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Kim Jong Un guides test-fire of surface-to-sea missile Padasuri-6



Kim Jong Un stresses need to thoroughly defend maritime sovereignty by force of arms, actions

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, guided the evaluation test-fire of new-type surface-to-sea missile Padasuri-6 to be equipped by the navy on the morning of February 14.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon and Jo Chun Ryong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Jong Sik, deputy department director of the Central Committee of

the WPK, Army General Jang Chang Ha, general director of the DPRK Missile Administration, Admiral Kim Myong Sik, commander of the Navy of the Korean People's Army, Vice-Admiral Pak Kwang Sop, commander of the East Sea Fleet of the Navy, Vice-Admiral Pang Song Hwan, commander of the West Sea Fleet of the Navy, Rear Admiral Kim Yong Son, vice commander of the Navy, and directors of missile departments of the east and the west sea fleet commands.

The missiles flew over the East Sea

SEE PAGE 2

General Secretary inspects major munitions factory



The leader sets forth important tasks for improving the quality of munitions and decisively increasing production as required by the prevailing situation and the developing revolution

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, gave field guidance to a major munitions factory.

He was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon and Jo Chun Ryong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted by Ko Pyong Hyon, chairman of the Second Economy Commission, and leading officials of the factory on the

spot.

Going round various places of the factory, Kim Jong Un learned in detail about the modernization of production processes and the current production.

Officials and workers of the factory have turned out in the drive to carry out the important instructions given by Kim Jong Un during his field guidance to the factory in August last year and the resolutions set forth at the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee

SEE PAGE 2

A life dedicated to the good of the country and people

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Korean people's yearning for Chairman Kim Jong Il is getting deeper on the occasion of his birthday, the Day of the Shining Star and the greatest national holiday.

They recollect with deep emotion the life of patriotic devotion of the Chairman who laid an eternal foundation for building a thriving nation as he added lustre to an era of rigorous struggle with victory and glory by leading the country and people for over half a century.

In the mid-1990s he firmly protected socialist Korea in the face of terrible crisis and ordeals with his outstanding political calibre.

The imperialists concentrated their spearhead of attack on the DPRK by taking advantage of the successive collapse of socialism in East European countries.

Coupled with the loss of President Kim Il Sung, father of the Korean nation, recurrent natural disasters posed great obstacles in the way of the Korean people.

The imperialists were eagerly waiting for the "collapse" of the DPRK by setting even a time limit as they boisterously trumpeted that the DPRK would collapse soon.

The world watched the DPRK with breathless attention, wondering what would happen in the country.

At that juncture when the country was at the crossroads of life and death, Kim Jong Il held high the banner of Songun with a clear insight into the subjective and objective conditions and the rapidly changing situation.

On the morning of New Year's Day in 1995, he inspected an artillery battery of the Korean People's Army. Without any speech or solemn declaration, this inspection tour gave a clear answer to the world's various doubts and interpretations about what path the DPRK would take.

Having determinedly set out on the journey for the defence of the country, he worked heart and soul to strengthen the KPA, the main force of the revolution, by setting military affairs as the most important state affair.

Saying he should go wherever soldiers were, he visited army posts on remote islands and units on the dangerous front line directly standing face to face with the enemies. His Songun march was literally a high-intensity forced march.

He travelled 10 000 kilometres to inspect KPA units in 1996 alone and visited an army unit several times in 1997.

He directed the primary effort to developing the defence industry to protect the fundamental interests of the country and future of the nation despite the difficult economic situation, thus laying a foundation for a defence industry capable of producing powerful means of offensive and defence at will.

Thanks to the powerful political mode of Songun politics, the DPRK could firmly defend its sovereignty, flying higher the red flag of socialism in the face of the persistent sanctions, blockade and military pressure by the imperialists.

His Songun politics did not only defend the destiny of socialism.

By dint of Songun, he built a solid material foundation for improving the people's standards of living in such a trying period and unveiled a grand plan for building a powerful socialist country.

He continued his field inspection tour day and night to kindle the flames of a new great revolutionary upsurge across the country and bring about a great turn in economic construction and the struggle for improving the people's living standards.

Thanks to his journey of devotion, the DPRK grew stronger and achieved successive spectacular successes unprecedented in the history of the Korean nation.

Such basic industry sectors as metallurgical and chemical industries were put on Juche-oriented, modern and CNC basis on a full scale, modern cereal, livestock and fish farming bases were built in different parts of the country and structures that can represent the new century, including the Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm, were built.

As a giant and luxuriant tree grows from strong roots, the high prestige of the DPRK and the happiness of the Korean people are associated with the patriotic devotion of Kim Jong Il.

Now that a new history of rejuvenation and development is being made under the guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, the Korean people keenly feel once again the preciousness and solidity of the foundation for prosperity Chairman Kim Jong Il laid all his life.

Son of guerrillas

Kim Jong Il was born as son of General Kim Il Sung and anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk, as son of guerrillas, in Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution

By Ri Sung Ik PT

In February 82 years ago, an unprecedented snowstorm raged in Mt Paektu, the ancestral mountain of Korea.

On February 16, however, it was marvellously windless and spring was felt everywhere with a rise in temperature.

That day Kim Jong Il was born as son of General Kim Il Sung and anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk, as son of guerrillas, in a dense primitive forest of Mt Paektu, a battlefield filled with the sound of gunfire of the anti-Japanese war.

Anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters lauded Kim Jong Il, who would bring a bright future of the country, as the Shining Star of Paektu and inscribed on trees in natural forests words reflecting their delight and heartfelt emotions.

His childhood was unusual from the outset as he grew

in clothes smelling powder smoke, hearing charging orders of guerrillas.

Female guerrillas gathered handfuls of wadding to make a patchwork quilt for him and male guerrillas made toys for him.

What he learned first were the words used by adults like "independence of Korea", "revolution", "rifle" and "knife" and he sang revolutionary songs more.

Later, President Kim Il Sung recalled: "In my childhood I basked in the love of all my family.... But Kim Jong Il did not enjoy such love.... He was loved by my comrades-in-arms.... The guerrillas did not hide their delight at his birth, saying that he would make another General on Mt Paektu."

As he grew up with love for his country and people and hatred for the enemy in the snowstorms of Paektu, Kim Jong Il prepared himself as a revolutionary who would shoulder the destiny of the country and a brilliant Songun commander.

FROM PAGE 1

for more than 1 400 seconds to hit the target boat.

Kim Jong Un expressed great satisfaction over the results of the test-fire and made an important conclusion on the plan of reorganizing the combat formation of the coastal missile battalions of the east and the west sea fleets.

He set forth the ways for reliably defending the maritime border by deploying surface-to-sea missile forces in the forward area and strengthening them to the maximum and thoroughly containing and frustrating the adventurous attempt of the enemy navy.

Recalling the fact that the ROK puppets let various kinds of battleships intrude into the waters of the DPRK to seriously encroach upon its sovereignty under the pretext of control of fishing boats and ships of a third country and maritime patrol while making desperate efforts to preserve the "northern limit line," a ghost one without any ground in the light of international law or legal justification, he stressed the need

for the DPRK to thoroughly defend the maritime sovereignty by force of arms and actions, not by any rhetoric, statement and public notice.

He gave important instructions to bolster up military preparedness particularly in the border waters north of Yonphyong Island and Paengnyong Island frequently invaded by the enemies' warships including destroyers, escort ships and speedboats.

He said that it is not important how many lines exist in the West Sea of Korea and there is no need to thrash out the rights and wrongs. What is clear is that when the enemy intrudes into the maritime border recognized by us, we will regard it as an encroachment upon the sovereignty of the DPRK and an armed provocation against it, he affirmed.

Steadfast is the stand and will of the KPA to firmly defend the state sovereignty and security with its legitimate and rightful exercise of the right to self-defence by dint of strong military muscle, he said, setting forth military tasks for reliably defending the coastline and the maritime border of the country.

FROM PAGE 1

of the WPK. They have successfully completed the remodeling of the factory buildings, carried out the modernization of production processes at a high level and conducted a dynamic drive for increased production in munitions production by giving full play to their creative ability and potentials.

Kim Jong Un highly praised the factory for having undergone a radical change in its appearance as befitting a core and vanguard factory in the field of munitions industry, radically improved the modernization level of production processes and steadily accelerated the work for increasing production capacity.

He once again stressed the important duty of the factory in bolstering up the armed forces of the DPRK and set forth the important tasks for improving the quality of munitions and decisively increasing production as required by the prevailing situation and the developing revolution.

The key to the increased production lies in giving full play to the mental power of the workers in the munitions industry, the producers, he said, stressing that the factory should vigorously conduct the political work so that they are better aware

of the Party's policy on bolstering up the defence capability and the requirements of the situation than others and effect a surge in production by dint of ardent patriotism, thoroughgoing viewpoint on the archenemy and will toward the enemy, and should scrupulously organize and command production and thus make a radical innovation in munitions production.

He indicated the issue for the factory and other major core factories to constantly push ahead with the modernization and the work for steadily expanding production capacity as required by the developing era of ultra-modern defence science and technology and the orientation for the Second Economy Commission to start an important new plan.

All the officials, workers and technicians of the factory made a firm pledge to carry out without fail the tasks set forth by the Party Central Committee by waging a dynamic drive for increased production and creation with absolute loyalty and the spirit of death-defying implementation, bearing in mind the great trust and expectation of Kim Jong Un who put their factory in the front rank of the munitions industry in the sacred struggle for bolstering up the national defence capability.

On the occasion of anniversary of Kim Jong Il's birth

Senior party, government officials visit Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to pay homage to great leaders



Senior Party and government officials, civil servants and military officials visit the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to pay homage to the great leaders on February 16.

KCNA

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 Workers' Party of Korea, and other senior Party and government officials and officials of ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on February 16, the Day of the Shining Star.

A flower basket in the name of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Baskets of flowers in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, 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 were placed before the statues.

The participants paid high tribute to the President and the Chairman at their statues.

At the hall of immortality where Chairman Kim Jong Il is preserved in his lifetime appearance, they paid homage to him who had devoted his whole life to the prosperity and development of the country and the well-being of the people.

They expressed their firm resolve to fulfil their responsibility and duty assigned by the times and revolution at the forefront of the all-people struggle to implement the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting and the 19th Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea by supporting the ideology and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un single-mindedly and displaying the greatest enthusiasm and persevering drive.

Working people, service personnel and students pay floral tribute

KCNA

Korean working people, service personnel and students visited the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in different parts of the country to show their deep reverence for the great leaders on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star, the greatest holiday of the nation.

Baskets of flowers and

bouquets were placed at their statues on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang in the name of Party, government and military organs, social organizations, ministries, national agencies, units of the Korean People's Army and the Public Security Forces, and institutions and enterprises at all levels in Pyongyang.

Visitors made a deep bow at the statues.

Baskets of flowers were

presented to their statues and portraits of their beaming images in different places of the capital city in the name of institutions, enterprises, KPA and PSF units and others.

Working people, officers and men of the KPA, students and children in various places visited the statues of the great leaders and the portraits of their beaming images in their localities.

Photo exhibition

KCNA

A national photo exhibition "Great leadership, immortal exploits" opened at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on February 5 to mark the 82nd anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Displayed at the venue of the exhibition are photos showing the undying revolutionary exploits and noble personality traits of Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who ushered in a great heyday in the building of a powerful

socialist country.

Present at the opening ceremony were Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, other officials and working people in the capital city.

Minister of Culture Sung Jong Gyu made an opening address.

Stamp show

KCNA

A stamp show opened at the Korean Stamp Exhibition House in Pyongyang on February 13 to mark the Day of Shining Star.

Stamps carrying the portraits of smiling President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il and photos of the respected Comrade

Kim Jong Un are on display at the venue of the show.

Also on display are stamps praising the noble revolutionary career of Kim Jong Il and showing the undying exploits of Kim Jong Un.

There are also various stamps collected and presented by the philatelists in Pyongyang.

Oratorical meeting

KCNA

A national oratorical meeting took place at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on February 14 to mark the 82nd birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Present there were Ju Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Jon Kyong Chol,

deputy department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, and officials and working people in Pyongyang.

At the meeting, the performers highly praised the immortal career and exploits of Kim Jong Il and referred to the greatness of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

WPK Central Committee hosts film show, reception for foreign diplomats

KCNA

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea hosted a film show for the members of the diplomatic corps in Pyongyang at the Taedongmun Cinema on February 14 to mark the 82nd anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Present there at invitation were diplomatic envoys and staff members of foreign embassies in the DPRK.

On hand were Kim Song Nam, director of the International Affairs Department of the WPK Central Committee, Han Su Chol and Han Man Hyok, deputy department directors of the Central Committee of the WPK, Ra Yun Bak, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, Kim Ho Yong, vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and officials of the WPK Central

Committee.

The participants watched a Korean documentary film "The Great Comrade Kim Jong Il Is a Veteran Statesman of the World".

The WPK Central Committee also hosted a reception in honour of the members of the diplomatic corps in Pyongyang at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on February 14 on the same occasion.

Present there at invitation were foreign diplomatic envoys and staff members of foreign embassies in the DPRK.

On hand were Kim Song Nam, Han Su Chol, Han Man Hyok, Ra Yun Bak, Kim Ho Yong and officials of the WPK Central Committee.

Kim Song Nam said in his speech that Chairman Kim Jong Il wisely led the WPK and the state to build a politico-ideological power of single-minded unity and

an invincible military power on this land and firmly consolidated the potentials for the DPRK's independent development.

Alexandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK heading the diplomatic corps, said in his speech that the great Comrade Kim Jong Il was a world outstanding statesman and genuine leader of the people, noting that his great exploits are deeply cherished in the hearts of not only the Korean people but also the progressive mankind.

The ambassador pointed out that President Kim Jong Un of the State Affairs of the DPRK is creditably carrying forward the revolutionary cause of the preceding leaders.

He sincerely wished the Korean people fresh successes and greater victory under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Celebration meetings

KCNA

Agricultural workers and members of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea met at the Samjigang-ri House of Culture in Jaeryong County of South Hwanghae Province on February 14 to celebrate the Day of the Shining Star.

Han Jong Hyok, chairman of the Central Committee of

the UAWK, made a report to be followed by speeches.

Officials and members of the women's union of the DPRK held a meeting at the Hall of Women in Pyongyang on February 15 on the same occasion.

Kim Jong Sun, chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, made a report to be followed by speeches.

Ice sculpture festival goes on in Samjiyon

KCNA

The Ice Sculpture Festival-2024 in Celebration of the Day of the Shining Star is going on with splendour in the City of Samjiyon, Ryanggang Province. It opened on February 9 to mark the greatest national holiday of February.

Looking up to the portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il

displayed in the centre of the festival venue, visitors recall the great exploits performed by the peerlessly great man who made endless high-intensity forced march all his life for national prosperity and the people's happiness.

On display there are ice sculptures reflecting the faith of all the people to steadfastly carry on the

march started from Mt Paektu along the course of the horseback march made by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and depicting the City of Samjiyon which has turned into a model of modern mountainous city.

There are also ice sculptures depicting the national symbols and reflecting the happy looks of people.



A scene of the Ice Sculpture Festival-2024 in Celebration of the Day of the Shining Star that opened on February 9.

National pencil drawing festival

KCNA

The 10th National Pencil Drawing Festival opened in the DPRK to celebrate the birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il, or the Day of the Shining Star.

Presented to the festival are more than 300 pencil drawings of diverse themes

and forms created by art experts, fans, students and children across the country.

On display at the festival venue are works dealing with the revolutionary career and exploits of Kim Jong Il.

There are others showing the indomitable spirit of the Korean people writing a new history of overall national prosperity and their

worthwhile and civilized life.

An opening ceremony took place at the Pyongyang International House of Culture on February 13.

Present there were Ju Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, creators and working people in Pyongyang.

National schoolchildren's festival of loyalty

KCNA

The 24th National Schoolchildren's Festival of Loyalty opened with due ceremony at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on February 12 on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star,

the anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

During the festival, political, economic, art and sports contests are held, including a question-and-answer study contest, solo and instrumental solo contests, sports games

and the exhibition of technological innovations and achievements of the youth.

Present at the opening ceremony were officials of the youth league and youth and schoolchildren in Pyongyang.

Joint national meeting of KCU organizations

KCNA

The joint national meeting of the Korean Children's Union organizations took place in Pyongyang on February 16 in celebration of the 82nd anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It was attended by students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School and Kang Pan Sok Revolutionary School, KCU representatives

from all provinces, schoolchildren in the capital city and pupils who would join the KCU.

Invited there were Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Tu Song, department director of the Party Central Committee, youth league officials, and officials, meritorious persons and labour innovators in Pyongyang.

Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, made a report, followed by a ceremony of joining the KCU.

Led by Ri Il Hwan, schoolchildren to be admitted to the KCU took an admission oath.

Officials and meritorious persons put red ties around the pupils' necks and pinned KCU badges on their chests.

Week-long film show

KCNA

A week-long film show for celebrating the Day of the Shining Star was opened in the DPRK on the occasion of the anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il, the greatest auspicious February holiday of the nation.

Documentary films including "Shining Star of Mt Paektu" and "Shine, Jong Il Peak" showing the noble revolutionary career and undying exploits of the

Chairman will be screened at cinemas and houses of culture in Pyongyang and regional areas during the week.

An opening ceremony took place at the Pyongyang International Cinema House on February 12.

Present there were Jo Kyong Jun, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Myong Chol, secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK,

officials, creators and artistes in the film sector and other working people in Pyongyang.

Jong Yong Nam, director-general of the National Administration of Motion Picture Industry, made an opening address.

At the end of the ceremony the participants watched a documentary film "To Hold the Fatherly General in High Esteem Forever".

The film show was also opened in all provinces of the country on the same day.

Honour prizes awarded to exemplary youths and children

KCNA

Kim Jong Il Youth Honour Prize and Kim Jong Il Children Honour Prize were awarded to exemplary primary (sub-primary) youth league committees, officials and members of the youth league and members of the

Korean Children's Union on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

Kim Jong Il Youth Honour Prize was awarded to 23 primary (sub-primary) youth league committees and 26 youth league officials and members that distinguished themselves in building the

youth league organizations into vanguard ranks faithful to the Party and fully demonstrating the stamina of the patriotic youth in the struggle for national defence and socialist construction.

And Kim Jong Il Children Honour Prize went to 104 exemplary KCU members.

State academic degrees and titles conferred on intellectuals

KCNA

Academic degrees and titles were conferred on intellectuals on the occasion of the significant Day of the Shining Star.

True to the Workers' Party of Korea's idea of attaching importance to

science and technology, those intellectuals made achievements conducive to the economic development of the country and the improvement of the people's living standards and contributed to the education of the rising generations.

The title of candidate

academician was conferred on Ri Jong Ik, a researcher of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Professorship was awarded to 14 persons and doctorate went to 81 others.

And 114 persons earned the title of associate professor and 811 others master's degrees.

Workers, children give performances

KCNA

The workers' artistic information team of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea gave a

performance "The song of the working class dedicated to February" at the Central Hall of Workers in Pyongyang on February 14 to celebrate the 82nd birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Members of art groups at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace gave a performance on February 14 in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star, the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Youth league officials hold meeting to tell stories about virtues of Kim Jong Il

KCNA

Youth league officials touring revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area held a meeting on February 16 to tell stories about the virtues of Chairman Kim Jong Il on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

At the meeting, the speakers told about the revolutionary

exploits of the Chairman who attached importance to the youth, put forward the youth issue as the top priority state affair, took benevolent care of young people and brought them up as successors to the revolution in the whole period of his revolutionary leadership.

They sang the songs of reverence for the Chairman

with deep yearning for him.

They called on youth league officials of the new generation to train all young people as true young vanguard in the great era of Kim Jong Un as they keep the faith that they will surely win as they are led by him by carrying on the indomitable revolutionary spirit displayed by the first generation of the revolution.

Young people hold evening gala

KCNA

An evening gala of youth and students took place at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang on the evening of February 16, the 82nd

anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It began with the playing of the song "A Dear Name" reflecting the boundless admiration and reverence for him. The young people and

students performed beautiful dances with the great honour and happiness of enjoying the most worthwhile time of their life along with the new era of a dignified powerful country.

Festival overflows with yearning, reverence



The Korean people celebrate the Day of the Shining Star (February 16), the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il, with splendour every year as one of the greatest national holidays. The Second People's Art Festival in Celebration of the Day of the Shining Star has been splendidly held in Pyongyang on the occasion of the holiday this year. The festival originated in 2022 marking the 80th anniversary of the birth of the Chairman as an all-people art festival held in reflection of the unanimous desire of the Korean people to hold Kim Jong Il in high esteem as the Sun of Juche forever. Drawing many artistes and working people from more than 40 units selected at central and provincial levels, the festival is held in the categories of art troupes, artistic information teams, mobile artistic motivation teams and art groups on the principle of giving free rein to the characteristics of the participating organizations, unlike the previous event which was held in the form of performances given by each province. The performances given at theatres and halls in Pyongyang, including the People's Palace of Culture, demonstrate the Korean people's ardent yearning and reverence for Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Performances of mobile artistic motivation teams a highlight of people's art festival

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Theatres in Pyongyang, where the Second People's Art Festival is held in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star (February 16), have a full house every day when the whole country is in a festive mood.

The performances of mobile artistic motivation teams are going on at the Central Hall of Workers in Pyongyang.

Motivation team members of the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm started their performance with the song "A Dear Name" which was produced in 1990.

The song is loved by all the Koreans as it represents the real sentiment of the times

of the locals, who revere Kim Jong Il as their father and benevolent mentor, with poetic everyday language and lilting and optimistic tune.

The representation of the song in chorus by the team members filled the audience with yearning and friendly feeling toward the Chairman and cheerful and optimistic emotion from the beginning.

They staged various numbers including those praising Chairman Kim Jong Il's immortal devotion to the improvement of the life of people in Hamhung, a leading industrial area of the country, and the benevolence of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who saw to it that a leading large

greenhouse farm was built, true to the intention of the Chairman.

They showed well with mixed duet, instrumental ensemble, poem, chorus and others the zeal and mettle of the employees of the greenhouse farm who are advancing toward a better tomorrow with confidence, while visualizing with joy the bright future of their area which will undergo a great change thanks to the grand Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The performance given by those of the Moranbong Unha Garment Factory also received a big hand.

The narration and male solo ardently singing of the Chairman's love for the people, which is engraved in every part of the country, aroused the profound emotion of the audience.

The entertainers staged a variety of pieces including jango ensemble, interlude and motivational stories showing the passion and spirit of the factory workers who are rushing toward worthwhile and delightful working life, new innovation and higher goal.

The performance characterized by fresh and impressive theme and truthful and original representation made the people's art festival more conspicuous.



Mobile artistic motivation teams give performances at the Central Hall of Workers in Pyongyang. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

World of fantasy gives glimpse into happier future

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

A fantastic magic festival is going on at the magic theatre of the National Acrobatic Troupe, bringing pleasure and optimism to the Korean people who are enjoying a new civilization of socialism.

"The festival has brought together professional magicians of provincial art troupes and some amateur magicians," said Han Pong Song, an official of the Ministry of Culture. "They put on the stage the aspects of the working people's optimistic life in their native places and workplaces to be acclaimed by the audience."

The magic "Happy tomorrow" performed by the North Hwanghae Provincial Art Troupe is gaining popularity among the audience with its enchanting magic tricks.

Gigantic pencils are conjured by the female magician's ingenious flip of hands, several magicians come out of an empty box, a plane view of a foodstuff factory is drawn in a second at a swing of the magician's arm, and boxes full of foodstuffs are produced in a moment at the modernized factory.

Cha Kum Su, chief of the magic section of the North Hwanghae Provincial Art Troupe who grew up in



A magic festival goes on at the magic theatre of the National Acrobatic Troupe. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Unpha County, said that he vividly remembered the days when wonderful houses were built and given to the people of the county who had been left homeless after suffering a flood, so he completed the magic work on the theme of happier tomorrow and performed it at the festival with gratitude to the Workers' Party of Korea which has set forth the new Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

The magic "Rich sub-workteam" presented by amateur magician An Yong Ho, an official of the Phyongwon county paper mill in South Phyongan Province, deeply impressed the audience for its wonderful magical representation of the life in the countryside getting richer with grain, fish and

fruit farming. An said that he produced the work because he wanted to boast of his native village turning into a booming paradise by reaping a rich harvest every year.

The illusionary magic "The place we have to take" performed by the South Phyongan Provincial Art Troupe depicts the young people who are devoting their precious youth to the security and prosperity of the country.

"The world of magic is called a world of fantasy, but we do not think everything we saw in this performance was a fantasy. It is the reality of our life that is sure to be realized before long," said Kim Mi Hyang, a woman living in Tangsang-dong No. 1, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

Contest held amid interest shown by cooks, amateurs

By Pang Un Ju PT

The 12th National Culinary Skill Contest took place at the Pyongyang Noodle House from February 5 to 7 under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the Cooks Association of Korea on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star, anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The contest brought together 70 units including those belonging to ministries, national agencies, the

Guidance Bureau of Public Catering Service, the external service sector and the sectors of public catering service in Pyongyang and every province.

There were a culinary skill competition for making compulsory foods and beverages according to sectors, a demonstration by excellent cooks, waiters and waitresses, a special skill competition of good cooks, a cooking competition of housewives and a famous dish show.

The contest was enlivened by large numbers of visitors

who came at the news that dishes presented by relevant units were put on sale.

At the culinary skill competition held according to sectors, competitors skillfully made fried rainbow trout, steamed pork meatballs, steamed bok choy and crab, rabbit and radish soup and fruit punch as set by the jury with the same materials, under the same conditions and at a fixed time.

Waiters and waitresses deftly used various tools to present rose yogurt, vitamin drinks, strawberry and

orange cocktail and others in the presence of visitors at the beverage-making skill competition.

Kim Jong Son, a waitress from the Pyongyang Hotel, came first in the beverage competition by presenting the strawberry and orange cocktail in a glass in unique shape.

The meat dish, soup and broth competitions of cooks held in the kitchen were displayed on screen in real time.

The venue of the famous dish show was a sight to behold for over 600 exhibits.

Visitors were filled with deep admiration at the sight of famous dishes presented by catering establishments in Pyongyang and local areas. Not only the participants in the show but also visitors were busy learning from each other and sharing experience.

Choe Yon Mi living in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, said the fried catfish with pinecone was very distinctive, adding she would make it herself to serve her family members with the dish.

Jon Un Hui from

Myongsung Restaurant of the Songdowon Pleasure Ground Public Catering Agency in Wonsan City said that she came to know more about the methods of preserving the aesthetic value of foods along with excellent culinary skills at the contest.

The contest became more conspicuous thanks to the special skill competition of cooks, waiters and waitresses who had shown off their unique skills in the past cooking festivals and contests and the cooking competition of housewives.

To implement regional development policy

Enlarged plenary meeting of Cabinet Committee of WPK held

KCNA

An enlarged meeting of the plenary meeting of the Cabinet Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place on February 9 for thoroughly implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Party.

Present there were Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, Pak Jong Gun, vice-premier of the Cabinet and chairman of the State Planning Commission, Kim Myong Hun, vice-premier of the Cabinet, Ri Yong Sik, chief secretary of the Cabinet Committee of the WPK, and its members and alternate members. Officials

concerned were on hand as observers.

The plenary meeting carefully discussed measures for perfectly carrying out the epochal strategy for the development of regional industry set forth by the Party Central Committee.

A report was made at the meeting.

The Regional Development 20x10 Policy is the most revolutionary, popular and original line which comprehensively embodies the spirit of believing in the people as in Heaven, that of devoted service for the people and the devoted practical ability of the great Party Central Committee and also an epochal landmark to be specially recorded in the nearly 80-year history of the WPK which will provide the people across the country with unprecedentedly great

changes which will be vibrant with a new socialist civilization and new life, the reporter said.

The meeting discussed the ways for upholding with devoted practice the grand plan and intention of the Party which set forth the development of regional industry as an important revolutionary task.

It stressed the need for the officials, who are the organizers of the implementation of the Party's policy and its performer and leading personnel of the revolution, to bring about a radical improvement in the ideological viewpoint and work style with the spirit of devoted service for the people and fulfil their responsibility and duty in the gigantic struggle for bringing changes to regions.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

Provincial enlarged Party plenary meetings held

KCNA

Enlarged plenary meetings of Pyongyang municipal and provincial committees of the Workers' Party of Korea were held to push ahead with the implementation of the WPK's Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Attending the meetings were members and alternate members of every provincial Party committee. Present there as observers were officials of Party and power organs, administrative and economic bodies and major industrial establishments in provinces, cities and counties.

The plenary meetings discussed and decided on the practical tasks to improve the elementary material and cultural living standards of the regional people a level higher by implementing the Party's new regional development policy without

any deflection and defect.

Reports were made there.

The participants were briefed on the concrete plans to carry through the decision of the 19th Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK on bringing about a revolution in regional industry.

The reporters referred to the issues for the non-permanent provincial committees for promoting the Regional Development 20x10 Policy to draw up realistic and scientific plans for implementing the Party's regional industry development policy and strengthen the control and guidance over the operation of factories to be newly built and the supply of raw materials necessary for them.

Special attention was given to the issues of assigning specific tasks to every unit and dynamically launching an ideological offensive to

inspire the masses to carry out the Party's policies in order to perfectly fulfil the tasks for the first year in implementing the regional industry development policy.

The meetings stressed the need for the provincial, city and county Party committees to conduct the operation and command for upgrading the regional industry in a bold way, train technicians and skilled workers for the factories to be newly built according to a well thought-out plan and push ahead with building raw material bases under the direct guidance of Party committees.

The meetings also discussed practical issues for improving the economy and the people's life of cities and counties by making effective use of the mountains in mountainous regions and the sea in coastal regions.

Speeches were made there.

Premier Kim inspects various sectors

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected various sectors of South and North Hwanghae provinces.

At the construction sites for regional industry factories in Yonhan, Unpha, Jacryong and Unchon counties, to be built according to the WPK's Regional Development 20x10 Policy, he gave pep talks to soldier-builders making full preparations for the building projects after being speedily deployed at the construction sites on the order of the Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

After learning about the rationality and effectiveness of the sites, sizes and production capacities of factories under construction in detail, he underscored the need to responsibly ensure the timely supply of equipment and materials necessary for the building projects and provide a firm guarantee for normal production by directing great efforts to building raw material bases.

As he inspected the school uniform factories



Premier Kim Tok Hun (fourth from right) inspects the construction site of a regional industry factory in Yonhan County.

in Sariwon, Haeju and other areas, he urged the officials and employees to give top priority to the improvement of quality from the standpoint that they are making uniforms for their own children.

At the Sariwon and Haeju schoolchildren's footwear factories under construction, he called for expediting the completion of projects by speeding up equipment assembly and raising the speed and quality of construction.

The Premier stressed the need for the farms in Unpha, Anak and other counties to further perfect the irrigation systems to stably develop agricultural production

under any unfavourable climate conditions, manure and cultivate wheat and barley in a scientific way and increase the fertility of soil by producing much more quality self-sufficing manure.

The field consultative meetings discussed the issue of pushing ahead with building regional industry factories according to the master plan for urban construction and training technicians and skilled workers at the same time, the issue for school uniform producers to boost cooperative production, the issue of taking all possible agro-technical measures to tackle disastrous abnormal

weather and others and took appropriate steps.

Earlier, he familiarized himself with the building projects for bettering the life of the Pyongyang citizens and discussed the issues for the Ministry of Urban Management and the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection to design the landscapes of provincial capitals and city and county seats at an early date to meet their environment and features and to enhance the environmental monitoring capacity and establish a stricter monitoring, notifying and mobilizing system for preventing and putting out forest fires.

Head of WPK delegation meets Russian party leader

KCNA

Kim Su Gil, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK who is on a visit to Russia heading the WPK delegation, met and had a talk with G. Zhuganov, chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, at the building of the State Duma on February 13.

He courteously conveyed the warm greetings of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to G. Zhuganov.

G. Zhuganov expressed deep thanks for this and asked the head of the delegation to convey his heartfelt best wishes to Kim Jong Un,

general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He said that Russia would never forget the DPRK's selfless support and encouragement to the Russian people struggling to foil the imperialists' persistent hegemonic policy and anti-Russia moves and defend the sovereignty, dignity, security and peace of the country.

The policy of developing the friendly and cooperative relations with the WPK, put forward by the Communist Party of the Russian Federation from the very day of its founding, will remain unchanged in the future, too, he said, adding that his party would always support the DPRK, the best neighbour.

He wished the WPK greater success in its activities for the prosperity of the country under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Farmers move into new houses at livestock farm in North Phyongan

KCNA

Agricultural workers of the Samgwang Livestock Farm under the North Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee moved into new houses.

A meeting took place on February 9 to celebrate the house moving at the farm.

Present there were Kim

Chol U, secretary of the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, builders and farmers who would move into new houses.

Ri Yong Chol, chairman of the provincial people's committee, made a congratulatory speech. And then house licenses were awarded and speeches made.

Textile mill increases production through readjustment and reinforcement

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill is achieving success by putting efforts into readjustment and reinforcement of equipment and production processes.

Last year alone the factory restored and upgraded by dint of advanced technology over 140 pieces of equipment and machinery, including spinning, carding, drawing, cop-winding and hydraulic weaving machines and elastic staff loom, to fulfil its readjustment and reinforcement plan and lay the foundation for increasing the production of spun yarn and cloth.

According to the chief engineer of the mill, tens of thousands of pieces of parts in over 150 kinds were needed to restore equipment and, moreover, thousands of bearings in over 70 kinds, frequency converters, various kinds of electric tools and sensors, steel materials and synthetic rubber were also necessary.

To this end, the factory formed a technical innovation team with technicians and skilled hands to hasten the restoration of equipment.

Especially, they made parts of over 30 hydraulic weaving machines so as to normalize school uniform cloth production at a high level.

They installed a cotton



An employee observes cloth production while increasing the operational rate of loom at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

mixing and willowing machine, which had remained idle, and dozens of carding machines in other places and readjusted and restored them to raise the productivity of spun yarn and remodelled elastic staff looms to raise the rate of their operation remarkably.

This year, too, the factory is striving to attain the cloth production goal set at the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea without fail while consolidating its achievements.

"At the plenary meeting, General Secretary

Kim Jong Un said that it is the consistent policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the eternal national policy of the DPRK that the Party and the state supply necessities for schoolchildren in a responsible manner and put forward the task to push ahead with the production of school uniforms, bags and shoes as an undertaking involving the entire Party and the whole country in the new year, too. Our factory takes a large share in the efforts to carry out the task," said the manager of the mill.

Now, the factory fully supplies adhesive interlining

for the production of school uniforms to garment production units across the country by making resin glue for the production of adhesive interlining with locally available materials.

The resin glue it developed is great in adhesive strength, resistance to water and storage stability.

It also developed a gripper spring and established a process for the production of the spring to contribute to the normal operation of weaving machines.

It remodelled the arcuate tension regulator of the bag canvas coater.

Natural edible essential fruit oils increase in variety

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Pyongyang Essential Oil Factory develops and produces different edible essential fruit oils, including those of peach, strawberry, melon and tara vine fruit, by using natural raw materials.

"It is the goal of our factory to develop many new essential oils suited to the tastes of Koreans so as to fill the whole country with our own aromas," said Choe Tung Gwang, director of the essential oil institute of the factory.

Essential oil takes the lion's share in the production of consumer goods such as foodstuffs, soap and cosmetics.

The research team, including Kim Ok Jin, section chief of the institute, intensified the research for selecting an essential oil-making technique suited to the actual conditions of the country while giving precedence to the overall study of edible essential fruit oils used at foodstuff factories and the collecting of relevant samples.

In the course of this, they came to pay attention to a technique of making juice-type essential fruit oil which can retain the unique aroma and flavour of fruit for a long time and whose productivity and storage can be raised unlike the one of making mixed essential oil, which is rich in aromatic substances and yet devoid of natural flavour with suspended substances forming in it,

and an alcoholic extraction method.

They worked out a seasonal plan in consideration of the difference between species of fruit in picking season and conducted research to establish juice-type essential fruit oil production processes and completed pretreatment technologies including a ferment treatment method capable of clearly separating raw materials for edible essential oil and by-products.

They also completed a production line consisting of pretreatment, juice extraction, vacuum concentration, mixing and sterilization processes and a raw material and product storehouse in cooperation with technicians of relevant units.

After finding the reasonable temperature and time for juice extraction and the additive amount of enzyme to prevent oxidation while ensuring the concentration of liquid sugar by over 60 percent and making it retain its aromatic substances and natural colours, they confirmed the main factors affecting the vacuum concentrator, including vacuum degree and rotating speed.

The factory is directing efforts to increasing the varieties of edible essential oils while further completing and introducing technical and other standard regulations and the norm of materials consumption per unit for the production of such oils into the production of drinks, jelly and ice cream at foodstuff factories.

Housewives turn out fancy fabrics in high demand

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Fancy fabrics for home use produced by the housewives' production workteam of the

Tongdaewon Jaegyong Shop are now in great demand.

"Since the primary task facing the light industry sector this year is to improve the quality of consumer

goods, our shop is focusing on improving their quality while increasing their variety," said manageress Kim Hye Yong.

Before anything else, the workteam pays attention to

creating designs suited to likings and aesthetic tastes of customers in making fancy fabrics. To this end, they keep informed of people's demands and opinions from customers and residents and take part in different consumer goods exhibitions to get feedback.

By doing so, they create designs favoured by people, completely breaking away from the conventional way of designing.

The workteam organizes a show of goods developed by its employees more than once in 10 days and promptly introduces highly-appreciated ones into production.

They have devised and introduced into production various methods including a technique of combining different colours in a reasonable way, a technique of using various types and patterns of lace to enhance the decorative effects and a technique of choosing sewing threads for ensuring quality for a long time and sewing in



Researchers are engaged in research at the essential oil institute of the Pyongyang Essential Oil Factory. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

a rational way.

In the course of this they developed tablecloths, bedspreads, curtains and piano covers in different colours and forms that are very convenient to use, cushion covers in different sizes and mats for telephones and flowerpots, with the result that the variety of their products has increased to more than 30.

For the good quality, their

products are now winning popularity among users.

The bedspread, in particular, scarcely becomes fuzzy and discolours, but enhances the decorative effects of not only the bed but the interior of the room.

It was awarded a silver medal at the light industrial goods exhibition "Development of Light Industry-2023" last year.



Consumer goods produced by the housewives' production workteam of the Tongdaewon Jaegyong Shop are very popular among the people. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Lunar New Year's Day celebrated in DPRK



People from all walks of life celebrate lunar New Year's Day merrily throughout the country.

KCNA
The people across the country greeted lunar New Year's Day of 2024 full of great aspiration and confidence. Many people visited the

Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred temple of Juche, with best wishes for the immortality of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. Working people, service personnel, youth and

schoolchildren visited the statues of the great leaders on Mansu Hill and portraits of their smiling images across the country, laid flower baskets, bouquets and flowers and paid tribute to them.

Colourful art performances were given across the country to rev up the atmosphere of lunar New Year's Day. Schoolchildren played folk games in Pyongyang Municipality, Jagang,

Kangwon and North Hamgyong provinces, Kaesong City and other places. Public catering establishments across the country were crowded with many people. The Rungna

People's Recreation Ground, the Amusement Park of the Kaeson Youth Park, the People's Open-air Ice Rink and other places were filled with the people's happy laughter.

Story about happy New Year's Day



By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Children wait for the New Year counting the days on their fingers.

And they hope their dreams will come true in the hopeful New Year.

The same was true of 14-year-old Kim Ryo Gwang (pictured), a third-year student of the junior course of Pothonggang Senior Middle School in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang.

When he was a kindergartener, while learning

pen writing, he often heard stories from his teacher about the children who sent letters to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and gave pleasure to him. He wanted to do like them.

To fulfil this desire, Ryo Gwang polished his handwriting, cared for his friends and did many good things. And he wrote a letter containing such pride to the leader at the age of six to give him great pleasure.

Later, he continued to do good things for the country as he studied at primary and

middle schools. In those years he sent letters more than 10 times to the fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un, expressing his resolve to grow up as a good student and become a pillar of the country. Busy as he was with many state affairs, the leader read all his letters.

Thanks to the proper guidance and painstaking efforts of the teachers, Ryo Gwang cultivated his talents to his heart's content. His teachers and classmates were surprised to see him develop his skills to the full not only in pen writing but also in calligraphy, painting, poem writing, table tennis, basketball, singing, speaking in foreign language and others.

He is now called a "boy inventor" by his teachers and friends as he has come up with a lot of science fiction inventions based on extensive practical knowledge.

He presented a science-fiction model "The most powerful country in the world" to the national children's science-fiction

literary works and model exhibition-2023 held in June last year, picturing the future of the powerful country, ever-changing and prosperous. It won the top prize at the exhibition for its scientific guarantee and economic profitability.

As he set an example in study and Children's Union organizational life, he was awarded Kim Jong Il Children Honour Prize and the Children's Scientific Search Prize as a vice-chairman of the Children's Union organization of the school. He also obtained several literary prizes including the "Our Classroom" Literary Prize.

As he grew up, he came to realize how great social benefits the country provides for the children, sparing nothing for them.

He longed to meet and offer a greeting of thanks to the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un who loves and cares for the children so much to help them all fulfil their dreams and hopes whenever

he received new uniforms and school things like all other children from the state every year according to seasons and when he enjoyed pleasant camping at the Songdownon International Children's Camp and participated in the Ninth Congress of the Korean Children's Union.

His wish came true on New Year's Day this year.

The respected fatherly Marshal met him along with other students who took part in the 2024 New Year performance of schoolchildren.

The leader embraced him with a bright smile on his face, wiped tears from his eyes and affectionately patted him on his cheeks.

He repeatedly saw the science-fiction model "The most powerful country in the world" made by an ordinary schoolboy, kindly asked him about its scientific principles and heard his determination to become a supporting pillar of the country with satisfaction and warmly blessed his bright future. And

he also had a photo session with all the participants in the schoolchildren's New Year performance including him.

Ryo Gwang was on cloud nine after meeting the fatherly Marshal he had so desired to see and receiving a blessing of love.

He came to be widely known to the whole country through newspapers, TV and radio and became the happiest child of fortune on the first day of the new year.

Teachers, friends, officials of the district people's committee, neighbours and many other people sent heartfelt congratulations to him till late at night.

Ryo Gwang wrote by brush "Thank you, the fatherly Marshal", "Patriotic boy" and "We are the happiest in the world", expressing his profound gratitude to the respected fatherly Marshal and determination to become a future pillar of the country.

The story about his happy New Year's Day left deep impression on the children across the country.



Working people are served delicious noodles at the Phyongnam Noodle House which has been given a facelift. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Renovated noodle house bustles with many diners

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

A facelift has been given to the Phyongnam Noodle House, a public catering facility located in the area of picturesque Moran Hill in the capital city of Pyongyang. It has served many diners since its reopening on New Year's Day this year.

Korean food restaurant

The house has a hip-saddle roof, a traditional architectural style of the Korean nation, arousing national sentiments at first

glance.

Under the deep concern of the DPRK government constantly striving to provide the people with an affluent and cultured life, the previous structure with a total floor space of 2 400 square metres was renovated into a public catering facility with a total floor space of more than 10 000 square metres against a backdrop of a hill thickly covered with pine trees.

It has eight dining halls, a Taedonggang beer bar and seven kitchens fully provided with conditions and environment for offering every convenience to diners.

It mainly serves traditional foods, gaining public favour.

"Our restaurant has a long history. President Kim Il Sung visited here in February 1959 and pointed to the need to prepare the famous Pyongyang noodles and serve them to citizens. Since then, it has been serving Pyongyang cold noodles, mung-bean pancake and other traditional foods," said Ri Kyong Nam, manager of the restaurant.

On his visit to the restaurant, Chairman Kim Jong Il took measures for its modernization and gave detailed instructions to make it fulfil its duty as a public

catering base, he added.

Under the meticulous care of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government, the Phyongnam Noodle House has won public favour for over 60 years.

Demand fulfilled

According to service staffer Ri Myong Ok, thousands of visitors has come to the restaurant a day since its inauguration.

It pays close attention to preserving the inherent flavours of national dishes, diversifying them and continuously improving service to satisfy the demand of customers.

many diners

Most of diners acknowledge its employees' efforts.

"I frequented this restaurant to eat noodles in the past and they taste much better now. I think it is attributable to renovated dining rooms and kind service," said Ryu Han Ho, resident in neighbourhood unit No. 68 of Sanghung-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang.

All the dining rooms from the ground to the second floors are crowded with many diners — families, friends, colleagues

and pairs of young lovers.

They smile happily as they take Pyongyang cold noodles and noodles in a flat vessel covered with meat.

"I was really impressed with the taste of noodles in a flat vessel covered with meat in this restaurant on New Year's Day. I am so enticed by the unique buckwheat flavour of gummy strips that I come here every week," said Ryu Yong Gun, staffer of the Central Telematics Bureau, while reaching for a third helping.

The present of siblings orphaned some 30 years ago

By Pang Un Ju PT

Rodong Sinmun, the official organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, carried an article in September more than 30 years ago about Choe Hak Mun and Choe Hye Jong, orphaned brother and sister who were leading a happy life under the warm care of kind-hearted people.

The article left a deep impression on many at that time.

Later, feature film My Father was produced based on their life and screened.

The siblings lost their parents and younger brother in an accident 34 years ago and their relatives and acquaintances felt pity for them.

Their relatives were going to adopt them, but officials of the Pyongyang Railway Bureau where their father had worked volunteered to look after the bereaved children with parental affection.

A room was allocated to them as their "flat" at the Pyongyang Railway Hostel and they were constantly visited by people who came with kindred feelings toward them.

Officials of the Pyongyang Railway Bureau would attend the parents' meetings at their school in place of their father and the employees of the railway hostel would accompany them to their

parents' graves for memorial service on every Chusok, or Harvest Moon Day, lest they should feel lonely even for a moment. Those tender-hearted people took meticulous care of them as their own father and mother would do.

Under their loving care, Choe Hak Mun could focus all his mind on his study at Korea University of Physical Education and Choe Hye Jong was awarded Kim Il Sung Youth Honour Prize, the highest honour of Korean youth, in her middle school days and was later enrolled at the same university as her brother's as she had wished.

Though they had been bereaved of their parents, they grew up happily while fulfilling their wishes as they received the loving care greater, warmer and

more scrupulous than other children who had parents. So they wrote a letter to Chairman Kim Jong Il to tell him about their life story.

After receiving their letter, the Chairman wished them a happy future and saw to it that they were provided with a spacious flat on Kwangbok Street which had just been built in Pyongyang.

"Once, foreign journalists visited us," Choe Hak Mun said, recalling those days. "They repeatedly asked us if it was true that we had no parents and said that, if true, we might have inherited enormous wealth. Because they could hardly believe that the leader of a country provided us ordinary students with a modern flat.

"That day, my younger sister and I answered their questions by singing the song

We Are the Happiest in the World loved by all the people in our country."

Choe now leads a happy married life in the house of love, and his sister also enjoys a happy, fulfilling life as the wife of an officer of the Korean People's Army.

The siblings have so far done a lot of good things for the country.

Most recently alone, they, together with their family members, visited the workers of the Pyongyang Trackmen's Team, who had just finished Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans, with aid materials they prepared with sincerity.

"The socialist system has raised us brother and sister to be honourable citizens as we are now. It is our bounden duty to repay the love shown by the state," Choe Hak Mun observed.

Choe Hak Mun (second from left) and his younger sister Choe Hye Jong (second from right) with their daughters. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Kumgang medicinal stone drink favoured by all

By To Kyong Chol PT

Pyongyang citizens frequent kiosks of Kumgang medicinal stone drink that can be seen in different parts of the capital city.

The Kumgang medicinal stone is a mineral which was discovered decades ago.

After being reported on the newly discovered mineral conducive to the promotion of the people's health, President Kim Il Sung named it Kumgang medicinal stone.

It contains over 40 kinds of essential microelements, including calcium, magnesium, iron, copper and zinc, and rare earth elements.

As it absorbs a variety of pathogenic bacteria and harmful heavy metals, it purifies drinking water and removes various impure smells from the water, markedly enhances the functions of all cells and organs in the human body, raises its resistance to diseases and its natural healing power to recover from diseases.

The Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee uses the mineral to make undiluted Kumgang medicinal stone solution conducive to the promotion of people's health

and supplies it to relevant kiosks.

The solution with a national patent is made in the form of a water-soluble organic complex compound by separating and extracting only those good for the human body from among dozens of mineral matters of the stone.

Many people unanimously say that the drinking water sold there is unusually clean and its taste is good and refreshing, adding that the more they drink the water, the better they feel.

Jong Mi Hwa, attendant of the kiosk, said that an old saying goes that drinking good water enables one to live long free from diseases.

As a food made with sincerity is tasty, the drink becomes tasty and fully produces its medicinal efficacy only when efforts are put into making it as required by science and technology.

The Kumgang medicinal stone drink prevents mineral deficiency caused by various reasons, improves metabolism, purifies blood and supplies oxygen to blood and is effective in preventing and treating various diseases.

Jong Mi Hwa said that almost all families drink the water at present.

Porous 'missile information-sharing system' can never check hail of fire

A foreign media outlet recently disclosed that the US, Japan and the puppet ROK have operated the information-sharing system in connection with the DPRK's test-fire of hypersonic missile on January 14.

According to it, they were dead set on exchanging information while the puppet military gangsters tracked the rising step and the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" the flight orbit on the basis of the US detection of the DPRK's test-fire of hypersonic missile.

The test-fire, which had given no harmful effect on the security of its neighbouring state and was not related to the situation in the region, was a regular measure for bolstering up the defence capability of a sovereign state. Therefore, the tracking of the test-fire is, in essence, a wanton violation of the DPRK's right to self-defence and an intolerable military provocation against it.

The irony is that the hostile forces have become a laughing stock of the world. Though they are tediously advertising

that they detected the DPRK's ballistic missile launch earlier than before through the operation of the missile information-sharing system, they failed to follow it to the last because the missile disappeared from the radar before the landing and Japan and the puppet forces announced the missile range several hundred kilometres different.

It goes without saying that the moves of the US, Japan and the puppet forces to share missile information are pursuant to the US scenario for realizing its hegemonic strategy to contain their strategic rivals by forming a triangular military alliance in the Asia-Pacific region on the pretext of coping with the DPRK's "missile threat".

A spokesperson for the US Department of Defense said that the missile-sharing information shows the unprecedented depth, scale and sphere of security cooperation between the three parties and the three countries would continue to build cooperation to cope with the "challenges" in the region on the Korean

peninsula, in the Indo-Pacific and beyond them. It makes us easily understand the sinister intention the US seeks.

In 2014 the US concluded the TISA with Japan and the puppet forces to share information through it, thus institutionalizing for the first time the triangular cooperation in the field of military intelligence.

As a drowning man will catch at a straw, the US is now busy with the formation of the triangular military alliance with Japan and the puppet forces working as core allies to maintain its hegemonic position weakened day by day under the structure of a "new Cold War". The sharing of missile information can be regarded as part of the moves.

Accordingly, the enemies committed to the real-time sharing of missile warning information targeting the DPRK in November 2022. And they agreed on it at Camp David in August last year and entered into the full operation of the missile information-sharing system from December.

It is quite clear that if the US, Japan and the puppet forces push the acute military confrontation in the Korean peninsula, the biggest hotspot in the world, to a more critical phase of conflict while making reckless military confrontation hysteria, the DPRK's military counteraction will get stronger in direct proportion to it.

The days when the US styled itself the only superpower in the world are gone and it is a foolish act to get a security guarantee by relying on a toothless wolf trying to prolong its remaining days.

The useless military moves will only bring a serious security crisis to the US mainland, Japanese archipelago and the ROK.

It is nothing but a foolish attempt to prevent the hail of fire from pouring down with a porous umbrella called "missile information-sharing system".

Kim Sol Hwa, fellow of the Institute for Japan Studies under the DPRK Foreign Ministry

True colours of suicide kingdom concealed behind veil of high growth rate

KCNA

Suicide has become one of the social trends in Japan which is trumpeting "public welfare" and "material prosperity".

According to information recently released by the Ministry of Welfare and Labour of Japan, the number of suicides reached 21 818 last year. Thus, the annual number of suicides has amounted to more than 21 000 in succession since 2020.

It is said that most of suicides kill themselves in despair and pessimism with their living conditions going to ruin.

With the number of suicides increasing constantly for years, a mother committed suicide together with her two sons in a house in Utsunomiya, Tochigi Prefecture, in January.

Such a tragic situation is an inevitable outcome of base Japanese society, where a handful of plutocrats and privileged circle rule the roost and the jungle law that "I can survive only when I kill you" and mammonism prevails.

The majority of people in this country are driven to the last extremity of life as the object of exploitation and plunder and subject to misfortune and pain, being deprived of the elementary human rights to food, clothing and housing.

Families and schools have turned into a theatre of rowdiness of violence and mistreatment amid the successive occurrence of all crimes, namely manslaughter, robbery, rape, deception and trick.

A 24-year-old woman left behind a will and killed herself, unable to endure the hard life and a jobless woman in her forties had attempted to make suicide four times since she was 22-year-old as she could not afford the growing cost of living. These facts are nothing, but a simple example showing the reality of corrupt Japanese society.

Although people abandon their precious lives with each passing day, the politicians of Japan do not take substantial measures for preventing suicide, only being engrossed in prolonging their remaining days of political career.

Though the Japanese politicians made a great fuss as they mapped out a 100-day plan for preventing suicide, issued a white paper on suicide and strengthened education for preventing suicide, it is nothing more than trickery to calm down the discontented and angry public.

Even at present, many unemployed persons wander about streets in search of jobs in cold and starvation.

What is the destination of those who are suffering from poverty without job?

The miserable plight of those who choose to kill themselves driven to the abyss of despair shows the actual reality of Japanese society wrapped in a showy veil called rapid economic growth.

Measures taken to improve the initiative and traction of machine-building industry



Jo Sun Gil

Department director of the Ministry of Machine-building Industry

All sectors of the national economy in the DPRK are now bringing about an upsurge in production true to the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. The reality urges the machine-building industry sector to make leaping progress more vigorously and faster.

The machine-building industry is an important industry that should steer and propel the overall economic sectors, and the speed and level of economic development depend on those of its development.

The machine-building industry sector is now working hard to modernize production processes at factories and enterprises, true to the WPK's strategy for readjustment and reinforcement.

Last year alone, the Kumsong Tractor Factory finished the first-stage modernization project and thus made a big stride in equipping itself with machinery, jigs and tools needed for producing

high-performance tractors and the Ryongsong Machine Complex, Taean Heavy Machine Complex and other factories and enterprises in the sector put large machine tools on a CNC basis to improve processing techniques and quality of products a step higher.

The December 2023 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the WPK defined it as the Party's orientation of development for the machine-building industry at the present phase to make the Ryongsong Machine Complex, a parent body of the industry, a standard and model of modernization in the period of the Eighth Party Central Committee and, on the basis of this experience, to modernize the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, the Ragwon General Machine Enterprise and other major machine factories during the period of the new five-year economic development plan and clarified the ways for its implementation.

The 10th Session of the 14th

Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK stressed that the machine-building industry sector is the one which should play a special role in economic work this year.

Stepping up the modernization of machine factories is important in pushing ahead with the mechanization of agriculture, radically raising the proportion of mechanized work in construction and bringing about marked growth in all sectors of the national economy this year.

Accordingly, the ministry is concentrating on taking measures for the machine-building industry sector to steer and propel the overall economic sectors.

It is taking practical measures to correctly draw up plans for the renovation and modernization of major machine factories and perseveringly push ahead with them on the principle of rationally arranging processes, making them automatic and robot-controlled in a flow line and creating standard production environment.

Primary efforts are being directed to promoting all modernization projects at the Ryongsong Machine Complex in a unified way ranging from the building of a competent designing force for designing

production processes and machines to the improvement of the designers' discernment so that they can properly carry out the work of upgrading the complex as a model of modernization.

Ways have been developed in detail for turning the Sunchon Engine Factory, Jonchon Rock-drill Factory and other factories into machine-building bases equipped with modern facilities and latest technologies while stepping up the modernization of the Kumsong Tractor Factory as planned.

And the ministry is pressing on with the projects for consolidating the foundation of the machine-building industry, including the introduction of advanced designing methods to reduce the period of development of new products and strengthening of the engineering bases, with enthusiasm to secure a vivid practical guarantee for the fulfilment of the five-year plan without fail this year.

We will dynamically advance toward the achievement of the grandiose goal set forth by the Party by taking our cue from the workers of the Ryongsong Machine Complex who created the Chollima spirit in the new era last year by displaying the patriotic spirit.

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International trend toward developing outer space

KCNA

Amid the growing interest of the international community in outer space, more and more countries are taking an active part in the competition for developing outer space.

"We should not lag behind in the times of space race," this is the common recognition of many countries over the world.

According to information available, about 5 000 satellites were launched in the world throughout the year of 2021.

In light of the fact that about 800 satellites were launched every year 20 years ago, it has become a global trend to develop and conquer outer space, which shows well that a new era of space race has come.

Space exploration which is briskly conducted in the world is the legitimate independent right of a sovereign state.

More than 70 countries and regions have entered a space race with their own space programmes.

The space race is getting fierce since the socio-economic significance of space industry has increased with each passing day.

The scale of the industry which is derived from satellites with different missions including

communications, positioning, crop yield estimation, weather forecast and resources survey is very enormous.

Through satellites, innovations are brought out in the fields of science and education, and achievements that cannot be compared to previously are made in economic sectors including agriculture, fishing and power industries.

The space industry, which cannot be built or operated without the aggregation of all advanced scientific and technological achievements and competent personnel in different technical fields, now serves as a touchstone deciding the prospect of development of a country. Therefore, vast space emerges as a new battlefield distinguishing independence and subordination in the economic and technological field.

Speaking on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the launch of "Dongfanghong 1", Chinese President Xi Jinping said that the successful launch of the satellite 50 years ago demonstrated the great spirit of the Chinese nation, stressing the need to realize the dream of space power as early as possible.

At a strategic meeting of the space exploration field, the Russian Prime Minister announced that the field of outer

space is of greatest significance in accomplishing economic and social tasks facing Russia today and that success or failure in the work of this field decides whether a country achieves technological sovereignty or not.

The director of the European space bureau said Europe should not lag behind in a new space race, emphasizing that the European countries should jump into the conquest of outer space.

With the space race gaining momentum, the global space development structure is becoming multipolar at a fast pace.

Different countries are making positive efforts to build their independent space sci-tech industry in defiance of the US' wild ambition for monopolizing peaceful outer space and abusing it for dominationist and selfish purposes.

A typical example is the establishment of independent positioning systems by China, Russia and Europe geared to ridding themselves of dependence on the GPS of the US.

China completed in succession the Beidou-1 for domestic service, the Beidou-2 comprising the Asia-Pacific region and the Beidou-3 global navigation system, while Russia set up the Glonass system and

Europe the Galileo navigation system to make a breach in the monopolistic position of the US' GPS.

A fierce competition is being conducted in the exploration of the moon and Mars and the construction of space stations.

When the US prevented China from participating in the activities of the international space station, the latter embarked on the road of building an independent space station and began the operation of the station on a full scale.

The advance into outer space has become the strategic goal of many countries and nations and they are making vigorous efforts to that end.

Iran, Thailand, Indonesia and others push ahead with their own space programmes.

The volume of Africa's space industry is more than US\$20 billion.

International dialogue and cooperation have actively been promoted for the successful progress in space development requiring huge investment and advanced technology.

The worldwide competition zeal for conquering outer space, the common asset of mankind, will further grow to greatly contribute to the development of human civilization in the 21st century.

Espionage under veil of 'drug investigation'

KCNA

A secret document on the "drug investigation" covertly conducted by the US in Venezuela was recently exposed by the media, disclosing once again the true colours of the US as a shameless spy and plot-hatching state.

According to the document, the US anti-drug program headquarters dispatched secret agents to Venezuela for the past several years to conduct an operation for secretly investigating the "drug traffic cases" related to the leadership of Venezuela and booking them.

It is said that the document openly specifies it is necessary to carry out the operation unilaterally without notifying Venezuelan officials of it.

Such a secret investigation making a mockery of a sovereign state is a despicable act of espionage that can be committed only by the US styling itself a "world's gendarme".

The fact that the investigation targeted Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro suggests that it is an evil plot hatched to topple his government.

As for the US anti-drug program headquarters, it is a plot-breeding organization. In the past, the group was

driven out of Venezuela by its government and people as they prompted drug traffic and conducted espionage activities by dispatching agents under the pretext of "cooperation" in the combat against drug traffic.

Even after the US was deprived of its right to legitimate activities in Venezuela, the US organization persistently conducted secret investigation against Maduro's government by the crafty way of sending secret agents to the country.

Its aim is to find fault with the government and an excuse for interfering in the internal affairs of the country and attacking it.

Lurking behind the investigation is the sinister intention to overthrow the progressive government and install a pro-US regime and thus establish US domination over Latin America.

As is known, the US has long manoeuvred both openly and secretly to stamp out the Bolivarian revolution in Venezuela, which advances under the uplifted banner of independence against the US hand in hand with Cuba in Latin America, much displeased with the revolution.

The US tried to induce "colour revolution" by recognizing a Venezuelan dissident and its minion as "interim president".

While being hell-bent on applying sanctions and pressure to Venezuela, it groundlessly accused President Maduro and his close officials of "drug traffic" and went so far as to deploy warships and troops in the waters around the country for military threat and blackmail.

In May 2020, it hatched a terrorist plot to assassinate high-ranking members of the Venezuelan government by infiltrating those who served in a spy agency and special unit into the country by sea.

Among the terrorists who were caught after intruding into the country at that time there was a veteran agent of the US anti-drug program headquarters. This proves that the mission of the organization is not to investigate drugs, but to hatch plots to eliminate anti-US states and induce system overthrow.

Like a gimlet in a sack, it can never cover up its true colours as a dirty and despicable plot-breeding group, no matter how craftily it puts up the signboard of "drug investigation".

The international community should increase vigilance against the crafty and shameless espionage moves of the US which uses every possible means and method in order to realize its wild ambition for world domination.

War games of puppet traitors decried

KCNA

An organization of the puppet ROK issued a statement on February 6 in denunciation of the dangerous war exercise racket of the treacherous group of Yoon Suk Yeol which is overstepping the mark.

The statement said that Yoon is given to bellicose acts while heightening the danger of military conflict.

ROK-US and ROK-US-Japan joint military exercises they stage in succession while claiming for "immediately, strongly and to the last" clearly show that Yoon is a war maniac who is bell-bent on remaining in power and going to ignite a war with the help of outside forces, it denounced.

It asserted that the people, who are trembling in constant war danger, want to impeach Yoon, not a war.

A war will surely invite a terrible disaster, it said, demanding that Yoon discontinue risky military drill racket.

Briefly

Cuba

PM refers to promotion of economic development to cope with US blockade

The president of the Council of Ministers of Cuba referred to the promotion of economic development to cope with the blockade by the US in a meeting held on his way to the United Arab Emirates for taking part in an international meeting on February 9.

Cuba is fighting to advance socialism in the face of the ever-intensifying blockade moves of the US and ever-deteriorating global crisis and disputes, he said, adding that the present situation demands that the government correct mistakes, improve economic circumstances and go among the people to lend an ear to their opinions.

What is important is to stabilize the economy, he said, stressing the need to increase the earnings of foreign currencies, strengthen domestic production so as to realize self-sufficiency in food and perfect a business system.

China

FM spokesman asserts networking space should not become grey area of US

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry asserted in a press conference on February 7 that networking space should not become a US-dominant grey area.

Shortly ago, a Chinese sci-tech company released two reports which exposed that the US attacked different countries of the world across the network.

Saying the relevant reports exposed the US' seeking of hegemony and its arbitrary acts committed in networking space by quoting detailed examples and evidence, the spokesman stressed that networking space should not be a battlefield and grey area where the US rules the roost. Moreover, it should not become a tool for inhibiting the development of other countries and wrecking global peace, he noted.

He strongly urged the US to immediately discontinue irresponsible and dangerous acts and strive to provide a peaceful and safe networking space.

Türkiye

President calls for unity of Islamic countries against Israel

Turkish President Erdogan on February 9 called on Islamic countries to unite efforts to cope with Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip.

Türkiye keeps in diplomatic contact with Islamic countries to make them act in unison against the Israeli atrocities in the Gaza Strip and is striving to prevent Israel's unethical and war crimes from being overlooked, he said.

It will continue the struggle until the founding of an independent state of Palestine whose territorial integrity is ensured on the basis of the border line of 1967 and with East al-Quds as its capital, he stressed.

Iraq

Spokesman for PM stresses need to drive out US-led allied forces

A spokesman for the Iraqi prime minister issued a statement on February 8, stressing the need to drive out the US-led allied forces from Iraq.

Censuring the US for killing members of the paramilitary force of Iraq on February 7, the statement said that such attacks stiffen the will to put an end to the presence of the US-led allied forces in the country.

The allied forces constitute the cause of instability in Iraq and are attempting to put the country into a vicious circle of armed conflicts, it said.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Iraqi joint operation command warned that the US and allied forces would have to take responsibility for the aftereffects of dangerous acts threatening the security of Iraq.



Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp.

Top ten players and coaches of 2023

Woman weightlifter sets new world records

By Ri Sung Ik PT

DPRK player Ri Song Gum won the women's 49kg weightlifting in the 19th Asian Games last year by lifting 92kg in snatch and 124kg in jerk (new world, Asian and Asian Games records), with 216kg in total (new world, Asian and Asian Games records).

Born in Nyongbyon County of North Phyongan Province, she began to play weightlifting at juvenile extracurricular sports school of the county and worked hard to acquire basic techniques of the sport there with an ambition of becoming a world champion. Later, she was picked out by the Ryomyong Sports Club and the April 25 Heavy Sports Team.

In those years she took part in over a dozen international events and fully demonstrated her power.

In particular, she collected three gold medals in the 44kg category of women's weightlifting at the 2014 Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships and set a new world record in jerk. It was an occasion for her, a newcomer, to show her great development potential.

Later, Ri Song Gum won golds in the 2015 World Weightlifting Championships, the 29th Summer Universiad and the 18th Asian Games, fully displaying her ability as a promising weightlifter.

She also set two new national juvenile and six national records on the domestic front.

"It is a merit of Ri Song Gum that she trains hard by herself to complete every detailed element of technical movements as well as the daily training assignment. Exact demands on herself helped her become a sportswoman beloved by the people," said Kye Song Il, weightlifting coach of the April 25 Heavy Sports Team.

Ri Song Gum has been selected as one of the top 10 players of the DPRK for the fourth time until 2023.

Competent weightlifting coach

There is always a good teacher behind a good student.

Ri Song Gum's nomination as one of top 10 players of the country on four occasions is closely associated with the efforts of coach Kye Song Il who trained her well.

Kye is a competent coach who trained weightlifting

stars. They include Song Kuk Hyang who earned three gold medals in the women's 71kg category weightlifting at the 19th Asian Games and the 2023 IWF Grand Prix.

He usually devotes much time and energy to selecting players with a suitable physical constitution and developing and applying scientific training methods.

At the time of selection, Song Gum was physically strong, but had some weak points in her techniques.

Kye Song Il applied effective training means and methods to the training of Song Gum and at the same time made exact demands to her to correctly acquire the technical movements in snatch and jerk.

When her techniques improved to a certain level, he introduced advanced training methods into her training while increasing its intensity.

Thanks to his scientific education and training, women weightlifters including Ri Song Gum rose to fame as weightlifting stars fully prepared both physically and technically.

Kye Song Il was also chosen as one of the top 10 coaches of the country several times.

Mausoleum of King Tongmyong

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The Mausoleum of King Tongmyong, situated in Ryongsan-ri, Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, is the tomb of King Tongmyong, the founder of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668).

King Tongmyong's name was Jumong or was called Chumo, Tomo or Jungmo. The name Jumong was derived from the word master archer.

He ruled the country from 277 BC to 259 BC. According to legends, his father was Haemosu, son of heavenly emperor, and his mother was Ryuhwa, daughter of sea god.

According to historical records, Jumong became the ruler of Kuryo, renamed it Koguryo in 277 BC and began to establish a feudal ruling system and public order.

The first capital of the country was Jolbon.

He extended its territory

by annexing several small neighbouring countries in 10 years after becoming the king.

Thus he became the founder of Koguryo, the first feudal state of Korea, and laid the foundation of the powerful state.

The mausoleum of the founder of Koguryo, which had been eclipsed for a long time, was rebuilt in May 1993 under the meticulous guidance of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

A monument, which is 4.5 metres high, weighs over 20 tons and is decorated with patterns of magnolia blossom, national flower of the DPRK, stands in front of the gate to the mausoleum.

Its front is inscribed with the letters "Monument to the Reconstruction of the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong" written by the President.

The mausoleum is surrounded by over 30 stone sculptures, 15 Koguryo tombs, the gate to it and

a building for memorial service.

The gate was built by erecting two pillars on both sides respectively and putting a sculptured ornament on the ridge of it in accordance with traditional Korean architecture, thus retaining architectural beauty of Koguryo.

Past the gate are monuments to Koguryo's founder king and his achievements which are historical evidence conveying the history of King Tongmyong and the formation of Koguryo.

In front of the mausoleum there are a stone altar, a stone lantern, stone tigers, a pair of stone posts and various stone sculptures depicting military and civil officers, horses and so on.

The mausoleum was built on a square area in the shape of a quadrangular pyramid and it is 11.5 metres high.

The mausoleum and Koguryo tombs around it were put on the list of world cultural heritage.



Mausoleum of King Tongmyong.

