un lays wreath at mausoleum of Ho Chi Minh

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, laid a wreath at the mausoleum of President Ho Chi Minh on the morning of March 2.

Present at the wreath-laying ceremony were Kim Yong Chol, Ri Su Yong, Kim Phyong Hae and O Su Yong, members of the Political Bureau and vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and

minister of Foreign Affairs, No Kwang Chol, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces, Kim Yo Jong, alternate member of the Political Bureau and first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee, Choe Son Hui, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, and other members of the entourage.

Also seen there were Dao Viet Trung, director of the General Office of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and



Le Ba Binh, Vietnamese ambassador to the DPRK. The Supreme Leader placed

a wreath at the mausoleum. He observed a moment's silence in memory of Ho Chi

Minh.

Compiled from KCNA

DPRK leader pays homage to martyrs

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un laid a wreath at the Monument to Heroic Martyrs on the morning of March 2.

Among the visitors were Kim Yong Chol, Ri Su Yong, Kim Phyong Hae, O

Su Yong, Ri Yong Ho, No Kwang Chol, Kim Yo Jong, Choe Son Hui and other accompanying officials.

Present at the wreath-laying ceremony were Dao Viet Trung, director of the General Office of the



Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Le Ba Binh, Vietnamese

ambassador to the DPRK. The Supreme Leader laid a wreath at the monument and

paid a silent tribute.

Compiled from KCNA

Supreme Leader returns home from Vietnam visit

Kim Jong Un left Hanoi on March 2 after rounding off his official goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The DPRK Supreme Leader was seen off at the lodging place by Nguyen Duc Chung, chairman of the Hanoi City People's Committee, and other senior Vietnamese officials.

Along the long route between the lodging place and Dong Dang Railway Station, where his train was to start off, Vietnamese working people, youth and schoolchildren gave him a warm send-off as they waved the flags of both countries and bunches of flowers.

When the DPRK Supreme Leader

arrived at the station amid a rousing send-off by lots of Hanoi citizens who were out along the route to the station, the throngs of well-wishers waiting outside the station warmly congratulated him on his successful historic Vietnam visit, waving flags and bunches of flowers.

Kim Jong Un got out of his car and acknowledged the enthusiastically cheering crowds as he waved back long.

He shook hands in farewell with the senior Party and government officials of Vietnam.

His train left Dong Dang Railway Station along with the feelings of firm friendship and solidarity of the fraternal Vietnamese people towards the Korean counterpart.

Kim Jong Un arrived home on March 5 after successfully wrapping up his official goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Kim Yong Nam,

Choe Ryong Hae and Pak Pong Ju, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and other senior Party, government and military officials were seen at Pyongyang Railway Station to greet the Supreme Leader.

Also seen there were staff members of the Vietnamese embassy in Pyongyang.

At 3 o'clock in the early morning, his train entered the station yard.

As he got off the train, the head of the guards of honour of the Korean People's Army gave a salute to him.

A ceremony took place at the station to greet the Supreme Leader.

A boy and girl presented him with bunches of flowers.

He exchanged greetings shaking hands with them.

Acknowledging the enthusiastically cheering crowds, he extended warm greetings to all the beloved people.

Accompanying him were Kim Yong Chol, Ri Su Yong, Kim Phyong Hae and O Su Yong, vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Ho, minister of Foreign Affairs, No Kwang Chol, minister of the People's Armed Forces, Kim Yo Jong, Ri Yong Sik and Kim Song Nam, first deputy department directors of the WPK Central Committee, Choe Son Hui, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, and other senior officials of the WPK Central Committee and the State Affairs Commission.

Compiled from KCNA



UNITY

Harmonious whole of country manifested

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un returned home at three o'clock early in the morning of March 5 after successfully winding up his foreign tour for the second DPRK-US summit meeting.

Pyongyang Railway Station was enveloped in a welcoming atmosphere, warming up the cold morning air in a moment.

It seemed that people's yearning for the Supreme Leader erupted all at once at the station.

Foreign tour by heads of state is a usual thing in any countries, but such a reality can only be seen in the DPRK as the people's yearning and reverence for and trust in its leader grow more during his foreign visit.

The period, when the Supreme Leader was on a foreign visit from February 23 to March 5, was uncommon in the DPRK.

On February 24, when there was a news report on his visit, lots of people went to their workplaces though it was Sunday.

They unanimously thought they could not enjoy the holiday when the leader was on a foreign tour for peace and happiness of the country and people.

"After I listened to the shocking news, I could not stay in my home any longer. The consciousness that we should redouble our efforts to generate more electricity in the period when the Supreme Leader was far away for a foreign tour pushed me and other workers to the workplace," said Kim Ho Chol, workshop manager at the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex.

The news about the Supreme Leader's foreign tour was the main topic of conversation of Koreans and they paid special interest in Vietnam, the destination of the leader's visit.

A continuous stream of phone calls flowed to the Korean

Central News Agency and the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration to learn about the weather of Vietnam where he was staying.

"There were so many incoming calls that I had to stay all day long near the telephone. But such incessant calls rather made our heart warm and encouraged us to further efforts," said Sim Myong Ok, deputy chief of the central weather forecast corps under the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration.

Unheard-of innovations were made in all research institutions, construction sites and other workplaces.

Scientists and researchers at scientific research institutions and universities across the country, including the State Academy of Sciences and Kim Chaek University of Technology, stepped up their research projects and many of them moved their lodgings to production fields so as to timely solve technological problems arising in different sectors of the national economy.

The central radio reported every day the news about a growth in production at coal mines in South Phyongan Province which mined more coal than the same period of last year, an increase in transport of manure at farms and a rise in the production of consumer goods at factories.

The news about the response of people who talked about their yearning for the Supreme Leader was reported every day through TV and newspapers.

The looks of the DPRK, in which the leader and people form an integral whole, have fully been manifested during the days when the leader visited a foreign country.

By **Jong Tang Song** PT

VIETNAM

Fraternal ties go on through generations

President Kim Il Sung visited the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (the then Democratic Republic of Vietnam) from November 28 to December 2 1958.

The President met with the Vietnamese leaders, including President Ho Chi Minh and Prime Minister Pham Van Dong.

The Vietnamese Party, government and people accorded whole-hearted hospitality to President Kim Il Sung who defeated the two formidable imperialist powers and built a country of Chollima and was making a great contribution to accomplishing the cause of independence against imperialism.

Earlier, the President met Ho Chi Minh on a visit to the DPRK in July 1957.

He paid another visit to Vietnam in November 1964 and performed immortal exploits in promoting friendly relations between the DPRK

and Vietnam.

He gave material aid and moral support to the Vietnamese people in their struggle for national salvation and socialist construction despite his country's difficult economic situation.

He met dozens of Vietnamese delegations and gave precious instructions, extending active support and encouragement to the Vietnamese people until the last days of his life.

He was awarded Order of the Gold Star of Vietnam in September 1988.

Chairman Kim Jong Il paid close attention to strengthening the bilateral ties, upholding the lofty intention of the President.

He met President Tran Duc Luong in May 2002 and General Secretary Nong Duc Manh of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam in October 2007 on their visits to Pyongyang.

The meetings marked a historic milestone in developing

traditional friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries onto a new, higher level.

Today, the bilateral friendly relationship is successfully carried forward by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

He met the head of the delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam on a visit to the DPRK to attend the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War in July 2013, and heads of other Vietnamese delegations with those of other countries on several occasions.

The Korean people are rejoicing as their own at the achievements the Vietnamese people have made in their efforts to create a new life, and wish them great successes in the efforts to build a prosperous country by carrying on the cause of President Ho Chi Minh.

Yang Ryon Hui

Thriving Vietnam

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is making tremendous progress in all domains of politics, the economy and military under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

The 12th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam held in January 2016 gave an impetus to enhancing the leading role of the Party and firmly consolidating the socialist government.

The CPV which had only 5 000 members in 1945 has nearly 5 million members at present.

Vietnam has achieved a rapid economic growth in socialist

construction. GDP witnessed a 7.08 percent growth rate in 2018, a record high since the world financial crisis in 2008. Over 70 percent of its population engage in agriculture and such abundant natural resources as rubber and fish take the lion's share of its developing export industry.

The government set itself the goal of building a basically modern industrial state till 2020. In line with the global trend, it boosted state investment in the development of electronic products and has ranked with the world's advanced nations in the field of software development and export.

In recent years it has taken

state measures to boost tourism, with the result that the number of tourists has jumped from a total of 550 000 in the early 1990s to over 15 million at present.

The country with a long coastline stretching from north to south has well-developed sea transport. Taking advantage of such favourable conditions, the government included the shipbuilding industry in its key development targets to be attained till 2020 and is now channelling big efforts into it.

A full member of the ASEAN, it revitalizes foreign trade with its member nations.

The Korean people value the traditional ties of friendship with Vietnam and wish the socialist country greater success.

By **Choe Yong Nam** PT

WOMEN

Institute for women set up under the care of great men

The Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital is a medical service institution which specializes in the prevention and treatment of and scientific research into breast diseases.

Chairman Kim Jong Il showed special concern to the construction of the institute and even checked its design in his lifetime.

On June 30 2012, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un came to the construction site of the institute to get familiar with its

construction.

Making the rounds of different places from the ground floor to the third floor, he gave detailed instructions for the construction and facilities.

He underscored the need to assign competent doctors and researchers with rich clinical experience and establish a normal check-up system in order to prevent breast tumour.

After that day's field guidance, he solved a series of problems arising in its construction and visited the

completed institute again on November 3.

Looking round various places of the institute which sprang up like a palace, he expressed satisfaction, saying the construction is flawless and the institute is furnished with a complete set of latest medical facilities.

Given that the institute has been built modernly and flawlessly as required by the new century, prophylactic treatment and scientific research work should be done on the

world level so that the Korean women could enjoy substantial benefits provided by the Party, he requested medical officials.

All the women who have medical treatment at the institute

praise their socialist system and country as the best in the world.

Kim Song Hui, director of the *Pyongyang Maternity Hospital*



BYON CHAN U / PICTORIAL KOREA

A patient is examined at the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

ELECTION

Popular electoral system valuing human worth

The election of deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly will be held in the DPRK on March 10.

In this country all the citizens are granted by law the rights to take part in the work of organs of state power with equal rights and qualifications.

Its electoral system was established on the principle of valuing human worth and defending it.

Organs of state power at all levels are elected on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

The Socialist Constitution of the DPRK and its law on election of deputies to the people's assemblies at all levels stipulate that all citizens aged 17 and over shall have the right to vote and to be elected irrespective of sex, nationality, occupation, residence period, property status, standard of learning, party affiliation, political view and religion.

Accordingly, every DPRK citizen is eligible to take part in the election of deputies to power organs and to be elected as deputy. The rights are also enjoyed by DPRK citizens serving the army and staying abroad and persons of other nationalities with DPRK citizenship.

The voting age and eligible

age are set the same and those with enfranchisement are defined irrespective of ownership of material wealth, sex, nationality and ideology. This shows that all issues related to elections are fixed on the principle of respecting human dignity and worth.

In addition, subconstituencies are set up in constituencies and election day is set on a national holiday for the convenience of electorates and other rational measures are taken for the organization and holding of elections in accordance with the will and demand of voters.

The electoral system of the DPRK also ensures that the masses of the people become true masters of state power by composing power organs with the representatives of the people.

This is illustrated by the procedures and methods of nominating candidates that have been defined by the election system of the country.

Candidates for deputies to the people's assemblies at all levels are nominated by electors directly. If they are not nominated by electors, but by different political organizations with different interests, the masses of the people will be nothing but voting machines in elections.

Deputies to power organs in the DPRK are not members of the privileged classes, but members of the masses of the people who were elected by them and who have worked for them with devotion.

The DPRK's election system enables the people to directly nominate candidates and thereby makes sure that the people freely exercise their political rights and set up power organs by themselves.

Those who devote themselves to the country's prosperity and the people's well-being are nominated as candidates and win full favour of voters. Among them are coal miners, forest rangers, intellectuals and sportspersons.

Before and after elections the Korean people sing and dance merrily around polling stations, which shows that they regard elections as an auspicious political event to increase state power.

In the upcoming election of deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly, too, they will demonstrate their full support for and trust in the political power of their country.

Ri Kyong Chol, department director of the Law Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences

PROFILE

From farmer to lawmaker

Kim Song Hui is the chairwoman of the Management Board of the Yakjon Farm in Sukchon County, South Phyongan Province, who is well known throughout the province.

Her farm has taken the first place in the socialist emulation drive every year in all farming operations.

Farmers refer to her as a walking dictionary, but she is also an ordinary woman.

Born into a farming family, she was the smallest in stature among her siblings. After finishing a middle school, she graduated from a college.

Starting her farming career at workteam No. 5 in Taesongri in her home county of Sukchon, she always brought books with her to acquire scientific farming methods and often toured the county to learn advanced methods from other workteams and farms and introduce them into her entire workteam. And she spent most of her time out in the paddy fields during the farming season, especially in the period of growing rice seedlings, a crucial time in a year's farming.

Thanks to her painstaking efforts, the workteam increased production every year and she became its leader some years later.

She made it a rule to do farming scientifically and technologically and established a food production cycle combining animal husbandry and crop farming.

Farmers' income grew, the village made a remarkable improvement in appearance and the community achieved harmony and unity.

In recognition of her distinguished service, the



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kim Song Hui (middle) tells drivers to prepare enough parts for the upcoming farming season.

government put her forward as a meritorious person of socialist patriotism and entrusted her with the management of the farm.

"I have never dreamed of becoming a management board chief. I was too inexperienced to take charge of a farm, but the Workers' Party of Korea led me step by step to work properly," she recalled.

It was not an easy job to efficiently manage the farm consisting of over ten workteams, so she made determined, tireless efforts.

To increase the fertility of soil, she made sure that appropriate organic fertilizers like manure were produced for each field and plot in order to spread 20-50 tons per hectare and that every farming operation was carried out without fail based on thorough preparations. She maintained constant contact with Sukchon Agricultural College and ensured the efficient running of the sci-tech learning space of the farm in order to introduce advanced farming methods steadily.

Last year, the farm managed to do farming successfully, unaffected by an unprecedentedly severe drought, thanks to the introduction of such techniques as maize farming based on pits.

"She knows about all fields of the farm like her yard", "She is scrupulous and her only concern is how to do farming well and build the farm nicely", "She is so kind-hearted she takes warm care of all farmers like her own family members"—these are what the managing staff and farmers of the farm say.

It has been six years since she became the chief of the farm, and the period witnessed a sharp rise in the farmers' shares in kind and the number of farm machines, the completion of a splendid hall of culture and lots of other changes.

Kim Song Hui is now a deputy to the provincial people's assembly.

ANNIVERSARY

International Women's Day celebrated

Marking International Women's Day on March 8, congratulations and encouragement were given to women in all families and workplaces throughout the country.

That day, women full of joy and optimism were seen in every street and village in Pyongyang and provinces.

Officials and members of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea from across the country held sports and amusement games at the Taekwon-Do Palace between March 4 and 6 to commemorate the 109th anniversary of March 8 International Women's Day.

Public service facilities became enlivened with the service for women.

In particular, various department stores, exhibition halls and souvenir and flower shops in Pyongyang were packed with customers who came there to buy souvenirs and flowers for their wives and mothers.

"I'm going to buy cosmetics

for my wife in hope that she, who has been working hard to fulfil her responsibility and duty of a mother, wife and daughter-in-law by shouldering all the burdens of our family, will be more beautiful," Ri Song Hun, a staff member of the Taehung Guidance Bureau, said at the Kungangsan Cosmetics Exhibition Hall. He bought Pomhyanggi cosmetics which are popular with women for his spouse.

Women enjoyed the holiday as they dined with their families at service amenities across the country, including the Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants in Pyongyang, Okkye Restaurant in Haeju, Kyongam Restaurant in Sariwon and Sinhung Restaurant in Hamhung.

Many factories and enterprises congratulated women employees on their holiday while presenting souvenirs and encouraging them to bring about greater innovations.

Students and schoolchildren visited women educators, who

have dedicated their all to training the rising generation of the country, to wish them good health and success in their work while presenting bouquets.

Merry laughter ringing out on streets and houses and songs in praise of women sung at theatres and families added optimism about and pride in their life and work.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



KCNA

Women's union members from across the country compete in the yut game to mark March 8 International Women's Day.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

WEIGHTLIFTING

DPRK successful in 2019 IWF World Cup

DPRK weightlifters were successful in the 2019 IWF World Cup.

The weightlifting competition which was held in China between February 22 and 27 brought together men and women weightlifters from many countries and regions including the DPRK, China, Russia, Italy

and Mexico.

DPRK players bagged six gold, fifteen silver and six bronze medals in the event.

Pak Jong Ju and Kim Un Ju came first each in the jerk and totals of men's 67kg and women's 87kg categories.

Om Yun Chol and Choe Hyo Sim obtained golds in the jerk

of men's 61kg category and the snatch of women's 59kg category, while Ri Song Gum came second in the jerk, snatch and totals of women's 49kg category.

O Kang Chol, Pak Jong Ju, Kim Un Ju and Kim Hyo Sim finished runners-up respectively in the snatch of men's 73kg and 67kg categories and women's 87kg and 64kg categories.

And Choe Jon Wi, Rim Jong Sim, Rim Un Sim and Choe Hyo Sim won silver medals each in the jerk and totals of men's 81kg category and women's 76kg, 64kg and 59kg categories.

O Kang Chol and Kim Hyo Sim came third in the jerk and totals of men's 73kg category and women's 64kg category and Rim Jong Sim and Rim Un Sim in the snatch of women's 76kg and 64kg categories.



Gold medallists at the 2019 IWF World Cup.

KCNA

Compiled from KCNA

VOLLEYBALL

April 25 wins int'l women's volleyball tournament



KCNA

Women volleyball players of the April 25 Sports Club arrive at Pyongyang Railway Station after winning the Lien Viet Post Bank Cup in Vietnam.

Women volleyball players of the DPRK's April 25 Sports Club won the International Women's Volleyball Tournament-Lien Viet Post Bank Cup, which took place in Vietnam from February 22 to March 1.

The event brought together eight teams from the DPRK, China, Vietnam and Kazakhstan.

April 25 beat the Fujian team of China 3-0 in the semifinals after cruising to easy 3-0 victories in all matches in Group B.

The DPRK team lifted the trophy by defeating Vietnam's LVPB 3-0 in the final on March 1.

Compiled from KCNA

SHOW

Art exhibition highlights meaning of national tree

"It is a wonderful show. Looking round the exhibits, I have come to have a better understanding of why pine tree has been selected as a national tree," said Ju Hye Gyong, student at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, after visiting the national art exhibition "Pine—national tree of the DPRK" recently held in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star.

On show at the exhibition were over 150 pieces of artworks including Korean and oil paintings, acrylic painting, watercolour painting, pencil drawing, shell painting, Korean jewel painting, sculptures and handicrafts.

"It was the first time that an art exhibition was held on the theme of the national tree, pine tree, and many excellent works of art were displayed there," said Choe Hak Chon, senior official of the Department of Fine Arts of the Ministry of Culture.

Many of the exhibits portrayed the strong stamina of pine tree striking firm root on the rocks in the face of rainstorm and remaining green even under the heavy blanket of white snow.

The tree has a special connection with the Korean people. Old landscape paintings mostly included it. They not only represent the simple wish of the Korean people for a long

life as they have described it as an "aged pine tree with graceful foliage" since ancient times. They also reflect their strong desire to live firmly and resiliently like the pine tree which remains green invariably in any seasonal changes and whatever ordeals.

Ho Yong Il, Kwon Sun Nam and Pak Nam Chol, students at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, presented a Korean painting. It attracted the admiration of many visitors as it depicted a pine tree standing in the snowstorm, which represents the fighting spirit of anti-Japanese guerrillas who sacrificed their youth and lives for the country's liberation.

Paintings of pine trees against the backdrop of the panoramic view of Pyongyang made a deep impression on the visitors.

Korean paintings such as "On Moran Hill", "Morning in February" and "Green pine on Mt Ryongak" show the looks of Pyongyang and the DPRK which create new things constantly and open the road of prosperity and civilization in the same resolute spirit as pine tree.

Crayon painting "Our country is the best" by Song Il Phyo at Kinmaul Kindergarten No.1 of Moranbong District, Pyongyang, greatly impressed the visitors. It surprised



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Visitors look at fine art works depicting pine tree, the national tree of the DPRK.

SOCCER

2019 AFC Cup second-round matches begin

Ryomyong of the DPRK played the first-leg home match against Tai Po of Hong Kong, China, for the second round of the 2019 AFC Cup at Kim Il Sung Stadium in Pyongyang on March 6.

In the match Ryomyong tied with the opponent 0-0.

The two teams will have the second leg in Hong Kong, China, on March 13.

Compiled from KCNA



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the football match between the DPRK's Ryomyong and Hong Kong's Tai Po.

them that a six-year-old kindergartener presented a painting to the national art exhibition. More surprising was that his work of art was of high ideological and artistic value.

Seen on his picture are a building with such letters as "We are the happiest in the world" at the top against the background of the rising sun, a girl who claps her hands, delighted to see

a goshawk alighting on a branch of the pine tree and children who are rejoicing at the sight of a snowman after sticking a national flag in it.

"It is really a surprise that a six-year-old produced a complete work of art with crayon," said Hwang Hyon Chol, section chief of the specialist art magazine of the Artists' Union of Korea.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

