



KOREA TODAY

6

Juche 108

(2019)



Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace



Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace is a centre of after-school education of schoolchildren, where they conduct different activities in accordance with their aptitudes.



C O N T E N T S

3 Kim Jong Un's View on Younger Generation

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un puts forward the children as kings of the country and spares nothing for them. His image is convincing the Korean people of their bright future.



6 For the Sake of Future

7 Just Like Parents Would Do

8 Note of Visit to Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace

10 Three Points in Education in Korea

12 Increasing Subjects

14 For Children's Sake





Front Cover: Students work in a school library

Photo by An Yong Chol



Back Cover: Songdowon International Children's Camp

Photo by Kye Yong Hui

13502 7 - 1980103

Edited by Kim Myong Hak
 Address: Sochon-dong,
 Sosong District,
 Pyongyang, DPRK
 E-mail: flph@star-co.net.kp

© The Foreign Language
 Magazines 2019

- 16 What They Saw as Important
- 18 Relying on Ample Knowledge and High Qualifications
- 20 Developing New Teaching Methods
- 22 Independence—Eternal Banner of Korea
- 23 Through Energetic Ideological Activities
- 24 Chairman's Trust and Love
- 26 Condiments Production Increases
- 28 Popular *Ryugyong*-brand Goods
- 30 Still Higher
- 31 Pride of Doctors
- 32 Stories from a Book
- 34 Father and Daughter Held in Respect
- 35 To Do More and Better Things More Finely for the People
- 36 Worker Elected MP
- 38 With Same Determination
- 39 Worker Poet
- 40 Believe in Yourself
- 42 Effective Use of Hot Spring
- 44 Mt Kumgang (4)
- 46 Founder King of Koguryo
- 47 National Intangible Cultural Heritage (31)
 Koryo Medicinal Poultice
- 47 *Artemisia Messerschmidtiana*
- 48 Constitutional Change to Make Belligerent Nation



Kim Jong Un's View on Younger Generation

THE OTHER DAY THE Indian newspaper *New Delhi Times* wrote:

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's unusual love for the younger generation is really impressive. Love the younger generation, and be confident of victory!—this is his view on the younger generation and the future.

The leader puts forward the children as the king of the country and spares nothing for them. His image is convincing the Korean people of their future.

First step, invariable political philosophy

One of the invariable policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government since Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945, has been to

take good care of the children.

In February 1946 the First Session of the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea dealt with the question of pencil production as an important item on the agenda. Later construction of schools and colleges was given priority rather than that of government organs. Schoolchildren's palaces went up at excellent locations, schools were built even if there were a few children, and special measures were taken to run trains, buses and boats for children's going to school.

After the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il in December 2011, the international community paid special attention to the country. Amidst the mixture of predictions and assertions of their own, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited Mangyongdae Revolutionary

School on the occasion of the lunar New Year's Day of 2012 to congratulate the teachers and students. Sitting on a simple bed of a student, he instructed to keep the bedrooms warm. In the canteen he felt a rice bowl to know its quality, and asked the students what kind of food they liked and what they were short of. In the birthday party room, he earnestly requested the school administrators to take parental care of the schoolchildren on their birthdays lest they should miss their parents and feel the slightest gloom.

His visit to the school is a manifestation of his noble view on the younger generation and invariable political philosophy.

Our father

In early February 2014 when he visited the Pyongyang Baby

Schoolchildren stage a performance in celebration of the New Year's Day every year.





Children of the Pyongyang Orphanage.

► Home and the Pyongyang Orphanage, Kim Jong Un said: We should bring up the children properly in place of their parents to make them cheerful and honest. We should help them feel happy all the time so that their favourite song *We Are the Happiest in the World* may reverberate throughout the country.

On June 1, 2014 he visited the Pyongyang Orphanage again to congratulate the children on International Children's Day. Some time later he looked around the construction site of new buildings of the Pyongyang Baby Home and Pyongyang Orphanage on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River. He said that orphans should be given tender care and that such traits should become the ethos of society and the tradition of the country which is a large harmonious family. When the baby home and orphanage were completed, he was the first to visit them. On the New Year's Day of 2015 he

spent the holiday with the children of the baby home and orphanage. He went to any place in the country where there were children, and took meticulous care of them so that they would not feel sorrowful.

In 2014 he visited the Songdowon International Children's Camp several times. When he saw a steep water slide made in the country for the first time, he proposed installing it first in the outdoor wading pool at the camp so that the laughter of the children might resound louder there. And when he visited the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, he mapped out a grandiose plan of renovating it into an edifice that cannot be found anywhere else in the world, a home where the children, the king of the country, could learn to their heart's content.

On his visit to the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory he said that he could envision the happy looks of the children

and felt relieved of his fatigue whenever he saw the soya milk vans running along the streets of Pyongyang, and that the factory should wage a campaign for increased production with a ►



► sense that the country would look brighter when the children's laughter rang out louder.

When he goes to see the children, he does not care whether they are in a remote place or not, and whether it is daytime or night. His loving care of them can be found at Cho, Mu and Jangjae islands, and the newly built Kyongsang Nursery, Kyongsang Kindergarten, Changjon Primary School in Central District and Pyongyang Children's Department Store on Changjon Street. It is his happiest moment when he has done something worthwhile for the children and when their singing and laughter reverberate louder.

Once the Supreme Leader said that though he was not a poet, he would like to say that he had nothing more to wish for even though his body might be scattered like grains of sand on the road to be followed by the children if it were possible to build his country into a powerful socialist nation.

A secretary of Borno State government of Nigeria, referring to his experience in Korea, said

at a meeting that Korea was really the world of children, and that he wished them to grow up healthily into pillars who would shoulder the future of the country.

It is not without reason that the Korean children entrust their destiny to the Supreme Leader and follow him, calling him *our father*.

Bright future

Today the Korean children, who are growing up into masters of the future, exalt the honour of the country at international festivals and competitions.

Choe Jang Hung, in his kindergarten days, took first place at the 20th International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition for Children and Youth, thus becoming the youngest ever winner in the competition's history, and he also won the special prize at the 2nd Moscow Krainev International Piano Contest in 2017.

Besides, the country has produced many world famous piano prodigies including Ma

Sin A, Pak Kon Ui and Yu Pyol Mi. And Korean students took top places at different Olympiads and competitions such as the International Mathematics Olympiad and the world middle school students' competition for Chinese.

The head of a club of the Mongolian Taekwon-Do Association, on a visit to Korea, said that the Korean children are growing up healthily while enjoying happiness in the best socialist system, and that he had admiration for them who are growing up under the benevolent national leader's deep concern, correct education policy and noble view on the future and younger generation.

The Chairman of the Central Committee of the Laotian Women's Union said that Korea spares nothing for children, future of the nation, that they are growing up healthily while cultivating their talents to their heart's content under the warm care of Comrade Kim Jong Un, and that she saw the future of the country in their appearance.

Kim Son Myong

Schoolchildren enjoy themselves at the Songdowon International Children's Camp.



For the Sake of Future

Small branch school

ONE DAY IN JANUARY 1964, some pupils of the primary course at the then Song-san Middle School in Yonthan County had the unexpected honour of meeting President Kim Il Sung.

Taking their hands warmly one by one, the President asked them which school they went to and where it was. When a local official indicated the direction of the school, the President, giving a thoughtful look at the high pass in the direction for a good while, said anxiously that it would probably be difficult for the pupils to travel to the far-off school.

Then, he acquainted himself with how they were doing at school. Learning all of them were poor at their studies, the President gazed at the mountain path stretching across the hill, before saying in a worried voice that he understood why they were not good at studies. If we had already built a branch school here, we would have been able to save the children the troubles, he said and proposed building a branch school at the place as soon as possible.

Seeing a senior official wear a puzzled look on his face, the President said: How could we treat the matter of the country's future by referring to the number of children? Certainly not.

You know it is for the sake of the children's bright future that we are now on field inspection in this severely cold winter. Even though there are only a few children in this village, we must build a branch school for them.

Later, a cosy branch school appeared at the sunny foot of a hill for less than ten children.

Big budget

In the run-up to the 65th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung (April 15, 1912), Korea was pushing ahead with a project of providing the students and children across the country with clothes as gifts of the President. Chairman Kim Jong Il gave firsthand guidance to the work.

At the beginning officials concerned excluded kindergarteners from the plan as it was a stiff task that cost too much.

Having noticed it, the Chairman criticized the officials severely, saying: Does it cost so much to supply clothing to the kindergarteners? We should not make a shoestring budget, but a big one. You had better make a big, daring plan and present it.

Adding that they should provide the children and students with not only clothes but also a complete set of school things, he inserted in the list of gifts the names of school things no officials had ever thought.

In this way the budget increased four times bigger than what it had been originally.

A KCU delegate honoured

Korea held functions to celebrate the 66th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union (KCU) on June 6, 2012. More than 20 000 KCU delegates, the sons and daughters of ordinary working people, were invited to Pyongyang to participate in colourful events and visit different places.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un saw an artistic performance with the delegates and met some exemplary KCU members. Stroking their heads, he asked where they came from, what their fathers were and what they would become when they grew up.

They answered they wanted to become scientists, doctors and so on. Then he asked a schoolboy beside him about his hope, and the boy replied he would become a soldier. When asked what he would do after leaving the army, the boy answered in high spirit that he would be in the army all his life.

The Supreme Leader laughed a hearty laugh and told him that if he joined the army, he would be a comrade-in-arms of the Supreme Commander.

Choe Sol Mi

Just Like Parents Would Do

ON APRIL 1 I WAS going down Unha Scientists Street in Ryongsong District, Pyongyang, for my news coverage, when I noticed crowds of people in the playground of Unha Primary School. Approaching them, I found that they were having the opening ceremony of a new school year.

After the welcome meeting for the new pupils, a large number of people were distributing various school things and aids to the pupils. Seeing their tender-hearted and sincere attitude and behaviour, I thought that they were parents of the schoolchildren.

But hearing their conversation, I knew I was mistaken.

"Mr. General Manager, I'm now in the third grade. I've joined the football circle," a pupil said.

"I say, Chief Secretary. We are going to learn some new subjects including English and computer."

According to Ri Chol Ho, headmaster of the school, the grown-ups were from the Pyongyang Electrical Appliances Factory, Ryongsong District Post Office and residents in Unha-dong of the same district, who were all supporters of the school.

Saying that they come to the school on April 1 every year, when a new school year starts, and in March and October, school-supporting months, bringing a lot of school things and teaching aids and furnishings with them, Ri told the following story.

During the winter vacation in January last year, the school organized visits to several places in Pyongyang, including the Munsu Water Park, Meari Shooting Gallery, Rungna Dolphinarium, and People's Open-air Ice Rink. In particular, the visits to the Rungna 4D Simulation Cinema and the children's

dream hall at the Sci-Tech Complex gave them deep impression as the pupils had unusual experience there; in the films they trekked through the "jungles" in virtual space, took a "spaceship" to the moon and travelled under the sea or in the space. It seemed that it was conducive to not only satisfying the curiosity of the children full of dreams but also to their education. And it was a unanimous desire of the pupils and teachers of the school to have such a kind of environment in their school.

Two months later the employees of the aforesaid factory and post office and the residents in Unha-dong happened to know the fact when they visited the school. After a serious discussion they concluded that they should provide everything for the children, the future of the country.

In October last year they finally laid out a room for experiencing virtual reality, where pupils can vividly get in touch with various phenomena and natural environments using the VR technology. Besides, they gave sincere support to the arrangement of an IT study room, a nature room, a music room and

a gymnastic dance room. Thanks to their selfless devotion, all the corridors of the school changed into the space for studying, and the school's material and technical foundations were consolidated further. During the school-supporting months last year the school received a lot of educational equipment and materials contributed by the workers of the aforesaid units and residents. As a result the educational conditions and environment have turned into national models in the country.

Support for the school is continuing steadily.

The headmaster of the school said, "My school's education has undergone a radical improvement in quality. It won first place at the roller-skating event of the primary school sector of the 43rd Jongilbong Prize National Schoolchildren's Sports Contest 2017, and was highly appreciated at the 21st national schoolchildren's festival of loyalty 2018." He concluded, "The present reality of my school is inconceivable apart from those people's kind-hearted and sincere support."

Choe Sol Mi

Different kinds of educational facilities, musical instruments and sports apparatuses are donated.



Note of Visit to Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace

SOME TIME AGO I visited the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace in Central District, Pyongyang. When I met Ri Jin Ju, a department head of the palace, she said the palace, which was founded on September 30, 1963, is a base for extracurricular activities related to all sectors such as social science, natural science, art and literature, sports, industry and agriculture, that it is always under the concern of the State, and that thousands of students visit it

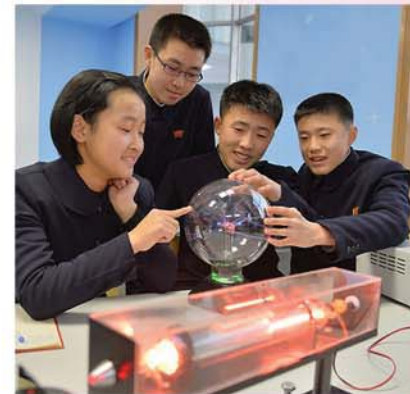
every day.

She then led me to the room for a basic science circle. In the room there were scores of students conducting physical experiments under the guidance of instructor Ri Hyang Ok. The instructor said that the operation of the circle was aimed at having junior and senior middle school students consolidate what they learned at school and improve their practical abilities through exercises and practical experiments. She added that now her charges were enhanc-

ing their practical abilities using a computer-aided general measuring device, multifunctional equipment.

Pointing at a student, Kim Jin Song by name, she introduced him as a student from Ryongwang Senior Middle School in Central District, and said that he was a promising student in both his school and the circle as he had top marks in physics, math and chemistry. The boy said that he would surely become an excellent Doctor of Physics to support the country ▶

A dancing circle room.



Children improve their practical abilities.

▶ with science.

I dropped in at the room of a dancing circle as well. Instructor Han Yong Ae said the members of the circle were students from primary schools and junior and senior middle schools, and that she was teaching them the ABC of Korean folk dance. Its members have performed many dances, including the fairy-tale dance *Bees Defeat a Bear* which shows the might of united efforts, the accordion accompaniment and dance *Little Masters of Street and Village*, and the folk dances *Fan-used Dance* and *Twin Fans Dance*, deeply impressing the audience. I was fascinated by

the circle members' dancing in Korean tunes.

In the vocal music circle room, students were engrossed in training. Their instructor Choe Kwang Suk introduced me to Ri Kuk Hwa, 11, a fourth grader of Pyongyang Primary School No. 4, and said that the girl had been held in affection by her neighbours in her kindergarten days for singing folk songs well. And the girl, the instructor added, took part in different performances such as a New Year performance to be greatly applauded by the audience for singing admirably songs such as *Waiting for New*

Year's Day, Thank You, The Bosom of the Party, and Pride of Knowledge, Morality and Sound Health.

Ri Jin Ju said foreign visitors to the palace, after seeing the performances given by its circle members, said that they saw the bright future of Korea in them.

While looking round sports and other circle rooms I could see children, called kings and queens of the country, learning to their heart's content to develop into scientists, sportspersons and artists in the future.

Sim Chol Jun



THREE POINTS IN EDUCATION IN KOREA

TO TRAIN KNOWLEDGEABLE, VIRTUOUS and healthy people constitutes the general target of education in Korea. All educational programmes and activities are oriented to cultivating versatile abilities of students so that they attain ample knowledge, lofty morality and good health.

Knowledgeable

Essential for good education is just the matter of teachers. Their qualifications mean the quality of education and determine students' academic performance. In this respect Korea is pushing diversified programmes to improve the teachers' qualifications.

In October every year, teachers exemplary in improving qualifications are registered as Model Teacher and given official commendation, and seminars on new teaching methods are organized on different occasions to exchange advanced experience and apply them actively to educational practice. Together with this, refresher courses for teachers are further improved in keeping with the developing reality.

The work of training new teachers is carried on in a planned way. Now Pyongyang has Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, Kim Chol Ju University of Education and Pyongyang Teachers Training College, and each province

has similar institutions.

Attention is also paid to improving teaching contents and methods as well as the educational system. The educational level of senior middle technical schools, a new kind of schooling, is rising, and the number of such schools is gradually increasing. Textbooks and reference books are updated continuously while the primary and secondary education is built up steadily. In particular, excursions, multimedia-based teaching, experiments and practices are well organized to enhance the students' cognitive faculty and practical abilities.

The State enforced universal free education in April 1959, and universal 12-year compulsory education all across the country in April 2014 through stage-by-stage enforcement of compulsory education. All expenses for education including experiments, practice, extracurricular activities, field trips and camping are borne by the State. School things and uniforms are supplied to the students at lower prices as the State bears much of the expenses.

And school buildings, laboratories and practice bases are renovated wonderfully and public educational facilities are being built at State investment in accordance with the increasing number of students and the developing reality. Even remote mountain villages and far-flung islands have branch schools, whose number totals more than one thousand.

► Support for and aid to education has become a social ethos in the country. Every March and October are designated as months for supporting schools, and all sectors and units strengthen their support for schools. Meanwhile, special welfare service facilities such as tailor shops are in operation exclusively for teachers, which is an encouragement to the teachers.

All those measures have brought due results: the Korean students have won prizes at International Mathematics Olympiad and international Internet programming contests—typically at the World Memory Championships.

Virtuous

Korea puts much emphasis on helping the students get high standards of morality and cultural attainment. As part of it, primary schools, and junior and senior middle schools have the subject of socialist morality to give lessons on morality as prescribed by the educational programme.

Education in morality at schools is given in such a way as to make the students understand well the principle and standards of morality, and legal provisions and regulations of the State, and embody them thoroughly in their life. And they teach the students how to respect their revolutionary forerunners, teachers and seniors, and observe the etiquette of speaking and greeting, and public morality.

Camping and excursions to the scenic spots including Mts Paektu, Myohyang and Kumgang, and revolutionary battle sites and revolutionary sites are organized regularly to have the young people and schoolchildren learn the noble spirit and traits of the older generations.

Along with this, moral instruction is given to students through different socio-political activities and do-a-good-thing movement. All the educational institutions put in their curricula the spring and autumn tree-planting periods of more than seven days each. It serves as an important opportunity to cultivate the spirit of valuing even a single blade of grass and a single tree and loving their home and country while planting trees and tending them with their own hands. The students are encouraged to conduct different social activities and do-a-good-thing movement so that they themselves do good things for society and the collective, and help the war veterans and the honoured disabled soldiers.

In the course of this, it has become a social ethos to give priority to the interests of society and the collective rather than private comfort and wealth and honour, and give primary consideration to the country and the people under the slogan "One for all and all for one!" There are many young people who marry honoured disabled soldiers, adopt orphans and volunteer to go to work in difficult and challenging sectors such as mines and farms.

All of this is a due result of Korea's educational system.

Physically Sound

Schools in the country have a general watchword which reads, "Good health is a treasure of the country."

All educational institutions have physical culture as a compulsory subject, and direct primary attention to it. According to the curricula for each age group and grade, students learn basic principles of sports and technical movements, tactics and regulations of sporting events. In the July-August season for maritime physical culture they do the intensive swimming exercises for more than one week, and in winter they have group running and cross-country march. Winter folk games such as kite flying, top spinning and sledging are encouraged to play.

Different after-school exercises and other activities are waged dynamically. More than one hour is allotted for sporting activities on the day when there is no physical training lesson. And after-school activities are conducted at extracurricular education bases such as juvenile sports schools and schoolchildren's palaces (or schoolchildren's halls) across the country. Especially, students train themselves physically and spiritually and cultivate collective spirit and strong perseverance through spring and autumn sports meets.

The country organizes national sports meetings like the Jongilbong Prize National Schoolchildren's Sports Contest and the National Juvenile Football Championships so as to encourage the students' interest in and zeal for sports.

Physical education in Korea is bringing due results. Women footballers won first place at the FIFA U-20 Women's World Championship and the FIFA U-17 Women's World Championship in 2016, and Kim Kuk Hyang in her teens won a gold medal in the event of the women's 10m platform at the 16th FINA World Championships. Kim Song I was called a "dark horse" in the event of the women's table tennis singles at the 31st Olympic Games, and other young people and students demonstrated the honour of their country at different international competitions including the junior Olympic Games and the world junior and senior weightlifting championships. Om Yun Chol lifted the barbell three times heavier than his own weight in the men's 56kg category at the 30th Olympic Games at the age of 22, and Kye Sun Hui, a quadruple world judo champion, became a star in the world judo circle at the age of 17. All those successes are the fruit of the country's educational system.

Thanks to the development of education, the building of a socialist power is gaining greater momentum in Korea.

Kim Hyon Ju

Increasing Subjects

THE KYOGU KINDERGARTEN situated in Kyogu-dong, Central District, Pyongyang, was established in 1986. With a three-storey building and a small playground it does not have a long history, and is not so large in area and size. The kindergarten, however, is widely known as it has created new educational environment for children.

In its early days it put emphasis on early-age musical education, and thus its piano education is counted as the top in the country. The teachers of the kindergarten constantly improved their teaching plans to suit children's psychology, and found out those with an aptitude for music and employed different teaching methods according to their taste and liking. Especially, they put emphasis on hearing. Teacher Pak Kum Ju, who has ten-odd years of teaching experience, says, "Thinking and study of a certain thing and a phenomenon can lead to creation only when they are based on a scientific understanding. The same goes for education. And I think such an understanding in piano educa-

tion is just hearing."

The teachers are teaching the children to cultivate the ability to create new melodies of their own style on the basis of their correct hearing of any complex chord and rhythm. Together with this, they see to it that the children understand not only individual tones or melodies but also a piece of music as a whole before playing the music on the piano. Thus the kindergarten always participates in an annual national children's TV art festival, and has produced many piano prodigies like Kim Rye Ui, Han Yong Gon and An Phyoung Yon.

In 2002, the kindergarten launched another course of study, that is, *paduk* (go). At that time it was a unanimous opinion of its teachers that when they combined preschool education with *paduk* beneficial to human's brain training and longevity, it would be good for the growth and education of children. And there was also doubt whether children would properly understand what they were taught. The doubt was, however, groundless.

Previously it had been commonplace for children to grow bored with the kindergarten curriculum and be engrossed in play. However, after the start of *paduk* education, such phenomena completely disappeared, and the children's concentration and their power of thought, observation and memory remarkably improved. Teachers and children understood each other better during lessons, and the latter's attitude towards, interest in and zeal for study changed completely. Consequently, *paduk* education helped bring about an innovation in preschool education.

Today the kindergarten does not yield first place to others at the event of kindergarten children of the Pyongyang municipal autumn *paduk* tournament and the individual and team events of the national children's *paduk* competition.

In recent years, thanks to its teachers' sincere efforts, educational conditions and environment of the kindergarten have improved to meet the requirement of the new century. Painted on the walls of corri-



At a lesson of the mother tongue.

dors are musical notations and scenes from animations, including *A Butterfly and a Rooster* and *The Lazy Pig*. And stairs were imprinted with patterns of footprints showing the order of walking on the right. And many constellations and galaxies were painted on the corridor ceilings. In the corridor halls there is a room for traffic safety education

and there are put up visual aids showing the Korean folk customs, and a map of the country and a distribution map of its underground resources.

Visitors to the kindergarten say in unison that it looks like a kindergarten in a fairytale, and that all of its conditions and environment are helpful in education and edification of children.

Mentioning that other more educational conditions and environment would be created in the kindergarten with the passage of time, its director Hyon Chun Sil says, "They will help bring up more talents and accelerate the advance of the country as much. This is why we take pride in our job."

Kim Hyon Ju

Different methods are introduced to instruction of children.





For Children's Sake



Researchers improve the quality of children's foodstuff.

THE FOODSTUFFS FROM the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory are well known across the country along with their brand *Kkonmangul* (flower bud).

The *Kkonmangul* products are winning popularity among mothers with babies in Korea. Each of the products is associated with the devotion and wisdom of the factory's technicians.

Ri Hui Suk, a senior member of the technical department, has been working there for 27 years since she was posted to the factory. She told the following story.

One day, on a bus back home from work, Ri heard a woman say: My son wants to drink soya yogurt frequently in summer, and he likes that from the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory best. But it is regrettable that its shelf life is only a day or two.

Ri was so absorbed in her words that she passed the bus stop where she had to get off. But she was glad to have had an idea of developing soya yogurt powder easy to store. Many sci-tech problems had to be solved in order to make the powder as delicious and nutritive as soya

yogurt liquid. Soon afterwards, however, there was developed fruit-flavoured yogurt powder that can make yogurt of both sour and sweet tastes instantly.

In addition, the technicians developed soya milk powder—the milk is supplied to children and students in the city—so that they can drink fresh soya milk at any time. They went on to develop peptide soya milk powder and spirulina soya milk powder for children with poor digestive

system.

When the technicians of the factory went to a nursery, they heard its nurses say that as the babies are different in appetite and constitution, they require different kinds of rice powder.

So they started new kinds of rice powder research, and thus developed different kinds of rice powder such as general rice powder mixed with vegetable which babies should ingest every day, black glutinous rice powder,

In a samples room.



▶ white rice powder and fruit-rice powder.

This happened when they were to develop milk powder for hypo-weight babies. In the course of analysing nutritive substances necessary for such babies who are poor in immunity and nutritive conditions, they

thought that a mother's health means that of her unborn foetus. It is only natural that the pregnant women should take good nutritional care of their unborn foetus to bring them up into healthy and clever children.

So they developed compound

milk powder for pregnant women and nursing mothers and milk powder for hypo-weight babies which contains a colostrum-based growth agent, a brain development agent, immune substances, and 13 kinds of vitamins and minerals.

The compound milk powder is a food, which heightens the effects of DNA, iron, magnesium, iodine and vitamins A, E, K and B and promotes the growth of unborn foetus, thus making it possible to take nutritional care of pregnant women and their unborn foetus on a scientific basis.

Ri says, "All our products are associated with our hope that dear children, flower buds, will bloom into fine people."

Thanks to their tireless efforts, the kinds of foodstuffs for children are steadily increasing.

Rim Sang Jun





Experimental and practical training is given importance.

What They Saw as Important

ONE OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS THAT render great help to agricultural development in Korea is the Pyongyang Agricultural College of Kim Il Sung University. The teachers and researchers of the college won the team event at the 33rd National Sci-tech Festival last year and came within the top three places at the 16th National Ex-

hibition of Inventions. This is only an example of their recent achievements.

When I went to the college for news coverage, the rector of the college, Jong Ho Son, said to me, "By introducing the results of successful research projects to practical teaching programmes, we have made a remarkable progress in developing

- ▶ practical, comprehensive and modern contents of instruction, in radically improving the educational conditions and environment and in creating new methods of instruction well applicable to practical production."

The college, after developing all classrooms into multifunctional ones and putting instruction on an IT basis, puts emphasis on improving the conditions and environment for experiment and practice so that the students may get the ability to apply their new and useful knowledge to practical production faster and better.

The primary attention was attached to the work of setting one faculty and one department in one faculty as models for conditions and environment for experiment and practice and then let all others emulate the models. Thus the agronomical faculty was given the task of setting the model.

The teachers of the faculty equipped the practice workshop with a lot of visual aids. And they obtained different kinds of models and instruments that suit the characteristics of the faculty and pushed ahead with the effort to put practical instruction on an IT basis. In this way they integrated lectures and practices closely so that the instruction turned into a process of positive activities of the students. This resulted in the increased interest of the students in the lectures and their improved practical ability.

Building on this experience the faculty accelerated the campaign of equipping all laboratories and practice workshops better. Each teacher was given the task of designing and developing more than one facility for experiment and practice of the students while improving the utility of the existing experimental and practical ones.

Now the college encouraged all other faculties to learn from the agronomical faculty and thus create better conditions for experiment and practice.



Another point in the college's work was to help all teachers to improve their practical ability and qualifications purposefully. The teachers were encouraged to join the effort to make new things for experiment and practice. Carrying out their tasks, the teachers read a lot of sci-tech data and got a good idea of relevant models and instruments. This resulted in their abilities growing higher.

Taking advantage of the Thursday session of each department, the teachers had a discussion on how to solve difficult sci-tech problems in creating new facilities for experimental and practical instruction. This helped them to brainstorm novel ideas for the solution of problems and swap experience so that they might get higher abilities.

Meanwhile, the college made scrupulous arrangements for innovating educational contents and methods, and thus many of the teachers attained the certificate of registered new teaching methods and some of them were given the honour of October 8 Model Teacher. Their abilities were demonstrated at national seminars like those of teaching methods of subjects and educational science. Last year alone 29 teachers were given the title of academician and associate professor and awarded the degree of Doctor.

Kim Tae Song

After-class hours.



Relying on Ample Knowledge and High Qualifications



Efforts are directed to developing new teaching methods.

THE WISONG JUNIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL in Unjong District, Pyongyang, is well known for training excellent students. It was established along with the construction of the Wisong Scientists Residential District under the great concern of the State. It admits the children of scientists and technicians working at the State Academy of Sciences. The students are learning to their heart's content at the school furnished with admirable educational conditions and environment.

When I asked Han Kyong Ho, headmaster of

the school, about the secret of the student's good academic performance, he said, "Though the students grow in good family environment and educational conditions, they can't be good at their subjects when the teachers who are in direct charge of education are not prepared. My school sees to it that all the teachers not only improve their qualifications but also develop and introduce new teaching methods to develop the students' cognitive faculty and creativity."

The teachers work hard to get profound knowledge of related subjects as well as their own. As their teaching plans have rich contents and vivid ideas, they are widely introduced to other schools. It is a unanimous opinion of the teachers that they should know ten if they are to teach one.

Their teaching methods also arouse the interest of other schools' teachers for their high cognitive effects.

Kim Mi Hyang, a teacher of science subjects, is improving the students' ability by applying a method which helps them play a positive role in

▶ lessons and give full play to their own creativity. She prepares lessons with deep speculation and serious inquiry, so they always lead the students to an unknown world with curiosity and help them understand the essence of a given problem correctly. In particular, the method of discussion and argument to solve a given problem using the knowledge they have already learnt is very popular among the students, for they get a better understanding of the world of science.

Excellent teaching methods created by Kim Mi Hyang and other teachers are presented and introduced through a department discussion held every Friday and a school meeting for a joint review held every month.

In this course lots of teachers including Kim have won the certificate of registered new teaching method and certificate of new conception of teaching aid as well as the title of October 8 Model Teacher.

The students have won district and municipal competitions in the fields of math, literary creation, oratory and geographic knowledge.

Now the school is earning a greater honour for the teachers' ardent aspiration for the training of all students into talents like their parents and their noble spirit of devoting themselves to the development of the students.

Pak Un Yong



Students are encouraged to display their creativity.



Developing New Teaching Methods



Due attention is paid to the cultivation of noble spiritual and moral qualities in the students.

SOME DAYS AGO I VISITED KUSONG Middle School No. 1 in North Phyongan Province. Welcoming us, the headmaster So Chun Yong explained that President Kim Il Sung had visited her school two times and that her teachers have an unusual pride in that they work in such a school. (She is a People's Teacher and a Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly.)

She guided me to the physics laboratory first. There I could see some students conducting different experiments with equipment including measuring instruments. "These experimental facilities are new ones that we have obtained with our own efforts, techniques and wisdom over the past several years," said Dr Jang Yon Ung, chief of the physics

department, and told us how they had developed a measuring facility which helps conduct experiments with a computer, a board for electrical experiments, an instrument for measuring the cycle of oscillation of a pendulum and gravity acceleration, and others.

When the universal 12-year compulsory education was introduced across the country, the school decided to radically improve teaching plans and methods of instruction. But it was not easy to do away with established practices. At the time the headmaster encouraged the teaching staff, saying, "Education of the younger generations is a matter of crucial importance which determines the rise and fall of a nation. We have to find out good meth-

ods to train our students as pillars of the country."

Over the past years the school has developed more than 100 items of experimental equipment and teaching aids which are connected with computers, TVs and general measuring apparatuses. As a result it was the first in the country to put the whole process of instruction and experiment and practice on an IT basis.

Now we dropped in at the biology and chemistry department. It was filled with a lot of facilities for chemical experiments and animal and plant specimens found in the east and west coasts of the country. Ri Jong Im, a teacher, said, "We had a lot of trouble while acquiring these experimental facilities and specimens. Sometimes all the staff of my department worked through the night making experimental equipment, and sometimes teachers travelled a long way to get animal specimens. In the course of this, teaching methods which involve the three stages—guidance, instruction and review—have improved."

So told us that teachers of other departments had also made a great contribution to the effort to push ahead with programmes of improving the composition of subjects and their contents and establishing an on-line classroom.

We looked round multifunctional classrooms and the on-line classroom, where students can have guidance of their teachers and have their performance reviewed through the intranet. So said, "The method of on-line instruction gives the students an access to vast resources of knowledge to improve their academic level. So, this is really an effective way to improve their academic performance. I confirmed it when all my 200 students turned out to be good and top honour students at the 2017 national on-line academic contest in different subjects."

She continued to say that while developing methods of instruction suitable for a new teaching programme her school had the honour of one of the teachers receiving doctorate and five winning other academic degrees. Many of the teachers were given the title of October 8 Model Teacher and received the certificates of registered new teaching methods and development of new experimental apparatuses and teaching aids.

Leaving the school I was convinced that the teachers would continue to dedicate their wisdom and effort unstintingly to further improving the educational conditions and environment while developing new methods of instruction based on modern science and technology.

Sim Yong Jin



New methods are applied to educational activities.

Independence— Eternal Banner of Korea

TODAY THE CONTRADICTIONS AND confrontations between great powers in their pursuit of hegemony are worsening on a regional and worldwide scale, and the imperialists' wilful violation of the sovereignty of other countries is growing more undisguised than ever before. And the hostile forces are resorting to more vicious schemes in trying to contain, undermine and stifle the DPRK.

However, the DPRK is steadfast in the principle of independence and assures the security of the State and the happiness of the people by its own efforts. In recent years, even in the face of the hostile forces' severe economic sanctions against it, the country has built modern streets one after another including Mirae Scientists Street and Ryomyong Street and put emphasis on the development of science and technology, thus speeding up the campaign of making the national economy Juche-oriented, modern, IT-based and scientific and switching the economy into a knowledge-based one.

The country achieved the historic cause of developing the two fronts simultaneously amid a do-or-die confrontation with imperialists. Recently, the United States came to the negotiating table advertising the improvement of relations between the two countries and peace because it grew fearful of the DPRK's rapidly-developing nuclear armed force which it sees as a threat to the security of its mainland.

The DPRK's independent line is not merely a temporary one to cope with the present complex world political situation and the hostile forces' sanctions against it. In the past when the world socialist camp existed and the countries concerned maintained cooperative relations to varying degrees, the country adhered to self-determination and independence in carrying out the revolution and construction, and promoted the socialist construction by dint of self-reliance.

In both the 1950s and the 1960s the former Soviet Union found fault with Korea's line of building an independent national economy and its principle of self-reliance in national defence, and tried to force the latter to join the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the Warsaw Pact, and pressure it in different ways. Korea, however, flatly rejected high-handedness of the foreign force, and built and developed with its own efforts a socialist state, independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in national defence.

It is the consistent and invariable stand of the

country to take responsibility for its revolution and carry it out in consonance with its actual conditions by relying on its people.

In the 1990s when socialism collapsed in the former Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries, and the anti-socialist allied forces focused their offensive on the country, it held higher the banner of independence and firmly defended its sovereignty and dignity.

From August 1998 when the country launched its first artificial satellite, the hostile forces, finding fault with the former's peaceful launch of the satellite, adopted "sanctions resolutions," and made a fuss of intercepting its satellites. Korea, however, resolutely crushed all those obstructions and launched satellites, pioneering the road towards space development.

The country is small in size and sandwiched between big countries, but it vigorously frustrated all sorts of challenges of imperialism and dominationism, and constantly advanced socialism according to its own faith and will—this is attributable to its guiding ideology leading it along the road of independence.

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is the guiding ideology of the country. Maintaining the revolutionary line of independence in State building and activities is the requirement of the Juche idea that one is the master of one's own destiny and has the strength to carve it out. And independence constitutes the core of the ideas for State building based on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, an integrated system of the idea, theory and method of Juche.

The scientific accuracy and truthfulness of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism have been proved clearly through the history of the DPRK, and the ideology is leading the country to develop into a power of independence no one dares to provoke.

In his historic policy speech delivered at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held in April last, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said, "**Building socialism by its own efforts according to the revolutionary line of independence is the basic principle our Republic must invariably maintain in State building.**"

As it attained the new strategic position under the banner of independence, it is no doubt that the country will achieve a new economic development with the strength of self-reliance and self-development.

Kim Won Sik

Through Energetic Ideological Activities

TODAY THE KOREAN PEOPLE, WITH Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as their guiding ideology, are vigorously pushing ahead with the building of a powerful socialist nation while resolutely overcoming all sorts of challenges of history.

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is an integral system of the Juche idea that the masses are masters and motive force of the revolution and construction, and of the theory and method of the revolution and construction clarified by the idea. And it comprehensively illuminates the revolutionary theory for realizing the independence of the masses, and methods of leadership for having them fulfill their responsibilities and role as masters.

The Juche idea, the essence of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, was originated by President Kim Il Sung, and his revolutionary ideology was developed into a guiding ideology of the times by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The Chairman, who thoroughly studied and mastered the President's revolutionary ideology and history with his unusual effort and burning enthusiasm in his early days, made public *On Some Immediate Tasks of Party Ideological Work for Modelling the Whole Society on Kimilsungism* on February 19, 1974, and formulated Kimilsungism as an integrated system of the idea, theory and method of Juche. In his treatise *On the Juche Idea* published on March 31, 1982, he comprehensively systematized the Juche idea. In less than a year after publication of the treatise, magazines and newspapers of over 90 countries carried the full text of the treatise or a detailed excerpt from it, and it was disseminated in booklet in 144 countries.

In the 1990s when socialism collapsed in the Soviet Union and eastern European countries and the imperialists and the renegades of socialism clamoured about the "end" of socialism, the Chairman made public in succession such works as *Socialism of Our Country Is a Socialism of Our Style as the Embodiment of the Juche Idea* (1990), *Our Socialism Centred on the Masses Shall Not Perish* (1991), *The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party* (1992), *Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable* (1993) and *Socialism Is a Science* (1994). In the works he scientifically clarified the path of socialist construction based on the revolutionary ideology of the President.

His works caused a great sensation among the world progressive peoples who were groping for a way to rebuild the socialist movement, and the world focused its attention on Juche-oriented socialist Korea. In Pyongyang, on April 20, 1992,

delegates of over 70 communist and workers' parties and progressive political parties, adopted the Pyongyang Declaration *Let Us Defend and Advance the Cause of Socialism*, a comprehensive compilation of the standpoint on and way for defending and advancing the socialist cause on the basis of the Chairman's Juche-oriented ideology and theory on socialism. Later, the number of signatories to the declaration increased every year, totaling over 250 by December 2000.

In addition, the Chairman developed the President's idea of giving priority to arms into the idea of the Songun revolution and the theory of Songun politics, and made public a number of works that contain profound contents and scientific truths related to changed environments and every period and stage of socialist construction, thus further enriching the revolutionary ideology of the President.

Once some officials asked him how he could write so quickly such ideologically and theoretically profound works. He answered: I have no special time to write, but I have many things to write. So I always think while working like a thirsty person digs a well. I think of sentences over a meal, consider the context while walking, set up a theme in a running car and unfold its contents at odd moments over a discussion on work. The time for me to write in my room is just the time to put down on paper what I have had on the brain.

The greatness of the Chairman lies in that he provided the ideological and theoretical principles illuminating the path ahead of the era of independence and socialist construction through his devoted ideological and theoretical activities like a candle burning to lighten darkness.

The ideological and theoretical exploits he performed for the times and history are being inherited and developed by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In his work *Let Us Brilliantly Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Juche, Holding Kim Jong Il in High Esteem as the Eternal General Secretary of Our Party*, which was made public in April 2012, the Supreme Leader defined Kimilsungism as Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and made it clear that the WPK is a glorious Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party whose eternal guiding ideology is Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and which struggles for its realization.

The Korean people, with great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as their guiding ideology, have a bright, promising future—this is their great pride.

Sim Chol Ok

Chairman's Trust and Love



TRUST IN AND LOVE for revolutionary comrades and the people constituted the main characteristics of the politics of Chairman Kim Jong Il, the eternal General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea. He held that the revolution for independence of man should be exactly the greatest love to perfect man.

Whenever he formulated a line and policy, led the building of the Party and the state, and dealt with both serious and trivial matters arising in the revolution and construction, he saw to it that all relevant affairs were always based on trust in and

love for the people.

Once the Chairman visited the Ryongsong Machine Complex, a leading ordered equipment production base in Korea. At that time the complex was in the middle of manufacturing a 6 000-ton press. At the press workshop he observed forgers processing a large red-hot steel ingot with a heavy press, and said that the workers of the complex were the heroic ones who had made an 8-m turning lathe and a 3 000-ton press, and that now its workers were able to make the 6 000-ton press.

That day the Chairman asked an operator of a machine

how old he was, when he started to operate it, and why he did not take a rest at lunch time. And he told the accompanying officials to make sure that the management of the complex treasured their workers, and said that only when the management was deeply concerned with ensuring the workers' rest, could the latter make better machines and increase their production. Then he continued to say that if the creativity and role of the workers were enhanced, they would be able to make the press on schedule, and clarified the ways and means to that end.

Encouraged by the

Chairman's trust in them, the workers of the complex performed a miracle of manufacturing the 6 000-ton press in a year, not four or five years it had been expected to take to do.

In the mid-1990s the country had to undergo the Arduous March and the forced march owing to the imperialists' persistent economic sanctions and their moves to isolate and suffocate it. At that time, the Chairman held higher the banner of Songun. With a determination to build the people's paradise in the future without fail though they were now in difficulties, he kept following the road of Songun. Thus, the word *Songun* became a synonym for love, rather than a certain political term. It moved the people to tears, and they supported the Chairman's Songun-based leadership with all sincerity.

During the period he saw to it that Jagang Province set an example in finishing the Arduous March and the forced march successfully. He visited the province many times to have a deep understanding of its economic conditions and the local people's life in various ways, and encouraged workers in the province to turn out as one to revitalize the local economy.

His trust in them brought about miracles. Officials and workers in the province, under the slogan "Let us go the thorny path cheerfully!", newly built scores of small- and medium-sized power stations of different styles or adjusted and reinforced the existing ones by themselves

for over six months, thus creating huge electricity-generating capacity. With the electricity it produced by itself the province ran the local industry factories and ensured the lighting and heating of dwelling houses. And all the local people turned out to refurbish industrial establishments, streets and villages, and dwelling houses in a cultural and sanitary manner.

The Chairman named the revolutionary spirit they displayed Kanggye Spirit, and saw to it that the whole country followed them.

He also paid deep attention to the people's livelihood. One March day in 2006, he visited the construction site of a power station. Looking down at the construction site from the dam, he gave detailed instructions on problems arising in the project. Then he suddenly asked about the matter of moving the local residents from the area which would soon be under water. Told that the construction of dwelling houses for them did not keep pace with that of the power station, he sternly said that the construction of dwelling houses for the evacuees should never be made light of, and that all things should be done in the interests of the people. Accordingly, modern houses for the evacuees were built, and they began to live in better houses than their previous ones.

The following happened during the Chairman's inspection of the Chollima Steel Complex. While getting firsthand information on the welfare supply

service for its workers, he had a shadow pass over his face to know that the indoor temperature of the canteen for smelters was not so high. Then he reproachfully said to the officials of the complex that it would do no good to the workers if they had their meals in a cold place however nutritive the foods might be, and that the officials were quite wrong to take no relevant measure. He went on to say that the senior officials of the complex should gather the workers to make their apologies to the latter, and that they should raise the temperature of the canteen to normal state before the coming New Year's Day. Thus the officials made their apologies to the workers as never before.

When he inspected a coast defence unit, he showed concern for the faces of its soldiers lest their skin should be chapped, and when he visited industrial establishments, he looked round dormitories for their workers examining if their bedclothes were thick enough, and if the rooms were warm. And in their canteens he counted the variety of dishes to be served to workers, and earnestly instructed relevant officials to take good care of the workers. And when he visited the units good at welfare supply services he was very pleased, and instructed officials there to keep paying deep attention to the life of the workers.

Such innumerable episodes of his love for and trust in the people are engraved deeply in their mind.

Ri Jong Nam

Condiments Production Increases



An integrated manufacturing system is in operation for control of production.



CONDIMENTS ARE INDISPENSABLE TO people's dietary life. The demand of Pyongyang citizens for them is now satisfied by products from the Pyongyang Condiments Factory situated in Songyo District, Pyongyang.

When it was inaugurated, the factory produced only soy sauce and bean paste. Later it expanded its production capacity as required by the increasing demand for condiments, and was furnished with the processes for production of monosodium glutamate, cooking oil and refined salt. Thus its production indices increased.

Some time ago a fermented beans production process was newly established in the factory. Highly digestible and strong in thrombolytic enzyme activity and antioxidation activity, fermented beans are known as food preventing cerebral thrombosis, arteriosclerosis, headache, indigestion, etc. It is also a health food that protects the liver, retards aging, makes one feel refreshed and relieves fatigue.

Formerly, people used home-made fermented beans, so there were not plenty of them enough to be taken by everybody.

It was not an easy job to establish a process for industrial production of fermented beans. There were difficult technical problems, including separation of fermented bean fungus, high-temperature inoculation, precision control of temperature and humidity for cultivation and establishment of a freezing, fermentation and maturation process. If the process was not precise it would fail to produce fermented beans.

But the technicians and workers of the factory solved the problems by themselves and established the production process.

Fermented beans rapidly got into public favour, and people's understanding of condiments changed. Previously people had regarded only bean paste, soy sauce, salt, monosodium glutamate and cooking oil as condiments but now fermented beans became an essential one.

While fermented beans themselves are in popularity, fermented bean-based foodstuffs like fermented soybean paste seasoned with garlic, ginger, red pepper and salt and fermented peppered bean paste are becoming the

citizens' favourite condiments.

In addition, fermented soy sauce is one of popular condiments. The factory has established a process for its production.

The soy sauce is made by using fermented soybeans, hence its name. It is one of the kinds of soy sauces which Koreans have long made and used. Fermented and matured by the actions of enzymes and microorganisms, it is in great demand for its good flavour, sweetness and distinctive smell.

That's not all. The kinds of condiments mixed with lecithin are steadily increasing. Lecithin has long been known as a physiological activator which plays an important role in preventing and treating disorders of the cardiovascular system and the liver, promoting the brain function and retarding aging.

The factory produces lecithin in an industrial way with materials from the process of refining soybean oil and uses it to continuously develop functional condiments like lecithin bean paste, lecithin soy sauce and lecithin peppered bean paste.

It also organizes a condiments exhibition several times a year, which serves as a good opportunity to increase their kinds and promote the development of the factory.

At present it is producing over ten kinds of condiments of dozens of varieties, and they help the citizens' dietary life better.

Rim Ok



A soybean oil production line and a hard-finned sandfish pickling process.



Popular Ryugyong-brand Goods



Different kinds of daily necessities are turned out.

THE RYUGYONG DAILY Necessaries Factory situated in Thongil Street, Pyongyang, is a comprehensive daily necessities production base. Now it has changed beyond recognition, compared with its early days.

With modern machines and equipment and a powerful technical force, the factory is developing and producing various kinds of daily necessities for the people. The products from

the factory are popular as they satisfy the people's increasing demand for a cultured life.

Best for babies

“Though I've used different supplies for babies, I found the *Ryugyong*-brand goods best. They are easy for mothers with babies to use, and they make the babies feel comfortable.” This is what mothers with babies say unanimously who have used the

goods for babies from the factory.

The aforesaid products are the most popular among the goods from the factory. They are made of natural materials. The *Ryugyong*-brand nappies are made of flexible and soft nonwoven fabric, natural pulp, polymeric plastic powder with excellent liquid absorbability, which make it possible to prevent skin diseases and protect the tender skin of babies. It is also designed in a three-dimensional

► way to suit babies' physical characteristics, thus ensuring the movement of their legs and preventing them from becoming O-shaped legs caused by long use of nappies.

Antiseptic wet wipes from the factory are also favoured by mothers with sucklings. Made of quality nonwoven fabric and natural fragrance, they cause no allergic reaction and do not irritate babies' skin because they contain no alcohol and soap components.

Such products for babies from the factory are preferentially supplied to women in childbirth at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and on sale at the Pothonggang Ryugyong Shop and the West Pyongyang Department Store.

Their goal

The goal of the officials and technicians of the factory is to make even a single article good enough to be favoured by the

people, and to be competitive worldwide.

Though the kind of its products has now increased from two to over ten, they are not satisfied with it. Some time ago, they newly developed varieties of multi-functional antiseptic wet wipes. Among them are anti-insect wet wipes which help clean the skin and keep off mosquitoes.

Still the factory is striving to achieve a higher goal.

Kim Chol Hyon



Some of the factory's products.



STILL HIGHER

TODAY THE DEMAND FOR YOUTHFULNESS and beauty is increasing day by day, and it is now satisfied partly by *Unhasu* cosmetics produced by the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory. They are in great demand at home and abroad.

The Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory situated in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, was established on April 19, 1962. At that time it was a small factory which produced only a few kinds of cosmetics like cream, lotion and lipstick.

Since its establishment, it has made great efforts to develop new kinds of products while renovating its production lines, and thus it has developed into a leading cosmetics maker in the country.

At the moment more than 320 varieties of cosmetics of over 110 kinds are turned out. As required by the developing reality the factory is pursuing a business strategy of developing and producing natural, less-irritating and functional cosmetics. In recent years, it has developed over 20 kinds of natural functional cosmetics made from natural extracts and aromatic materials as well as functional components. They received a Eurasian Economic Union certificate of quality in December last year.

The skin care cosmetics—Kaesong Koryo insam

lotion, Kaesong Koryo insam emulsion and Kaesong Koryo insam anti-ultraviolet ray emulsion—developed by using extracts from Kaesong Koryo insam, ginkgo leaves, persimmon leaves and other plants were highly rated as they are good in removing freckles, preventing wrinkles and promoting the healing of damaged skin.

Various kinds of moisturizing cosmetics made from natural aloe and spirulina extracts were also highly praised. As they amply moisturize skin keratin and keep the skin from damage from ultraviolet ray, they are good for people in inland areas with dry weather, and seaside areas.

In addition, anti-aging cosmetics for different ages and serums for areas around the eye, anti-aging and whitening also enjoy public favour as they promote regeneration of cells and metabolism of muscular tissues by stimulating the function of cells.

Kim Hyon, general manager of the factory, says, “This is merely the beginning. Our goal is to develop the quality of cosmetics steadily by relying on the latest science and technology, and thus make them favourites of the people not only in Korea but also in other countries.”

Kim Hyon Ju



A Eurasian Economic Union certificate of quality.

Pride of Doctors

EVERYONE HAS A PRIDE in their own job and life. Their pride varies according to their characters, hobbies, state of preparedness and jobs—like that of athletes, teachers and scientists. Then what do the doctors find in their job?

Perhaps they find it in the bright faces of the people who leave hospital after successful treatment. It can be seen well through the doctors of the angiographic department of Kim Man Yu Hospital.

In the past it was difficult for them to be proud of their work—unlike other doctors. Because cardiovascular disorders like congenital heart deformation and cerebrovascular deformation were recognized as obstinate diseases.

Focusing on this research task since the establishment of the hospital in 1986, the relevant doctors have made consistent efforts. At that time such diseases were mainly cured by surgical operations. But the method was attended by some knotty problems like haemorrhage and infection during operation.

Sometimes the method of putting a balloon catheter into the blood vessel was employed, but it was not in wide use because the balloon catheter was limited in number as it was exclusive property of a few countries.

At the outset of the current century, doctors of Kim Man Yu Hospital set a target of developing and applying the tool with their own wisdom and efforts. Now they were absorbed in the research work day and night. At last they developed the balloon in 2007 and, soon after that, made the catheter using local materials alone.

Their balloon catheter, 3.5 mm in diameter, whose applicable number is five times, received a sci-tech innovation prize in March 2017 for accuracy, tenacity, safety in operation and high curative value.

That's not all. Thanks to their tireless speculation and efforts, a coronary stent (including coronary artery) for treatment of angina pectoris was manufactured, and coronary material (metal or chemical) for embolization of deformed vessels was developed and has been used widely.

In addition, they developed an angiography operation method to be used for over 20 kinds of cardiovascular diseases. In the course of this, they have become authoritative in the angiographic field in the country. Up to now hundreds of cases have received balloon catheter-used treatment for mitral stenosis, and scores got coronary stent and material entheses for the treatment of deformed vessels.

The heart surgeons have received a lot of certificates of

invention and certificates of registered sci-tech achievements at different festivals and exhibitions like the national invention exhibition and the national medical appliances show. Now they are disseminating their experience and techniques of angiographic treatment to medical colleges and hospitals at all levels. And they, via a distance medical service system, are giving lectures on different themes and contents such as *Conception and Clinical Application of Intervention Treatment* and *Recent Clinical Tendency of Congenital Septum Auricularum Closing Technique*, while giving other medical services.

Kim Ok Gyong, head of the department, says, “It is noteworthy that we have made modern surgical apparatuses and disseminated advanced techniques. But we think nothing is more worthwhile than giving the happiness of rebirth to those people who are at the crossroads of life and death. This is what we doctors alone can feel.”

Choe Sol Mi

An angiographic operation is conducted.



Stories from a Book



A general view of the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital.

THE PEDIATRIC DEPARTMENT of the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital situated in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, keeps a thick book that contains what inpatients, their guardians and

visitors wrote.

The following is part of the contents.

“My name is Kim Yong Il from Sijung County, Jagang Province. In October last year I entered this hospital with my

son Kuk Gwon who could hardly see for nine years due to his congenital cataracts. After medical examination, he was diagnosed as being soon liable to eternal loss of eyesight. The doctors said that it was very difficult to treat him as his disease was congenital.

“However, they did their best to restore his eyesight. After several consultations, they decided to introduce a new eye operation method. Though strange to it, they succeeded in the operation. At last my son restored his eyesight. Looking at his clear eyes, I shed tears of joy.

“People usually say that the eye is the pearl of the face. From birth my son could hardly see. But now he has restored his eyesight without paying even a penny under the socialist health

In an operating theatre.



Doctors go the round of young patients.



care system. I really have no words to express my thanks. I thank the department head Kim Chol Min, Mr. Hwang Myong Min and other doctors and nurses. October 28, 2018.”

“I’m Kim Hye Suk from Sinuiju, a northern frontier city. Last February I took my three-year-old daughter Ro Yon Jong to receive treatment in this hospital. When she was one year old, her eyes were normal, but suddenly the pupil of her left eye moved to the right next year. I thought it would be all right after a time. But when she was three, the pupil nearly disappeared. I could not but weep as I was worried about her future. The doctors of the Pediatric Department, however, had several consultations and simulations, thus succeeding in an operation on her eye. The day we left the hospital, I couldn’t repress my tears. I will work hard for the grateful socialist system.”

“I’m Mun Jin Hui, a first-grader at the Rungna Senior

Middle School, Taedonggang District. I’m 14 years old. I was good at my studies in my primary and junior middle school days. In particular, as I did computer very well, I was regarded as a promising student. So I had a great ambition and dream.

“But for some time back, my sight began to grow dim gradually, and I could hardly see properly. Then anxiety got the better of me. But doctor Kim Song Mi examined my eyes and told me not to worry saying that

she could cure my disease. *Really?* I thought. Indeed I took back my eyesight after several days’ treatment. At that time I was very happy as if I had won the universe as a whole. I looked at the doctor’s face with my bright eyes. She looked like my own sister. After leaving the hospital, I will study hard to repay the benevolence of the country.”

Now the book is growing thicker and thicker.

Sim Chol Yong

At the children’s playground.



Father and Daughter Held in Respect

THE KUSONG MUNICIPAL Juvenile Sports School in North Phyongan Province has two athletics instructors as father and daughter. They are Kang Kwan Il, 57, who began his career as an athletics instructor 32 years ago and has trained many athletes and coaches, and his second daughter Kang Hye Suk, 29.

The father, who had distinguished himself in field and track events in his middle school days, was regarded as a promising student in his days at the then Sinuiju College of Sports. However, he hurt his leg in an accident, so he could not take part in the sports anymore. This meant a great mental blow to him. Still, he did not give up his hope, and became an athletics instructor of the aforesaid school after graduating from the college.

He thought that the honour of the country is more important than that of an individual. This shows his noble personality. He ran together with the athletics circle members of the school regardless of his bad condition, and he invented and introduced new training apparatuses and scientific training methods including rhythmic exercises, a combination of individual joint movements, common exercises and basic technical movements of athletics. The rhythmic exercises made it possible to enhance the effectiveness of training, and ensure the scope and correctness of main technical movements, the harmony and explosion of running rhythms, and high speed.

Thanks to his selfless effort, many athletics circle members of the school were always suc-



Father Kang Kwan Il (right) and daughter Kang Hye Suk.

cessful at athletic meetings including the athletic event of the national juvenile sports schools' games and the Mangyongdae Prize International Marathon, and became players and coaches of national sports clubs including the April 25 Sports Club.

Under his guidance Kang Hye Suk, in her days at the Kusong Municipal Juvenile Sports School, won medals several times in the events of the 800-m and 1 500-m races at the national juvenile sports schools' games. When she was active in the sports club of Sinuiju University of Medicine, she distinguished herself as an athlete before becoming an athletic instructor of the aforesaid school. She says, "I respect my father not merely as father but also as my teacher. He not only taught me athletics but also fine sportsmanship."

Now the father and daughter are orienting their work and life to training their charges as fine athletes.

The devoted efforts they made out of noble sportsmanship and high aim have led to a rapid improvement in the athletic ability of the school. Its athletics circle members won first and second places in the events of 3 000-m, 5 000-m, and 10 000-m races at the 52nd, 53rd and 54th national juvenile sports schools' games, and some of them ranked in the first three winners at the half marathon event of the Mangyongdae Prize International Marathon.

Under the guidance of the two instructors as father and daughter, their charges are developing into promising athletes.

Sim Yong Jin

To Do More and Better Things More Finely for the People

"DO MORE AND BETTER things more finely for the people!" is an ideal and ultimate goal the DPRK Red Cross Society consistently holds fast to. The society was established on October 18, 1946.

Article I (mission of the law) of the DPRK Law on the Red Cross Society stipulates that the law shall contribute to protecting the people's life and property from diseases and disasters and promoting their health and well-being by establishing a strict system and order in its activities."

The Red Cross Society is fulfilling its duty as a humanitarian organization in keeping with its mission. First of all, it ensures that its branches at all levels and RC volunteers, in close contact with state health care establishments and health-care workers in their districts, wage diversified activities to publicize among the residents healthcare information on ways and means for preventing contagious or non-contagious diseases so that they can enjoy a safer and healthy life.

In September 2017, on the occasion of the World First Aid Day, the society organized a short course for over 6 000 young RC activists and volunteers across the country, and hosted a competition of young RC members on the theme of "Domestic Accidents." This was followed by young RC members and volunteers' artistic performance as a combination of poem recitation, singing and story telling to spread knowledge of first-aid treatment.

The society also has conducted various activities to improve

the quality of medical service for the residents, especially women and children, by consolidating the material and technical foundations of healthcare establishments in cities, counties and ris. In close contact with the Ministry of Public Health and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, it provided several provinces, hundreds of healthcare establishments and ri hospitals with essential medicines, labour beds, sick beds, examination chairs, solar-energy preventive medicine storing fridges, solar heating systems, and other medical appliances.

Efforts are also made to enhance the role of volunteers. The headquarters of the society updated the standard of training volunteers to strengthen the ranks of those in its branches in a qualitative way. It also included in its programme for training volunteers the contents on reducing the danger of disaster in accordance with the national, provincial, municipal and county

programmes, and trained or re-trained tens of thousands of volunteers on a nationwide scale.

And its branches in cities and counties cooperate with the local hygienic and anti-epidemic establishments to make the RC volunteers conduct in a planned way various activities such as sanitary inspection of individual families.

On the occasion of the World Water Day, the Global Handwashing Day and the World Toilet Day, they hold colourful functions in consonance with their realities, and intensify the activities for giving hygiene information and sanitary education so as to reduce the rate of outbreak of diseases owing to varieties of water.

This year marks the centenary birthday of the IFRC, and the DPRK Red Cross Society is striving to promote humanitarian activities suited to the ideal of the federation and do more and better things more finely for the people.

Sim Chol Yong



Worker Elected MP



Jo Myong Nam (second left).

JO MYONG NAM IS A LATHE TURNER AT the tools workshop of the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory. He has been working at the factory since 2006.

When he began to work there, the factory was

engaged in the campaign of modernizing tools and equipment. Jo learned that he had to have proper technical qualifications if he was to be good at operating CNC-based equipment. He tried hard to get well-versed in the operation of his machine. Some-

times he sat up until late at night reading sci-tech books and sometimes he went to see experts to get their advice.

He was so enthusiastic about his work—nobody knew when he went to and from his home—and he was held in great admiration among his colleagues. Thanks to his tireless efforts and burning enthusiasm he got familiar with his machine and became able to argue with technicians of the fac-



► tory over technical matters.

Such a manner of work was emulated by all other lathe turners of his workteam. In the days of helping and learning from one another the qualifications of the workers rose steadily, and production results grew with each passing day. Thus his workteam was the first in the factory to fulfil the annual production quota year after year.

At the moment Myong Nam and many of his colleagues are enrolled at an on-line college. By pooling their efforts and wisdom he recently presented a novel idea for accelerating modernization of equipment.

Optimistic and sensitive, he is everybody's favourite. One day a new worker came to work in his group. He was an orphan, so he was often crestfallen. Sometimes he failed to look after his machine well, worrying about his only sister. Jo began to take care of him in every corner of his work, helping him get free from even a petty trouble. Whenever there was a problem about his life, he tried his hardest to solve it. Gradually the orphaned worker began to open his heart to him. Jo gave greater assistance to him so that he could take good care of his machine. Meanwhile, he made different arrangements for all the members of his workteam to show their care for him—as kind as his own brother. In this way the worker developed into a model worker who presented a lot of innovative ideas.

All other members of the workteam hold Myong Nam as if he were their own brother. And his is a model workteam leading the factory.

Myong Nam was elected a deputy to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly last March. Having received congratulations from the whole factory the day he was elected, he wrote in his diary, "I have never dreamed of being a deputy as I am an ordinary worker. I come from an ordinary soldier's family and I can hardly believe that I am a deputy working for state administration. And I am quite impressed by the people who feel as happy as I do. I have to work harder to live up to their expectations."

Pak Yong Il



With Same Determination

AT THE 8TH GOLD Elephant Prize International Circus Festival held in Spain in February last, Korea's acrobatic act "Spirit of Nalpharam" was awarded the Gold Elephant Prize, the top prize of the festival. The act had previously won the audience evaluation gold prize at the Idol-2017 World Acrobatic Festival.

People's Artist and Doctor Pak So Un, the creator of the act, says, "The acrobatic act 'Spirit of Nalpharam' was created in 2013. Through the depiction of Taekwon-Do, the orthodox martial art of Korea, we planned to display the mettle of our nation. Many of my works won gold prizes at international acrobatic festivals. And the 'Spirit of Nalpharam' won the Gold Elephant Prize for the 30th time."

It is the opinion of Pak and other creators that an idea is important, but the success of a work also depends on its performers. The aforesaid act is performed by 11 male and female acrobats. It is not an easy job for them different in personality, hobby

and age to perform hair-raising stunts without any mistake for ten minutes. The climax of the act consists of six pirouettes after two flip-flops straight.

The performer of the stunt is Choe Chol Ung at the age of 25, who changed his career from artistic gymnast to acrobat eight years ago. The reason was that when seeing a circus show he was fascinated by the acrobats who captivated the audience, winning applause from the latter.

As he was nimble and accurate and had a good sense of speed, he, as soon as he became an acrobat, was regarded as fit to perform the most difficult stunt in the aforesaid act. Actually, he became able to perform five pirouettes after two flip-flops straight in a short span of time, and do six pirouettes in a year. Now he has set a goal of performing seven pirouettes after three flip-flops straight.

The performers include a girl. She is Kim Sol Hwa at the age of 19. As the only daughter in her family, she is the youngest of the act's performers. In her

kindergarten days she already took part in the Kim Il Sung Prize-winning grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *Arirang*. It is only three years since she became an acrobat after graduating from the Pyongyang Acrobatic School.

Acquainted with acrobatics at the age of eight, she performed four flip-flops straight, one of the difficult stunts in the aforesaid act, in her days at the school. The stunt was the one that many other acrobats tried to perform only to give up because it is very difficult to do as the straight body meets with much resistance. To complete the act of strong national colouring she had to master different acrobatic skills including that of seesawing. She once hurt her ankle or wept for too much exhaustion during training. Then all other performers of the act would be up all night helping her hone her stunt.

Their leader Kim Kang Chol, a reliable support, says, "We eleven acrobats perform different feats. But we all have the same determination to demonstrate the spirit of our nation. It leads us to success."

The general manager of a Peruvian acrobatic troupe, after seeing the act, said: The Korean acrobatic act which has won the Gold Elephant Prize this time is a wonderful one showing well the tenacity of Koreans. And I sincerely hope to see such wonderful acrobatic acts in a similar international acrobatic festival held in Peru.

Rim Ok



Worker Poet

YUN JONG A, A WORKER at the Phyongsong City Fuel Station in South Phyongan Province, is called *worker poet* by the local residents and her colleagues. Though in her early twenties, she has written many poems. As her works reflect vividly the seething reality and the beautiful aspects of life, they were carried in different publications including the magazine *Literature of Korea*.

O Spring Willow

Yun's creative activities began in her middle school days. Having understood the world of literature under the guidance of her grandmother, once a literature teacher of a middle school, she created many lyrical prose writings such as *Snow-covered*

Mansu Hill; thus she was awarded the Children's Literary Prize.

After graduating from the middle school, the girl volunteered to become a worker. Her determination was to learn and realize her dream of creation while working. Supporting her determination her father said, "Labour is sacred and honourable, and when you love it, you'll enjoy respect from other people. I think you can grow up mentally and physically and create excellent poems in the course of arduous labour."

Thus she started to work at the fuel station, and she wrote the lyric poem *O Spring Willow* which reflects the mental world of the station's workers. Formed in a style of dialogue in spring between a willow on the bank of a stream and a young woman who makes sincere efforts to provide the local residents with the fuel for home use, the lyric vividly reflects her pride in her job and her worthwhile working life, and thus it created a great sensation among her colleagues and other readers.

Later, Yun went on to write other impassioned poems such as *I'm a Fuel Supplier* and *New Technical Innovation Plan* which reflect well her working life.

Enlarging World of Creation

Among her works is a selection of poems *I'm a Daughter of a Coal Miner*.

Actually, her father is a worker at a passenger transport station in Phyongsong, and her mother is a worker at a goat farm. But in the poem she unhesitatingly says she is a daughter of a coal miner because she gained deep insights into the life of coal miners, and the experience inspired her with



Yun Jong A.

ardent creative enthusiasm. She decided to create the work when she went to the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine of the Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex to give an artistic performance together with her colleagues. She recited her own poem which sings of ardent love for the country. When she finished reciting, the coal miners warmly applauded, and asked her to recite a poem which reflected their life. However, she could not do.

It had a great impact on her, so she went to the coal mine more frequently, which enabled her to deeply understand the life of the miners and the preciousness of coal. Consequently she wrote the poems that reflect the mental world of coal miners truthfully and in depth through the depiction of the different aspects of their life. And they were widely known to the miners, and a selection of them won first place at a national prize mass literary work contest last year.

She continues to create works based on her rich experience in working life, further enriching the working people's emotional life.

Pak Yong Il



Yun's diplomas.



Believe in Yourself

(Continued from the last issue)

Qualification Raises Spirits

WHILE WRITING A report on his team's performance after their triumphal return from the 22nd Universiad, Kim Kwang Min found himself very impressed by Kim Kyong Hwa. He remembered that despite her small stature Kyong Hwa had rather played her part well. It was remarkable that she had scored goals and organized attacks and defence so well in the international competition, which was the first of its kind for her.

With a deep understanding of his players and clever judgment Kwang Min decided Kyong Hwa was a promising footballer despite her flaw—she had her strong forte. Thus he transferred her to the women's football team of the April 25 Sports Club. Originally he intended to assign her to Group 1 of the football team, but the senior coach rejected his idea flatly arguing that she was still young and of small stature. So he could not help but assign her to Group 2.

Kwang Min took Kyong Hwa to the lodgings of Group 2. Formerly, Kwang Min, as a member of the aforesaid sports club's football team, had been involved in the national team many times, distinguishing himself at competitions at home and abroad for years. Later he

had often been put in charge of both men's and women's football teams of the sports club to gain a wealth of experience and make achievements, and thus he had developed into an able coach frequently selected as the senior coach of the national team. This had enabled him to take charge of the women's football team participating in the aforesaid Universiad, leading it to victory.

He was scrupulous in guiding his charges in training and competition. He was as fierce as a leopard when making high demands on his charges, and the latter could not help but carry out their training tasks. Such demands and steadily repeated movements enabled Kyong Hwa to further improve her forte and build up her physical preparation. And her skill of mid- and long-distance shooting was more fully displayed in national championships and other competitions at home.

One day Kyong Hwa, together with members of the national young women's team from her club, went to the Sosan Football Stadium. Choe Kwang Sok, a coach of medium build, was very glad to see them, his big black eyes lighting up.

"Now we," Kwang Sok said, "are going to start training to acquire the qualifications for the third world young women's football championship. I believe you will take the lead in attaining the goal."

With the national young women's team formed in the main, Kwang Sok engrossed himself in drawing up a tactical plan of the team. He set Kim Kyong Hwa as a half-back. Thanks to his earnest effort and the active assistance from the deputy chief secretary and assistant coaches the tactical plan of the team was almost completed.

Choe's increasing demands led to conspicuous improvement in the team's playing system. The eighteen vigorous footballers, including substitutes, ran and ran tirelessly.

At last April came, and the young women's football team, in perfect readiness, went to the then Pyongyang Airport.

Kyong Hwa felt her heart racing as she was leaving the country. She was tearful to remember her grandmother, father and mother who had wished her to succeed in football.

When landing at the airport of Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia, Kyong Hwa and her colleagues found themselves in a stifling tropical hot wind.

The Asian young women's football championship opened on the evening of April 8 and started with a match between the Koreans and the Japanese. It drew rather lots of spectators.

The match took place intensely from the outset.

The Korean players were somehow bent on defence alone

► in confusion. No. 20 player Kyong Hwa took and dribbled the ball to the mid-field, shouting, "Rush ahead! Don't gather in one place. Do part left and right!"

Then the forwards speedily began to attack. Kyong Hwa, however, found nobody she could pass the ball to, so she went ahead a little further and boldly tried a long-distance shot.

The Japanese goalkeeper came out punching the ball with her fists. The ball bounced back to the mid-field, and a Japanese forward quickly took the ball to counterattack, and passed it exactly to another forward who was rushing in on the right side. The second forward soon kicked a shot on a spot 9 metres away from the opponent's goal. The ball seemed to pass by a goal at first, but flew into the goal. The Japanese shouted for joy all together, embracing the scorer.

Running out to the sideline Choe Kwang Sok shouted, "This is because you left the back space empty, Kyong Hwa. Don't go to the front line."

Only then did Kyong Hwa realize that she had gone too far away from her position. Because she had left her back space empty the opponent forward had easily taken the ball in the space and had a chance to score.

Seized with remorse Kyong Hwa and other backs, together with forwards, launched an all-out attack in an attempt to make up for the lost goal. But before they could straighten up their attack, the rivals turned over to speedy counterattack, and scored another goal 35 minutes after the beginning of the match.

In the second half the Korean team carried out more attacks but scored no goal only to lose

another goal before the end of the match.

Two days later the Koreans won the second match 4-0—this time with the Indians. They also defeated the south Koreans 4-1, thus going up to the semifinals as the runner-up of its group.

In the semifinals they had a match with the Australians, the winner of Group B. The opponents were mostly tall and looked superior to the Koreans in the physical term. The match was a decisively important one. The winner of the match would be qualified for the young women's World Cup finals.

From the outset the Korean team played well, and the Australians desperately tried to prevail over their rivals at the thought that if they lost the match they would not be able to go up to the World Cup. They tried to put their opponents on the defensive physically and mentally from the beginning. They did not hesitate to commit blatant fouls. Their rivals, however, dealt with the situation stubbornly: Kyong Hwa and her colleagues took command of the mid-field, and would abruptly launch a speedy counterattack, thus scoring the first goal in the first half.

Then the Australians started an all-out attack, and finally made up for the lost goal by dint of tall players.

Now the match became fiercer. The first half, however, ended without any more goal on both sides.

In the second half the Australian players began to flounder as they were in poor physical condition perhaps because they had run too hard in an attempt to prevail over the

Korean rivals at once in the first half. Availing themselves of this opportunity the Koreans scored another goal through speedy combination.

In order to make up for their lost goal the Australians resorted to attack alone. Then Kyong Hwa nimbly snatched the ball and dribbled it to a spot 30 metres away from the opponent's goal. Then she forcefully kicked toward the goal. The ball flew directly into the net past the right upper edge of the goal before the goalkeeper could do anything. Thus the Korean team won the match 3-1.

Two days later the Koreans had the final match with the Chinese. It, however, was often interrupted owing to the overt, unfair refereeing and intentional plots, causing a confusion among the Koreans, and thus the match went on without interest.

The Koreans played in an uncomfortable mentality, embarrassed at the chief referee's unfair acts. As a result they lost 0-1.

Back in the lounge after the end of the second half the Korean footballers even wept in their mortification.

After protesting to the organizational committee of the competition, Kwang Sok entered the lounge and ardently encouraged his players, saying, "The competition is not yet over! Let us win the young women's World Cup without fail in coming August. Stand up, all of you."

Looking at the flag of their country while standing on the podium for the second winner, the girls determined to win in the World Cup.

(To be continued)

A general view of the sanatorium.



EFFECTIVE USE OF HOT SPRING

Effective treatment is provided.



UNSAN COUNTY IN NORTH PHYONGAN Province is a mountainous region which has many mountains including Phinamudok (1 317m), the highest mountain in the county, and Paekbyok (901m), a celebrated mountain in the province.

From of old, the county has been famous for its Unsan hot spring. It mainly contains bicarbonate and sulfuric ion and sodium ion. This alkaline hot spring is efficacious in the treatment of chronic gastritis, gout, slight diabetes, women's diseases like infertility, neuralgia, neuritis, aftereffect of injury and operation, chronic osteoarticular diseases, eczema, skin itch and chronic heavy metal poisoning.

In particular, the Unsan Women's Sanatorium is well known across the country for its effective use of the hot spring in treating women's diseases.

Now the hot spring is widely used for making the county people's life cultured beyond the limit of the sanatorium. A wading pool can be cited. Blending well with the characteristics of the mountainous region it was built by the county people. Steaming hot water trickles down from the gap of a rock put for the decoration of the entrance hall of the wading pool—it characterizes the unique mood of

the mountainous region, and adds to the county people's pride in their locality.

The wading pool is in operation all the year round, and it provides high-pressure water shower and ultrasonic bath. Pae Kwang Sok, teacher of the Unsan County Juvenile Sports School, says that he is relieved of his fatigue after swimming in the hot spring water while having high-pressure water shower and ultrasonic bath. Kim Un Sik, a frequent visitor to the pool, says it is commonplace that once he comes to the place he forgets the passage of time.

In the building there are also different saunas, and especially, people like to have an Amur maackia dry sauna as it is effective in treating pain, allergy and inflammation. When one has a Amur maackia dry sauna after having a hot spring shower, the efficacies of the hot spring and the bark of the Amur maackia are mixed to produce a good result for treatment of diseases. The wading pool is visited by people from other counties as well.

Now Unsan County widely uses the hot spring to promote the health of its residents.

Kim Il Bong

Mt Kumgang (4)

Outer Kumgang (3)

IN THE KURYONGYON district, there are famous falls like Kuryong, Pibong and Mubong and pools like Kuryongyon (nine dragon pool) and Sangphaldam (upper eight pools), which are outstandingly beautiful in Outer Kumgang. The district has Singye, Okryu and Kuryong valleys.

Singye Valley includes noted places from the entrance to Kuryongyon Ravine to the Kumgang Gate. In its entrance to the valley are a patch of pine wood and the Singye Temple site. There can be seen the Mokran House, Mokran Bridge and Son Pond as well as fantastic rocks like Kaeguri (frog) and Thokki (rabbit).

At the end of the valley is

the Kumgang Gate, which looks fantastic. It has a 7-shaped hole in the centre between big rocks, where you can go up the stone steps to escape. On the left wall to the gate is carved such words as *Kumgang Gate* and *Ongnyong Pool*, which indicates the way to Okryu Valley and Kuryong Pool. Around the gate are to be seen rocks of fantastic shapes—like a soldier and a wall, for example.

Okryu Valley is a very beautiful place where crystal-clear water flows down. It is one of the typical beauty spots in Mt Kumgang and one of the four scenic spots in the Kuryongyon district. Okryu Falls, 50 metres high, flows down like a roll of silk cloth. Under it is Okryu Pool which is 600 square metres wide. It is surrounded by Oroejong (torpedo

boat) and Ttangkhu (tank) rocks.

Ryonju Pools look like two blue beads strung. The small one above is 6 metres wide, 10 metres long and 6 metres deep and the big one below is 9 metres wide, 30 metres long and 9 metres deep. Above the pools is Ryonju Falls which looks like a hanging roll sheet of flimsy silk cloth. The water of Ryonju Pools and Ryonju Falls is crystal clear and their shapes are unique, unfolding an unusual scene in Okryu Valley in good harmony with surrounding woods.

Pibong (flying phoenix) Falls is one of the four renowned falls in Mt Kumgang. It is so named because a whirlwind makes the fog soar up like a phoenix flying up in the sky, its long tail swinging. Beside Pibong Falls,



Sangphaldam.

▶ there is Mubong (dancing phoenix) Falls whose falling water breaks against a rock with drooping jaws into bubbles and wet fog and falls down again after coiling several times—it just looks like a dancing phoenix. The two falls match well making a beautiful contrast and are similar in appearance creating a mystery. On the top of the pillar-shaped rock between the two falls stands Ponghwang (phoenix) Rock resembling a flying phoenix with wings open. Beside the rock are also to be seen such falls as Kyejol (season), Chonhwa, Tokso (reading), Thokki (rabbit) and Pubu (couple) as well as Yolmae Peak.

In the Kuryong Valley there are famous falls like Juryom and Kuryong and pools like Kuryongyon, Unsaryu and Sangphaldam. Juryom Falls is about 10 metres high and about 2 metres wide. The falling water breaks against a shelf rock to make a myriad of bubbles and droplets, which looks like

a hanging blind of white beads.

The magnificent and vigorous Kuryong Falls offers a grand spectacle with crystal-clear water jumping down the cliff without letup. The 74-metre-high falls has a great volume of water. It sounds like shaking heaven and earth, the water drops remind you of millions of pearls pouring down, and the water course looks as if a roll of white silk cloth were hanging down the sharp-cut cliff face. A rainbow rising from there makes all visitors to this falls feel refreshed and awesome. Seen below the falls is Kuryongyon or Nine-Dragon Pool. To be found in the circularly hollowed-out stone like the body of a mortar—13 metres deep—is glittering blue water that flows in whirls at all times. This has a tale that in olden times nine dragons lived there after defeating 53 devils in a pool by the Yujom Temple.

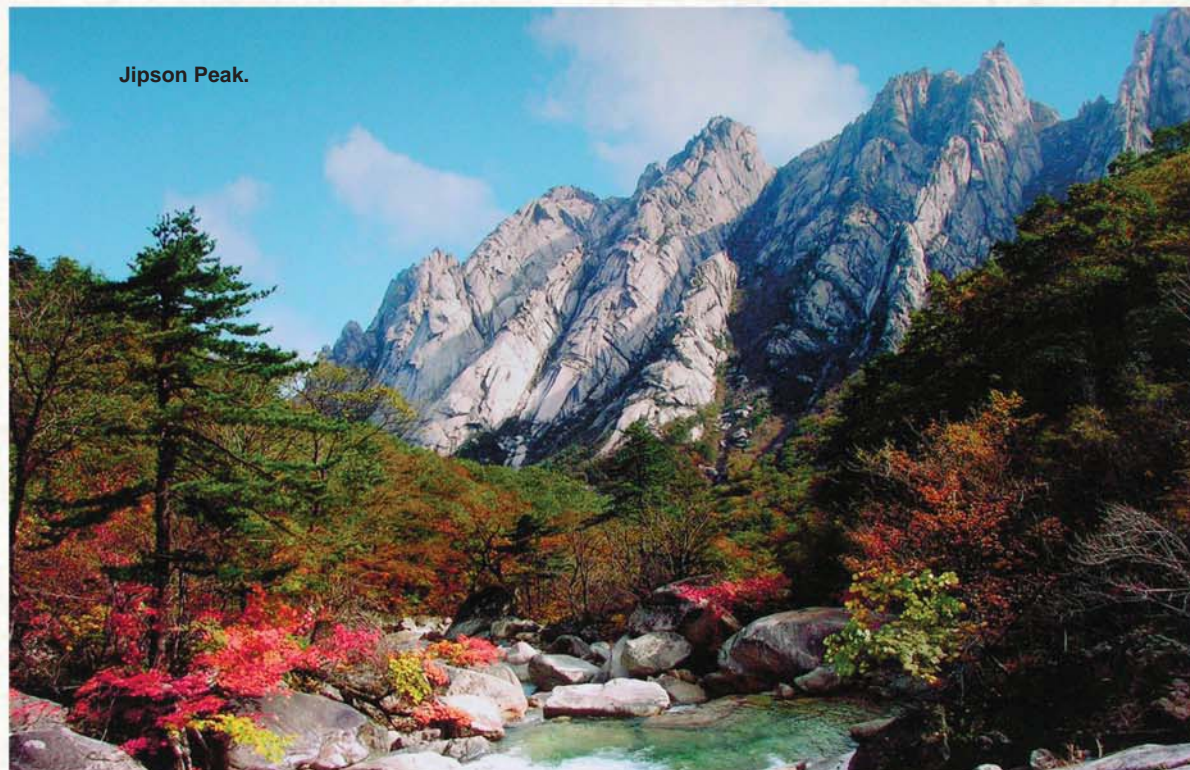
Go up the valley past Kuryong Falls, and you can see Sangphal-

dam (upper eight pools) which lie in tiers. It has an old tale about eight fairies of Mt Kumgang who used to descend there to have a bath in the picturesque site.

Kuryong Rock commands a panoramic view of Sangphaldam and the vicinity. Climb up further, and you can see Piryong Rock. And there is Pisa Gate at the entrance to the way to Piro Peak from Kuryong Falls. Pisa Rock standing on the stone gate looks as if round and smooth square stones are laid one after another, which is to be seen well from far away.

Sejon Peak in the centre of Outer Kumgang commands a panoramic view of the mountain, where you can see its graceful figure of peaks like Sangdung Peak, Kwanum Ryonbong, Ongnyo Peak, Jipson Peak, Chaeha Peak, Janggun Peak and Piro Peak and other beautiful spots of the rich Kosong Plain on the lower Nam River and the East Sea of Korea.

(To be continued)



Jipson Peak.



Founder King of Koguryo

KO JUMONG IS THE FOUNDER KING OF Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668), the first feudal state in Korea. Known as King Tongmyong in the Korean history, he ruled Koguryo for 19 years from 277 BC to 259 BC.

A legend has it that his father was Haemosu, who styled himself son of Heaven, and his mother was Ryuhwa, a daughter of Habaek, the God of the Sea.

It is said that he was born a conspicuous and singular figure. At the age of seven, he made a bow and arrows by himself and never missed the targets, even tiny insects you could hardly see. He was named Jumong because they usually called a marvellous archer *jumong* in Korean.

Originally, he lived in the royal palace of Puyo (mid-15th century BC–219 BC). Gradually the prince and bureaucrats of Puyo were so jealous of his outstanding appearance and talent that they trapped him to reduce him to be a horse-keeper in the royal palace. In the course of contacting the wretched people, he understood the social contradictions to some extent and was determined to establish more reasonable social order.

Subjected to persecution and finally falling into danger of assassination, he escaped from Puyo and went south to Kuryo (mid-15th century BC–277 BC), one of the ancient states in Korea, to carry out his ambition. On his way to the south with friends, some more people joined his ranks.

He settled down in a northern part of Kuryo and laid his politico-military foundations under the patronage of the local squire. He won the hearts of the local people by defeating a neighbouring tribe who had been harassing the locality, and thus grasped the local power. Attracted by Jumong's fame, the king of Kuryo who was apprehensive of his country's fate in the then complicated situation decided to cast his lot to him and made Jumong his son-in-



law. Some time later the king died leaving no son behind, and Jumong became the new king.

In the throne he began to realize his ambition. With the intention to develop Kuryo, a slave-owning state, into a powerful feudal state, he changed the name of the country into Koguryo by adding *ko*—it means *high* in English—to the original name Kuryo. He remodelled the system and order of the country as required by the feudal society in collaboration with the newly emerging forces, and fixed his surname as *ko* like the name of the new country.

Later, Koguryo merged with neighbouring minor states of the same nation and emerged as a power in the East.

Even after he died, Koguryo grew more and more prosperous and became a great country which spanned 2 400 km from east to west and 1 600 km from south to north. As the most powerful country in the Korean history, it existed for a thousand years.

Worshipping him with true devotion, the Koguryo people built a magnificent mausoleum for him.

When Koguryo moved its capital city to Pyongyang in the mid-5th century, his mausoleum was also moved to the present locality in Ryongsan-ri, Ryokpho District, Pyongyang.

The Mausoleum of King Tongmyong is a public resort now.

Kim Chol Hyon

National Intangible Cultural Heritage (31)

Koryo Medicinal Poultice

THE KORYO MEDICINAL poultice is a branch of the Koryo medicine the Korean people created and developed over a long time. It is a therapy based on direct application of materials to sore spots to get a stimulating effect.

It was originated from a simple folk remedy of stimulating a sore spot by using natural Koryo medicinal materials. There are many historical data on the therapy with diversified explanation. It was described in detail in *Hyangyakjipsongbang*, *Tonguibogam* and *Uibangryuchwi*, the three major traditional medical classics of the country, and many other medical classics defined it as an indispensable treatment method. Various Diseases Section Vol. 5 of *Tonguibogam* (1613) reads that “applying parboiled dry radish leaves to a sore waist as soon as it is injured will soon cure

it.” This is a common method usually used by families today.

The Koryo medicinal poultice is simple to do and brings a unique efficacy, so it has been widely used among the Korean people. Over 300 kinds of materials have been used up to now. They have such effects as local anesthesia, stimulation, prevention of inflammation, bacteriostasis, stopping of bleeding and killing of germs and insects.

Today the therapy has now been further put on a scientific basis. In the course of finding out and ascertaining folk remedies researchers of Koryo medicine learned over 14 000 folk remedies including more than 3 400 items of poultice and clinical treatment experience. The findings were published as *Complete Collection of Folk Remedies* (2010).

Ri Yong Gwang, a researcher at the Academy of Koryo Medi-

cine, says, “When not only medical workers but also non-medical workers apply this poultice according to symptoms, it will have relevant efficacy. You need not worry about any mishap from poultice. It shortens the period of treatment and gives less pain to patients, so it is very economical and effective. Herein lie the superiority and dexterity.”

The therapy is widely used at central and local hospitals and clinics, with the academy as the centre. Families learn the therapy through relevant books, TV and radio programmes and multimedia, and apply it in the treatment according to symptoms of diseases and their progress in different environment and conditions.

The remedy was registered on the list of the national intangible cultural heritage.

Rim Ok

Artemisia Messerschmidtiana

THE KOREAN PEOPLE have long made highly effective Koryo medicines from materials abundant in the country and used them widely in treating diseases. One of those materials is *Artemisia messerschmidtiana*.

The plant belongs to the family of Compositae. The root is thick and the stem grows 50~100 cm high straightly. The leaves come alternatively with a stalk. It blossoms yel-

low between August and September.

Growing well across the country, the herb is used for fever, urination, jaundice, hepatitis, cholecystitis, etc. In particular, it has been widely used in the treatment of jaundice.

Some time ago, the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University newly developed an antihepatitis injection using *Artemisia messerschmidtiana* and baica-

lin, effective substance of baikal skullcap. Through clinical experiment, this injection was confirmed to be effective in lowering the enzyme level of cases with chronic interstitial hepatitis and liver cirrhosis to the normal level as soon as possible. It also remarkably improves the symptoms like anorexia, diarrhoea, jaundice, hepatomegaly, liver pain and debility.

Pak Thae Ho

Constitutional Change to Make Belligerent Nation

SOME TIME AGO Japanese Prime Minister Abe said at a plenary session of the House of Representatives that there are “still campaigns going on to groundlessly criticize and oppose the existence of the Self-Defense Forces” and that “it is necessary to stipulate the existence of the Self-Defense Forces in the Constitution.” At a congress of the Liberal Democratic Party held in last February he spoke of the “significance of the stipulation of the SDF in Article 9 of the Constitution,” asserting that “we should put an end to the dispute over violation of the Constitution.” Earlier, speaking at a press interview, the head of the headquarters for promotion of revision of the Constitution said that “the revision of Article 9 is a top-priority task for the LDP.”

This shows that Japan is making a desperate attempt to realize its wild ambition for a military giant and overseas expansion by changing the Constitution at any cost.

As an aggressive, war criminal state that inundated the Asian continent in a bloodbath in the past century, the insular country is legally deprived of not only the right of belligerency and the right of participation in a war but also the right to a regular army. Nevertheless, since the end of the Second World War Japan has worked hard to revive into a “country capable of having an army,” and a “country capable of going to war.”

In particular, seeking the building of a belligerent state as its ultimate goal since the emergence of the Abe Cabinet, Japan has doggedly pursued to change the “pacifist Constitution” into a war-permitting Constitution by adding the stipulation of the existence of the SDF to Article

9. Needless to say, Abe sees the present Constitution specifying the “abandonment of war” and “non-possession of combat capability” as a blockade to the rebirth of militarism and realization of the ambition of overseas aggression.

It is the Abe regime’s plan to turn their country legitimately into a normal state with the right of belligerency and the one capable of going to war at its will by changing the Constitution as early as possible. The country has already laid legal foundations for overseas dispatch of its troops such as the “bill on peripheral happenings,” the “law relating to emergency cases,” and the “law on special measures to counter terrorism.” It has got carrier-class warships, new-type fighters and refueling tankers and is hastening the effort to make the SDF capable of going to war in reality while striving to improve the performance of the intermediate- and long-range missiles.

As was already reported, in mid-December last year the Japanese authorities instituted a new defence programme and a midterm defence programme, revealing their attempt to strengthen the SDF into offensive-style aggression forces. According to the abovementioned programmes, Japan decided to earmark the hugest ever sum of 27.47 trillion yen for the military expenditure for the five years from 2019 to 2023 to deploy an aircraft carrier, establish and beef up the space and cyber units, and purchase the US ground-based missile defence system Aegis Ashore and 100 F-35 stealth fighters. It is specified in the defence programme that the country will possess long-range cruise missiles which can be launched in a place which

is out of the opponent’s shooting range.

The issue of upgrading the helicopter-carrying escort ship *Izumo* of the maritime SDF into an aircraft carrier is drawing the public attention at home and abroad. She is to be remodelled into a one that will be able to carry F-35B fighters capable of short-distance and vertical takeoff and landing. The Japanese rulers are justifying their scheme, asserting that the upgraded ship is far from going against the Constitution as far as its use is defined to the defence purpose.

Regarding the matter, *Tokyo Shimbun* commented that an aircraft carrier is obviously an offensive weapon possessing the striking capability, disclosing that the Abe Cabinet has largely changed the content of “exclusively defensive security system” while advocating it on the pretext of threat from China and others. Other mass media reported that no one can deny the possibility that the aircraft carrier might be dispatched to the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Middle East to be used for refueling of the planes of the US forces or their takeoff and landing. They also expressed their apprehension that if Japan accelerates the switchover of its defence policy, it will open a road to reckless arms race.

It is evident that the change in the Constitution just means the rebirth of a belligerent nation. And Japan’s persistent ambition for aggression, which goes against the global current of peace and stability that has started in the Korean peninsula, and its realization, if ever, will result in its miserable future.

Kim Jae Sok



Japan decided to earmark the hugest ever sum of 27.47 trillion yen for the military expenditure for the five years from 2019 to 2023.

