



ESTABLISHED 1965

## Schoolchildren give New Year performance in the presence of Marshal Kim Jong Un



KCNA

Happy laughs and hope-filled songs of the schoolchildren across the country, the might and joy of the dignified Workers' Party of Korea and the powerful DPRK,

are reverberating more sonorously on the first morning of the New Year.

A performance of schoolchildren for greeting the New Year was given with splendour at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in Pyonggyang on

January 1.

The venue of the performance was filled with great excitement and joy of the schoolchildren who would sing of the happiest New Year's Day in the world on the significant stage in the presence of

the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, the tender-hearted father of the whole country forming a large harmonious family.

When Kim Jong Un arrived at the

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Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, instructors and schoolchildren of the palace burst into cheers full of great excitement.

Kim Jong Un was presented with a flower basket carrying the unanimous best wishes of the members of the Korean Children's Union across the country.

He warmly waved back to the schoolchildren giving an artistry presentation and saw the lovely looks of children dancing at the circle dance ground full of excitement and joy for a long time.

Stressing the importance of education

in theory in raising schoolchildren's brain development and thinking ability, he called for innovating the contents and methods of education to make sure that schoolchildren would acquire practical knowledge for socialist construction.

He met with the schoolchildren with special art talent and saw the pieces created by them, appreciating their drawing and calligraphic skills.

Being satisfied with a "little artist" who said he wanted to present the Marshal with his picture, he patted the boy on the cheeks.

He listened to the stories about the pride of exemplary members of the Korean Children's Union in their knowledge,

virtues and strong physique and expressed great satisfaction over the fact that they have studied hard, led a worthy life of the KCU organizations and done many good things, and wished them rosy future.

He appreciated the performance together with senior officials of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government and department staff members of the Party Central Committee.

Put on the stage were colourful numbers.

Unfolded on the stage was the pride of schoolchildren singing of their great happiness under the warm affections and love of the benevolent father who always sets policies for children before anything else and spares nothing for the good of the younger generation.

Through the performance, the audience keenly realized that the reality where the younger generation acquire profound knowledge, impeccable morality and strong physique and grow up to be reliable successors who will shoulder the future of the DPRK under the red Party flag of Juche is the most proud and powerful image of a powerful state and the true greatness of our times and revolution.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience as it reflected the determination of loyalty of schoolchildren to prepare themselves to be young revolutionaries

and patriots upholding the powerful country under the uplifted slogan of "Let us be always ready for socialist country!" as befit masters of a thriving and powerful state firmly guaranteeing that the Juche revolution is full of vitality all the time.

When the performance was over, the entire audience raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" looking up to the benevolent father who defined the bright smile of children as the symbol of the socialist system and the mightiness of Korean-style socialism, defends and glorifies their smile and opens up a broad avenue for the cause of building a powerful country advancing by dint of love for the younger generation.

Kim Jong Un wished all the children of the country greeting the New Year good luck for the future, waving back to the enthusiastic cheers of schoolchildren.

He had a photo session with schoolchildren to show profound loving care which they will always remember, saying that days and months of our country will be eternal as those full of children's happy smiles under the care of the Workers' Party of Korea and that the song "We Are the Happiest in the World" will resound as the eternal theme song of the era of the Workers' Party for all ages.



# Kim Jong Un enjoys grand art performance for celebrating New Year



KCNA

The hope-filled new year 2024 has come to the socialist homeland continuously adding new epic stories to its history as a great powerful country, while advancing toward the successful implementation of the fighting programme set forth by the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the fulfilment of the great far-reaching target for the prosperity and development of the DPRK and the wellbeing of its people.

Seeing the year 2023 out, all the people review the proud year that witnessed great changes specially recorded in the history of the country, convinced that the future will be rosier with greater miracles and changes. And they express their firm reverence for and trust in our great Party,

the banner, organizer and guide of all victories and glory.

A grand art performance for celebrating the New Year 2024 was given with splendour at May Day Stadium in Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, amid great excitement of all the people seeing in the New Year with the spirit of working hard to hasten a new victory full of great confidence.

The venue for the performance was filled with pride and joy of the audience as they recollected with deep emotion the proud advance of the year in which they brought about eye-opening events by overcoming all difficulties, single-mindedly united behind the Workers' Party of Korea.

To highlight the colorful prelude of the New Year celebration, figure skaters and acrobats demonstrated their wonderful

skills on the ice-rink.

A group of well-known drummers revved up the festive atmosphere through their cheerful tune.

A ceremony of hoisting the national flag of the great DPRK was held.

All the audience paid high tribute to the sacred national flag.

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, enjoyed the performance together with senior officials of the Party and the government.

Amid the playing of the welcome music, Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium together with his respected daughter and wife, being greeted with a thunderous standing ovation of the audience.

All the participants raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!", looking up to the

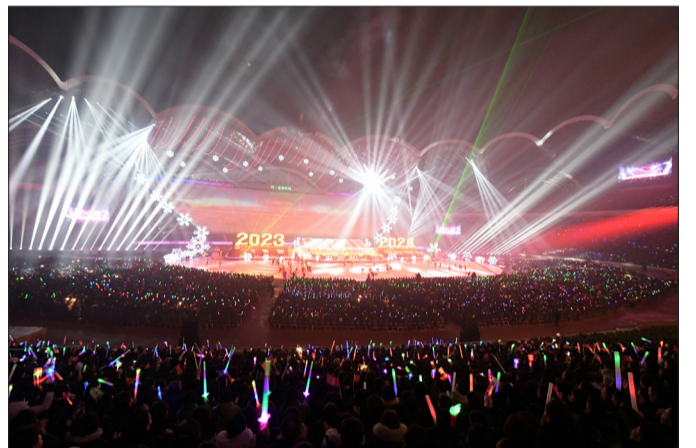
respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, the symbol of mightiness and heroism of Juche Korea and great representative of the great dignity and brilliant honour who is raising the national power and might of the DPRK to the eminence of the century with his outstanding leadership and political ability and ushering in a new dynamic era when a rich country with a strong army is being built by dint of self-respect, self-sustenance and self-defence.

He waved back to the enthusiastically cheering crowds as a token of his warm greeting of best wishes to all the audience and all the beloved people of the country seeing in the New Year.

Among the audience were Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won, Choe Ryong Hae and Ri Pyong Chol, members of the

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Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and other leading officials of the Party and government and officials of armed forces organs.

The performance was enjoyed by the participants in the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, participants in New Year celebrations, Pyongyang citizens, service personnel and students of the revolutionary schools.

Members of the diplomatic corps in Pyongyang watched the performance.

The performance was given by artistes

of prestigious art troupes, including the State Merited Chorus and the Wangjaesan Art Troupe, students of art education institutions in the city, ice sportsmen and children.

The performance began with the prelude "We Sing of the Party." Put on the stage were colorful numbers, including monumental songs of the times praising the WPK, an invincible Party which unites all the people under the banner of patriotism with its strong might of guidance and successfully leads Korean-style socialism to an overall upsurge and development.

There came the last moment of the year and the bells began tolling solemnly

to celebrate New Year's Day at 00:00 on January 1 along with the ignition of the torch of celebration and the display of fireworks in the sky above the capital city.

Children presented bouquets to Kim Jong Un and leading officials of the Party and the government and wished them a happy New Year.

The venue of the celebration was overflowing with great happiness and boundless excitement of seeing in the New Year with the benevolent father of the great socialist family.

The performance, which ended with the finale "Snow Is Falling on New Year's Day", "We Are the Happiest in

the World" and "Our National Flag", redoubled the high revolutionary enthusiasm and fighting spirit of all the people to bring earlier the rosy future of our powerful state with the inexhaustible power of their unity based on loyalty and patriotism under the ever-victorious guidance of the great Party Central Committee.

At the end of the performance, loud cheers of "Hurrah!" for Kim Jong Un rocked the venue again and fireworks were let off to gorgeously decorate the nocturnal sky.

The last night of the old year was beautifully decorated and the prelude to the New Year opened magnificently.



# Kim Jong Un hosts dinner for members of WPK central leadership body



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, hosted a dinner for members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee in the name of the General Secretary on December 31, expressing deep thanks to them for showing boundless responsibility, resolute fighting will and courage in the discussion at the December 2023 Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee, which indicated the direction of the historic

advance of 2024, out of their transparent readiness to remain true to their honourable responsibility and duty for the Korean revolution.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un made a meaningful congratulatory speech.

Saying that we have achieved the successes, which we had earnestly wished and desired to surely attain, through a series of struggles and brought about significant events for opening up a new turning phase in the course of advance of the Korean revolution in 2023, he noted that such invaluable successes were achieved

thanks to the painstaking efforts and boundless devotion of all the members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee, appreciating their year-round efforts.

He affirmed that if our leading officials accelerate their pace with firm and active pioneering spirit in the new year, too, they would successfully carry out the important duty they have assumed before our revolution and people, and proposed a toast to the DPRK, health of all the people, all the Party members and service personnel of the Korean People's Army and happiness and peace of all families

across the country seeing in the New Year.

All the participants drank a toast, vowing to more thoroughly arm themselves with the revolutionary idea of Kim Jong Un, top representative of the absolute prestige and mightiness of the ever-victorious WPK, and work harder for the prosperity and development of our great state and the well-being of our people.

Kim Jong Un had a significant photo session with members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee on that day.

## General Secretary delivers congratulatory speech

KCNA

General Secretary Kim Jong Un delivered a

congratulatory speech at the dinner party for members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee on December 31 last year. He said:

Comrades,

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# Kim Jong Un gives pep talk to major KPA commanding officers



KCNA

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, met major commanding officers including the commanders of the large combined units of the Korean People's Army at the office building of the WPK Central Committee on December 31 last year to highly praise the KPA's feats in 2023 and give them a pep talk.

The commanders expressed their heartfelt thanks to Kim Jong Un for showing them deep loving care and placing his trust in them again after glorifying

2023 with eye-opening successes and events in bolstering up the national defence capability with his outstanding military idea and energetic leadership and clearly indicating a plan for army building at the historic December plenary meeting of the WPK Central Committee.

He highly praised the feats performed by the service personnel in defending the country and building socialism all the year round, regarding the boundless loyalty to the Party and the people and the spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality in implementing the orders and instructions as their lifeblood, and extended his warm thanks and New Year greetings to all the service personnel through the

commanders.

Analyzing in detail again the critical security environment on the Korean peninsula inching closer to the brink of armed conflict as the days go by and the nature of the US and other hostile forces' military confrontation moves, he said that the situation indicates the urgency to further sharpen the treasured sword for safeguarding the security and peace of the DPRK and perfect the army's regular military response posture.

Referring to the importance of the great responsibility and role of the commanders who are responsible for the destiny of the country and the people and standing guard at the outpost for national defence,

he stressed the need to make it a fait accompli that armed conflict may occur any time due to the reckless provocations of the enemy and thoroughly carry out the militant tasks assigned by the WPK plenary meeting to the revolutionary armed forces.

The more dynamically the Korean revolution advances, the more desperately the US imperialists and the ROK clan try to stop it, he said, stressing that our army should frustrate any forms of provocations of the enemy without fail with firm hostility toward the enemy and transparent viewpoint on the principal enemies, and that if the enemy opt for military confrontation and provocation against the DPRK, our army should deal a deadly blow to thoroughly annihilate them by mobilizing all the toughest means and potentialities without a moment's hesitation.

He expressed belief that all the service personnel of the entire army would register bigger successes in implementing the Party's line of building a powerful army and its military policy with due self-confidence and pride that their arms serve the most just cause in the world, bearing in mind the trust and expectation of the Party and the people, and thus glorify 2024 as a new heyday of strengthening the war preparations.

All the commanding officers made a firm pledge to remain absolutely loyal to and obey the idea and leadership of the Party Central Committee and fully guarantee the invincibility of the revolutionary cause, prosperity of the country and happiness of the people with the irresistible military super-power, and thus discharge their noble mission and duty as the armed forces of the WPK and the vanguard of the class.

FROM PAGE 5

We will soon see out the year 2023, a year of continued struggle.

We have worked stoutly this year and achieved the successes we so desired and wanted to achieve without fail, thus making it full of events that will open a new epochal phase on the road of advance of our revolution.

Still I can hardly remember a year like this one, when our painstaking efforts have led to such proud successes and conspicuous transformations.

These precious successes are a fruition of the strenuous and devoted efforts made by all of you, members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee, present here.

I thank you, comrades, for all the efforts you have made this year.

There was no one who participated empty-handed in the December Plenary Meeting that proudly reviewed the year 2023. Every one of you defended your post with

a sense of responsibility, working against overwhelming odds to perform your tremendous tasks, and remained faithful to the mission the Party and the people entrusted to you.

Tough as the going has been, you have moved forward through the hardships. In the course of this, you have been further tempered ideologically and mentally, refined your traits and improved your abilities remarkably, gained valuable experiences and lessons, and become further convinced of yourselves.

The success that is no less precious than the immediately visible achievements we made in 2023 is the fact that our leadership officials have become better qualified, and this makes me happier than anything else.

This will provide a solid guarantee for the victory we will continue to achieve in the new year.

I am confident that, if we press forward in the same staunch, proactive and pioneering spirit in the new year, we will creditably perform the important duty we have assumed for our revolution and people, and achieve

more than what is expected of us.

Comrades,

More tasks lie ahead of us.

What we have done so far is fairly trifling and small, as compared to our people's happy life and future we are dreaming of.

We have no reason to rest on our laurels with what we have done nor the right to feel satisfied with them.

Feeling remorseful for failing to live up to the expectations of the people, we should always be mindful of them and work hard to make 2024 a year of redoubled efforts for the good of our great state and people.

To our great Democratic People's Republic of Korea, To the health of all the people, members of the Party and service personnel of the People's Army, who will be greeting the new year soon, and

To the happiness and good health of all the families across the country,

I propose a toast.

# Kim Jong Un visits farm machine exhibition

KCNA

An exhibition of farm machines, “Development of farm machine industry-2023”, is going on at the Three-Revolution Exhibition House in Pyongyang. The exhibition serves as an important occasion in clearly defining the direction of the development of the country’s agricultural machine industry amid the growing enthusiasm



correct assessment of the existing technical capability for manufacturing farm machines and, on this basis, work out a long-term development plan in a scientific way from the viewpoint that quality takes precedence over quantity and is essential in attaining the goal of mechanization of farm work set forth in the programme for the rural revolution in the new era.

of all the people across the country who have made a vigorous step for 2024 in the spirit of general onward march for making a leap forward towards a new victory true to the idea and spirit of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth 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 exhibition on January 2.

He was accompanied by senior Party and government officials, including Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won, Ri Il Hwan, Kim Jae Ryong, Jon Hyon Chol, O Su Yong, Ju Chol Gyu, Ri Chol Man and Yang Sung Ho.

On display at the venue of the exhibition are hundreds of kinds of farm machines designed and manufactured by the cooperative efforts of the Agricultural Commission and relevant fields, including various kinds of tractors, rice-seedling transplanters, agricultural drones, wheat

and barley planters and mobile combined maize threshers.

Watching the farm machines on display, Kim Jong Un learned in detail about their performance and technical specifications.

He appreciated the great efforts made by the relevant farm machine production units and other relevant units to produce efficient and high-performance farm machines that suit our countryside’s specific conditions with their own technical forces.

He said it is most important to make a

Noting that to bring about a radical improvement in the field of the farm machine industry at present is an urgent requirement of the revolution and an important guarantee for implementing the programme for the rural revolution in the new era, he clarified the principled issues for correctly working out the strategy for developing farm machines and accelerating the modernization of the farm machine production sector and the building of its capacity and the important tasks for doing so.



# General Secretary Kim Jong Un inspects major TEL factory

KCNA

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, inspected a major TEL (transporter erector launcher) factory bringing about a great upsurge in production every day while remarkably arousing the mental strength and patriotic enthusiasm of its employees, true to the idea of the December 2023 Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee.

He was accompanied by his respected daughter.

He was also accompanied by Jo Chun Ryong, Jo Yong Won, Ri Il Hwan, Kim Yo Jong and other senior officials of the Party Central Committee and leading officials of the Missile Administration.

Looking at the large TELs and various kinds of TELs produced by the factory, he learned in detail about the production.

After acquainting himself with the factory's implementation of the production plan last year, he highly appreciated the officials and workers of the factory for vigorously striving to attain a new production goal in the new year after over-fulfilling the TEL production goal set by the Party Central Committee through a dynamic drive for increased production and creation to glorify 2023 as a year of great changes in bolstering up the national defence capabilities.

It is encouraging to see the employees of the factory achieving shining successes in the responsible production campaign for accomplishing the WPK's

cause of building a powerful army by turning all out in the campaign with the single mind of patriotism after ideologically accepting the intention of the WPK Central Committee that set the production of strategic missile TELs as the top priority for bolstering up the national defence capabilities, he said. He noted that the cause of the WPK is invincible thanks to the workers in the munitions industry, who are full of patriotic enthusiasm and regard it as their nature to remain unconditionally and absolutely loyal to the Party and the revolution like the workers of the factory.

He expressed great satisfaction with the fact that the factory has inspired great enthusiasm for struggle by briskly conducting dynamic mass movements including the technical innovation movement and effectively organizing the socialist emulation drive among

workshops, workteams and operators, giving priority to ideological education, and that the employees are keeping their workplaces clean and tidy with warm love for their factory and creating a highly cultured labour and production environment.

He stressed that the factory's position and role are very important in implementing the historic task of boosting the national defence capabilities, which is being pushed forward nonstop, under the prevailing grave situation that requires the country to be more firmly prepared for a military showdown with the enemy, and indicated the tasks to be fulfilled by the factory.

Referring to the importance of producing various TELs for tactical and strategic weapons in steadily bolstering the nuclear war deterrent of the country and the operational demand of our army, he specified the immediate plan for

the production of each type of TELs, the long-term production plan and the task of production capacity expansion.

Underlining the need for the factory to make signal successes continuously in the production to radically modernize our army, he took an important measure for expanding the production capacity of the factory.

Saying that the important factor governing the successful production is just the idea and faith of those involved in production, he urged the factory to consistently intensify the ideological education to instil in its employees the fighting spirit displayed by the workers of Kunja-ri in the 1950s and the noble

sense of duty that they are standing at the forefront for strengthening the national defence capabilities and thus raise their mental power to the maximum and focus all manpower and potentialities on the dynamic campaign for implementing the munitions industry policy of the Party.

Officials, workers and technicians of the factory made a firm pledge to remain boundlessly loyal to the sacred mission they assume before the revolution by going all out again for carrying out the TEL production plan with the spirit and mettle befitting the heroic working class in the munitions industry, cherishing deep in their minds the great trust of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who has always placed their factory at the centre of his mind, valued and prioritized it most and got them to stand in the van of the strenuous campaign for building the strongest national defence capabilities.





# Leader of people

By Pang Un Ju PT

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who set forth a fighting programme for achieving national rejuvenation and development and realizing the people's ideal in the new century of the Juche era by shouldering upon himself the dignity of the country and people, is a leader of the people who has continued the journey of devotion to them.

Thanks to his painstaking efforts to make the structures built for the people attain the level that can represent the times and become the model of a civilized socialist country, modern structures for their cultural and leisure activities and new streets sprang up in succession in the DPRK in the past ten-odd years.

Busy as he was with many important Party and state affairs, he personally examined and guided lots of mock-ups of structures and completed many designs, saying that the people should be provided with the best things.

He saw over 110 layouts for the Munsu Water Park, more than 590 for Mirae Scientists Street, at least 2 000 for the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort and some 11 360 for the City of Samjiyon.

Every place of the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort, which was built in a remote and secluded place in the mountains of

Yangdok, is associated with his love for the people.

His pains and devotion knew no bounds as he put his heart and soul to construct the hot spring resort as a paradise where the ideals of the people are translated into reality. He saw to it that the tiered outside corridor and pedestrian passage were remodelled in the direction of promoting the convenience of the people, the interior of the indoor hot spring ground was laid out for the people's convenience and to meet their emotion, ski slopes were widened and the riding park was built so that people could also enjoy horse riding.

While inspecting the wading pool of the Rungna People's Recreation Ground, he climbed to the top of a towering water slide through the uncompleted stairs. Thanks to his such devotion to the people, the bases for the people's cultural and leisure activities, mass sports and happy living that can serve their interests and offer them full convenience sprang up, including the Mirim Riding Club, Central Zoo, Natural History Museum, People's Open-air Ice Rink, Meari Shooting Gallery and workers' hostel of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill.

Under the warm loving care of Kim Jong Un who is so solicitous of the promotion of the people's health, a village of modern hospitals was built in

the Munsu area of Pyongyang, including the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital, the Okryu Children's Hospital, the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and the Ryugyong Dental Hospital. When the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital was constructed, he said that it was what he had wanted to do without fail to provide the people with such a world's advanced-level hospital and that he now fulfilled the wish. And he visited the construction site of the Okryu Children's Hospital despite the heavy fall of rain.

Especially, he has devoted his heart and greatest energy to the provision of dwelling houses for the people.

According to his noble intention to make the people enjoy a happy life to their heart's content by bringing about a decisive turnaround in settling the housing problem, new streets were built one after another including Changjon and Unha Scientists streets, Wisong Scientists Dwelling District and Mirae Scientists and Ryomyong streets.

As dwelling houses for 50 000 families in Pyongyang have been constructed as a project for fulfilling the long-cherished desire of the Workers' Party of Korea in accordance with the definite blueprint for capital city construction set forth at the Eighth Party Congress, Songhwa Street, a splendid ideal

city for the people, was built in the Songsin and Songhwa area, followed by Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District and Hwasong Street to delight the people.

After the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, which discussed the matter of keeping up the heyday of capital construction, opening up a new age of regional changes and radically improving the living environment of the people across the country, the construction of rural houses was pushed in real earnest and thus the people were provided with different styles of new houses gratis.

Kim Jong Un put forward the promotion of the people's well-being as the supreme principle of state activities and took full responsibility for and care of the people's destiny and life.

In August four years ago, when Taechong-ri in Unpha County of North Hwanghae Province was hit by a flood, he braved his way through inundated and muddy road before anybody else for the people, saying that there can never be big or small problems in the people's sufferings and we should be by the worrying and needy people, rather than the pleased persons who are free from worries.

Despite the worst challenges and trials, the state fixed the rehabilitation campaign for defending the wellbeing of the

people and clearing away the aftermaths of natural disaster as the foremost part of the campaign to safeguard the people.

To cope with the world health crisis, he set the safety of the people and improvement of their livelihood as the most important affair and when a sudden emergency happened in the DPRK as the malignant virus made inroads, he saw to it that the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign was launched immediately and in a comprehensive, resolute and offensive manner, thereby achieving victory in the campaign.

He made sure that people-oriented policies were invariably enforced in both ordinary days and hard times and that the provision of school uniforms and supplies at state expense for all the students throughout the country was set as the consistent policy of the Party and the state. And at the Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly held in February 2022 he ensured that the WPK's childcare policy on providing the children across the country with dairy products and other nutritious foods at state expense was affirmed legislatively.

The Korean people regard Kim Jong Un as their father as he orients all the state activities to making them, who have faithfully followed the Party surmounting all difficulties, the happiest people in the world.

## Developing the WPK into a powerful political leadership organization

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The period from the beginning of the new century of the Juche era up to now was the years of trials for the Korean people. Because they were at a crossroads of whether the priceless successes they achieved through the arduous struggle would lead to a new advance and victory or everything permeated with their precious sweat and blood would end in failure.

In those days General Secretary Kim Jong Un laid down immortal guidelines for every issue arising in the building and activities of the Workers' Party of Korea with his extraordinary ideological and theoretical intelligence.

In his works published in the history's watershed at the outset of the new century of the Juche era, the General Secretary clarified that the WPK is the party of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il holding them in high esteem as the eternal leaders and set the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the guiding

ideology of the Party and the modelling of the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the supreme programme of the Party.

He put forward the most correct line and policies, action plans and goals in each period of the revolution to markedly enhance the leadership authority of the Party.

In particular, he put forth the five-point Party-building line in the new era in *On the Orientation of the Building of Our Party in the New Era and the Tasks of the Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea*, a commemorative lecture he gave before the teaching staff and students of Central Cadres Training School, to provide a powerful weapon with which to strengthen the WPK into an ever-victorious guiding force and step up the victorious advance of the cause of the Juche revolution.

The five-point Party-building direction in the new era, whose main contents are political, organizational, ideological, disciplinary and style of work building, is the bright path for

strengthening and developing the whole Party in the new era which firmly defended and originally developed and enriched the immortal Party-building ideas and exploits of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

Kim Jong Un strengthened the WPK organizationally and ideologically as required by the developing revolution.

On June 19 2013 he said that to establish the Party's unified leadership system in a thorough way is the fundamental principle in building a revolutionary party and the most important work which we should hold fast to for accomplishing the cause of the Juche revolution, and comprehensively specified the main principles and requirements to be upheld in establishing the Party's unified leadership system.

He indicated the correct direction of struggle of the Korean revolution at the plenary, Politburo and Executive Policy Council meetings of the Party Central Committee and developed Party building and activities onto a new high stage

with his outstanding ideological and theoretical activities and wise leadership.

The General Secretary clarified precious guidelines to be permanently followed in strengthening basic Party organizations, the main units in direct charge of implementing the Party's policies, at the conferences of secretaries of primary committees and cell secretaries of the WPK and thereby remarkably increased the fighting efficiency of the primary Party organizations and Party cells.

Kim Jong Un also strengthened and developed the WPK into a motherly party which goes closer to the people and shows deeper sincerity when the situation gets more difficult.

In the speech *Making Selfless, Devoted Efforts for the Good of the People Is the Mode of Existence and Source of Invincible Might of the Workers' Party of Korea* he delivered at the military parade and public procession of the Pyongyang citizens in celebration of the 70th anniversary of

the founding of the WPK, Kim Jong Un said: That the WPK has struck deep root in the people's mind and served them alone with devotion—herein lies the secret of our Party's leading the cause of socialism without letup in the face of the tribulations of history while maintaining a firm grip on the tiller of the revolution. He noted that the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is, in essence, the people-first principle, and the mode of existence of our Party is serving the people.

Thanks to his noble ideas of "The people are God" and devoted service for the good of the people, the highest and absolute priority is given to the things that serve the masses of the people in all aspects of state activities and social life in the DPRK and overall affairs of the Party and the state are oriented and subordinated to promoting the people's welfare and providing them with a happier and more civilized life.

Therefore, the people in the DPRK absolutely trust the WPK and remain faithful to its leadership.

# Firmly consolidating the foundations of self-supporting economy

By **Jong Hwa Sun** *PT*

An inaugural ceremony of a new energy-saving oxygen blast furnace took place on a large scale at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex on December 20 last year.

The completion of the floating preheating-style iron blast furnace, which has not yet been practised in any other country, the coke-free iron making furnace, which suits the conditions of locally available raw materials and fuel, lived up the whole country.

Because as a success achieved in the metallurgical industry which is counted first in symbolizing the independence of the national economy, it has opened up a prospect for the DPRK to ensure steady and sustainable development of the national economy under any conditions.

The 12 major goals for the development of the national economy were also achieved one after another, including the attainment of the ambitious annual irrigation

construction goal decisive of the substantial and practical progress in the agricultural sector ahead of schedule and the unprecedentedly rich crop.

In retrospect, the past ten-odd years for the DPRK were the period when proud creations sprang up in succession, improving the self-supporting economy of the country in such a way.

The Korean people took the first step of building a self-supporting economy in the liberated country in 1945, have since followed the road invariably and resolutely for decades and still keep on the path.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un has ushered in a new heyday of the development of the self-supporting economy despite unprecedented hardships over the past ten-odd years in order to add lustre to the precious wealth of the self-supporting economy bequeathed by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

At the congresses of the Workers' Party of Korea and plenary meetings of the

WPK Central Committee he clarified the lines and policies for further consolidating the foundations of the self-reliant economy, saying that if we depend on others, we will perish, that to be self-reliant and live by our own efforts is the only way to survive and that our economy is an independent economy.

At the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK, he said that as the Juche idea is our lifeblood, so is the independent national economy.

Under his leadership the Korean people stepped up the building of an independent economy without any deviation, with the firm will that the main driving force for economic development is not the capital or technology of other developed countries but their own spiritual strength and creative ability to go ahead of others.

In particular, they put forward self-reliance and science and technology as a treasured sword for prosperity and strengthened their own scientific and

technological forces and further consolidated the foundations of the self-supporting economy by relying on them.

As a result, marked successes have been achieved in the country's economic construction in recent years.

A series of programmes were undertaken to boost the key industries of the country, bring about a revolution in the rural communities in the new era and develop the economy in a balanced way and simultaneously.

Monumental structures like Ryomyong Street, Mirae Scientists Street, Songhwa Street and Hwasong Street rose up one after another in which the people's happy laughter resounds, and the model of the development of regional industry was created and quality consumer goods are produced at light-industry factories, improving the people's standard of living.

The world will soon see the new looks of the DPRK, a powerful country with a highly developed self-supporting economy.

## Revolutionary anecdotes

# For rising generations, for future

Saying that the work for the rising generations is the most important affair of the Workers' Party of Korea, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un puts his heart and soul for the bright looks of cute children, the precious treasure of the country, and for the future of the country which will get stronger and constantly prosper.

His loving care for the rising generations, the future of the country, has continuously produced impressive anecdotes.

### Task he takes upon himself

On July 14 2012, Kim Jong Un visited Kyongsang Kindergarten.

After looking round rooms arranged in a cozy way to suit the psychology of children, he dropped in at a classroom to learn about the temperature in the room.

When he was told by an official of the kindergarten that the temperature conditions of the kindergarten were not good enough to be unaffected by sultry or cold weather, he asked again how the humidity was removed.

Hearing the official's answer, he said that it was difficult to lower the temperature even if the humidity was removed, and expressed his concern, saying that although a fan might keep a room cool in hot weather, the children were likely to get cold and other diseases if they were exposed directly to the wind.

At a children's bedroom, he also estimated the temperature.

The room was really hot, he said, and added that he would solve the problem without fail, regarding it as his task.

### To make hospital preserve its specific characters

One day in October 2013, Kim Jong Un visited the construction site of the Okryu Children's Hospital whose construction was on the final stage.

One of the problems he was deeply concerned about while looking round the construction site for a long time that day was to make the hospital incorporate formative and artistic features to suit the juvenile psychology.

Going round different parts of the hospital, he mentioned that the walls and ceilings of the stair halls were decorated with nothing. They should be decorated with varieties of ornaments favoured by children, he said, and repeatedly stressed that it was advisable to decorate the walls with animation pictures befitting the characteristics of the children's hospital.

Thus, the walls of the hospital, which are thousands of square metres in area, were decorated with many pictures suited to the juvenile psychology.

### Caring about children's winter camping

One spring day Kim Jong Un visited the Songdowon International Children's Camp.

While looking round the camp, he told the officials to make sure that the camp is open in winter as well.

He advised them to select exemplary Korean Children's Union members from across the country to do winter camping at the camp and also ski at the Masikryong Ski Resort during the period.

He told about his intention of making schoolchildren have a pleasant time at the newly-built modern Masikryong Ski Resort and sent new buses to carry them to and from the resort.

# Boosting the country's international prestige

By **Song Jong Ho** *PT*

The dignity and prestige of a country are clearly manifested in the international arena. A genuine power refers to a country which handles the regional situation and steers the world political trend in accordance with its free will and interests by firmly adhering to the stand of independence.

The international prestige of the DPRK, which defends global peace and security and promotes the building of a new just world by taking centre stage in world politics, is precisely the absolute authority of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

His external activities have become a matter of the greatest concern of the world. His mode

of diplomatic activities completely free from usual practice and his personal charisma captivating everyone at the first meeting established afresh the relations between the DPRK and other countries, especially world powers.

It is a well-known fact that the energetic political diplomacy he conducted in 2018 and 2019 caused a great sensation throughout the world.

His historic visit to the Russian Federation in 2023 provided an occasion for remarkably enhancing the dignity, prestige and influence of the DPRK.

He visited the Russian Federation between September 12 and 17 last year at the invitation of President Putin.

During his Russia visit, he met many public figures and looked round

different places. Thanks to his external revolutionary activities, the DPRK-Russia relations developed into the invincible ties between comrades-in-arms and far-reaching strategic bond.

In the period, President Putin and the Russian leadership and people welcomed him as the most honoured state guest and showed utmost sincerity for his successful visit. They arranged a grand ceremonious reception for the Korean leader at the border railway station and senior officials from Moscow and local areas courteously received and accompanied him everywhere he went to attend to him with all sincerity. While witnessing the great respect and reverence of the Russian leadership and people

for General Secretary Kim Jong Un, the international community realized once again the international prestige and influence of the DPRK achieving a new balance of forces and bringing about a radical change in the world political landscape.

Noteworthy changes are also taking place in the regional situation. Witnessing the present reality, the international community praise Kim Jong Un as an outstanding political leader steering the situation in the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world.

The world now expects that eye-opening political events of global significance will happen in the DPRK as it fully demonstrates its dignity and prestige under the guidance of the great leader.

# Nation celebrates New Year 2024

## Floral tribute paid to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il

KCNA

The participants in the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the New Year celebrations laid baskets of flowers at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang on New Year's Day.

A flower basket in the name of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was placed before the statues.

Seen before the statues were baskets of flowers in the name of the WPK Central Committee, 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.

Flower baskets in the name of Party, power and armed forces organs, social organizations, ministries, national agencies, units of the Korean People's Army and the Public Security Forces, and industrial establishments at all levels and universities in Pyongyang and bouquets were placed at the statues of the great leaders.

Officials, working people, service personnel, youth and students across the country visited the statues of the great leaders and their smiling portraits in their residential areas and paid tribute to them.



The participants in the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and those in the celebrations of the New Year lay flower baskets before the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang on New Year's Day in 2024.

## National flag hoisted and fireworks displayed on New Year's Day



Fireworks light up nocturnal sky over the capital city of Pyongyang to rev up the festive mood on the occasion of New Year.

Left: A national flag-hoisting ceremony is held at Kim Il Sung Square on New Year's Day in 2024. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

KCNA

A national flag-hoisting ceremony was held at Kim Il Sung Square on January 1 2024.

At 00:00 sharp, a bell tolled the start of the New Year and melodies of the immortal revolutionary hymns "Song of General Kim Il Sung" and "Song of General Kim Jong Il" resounded through the sky above the capital city.

A worker, peasant and intellectual hoisted up the national flag amid the solemn playing of the national anthem of

the DPRK.

The masses paid high tribute to the sacred national flag.

Fireworks were displayed in the sky above the capital city to rev up the atmosphere of the New Year celebration.

Gorgeous fireworks were displayed in the sky above various places in the capital city including Kim Il Sung Square and the Pothong River bank. The masses continuously broke into applause and cheers, watching the fireworks in various colours and shapes lighting up the nocturnal sky.

## Officials of Party Central Committee and Cabinet play volleyball game

KCNA

An impressive and optimistic sports and cultural event took place on New Year's Eve.

A volleyball game between the team of staff members of the departments of the Central Committee of the Workers'

Party of Korea and the team of officials of the Cabinet was held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on December 31 last year.

Among the spectators were Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won, Choe Ryong Hae and Ri Pyong Chol, members of the Presidium of the

Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other senior officials of the Party and government, watched the game together with the participants in the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, staff members of the Central Committee of the WPK

and their families, and officials of the Cabinet, ministries and national agencies.

The players competed fiercely in the game.

The stadium was rocked by enthusiastic cheering of the spectators.

The Cabinet team beat its rival 3-0.



A scene of the volleyball match played at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on December 31 2023.

# Nation celebrates New Year 2024

## Kim Jong Un sends gifts to labour innovators participating in New Year celebrations



Labour innovators receive the gift list at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on New Year's Day.

KCNA

A meeting was held at Pyongyang Indoor Stadium in Pyongyang on January 1 to convey the gifts sent by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to labour innovators who participated in New Year celebrations.

Present there were Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary

for Organizational Affairs of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Kim Jae Ryong, Pak Jong Chon, Jo Chun Ryong, Jon Hyon Chol and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other officials of the Central Committee of the WPK and participants in the New Year celebrations.

Jo Yong Won said at the meeting that Kim Jong Un,

who highly praised the labour innovators and meritorious persons for devoting themselves to the country during the whole year and was deeply concerned about the worth and pride of their devotion, presented gifts of love to them.

He warmly congratulated all the participants who received the great love given by Kim Jong Un.

He said that the might of the DPRK has remarkably been increased and its noble dignity is being fully demonstrated thanks to the pure loyalty of those devoted to the wellbeing and prosperity of the country and the genuine persons who dedicated themselves to the affairs of the country, overcoming all difficulties.

He requested all the participants to firmly keep the sincerity they have devoted to the glorious path of the country and give steady continuity to their patriotic life.

Then, the gift list sent by Kim Jong Un was conveyed amid warm applause.

## Banquets given in celebration of New Year 2024

KCNA

Banquets in celebration of the New Year 2024 were held in Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, on Monday.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea invited to the banquets as guests of honour the labour innovators who made contributions to glorifying last year as a year of great change to be specially recorded in the history of the country by devoting themselves at all worksites for implementing the fighting programme of the Eighth WPK Congress.

Present at the significant banquets together with those innovators were Choe Ryong Hae, member

of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Kim Jae Ryong, Jon Hyon Chol and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the WPK

Central Committee, and other senior Party and government officials.

Congratulatory speeches were made at the banquets held at the People's Palace of Culture, Okryu Restaurant, Chongnyu Restaurant, Pyongyang Noodle House, Yanggakdo International Hotel, Sosan Hotel, Pyongyang Taedonggang Seafood Restaurant and general-service ship *Mujigae*.

The speakers warmly congratulated the labour innovators who made great contributions to attaining the goals set forth by the Party Central Committee by working devotedly at the posts and worksites with their strong revolutionary faith and fortitude.

They said that the highest dignity and honour and the proud economic achievements won by the state last year to make everyone optimistic about the implementation of the five-year plan are an outcome of the precious blood, sweat, wisdom and strenuous efforts of the patriotic working

people who have shared intention and will with the Party Central Committee.

Thanks to the heroic struggle of tens of millions of people who redoubled the revolutionary spirit with the Party's idea of self-respect and self-support and displayed the proud toughness and indomitable spirit of advance all the year round, the surging might and prestige of the DPRK have been fully demonstrated and 2023 could be recorded in the history as a year of changes full of eye-opening successes, they said.

When all the people are united with the Party's intention and revolutionary will and turn out in the general drive with the single mind of patriotism, the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK will be perfectly carried out, they said, expressing belief that all the participants would continue to perform distinguished feats in the van of the all-people advance in the new year, too.

## Evening gala of young people held in Pyongyang

KCNA

An evening gala of youth and students took place at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, on December 31 2023 on the occasion of the New Year 2024.

Amid the playing of the song "Glory to General Kim Jong Un", the

participants began their grand dance party.

The participants were full of honour and pride of being the youth of a powerful country, who are all out to bring earlier the bright future of Korean-style socialism, firmly rallied around the Party Central Committee with loyalty and patriotism.



Young Koreans hold an evening gala at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang on December 31 2023 to celebrate the New Year 2024.

## New Year 2024 celebrated across the country

KCNA

Streams of visitors flowed to the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred temple of Juche, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state, on the first morning of the new year with loyalty and reverence for them.

Working people, service personnel and schoolchildren visited the statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and their smiling portraits in different parts of the country to lay flower baskets, bouquets and flowers.

Children and pupils of primary schools across the country received gifts of love.

Colourful art performances were given in Pyongyang and local areas to rev up the festive mood.

New Year performances of children were given across the country.

Working people, students and children spent a pleasant time at the Rungna People's

Recreation Ground and other recreation grounds for the people.

Public catering establishments across the country were crowded with

visitors.

Exchanged were cards and mobile phone messages reflecting the congratulatory greetings in the new year between parents, children,

teachers, disciples, neighbours, relatives and friends, and encouraging them to make greater successes in their work and study.

Working people enjoy themselves on New Year's Day. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



# Pyongyang citizens vow to thoroughly implement decisions of Party plenum

KCNA

A meeting of Pyongyang citizens took place on January 5 to pledge themselves to thoroughly implement the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Present there were officials, working people, youth and students in Pyongyang.

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, Ri Il Hwan, Jon Hyon Chol, Pak Jong Gun, Ju Chol Gyu, Pak Hun and other senior Party and government officials, and officials and labour innovators in the municipality took the platform.

Kim Su Gil, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, made a report.

Referring to the fact that the Korean people demonstrated the national strength and prestige of the powerful and dignified Juche Korea and made tangible progress and a leap forward under the leadership of the great Party Central Committee last year, he said all the successes they made provide clear evidence to the validity and vitality of the fighting programme of the Eighth Congress of the WPK which called for achieving a great new victory by remarkably strengthening



A meeting of Pyongyang citizens takes place at May Day Stadium in Pyongyang on January 5 to pledge themselves to thoroughly implement the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

the driving force of socialist construction.

The year 2024 is a decisive year to confirm the victory in attaining the fighting goal set by the Eighth Party Congress by heightening the offensive spirit on all fronts of socialist construction, he said, calling for concentrating all efforts on attaining the 12 major goals of key importance in economic development and improvement of the people's living standards in the new year, too, by turning out in the spirit of self-respect

and self-reliance, indomitable spirit and increased confidence, thus securing a clear practical guarantee for carrying out the five-year plan.

He said primary efforts should be directed to agricultural production to which the Party attaches the greatest importance while boosting the production of vegetables, livestock, fruits and industrial crops, and light-industry factories should be revitalized to radically improve the

people's standard of living.

Major construction projects demonstrating the Korean-style development and civilization should be pushed forward steadily along with the construction of farmhouses in the suburbs planned for this year and other projects should be undertaken to more wonderfully spruce up the capital city, he noted.

He said officials, Party members and other working people should cherish the greatest pride and honour

of living and working in the capital city where the supreme general staff of the revolution is situated and firmly defend the Party's ideas and line, as he pointed to the need for them to fully display the spirit of daring advance and the true merit of Pyongyang in the struggle to thoroughly implement the sacred decision of the dignified WPK.

It is important for the municipal Party committee to deeply imbue the masses with the idea and spirit of the

Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, conduct energetic organizational and political activities to inspire them to put them into practice and make sure the Party organizations at all levels would concentrate the Party work on the struggle for attaining the 12 major goals for the development of the national economy to make substantial progress in economic development and improvement of the people's living standards, he said.

He called on all citizens to always bear in mind the noble intention of the Party Central Committee, which set it as the invariable policy of the WPK and the eternal state policy of the DPRK to ensure the responsible supply of essential goods for students, and produce school uniforms, bags and shoes at the top quality, thus making the capital city a model for the whole country to copy in fully demonstrating the advantages of the socialist system.

Speeches were made by Jo Ju Yong, manager of the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station, Ri Man Song, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Rural Economy Committee, Kim Chol Ryong, dean of Kim Chaek University of Technology, and Ri Man Su, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Construction Commission.

A letter of pledge to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was adopted with enthusiastic applause by the participants.

Then followed a demonstration.



## KPA General Staff issues report

KCNA

The General Staff of the Korean People's Army issued the following report on January 5:

On the ratification of the General Staff of the KPA, units and sub-units in charge of the southwestern coastal defence under the 4th Corps of the KPA staged a naval live-

shell firing drill into five districts with 192 shells by mobilizing 47 cannons of various calibres of 13 companies and one platoon force from 09:00 to 11:00 on January 5.

The claim of the military gangsters of the Republic of Korea that the KPA fired coast artillery shells into the waters north of Paengnyong Island and

Yonphyong Island, a so-called buffer zone in the West Sea of Korea, is a far-fetched assertion to mislead the public, and their evacuation and firing in return are also a trite method to throw the responsibility for the escalating tension on the KPA's drill.

The direction of naval live-shell firing doesn't

give even an indirect effect on Paengnyong and Yonphyong islands.

The drill conducted in the southwestern waters is a sort of natural countermeasure taken by the KPA against the military actions of the ROK military gangsters who staged large-scale artillery firing and manoeuvres in the vicinity of the entire

border area by mobilizing units and sub-units of five corps from the outset of the year while vociferating about demonstration of response posture.

The military gangsters of the ROK should neither say this or that about the responsibility for escalating tension nor bring misfortune on themselves.

If the enemies commit an act which may be regarded as a provocation under the pretext of so-called counteraction, the KPA will show tough counteraction on an unprecedented level.

The concept of the same nation and fellow countrymen has already been removed from our cognition.



# 2023 seen through camera



A paramilitary parade is staged at Kim Il Sung Square on the occasion of the 75th birthday of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.



A military parade is held to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army.



An energy-saving oxygen blast furnace starts operation at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex.



New school uniforms and school things are provided to all the students across the country.



The state supplies dairy products to all the children throughout the country at its expense.

New residents provided with new modern flats head for their homes on Hwasong Street.



Rural communities are given a facelift.



DPRK Taekwon-Doists celebrate after winning the 22nd ITF Taekwon-Do World Championships.



Light industrial goods exhibition "Development of Light Industry-2023".



Foundations for agricultural development are laid and a bumper harvest is brought in through irrigation and agricultural mechanization.



New-type ICBM Hwasongpho-18, the most powerful core striking means of the DPRK's strategic force.



Reconnaissance satellite Malligyong-1 is successfully launched.

# Snow-covered Mt Paektu



## Happy New Year

Dear readers of *The Pyongyang Times*,  
The Editorial Board of *The Pyongyang Times* extends warm greetings to you readers, who have got familiar with the newspaper, to mark the New Year 2024.

Last year *The Pyongyang Times* strove to quickly inform you of what happened in politics, the economy, culture and all other fields of the DPRK, the features peculiar to socialist Korea and its history and tradition.

In the year of great turn and change to be specially recorded in the history of the country, laudable achievements awaited and welcomed by the people were made.

Among them, the radical change in agricultural production was an economic achievement which the Workers' Party of Korea gave top priority to and put the greatest efforts in to make and which constituted a decisive breakthrough in boosting the overall fields of the country.

Under the wise leadership of the WPK, rapid progress was made in agricultural production while the material and technical foundation for the stable and sustainable development of

agriculture was consolidated. This has enabled the current struggle of the Party and the Korean people for achieving the overall development of socialist construction without fail to enter a new phase.

The numerous monumental structures and homes of happiness built last year by the Party's power of tenacious execution also gave delight to the people across the country.

A modern residential district appeared in Pyongyang's Hwasong area, which is near the sacred place of the Sun and adjoins September 9 Street and amid the vigorous rural development in the new age, modern rural dwellings were continuously built in the countryside accompanied by house removals all the year round.

Besides, the country achieved remarkable successes in economic construction and building up the national defence capability, giving fuller play to its national prestige and power.

This year, the DPRK will make greater strides and strive to build a peaceful and happy society and you will come to know through *The*

*Pyongyang Times* about the devoted and creative efforts of the Korean people and amazing successes achieved through such exertions.

Greeting the New Year 2024 when a new journey for independent development and progress, peace and security starts, we wish you good health and success and your families harmony.

