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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un tours revolutionary battle sites in Mt Paektu area



WPK Central Committee to meet for plenary session

According to a decision of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on Tuesday, the 5th Plenary Meeting of the 7th Central Committee of the WPK will be convened late in December to discuss and decide on crucial matters in line with the requirements of the development of the Korean revolution and the changed situation at home and abroad.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, has made the rounds of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, Army General Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, commanders of the services and army corps of the KPA and senior officials of the WPK Central Committee.

As he looked round the revolutionary

battle and other sites and camping quarters for study tourists in Samjiyon County, the Mupho Bivouac and the Tachongdan Revolutionary Battle Site, he acquainted himself with the preservation and management of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area and the actual situation of the study tour and indicated the historic importance of education in revolutionary traditions and ways for intensifying it at a higher level.

Riding a steed across the vast area of mountain together with the accompanying commanding officials, he recollected the past of the guerrillas who wrote the first page of the history of the Korean revolution by shedding their blood in the plains of Paektu.

Saying that Samjiyon County has undergone a complete change

as befits the native county of the revolution and has been built more splendidly as a hub of education in revolutionary traditions, a place for practically experiencing them and an immense edifice for the education, he noted that this is a manifestation of the unshakeable faith and immutable will of the Korean people to carry forward and add brilliance to the glorious revolutionary traditions, the eternal cornerstone of the revolution, as the eternal lifeline, and accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered on Paektu.

He referred to the need to give Party members, working people and service personnel of younger generation and youth and schoolchildren a correct understanding that the revolutionary traditions of Paektu are the sole traditions of the Korean revolution

which were created along with the start of the revolution and which have steadily been inherited and developed throughout the grim years of the revolution.

Now that rising generations are emerging as the main force, new issues are arising from the world's political structure and social and class relations and the imperialists and class enemies are intensifying the attempts to undermine the ideological, revolutionary and class positions of our Party, we should always live and work in the spirit of offensive of Paektu, he pointed out, adding that it is an important, vital issue for ensuring steady continuity of the revolution to be firmly armed with the great idea and spirit running

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Tour: Kim Jong Un visits battle sites on horseback

FROM PAGE 1

through the revolutionary traditions of Paektu.

It is an important goal and policy the Party consistently maintains in training reserves for the revolution to ensure that the younger generations, who make up the main force of the Korean revolution at present, attain the same level as the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners in terms of ideological and spiritual qualities and fighting spirit, he noted, adding that is why the Party has made sure that the slogan "Let us produce, study and live like the anti-Japanese guerrillas!" is held aloft.

Saying that there would be no one on a par with President Kim Il Sung, who pushed his way through virgin snow and waged long bloody battles for national liberation and the people's freedom and happiness, he noted that the President's immortal revolutionary exploits will go down through generations along with the immovable, imposing figure of Mt Paektu.

He said that as he reverently meditates on the mind of the President in those years, who might have crossed steep mountains with

his strong willpower dreaming of today's powerful socialist country, he hardens his determination thinking how to defend the gains of the revolution with what kind of readiness and how to take the one road only down through generations with what kind of attitude, and that this invigorates him though heavy responsibility weighs on him.

The revolutionary ideas of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il pulsate in all the revolutionary battle and other sites in the Mt Paektu area, he said, pointing to the need to receive lots of education through the study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in order to learn about their ideas and the revolutionary ideology and indomitable revolutionary spirit of the Party. He noted it is particularly important for the commanding officials of the revolution to attend "Paektusan university" through the study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in Mt Paektu in order to thoroughly prepare and arm themselves to be sound and competent political activists who take after the great leaders.

It is the steadfast determination and will of our Party to defend and carry forward for all eternity the glorious revolutionary traditions which struck roots in Mt Paektu so as to overcome

the difficulties of the revolution and pave the way with the indomitable idea of offensive based on the great traditions, he stated.

He told the officials to organize the study tour of revolutionary battle sites in large numbers in winter, too, and said that it is the demand of the Party that the study tour should be made not in a formalistic way or in a sightseeing style, but in a substantial way to make study tourists experience and realize how severe the hardships and trials the anti-Japanese guerrillas suffered were. He underscored the need to give strong impetus all across the Party once again to equipping people with the revolutionary spirit through the study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area.

He called for taking measures to thoroughly reject and overcome such things as approaching the issue related to the study tour of revolutionary battle sites and the revolutionary sites as a business-like issue or a thing over which one can bargain, as defaulting on it under the excuses of conditions, as approaching the issue of education in the revolutionary traditions in a chronic way and as trying to substitute the reading session of the reminiscences of anti-Japanese guerrillas for it.

He said that he has found time to look

round the revolutionary battle sites this time in order to establish a social atmosphere of further strengthening the education in the revolutionary traditions which is aimed at instilling the indomitable revolutionary spirit of Paektu in Party members, other working people, service personnel, youth and schoolchildren in line with the essential requirements of the present situation and environment of the revolution in which the whole Party, the entire army and all the people are out in the drive for building a powerful socialist country on the strength of the staunch spirit of self-reliance by holding fast to the Party's line of self-prosperity as their lifeline in the face of the unprecedented blockade and pressure imposed by the imperialists, and also in line with the needs to get prepared for the arduous and protracted characters of the revolution. He stressed once again the need to defend forever and embody in an all-round way the revolutionary traditions of Paektu, the great encyclopedia of the revolution and the eternal treasure of the nation.

After touring the revolutionary battle sites, the Supreme Leader again climbed Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution.

Compiled from KCNA

Kim Jong Un cuts ribbons to inaugurate remodelled county town and vegetable greenhouse farm, tree nursery

The county town of Samjiyon where the birthplace of Chairman Kim Jong Il in the Paektusan Secret Camp is located has been reconstructed as a model of mountainous city of culture encapsulating modern civilization.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony of reconstructed Samjiyon county town took place with splendour on Monday.

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, attended the ceremony.

Samjiyon county town to which the Juche-based idea on architectural aesthetics of the WPK has fully been applied is divided into districts for education, dwelling houses, commercial service networks and others. It is the epitome of socialist civilization, which combines the national identity, modernity and northern alpine features wonderfully and in which all buildings have perfectly been designed and constructed in a practical, diversified and artistic style on the principle of giving priority to convenience and architectural beauty.

The sea change in the county town has fully demonstrated the steadfast faith and will of the Party and people of the DPRK to add eternal lustre to and carry forward generation after generation the immortal

revolutionary history and exploits of Chairman Kim Jong Il and provided a springboard for successfully implementing the Party's plan for local construction.

The ceremony was also attended by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, first vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK.

Present there were O Su Yong, vice-

chairman of the Central Committee of the WPK, Tong Jong Ho, vice-premier of the Cabinet, Ri Sang Won, chairman of the Ryanggang Provincial Committee of the WPK, Pak Hun, minister of Construction and Building-materials Industry, Yang Myong Chol, chairman of the Samjiyon County Committee of the WPK, chairpersons of provincial Party and people's committees, officials of ministries and national agencies, commanding officers and shock brigade members of the Construction Division 216, and officials, working people and schoolchildren in Ryanggang Province including Samjiyon County.

Also present there were Army General Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, officials of military organs and soldier-builders.

Choe Ryong Hae said in an

inaugural speech that the great changes unfolded today in Samjiyon county town are the priceless fruition of the great leadership marked by noble moral obligation and devoted, selfless efforts for the good of the people of the Supreme Leader who proposed the Samjiyon County reconstruction project and put his heart and soul into it day and night.

The completion of the construction of the county town demonstrated to the world the inexhaustible might of the

single-minded unity of the Party and people and the infinite self-development potentials of the country and proved in reality the vitality of the Party's line of self-reliance that nothing is impossible when the country relies on its strength and rises up, united in one mind, he noted.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un cut the ribbon.

Thunderous cheers of hurrah went up from the crowds, with hundreds of fireworks bursting and lots of balloons floating up in mid-air to beautifully decorate the sky above the county town.

A large vegetable greenhouse farm and a modern tree nursery have been completed in the Jungphyong area of Kyongsong County, North Hamgyong Province.

An inaugural ceremony took place with splendour on Tuesday.



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Ceremony: Kim Jong Un inaugurates greenhouse farm and tree nursery

FROM PAGE 3

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un attended the ceremony.

The Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm and the Tree Nursery have buildings whose practicality and formative art of architecture have been ensured to show the standard of socialist civilization. All the production processes there are equipped with domestic technology and homemade facilities, and they rank among pacemakers of the times in terms of scientific and cultural levels.

The soldier builders completed 320 blocks of greenhouses, nursery gardens and houses for hundreds of families in the area of 200 hectares in a little more than one year.

Present at the ceremony were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee.

Also seen there were Pak Thae Dok, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Hi Yong, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee, Sin Chol Ung, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Rural Economy Committee, officials of the Party Central Committee, employees



of the greenhouse farm and tree nursery, and locals including those in Kyongsong County.

Among the participants were Army General Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and other KPA commanding officers and soldier builders.

Amid the playing of welcome music, Kim Jong Un came out to the venue of the ceremony.

Pak Pong Ju said in an inaugural address that the large vegetable greenhouse farm and modern tree nursery sprang up in the northern area of the country to decorate this year replete with landmark events, instilling confidence in their own strength and sure victory into the

Korean people.

Kim Jong Un cut the ribbon.

He looked round the greenhouse farm together with senior Party and government officials and KPA commanding officers.

Quantitative indices are important in vegetable production but more important is nutritional indices and tastes, he said, stressing the need to actively introduce advanced science and technology and ensure optimum production.

Calling for setting a high fighting goal and ideals, he specified tasks and ways for bringing about a drastic turn in greenhouse farming by building vegetable greenhouse farms in all provinces, getting them to compete

with one another and making it a practice to assess their scientific farming conditions.

There are geographically far and near places but people are all close to him, he said, adding that he will have nothing more to desire if the greenhouse farm contributes to the dietary life of locals in North Hamgyong Province.

He gave thanks in the name of the WPK Central Military Commission to the soldier-builders, who fully demonstrated the might of the army of the people by presenting a vast sea of greenhouses like the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm.

Compiled from KCNA



HOUSING

County town reconstruction project completed

Senior Party and government officials visited reconstructed Samjiyon county town on Monday.

Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the State Affairs

Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, looked round the county town.

Among the visitors were Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and member of the State Affairs

Commission of the DPRK, O Su Yong, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, chairpersons of provincial Party and people's committees and officials of ministries and national agencies.

After enjoying the general view of the county town from

the observation deck on top of Pegae Peak, they looked round the Samjiyon Blueberry Drink Factory which has been built as a model and standard of local industrial factories, dwelling houses, Samjiyon County People's Hospital, Samjiyon County Town General Shop,

Samjiyon County Indoor Stadium and other places.

There were a large dancing party and magnificent fireworks extravaganza on Monday in celebration of the completion of the reconstruction project.

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INAUGURATION

Dam built for hydropower station project

The Phalhyang Dam for the Orangchon Power Station has been completed.

The completion of the gigantic dam has opened up a bright prospect for hastening the completion of the large-scale hydropower production base, making it possible to ease electricity shortage and revitalizing the economy of North Hamgyong Province.

An inaugural ceremony took place on Wednesday.

It was attended by Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and member of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, O Su Yong, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Vice-Premier Tong Jong Ho, Ri Hi Yong, chairman of the WPK North Hamgyong Provincial Committee, Jang Hyok, minister of Railways, Kwon Song Ho,

minister of State Construction Control, officials concerned, service personnel, builders, employees of the power station and local people.

Kim Jae Ryong, in his inaugural speech, said that President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il unveiled a grand plan for building a power station in the Orangchon area with rich water resources, chose the site of the dam and led the construction of the power station.

The great trust shown and energetic guidance provided by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who encouraged the builders to perform unprecedented feats was the source of tremendous strength that erected the dam, he noted.

The builders and provincial population performed labour feats by displaying do-or-die will and fighting spirit of self-reliance, regarding the construction site of the dam as the foremost front in implementing the lifetime instructions of the great leaders and defending Party policies, he said.



A ceremony takes place to inaugurate the Phalhyang Dam of the Orangchon Power Station in North Hamgyong Province, the DPRK, on Wednesday.

He called on all officials, Party members and other working people to achieve without fail the goal of the five-year strategy for national economic development and continue to make innovations

in the construction of the power station on the strength of army-people cooperation.

Pak Pong Ju cut a ribbon to inaugurate the dam.

After the ceremony, senior Party and government officials

looked round the dam and, together with the participants, saw a chorus performance given by the builders and helpers in front of the dam.

Compiled from KCNA

Housing: Samjiyon county town remodelled

FROM PAGE 4

The builders and inhabitants held dances throughout the county town.

After the dancing party, a stunning display of fireworks lit up the sky above the sacred place of Mt Paektu.

With loud booms, lots of fireworks exploded in the night sky.

Watching the dazzling display of fireworks of

various shapes and colours which further highlighted the fantastic view of the county town, the builders proudly recalled the days when they worked hard to hasten the completion of the project.

The Korean Central News Agency issued a detailed report on Monday as regards the successful completion of the second-stage project for rebuilding Samjiyon County, which has turned the county town into an ideal city for the people.

The report said that Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, who regards it as a due obligation and revolutionary duty of soldiers

and disciples of Chairman Kim Jong Il to refurbish his native county as befits the sacred place of the revolution, put forward the far-reaching plan for sprucing up Samjiyon County as he visited it in November 2013.

His field inspection of the county in December 2017 marked a historic milestone in bringing about a great turn in the construction of the county and setting the standard and example of local construction, it said.

“The Supreme Leader paid special attention to every part of the blueprint of the county. For example, he

instructed relevant personnel to build modern streets with the main road in front of the statue of Chairman Kim Jong Il as the central axis, to clearly divide it into blocks of education, dwelling houses and local industry, and to design buildings to serve their purposes while preserving the features of the mountainous county free from similarity and repetition.”

He inspected more than 8 800 building plans for the project, it noted.

Referring to the fact that the shock brigade members of the Construction Division 216 and officers and men of the Korean People's Army turned out in the all-out charge to spruce up Samjiyon county town, the report described the project, which required the construction of several- and many-storey apartment buildings for more than 4 000 families and over 380 blocks of public and industrial buildings in an area

of hundreds of hectares, as a gigantic campaign for creation equivalent to building a city.

A strong sense of loyalty and sincerity ran through the combat zone of Mt Paektu, the report said.

The strong desire of the people to defend and glorify Samjiyon County which they regard as their own native places led to an increased production and transport drive and nationwide assistance to the project, it noted.

The brilliant reality in Samjiyon county town eloquently proves how noble and beautiful the goal of building a powerful socialist country of the Korean people, who are vigorously advancing straight forward along the road chosen by themselves without any vacillation despite the worst trials, is and how fast the struggle for attaining it is going on.

Compiled from KCNA



A stunning display of fireworks adorns the nocturnal sky over the Samjiyon county town in Ryanggang Province, the DPRK, on Monday.



Builders and residents dance merrily in celebration of the inauguration of the reconstructed township.

MOVING

Farmers and employees move into new homes at vegetable greenhouse farm, tree nursery

The village of the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm has been built into a model of modern socialist rural village construction.

Hundreds of low-storeyed dwelling houses, a school, kindergarten, nursery and public service facilities have sprung up in the Jungphyong area.

A meeting took place on Dec 5 to grant house licences to the employees of the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm and the North Hamgyong Provincial Tree Nursery.

It was attended by Ri Hi Yong, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Sin Chol Ung, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Rural

Economy Committee, and other officials of the province, soldier builders, officials and employees of the greenhouse farm and the tree nursery, their families and other people in Kyongsong County.

Ri Hi Yong in his speech said that Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un took measures to build houses for the employees of the farm and the tree nursery at the highest level and energetically guided the work.

It is the reality which can only be unfolded by the Party's noble view on the people and the socialist system that such houses boasting of the civilization in the era of the Workers' Party are provided to ordinary working

people, he said.

House licences were granted to the employees.

Then people began to move to their new houses.

Compiled from KCNA



Farmers and employees of the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm and the North Hamgyong Provincial Tree Nursery dance their way to their new houses (top). Low-storeyed houses and school are among the new buildings.

Springboard provided to upgrade education

Notable achievements have been made in the effort to innovate teaching contents and methods at educational institutions throughout the country.

In particular, university students bubbled with the zeal for constantly creating new teaching methods after the 14th National Conference of Teachers by introducing the virtual reality technology, and new teaching methods were developed and good teaching methods were widely generalized in the general education sector.

Universities in the teachers training sector take lead in creating new teaching methods.

Kim Hyong Jik University of Education created and introduced excellent teaching methods incorporating modern education science and technology in keeping with the reality, in which educational contents are becoming practicable, generalized and modern on a constant basis, as well as new teaching means, thereby providing a sure guarantee for improving the quality of teachers' training.

Pyongyang Teachers

Training College brought out new teaching methods applying educational techniques one after another, including a method of teaching students how to organize the observation of matters and phenomena and how to guide teaching through 3D demonstration devices at the VR classroom and an intelligence development method based on comprehensive education in robot.

Kim Chol Ju University of Education developed dozens of new excellent teaching methods that help students enhance their search abilities by using the VR technology and such teaching means as a multifunctional teaching desk capable of controlling modern educational means in the multifunctional classroom in a comprehensive way and a 3D demonstration device that can easily be used even in ordinary classrooms.

Pyongyang University of Architecture, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and other universities and colleges in all parts of the country created useful teaching methods with good pedagogical effectiveness by giving priority to scientific guidance.

A hot wind of creating teaching methods integrating modern educational science and technology was also raised at schools in the sector of general education.

Electronic teaching plans for primary school and junior and senior middle school courses were worked out to introduce IT into teachers' teaching preparations and contents.

Some 130 model lessons were created to make students proactive learners and searchers by making effective use of teaching means and techniques capable of improving their intellectual faculties and posted on the Jidokche website of the general education sector, making it possible to contribute to improving the teaching methods of all teachers at schools in rural and mountainous areas.

We will pool our efforts and wisdom to make our country a country of education and talents by further developing education on the basis of our achievements and experiences.

Kim Won Hui, deputy department director of the Education Commission of the DPRK

Support comes from nationwide

Amid growing interest in educational work throughout the country, active public support has been rendered for the educational sector.

Unstinting material assistance came from ministries, national agencies, industrial establishments, cooperative farms and fishery stations for educational development.

The Ministry of Construction and Building-materials Industry provided Pyongyang University of Architecture with large quantities of materials for improving educational conditions and the Ministry of Railways sent Pyongyang University of Transport well over 100 educational facilities, apparatuses and materials and school fixtures in over 10 kinds including a bus, projector and camera and computers.

The Ryusong Trading Administration provided Phyongsong University of Coal-mining Industry and the University of Sciences with facilities and fixtures, which have proved very helpful to students' study.

The Unha Trading Administration sent Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of

Light Industry over ten pieces of equipment in nine kinds that are needed for experiments and practical training and a bus.

The Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports sent equipment for furnishing functional classrooms to Korea University of Physical Education, Central School of Physical Education and the juvenile sports school of the ministry, while the Namyang Coal Mine under the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex modernly built the Namyang branch of Hyongbong College of Technology as it furnished over 20 rooms, including experimental and practical training room, with educational facilities and fixtures, thereby boosting the educational conditions of the branch.

"The enthusiastic nationwide support for the education sector has given a great deal of encouragement to educators who are out for the radical improvement of educational work and fired students' zeal for study," said Kim Chang Su, official of the Education Commission.

By Pang Un Ju PT

STATEMENT

Deadline is approaching: FM official

“The year-end time limit the DPRK set for the US is approaching day by day.

“However, the US is bent on earning time needed for it, talking about the ‘sustained and substantial dialogue’, far from acting in response to the measures taken by the DPRK first,” said Ri Thae Song, DPRK deputy foreign minister for US affairs, in a statement on Tuesday.

The dialogue touted by the US is, in essence, nothing but

a foolish trick hatched to keep the DPRK bound to dialogue and use it in favour of the political situation and election at home, he said. “The DPRK has heard more than enough dialogue rhetoric the US employs whenever it is driven into a tight corner and, so, no one will lend an ear to the US any longer.”

As the DPRK has done everything transparently and openly so far, it feels no need to hide what it will do from now

on and, therefore, reminds the US once again that the year-end time limit comes nearer, he said.

The DPRK has done its utmost with maximum patience not to backtrack on the important steps it has taken on its own initiative, he said.

What is left to be done now is the US option and it is entirely up to the US what it will select as a Christmas gift, he added.

Compiled from KCNA

JAPAN

Gripped by a frenzy of militarism

The Japanese Defence Ministry recently announced that a joint actual manoeuvre between the US marines and the Japanese Ground Self-Defence Force would be staged in Shikoku in December for the first time, reportedly with an involvement of four US Ospreys.

The SDF which has turned into perfect attack-oriented armed forces is now concentrating on “regularizing its overseas advance” and acquiring the capability for fighting a war, while steadily expanding the scope of its military operations.

This year alone it, starting with the airlift drill in simulation of the defence of remote islands with a US special unit, continuously mounted military exercises including the

actual manoeuvre between its amphibious corps and the US marines and the joint military drill of the Air SDF fighters with a B-52 strategic bomber of the US Air Force.

In May, warships of the Maritime SDF staged a joint drill with France, Australia and the US in the Indian Ocean for the first time and joint maritime exercises in succession with the littoral nations of the Pacific for a long time.

At the same time the Japanese political circles are stepping up the moves towards paving the way for overseas military advance of the SDF by approving the conclusion of agreements on mutual provision of goods and manpower with the French and Canadian armies and examining the conclusion of the “agreement

on the status of visiting unit” with the British army.

This is the reason why the Japanese government’s push for the dispatch of the SDF troops to the Middle East on the pretext of the aggravated Middle East situation cannot be construed only in the light of “intelligence gathering” and “ensuring maritime security”.

The largest defence spending in the history of Japan, attack-oriented armed forces against the principle of “exclusive defence”, expansion of overseas military advance and other moves suggest that all the military activities of Japan are oriented to actual war and overseas reinvasion.

Times have changed, but Japan remains unchanged in its militaristic ambition to become a war-capable state by breaking all historical, legal and moral restraints at home and abroad.

The international community closely watches the moves of Japan in the “Reiwa” era with great concern.

By Song Jong Ho PT

ENERGY

Renewables transform energy structure

According to the UN annual report on the trend of natural energy, the global power generation capacity based on natural energy sources like sunlight, wind, geotherm and bio-fuel increased from 414GW of 2009 to 1 650GW in 2019 and takes 12.9 percent of the total electricity output.

This means that the global natural energy-based power generating capacity has quadrupled in the last ten years.

A recent international report predicted that global natural energy power generation will increase by nearly 50 percent in 2024 with its increment being 1 200GW by then.

Especially, the increase in solar power generation is expected to take up about 60 percent of the total rise in natural

energy power generation.

According to the Iranian ministry of energy, the country has 115 power plants operating on renewables and the completion of over 30 others now under construction will add 380 000 kW to its power generating capacity.

At present, the global capacity of energy generation from sunlight has surpassed that from fossil fuels like coal and gas.

Much effort is directed to utilizing energy resources of the ocean which covers 70 percent of the earth’s surface.

The sea has such energy sources as tides, waves and the variations in seawater temperature and salinity. The conversion of only 0.1 percent of them into electricity will make it possible to fill five times

the need for electric power.

Zhejiang Province of China is taking advantage of its favourable physiographical condition of having 50 percent of the nation’s tidal energy resources to produce much electricity. Russia has included in the large-scale construction project for developing the Far Eastern region the construction of a tidal power station in the waters near a peninsula in Khabarovsk Territory.

Cuba has decided on seven water areas to generate electricity using the temperature difference between the surface and deep layers of seawater and is stepping up preparations for its trial production.

Besides, projects are underway to develop new energy sources. The most noticeable among them are air energy development and the conversion of sewage into bio-energy using algae.

Natural energy has reportedly become the second largest electric power source in the world.

By Min Chol PT

UNEMPLOYMENT

Headache for capitalist world

Western countries widely advertise their richness by mobilizing publicity means.

However, they have a legion of the unemployed.

According to a report, 218 000 Americans lost their jobs in a week until Oct 26. More than 70 000 and 16 000 people respectively in the service and agricultural sectors in Spain were sacked in October. The jobless people amount to over 354 000 in Australia.

The total number of the unemployed reached 3.36 million in the third quarter of the year in France, while the number was 2.23 million in Germany in September. A German survey institution said that the number of the unemployed would grow in the near future. Experts assert that unemployment will not decline as long as economic stagnation goes on.

Entrepreneurs dismiss workers to get out of business aggravation caused by the continued economic crisis.

The jobless beg for money from passersby on neon-lighted streets. The degenerated people

take drugs without hesitation and even kill themselves in despair.

Shortly ago, the medical association of the US said that more than 450 000 locals aged between 25 and 60 committed suicide between 1999 and 2016. According to it, the suicide rate rose by 41 percent in this period. In particular, suicide in rural communities was 25 percent higher than that in cities. The growing suicide is reportedly attributed to poverty, low income and unemployment.

“When you are fired, you don’t believe it at first. Then you pin a slight hope that you will get another job. And you do everything you have never done before to escape poverty. Nevertheless, you cannot find a job. Life wrings the neck and whole body. After realizing the gravity of the situation, you commit suicide as a show of protest against society,” an unemployed man said when asked about his psychological distress.

By Om Ryong PT

RECYCLING

Waste recycling gains momentum

Today, the rapid growth of urban population accelerates the increment of waste in cities, causing a series of environmental pollution issues in the world.

To cope with it, many countries make positive efforts to recycle urban waste that destroys ecological environment.

China sets itself an ambitious goal to build model recycling cities and raise the recycling rate of renewable resources 75 percent in large and medium cities until 2020.

Lanzhou of Gansu Province is leading others in developing the recycling industry.

It set up procurement shops in various places to purchase diverse kinds of renewable waste from residents. The waste is classified and transported to factories to be turned into new products.

The strictest waste sorting measure has been in force in Shanghai since July 1, while Beijing, Zhejiang and Hunan provinces and other regions show great concern over the recycling of different sorts of waste from construction process and kitchens.

Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam plans to reduce the quantity of vinyl mesh bags used by locals

by 65 and 50 percent at shops and markets respectively as compared to 2010 and to recycle at least 40 percent of household waste.

Can Tho City intends to recycle solid waste from families 100 percent between 2020 and 2030. A power station in the city generates 150 000 kWh of electricity a day by burning 400 tons of solid waste.

The Russian government set a goal of increasing the dirt disposal rate which is under 10 percent to 60 percent by establishing a civilized and safe waste disposal and recycling system. For the present, it gave a relevant sector a detailed task of increasing the recycling rate of waste by 38 percent till 2020.

St Petersburg reportedly installed 53 000 dustbins to retrieve dangerous waste.

A north European city uses waste to generate electricity for heating.

It is reportedly said that 52 percent of waste is used to produce energy, 43 percent is retrieved or decomposed and harmless 5 percent is buried.

It aims to completely eliminate carbon dioxide emission till 2025.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

PROFILE

Woman donates her 19th-century family tree

Ri Yon Hui living in Sansong-dong of Haeju, South Hwanghae Province, recently donated her family tree of the Ris of Toksu which is believed to be printed from woodblock in 1838.

Historians and other experts confirmed the authenticity of the diagram and appraised it as a cultural heritage element conducive to the study of Ri I (1536-1584), or Ri Ryul Gok who was a senior government official and scholar during the feudal Joseon dynasty.

The chart contains the names and the achievements of the Ri family members from the 1st to the 25th generations.

Experts say that the early parts of the chart are the same as other genealogical trees of the Ris of Toksu origin, but the latter parts mainly list the direct descendants of Ri I in the 13th generation, asserting that this

chart is the sole family tree of Ri I.

According to historical records, he secured senior government positions and during his tenure he advocated building up a 100 000-strong army to cope with the Japanese threat of aggression.

"If Ri I's recommendation on building up 100 000 troops had been accepted and implemented, Japan would have been unable to invade Korea and inflict the huge calamity on the Koreans forcing them to fight the Imjin Patriotic War between 1592 and 1598," said Son Un Il, deputy director of the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency.

According to Ri Yon Hui, she inherited the family tree from her father Ri Jong Hon about 30 years ago.

"When the descendants of King Wang Kon, founder of

Koryo, donated the royal seal and the genealogy of the Wang family to the country in the early 1990s, I thought of donating our family tree, but I could not make up my mind as it was the genealogical diagram of a mere nobleman, not a king, and I thought it was of little value," recalled the 65-year-old.

"But last year I decided to donate it after watching a TV programme on Sin Saimdang, an illustrious female poet and artist and also the mother of Ri I."

She told her family members that it was natural for them to donate the family tree to the country as it made much of their ancestors and realized the forefathers' dream of building a powerful nation no foreign force can dare to attack.

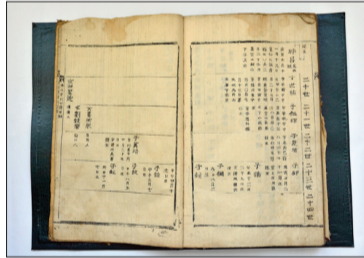
She was awarded a certificate of donation by the Korea National Heritage Protection Fund for the donation.

Family Tree of the Ris of Toksu is now preserved at the Korean Central History Museum.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



BY COURTESY OF KOREA NATIONAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION AGENCY
Ri Yon Hui (second from right) is awarded a certificate by the Korea National Heritage Protection Fund in recognition of her donation of her 19th-century family genealogy.



Family Tree of the Ris of Toksu preserved at the Korean Central History Museum.

GAMES

Osandok Prize games open



A scene from the men's ice hockey match between Taesongsan and Pyongyang Railway Bureau clubs.

The Osandok Prize games started at the Ice Rink in Pyongyang on Monday.

The contest will take place in Pyongyang, Samjiyon County and other cities and counties, bringing together over 30 sports clubs.

They will compete in more than 40 categories of six events such as football, ice hockey, figure skating and skiing.

Attending the opening ceremony were Choe Hwi, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of

the National Sports Guidance Committee, Vice-Premier Ri Ryong Nam, officials concerned, sportspersons and Pyongyang citizens.

Kim Jong Su, first vice-minister of Physical Culture and Sports, made an opening speech and the flag symbolizing the contest was hoisted.

After the opening ceremony there was a men's ice hockey match between the Taesongsan and Pyongyang Railway Bureau sports clubs.

Compiled from KCNA

The rich flora makes the mountain a good home for lots of animals and for well over a hundred species of birds like goshawk, mandarin duck and golden eagle.

The fact that more than half of the mammal species living in the country are distributed in the Ogasan Nature Reserve is substantial evidence of the rich fauna of the area.

As it is so rich in fauna and flora, Mt Oga unfolds superb views in all seasons.

In spring the entire mountain turns into a sea of flowers and in summer thick green forests stretch as far as the eye can see. The glorious autumnal tints and forests of snow-clad trees in winter are also spectacular sights you will regret if you miss the chance to see.

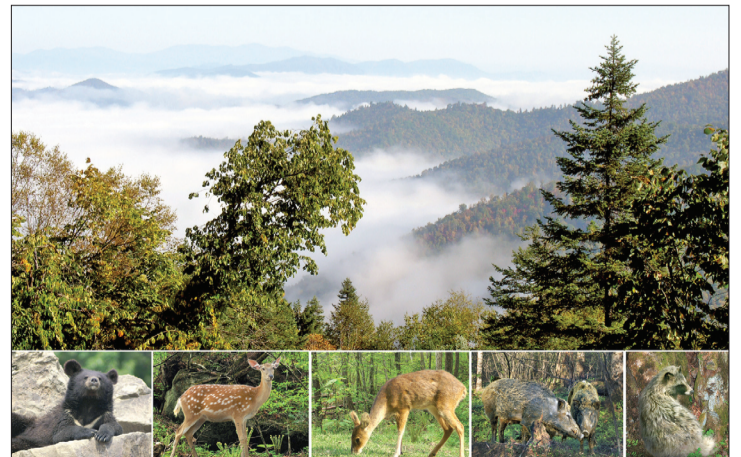
Another amazing sight to behold is a mossy fallen tree by a stream with crystal-clear water. It has lots of small holes in it from which grow at least six species of trees such as *Abies nephrolepis*, *Sorbaria stellipila* and wahoo.

Ryom Chol Hun said it is a creation nature produced for ages in the primeval forest.

At the foot of the mountain there is a village called "Aerim (loving the forests) village" reflecting the forebears' burning love for forests.

Mt Oga is preserved as a national treasure not only as its natural ecology is graceful and wonderful but it is permeated with the high self-esteem of the Korean people.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



Densely wooded hillsides are veiled in mist on well-endowed Mt Oga in northern DPRK.

ECOSYSTEM

Mountain blessed with diverse, rich ecology

There is the Ogasan Nature Reserve in the border between Hwaphyong County of Jagang Province and Kim Hyong Jik County of Ryanggang Province in the northern part of Korea. The reserve is fairly diverse in ecology.

The name of Mt Oga is derived from the meaning that five beautiful peaks rise in primeval forests.

The mountain is 1 227m above sea level and on top of it is a tableland covering an area of some 10 hectares.

The annual precipitation in the area is about 1 080mm and the area has comparatively long rainy days.

Geographically, the mountain

is located in the intermediate place between the northern temperate plant area and the boreal plant area and therefore it has a large number of plant species for its area.

The nature reserve covers an area of 6 500 hectares.

There are more than 200 species of trees such as fur, *Abies nephrolepis* and spruce forming primeval forests.

Most of primeval forests in the world are pure stands, so such a mixed forest zone of needle-leaf and broad-leaf primeval forests as in Mt Oga, which is mysteriously located on the boundary between boreal plant area and the temperate plant area, is rare to be found.

According to Ryom Chol Hun who has studied the ecosystem of the nature reserve for decades, there are over 120 species of medicinal plants, more than 50 species of trees for timber and at least 50 species of plants for food.

He attributes the abundance of plants in the mountain to the subtlety of its natural and geographical position and mainly to the unique and ideal soil conditions and environment.

Most of trees growing in the mountain are 300-400 years old and many trees have been designated as natural monuments including a 1 100-odd-year-old yew.

