

# The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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## Chairman Kim Jong Un presides over Party Central Committee Politburo meeting

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea met on Apr 11 at the headquarters building of the WPK Central Committee.

Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, 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, presided over the meeting.

Present there were members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

A report on the first agenda item was made.

All people across the country are now making precious achievements in economic construction and major construction projects through a dynamic charge towards the 75th founding anniversary of the WPK, true to the decisions made at the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee.

But the viral infection that broke out at the end of last year has rapidly spread worldwide to cause a great disaster to the whole of mankind.



The reality shows that the danger of infection is unlikely to dissolve in a short time and such circumstances might create some obstacles to our struggle and progress.

The meeting emphasized the need to consistently take strict national countermeasures to check the inroads of the virus in order to cope with the steady spread of the pandemic.

It studied and discussed matters of adjusting some policy tasks in the implementation of the decisions made at the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK, given the prevailing internal and external situations.

It adopted a joint resolution of the Central Committee of the WPK, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and the DPRK Cabinet "On more thoroughly taking state measures to protect our people's lives and safety from the worldwide epidemic".

The joint resolution outlines what should be done to continuously intensify the nationwide emergency anti-epidemic efforts, push ahead with economic construction and the defence buildup, and stabilize the people's livelihood this year, and indicates the tasks facing every field and unit including Party and

government organs, working people's organizations and armed forces organs.

The meeting studied and approved the second agenda item "On the execution of the state budget for Juche 108(2019) and the state budget for Juche 109(2020)" to be presented to the Third Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.

It examined and approved the third agenda item "On personnel affairs to be presented to the Third Session of the 14th SPA".

It discussed the organizational

matter, the fourth agenda item.

It elected a member and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK to fill vacancies.

Members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee were recalled and elected to fill vacancies.

Chairman Kim Jong Un called on Party organizations at each level, cadres and Party members to launch a revolutionary campaign to thoroughly carry out the Party policies with greater consciousness and strenuous efforts.

KCNA-THE PYONGYANG TIMES



# Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspects KPA air force unit

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, inspected a pursuit assault plane group under the Air and Anti-Aircraft Division in the western area.

He was accompanied by Ri Pyong Chol, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Army General Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and officials of the WPK Central Committee.

He was greeted on the spot by General Kim Kwang Hyok, commander of the KPA Air and Anti-Aircraft Force, and commanding officers of the pursuit assault plane group.

The combat pilots were excited to meet the Supreme Leader whom they always longed to see, picturing him even during their flight.

Kim Jong Un learned about the readiness for sortie of the fighter jets of the regiment and its performance of duties for the defence of airspace in the western area.

He expressed great satisfaction with the fact that the pursuit assault plane group is reliably defending the country's airspace in the western area while faithfully performing feats with a burning desire to repay the trust of the Party and the country. He spoke highly of it for the faithful service and specified important tasks to be tackled in further enhancing its combat capability.

He met ace pilots of the group and had a talk with them.

He repeatedly expressed his great confidence in them, saying that he entirely entrusts the country's airspace to them. And he called on the



combat pilots to make great efforts to possess higher combat aviation and combat strength by further equipping themselves with the Juche-oriented tactics indicated by the Party and intensifying flight training with a do-or-die spirit to dedicate their lives to the Party and country.

He saw the flight drill of the group together with the accompanying officials.

The pilots were very happy to show their combat aviation skills to the Supreme Leader whom they have been so eager to see.

As the commander of the KPA

Air and Anti-Aircraft Force gave an order to make a sortie, the fighter jets thundered into the sky.

They first hedgehopped over the command post, where the Supreme Leader was standing, to extend the greatest honour and salute to him.

Then they conducted a drill of chasing, locating and downing air targets.

Watching the brave flight and combat actions made by the combat pilots together with the cadres, he clapped his hands to express his great satisfaction.

Through the drill, our Party's

reliable air sentries showed well that they are ready to make a sortie any moment they receive an order, and they clearly manifested their will to defend the national airspace by demonstrating their great abilities to perform any air combat missions, he said, adding he was deeply moved to see the tireless efforts and devotion of pilots who always remain loyal to the order and call of the Party. And he gave his regards to all the combat pilots and servicepersons of the group and their families.

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## WPK Central Committee Politburo meeting issues official report

Pak Jong Chon was elected as a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Ri Son Gwon and Kim Yo Jong were elected as its alternate

members to fill vacancies, according to an official report published by the meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.



Pak Jong Chon



Ri Son Gwon



Kim Yo Jong

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SESSION

# Fourteenth Supreme People's Assembly meets for third session

The Third Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK was held at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on Apr 12.

The seats on the platform were taken 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 SPA, Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, and Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK.

The opening address was made by Pak Thae Song, speaker of the SPA.

The session decided the following agenda items: Adoption of the DPRK laws on recycling, online education and provision of living conditions for discharged officers, the work of the Cabinet for 2019 and its tasks for 2020, the results of the implementation of the state budget for 2019 and the state budget for 2020, and

the organizational matter.

He referred to the importance and significance of the laws to be discussed and adopted at the session in providing a legal guarantee for ensuring the sustainable development of the economy by relying on domestic efforts, technology and resources, further promoting the development of education and firmly establishing an atmosphere of attaching importance to military affairs throughout society in line with the requirements of the times, and explained the chapters of the laws, before laying them before the SPA.

The ordinances of the SPA on adopting the laws on recycling, online education and provision of living conditions for discharged officers were adopted with unanimous approbation.

Then the fourth and fifth agenda items were discussed.

The session adopted the SPA decision on approving the report on the work of the Cabinet and the implementation of the state budget for 2019 and the SPA ordinance on state budget for 2020.

The session discussed the sixth item on the agenda.

At the proposal made by Choe Ryong Hae upon authorization of the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission, Choe Pu Il and No Kwang Chol were



recalled from the membership of the commission.

Ri Su Yong, Thae Jong Su and Ri Yong Ho were also recalled from the commission.

Ri Pyong Chol, Kim Hyong Jun, Kim Jong Gwan, Ri Son Gwon and Kim Jong Ho were elected to the commission to fill vacancies.

Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Ko Kil Son was by-elected as secretary

general of the SPA Presidium and Kim Yong Hwan as member of the SPA Presidium.

Members of the Cabinet were newly appointed.

Upon authorization of the WPK Central Committee, Yang Sung Ho was appointed as vice-premier, Kim Chol Su as minister of Natural Resources Development, Kim Jong Nam as minister of Machine-building Industry and Ri Song Hak as minister of Light Industry.

Chairmen of the sectoral committees of the SPA were recalled and by-elected.

Kim Jong Ho was by-elected as chairman of the Legislation Committee, Kim Tok Hun as chairman of the Budget Committee and Kim Hyong Jun as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Speaker Pak Thae Song delivered a closing address.

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## By-elected members of the DPRK State Affairs Commission



Ri Pyong Chol



Kim Hyong Jun



Kim Jong Gwan



Ri Son Gwon



Kim Jong Ho

## New members of the DPRK Cabinet



Vice-Premier Yang Sung Ho



Kim Chol Su, minister of Natural Resources Development



Kim Jong Nam, minister of Machine-building Industry



Ri Song Hak, minister of Light Industry

## LEAD

# A life devoted to the people

April 15 is the birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung the Korean people celebrate in the most splendid way.

They designated the day as the Day of the Sun as they likened the President as the sun giving life to all living things as he liberated the country from foreign aggressors and built a new society in which the people became masters of everything.

Having embarked on the road of revolution in his teens, Kim Il Sung dedicated his all to the people in the whole course of revolutionary leadership, regarding "The people are my God" as his maxim.

It was his consistent view and revolutionary philosophy that the masses of the people are the most precious and powerful beings in the world and one can always emerge victorious when one relies on them.

The demands and interests of the people were the starting point of all his thinking and practices, going among them and carrying on the revolution and construction by forming a harmonious whole with them was his invariable principle of leadership and their happiness was his greatest joy incomparable to anything else.

The greatest exploit he performed for the people was that he provided them with a guiding ideology for shaping their own destiny by

themselves.

He propounded the immortal Juche idea by fully reflecting their demand for leading an independent life, free from all manner of subordination and shackles. This idea scientifically elucidates the man-centred outlook on the world and people-centred revolutionary theories and leadership methods and gives full answers to the questions of emancipation of nations, classes and humans. It is an idea of genuine love for the people promoting their status as masters of the world and shapers of their destiny.

Thanks to the Juche idea, a new history of the people carving out their own destiny independently was made in the DPRK.

All its lines and policies were formulated by crystallizing their intentions and desires and world-startling miracles of history were performed by their inexhaustible strength.

Another exploit the President performed for the people was the establishment of the people-centred state and social system.

He led the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and socialist revolution to a brilliant victory on this land, which had been impoverished by colonial backwardness and fetters of feudalism, by reflecting the aspirations and demands of the people and built up an original

socialism centred on the masses of the people where they are masters of everything and everything serves them.

Under his leadership, the universal free medical service system was put into force, the free educational system whereby all the people can learn all their life free of charge was established and the word "people" was included in the names of the country, monumental structures, etc.

He defined making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people as the mode of existence of the Workers' Party of Korea, developed it into a motherly party forming a harmonious whole with them and built a self-reliant defence powerful enough to fully protect the sovereignty of the country and the life of the people. He also set up a strong self-supporting national economy relying on the independent will and inexhaustible strength of the people.

Even in the face of world-sweeping political upheavals and heinous sanctions by hostile forces, the DPRK has been able to firmly defend and advance socialism as there are the solid foundations laid by the President.

That is why the Korean people revere him as the eternal sun and highly praise his exploits generation after generation.

By **Kim Rye Yong** PT

## VIEW

# Great man of profound knowledge and versatility

Many anecdotes were woven around President Kim Il Sung throughout his life, the great leader who created the Juche idea and applied it to state building and development and made a great contribution to achieving the cause of global independence.

In December 1966 the President had tete-a-tete talks with Brezhnev, general secretary of the Communist Party of the former Soviet Union.

They discussed wide-ranging and serious issues, on the relationship between the two countries, matters of mutual concern in the international communist movement, economic and cultural exchanges and the military, for a long time. And the talks were coming to a close.

Gazing over at the small handbook in front of the President, General Secretary Brezhnev asked him, "Excuse me, but what do you have in your mysterious handbook? I wonder how you could talk so freely on the issues in different fields without the gist of your conversation at the talks."

The President showed him his small blue-cover handbook with a smile on his face.

On the handbook were seen only a few lines of several letters with triangular marks.

At the reception that evening Brezhnev told the President: "Comrade Kim Il Sung, you

are really the peerless great man of versatile knowledge.

"I've so far met many people including heads of state of different countries in the world, but I've never seen such a great all-round man like you."

On June 17 1994 the President had a talk with visiting former US president Jimmy Carter in an informal atmosphere on their way to the West Sea Barrage on board a pleasure boat.

The conversation continued, covering diverse topics from the gingko trees planted as street trees in Pyongyang to people's living, the construction of the barrage, the expected crop yield of the green fields and the trend of developing international relations.

As time passed and the boat reached the Port of Nampho, two small silos on the shore of the port came into Carter's sight.

He wanted to know what they had inside and asked the President if he could tell him what the silos contained.

The President told him what each of them contained.

Carter said in admiration that there were many heads of state in the world, but none of them would know the contents of such small silos, adding the President really knew everything in the world.

By **Choe Yong Nam** PT

## HOLIDAY

# Day of the Sun celebrated nationwide

Senior Party, government and military officials visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on Apr 15, the 108th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.

Baskets of flowers were laid in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the State Affairs Commission, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

The visitors paid high tribute to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in front of their statues and made deep bows to the great leaders with the humblest reverence for them at the halls of immortality.

Working people, service personnel, youth and students visited the statues of the President and the Chairman and portraits of their beaming images across the country on the occasion of the Day of the Sun, the greatest national holiday of the DPRK.

Flower baskets were laid at their statues on Mansu Hill in

Pyongyang in the name of Party, government and military organs, social organizations, ministries, national agencies, units of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Internal Security Forces and institutions and industrial establishments at all levels in Pyongyang.

Baskets of flowers were also laid at the statues of the great leaders and mosaics portraying their smiling images in different parts of Pyongyang including Kim Il Sung University, the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces and the Mansudae Art Studio in the name of institutions, enterprises and units of the KPA and KPISF.

Working people, servicepersons, youth and students visited the statues of the great leaders and mosaics depicting their smiling images in their residential quarters to pay homage to them.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un received congratulatory letters from the General Association of Koreans in China, the Central

Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and the Anti-imperialist National Democratic Front on Apr 15.

Kim Jong Un received flower baskets and congratulatory messages from heads of state of different countries.

He received a congratulatory message from Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and flower baskets from Bounnhang Vorachith, president of Laos and general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, Nigerian President Muhammadu

Buhari who is commander-in-chief of the armed forces, Elias Sekgobelo Magashule, secretary general of the African National Congress of South Africa and Bonginkosi Emmanuel Nzimande, general secretary of the South African Communist Party.

Baskets of

flowers were sent to the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il by the Organizing Committee of the International Festival in Praise of the Great Persons of Mt Paektu, Yuwen Middle School in Jilin of China, the Korean Friendship Association UK, the Switzerland-Korea Committee, the Sweden-Korea Friendship Association, the family of Kim Sun Ok, who is related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the family of Feng Zhongyun, a Chinese who is related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the German Group for

the Study of Korean Culture, the national chairman of the People's Progressive Party of Nigeria, the chairman of the African Regional Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People, the secretary general of the African regional committee for the study of the Juche idea, the minister of Culture, Tourism and Handicrafts Promotion of Equatorial Guinea, the national chairman of the Federation of Students and Pupils of the Democratic Republic of Congo and a company director of Equatorial Guinea.

By **Ri Sung Ik** PT



Senior Party, government and military officials visit the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to pay homage to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on the occasion of the Day of the Sun.

KCS



# Society works to ensure maritime safety and protect environment

Given that 80 percent of global trade freight volume is transported by ships, the shipping industry constitutes the most effective means of sustainable economic development.

With the development of maritime trade, it rises as an important issue to ensure the safety of life and property and prevent environmental pollution at sea. This is just the mission of the classification society in each country.

The Korea Classification Society in the DPRK which is bounded by the sea on three sides also conducts activities with a proactive approach.

According to Ri Pyong Chol, president of the KCS, it inspects DPRK-flagged ships on voyages in open seas and territorial waters and issues certificates for them upon authorization of the Maritime Administration of the DPRK.

It undergoes on a regular

basis the accreditation by the Korea Maritime Certification Centre over the “classification of shipbuilding and ships in service” and the “legal activities conducted upon authorization of the Maritime Administration” according to the international quality management standards.

The KCS is headquartered in Pyongyang and has branches in 12 major areas of the country adjoining the sea, rivers and lakes.

“Our society has staff and material resources sufficient enough to meet the relevant requirements under the RO rules adopted by the International Maritime Organization,” said vice-president Won Hyok.

The Pyongyang International Maritime Information Centre is staffed with experts in marine engineering, mechanism, nautical apparatuses and shipping facilities.

They formulate, revise and

supplement maritime technical rules in keeping with the global development trend and domestic conditions.

In recent years alone, the centre modified and supplemented rules on the classification and building of ocean-going ships (two volumes), survey of ships in service and the classification and building of small ships and ships in rivers as well.

“All the rules we work out serve as a yardstick of activities of the society. According to such regulations, routine inspection, deliberation of designs and approval of fittings for ships are conducted to contribute to ensuring maritime safety and protecting marine environment,” said vice-president Ko Hak Song.

The society has also hundreds of inspectors of the hull, mechanism and shipping facilities, and the number of them increases annually thanks to the well-organized system of training seafarers.

In order to put inspection on a scientific and modern basis, they develop and introduce accurate measuring instruments for inspection. As they conduct statutory surveys of many ships on international voyages every year, they issue statutory certificates to ships that have passed surveys.

As a member of TSCI, the KCS carries out scientific and technological assignments including a research project for analysis of reliability on hull construction.



SONG TAE HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Members of the Korea Classification Society discuss how to improve classification activities.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

## Nationwide

### Medical oxygen factory set up in North Hamgyong



The provincial medical oxygen factory was inaugurated and started to produce medical oxygen in North Hamgyong Province. The factory is provided with all conditions for production including oxygen separating and filling grounds.

### Device alarms against driving while fatigued

The Myohyang high-tech company developed an alarm device for driving while fatigued.

The device detects in time a decline in concentration and exhaustion of drivers while driving using the fatigue judgement technology and raises an alarm to awaken the driver.

The fatigue judgement technology recognizes and analyses real-time imaging data of the driver’s movements such as turning and bending of head and receiving a phone call, which interrupts his forward observation as well as drooping of his eyelids due to insufficient sleep and intoxication.

According to the judgement result, it gives out voice alarm such as “Look forward!” and “Concentrate on driving!” along with beeps to arouse the driver.

The alarm device obtained a patent in August last year.

### 2 000 ha of land rezoned in North Hwanghae

Some cities and counties of North Hwanghae Province

have rezoned nearly 2 000 hectares of land this spring.

Sariwon and Pongsan and Unpha counties mapped out a plan on the order of rezoning fields and gave precedence to draining water from fields so as to secure the conditions favourable for the work. They rezoned 30 hectares a day at the maximum and more than 750 hectares in a month.

Singye County overfulfilled the scheduled plan by over 30 percent by ensuring full operation of bulldozers.



### Hundreds of textbooks and reference books published

The Higher Educational Books Publishing House recently published more than 200 kinds of textbooks and reference books.

PAINT

# Watercolours improved to get more subdued



RYANG KUM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

### Products produced at the Korean Painting Materials Factory.

Korean painting is well known to the world for clearness, conciseness and fineness.

Especially, Korean painting “Tiger of Mt Paektu” by Ri Ryul Son, People’s Artist and associate professor of the Mansudae Art Studio, makes viewers feel the spirit of an actual tiger. The painting was inscribed as an article of the state’s possession.

“The majesty of this tiger is underpinned by ‘White tiger’-brand Korean paint as well as the brushwork peculiar to Korean paintings,” said Ri, adding all Korean artists love using this paint.

The “White tiger”-brand Korean paints packaged in a box decorated with a pine tree motif are produced at the Korean Painting Materials Factory.

Though it is a common practice to make 18 water pigments for professional use in other countries, the factory has long been producing Korean paints with 30 colours.

According to manager Kim Jong Su, the factory used to rely on imported materials to make a vehicle which is

essential in paint production, but now it has developed and introduced a technology for making the vehicle from local materials.

The vehicle is mixed with pigment powder and applied in the production of solid paints to ensure their solubility.

The home-made vehicle made it possible for the factory to turn out Korean paints with gentler and softer colours and improved light resistance and solubility, said chief engineer Jong Su Nam.

“We are collecting feedbacks about our paints at art studios in order to improve the quality further,” he added.

The factory also raised a level higher the qualitative indices of ink sticks which are widely adopted in painting.

With good chromaticity and diffusibility, the ink sticks are also favoured by foreign fine art experts.

The factory also makes opaque Korean paints that ensure cubic effect of paintings, oil paints, a variety of brushes made of natural hairs and painting material boxes in different sizes.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Among them are “Information technology” and “Electronics” which are textbooks for core subjects at technical universities and colleges and optional subject textbooks for middle schools No. 1, which would help develop the oversight, discernment and imagination of students.

It also published reference books that explain latest scientific and technological research achievements in different fields.

A variety of common knowledge books including “Let us know the world” are enjoying popularity as they help readers broaden their horizons and acquire a high level of cultural attainment.

### First-stage construction of salmon farm completed



North Hamgyong Province has completed the first-stage construction of the Jikha Atlantic Salmon Pedigree Farm.

The farm with the mission to produce and research breed salmon consists of such buildings as for spawning and fry raising.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## UNIVERSITY

# New strategy for educational development worked out

Upholding the slogan "Let us make a leap forward by dint of science and guarantee the future by dint of education!" the DPRK is putting further spurs to education.

Shortly ago, *The Pyongyang Times* reporter Kim Rye Yong interviewed Ri Kuk Chol (pictured), first vice-president, professor and PhD of Kim Il Sung University, to learn about the education of the university.

*I would like you to tell me about the present work of the university.*

Our university has achieved a lot of achievements in recent five years.

The educational and scientific personnel were strengthened. Our university has produced well over a thousand professors, PhDs, associate professors and MScs including three academicians and 14 candidate academicians, and 38 world-recognized scholars as well.

And we newly set up a dozen courses including the ones in the sector of aerospace technology to improve the educational structure as befits a university and increased the number of undergraduate-postgraduate sequent educational systems to



over 30.

About 300 kinds of textbooks, 900 sorts of reference books and over 3 700 essays were published and lots of books and research projects of national importance were written and fulfilled. In addition, more than 540 scientific theses were published in such international science magazines as *Nature*- and *SCI*-class journals.

*What about the future plan?*

The development strategy of Kim Il Sung University (2021-2030) was worked out on the basis of review on the work of five years.

There are ten goals to be attained during the period. The main tasks include ensuring the proportion of undergraduates

and postgraduates by two to one, training ten best national-level research groups, setting up a world-class and 50 top courses in the country, building a modern experimental education centre and providing favourable conditions and environment in which education, scientific research and production are integrated, turning out more world-class scholars, publishing 100 kinds of teaching materials of top class in the world and establishing a joint venture educational institute with foreign partners.

To this end, primary attention will be paid to strengthening scientific and educational forces, improving the facilities for experiments and practical training qualitatively and quantitatively, and training talents while carrying on scientific research tasks of core significance.

In the future, our university will achieve the strategic goals without fail by ensuring strategic concentration in keeping with high enthusiasm of the teaching staff and students, launching intense competitions of attaching importance to digits and of improving their credentials, and managing the university in an innovative and efficient way.

## PROFILE

## Father and son share pursuit of scientific research

Professor Won Ye Yon and associate professor Won Tong Su at the silicate engineering faculty of Hamhung University of Chemical Industry are father and son.

"Both of them are PhDs respected by all. While giving lectures at the university, they engage in scientific research to develop the country's silicate industry," said Sin Tong Chol,

vice-president of the university.

Having conducted education and scientific research for over five decades at the university, Won Ye Yon is recognized as an authority on silicate industry.

Born in Yonggwang County of South Hamgyong Province, he graduated from the university in 1970 and studied at the postgraduate course at Kharkov University of Technology in the

former Soviet Union.

In the period of his foreign study he obtained two patents.

After returning home, he worked as a lecturer at his university. He taught many students, published over 50 study papers and essays and made notable achievements in scientific research.

"It was not easy to pursue an academic career. There were many failures and sometimes I felt hopeless about job prospect. But I thought that I had to rise up and repay the favour shown by the country. It encouraged me to break fresh ground in the development of the fireproof materials industry," said Ye Yon.

His research hits made great contributions to the development of the country's fireproof materials industry.

He attended the conference of intellectuals of the DPRK in 1992.

And he was awarded his doctorate in engineering for the research on the development of an electric conduction oxide material in 2001 and professorship three years later.

"Seeing my father's



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Won Ye Yon (right) and his son Won Tong Su, both PhDs and lecturers at Hamhung University of Chemical Industry, examine the properties of the fire-brick.

## VIRTUE

## Youth league official cherishes memory of 'fire fighter'

On April 4, Rim Hyang Mi visited the house of Ri Jong Dok who was a student of Yoram Senior Middle School in Phyongsong as she had done before. Rim is a vice-chairwoman and director for schoolchildren's affairs of the Phyongsong City Committee of South Phyongan Province of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League.

She has visited his home almost every day over the past year.

"It seems to me it was only yesterday. Jong Dok was a good student who was simple and honest in organizational life," she recalled.

Ri failed to return home while putting out a forest fire on the hill at the back of his school a year ago. He and his closest friends Choe Hyon Il and So Ryo Myong were the first to rush to the hill in flame at the risk of their lives.

"Jong Dok burned his face beyond recognition and Hyon Il and Ryo Myong lost consciousness due to serious burns, but in their clenched hands were the young vanguard badges bearing the images of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il," said Hyang Mi.

Just a few months back, they had joined the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League.

She added the commendable deeds of the 15-year-olds made a strong impact on her.

Hyang Mi did not regard the three boys as young students.

She gave wide publicity to their laudable deeds.

As she guided the organizational life of tens of thousands of students in the city, she gave priority to the work for the three students.

Hyang Mi was the first to donate her skin for the grafting onto the burns of Hyon Il and Ryo Myong at hospital and

nursed them sitting up all night. And when they were convalescing, she travelled long distances to secure various tonics for them and brought them special dishes.

Inspired by her, lots of students in the city showed them every sincerity for their recovery.

"As I saw the two recuperating, the thought of Jong Dok's parents weighed on me," recollected Hyang Mi.

But it was unnecessary worry. As the saying goes, "Children have the qualities of the parents." His parents turned their family garden into a sapling field to make greener the "youth forest" their child saved at the cost of his life.

She said she had felt like becoming their daughter in place of Jong Dok at that time.

Since a few days later, she has frequented their home.

At her suggestion, people turned out in the work to refurbish the house.

According to Jong Dok's mother, Hyang Mi brought there lots of money her parents saved to marry her off and some family belongings and all the officials of the city youth league committee volunteered to renovate the house.

Every room of the house was spruced up. Hanging on a wall of Jong Dok's room are the certificates of Kim Jong Il Youth Honour Prize and socialist patriotic death, his school uniform on which his young vanguard badge bearing the images of the great leaders is pinned up and his photo taken on the day when he joined the youth league.

"This room is a showcase of his life. He was an excellent youth league member produced by our city youth league committee," said Hyang Mi.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

responsible attitude to scientific research, I made up my mind to follow in his footsteps though it is not an easy road for me," recalled Tong Su.

After graduating from Hamhung Middle School No. 1, he chose his father's university and enrolled on the silicate engineering faculty.

Tong Su finished the undergraduate course with flying colours and enrolled at the graduate school.

"My husband was always careful to be a good example for his son to follow. Sometimes he was worried that his son wanted to take advantage of his father's position. As the saying goes, "Like father, like son", and Tong Su engaged himself in education and scientific research like his father," said Pak Sun Hui, Tong

Su's mother.

Tong Su earned a doctorate and associate professorship in his thirties for the domestic production of bonding agent of mould in the casting production process and was provided free with a fine house for scientists.

"As my father and I have the same major, we often conduct joint research. And whenever we do, he assigns more tasks to me. I think it comes from his wish for greater success in my research," said Tong Su.

They are now undertaking a joint research project to improve the quality of magnesia fireproof material for cement revolving kiln as part of the programme to localize the country's cement industry.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

## SYRIA

# Endeavours to achieve stability, territorial integrity

Recently, the Syrian government is directing much effort to putting an end to the long-standing internal war and ensuring a stable life of the people.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, greeting the New Year, expressed his will before his people to terminate the terrorism as early as possible and safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country, and has been making persevering efforts to this end.

The Syrian government forces seized control over 68 regions of Idlib as of Jan 24 this year through a proactive military operation and later recaptured a city which was the main base of the rebels in Idlib and grasped all the regions around the Damascus-Aleppo

highway which is of strategic importance.

Under such circumstances, the Russo-Turkish summit meeting held in Moscow on Mar 5 agreed on the measures for arbitrating the situation of Idlib in northwest Syria and, accordingly, a ceasefire was secured between the Syrian government forces and oppositions on Mar 6.

However, both sides engaged a battle in the southern part of Idlib on Apr 4 only 30 days after the truce.

The war observation group stationed in the country said that although there was no report on casualties, the engagement is a violation of the ceasefire agreement.

Western countries which are backing the anti-government forces also interfere in the internal affairs of Syria while

applying sanctions on it even when the whole world is seething with the spread of COVID-19.

They are playing up the humanitarian situation in Idlib and throwing the responsibility on the Syrian army. As to this issue, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Syria in its statement on Mar 5 exposed that the West is ignoring the crimes of the anti-government forces, adding that such double standards show the truth about hypocrisy and deception contained the policies of these countries.

Syria is now faced with lots of difficulties in public health and other sectors due to the sanctions of the West.

The permanent representative of China to UN, who is currently president of the UN Security Council, in a UNSC

videoconference on the Syrian issue on Mar 30 said that the unilateral sanctions would make it difficult for Syria to deal with the infectious pneumonia caused by the novel coronavirus, calling on the relevant nations to withdraw the unilateral and coercive measures on the country.

Meanwhile, the Syrian government is pushing the work to restore the economy which was destroyed by the war and settle the people's life, along with the anti-terrorist struggle side by side.

At present, it is reconstructing ruined buildings and dwelling houses and striving to realize the repatriation of refugees by smashing the obstructive moves of the West.

Also, it is developing the industry and agriculture by its own efforts and tightening solidarity with the international community to cope with the economic embargo of the West.

April 17 is the 74th anniversary of Syria's independence.

By Song Jong Ho PT

to deploy 500 to 600-member missile and guard units.

The Japanese defence ministry is building a powder magazine on the island and multi-purpose guided missiles, mortar shells and missiles are planned to be kept there, said the Japanese media.

The collision that occurred under these circumstances speaks volumes.

There is no guarantee that such an above-mentioned accident will not occur one after another in the waters amid the SDF's growing military concentration in the waters.

Analysts predict that territorial dispute between the two countries will take on a more serious aspect due to the recent clash.

By Om Ryong PT

construction of water purifying factories and the development of high-performance steam generator based on solar heat as well as the way of purifying contaminated water into clean drinking water by using a new catalyst.

Afforestation is winning most favourable comment in securing water resources as forest has a large water-storing capacity. According to information, mixed forests are capable of keeping in storage almost two times of water as compared to the forests in which pine and oak trees grow together.

Therefore, many countries direct much effort to the creation of mixed forests.

The DPRK has also taken a series of measures to economize on water resources as much as possible and utilize them in an effective way.

By Min Chol PT

## CHINA-JAPAN

# Collision of vessels likely to add fuel to territorial dispute

On the evening of Mar 30, there was a collision between a warship of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force and a Chinese fishing boat.

The accident, which occurred in the eastern waters off Zhoushan of Zhejiang Province of China, or about 650 kilometres south of Yaku Island in Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, injured a Chinese fisherman in his waist.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry and relevant sector immediately expressed concern

over the fact that the accident happened in Chinese waters and that a Japanese warship belonging to the Maritime SDF had an influence on the safe navigation of the Chinese fishing boat while working in the waters.

The Japanese side is also making a fuss over the accident while busying themselves with investigating the cause of the accident.

Then, is it an inevitable accident in the sea?

The accident occurred in the waters around the Diaoyu

Islands.

According to the media reports of Japan, its Ground SDF had already entered into normal activities after deploying ground-to-air and ground-to-ship missile units in several islands near the Diaoyu Islands.

Japan had already deployed a 160-member strong coastal guard unit in Okinawa in 2016 and 500-member missile and guard units in Kagoshima Prefecture.

It is said that a project has been underway in Okinawa Prefecture since last March

## WATER

# Many countries turn to making the most of water resources

Rapid population growth, contamination by industrial waste water, abnormal weather, forest destruction, rise in sea level brought by rapid melting of glaciers in the polar regions, waste of water and other factors are now leading to serious water shortage in many countries over the world.

In Vietnam where 600 000 families suffered from water scarcity due to the inflow of salt water and drought in 2016, it is said that such a shortage will come a month earlier than usual.

Residents of a rural

community in an Asian country use the water of fishpond for living and cooking. As they sterilizes the water with bleaching powder, strong smell of chemicals are always given out from them.

At present, over 500 million children in different countries and regions drink impure water, resulting in massive deaths.

India witnesses about 200 000 deaths every year owing to the use of unsanitary water.

Today, 600 million people suffer from water shortage in the country, and the domestic demand for water is expected to grow two times as against the amount of

supply in around 2030.

Various countries are redoubling their efforts to secure drinking water resources.

A typical example is Iran, which is channelling big efforts into it.

At present 60 seawater purifying factories are in operation throughout the country and 25 similar plants will be built by 2021.

The country has reportedly saved nearly 800 million litres of water in ten years by concentrating on power generation based on renewable energy since 2009.

Different methods are widely employed, especially the

## Briefly

## China

## President Xi stresses need to keep caution in anti-epidemic campaign

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on Apr 8 underlined the need to strengthen the anti-epidemic work in conformity with the change in the trend of the spread of the epidemic at home and abroad at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee.

He called for keeping high alert to prevent the epidemic's penetration from abroad and the relapse of epidemic at home and taking purposeful and effective anti-epidemic measures in time.

## Palestine

## Israel urged to abide by international law

The Palestinian presidential office in a statement on Apr 7 announced its stand not to tolerate the acts of scrapping international resolutions and violating the rights of Palestinians.

It stressed that the only way to achieve regional peace and stability is to strictly abide by international law and lawful international resolutions.

## Iran

## FM blasts US sanctions on oil export

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohamad Javad Zarif in a Twitter post on Apr 7 urged the US to lift the sanctions on the oil export sector of the country.

As to the US' offer of "aid" to Iran with regard to the spread of COVID-19, he noted that the latter does not need any help from the former as it has rich human and natural resources.

## WHO

## COVID-19 fatality ten times higher than influenza, says WHO chief

The director-general of the World Health Organization said in Geneva on April 9 that the fatality of COVID-19 is estimated to be ten times higher than influenza.

This worldwide epidemic is far more dangerous than other health crises, he said.

## Russia

## US' shifting of responsibility on WHO worrisome

The Russian Foreign Ministry on Apr 12 expressed concern about the US' attempt to throw the responsibility for the worsening epidemic crisis at home onto the WHO.

Such remarks came as the US has recently slandered WHO, saying it paid much attention to only China, doing harm to other countries.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

MONUMENT

# Glacial traces and hot spring listed as natural monuments

DPRK geologists have recently discovered glacial traces in the districts of Manmulsang, or Myriad-shaped Peaks, and Kuryong Pool in the Mt Kumgang area.

For example, the valley at Upper Eight Pools in the Kuryong Pool district is a typical U-shaped glacial valley.

Such shape is distinct and still well-preserved in different places including the upper portion of Kuryong Falls, the vicinity of the top pool of the nine pools and the environs of the first and second pools of Upper Eight Pools.

Interesting phenomena related to glaciation can be seen at the end of the valley in the Kuryong Pool district.

Above all, the end part of the valley is enclosed by steep rock cliffs on the three sides and its lower part is linked with the valley to form a typical cirque.

In addition, there are hanging valleys in different places including the Manmulsang and Okryu Valley districts in the Mt Kumgang area and seasonal waterfalls come into being there after rain, adding to the breathtaking scenery of the

mountain.

Meanwhile, Songhung hot spring in the city of Kim Chaek, North Hamgyong Province, is a simple radon spring discovered in 1962.

The spring water wells up from 19 places and they are similar in the content of constituent parts. The mineral substances of the one used for treatment purposes out of 19 springs amount to 281.53 mg/L in total and the major ions are hydrocarbonate ion, sulphuric acid ion, carbonic acid ion and sodium ion.

The temperature of the hot spring is 46°C with a pH of 8.4.

The alkaline spa is effective in improving the circulation of blood, boosting metabolism, removing inflammation, calming mind and killing pain, softening skin and regulating endocrine and autonomic nervous systems.

The glacial traces found in the Mt Kumgang area and the Songhung hot spring in Kim Chaek have been registered as natural monuments of the country.

By Min Chol PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

As spring comes, Pyongyang streets are enlivened by flowering plants and flowerbeds seen in every roadside and park.

HEALTH FOOD

# Kelp good for health

Kelp is called the king of seaweeds.

Because it contains lots of protein, fat, carbohydrate and ash, as well as over 60 kinds of nutritive elements like iodide, bromine, potassium, sodium, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus and vitamin A, B and D. Especially, nothing can compare with it in calcium and iodine contents.

That is why it is widely used to make children grow tall fast, promote their health and cure iodine deficiency including goitre.

It also helps quicken the circulation of blood in the whole body to improve nutrition and promote metabolism, while retarding aging and relieving fatigue rapidly. It is very good for adults, especially the aged.

Since kelp improves the elasticity of veins, it is effective for the prevention and treatment of arteriosclerosis and hypertension and has anticancer effects.

Therefore, humans have widely used kelp as health food in different ways since long ago.

According to information, over 200 kinds of kelp health



Kelp nutritive solution

foods are on sale in the world and some countries are proactively engaged in developing the kelp health food industry.

At present, different health foods are produced in the world by adding diverse seasonings to kelp, namely bread, twist, powder, tea, drink, liquor, confectionery, rice cake, bean curd and instant noodle.

Korea is bounded by sea on three sides, and the DPRK cultivates kelp on a large scale.

Kimchi, fry, salt-cured dish, jelly and other foods made of kelp are popular with the locals.

Food researchers developed nutritious kelp liquid, nutritive tablet of kelp extract and other medicines and nutritious foods, and are intensifying research into kelp foods.

By Song Jong Ho PT

DIET

# Tofu familiar to local dietary life

In Korea, which is known as the home of pulses, the local people have long used tofu, or bean curd, in their diet. It is made

by pressing and wringing curdled lumps before making ground pulses mixed with water mushy, boiling and putting brine in it.

The Koreans have prepared various dishes with tofu, including soup, broth, jongol, ragout and roasted one.

Families now add meat, egg, vegetable and other subsidiary materials to tofu to cook a rich selection of tasty saute dishes of high nutritive value, diversifying their dietary life.

KCNA

THERAPY

# Some indispensable means of Koryo therapy

Acupuncture is an indispensable treatment means of Koryo medical workers.

Ancient Koreans made needles with stone, bone and other materials to use them in medical treatment.

Historians insist that stone and bone needles in the Neolithic era, which were unearthed in the city of Rason, are typical material evidence supporting their assertion.

The medicinal efficacy of garlic and wormwood was explained scientifically and the scope of their utilization is increasing further.

Allicin in garlic has strong sterilization power. According to biologists, the sterilization effect ratio of garlic to penicillin is 100 to 1.

Garlic is called a natural medicinal material as it is effective not only for the

prevention of cold, colitis, thrombosis and cardiovascular diseases but also for the reduction of blood pressure and the treatment of inflammation.

Especially, it prevents gastric cancer or ulcer and restores damaged DNA, and it is well known to have remarkable anti-cancer effects.

The six-clove garlic of Korea is said to have stronger medicinal efficacy than those of other countries.

Wormwood was widely used to relieve pain, stop bleeding and cure stomach troubles, but it has

recently been verified that it is efficacious for the treatment of malaria and has a unique effect on cancer when it is combined with iron element. In order to apply wormwood, it is better to pulverize the naturally-dried wormwood and mix it with water to drink like tea.

Koryo medical workers and researchers are working on the development of traditional medicines and therapies that can produce high efficacy with low cost.

By Om Ryong PT



Acupuncture



Moxibustion

