

General Secretary Kim Jong Un visits Kumsusan Palace of Sun

KCNA

All the people in the DPRK are cherishing the memory of President Kim Il Sung, the outstanding leader and the father of the nation who carved out a new history of socialist Korea prospering with independence in politics, self-sustenance in the economy and self-reliance in national defence and demonstrated the dignity and might of the country before the whole world, with deep yearning and reverence for him on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of his demise.

Kim Il Sung's noble career and immortal exploits to shine for all ages of the Korean nation and revolution serve as the eternal strength of the mighty DPRK and as the ever-victorious banner powerfully encouraging our Party and people who are speeding

up the historic advance toward a new horizon of overall national rejuvenation under the leadership of the Party Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on the greatest national memorial day.

Accompanying him were Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won and Choe Ryong Hae, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and other members of the Party central leadership body, leading officials of the Central Committee of the WPK and officials of armed forces organs, ministries and national agencies.

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun

where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, the founder-builders of the great WPK and the DPRK and the sacred images of socialist Korea, are preserved in their lifetime appearance, was wrapped in a sublime atmosphere.

A flower basket from the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid before the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Also placed before the statues were baskets of flowers in the name of the Central Committee of the WPK, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un paid high tribute at the statues of the President and the

Chairman.

All the participants made a deep bow of best wishes for immortality to the President and the Chairman who laid an eternal foundation for the victorious advance and accomplishment of the cause of building a powerful socialist country, wisely leading the WPK and people with the faith of Juche and iron pluck all their lives.

They made their firm pledge to fulfil their duty as leading personnel of the revolution in the van of all-people advance for implementing the decisions of the Eighth WPK Congress and plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee, with optimism about sure victory and the redoubled fighting spirit under the leadership of Kim Jong Un and dynamically lead the innovative development of the DPRK.

Decree of SPA Standing Committee on conferring war victory medal on President Kim Il Sung

KCNA

A decree of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on conferring the 70th Anniversary of Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War Medal on President Kim Il Sung was issued.

The decree says as follows:

President Kim Il Sung is an ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander and the great guardian of justice and peace as he honourably defended the dignity and sovereignty of the country and set a world-historic example in the anti-imperialist struggle by leading the fierce Fatherland Liberation War to victory.

He, an outstanding military strategist, aroused the army and people of the DPRK to the sacred war for national defence and overpowered the enemy's numerical and military and

technical superiority with his unique military idea, outstanding strategy and tactics and rare commanding art, thus humbling the arrogant US imperialists and working military miracles to be recorded in the human history of wars forever.

In the Fatherland Liberation War, a showdown between rifle and A-bomb, the young DPRK defeated the US imperialists boasting of being the "strongest" in the world and the Korean people proudly emerged as a heroic people in the arena of history. This is a brilliant fruition of the distinguished military wisdom and wise leadership of Kim Il Sung, a legendary hero.

Holding aloft the banner of Juche, he had won a brilliant victory in the socialist revolution and construction and the fierce anti-imperialist, anti-US confrontation for decades after the war and turned the DPRK into an invincible socialist country, mighty and

dignified with independence in politics, self-support in the economy and self-reliance in national defence.

The undying feats of the President, who defeated the US-led imperialist allied forces to provide the glorious tradition and wealth for eternal victory of our country and people and open a new chapter in the anti-imperialist, anti-US struggle, will shine for all ages.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the war victory, the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly decided to confer the 70th Anniversary of Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War Medal on President Kim Il Sung who won a brilliant victory in the war and made an immortal contribution to the Korean revolution and the human cause of independence against imperialism, in reflection of the unanimous will and desire of all the people and service personnel.

Decree of SPA Standing Committee on conferring war victory medal on Chairman Kim Jong Il

KCNA

A decree of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on conferring the 70th Anniversary of Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War Medal on Chairman Kim Jong Il was issued.

The decree says as follows:

Chairman Kim Jong Il is a peerlessly brilliant commander of Songun and a legendary great man as he had resolutely frustrated the imperialists and reactionaries' anti-DPRK moves under the uplifted banner of Juche and Songun for more than half a century to glorify the history and tradition of war victory generation after generation.

Kim Jong Il, the outstanding genius of military affairs, learned the Juche-based military idea and tactics of President Kim Il Sung in his teens

on the table for operational plans at the Supreme Headquarters and clarified the immutable truth that the President precisely represents the fatherland, instilling the faith in sure victory into the hearts of service personnel and people of the DPRK.

The Chairman developed the Korean People's Army into the one of the leader and the Party and reliably defended the destiny of the country and nation with his unique Songun politics at the time when the country faced the unprecedented ordeals and brought about great events of special significance in the nation's history of 5 000 years.

It is a precious fruition of his rare idea and leadership that the Korean people have worked epoch-making miracles of successive victories in the fierce confrontation with imperialism century after century and reliably defended the sovereignty and dignity

of the country and the global peace and security.

The undying feats of the Chairman, who turned the DPRK into a politico-ideological power and a world military power based on the single-minded unity with his matchless pluck and courage and far-sighted wisdom and laid an eternal foundation for successfully carrying forward the history and tradition of war victory, will shine for all ages.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the war victory, the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly decided to award the 70th Anniversary of Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War Medal to Chairman Kim Jong Il who demonstrated the dignity and might of Juche Korea all over the world with his distinguished and tested leadership, in reflection of the unanimous will and desire of all the people and service personnel of the KPA.

Spirit of self-reliance fully exhibited

First half-yearly plans overfulfilled in major sectors

The Korean Central News Agency on July 3 reported that major sectors of the DPRK overfulfilled their first half-yearly plans in the struggle for attaining the 12 major goals for the development of the national economy.

All the people across the country are dynamically advancing to bring about a fresh upswing in the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism under the uplifted banner of self-reliance along the road indicated by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the report said, and went on:

Amid the all-people

struggle getting further intensified to open a new phase in socialist construction, eye-opening miracles have been made on the agricultural front, the first half-yearly national economic plans for major indices fulfilled in the fields of metallurgical, chemical, electric power, coal, machine-building, mining, forestry, railways and other industrial sectors and new standards and new records steadily created in the field of construction.

The socialist farm fields are seething with the struggle to attain the goal of grain production, the first and dominant goal among the major goals of the national

economy. In hearty response to the Party's programme for rural revolution, irrigation projects have been pushed forward on a nationwide scale, thus laying material and technical foundations for preventing damage by drought and flooding in large areas of farm fields.

The agricultural workers and helpers devotedly worked to complete rice-transplanting in the main areas of the country in a short span of time and made other practical successes in the farming process.

Many farms across the country achieved good results in the farming of earlier crops by making

strenuous efforts to expand the area of wheat and barley farming compared to last year and put the manuring and cultivation on a scientific basis.

The drive for increased production and creation has been vigorously conducted in the major industrial sectors. Workers in the metallurgical and chemical industries, twin pillars for economic development, overfulfilled their rolled steel and nitrogenous fertilizer production plans for the first half of the year by 12 percent and 2 percent respectively, while taking the lead in the advance for a great upsurge.

The production plans for rolled steel and iron ore of the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry were successfully carried out every month thanks to the high enthusiasm of the steel workers to consolidate the self-supporting economy.

Officials and workers of the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex and the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex fulfilled their quotas for the supply of farming fertilizer for the manuring year before the set time.

The national plan for power production in the first half of the year was carried out at 101 percent.

The national coal

production plan for the first half of the year was overfulfilled by 4 percent, capital tunneling and preparatory tunneling have been pushed forward ahead of schedule and hundreds of reserve coal faces were secured.

The workers in the machine-building industry increased production and fulfilled the first half-yearly plan of the Ministry of Machine-building Industry on all indices.

The national nonferrous metal production plan for the first half of the year was completed at 146 percent.

SEE PAGE 7



Early crops are harvested at farms across the country. (above)
A partial view of Hwasong Street inaugurated in April. (left)

On occasion of 29th anniversary of demise of President Kim Il Sung

Youth and students meet for story telling

KCNA

A meeting of youth and students took place at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on Wednesday to hear stories about the noble virtues of President Kim Il Sung on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of his demise.

It was attended by Ri Tu Song, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the youth league, officials of the youth league,

young people and students. Speakers at the meeting told in an excited tone about the undying exploits of the President who dedicated himself to the country and the people and the rosy future of the rising generations all his life.

The audience was moved by their stories about the President who deeply trusted young people and gave prominence to them in every stern period of the revolution and trained them to be reliable successors to the revolution.

The speakers recalled that

university students could demonstrate their honour as core elements and vanguard fighters of the Party and the revolution in every decade of socialist construction under the leadership of the President who established a university before anything else despite the difficult situation after national liberation.

They stressed that the exploits of the President and Chairman Kim Jong Il who trained the young people as performers of epoch-making miracles and feats, strong in idea and faith, will be immortal for all ages.

Events by working people's organizations

KCNA

Events were held by the working people's organizations on July 6 to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the death of President Kim Il Sung.

They were attended by Pak In Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, Kim Jong Sun, chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, officials concerned and officials and members of the GFTUK, UAWK and SWUK.

Speakers at the story-telling meeting of workers and trade union members on the virtues of the President held at the Central Hall of Workers told about the devotion and untiring efforts of the President who had devoted his all to national prosperity and the people's wellbeing during the whole period of his revolutionary career.

A story-telling meeting of agricultural workers and UAWK members took place at the hall of culture in Oguk-ri of Anak County, South Hwanghae Province. Speakers at the meeting highly praised the immortal exploits of the President

who had visited many farms to solve the country's rural questions, shown great love and solicitude for the farmers and trained agricultural workers to become heroes and rural revolutionaries.

At the similar meeting held by women's union officials and members at the Hall of Women speakers impressively told stories about the revolutionary history of patriotism of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who translates into reality on this land the noble intention of the President who had led the people with the idea "The people are God" and brought honour to the country.

HOME NEWS

Centenarian receives birthday spread from leader

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to Kim Mun Ryol living in neighbourhood unit No. 35, Sojin-ri, Yomju County of North Phyongan Province, on her 100th birthday.

The centenarian's house was enlivened by officials of the Yomju County Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and villagers who came to congratulate her on the event.

Unable to suppress her strong emotion, she extended her gratitude to Kim Jong Un for having sent the birthday spread to her, an ordinary old woman.

More youths in North Hamgyong volunteer for major economic sectors

Dozens of young men and women applied for jobs in difficult and labour-consuming sectors of socialist construction.

A meeting took place at the Chongjin Theatre on

July 2 to congratulate the volunteers.

The volunteers expressed their resolve to perform brilliant feats in the new posts, cherishing loyalty to the Party and revolution as the greatest honour and pride like the youth vanguards in the Chollima era.

539th triplets leave Pyongyang Maternity Hospital

The 539th triplets (two boys and a girl) were born at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and left it on July 4.

The babies, who had weighed 1.6kg, 1.78kg and 2.3kg respectively at the time of birth, grew day by day thanks to the sincere efforts of doctors and nurses and weighed over 4kg when they left the hospital.

Their parents are workers. The triplets and their parents received presents, including gold rings and silver knives, from the state. Doctors and nurses gave a warm send-off to the babies leaving in good health and their parents.

Indicating path to be followed by cause of independence for humankind

By Choe Yong Nam PT

President Kim Il Sung was a peerless veteran statesman who led the struggle for the cause of independence for humankind to victory.

Having set out on the road of revolution in his early years, Kim Il Sung, with his extraordinary wisdom, realized the dawn of a new era of history, clarified in the historic report he delivered at the Meeting of Leading Personnel of the Young Communist League and the Anti-imperialist Youth League held in June 1930 the original revolutionary theory that they should vigorously wage the struggle against imperialism and colonialism and they themselves should take responsibility for and independently solve all problems arising in the revolution to suit their own actual conditions and accomplished the historic cause of national liberation by applying the theory to revolutionary practice.

This led to a new turn in the national-liberation movements in the colonial countries across the world. The President, who ushered in a new era of humankind, a new era of independence, performed

immortal exploits by firmly defending peace and security of the world against the imperialists' aggressive moves.

With his staunch anti-imperialist and class stand, he waged a dynamic struggle to smash the manoeuvres of the imperialists led by the US, the disturber of peace and the source of war.

The ideas on uniting all the people on the earth aspiring after peace and progress into a joint front against the US imperialists and achieving peace by struggle, not by begging, and fighting against the imperialists to the end without any concession and other ideas and theories put forward by the President illuminated the most correct path for ensuring global peace.

Under the leadership of the President, the DPRK which is small in territory and population, humbled the US, which boasted of being the "strongest", and set it on the downhill path and demonstrated its might as an invincible fortress leading the cause of independence for humankind.

The President made a great contribution to the victorious advance of the cause of independence for humankind by positively helping the people in

revolutionary countries with their struggle with his noble revolutionary obligation.

In the early days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, he helped China in its revolution at the cost of blood to set an example of internationalism which tells that the peoples in revolutionary countries can win victory when they support and cooperate with one another and unite.

He also put forward the slogan "Let us defend the Soviet Union with arms!" and frustrated the Japanese imperialists' plan for invading the Soviet Union.

The President saw that unsparing material assistance was provided to other socialist countries when they were fighting wars of resistance against the US and positive assistance given to African nations and other developing countries in their building of a new society.

The cause of independence for humankind pioneered and led by the President continued to advance successfully thanks to Chairman Kim Jong Il. Now it has reached a new historic turning point under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

President Kim Il Sung, great sun of 20th century, and his personal charisma

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

President Kim Il Sung met many foreigners from the country's liberation from the Japanese military rule of Korea to the last moment of his life and the number is countless.

They became close friends of the President though they had different ranks, social influence, skin colours, languages, ideas and creeds.

Referring to his extraordinary personal charisma to attract the people at once, a foreigner wrote in his article as follows:

"It was a fragrance. An unusual fragrance that a great man born of heaven can have. An outstanding human fragrance that only he emanates. I felt it intensely when I had an audience with the President several times. Charmed by this fragrance of the great man like bees and butterflies swarm, attracted by the sweet scent of flowers, all people follow and rally around him."

His human fragrance was warm human love and the noblest humane feelings based on independence.

Gomes from Portugal had respected President Kim Il Sung as an iron-willed brilliant commander through

his experience from the 1950s. He was an experienced politician with a career of army chief of staff and president of the country.

He met the President in July 1981 for the first time. At the time, the President warmly shook hands with him, saying he felt as if he met an old friend. He then highly praised him for his merits and gave clear-cut answers to all questions he asked.

In April 1982 when he visited the DPRK again, the President arranged a luncheon for him and placed great trust in him, asking him to often come to the DPRK now that they have become old friends and inspiring him to work hard together for the people, independence of Europe and that of developing countries.

Enchanted by his extraordinary magnetism, Gomes confessed that President Kim Il Sung was a great man who moves the world with benevolence. His absolute reverence for the President led him to become a follower of the Juche idea and supporter of Korean reunification.

The world people often say that President Kim Il Sung was the human sun and the more

they met him, the more they felt drawn towards him.

His magnanimity and generosity greatly impressed progressive humankind.

Luise Rinser was a German female writer the President praised as a comrade-in-arms and friend.

Known as a sharp critic in the Western world, she met the President one day in May 1980 for the first time. That day, he made time for the visiting German female writer in the midst of his busy schedule of field inspections. He warmly welcomed her and gave answers to her questions in detail and hosted a luncheon for the ordinary writer. And hearing her painful life experience, he said he regarded her as an old comrade-in-arms.

She was so excited by his call, a noble appellation which can be exchanged only between those who share life and death in battlefields, that she told him that she would revere the President to the last moment of her life.

Keeping her resolve in mind as her principle of life, she wrote many books to convey to humanity and posterity how great a man the President was.



The International Friendship Exhibition House.

Party plenum advances practical tasks for attaining goals for this year

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held last June reviewed the work conducted in the first half of the year, and indicated a scientific course and put forward definite action plans for assuredly advancing socialist construction.

The DPRK achieved a great deal of success in economic construction despite trials and hardships in the first half of this year.

The goal for irrigation construction for this year has mainly been attained, the flames of the socialist patriotic movement for

increasing coal production which were kindled in the South Phyongan provincial coalfield are spreading to all other sectors and units across the country, metallurgical and chemical industries are advancing in the van while exceeding their highly-set targets and the construction sector has continued to build structures bringing joy and confidence to the people.

The success has greatly encouraged the Korean people who are determined to make this year a year of long stride for the development of the national economy and inspired them to a greater victory.

The Workers' Party of

Korea convened the plenum in order to put spurs to completing the projects for the readjustment and reinforcement, and updating and modernization that are being pushed at key industrial and other sectors, thereby making significant successes of completion for consolidating the backbone of the self-supporting economy one after another in the second half of the year.

To this end, the meeting had an in-depth discussion of the tasks and ways for attaining goals for this year, including urgent and realistic tasks for achieving the sustainable and long-term development of agriculture, the issue

for key industry sectors to lead others to bring about a new upsurge in the overall economy and the matter for the construction sector to carry out projects as planned, before taking substantial measures.

What is important in spurring the attainment of goals for this year is to build up domestic forces, internal motive power. Only then can the country firmly defend its interests and security environment and raise the overall development of socialism onto a new higher stage by its own efforts.

At present, all sectors and units are out to provide a decisive guarantee for implementing the five-year

plan without fail this year by consolidating the already-reached growth line and attaining goals definitely as planned and intended by the Party.

They press ahead with current production and readjustment and reinforcement by identifying and tapping all reserves, possibilities and potentials so as to fully ensure the sustainable and stable development of their units and the state.

Related sectors and units promote solidarity and joint action among them and help and lead one another forward, while positively sharing and transferring success and experience. Agricultural,

land development and other sectors much affected by natural climate are taking measures with foresight to cope with calamitous abnormal weather.

In particular, top priority is given to talents and scientific and technological development, with the awareness that science and technology are the key to keeping up the spirit of new innovation, bold creation and steady advance and making dynamic progress.

All the sectors and units will demonstrate once again the valiant spirit and might of Korea by focussing on the attainment of this year's goals and surely achieving good results.

Practical measures taken to implement decisions of Party plenary meeting

KCNA

True to the decisions of the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Cabinet and state economic guidance organs are taking practical measures to more vigorously lead the economic development of the country.

The Cabinet is intensifying the work to strengthen the unified command, control and reporting systems for the economic work.

It organizes in detail the economic work for successfully attaining the goal of grain production, the prime target of the 12 major goals.

It concentrates efforts on effectively conducting farming

operations while guiding the agricultural work as a whole. And it discusses issues arising in taking scientific and timely measures by grasping the farming conditions of even the workteams of farms in valleys.

It also takes practical measures for the sustainable and long-term development of agriculture including irrigation construction, increase of the mechanization rate of all farm work and tideland reclamation according to a well thought-out plan.

It steps up the work to make significant successes for consolidating the backbone of the self-supporting economy one after another by completing the projects for the readjustment and

reinforcement, updating and modernization which take a big share in implementing this year's economic tasks in all sectors including the metal, chemical, electric power and coal industries.

It discusses the issues arising in taking measures to supply building materials this year with the biggest amount of construction in the history of the country and pushing ahead with projects as scheduled while perfectly ensuring the quality of design and construction.

It also comes up with creative suggestions to make sure progress in the work to increase milk production and provide adequate production equipment.

It scientifically intensifies the work to step up the land management and ecological environment protection in a long-term and development-oriented way and financially guarantee the economic development and the improvement of the people's living standards.

It explores the ways of solving the sci-tech problems urgently arising in mobilizing and using talented scientists and technicians in a unified and effective way, boosting the economic work and stabilizing and improving the people's living.

Officials of the Cabinet and state economic guidance organs redouble efforts to implement the tasks of the Party plenary meeting, full of the elated spirit and confidence.

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Poster: Let us display patriotic enthusiasm to the full in the general all-people onward march!

For fundamental change in agriculture

KCNA

Officials of the Agricultural Commission and all provincial, city and county agricultural guidance organs have made strenuous efforts to bring about a radical change in agricultural production through scientific farming operation and command true to the decisions of the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

They are taking practical measures for rapidly overcoming the deviations revealed in the course of carrying out each farming process in the first half of the year and for ensuring this year's cereal production and sustainable development of agriculture.

The Agricultural Commission and provincial, city and county agricultural guidance organs are striving to work out a scientific plan for every farming process for the second half of the year and properly carry it out.

They have paid

due attention to doing farming well this year and making preparations for concluding farming in a responsible manner.

Practical measures are taken to dynamically push forward with the work for sustainable and long-term development of agriculture.

Drawing on the experience gained in the irrigation project for this year, priority is given to the designing for the area to be irrigated next year and the manufacture of necessary equipment to ensure the quality of irrigation construction.

Projects are under way to attain the goal of tideland reclamation set forth by the Party and decisively increase the proportion of work done by machines on farms through mass-production of cultivators.

Discussed in depth are the measures for establishing an optimized agricultural guidance and management system suited to the specific conditions of the country and achieving the grain production goal in the relevant areas.



Great victory sets the direction of new history of DPRK

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

After the three-year war ended with victory of the Korean people, the Workers' Party of Korea called on the entire Party and all the people to turn out for postwar reconstruction and socialist construction.

According to the main direction of the postwar national economic reconstruction and development illuminated by President Kim Il Sung, the victorious wartime generation turned out for the postwar reconstruction like one, shouldering again the important works to heal the wounds left by the war and restore the country which was reduced to ashes.

Workers of the then Kangson Steel Works restored the electric furnace by their efforts to produce the first charge of molten

iron in a matter of 40 days after the war and those of the Sunghori Cement Factory started the production of cement by rebuilding the rotary kiln in less than two weeks. The railways workers restored and repaired railway tracks and bridges and goods wagons to provide train service on all the main railway lines in a week.

Two years passed like this and at the end of 1955 over 230 state-run enterprises were completely or partially restored to start operation, more than 70 state-run enterprises were newly built and Pyongyang was wonderfully reconstructed by the heroic struggle of the capital city builders.

The WPK laid down the policy on agricultural cooperativization for reorganizing economic forms along socialist

lines prior to the technical transformation of agriculture in conformity with the detailed conditions of the rural community after the war and desire of the farmers. Accordingly, the agricultural cooperativization movement was successfully completed in a matter of 4-5 years.

It also adopted a policy of remoulding reforming individual merchants and manufacturers without expropriating their property in consideration of the characters of capitalist trade and industry and carried out the socialist transformation of private trade and industry by way of embracing them in various forms of cooperative economy.

As the old production relations were transformed along socialist lines in towns and rural villages, an advanced socialist

system which is free from exploitation and oppression was established in the DPRK.

The WPK put forward its policies by setting as the absolute criterion the detailed specific situations of the country and the opinions and demands of the popular masses of the people in all fields of socialist construction including industry, agriculture, transport and major construction.

It held fast to the main line of postwar economic construction which called for simultaneously developing the light industry and agriculture while preferentially developing the heavy industry and wisely organized and led the efforts to put it into effect, making it possible for the country to recover from the ravages of war and lay the solid foundations

of an independent national economy in a short time.

It directed a great deal of energies to the development of education, culture and public health, important parts of socialist construction, thus achieving remarkable successes in improving the cultural and technical level of the working people and developing national culture and arts.

As a result, the compulsory primary education system was introduced in the country in 1956, the compulsory secondary education in 1958, and the universal free education in 1959, and in 1960 the already enforced universal free medical care system was developed into the complete and universal free medical care system to make the Korean people builders of cultured and civilized society.

The DPRK, once a

backward agricultural country in the past, eliminated backwardness and poverty by victoriously advancing socialist revolution and construction to turn it into a socialist industrial-agricultural state with self-sufficient independent economic foundations under the leadership of the WPK.

As they cherished as their faith through the grim Fatherland Liberation War the truth that only when they firmly believed in President Kim Il Sung and upheld his leadership with loyalty, could they surely become victors, the Korean people notched up a victory in the socialist revolution after performing the miracle of war victory and opened up a new history of prosperity.

Herein lies another aspect of significance of the great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

War victory brings invaluable tradition and asset



Korean People's Army soldiers hold out on Height 1211.



KPA soldiers raise cheers on the war victory day.

By Pang Un Ju PT

The heroic defenders of the country in the 1950s, the victorious wartime generation of the DPRK, created an immortal spirit and tradition for the country and people with which to win victory forever in the face of any hardships and ordeals.

The victory won by the victorious wartime generation is the outcome of the heroic spirit and indomitable struggle of the Korean people and army who were boundlessly loyal to the leader.

For the Workers' Party and the leader and to carry out the pledges they had made before the leader, the People's Army soldiers turned out without hesitation

in do-or-die battles and displayed an unyielding courage, looking up to the Supreme Headquarters, even in the jaws of death. Their indomitable mental strength produced world-startling legendary tales of winning battles in the war.

They inflicted wholesale deaths on the enemy on the heights and blocked the enemy gun muzzles by throwing their bodies over them to put into effect the operational plans of President Kim Il Sung and the people in the rear produced weapons and ammunition, increased grain production and ensured wartime transport in the teeth of heavy bombings by the enemy warplanes.

The victory clinched by the victorious wartime

generation finds its origin in the rock-firm faith that as they were led by the President, they would surely win the war and the strong will to dedicate even their blood and life unsparingly if it were to carry out the orders of the leader.

As they cherished the truth that only when they were led by General Kim Il Sung, could they defend their country and if when they trusted and followed him, they would surely win, the coast artillerymen on Wolmi Island fought bravely against tens of thousands of enemy troops with only four guns until the last moment of their lives and the KPA Korean People's Army units on the second front faithfully implemented

the operational plans of their leader at the cost of their lives, wishing the wellbeing of the Supreme Headquarters even behind enemy lines.

Thanks to the honourable constructors, the victorious wartime generation, who displayed fortitude with their belts still tightened in the struggle against time, a miracle of Chollima could be performed on the debris after the war in hearty response to the call of the President and the historic task of simultaneously promoting economic construction and upbuilding of national defence, a shortcut to a rich country with a strong army, could be accomplished with success.

By inheriting the great heroic spirit of the victorious

wartime generation, the Korean people have been able to overcome the arduous trials in the struggle for defending socialism in the postwar period, and perform with credit the great tasks facing the revolution.

The time-honoured tradition of victory of the DPRK has successfully been carried on by the Korean people generation after generation as they are being led by the great leaders.

Chairman Kim Jong Il staunchly safeguarded the destiny of the country and the people by holding fast to the tradition of victory established by the President as the treasured sword, and that tradition shines brilliantly as the priceless ideological and spiritual asset of the DPRK under

the leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

The General Secretary said in his speech at the Seventh National Conference of War Veterans that the honourable mission of the descendants of the great victorious wartime generation is to make the country, which was defended and built by the forerunners, stronger and prosper forever by brilliantly carrying forward the great tradition of victory and heroic spirit which were created under the leadership of the great leaders and the great Party.

The Korean people are steadfast in their will to fulfil the desire of the victorious wartime generation without fail and turn the DPRK into an invincible and powerful country that will prosper forever.

Commission works to elevate education to advanced world level

By Pang Un Ju PT

True to the idea of the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea which discussed and decided on key issues for the development of the country's education, the Education Commission presses on with the undertaking to put the education of the country on the world's advanced level.

Ri Chang Sik, vice-chairman of the Education Commission, said that the plenary meeting stressed the need to positively step up the efforts to improve the educational structure of the country in such a way as to provide advanced

education, and that the structural innovation is a priority in carrying out the revolution in education in the new century and constitutes a sure guarantee for making education the one to which our future can be entrusted.

The commission is concentrating all its efforts on improving the educational structure into the one to provide advanced education and teaching contents and methods in accordance with the global trend of educational development.

Discussions are held to adopt measures to upgrade the educational structure of primary and secondary education into the one that can give education according to

students' gifts and aptitudes while focusing on teaching general basic knowledge.

"This is a proactive step to make all the students acquire more than one technical skill in the stage of secondary education so that they can contribute to social development," Ri said.

In-depth discussions are also held to alter the composition of universities, faculties and departments with the main emphasis put on composing higher educational institutions in a rational way on the basis of properly setting talent types and to change the higher educational structures including those of postgraduate courses and teaching management and

the system of selecting new university students.

More detailed measures are being taken to update teaching contents so as to make students gain all-round and profound knowledge and practical abilities and to improve teaching methods so as to enable them to get practical knowledge and abilities as active learners and searchers.

Practical measures are being taken to make schools at all levels improve teaching methods to enable students to learn easily, with fun and in a theoretical way and the higher education sector positively create new teaching methods and introduce them so as to enhance students' ability to learn, study and apply knowledge.

Pyongyang consumer goods show held

By Yun Kyong Il PT

The Pyongyang Municipal Consumer Goods Exhibition took place at the Pyongyang Underground Store between June 22 and July 3.

The show brought together well over 100 units including centrally-controlled and locally-run light industry factories and other consumer goods producers which presented more than 570 000 articles in over 2 300 kinds, and provided the participants a good opportunity to share success and experience obtained in the production of consumer goods and activate their production.

According to Yang Sun Chol, department director of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, the recent exhibition drew larger numbers of participating units and larger numbers and varieties of goods and new products than previous events.



The Pyongyang Municipal Consumer Goods Exhibition is held from June 22 to July 3 at the Pyongyang Underground Store. It turned out to be a crowd-puller. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

As it prepared for the exhibition, the city people's committee made higher demands for the quality of exhibits.

From the first day, customers competitively

demanded the table bread, instant noodles and cakes presented by the Pyongyang Flour Mill, the instant noodles, fermented flatfish and processed meat by the Kwangbok Kungangsan

Foodstuff Factory and the soy sauce, peppered bean paste and cooking oil by the Pyongyang Condiments Factory.

Many visitors were pleased to say better goods were put

on show than previously and asked producers to make higher quality products in larger quantities.

The successful exhibition that drew thousands of visitors every day fired the

producers of consumer goods with the zeal to produce larger quantities of goods of higher quality while exchanging and sharing experience they gained in the course of production.

Booths crowded with people

By Kim Il Jin PT

Many booths of the recent Pyongyang municipal consumer goods show were popular with visitors.

Among the booths are those for clothes exhibited by the Rangnang Ponghwa Garment Factory, Sujongchon Garment Factory, Pyongyang Children's Knitwear Factory, Songyo Knitwear Factory and others.

Visitors were amazed to see summer shirts for men and women imprinted with the patterns of the flag of the DPRK, trousers, skirts and so on, saying ready-made clothes have improved much.

In particular, dresses and summer shirts for women from the Oil Garment Factory enjoyed great popularity for their fine styles and colours and the high level of their processing.

A woman living in Sosong District of the city said she just likes the clothes from the factory as

the products are associated with the sincerity of their producers.

Among the ready-made clothes were dresses, shirts and trousers from the housewives' workshops of the Hyongjesan and Ryokpho district general industrial goods shops and the goods were on a par with those from factories for quality.

The household goods booth was unusually crowded with visitors.

Electric rice cookers and fans from the Pyongyang Automation Appliances Factory won popularity. Visitors said in unison they were satisfied to see the appliances as the factory made them with its own efforts and technology and with local materials. The rice cookers of light pink and light green drew the attention of housewives as they were conspicuously glossy unlike those on display at the previous exhibition. Everyone wanted it, saying it takes short time for it to cook rice.

A woman living in Pothonggang District, who visited the venue of the show again after buying goods there on the day when the show started, said she had cooked rice with the rice cooker and that it was really good. The fans were also popular with visitors for their fine shapes and good quality as articles for summer. Octagonal glass vessels from the Ryokpho Factory attracted women. Rice bowl, soup bowl, kimchi bowl, plate and other various vessels were much in demand. Summer and spring hosiery for men and women from the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory were in great demand. Many visitors each bought several pairs of socks for their family members or friends, the saleswomen said proudly. The booths for foodstuffs, medicines and grasswork were also haunts of many visitors. The Yua General Foodstuff Factory put on display 220-odd kinds

of foodstuffs such as instant noodle, bread, fry, confectionery, vinegar and soy sauce, which attracted visitors throughout the show. And over 20 health foods, including insam ginkgo indan, chichory extract, Wilford swallowwort toffee and black chokeberry essence, from the Pyongchon Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory and clothes for children and varieties of grasswork from the Moranbong Housewives' Cooperative, too, drew the attention of visitors. "We have presented a dozen kinds of health foods and sanitary goods, including sponge cucumber juice and collagen skin protection lotion, at the show. This time we've come to know better about the tastes of our people. We'll work hard to develop and produce even a single product to be desired and favoured by the people," said Ri Kwon Il, chief of the Mangyongbong Health Product Manufacturer.

On this basis, the factory organized a prize contest to encourage every employee to present more than one kind of foodstuff from their ingredients to the methods of making and packaging and produced products after the technical group of the factory provided strict scientific and technical guarantee for the selected products. As a result, we have presented over 80 kinds of products to the current exhibition.

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New products come closer to people's dietary life

Our factory was inaugurated not long ago, so it has not taken part in this kind of exhibition many times.

It made its debut at the national spring commodity show-2023 this spring by presenting over a dozen kinds of products. At the time we gained much experience and learned valuable lessons.

It is the first time for us to participate in the Pyongyang municipal consumer goods show.

While making preparations for the show, the focus of our attention was to develop and produce products which are in great demand among the people.

To this end, all factory employees from the manager to the newcomers went out to many places of the capital city to learn in detail about the kinds, tastes, quality, packages and prices of foodstuffs the people actually want.

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Of them are various kinds of instant noodles with kimchi and beef flavours. They are good for health as vitamins are not destroyed even if they are boiled as dry ramen noodles and they do not produce any carcinogens as they are not fried in oil.

As it is made by mixing flour with raw milk without using any water, breads smell fresh milk with no change in swelling and can be stored for a long time.

And hot boiled chicken hoof, fermented flatfish and other meat and fish products taste unique, are packaged in a distinctive style and cost low to attract many customers.

At the current exhibition the factory won a diploma of excellence.

We will redouble our efforts to make more products which are popular among the people.

Ri Yon Mi, staffer of the Kwangbok Kungangsan Foodstuff Factory



Visitors examine newly brought out articles.



Company strengthens position as prestigious marine insurer

Samhae Insurance Company works towards the long-term goal to become a leading insurance service provider at home and a world-class insurer with expertise and reputation.



The Samhae Insurance Company's insurance coverage.

Insurance companies are busy now when natural disasters caused by El Nino loom in the country.

Noticeable are the business activities of the Samhae Insurance Company.

It was established in October 2016 as an insurer specializing in marine risks in the country. Headquartered in Pyongyang, it has branches in several regions of the country.

The company has been approved by the State Insurance Commission in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the DPRK to conduct various forms of insurance business, including cargo insurance, marine hull insurance, protection & indemnity insurance, port liability insurance, motor carrier's liability insurance and aviation insurance, and reinsurance activities aimed at dispersing concentrated

risks and ensuring stability in business activities.

When we say that excellence, professionalism, responsibility and integrity are watchwords characterizing the core values of an insurance company, the company has reached the level to be proud of in all aspects.

It has branch offices throughout the country. The personnel are recognized experts with technical knowledge and rich practical experience of marine insurance. It enjoys its efficient administrative framework ensuring close cooperation between headquarters and regional branches as well as between all members of the staff, which creates a favourable climate for ensuring professionalism, excellence and flexibility in insurance activities and remarkable progress and growth in

business.

It consolidates its position in the local marine insurance market by virtue of the profound insight into the market, practical use of advanced technology, greater flexibility in delivering insurance service and encouragement of the employees' innovations.

The company was recognized by the Ministry of Finance of the DPRK as a corporate entity solid in financial strength and stable in creditability on February 28 2020.

It continues to diversify into -marine reinsurance business in cooperation with other insurance and reinsurance companies at home and abroad.

It works towards the long-term goal to become a leading insurance service provider at home and a world-class insurer with expertise and reputation.

FROM PAGE 2

The national freight transport plan for the first half of the year was carried out at 105 percent amid the growing enthusiasm of the transport workers to carry more freight to different sectors of the national economy.

The workers in the forestry sector fulfilled their first half-yearly quotas

of the Ministry of Forestry, overcoming the difficulties and hardships facing them.

New standards and new records were created one after another in the construction sector including the housing construction welcomed by the people.

The first-stage construction of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area was successfully completed, the construction of additional 2

000 flats was finished, the construction of 1 400 flats in the Taephyong area was completed and rural villages boasting of civilization in the era of the Workers' Party were built one after another.

The second-stage construction of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area, the construction of a new street in the Sopho area, the construction of Kangdong

Greenhouse Farm and the housing construction in the Komdok area are progressing apace under the grandiose plan of the Workers' Party of Korea, too.

Many successes have been made in the fields directly related to the people's living.

True to the noble intention of the WPK to provide all the schoolchildren in the country with diverse and quality school uniforms on a

priority basis, a nationwide plan for cloth production in the first half of the year was carried out at 102 percent amid the dynamic drive for producing cloth for school uniforms.

Officials and workers in the fishery sector across the country carried out the national first half-yearly production plan at 102 percent by making collective innovations.

The report said that the fierce flames of creation and innovation burning on major fronts of economic construction despite the tough situation proved once again that nothing can block the revolutionary advance of the Korean people to build a prosperous socialist paradise on this land with their own efforts, believing in and following only the Party.

Family chorus wins applause from builders



O Yong Sun's family chorus conducts an artistic motivational activity at the construction site of Hwasong Street.
WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

A family chorus is well known to all builders at the construction sites of the second-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area and a new street in the Sopho area in Pyongyang.

The chorus consists of members of the family of O Yong Sun, an old woman living in neighbourhood unit No. 22, Phalgol-dong No. 2, Mangyongdae District of the city. On Sundays and holidays they visit the construction sites to encourage the builders giving them aid materials they prepared and conducting diverse motivational artistic activities.

"Not only the adults' high ability but also the numbers in which all the children sing while playing percussion instruments, harmonicas and drums are enthusiastically

applauded by our builders. Whenever I see their performances varying each time, I think we should build more structures for our social system in which children are put forward as 'kings' of the country to fully develop their talents," said Ryu Chol Jin, a commander of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade involved in the construction of apartment blocks on the new street in the Sopho area.

It was seven years ago when she celebrated her 60th birthday that O decided to conduct motivational artistic activities together with her family members.

One Sunday, when she, together with her little granddaughter, went to the construction site of Ryomyong Street to offer assistance to the project, she was deeply impressed to see builders working hard day and night. Then

she felt lack of her sincerity as she merely gave them aid materials, she said.

"Then I turned up my sleeves with an intention to help them with their work but the builders dissuaded me, asking me to sing a song if I really wanted to help them, and said it would invigorate them," she recalled.

She went on to say that the song she sang together with the granddaughter received an encore of the builders and that seeing them delighting in hearing their singing, she made up her mind to conduct artistic activities together with her family members.

But it was not an easy job to prepare artistic performances. As it was the first time, they did not know what number to choose and how to prepare it. Moreover, it was really difficult for the adult

members of the family to get together at a time as they were busy with their work.

Besides, the family members had much difficulty in learning to play musical instruments as the arts were unfamiliar to them.

It is no wonder that O's eldest daughter Kim Ryu Hwa got so absorbed in preparing for a performance that she beat time on the cutting board while doing kitchen work. And it became an amusing episode that O's third son-in-law moved his hands in a dream as if he beat the drum.

They, however, managed to learn musical instruments and singing in their not young ages. And back home from work they all got together for ensemble training.

The performance they had prepared like that won great admiration of the builders.

"It further encouraged us that the builders were pleased to see our simple performance. I wanted to do anything if it could give pleasure to them as they devoted themselves to the prosperity and development of the country," said O's third daughter Kim Ryu Jong.

The family chorus has since visited the construction sites of Songhwa Street and those of the first-stage 10 000 flats on Hwasong Street, giving artistic performances for the builders.

In those days O's three daughters became skilful accordion, guitar and percussion instrument players and the members of the chorus increased as their relatives and villagers joined it.

Mutual affection

By Han Jong Ho PT

Rice eaters should help with farming--this is what every DPRK citizen says.

That is why not only working people from all walks of life but also housewives in the country offer assistance to farming in the busy farming season.

This year, too, many people have been out on farm fields to help with farming.

"The volunteers are different in occupation, position and place of residence. They, however, have something common. It is their unanimous will to gather bumper harvests without fail this year by pooling their intentions and mind with agricultural workers," said Ri Yong Chol, deputy director of the Agricultural Commission.

All volunteers support the countryside from the stand that they, too, are responsible for farming like farmers, he added.

Officials and employees of the Guidance Bureau of Public Catering Service, who are out at the Wonsan Farm of Paechon County in South Hwanghae Province, provided the farm with scores of water pumps and parts necessary for the full operation of the equipment after knowing that it was worrying about the problem of irrigation, and finished irrigation projects together with the farmers while pushing ahead with immediate farming processes.

Pak Won Chol, official of the farm, said that this year they finished rice-transplanting earlier than other years thanks to the volunteers' sincere help.

Officials and civil servants of the Ministry of Light Industry at the Muhak Farm of Sinwon County in the province, volunteers of the Pyongyang Informatics Centre at the Palsan Farm of Yonan County in the province, those of ministries and national agencies and those of provinces, cities and counties, too, have offered manpower support and material assistance to relevant farms.

During breaks, the volunteers mend farmers' houses and paper their rooms and give sick farmers medicines. They also solve many problems arising in the living of farmers.

Farmers prepare special foods for the volunteers and take care of their life.

"The mutual affection between volunteers and farmers has led to innovations in all farming work," said Kim Yong Chol, manager of the Sampho Farm in Kaechon City.

Some years after, Kang was enrolled at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts.

After graduation, his first work which was completed with his wife was awarded a festival prize and gold medal.

He and his wife are now active as members of the Korean Artists Union.

Works of the couple received prizes at and were selected for the national fine art exhibition, festival and skills presentation on several occasions.

STATE BENEFITS FOR FAMILIES WITH MANY CHILDREN

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Among the state benefits for the DPRK people in the DPRK are social services for families with many children.

The state has long enforced policies for providing prolific mothers with proper living conditions such as provisions and houses.

A prolific mother's medical treatment ticket began to be issued for women who gave birth to and are raising more than three children in accordance with a state measure a few years ago.

Registered on the ticket

are the names of not only a prolific mother but also her husband and children not old enough to graduate from middle school.

The country runs a general medical service system by which people get primary health care from household doctors at the clinics in their places of residence and are sent to upper or special hospitals to get treatment according to their conditions.

A person with such a ticket, however, regularly gets preventive medical service from the household doctor beyond the system and can get preferential treatment at any hospital

as he or she wants. The relevant units provide them with best possible treatment conditions.

"A few days ago I went to the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital for I was not well and doctors there treated me with all sincerity as I am a father of three children. Then I keenly felt the benevolence of our social system again," said Kim Chol Ho, worker of the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex.

The families raising more than three children, including those of their own or those they adopted,

are registered as those of many children, a certificate of family with many children is issued to them and special treatment measures are taken for them. This is also one of the state benefits for such families.

Children of such families are preferentially nominated for entrance to vocational technical schools and a woman with many children receives special subsidies from the state until her youngest child finishes a senior middle school course.

A woman who gave birth to more than three children gets benefits granted by the

state when she reaches the pension age, regardless of the length of her service and a woman who gave birth to more than two children does in case the length of her service is over 15 years.

The state recognizes it as a fine patriotic deed for the country that women give birth to and raise many children and puts forward them as heroes.

Last April Jong Yong Ran living in the Anggol Workers' District of Sungho County, Song Un Hui living in Jenam-dong of Tokchon City and O Sun Ok living in Sinji-ri of Songchon County were

awarded the title of Labour Hero, top honour for DPRK citizens, for having given birth to and raised many children.

"It is said that it is regarded as comfort to give birth to no child and it is commonplace for a woman to lose her job if she gives birth to and raises a child in other countries. Our women, however, regard it as their great pride and happiness to give birth to and raise many children under the immense state benefits," said Paek Myong Ae, department director of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea.

Prides of school, village

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

There are three children beloved by neighbours in the family of Choe Rak Yong, living in Songyodong No. 1 of Songyo District, Pyongyang.

"Whenever I hear words of praise for my grandchildren, I share pride and delight with my son and daughter-in-law," said Ri Yu Sun, Choe's mother-in-law.

According to Choe, Rim Ji Song, 15-year-old son, is called an all-round student who excels in study and art, Rim Ji Ye, 13-year-old daughter, is an honour student who never fails to take the first place at frequent school contests and Rim Ji Yong, 10-year-old daughter, is a pride of her school and neighbourhood unit as a promising singer.

Ji Song, who learns to blow the trumpet in the music group at school at present, earns praise from the teacher in charge of his class and the instructor of the group for being good at studying and quick in improving trumpet skill.

Ji Ye often has a debate with her brother on study at home. She slightly hurts her brother's self-respect

and feelings to create a competitive atmosphere in order to find solutions to problems she failed to fully understand at school through the argument.

He consolidates what he learned at school through such debates with his sister, Ji Song said, adding that his grandmother and parents satisfactorily look at them arguing with each other.

Ji Yong gains the greatest favour of all family members for her clear and sweet singing voice that brings smile to all.

"Another reason why Choe's three children becomes the pride of the neighbourhood unit is that they are very respectful and caring to neighbours. They willingly help other children in studying and musical instrument practice and do many good things for our village," said Yang Sun Hui, head of the neighbourhood unit.

"They have grown receiving so many favours of the state and special care of obliging people since their birth thanks to the social benefits for the families with many children. I hope my children will be the pride of the country in the future," said Choe Rak Yong.



Choe Rak Yong smilingly sees her children trying on new school uniforms. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Special-class honoured disabled soldier pursues painting for decades

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Kang Chol living in neighbourhood unit No. 69 of Rangnang-dong No. 1 in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, is a painter loved by people.

A special-class honoured disabled soldier, he has created impressive works of art for over 30 years.

"Special-class honoured disabled soldier painter is not an appellation we can approach as something ordinary. It is not that easy for a disabled man to conduct creative activities. But Kang Chol has engaged in such activities for over 30 years since he began to learn fine art," said Ri Yong Ho, department director of the Central Committee of the Korean Artists Union.

Kang was seriously injured during the execution of his military duty 31 years ago when he was 22 and awarded the title of special-class honoured disabled soldier for paraplegia.

He returned home with a depressing thought. He worried over his future, fearing that he might be of no use to the country as a hot-hearted young man. But he soon realized it was an unreasonable fear.

Many people visited him to show affection to the honoured disabled soldier, residents in the neighbourhood unit looked after him with familial love and even children came to show him their song and dance performances. All these were great sources of encouragement to him.

And public benefits for honoured disabled soldiers were enormous. Kang who liked to draw very much in his childhood felt an urge to portray the beautiful reality in his painting.

But a painter should travel far and wide to see many things. So he gave up hope of becoming a painter as he could scarcely move.

And then one day, he was visited by an instructor and members of the fine art group of the Central Youth Hall.

"While chatting with Kang Chol, I learned that he was desirous of learning painting. I wanted to help him fulfil his wish and lead a worthwhile life," recalled Ko Jong Nam, the then instructor of the fine art group.

This is how Kang joined the group.

He was assiduous in learning. Ko became an itinerant teacher for him and visited him almost every day, while other group members



Honoured disabled soldier Kang Chol and his wife discuss on an art work. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

rendered him sincere assistance.

"Charmed by the fervour and assiduity of Kang who strove to realize his aspiration despite his disabled body, I tied the knot with him," said Han Song Ok who was a member of the fine art group at the time.

According to Han, lots of people showed him fraternal affection, taking him to scenic spots and travelling about them with him on a wheelchair to help him see and feel to his heart's content.

Joy of prolific mother

By Hwang Jong Ryo PT

Generally, mothers with many children have lots of worries as nursing and upbringing of them requires considerable efforts.

But prolific mothers in the DPRK do not feel such anxiety as they find pride and joy in having a lot of children.

I recently visited the family of Ri Myong Song and his wife Kim Kyong Suk in neighbourhood unit No. 11 in Oryu-ri of Sadong District, Pyongyang, who have become a pride of their farm and village by giving birth to and raising five children.

The couple work on the Oryu Vegetable Farm in Sadong District.

Guiding me to their home, the head of the neighbourhood unit said their family always ring with the happy laughter of their children.

The 49-year-old husband said their eldest 19-year-old daughter joined the Korean People's Army last year and their eldest 16-year-old

son attends a senior middle school. His 41-year-old wife said smilingly that she gave birth to the second son (aged 7) and second and third daughters at an intervals of two years.

And she told me the reason why she bore five children.

During her a-month-long hospitalization at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital for her second child, she was deeply impressed by the country's policy for parturient women.

While being provided with various tonics and nutritious foods and devoted medical service like other new mothers, she realized afresh the great benefits the state offers women and their children and made up her mind to give birth to more children to raise them to be pillars of the country.

While bringing up five children, her family received a medical treatment ticket for prolific mother with which for every member of her family to receive preferential medical service everywhere and a spacious and nice house with three

living rooms gratis. Officials of the ri and farm have paid particular attention to her family and helped them settle even minor problems.

"We haven't had much trouble raising children as the country has taken care of them," said Ri Myong Song.

Prior to the opening ceremony of the school year in April last year, when his second and third children were supplied with new uniforms, satchels and full sets of school things by the state and the fourth child who entered a kindergarten with Haebalagi-brand school supplies, all the villagers admired them and he felt deep gratitude toward the country, he said.

Referring to their fourth and fifth children growing up healthily as they are given dairy products and other nutritious foods at a kindergarten and nursery, Kim Kyong Suk said she was deeply moved at the thought that not only her five children but all other children across the country enjoy such benefits.

The family was introduced

in a local newspaper last June to become a pride of the farm and a letter came from the eldest daughter who was congratulated by service personnel of her company on that, which brought her special joy, said Kim.

Her couple said they find the pleasure of life in seeing the cheerful faces of their children.

Not a day passes without a happy event: the fourth child boasts of a red star she received as a commendation for her good deed, the second one is determined to become a soldier like his sister, the third dreams of becoming a famous scientist by studying hard and the fifth dances and sings to keep the affection of other family members to herself.

As desired by her husband, they will have another child and this time it would be a son, whispered Kim Kyong Suk.

The couple said their goal is to bring their children up as reliable pillars of the country in order to return the favour shown by the state to their ordinary farming family.

President Kim Il Sung will always live in the minds of the people



Ri Ho Il
Department director of the Korean Revolution Museum

President Kim Il Sung will always live in the minds of the people

July 8 this year is the 29th anniversary of the demise of President Kim Il Sung, the father of the Korean nation.

That day every year witnesses an endless stream of people visiting Pyongyang's Mansu Hill where there stand the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman

Kim Jong Il.

Looking up at the benevolent image of Kim Il Sung who took loving care of all the people of the country, the visitors lay flower baskets, bouquets and flowers before his statue with deep yearning for him. Their faces are expressive of their earnest reverence for him.

The great leader is the saviour of the destiny of the

country and nation and the founding father of socialist Korea.

In his teens he embarked on the road of revolution, created the immortal Juche idea and won back Korea occupied by the Japanese imperialists by waging long bloody battles against the aggressors while braving through raging blizzards.

After national liberation, he founded a new Korea by

traversing an untrodden path and during the fierce three-year Fatherland Liberation War, he brought about the beginning of decline for the US imperialist aggressors for the first time in history. On the debris of the war, he led the postwar rehabilitation and socialist construction to victory, thus building an invincible socialist power independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in defence to demonstrate the dignity of the country to the whole world.

Kim Il Sung was the benevolent father of the

people.

Born in a straw-thatched house at Mangyongdae as the son of the people, he regarded the people as his God and dedicated his all to them all his life.

The fatherly leader continued to visit many farms and factories rain or snow.

He was always among the people to acquaint himself with the details of their living conditions. At a school he was so satisfied to see children in new school uniform that he spent a long time taking a photo of each of them.

Indeed, he toiled and

moiled with pleasure for the joy and happiness of the people. This is why the people do not forget him, holding him in high esteem as their father and the Sun for their life.

The great leader's history still continues steadily on this land as the cause of immortalizing the leader was accomplished as the people desired earnestly.

The Korean people are struggling to build a powerful socialist country on this land as intended by the great leader under the guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The 53rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council recently held an interactive dialogue on annual report of the High Commissioner-ITEM 2.

During the interactive dialogue, too, the US and the West unreasonably found fault with the human rights situations in certain countries and attempted, in their arrogance, to label them as "human rights violators" and "inhuman criminal states".

In particular, they specifically called the names of those countries with a strong independent stand. They made a great fuss about institutionalizing investigation into the human rights situations in those countries and subsequent legal punishment against them, just calling for a thorough investigation by the international community to

get to the bottom of the case.

This aroused due backlash from the participants.

Regarding the issues of Xinjiang, Tibet and Hong Kong, China noted that specific Western countries are unreasonably trying to provoke China with such issues in an attempt to usurp the UN human rights arena as a room for disseminating false information and tarnishing the image of China, and urged those countries to direct their energy instead into resolving their own domestic human rights issues.

Venezuela expressed concern over the attempts of certain hegemonic countries at using human rights issue as an instrument for opposing developing countries, encouraging submission of negative reports to justify their enforcement of the illegal and coercive measures and despicable propaganda.

Iran pointed out that the US and

Western countries, out of their short-sighted political objectives, are devoted to the adoption of resolutions against individual countries to make human rights issue an instrument.

Several countries including Cuba, Syria and Belarus also expressed strong discontent with the UNHRC where such practices of unreasoned criticism against sovereign states and adoption of resolutions on individual countries still persist, and condemned the US and the West for their behaviours to misuse human rights to realize ulterior political objectives.

Meanwhile, at the time of discussion of the ITEM 2, many countries strongly called for objectivity and autonomy in the activities of human rights organizations under the UN system.

Member states of the "Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations" issued

a joint statement, asserting that genuine protection and promotion of human rights can only be achieved when all countries and human rights organizations respect the principles of respect for sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs stipulated in the Charter of the United Nations and follow the principles of impartiality, objectivity, transparency, non-selectivity, non-politicization and non-confrontation.

Russia noted that the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights shuts its eyes to the systematic human rights violations in Western countries, but selectively criticizes those countries that do not meet the Western human rights standard, and maintained that the Office should observe the principles of objectivity and independence in its activities, rather than blindly following the West.

Military police system, product of Japanese horror politics

By Choe Song Jun PT

During their military occupation of Korea (1905-1945) in the last century, the Japanese imperialists cooked up a military police system in June 1910 in order to suppress the anti-Japanese struggle of the Korean people and maintain and strengthen their colonial rule.

The military police machinery set up by the Japanese imperialists was stronger in repressive character than the usual police machinery.

Above all, the Japanese aggressors tried to make their colonial rule over the Korean people more effective by centralizing the oppressive system based on military police. Their centralization of the military police system meant that they formed the system mainly with military police so as to coordinate gendarmes and police to further intensify the repression of the Korean people.

Integrating gendarme and police machineries, the aggressors made sure that military police controlled secret-service police as the investigation section. The mission of secret-service police was to supervise secret societies and assemblies directly threatening the basis of the Japanese imperialists' colonial ruling system in Korea and look out for "dangerous" ideas so as to watch and grasp and repress "political offenders".

Through the integration of the gendarme and police machineries, the aggressors also granted the military police huger rights to oppression to enable it to have the initiative. The rights included those to intelligence activities, "rioter suppression", summary judgment of "crime", civil suit "mediation", customs service, forest monitoring, census registration service, supervision of workers and diffusion of Japanese language.

The Japanese imperialists densely distributed the organs at all levels of the gendarme and police machineries with such unrestricted rights so that they could thoroughly repress the entire social life of the Korean people including their anti-Japanese independence movement.

The Korean people were deprived of all sorts of political freedom and rights and were subjected to misfortunes and sufferings owing to the military police system the aggressors put in force, saying, "Koreans must obey the Japanese law or die."

History itself is truth and practical proof.

The Japanese authorities are now clinging to the shameless moves to distort history while denying their past crimes, but history cannot be erased at all.

The Korean people never forget all the evil deeds the Japanese imperialists committed in Korea in the last century, but will surely make them pay for the crimes.

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov delivered a speech at the sixth meeting of the Commission on International Cooperation and Support for Overseas Compatriots under the General Council of the United Russia Party.

In the speech, he blamed the US and the West for scheming to maintain global hegemony by means of punishing all the countries including Russia which follow independent foreign policies and reject the "rules-based order".

He revealed that the US-led Western group is now conducting a hybrid war against Russia, and the enemies are saying openly

that their goal is to get Russia sidelined in world politics by usurping its right to political and economic independence.

He also denounced that the US makes no disguise of its intention to leave no stone unturned to contain China and persists in its interference in internal affairs of other sovereign states by relying on all sorts of methods.

Particularly, it seeks to undermine the internal political stability of Russia by taking advantage of the Russian presidential election in 2024, he asserted.

He further said that it has now become a clear developing trend of the international relations to firm up the basis of multipolarization and that Russia, at this present stage, is strengthening cooperation

with the countries in the southern and eastern hemisphere that covers 85% of the global population. The attempts of the Western group to isolate Russia ended in failure, he noted.

Saying that the to-be-established international order, both solid and just, should be based on the principles of sovereign equality and non-interference in internal affairs, he stressed that the West is never intent on paying heed to these two principles which are enshrined in the UN Charter.

In conclusion, he said that Russia will actively promote the building of a multipolar world within the new-type framework of multilateral cooperation including the BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

China denounces transit of US Coast Guard ship through Taiwan Strait

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently China strongly denounced the passage of the US Coast Guard ship through the Taiwan Strait that happened immediately after the US Secretary of State Blinken wrapped up his visit to China.

A spokesperson for the Chinese Coast Guard issued a press statement, criticizing the US for openly manipulating the public opinion on the US Coast Guard ship's passage through the Taiwan Strait, and vowed to resolutely

safeguard China's national sovereignty, security and maritime rights and interests.

The *Global Times* carried the following article, citing opinions of experts at home:

The US Coast Guard cutter's transit through the Taiwan Strait came just after Blinken's departure from Beijing. It clearly indicates that the US continues to stubbornly pursue its aim of containing China with the Taiwan issue.

The mission of the US Coast Guard is to maintain the security of the US

coastline. However, it has deployed more forces to the Asia-Pacific region, especially in the Western Pacific region in recent years with an intention to contain China.

This incident is a very dangerous action in disrespect for China's sovereignty and security interests.

At the end, *The Global Times* warned that if the US continues to play with fire on the Taiwan issue, it will lead to a further setback in China-US relations, and the responsibility would undoubtedly be on the US side.

Briefly

Russia

NPT criticized for being used as tool for US, West

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov asserted the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty is being used as a tool to serve the interests of the US and the West in an interview with Tass on July 1.

Censuring the West for taking issue with the measures Russia and Belarus have taken within the scope of defence of the allied states, he exposed that the nuclear weapons of the US are deployed in the places which are thousands of kilometres away from its territory and the work to perform a "common nuclear mission" with the US nuclear weapons within the scope of the Nato has been stepped up purposefully for decades.

China

US' arms sales to Taiwan slammed

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry expressed strong opposition to the US' arms sales to Taiwan at a routine news briefing on June 30.

The statement came after the US State Department decided to sell ammunition and supplies worth US\$440 million to Taiwan.

The spokesman demanded the US stop the arms sales, saying it should strictly adhere to the One-China principle and the provisions of the three joint communiques between China and the US.

Serbia

President says his country would not join West's sanctions against Russia

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said his country would not join the West's sanctions against Russia in a TV interview on July 2.

Some countries incites Serbia but the Serbian government has maintained its attitude for one and a half years and would never participate in sanctions as they wanted, he added.

Pacific forum

Japan's plan for discharging nuclear waste water at sea meets strong opposition

The secretary general of the forum of the Pacific island countries recently released a statement in which he opposed and rejected Japan's plan for discharging radioactive wastewater at sea.

The plan for dumping the radioactive waste into the Pacific Ocean is related to human health, marine environment and the interests of posterity, the statement said, noting that discharging nuclear contaminated water into the sea will have an obvious influence on the world beyond borders and through generations.

It stressed that Japan's attempt should be dealt with through the UN convention on the law of the sea, not confining it to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Venezuela follows independent road

By Song Jong Ho PT

July 5 is Independence Day of Venezuela.

Once a colonial nation of outside forces for long years, the country declared independence that day in 1811 after persistent struggles against foreign aggressors.

However, Venezuela was occupied again by Spanish colonialists due to their moves of aggression in 1812.

The Venezuelans undauntedly waged an armed struggle against the colonialists to drive out the aggression forces and liberate their whole territory in 1821.

They enacted a new constitution and declared the founding of the Republic of Venezuela with Caracas as its capital in 1830.

Simon Bolivar spearheaded all these fights. Born in Venezuela, he is now called the leader of the independence movement of Latin America as well as Venezuela. That is why there are cities and a street named after him and his statues stand in many parts of the region.

Venezuela adopted a new

constitution in December 1999 and changed its name into the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela after the hero of Latin American independence.

The country upholds the Bolivarian revolutionary tradition and maintains its own independent stand in the international arena, while opposing foreign intervention.

The US is scheming to bring down the Venezuelan government and destroy the Bolivarian revolution by instigating ultra-right forces in the country, while tightening sanctions on financial, oil and other sectors.

It issued a presidential executive order to officially brand Venezuela as a country threatening its security and imposed sanctions on the senior officials of the Venezuelan government, while projecting dissident forces as "democratic forces" to back them and clamouring about a "humanitarian crisis".

The US sanctions reportedly caused a sharp slump in foreign currency proceeds and GDP of the country between 2014 and 2021.

But its vicious acts further

heightened the anti-US sentiment rather than bringing Venezuelans into submission.

Venezuela staunchly goes along the road of independence and sovereignty, denouncing the US deeds.

It makes active efforts to turn Latin America into a freer, more independent, fairer and more equal region.

It has restored bilateral talks and political, economic and trade agreements in order to promote cooperation with other Latin American and Caribbean regional countries.

Meanwhile, it works to develop and consolidate strategic partnership with friendly states.

Last June, Venezuela and Iran signed more than 20 documents on enhancing cooperation in petrochemical industry, economic trade and other fields.

The Korean people offer their active support and encouragement to the Venezuelan counterparts who are striving to build a new society governed by themselves while courageously frustrating the hegemony-seeking moves of the imperialists.

46th candlelight rally staged in south Korea

KCNA

The 46th large-scale candlelight rally and demonstration demanding the resignation of traitor Yoon Suk Yeol were staged in Seoul on July 1.

Tens of thousands of people from different parts took part in the candlelight rally on the theme of "Oust Yoon Suk Yeol, a conspirator to the discharge of nuclear waste water!"

There were prior meetings in different parts of Seoul.

The participants said that only when Yoon is ousted, can the sovereignty be defended and the people live in peace, shouting such slogans as "Let us drive out Yoon Suk Yeol, a conspirator to the discharge of nuclear waste!" "Let us expel Yoon Suk Yeol, a vindicator of the dictatorship by prosecution and pro-Japanese traitor!" and "Yoon Suk Yeol is a traitorous force. Let us oust Yoon Suk Yeol!"

At the rally speakers disclosed the sinister intention of the puppet Yoon group getting hell-bent on the war drills. They denounced Yoon for kowtowing to Japan which seeks a chance for reinvasion while resorting to the moves to seize Tok Islets, far from repenting of its past crimes including the issue of sexual slavery for the Imperial Japanese Army.

They vowed to oust traitor Yoon without fail through an undaunted struggle, charging that though the issue

of the discharge of nuclear waste water is a serious one for the people on this land, he is actively conspiring with Japan.

The participants staged a demonstration, holding such slogan boards and posters as "Candlelight wins" and "Impeach rotten Yoon". After performing a symbolic ceremony for sticking cards of nuclear waste on the lips of traitor Yoon and Japanese Prime Minister Kishida.

Meanwhile, the Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU) launched an all-out general strike for the "resignation of the Yoon regime".

The KCTU called a press conference in Seoul on July 3 and stressed that 1.2 million members would rise up and drive out the Yoon regime.

That day the KCTU held press conferences in 15 places across the region of puppets, including Incheon, Pusan, Kwangju, Ulsan and Taejon, and declared that it would go into the struggle for the resignation of Yoon to protect the rights to existence of the trade unions and workers.

The puppet regime is openly attempting to suppress the struggle by mobilizing about 9 300 police troops of 155 units.

Media said that the people's passion for the resignation of Yoon is growing stronger and people from all walks of life have joined the struggle for his resignation, irrespective of differences in ideology, political view and understanding.

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BYWORD Cause of immortalizing the leader

The cause of immortalizing the leader is to hold the preceding leaders who pioneered the revolution and led it to victory in high esteem forever and faithfully carry forward their intentions and it has successfully been accomplished in the DPRK.

The Workers' Party of Korea formulated the revolutionary ideas of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il as

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and advances the revolution and construction with it as the guidelines.

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where the President and the Chairman are preserved in their lifetime appearance has been built as the sacred place of the Sun, their statues and mosaic murals showing their beaming images have been erected respectfully throughout

the country and the local people often visit them to pray for their eternity and take oaths of loyalty to them.

The great leaders will live forever in the mind of the Korean people as the Sun as they form a harmonious whole with their leader and hold in high esteem and follow their leader not only as the leader but also the embrace of their genuine life and father.

Premier League gives a glimpse of improved soccer skills on home front

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The second round of the 2022-2023 DPRK male and female soccer Premier League came to an end.

Capacity built up one step forward

Through well over a hundred matches each team improved their ability a level higher as compared to the first round.

The April 25 team, which recorded four consecutive wins in several first-division football tournaments, still leads others in the men's soccer event.

In the second round it earned one more point than the first round to reach 25, defending its position on top of the current league rankings after the first round.

The Ryomyong, which came third in the first round, follows close at its heels.

It scored 17 goals on the strength of fast switch from attack to defence and vice versa, sharp side break based on two- to three-person combination and thrilling scoring, and allowed five goals, the smallest at of all.

The Rimyongsu, the lowest in the first-round rankings, jumped up to the fourth place



A scene from the match between the Ministry of Light Industry and Sonbong teams in the men's premier league.



A scene from the match between April 25 and Naegohyang teams in the women's premier league.

in the second round.

It became the focus of attention of experts and fans as it overcame some of its shortcomings and reversed the downward trend in a short time to come to the current rank.

It made nine more goals than the first round, conceding nine less.

The Pyongyang made marked progress in the female event.

The sixth placer in the first round with 16 points ranked first in the second round.

It scored 10 more goals than the first round, allowing eight less goals.

The Rimyongsu climbed up to the seventh from the ninth in the first round by making six more goals than the first round.

The Myohyangsan and Jebi teams also made painstaking efforts to up their ranks to the eighth and ninth respectively in the second round.

Neck and neck last match

The last match of the second round of the 2022-2023 DPRK Premier League took place at Kim Il Sung Stadium on June 25 between the Ryomyong and Amnokgang.

The first half of the

match was kicked off by the Amnokgang.

It gained the upper hand by putting pressure on the opponents from the beginning and scored the opening goal.

The goal was made from the corner kick.

Amnokgang's No. 17 player feinted as if he would give a long corner kick to the front of the goal so that the opponent focused on the goal area, and passed the low yet fast ball to the player at a scoring position. The No. 20 player kicked a powerful volley into the net.

The opener greatly excited

the Amnokgang players and they continued their attack, which made the match grow fiercer.

The Amnokgang threatened the opponent again in the 19th and 25th minutes with a header and powerful shot in the penalty area.

Busy as it was with defence against the strong offensive of the Amnokgang, the Ryomyong began to gradually regain its rhythm of game play.

It mounted powerful attacks several times by breaking through the opponent's defence line with

sudden through-passes and low, fast and short ground ball pass, its fortes.

In the seesaw match the Ryomyong succeeded in scoring the equalizer in the 43rd minute.

Ryomyong's No. 14 player drove the ball singlehandedly on the left side of the attack area and suddenly turned and kicked the ball into the net.

The first half ended with a 1-1 draw and the second half was also fierce to score more goals.

But no more scores were made and the two teams tied in the last match of the second round.

World Day of Badminton marked

KCNA

An event took place at the Badminton Gymnasium on Chongchun Street of

Pyongyang on July 5 to mark World Day of Badminton.

A speech was made at the event attended by officials of the Badminton Association of the DPRK, sportspersons,

amateurs and schoolchildren in Pyongyang.

There were demonstration matches of badminton players and amateurs and a technical course.



Matches are held on July 5 to mark World Day of Badminton at the Badminton Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang.

Udometer, first rain gauge in the world

By Yun Ki Song PT

There is a udometer the Korean ancestors invented and used to measure rainfall in the mid-15th century.

They attentively observed the rainfall for the purpose of doing farming well and solving the problem of water to suit the meteorological and climatic conditions of the country where it mainly got droughty and rainy in spring and summer respectively.

In the period of Koryo (918-1392) they calculated the rainfall by measuring

how deep the rainwater penetrated into soil after it rained. But such depth was different according to the nature of soil and other factors. Therefore, it was impossible to accurately measure the absolute amount of rain.

In consideration of that, the udometer, which was 40cm in height and 16cm in diameter, was invented in August 1441 during the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910). Later, in the course of using it, an improved version was made, which was 30cm high and 14cm across.

The device was in the

shape of a cylinder and put on a stone stand.

Such devices were put in the yards of central and local government offices. The feudal government made it a rule for every county to report to their province the times when rain started and stopped and the amount of rain and for every province to submit the data to *Soungwan* which collected and recorded all the data.

The udometer, the world's first rain gauge, is part of the cultural heritage associated with the creative talents of the Korean people.

