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Kim Jong Un inspects military fishery station, oversees airborne landing drill

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, gave field guidance at the August 25 Fishery Station of the Korean People's Army and the newly-built Thongchon Fish-processing Station.

He was accompanied by Jang Kum Chol, department director of the WPK Central Committee, Jo Yong Won, first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee, and Ri Jong Nam, Hyon Song Wol and Hong Yong Song, deputy department directors of the WPK Central Committee.

The first leg of his inspection tour was the August 25 Fishery Station, which he always affectionately calls the maker of history of "gold sea" and home of fishing vessel Tanphung.

After visiting the newly-built fish-processing shop, he made the rounds of the old fish-processing shop and cold storage chambers.

He highly praised the officials and fishermen of the fishery station

and their families for their efforts to make big fish hauls without fail this year, too.

As he looked round the hall dedicated to education with revolutionary relics at the fishery station, he said it is necessary to conduct efficient education by means of the hall so as to make all its fishermen and other employees steadily preserve their honour of being pacesetters and shock brigade who defend the WPK with bigger fish hauls as befit the proud heroes who wrote the first page of the history of "gold sea".

He saw an art performance given by the artistic group of the fishery station.

Expressing gratitude to the performers for their very impressive performance that is perfect in ideological and artistic value, he personally invited them to Pyongyang at the end of this year.

The next leg of his tour that day was the Thongchon Fish-processing Station.

KPA service personnel who turned out in the drive for carrying out the instructions of the Supreme Leader completed the fish-processing station

with a daily quick-freezing capacity of hundreds of tons and a cold-storing capacity of thousands of tons.

He was satisfied to see fishes pouring into the freezing and processing shops through the unloading equipment and conveyor.

Seeing the cold storage chambers jam-packed with fishes with great joy, he said that there is nothing more encouraging and pleasant than the continuation of the history of "gold sea" for us at the time when we struggle for making a breakthrough in improving the

people's living standards.

Saying that there is nothing to spare or hesitate to improve service personnel's dietary life, he called for joining wisdom and efforts in one mind in doing more possible things and turning the impossible into the possible to improve their standard of living.

He stressed the need for the processing station built with much effort to make a tangible contribution to the improvement of their dietary life.

SEE PAGE 2



Inspection: Supreme Leader oversees airborne landing drill

FROM PAGE 1

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un guided an airborne landing drill of snipers' units of the Air and Anti-Aircraft Force of the Korean People's Army.

He was accompanied by leading officials of the WPK Central Committee.

The landing drill which was held in the form of contest was aimed at evaluating whether the snipers had proper fighting capability to shift to assault action after making high-altitude infiltration into an unfamiliar area and landing on the correct point targets by each combat group as a unit.

It was attended by combatants of the snipers' brigades under the Air and Anti-Aircraft Force and their combat actions were directly commanded by brigadiers and brigade commissars.

After receiving a report on the drill plan at an observation post, the Supreme Leader oversaw the training.

Troop transports flew in the sky above the training field and snipers parachuted like a shower of hail.

Kim Jong Un said the snipers were very skilled at landing and it was well worth seeing the brigade



commanders and commissars directly lead combatants to execute skilled movements in the unfamiliar area according to a sudden battle order and praised them as brave, reliable and real fighters with great satisfaction.

The combatants of Unit 162 of the KPA got higher marks in the training.

In order to develop the KPA into an invincible army, he noted, it is needed to steadily hold aloft the banner of radical turn in training and conduct practical and actual manoeuvres in an intensive and unconventional way by setting simulated situations of war and occasionally creating various unexpected circumstances.

He hoped the service personnel

would continue to direct big efforts to completing their combat readiness and strengthening their combat efficiency in order to firmly guarantee with arms the Juche revolutionary cause, and had a photo session with the combatants who took part in the drill.

Compiled from KCNA



TALKS

DPRK, Russia hold strategic dialogue

There was a strategic dialogue between Choe Son Hui, first vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK, and Vladimir Titov, first deputy foreign minister of the Russian Federation, in Moscow on Nov 20.

At the talks, both sides discussed issues of further developing bilateral ties by thoroughly implementing the agreements reached at the historic DPRK-Russia summit, had an in-depth exchange of views on regional and

international issues of mutual concern and agreed to promote strategic cooperation.

On the same day Choe Son Hui met Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and had a talk with him in a friendly atmosphere.

They discussed the issue of developing the DPRK-Russia relationship greeting a new golden age amid the interest of the top leaders of the two countries.

Compiled from KCNA

EVENT

World solidarity day with Palestine observed in DPRK

A Palestinian photo, art and handicraft show was held at the Taedonggang Diplomatic Club in Pyongyang on Thursday to mark the Day of World's Solidarity with the Palestinian People under the co-sponsorship of the DPRK-Palestine Friendship and Solidarity Committee and the Palestinian embassy in Pyongyang.

The event was attended by So Ho Won, vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries who is chairman of the

DPRK-Palestine Friendship and Solidarity Committee, officials concerned, Pyongyang citizens and Ismail Ahmed Mohamed Hasan, Palestinian ambassador to the DPRK, and his embassy staff and resident diplomatic envoys and representatives of international organizations.

Speakers referred to the fact that the Palestinian people are waging a vigorous struggle to establish an independent state with Quds as its capital.

They said they would make every possible effort to boost

the ties between the DPRK and Palestine forged and developed in the struggle for independence, sovereignty and national liberation.

They hoped that the exhibition would be a significant occasion for supporting the just cause of the Palestinian people.

The participants looked round the photos, artworks and handicrafts showing the struggle of the Palestinian people and their national emotion.

Compiled from KCNA

MACHINE INDUSTRY

Technical innovation helps boost quality and output

New technical innovation plans have recently been introduced into the machine industry to produce highly efficient equipment and machine parts.

"We make the technical innovation drive focus on solving complicated scientific and technological problems arising in the production of custom-built equipment and the modernization of production processes and positively adopt proposals and contrivances the employees thought up in the course of their research," said chief engineer Yang Mun Sang of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex.

The complex developed a technology which enables the simultaneous processing of two products on one lathe using a new processing jig, thus saving much time and electricity in the production of generating facilities. It also contrived a water-cooled plasma generating head to boost the processing speed and quality and complete

the manufacture of a vortex tube of hydropower generator for the Orangchon Power Station earlier than scheduled.

It developed a flexible shaft making method by which to carry out surface and internal grinding of any kind of products, which had been impossible with the previous high-speed grinder, thereby upgrading the production process of custom-built equipment.

The Anju Insulator Factory made a device to prevent insulating cloth from getting folded, thus reducing the failure rate and increasing the cloth output 1.2 times. It also developed a new material for shortening the thermosetting time of insulating varnish and improving its thermosetting character in order to boost the productivity of insulating goods.

Meanwhile, the Hamhung Youth Electrical Appliances Factory developed a technology for keyboard printing by numerical control unit and the

Ryongsong Machine Complex introduced a process of producing materials based on combustion model casting.

According to an engineer of the Ragwon Machine Complex, the complex scrupulously organizes work to make technicians and workers improve their technical knowledge and skills and operate machines on a scientific and technological basis, so as to complete the tasks of making thermal power generating equipment and parts in time.

The improvement of technical hands contributed to ensuring the quality of products and overfulfilling the processing of generator and turbine shafts by 20 percent.

It also applied more than 10 technical innovation plans to produce different kinds of cogwheels in a short period and refashioned turbine blades in the production process to raise the efficiency of turbines by over 3 percent.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

RECYCLING

Silk mill collects protein from waste water

The Kangso Silk Mill developed a technique of collecting protein from waste water that comes from production processes.

"Waste water from the production of thread and cotton at silk mills contains a great deal of sericin, crude protein, pulverized pupa, chitin and others. So the purification of waste water at silk mills can be claimed to be the separation of protein," said Kim Il Hyon, manager of the mill.

The mill made great efforts to develop a technique of processing waste water a hundred percent by separating it in the process of production of cotton whose pollution level is high as it contains much protein.

According to chief engineer Kim Hyon Chol, there are several ways to separate protein and the mill chose a salting method with a high efficiency, fast processing speed and simple process. It also found out a proper salting agent with strong cohesive power.

"The salting agent is good for increasing the processing speed of waste water and reducing processing space for

its high speed of precipitation and dehydration of protein," said lead developer Kim Hyok Chol.

On this basis, the mill established a waste water treating process.

Thanks to the establishment of this process, the purification efficiency of the mill's general sewage purifying site has remarkably been improved, making the indexes of waste water reach the standards of environmental protection.

The mill also produces protein feed for fish and animals, and liquid fertilizer which is good for the growth of crops.

"The fertilizer shortened the rice's period of striking roots and increased the wheat and barley yields per hectare by 0.5-0.7 ton," said Jo In Nam, chairman of the management board in Hakchon-ri.

The technique was highly appreciated at the 34th national sci-tech festival this year.

Now the mill is working on the study of developing the protein feed into a low-molecular one and producing organic fertilizer.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

COSMETICS

Anti-ageing solution wins WIPO prize

A WIPO prize was recently awarded to the "cultured *Ganoderma* and anti-ageing nutritive solution using it" developed by the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory.

"Anti-ageing is the main index in the worldwide trend of cosmetic development toward functionality," said Kim Hye Yong, manageress of the factory.

According to Kim Hung Won, head of the factory's industrial lab and one of the lead developers, collagen deficiency in the dermal layer is the main contributory factor of skin ageing and wrinkles. In order to solve this problem, a certain kind of nutritive solution should penetrate into the derma to prevent deficiency, but it required a sophisticated technology.

"After all, it turned out that previous cosmetics dealt with dead cells in the epidermis," said Jong Un Sim, an office chief who was also member of the development team. "It was needed to help the solution make its way into the dermal layer and activate living cells so as to retard skin ageing, and the cultured *Ganoderma* and anti-ageing nutritive solution solved this problem."

The solution rapidly

permeates into the skin, reenergizes cells and promotes collagen synthesis.

Several years ago, the French biological skin analysis institute Bio-EC released an analysis result in favour of the anti-ageing effect of the DPRK's Pomhyanggi-brand cosmetics, and Kim Hung Won attributed the secret of its success to the nutritive solution recently recognized by the WIPO.

According to him, the other cosmetics used in the comparative study by the Bio-EC were typical anti-ageing ones incorporating some patented technologies and

the study result posted on the internet stimulated the interest of many foreign cosmetic experts.

The cultured *Ganoderma* and anti-ageing nutritive solution won a gold medal at the 16th national inventions exhibition last year.

The factory now turns out a variety of anti-ageing cosmetics.

"We are furthering our research to make more cosmetics which enhance skin beauty not from outside but from inside," said the manageress.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Anti-aging cosmetics produced by the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory.

R&D

Hundreds of new technologies invented

Scientists and technicians have developed hundreds of new technologies conducive to developing the economy and improving the people's living standards this year.

Lecturers and researchers of Kim Il Sung University made a scanning probe microscope with which to observe the structure of the surface of all solid materials at a nano level.

Kim Chaek University of Technology brought out dozens of technologies including a radiation spectrum analyser using one-chip computer and an IC soldering machine that can safely join and disjoin all forms of IC chips with the help of infrared rays.

Wonsan University of Agriculture and Kim Chol Ju University of Education developed biochemicals to suit the reality.

The University of Sciences presented a technology of saving gas by 30 percent in normal gas stove by applying a far infrared ray heat-radiant panel, while Pyongyang University of Transport created a business information system for transporters to support the business activities of officials

at technical stations and ensure high accuracy of analysis and statistics.

The automation and physics institutes of the State Academy of Sciences made scientific and technological achievements contributing to ensuring domestic production and modernization of various devices, especially the automatic control system of ignition machine and an analyser for accurately measuring the particle size of different powders with laser.

The Koryo Medicine General Hospital developed an injector for embedding catgut that helps remarkably raise the general treatment efficacy of joint dysfunction.

Activities to develop practical technologies are also conducted briskly in factories, enterprises and cooperative farms.

Many units are taking profits from the development and introduction of new technologies for improving the quality of products and boosting their material and technical foundations.

Compiled from KCNA

PROFILE

Weaver covers 60km a day to run looms

Among ordinary workers of the DPRK, there is a Merited Weaver who set a world-startling record of walking the distance equivalent of that of going round the earth ten times during the past 25 years upholding the torch of the multi-loom tending movement.

She is Ri Myong Sun at weaving shop No. 1 of the general weaving workshop of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill.

As a woman in her 40s, she is an ordinary person with small stature, but she did not live as a commoner.

Over 20 years back, she volunteered to work at the then Pyongyang Textile Combine. She studied at the vocational school of the factory before taking a job at her present workshop, which produced many heroines in the Chollima era.

She strived to work like Jon Ok Hwa and other heroine weavers.

During the Arduous March and forced march when the country was experiencing unprecedented difficulties, she formed a shock force with girls of her workteam to run idle looms. She continued to increase the number of weaving machines in her charge from 8 to 10, 12 and 16, but she had never felt contented.

One day in July 2009 when she was operating over five



KIM JIN MYONG / RODONG SINMUN
Ri Myong Sun (centre), a weaver at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill.

times more looms than her assignment, she met Chairman Kim Jong Il on an inspection tour of the mill. The Chairman affectionately shook her hands, calling her a new generation of labour innovator, and had a photograph taken with her. Looking up to him, she pledged to work harder.

Since then, the conception of innovator has completely changed for her.

She has never flattered herself as an innovator as she made redoubled efforts to attain higher goals. Though her working route extended as the days went by, she worked hard and hard.

As she carefully watched other weavers after her shift, she hit upon a good idea that could

double the daily production plan by renewing the method of making the rounds of looms. The new route corresponded to half of the previous one, but it required intensive and quick work.

Therefore, she made unknown efforts to acquire dexterous workmanship and prepared herself to be competent to fix minor problems by learning repair skills after her shift.

"Fellow workers lavish praise on her, describing her as an enterprising woman with fast workmanship," said the manager of the mill.

The total length of cloths she has so far woven is more than 2 400km. In order to weave such a length of cloths, a weaver should walk well over a hundred times of the length. She walked 60km every day, which means that she travelled a total of over 400 000km to run her looms, which is equivalent of the distance of walking round the earth for ten times.

A motivator of her workteam, she led many fellow weavers and newcomers to become innovators and treasures of the workshop with warm humanity and personal example.

"I don't feel exhausted when I deem my workplace as the post to defend the country," says Ri Myong Sun.

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

IRRIGATION

Underground reservoir project goes full steam ahead

The DPRK is rich in underground water resources as it abounds in rivers and streams and a large quantity of water sinks into the ground.

Generally, underground reservoirs have great economic effectiveness as they supply water for industrial and agricultural use and drinking water as well, while preventing damage from high and low temperatures.

"In the construction of underground reservoirs it is important to select the right materials for watertight walls and the right construction methods," said Jo Yong Chol, director of the Hydraulic Engineering Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

In the country the watertight walls are built with clay, concrete, bricks and stones. The major construction method is the open-cut method which is adopted for the digging depth of below 10 metres and requires no special construction machinery and materials.

According to an official of Thongchon County, Kangwon Province, the county with vast areas of paddy fields was short of water and failed to fully satisfy the growth conditions of crops in the past, and therefore it built more underground reservoirs or expanded them to supply irrigation water for hundreds of hectares of paddies.

The Phungsan Farm in the county excavated a 120-metre-long section of a dried-up river bed 10 metres deep, compacted clay to erect waterproof walls and finished an underground

reservoir in a little over a month. As a result, it became able to make underground water flow to 250 hectares of farmland by gravity.

In order to increase water storing capacity, the Miphyong Cooperative Farm erected watertight walls with hundreds of cubic metres of rubble stones to build an underground reservoir, thereby supplying irrigation water for over 200 hectares of paddies.

According to a recent study, there are thousands of rivers with the length of over 5 kilometres and innumerable shorter watercourses. And aquifers are found at not so deep layers in intermediary and mountainous areas and their slopes are not so steep, which makes it possible to build underground reservoirs.

Considering the fact, one out of thousands of feasible underground dams is estimated to be dozens of metres long with the minimum volume of tens of thousands of cubic metres, and hundreds of cubic metres of water can be used a day when the underground reservoir is based on a circular system.

At present a series of activities are conducted for the construction of underground reservoirs across the country, including the assessment of the prospects for the use of underground water in the areas that are short of irrigation water, the updating of technical guidelines on the construction of such reservoirs and the work to solve relevant scientific and technological problems.

By Ri Sang Il PT

HIGH-TECH

Company sniffs opportunity out of wireless networking

"Wireless network data transmission arises as a crucial matter now that information communications technology is making rapid progress," said Kim Jae Hyok, director of the Mangyongdae Haeyang Technical Exchanging Company, adding his company has developed smart tablet PC and wireless modem to this end.

The smart tablet PC "TaeYang" facilitates access to technological data and other information through the public wireless network based on the Wi-Fi technology.

The Wi-Fi technology is now widely accepted as it ensures high-speed transmission of large-size data and costs less than the mobile communications network using the CDMA technology, said the director.

According to him, the tablet PC has a SIM card for

user identification, a high-capacity battery and a 7 or 10.1-inch retina-compatible, high-resolution screen and the maximum download speed is 70 Mbps.

"Different types of tablet PCs are now available in the country, but 'TaeYang' is the only one that can connect to the Mirae network, a wireless data communications network which is established in various parts of Pyongyang," said Kim Song Bom, student of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education.

A wireless network browser, it helps users not only read newspaper and get weather information at any time and at any place within the wireless data communications network service area but also get access to international and local technological data and commercial information and watch videos on websites

including that of the Sci-Tech Complex. It also allows those who are enrolled on online courses to receive lectures and take examinations.

It can currently call up the Mirae network in the compounds of Kim Il Sung University and Kim Chaek University of Technology, Mirae Scientists, Ryomyong, Yonggwang and Haebangsan streets, the Sci-Tech Complex and some other parts of Pyongyang, but it will soon be available in the whole city.

"The 'TaeYang' wireless modem is designed for the wireless LAN security system Rael 1.0 which we have recently developed," said researcher Ra Song Ho.

According to him, Rael 1.0 is a wireless networking system that can be set up independently as a localized network which helps users receive different

kinds of network services through wireless terminals like the tablet PC.

For its low production cost, safe security cooperation and high technical specifications, the system can ensure prompt and effective business management and dissemination of science and technology at academic

and educational institutions and industrial establishments.

The Mangyongdae Haeyang Technical Exchanging Company was chosen as one of the top 10 IT businesses at the national informatization exhibition-2019.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Tablet PCs manufactured by the Mangyongdae Haeyang Technical Exchanging Company.

National flavour pervades as kimchi-making season comes

Housewives busy with kimchi making

It is the winter kimchi-making season now in the DPRK.

It is a traditional Korean custom to make winter kimchi which the locals call the half share of the total food for the season.

Every winter every Korean household prepares the savoury national dish according to their local and family practices.

The Koreans eat kimchi all the year round, especially 300-400g each every day in winter.

Housewives apply themselves to the preparation of the dish.

They get ready bok choy with good hearts, watery radishes and such seasonings as powdered red pepper, garlic, ginger, pickled and raw fish and other subsidiary ingredients.

"From olden times, the Koreans have gathered in a neighbour's house in the winter kimchi-making season to help each other with pickling and washing bok choy, preparing seasonings and filling kimchi pots," said Han Kyong Hwa, head of a neighbourhood unit in Jonsung-dong, Moranbong District, Pyongyang. "Such a custom has been carried on and is also practised in our neighbourhood unit."

According to her, the neighbours exchange experience in making appetizing kimchi at such time and the taste of the food depends on the skill of housewives. "They have a competition to see who makes the tastiest kimchi this season," she added.

After pickling and washing the vegetable, they made



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Hong Mun Suk (left) makes kimchi with her family members at Ryukkyo-dong No. 1, Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

seasonings for stuffing.

Kim Myong Suk who moved to Pyongyang from North Hamgyong Province in spring made the seasonings deep red with pepper powder and sliced walleye pollack and flatfish, while her next-door neighbour added pickled anchovies and spicy fruits of prickly ash.

After making seasonings according to their family traditions, the housewives put the stuffings between the leaves of halved bok choy heads and piled them inside the sterilized pots. They then put the outer leaves of the vegetable on the piles in order not to let in air. After a few days, they would pour in the water which has almost the same salty taste as the pickled vegetable and place a stone on each pot lest the vegetables should float in the kimchi juice.

A newly married woman put bundles of perilla

branches sparsely in her pot, saying her mother would do so to give some extra flavour to kimchi.

In addition, they made other kinds of kimchi according to the taste of their family members, such as cubed radish kimchi, wrapped-up kimchi and leaf-mustard kimchi.

After finishing kimchi making they had a pleasant time sampling each other's seasonings.

Mouth-watering at first sight with the delicate taste of fermentation and refreshing spices, the different kinds of kimchi would build up appetites of their family members throughout the winter.

Kimchi-making techniques are frequently introduced on different TV channels these days to elevate the mood of the kimchi-making season.

By Pang Un Ju PT

One of world's five health foods

Kimchi is known as a tasty food good for health and longevity as it contains various nutritive elements including vitamins.

The soft fibroid material of bok choy and radish, main materials of kimchi, prevents constipation, while such auxiliary food materials as pickled dish or fishes supplement diet with protein. And the protein of fishes dissolves into amino acids with the gradual fermenting of kimchi and fishbone melts away to be the supplying source of calcium.

As fermented kimchi includes organic acid, it stimulates appetite.

The food is efficacious for the prevention and treatment of heart attack, cerebral apoplexy, senile arteriosclerosis, cancer, obesity and other diseases.

When the world was seized with fear due to the spread of SARS some years ago, there was no infection of the epidemic in the DPRK.

The world community attributed it to the fact that Koreans always have kimchi which improves immunocompetence and exerts

antibiotic effect.

A foreign magazine gave wide publicity to the Korean food under the headline of "World's best health food", saying the fermented Korean kimchi, fatless health food with rich fibroid material, promotes digestion and controls the growth of cancerous cells as it contains abundant vitamin A, vitamin B group and vitamin C, as well as bacteria good for health.

The traditional food of the Korean nation is widely being known as one of the world's five health foods for its refreshing taste, unique fragrance and nutritive value.

With the worldwide interest in kimchi growing, the kimchi-making practice, an element of intangible cultural heritage of the DPRK, was registered as a world intangible cultural heritage element at the 10th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the UNESCO held in Windhoek, Namibia, last year.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Fresh, crunchy



Clockwise from top left: Wrapped-up kimchi, whole bok choy kimchi, wild garlic kimchi, hot pepper kimchi, watery kimchi made of sliced radish and aralia shoot kimchi

Kimchi making in Korea dates back to mid-13th century

Old historical records prove kimchi has widely been used in the dietary life of the Korean people since olden times.

Tonggukrisanggukjip compiled in the mid-13th century says that radish was salted and there was Ryomulgo storing processed vegetables at the time.

History of Koryo published in 1451 records the fact that there were various kinds of kimchi like kunjo (parsley kimchi), chongjo (radish

kimchi) and bijo (chives kimchi) and Chimjanggo, a national institution specializing in making, storing and keeping kimchi, in the period of Koryo.

Tongguksesigi says that winter kimchi had been used in dietary life long ago.

Sejong Sillok (Chronicles of King Sejong), *Songsobubugo* published in 1611, *Umsikjimibang* compiled in around 1670 and others refer in detail to the fact that kimchi-making further developed in

the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty.

In particular, *Sallimgyongje*, or Forestry Economy, published in the 18th century says kimchi was made by mixing various kinds of spices like red pepper after the early 17th century.

Other historical records say in detail that there were over 40 kinds of kimchi and lots of materials were used for making it.

By Kil Chung Il PT

PROFILE

Handicapped woman shoots to fame as singer

Pak Jin Ri, 17-year-old singer, sang several encores at a homecoming performance of the art troupe of persons with disabilities which was given in Pyongyang last October after its China tour.

As the performance showed, she is a popular singer who wins great admiration of the audience in all performances at home and abroad.

People may think that it is unreasonable to call a woman, who has just grown out of girlhood, a popular singer, but Pak is an accomplished singer.

She sings so emotionally to make listeners heartwarming that her songs are inspiring, vigorous and impassioned—this is the unanimous opinion of the audience about Jin Ri and her song.

While studying at the vocational school for the disabled under the Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled, she joined the artistic group of the Korean art association of the disabled as she had been fond of singing since her childhood.

“My daughter sang when she began to speak. She startled others by singing songs from the start to the end with the vocalism of grown-up singers when she was two and a half years old. When she was five, she sang songs of international



contest winners so well that neighbours said her songs were as wonderful as those broadcast on TV,” said her mother Ri Kyong Hui.

Asked how she could be good at singing, she would answer, “Song is just my life.”

Even in her childhood when her coevals spent days with play, she used to listen to songs from TV and recorder and repeatedly hear every song ten or twenty times till she was conversant with them, her family members said.

Sometimes, she heard and sang songs in her room all day long, and she was so passionate that even her family members did not dare to disturb her.

Since her childhood, she has collected thousands of songs

including classic, modern, popular, folk and world-famous songs.

“It is true that I loved song very much, but the positive encouragement of well-wishers was the source of my energy, I think. Even at present I can’t forget villagers and nursery and kindergarten teachers, who would embrace me as a reward for my good singing, as well as teachers of the primary school I attended, the Pyongyang Students and Children’s Palace and Taedong school for the blind who spared no efforts to nurture my artistic talent,” said Jin Ri.

Her artistic ability is further being enhanced through artistic group activities.

She dreams of becoming a famous singer who sings well any songs including popular, folk and opera songs.

Therefore, she values every song she keeps while studying and taking in the characteristics and good qualities of every song and singer.

“Jin Ri has inherent temperament and passion as a singer. Even experts are surprised to hear her unique and individual timbre, rich voice and deep breath. She is a promising singer,” said Ri Jong Hwa, a staffer of the art association.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

EDUCATION

IT plays important part in university education

Lecturers of Hamhung University of Medicine make effective use of IT in education to enhance the practical abilities and skills of students.

“The electronic board we have developed can put education on multifunctional and IT basis at a high level and display images without interference of light. It is very effective for teaching as it is embedded with various 3D programs and animations,” said Ho Kun, chief of the science and education research office.

Student Ri Chol Ok said the electronic board helps them easily understand the content of lectures and is very helpful for their extracurricular study.

The board was widely introduced into colleges and middle schools in Hamhung City.

The university also developed a virtual circulatory patient consultation system, which is a great help to clinic medicine lecturers.

When a student gives a conclusive diagnosis with the help of this system through consultation and status praesens, preliminary and differential diagnoses, and appliance tests, the results are displayed and the teacher evaluates the consultation process of the student.

“In the past, students had some troubles as they could not look for patients suitable for their practice. But since the introduction of the system, they have been able to select virtual patients under any conditions,” said lecturer

Ryang Hak Jun.

The system is being applied to educational units across the country.

Meanwhile, the department of orthopaedics of the university built an online surgery observation room to improve the practical abilities of students.

It informatized the operating rooms of the Hamhung Orthopaedic Hospital so that students could attend lectures while watching the process of operation in the room.

All lecturers and students are of the opinion that the lectures in the room are as effective as those in the operating room.

“We will contrive more effective teaching methods conducive to raising the students’ practical abilities and skills with the help of IT and continue to improve educational conditions,” said Ri Jong Il, vice-president of the university in charge of general affairs concerning instruction.

By Jong Chol PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Students are in an online surgery observation lecture at Hamhung University of Medicine.

ANNIVERSARY

UN child rights convention anniversary celebrated

A meeting of children took place at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren’s Palace in Pyongyang on Wednesday to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted to provide children

with a better world that ensures peaceful, equal, safe and clean environment.

The CRC, comprising three chapters and 54 articles for the provision of rights of every child such as the rights to life, survival and development, was

adopted by the 44th United Nations General Assembly on November 20 1989.

The event was attended by officials of the Education Commission, the Grand People’s Study House and other relevant units, schoolchildren, diplomatic envoys and representatives of international organizations and members of their missions in Pyongyang, including the UN resident coordinator ad interim and representative of the WFP and the representative of the UNICEF country office in the DPRK.

Pak Sun Chol, director of education of the Grand People’s Study House, in his speech said that it is the consistent policy of the DPRK to give priority to granting and protecting children’s rights and interests and spare nothing for them regarding them as the king of the country.

The CRC became the first

legally binding code of the distinct rights of the child in history, the representative of the UNICEF in the DPRK said.

He said all states/governments have to do the utmost in their power and with available means to prioritize the wellbeing of children.

As the sole agency mandated by the CRC to advance its implementation, UNICEF applauds and supports the progress made in the DPRK in making the promise of the convention a reality for every child in it, he said.

“UNICEF, as part of the United Nations family, will continue to do all it can to assist the government of the DPRK in the ongoing effort of giving every child, every right; of giving every child, dreams.”

At the meeting there was an awards ceremony for the drawing competition which was

held on the theme of “my dream, my hope” to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the CRC in July.

At the drawing competition “Small painter” drawn by Hwang Kon, a pupil at Jungsan Primary School in Jungsan County, South Phyongan Province, took the first place, with “I will become an agronomist” by Kim Thae Yong from Rungna Primary School in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, finishing runner-up and “I will become a teacher” by Ji Ryo Phyong from Jongju Primary School in Jongju City, North Phyongan Province, coming third.

The participants enjoyed an art performance given by the art group members of the palace, saw a video “Korean children” and looked round the photos and pictures on show.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Participants look round photos in an event held to mark the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Pyongyang.

INTERVIEW

DPRK-US dialogue possible only when US drops hostility

Kim Myong Gil, roving ambassador of the DPRK Foreign Ministry, on Tuesday was interviewed by a KCNA reporter as regards the DPRK-US dialogue.

The US media recently reported that the DPRK-US working negotiations are quite likely to take place in December. Could you tell me about it?

As we have already stated several times, the DPRK-US dialogue is impossible unless the US makes a bold decision to drop the policy hostile towards the DPRK.

It is said that the special envoy of the US Department of State for north Korea policy suggested having a meeting again within December through

a third country. Which country is it?

It is Sweden.

Why do you think the United States was not in direct contact with the DPRK, but asked Sweden to relay the suggestion?

In my opinion, the US side traded on Sweden not to give an impression that it fawns on the DPRK.

The DPRK appreciates the Swedish side for having offered the venue for the DPRK-US working negotiations and convenience early in October.

But now that the DPRK and the US know each other's stand so well, there is no need for Sweden to work for the DPRK-US dialogue any longer,

I think.

I am not sure whether Sweden is interested in the improvement of the DPRK-US relationship or beseeched by the US, but if the Swedish side behaves like a back-seat driver as the US stays mum, it might be regarded as unreasonable.

It is not because there is no communication channel nor mediator that the DPRK-US negotiations have not yet taken place.

The Swedish side would be well-advised to properly understand the situation and behave itself.

The US should no longer take advantage of the third country to pretend that it is interested in the DPRK-US dialogue.

COMMENT

Sinister intention can never be concealed

The US is intensifying pressure on south Korea on the pretext of building up alliance.

It is forcing south Korea into altering the alliance crisis management memorandum, an auxiliary document of the south Korea-US Mutual Defence Treaty, after demanding the latter increase defence cost sharing.

Americans want to replace the phrases defining the scope of crisis management of the Combined Forces Command as the "contingency in the Korean peninsula" with the "contingency in the Korean peninsula and the US".

If this is translated into reality, south Korea will have to dispatch its troops to any overseas troubled areas that have nothing to do with it beyond the peninsula and the Pacific region when the US judges it as a crisis.

The point is why the US is going to amend the memorandum now, though it has used it for decades after its conclusion in October 1953.

At present, the problem of transferring the wartime operations control is on the agenda between the two sides.

The US feels regret about the transfer as it has held sway over

south Korea with full command of its armed forces.

That is why the US has already postponed the transfer several times, and is now attempting to put south Korea under the yoke of subjugation more tightly.

The US insists that the alteration of the memorandum is "geared to make clearer the south Korea-US joint response after the transfer", but its intention to bind south Korea fast under the veil of "alliance" and use it as a scapegoat for realizing its hegemonic strategy can never be covered up.

By Min Chol PT

STATEMENT

FM spokesman: No need to come face to face with US

"We bitterly denounce it as a politically-motivated reckless provocation the hostile forces committed to definitely set the DPRK as their target and destroy its system by brigandish means," said a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry on Nov 17.

The remarks came after an anti-DPRK "human rights resolution" was railroaded at a meeting of the Third Committee of the 74th UN General Assembly on Nov 14.

The adoption of the "resolution" under the signboard of the UN fully reveals that the UN has been reduced to a marionette controlled by the US, he said, adding it is the stereotyped method of the imperialists to cook up "human rights" issue for the regime change in the countries that disobey them and to use it as an excuse for aggression.

He said the "resolution" was railroaded at a time when trumpeting about "human rights" is being heard among political circles in Washington and human scum who abandoned even their native places and families frequent the White House. This clearly proves that the US stands behind the anti-DPRK "human rights" racket, he asserted.

"Since the US hinted at its will to adjust the joint military exercise with south Korea some

days ago, we, for our part, tried hard to appreciate it as part of positive attempts to ease tensions and make the most of chance for dialogue in consideration of the DPRK, its dialogue partner.

"But as the DPRK witnessed the 'human right resolution' being railroaded against it, it confirmed once again that the US still dreams a foolish dream of making its system collapse," he noted.

Criticizing the US for having committed another politically-motivated provocation getting on the DPRK's nerves at the sensitive time when bilateral relations have been put at a delicate moment, the spokesman stated that the reality proves that the US, obsessed with the inveterate prejudice against the DPRK's ideology and system, is still wedded to the hostile policy geared to isolate and stifle the country.

Now that the US chases a pipe dream of overthrowing the DPRK's system and tries to bring it to the International Criminal Court, it no longer has willingness to sit at the table with the US, he said, adding that even if a bilateral dialogue is held in the future, the nuclear issue would never be put under discussion before the withdrawal of the US hostile policy would be put on the agenda.

Compiled from KCNA

IRAN

In defiance of sanctions of the West

A recent exhibition in Iran drew special attention of the international community as it displayed the wrecks of foreign drones shot down by the country's air defence system.

A special draw was the hulk of a US unmanned aircraft that the Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps downed with the anti-aircraft system from the sky above the country's southern territorial waters.

Experts commented that the exhibition demonstrated Iran's will not to compromise with any force that violates its sovereignty.

The Iranian government maintains the stand to mount resolute counterattack against any provocation in the face of US threat and blackmail.

It is fair to say that the military parade held last September to mark the holy defence week was a reflection of this stand.

The procession unveiled lots of latest homemade missiles and other weapons.

On the same day the Iranian army and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps staged the other military parade in the Persian Gulf involving surface ships, submarines and fighters including the country's first homemade latest model.

Iran also held a ceremony to unveil new types of homemade military hardware. Analysts say such exceptional moves are aimed at taking the initiative in the confrontation with the Western countries.

The country staged more than 120 rounds of cyber defence exercises in six months as part of the measures to improve its cyber defence capability against US threat. Particularly, it intensified drills to provide against cyberattacks in the energy sector.

Iran also unfolded a latest homemade aircraft for training on October 17 in a show of its tough stance.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

SMOKING

Electronic smoking turns out to be more hazardous

Electronic cigarettes were originally developed for those who want to quit smoking.

For example, a New Zealand university in 2008 developed an e-cigarette which was supposed to ensure intake of nicotine without producing fatal side effects on human body.

After being brought out on the crest of a wave of the extensive smoking cessation movement, it was widespread throughout the world. The producers played up the alleged safety of the cigarette, asserting that it generates much less amount of hazardous chemical substances.

Spellbound by such ads, smokers believed it would free

them from the effects of carbon monoxide, tar and other harmful elements in normal cigarettes and purchased it en masse.

However, it has recently been revealed by some study results that it is harmful to human health just like ordinary ones and even contains the toxics that the normal ones do not have.

It is reportedly dangerous for teenagers in particular.

According to findings, nicotine that is contained in the e-cigarette has a lingering effect on the development of their brains and is highly addictive.

People are getting to realize the harm of e-cigarette and it is treated just the same as ordinary

cigarettes in many countries.

They have imposed a total ban on the use of e-cigarette in public places.

The World Health Organisation, in its latest report on world smoking trend in 2019, underlined the dangerous effects the new type of tobaccos might have on health and warned people to keep their eyes wide open so as not to be deceived by ads of relevant businesses. It also called on governments of all countries to tighten supervision and control over such products and take precautionary measures to protect people's health.

By Om Ryong PT

HANDICAPPED

Persons with disabilities hold shooting and archery competition

A shooting and archery contest of persons with disabilities and amateurs (first round) took place at the Meari Shooting Gallery on November 17.

The competition attracted interest of many as it was the first of its kind in the country.

It drew persons with disabilities and amateurs over 17 years of age except those with professional career.

"The contest drew over 60 disabled persons and some 150 amateurs and the players are very enthusiastic," said Ri Yong Su, an official of the Korean Sports

Association of the Disabled under the Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled.

The shooting event took place, divided into four categories: the first one was 50m rifle shooting for persons with disabilities, the second one amateur men's 25m pistol shooting, the third one amateur women's 50m rifle shooting and the fourth one mixed shooting (men's 25m pistol and women's 50m rifle shooting).

In the first, second and third categories every player shot 10

rounds and eight players (in the first category), 16 players (in the second and third categories) and eight groups (in the fourth category) with the highest scores advanced to the next round.

In the first category shooting event Sim Sung Hyok, a person with a disability, scored the highest points of 92.4.

The archery competition also took place in three divisions: the first one was men's 20m and women's 15m events for persons with disabilities, and the second and third for amateurs.

In the archery contest each player shot 10 arrows and the top eight players qualified for the second round.

"Both shooting and archery events require players to have not only good physical fitness but also high psychological control ability and concentration. Seeing the games of persons with disabilities, I have been struck by their strong spiritual strength," said referee Ri Su Ryon.

The final matches will take place at the Meari Shooting Gallery on November 24.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the shooting and archery competition of persons with disabilities and amateurs at the Meari Shooting Gallery.

MEDAL

Shooters snatch six golds on Asian front



Medallists pose for a photo after returning to Pyongyang from the 14th Asian Shooting Championships.

DPRK players achieved successful results at the 14th Asian Shooting Championships.

The event was held in Qatar from Nov 3 to 14 drawing more than 930 men and women players from at least 30 countries and regions including the DPRK, China, India and Iran.

The Korean shooters bagged six golds in the championships.

Kim Song Guk got the highest marks in the 10m airgun shooting to renew the Asian and world records.

The DPRK team triumphed in the men's 10m running target shooting and men's and women's 10m running target mixed shooting events. Jo Yong Chol and Pak Myong Won snatched golds at the men's individual events of 10m running target shooting and 10m running target mixed shooting.

The team won 11 medals in total with two silvers and three bronzes.

Compiled from KCNA

DOG

Phungsan show held to select the best

A national Phungsan show was held at the Central Zoo in Pyongyang on Nov 19-20 at the time when Phungsan raising is all the rage in the DPRK.

Phungsan, an indigenous dog of Korea, was designated as the national dog of the DPRK in 2014 and the number of people keeping the dog has grown ever since.

Presented to the show, called "Korea's national dog of Phungsan show-2019", were more than 70 dogs that were highly rated at provincial shows.

Despite the chilly weather with winter near at hand, owners of the dogs and many other people thronged into the zoo. Among them were whole families from local areas far away from the capital city.

At the show grades and rankings were decided by examining the qualitative indexes of the dogs and their physique, poise, mobility, alertness and pedigree which were divided into more than 20 detailed items.

They were judged by members of the Korean Zoology Society of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

According to juror Choe Kyong Sik, the standard dimensions of the dogs were as follows: the lengths of females and males were respectively 55-58cm and 57-60cm, their heights 47-49cm and 49-52cm,

their breast depths 20-22cm and 21-23cm, their breast widths 15-16cm and 16-17cm, their girths 63-66cm and 66-69cm and their weights 18-22kg and 20-24kg.

All the dogs presented were rated as first, second and third classes and three of them came first, six second and twelve third.

The owners of the winners were awarded diplomas along with breed registration certificates.

North Hwanghae and South Hamgyong provinces topped the total provincial rankings.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Phungsan show-2019 is held at the Central Zoo in Pyongyang.

LEGEND

Celebrated woman artist in 16th century

Sin Saimdang (October 1504-May 1551) was a renowned woman artist in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910).

Born into a nobleman's family in Kangnung, Kangwon Province, she began learning in her early age and was good at poem and other writings, painting, calligraphy and embroidery.

She excelled especially in painting. Already at the age of seven, she drew a landscape and a grape by modelling after the works of An Kyon, an illustrious artist of 15th century Korea.

Typical of her surviving artworks are *Swans in the Lotus Pond*, *Grapes*, *Mandarin Fish* and *Eggplants*.

Her paintings are characterized by brightness, delicacy, lifelikeness and beauty.

Sin also goes down in Korean history as a poetess.

Her poems mainly dealt with customs and manners, singing of high integrity and virtues of women. *Thinking of Father* and *Crossing over Taegwan Pass*



Painting Eggplants by Sin Saimdang (1504-1551).

are known as her masterpieces, which clearly show her plain yet exquisite lyricism.

Sin Saimdang drew lots of colour pictures that were true to life, thus contributing to developing Korean painting.

By Pang Un Ju PT

