



Regional-industry factories, first entities of the WPK's regional development policy, welcomed and hailed by the people, have been inaugurated in succession across the DPRK.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

2025 2



Pictorial Korea
founded in April 1956

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FRONT COVER: Inauguration of regional-industry factories in Yonthan County held with splendour

BACK COVER: Piro Peak in Mt Kungang in the morning

Photo: Kim Song Chol

Editors: Pyon Il Jin, Kim Kyu Song, Jo Chol Ju, Sung Ryong, Ri Kum Ju



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Test of Important Weapon System Conducted

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, oversaw the test fire of the weapon system.

The Missile Administration of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea conducted a test fire of sea (underwater)-to-surface strategic cruise guided weapons on January 25.

The test was conducted as a link in the whole chain of efforts for carrying out the plan for building up the defence capability of the country, aimed at improving the effectiveness of the strategic deterrence against the potential enemies in conformity with the changing regional security environment.

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, oversaw the test fire of the weapon system.

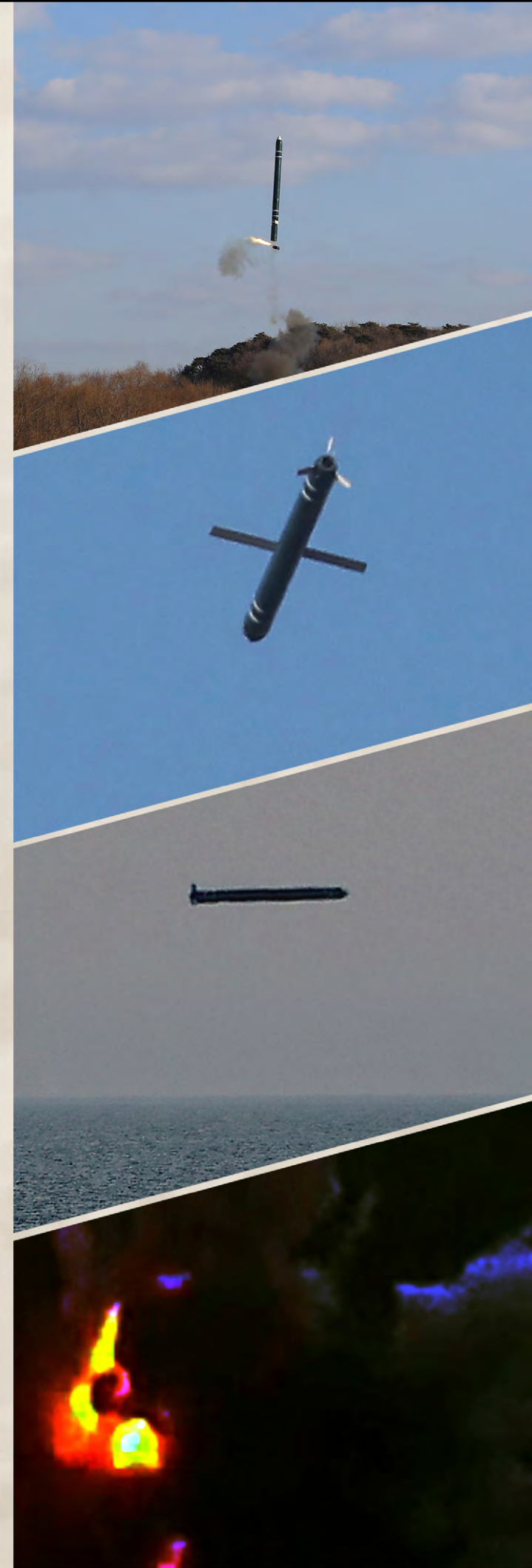
He was accompanied by Full General Kim Jong Sik, member of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, and Full General

Jang Chang Ha, general director of the Missile Administration of the DPRK.

The launched strategic cruise missiles precisely hit the targets after travelling 1 500km-long elliptical and 8-shaped flight orbits for 7 507-7 511 seconds.

The test fire had no negative impact on the security of the neighbouring countries.

Noting that the means of war deterrence of the armed forces of the DPRK are being perfected more thoroughly, Kim Jong Un affirmed that the DPRK will always make strenuous efforts in a responsible manner to perform its important mission and duty for defending durable and lasting peace and stability on the basis of more powerfully developed military muscle in the future.



The launched strategic cruise missiles precisely hit the targets after travelling 1 500km-long elliptical and 8-shaped flight orbits for 7 507-7 511 seconds.

February 8 Etched in History of Army Building

February 8, 1948

Founding of the Korean People's Army, the regular revolutionary armed forces, proclaimed



The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung on the platform to review the military parade held in celebration of the founding of the Korean People's Army in February 1948

February 8, 1948 is the day when the Korean People's Army was founded.

The Korean people had been a ruined nation because they did not have their own army worth mentioning. For them, having a powerful national army was a cherished desire. Their desire was realized under the wise guidance of President Kim Il Sung.

On August 20, 1945, immediately after achieving the historic cause of national liberation by leading the 20-year-long anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory, Kim Il Sung delivered a speech

to military and political cadres, titled, *On Building the Party, State and Armed Forces in the Liberated Homeland*. In the speech, he set building the army by the Koreans themselves as one of the three major tasks for building a new country, along with founding a party and state.

It could not but be called a courageous decision to have a regular army built by the Koreans themselves when the state coffers were empty and the country had the impoverished economic foundations owing to scores of years of the colonial rule by the Japanese



Kim Il Sung visiting the Sinuiju branch of the Aviation Association of Korea in November 1945



Kim Il Sung reviewing the military parade held to celebrate the opening of Pyongyang Institute in February 1946

imperialists. The country lacked in everything to this end—experience in building regular armed forces, politico-military cadres and material and technical foundations for producing necessary military hardware.

Worse still, those steeped in the worship of big countries and dogmatism were opposed to the line.

This notwithstanding, Kim Il Sung pushed ahead with the struggle for building a genuine army of the people, overcoming all

the challenges with the faith in and mettle of independence.

He had Pyongyang Institute and Central Security Officers Training School, military and political cadres training bases, set up, and other security officers training institutes, which would become core units of the regular armed forces, organized in different parts of the country. And he sent the veterans of the anti-Japanese revolution to those units so that they could play the leading role in building the parent units of different arms and services.





Kim Il Sung giving important instructions relating to the affairs of the People's Army in May 1949

Thanks to his painstaking efforts, the maritime security force, the core unit of the navy, was formed in June 1946, air corps, the first of its kind in the country's history, in August 1947, followed by units of different services and corps like those of artillerymen, tankmen, engineers and signalmen.

Kim Il Sung paid close attention to laying out foundations of a self-supporting munitions industry.

With an iron will to have this industry built, he went to

Phyongchon-ri in Pyongyang in early October 1945, where he unfolded a plan of building a Juche-oriented munitions industry, and led the efforts to this end.

In June 1947 at last, the first munitions factory was inaugurated, and in early October that year it produced sample submachine guns.

On the basis of these successes, Kim Il Sung on February 8, 1948 proclaimed the founding of the Korean People's Army, the



Kim Il Sung inspecting the firing drill of the cadets of the Central Security Officers Training School in October 1947





Kim Il Sung test-firing the submachine gun manufactured by the workers of the DPRK in December 1948



Kim Il Sung inspecting a mechanized unit of the KPA in May 1950



Kim Il Sung presenting the cadres with the submachine guns produced in the country for the first time and posing for a photo with them in October 1949

regular revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK.

With the founding of the KPA, the DPRK, from the first days of its inception, could emerge on the world arena on its own terms as a dignified people's country with its own powerful armed forces, and push ahead with building itself as a prosperous country while frustrating at each step the aggressive moves of hostile forces.

During the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953) the KPA defeated the imperialist aggressor forces, which were attempting to stifle the DPRK at its cradle.

In the closing days of last century in particular, when the US-

led allied imperialist forces were directing the spearhead of attack on the DPRK availing themselves of the collapse of socialism in several countries, the KPA under the leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il won one victory after another in the anti-imperialist, anti-US showdown, reliably defending the sovereignty of the country and the nation.

Today it has greeted a golden age of its development under the guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Text: Pak Kyong Chol





Providing Eternal Cornerstone of Korean Revolution

Imprinted in the course of development of the DPRK, whose history is resplendent with victory and glory, are the immortal exploits Chairman Kim Jong Il performed to carry forward the lifeblood of the Korean revolution by firmly defending and developing the revolutionary traditions of Paektu.

During the whole period of leading the revolution he regarded defending and applying the Juche-oriented revolutionary traditions created by President Kim Il Sung as a fundamental issue decisive of the future of the socialist cause, and conducted energetic

activities to this end.

In the mid-1950s, when modern revisionism appeared in the international communist movement, the factionalists lurking in the Workers' Party of Korea attempted to emasculate the revolutionary traditions.

In those days Kim Jong Il proposed and conducted an expedition to the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area, associated with the anti-Japanese armed struggle led by Kim Il Sung.

This originated the education in the revolutionary traditions



The great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il providing guidance at the construction site of the Samjiyon Grand Monument in March 1979

During the whole period of leading the revolution Kim Jong Il paid primary attention to firmly defending and carrying forward the Juche-oriented revolutionary traditions and conducted energetic activities to this end.



Kim Jong Il looking round the Monument to the Victorious Battle in the Musan Area in March 2000

through the revolutionary battle sites and brought about a great turn in defending and inheriting the revolutionary traditions in the country.

Later Kim Jong Il published many works including *Let Us Arm Ourselves Firmly with the Brilliant Revolutionary Traditions of Our Party* and *Let Us Develop Ryanggang Province into a Firm Base for Education in Revolutionary Traditions*, to make the revolutionary traditions precious ideological and spiritual sustenance of the people, a source of their eternal strength.

And he led the work of restoring the revolutionary battlefields and historic sites and building revolutionary museums and revolutionary

history halls in different parts of the country, thus turning it into a school for education in the revolutionary traditions.

The revolutionary slogans he put forward, like “Let us produce, study and live like the anti-Japanese guerrillas!” inspired a revolutionary zeal in the people.

Thanks to his wise guidance for imbuing the whole country with the spirit of Paektu, the brilliant traditions of the anti-Japanese revolution struck their roots deep in the hearts of the people, bringing about a great change in the appearance of society and the ideological and spiritual traits of the people.





Kim Jong Il visiting the Ongnyonsan secret camp in May 2001



Kim Jong Il visiting the revolutionary battle site in Mt Kodae in May 2001

The miraculous events in the 1960s, when an epochal milestone was set up in the building and activities of the WPK, and in the 1970s, when the programme of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism was proclaimed and a heyday of carrying forward the revolutionary cause of Juche was ushered in, were the fruition of the efforts for applying the revolutionary traditions of the WPK. And the speed of the 1980s adorned with the gigantic creations and transformations was born by dint of the indomitable spiritual strength, a legacy of the ennobling spiritual world of the anti-

Japanese revolutionary fighters.

Holding the revolutionary traditions of Paektu as a treasured sword for sure victory and making the whole country seethe with the zeal for carrying forward the traditions, Kim Jong Il glorified the 1990s, full of harsh trials, as a decade of miraculous victory in the history of the DPRK.

The on-site guidance at the revolutionary battlefields he conducted in the new millennium proved that the Korean people were defending and carrying forward more stoutly the revolutionary



People, including youth and students, visiting the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area

traditions in the new century, too.

As they are inspired by the revolutionary traditions of Paektu, the Korean people have steadily advanced the socialist cause from one generation to the next, overcoming the harsh trials and difficulties.

The exploits of Kim Jong Il in providing firm foundations for a victorious advance of the Korean revolution are shining their brilliance under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Text: Kim Son Gyong

Twelfth Session of 14th Supreme People's Assembly of DPRK Held

The Twelfth Session of the 14th SPA was convened at a historic time, when all the people of the DPRK have turned out in the dynamic general advance to glorify 2025 marking the 80th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea and the 80th anniversary of national liberation as a year of eye-opening events and great transformations in carrying out the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress and bringing about a new phase towards a higher development stage, true to the struggle programme set forth at the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

The Twelfth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on January 22 and 23.

Taking the platform were Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the DPRK Cabinet, Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, and other senior Party, government and military officials, members of the State Affairs Commission, and vice-chairman, secretary general and members of the SPA Standing Committee.

The speaker and deputy speakers of the SPA of the DPRK took the chair.

Pak In Chol, speaker of the SPA, made an opening address.

When the session was declared open, the national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Before discussing the agenda items, the session briefed on the senior officials of government organs appointed at the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Premier Pak Thae Song, on behalf of the Cabinet members, took an oath to remain faithful to the Constitution of the DPRK and live up to the expectations of the Party and the people with absolute devotion.

Deputy Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet, made a report on the first agenda item.





The report reviewed and analyzed in depth the successes and experience gained and a series of deviations made by the Cabinet last year in the course of organizing and directing the work for implementing the Party's economic policy while concentrating efforts on attaining the 12 major goals for national economic development. It also set forth detailed tasks for different sectors to be surely fulfilled this year, the final year in the implementation of the five-year plan.

Many deputies offered constructive opinions on the work of the Cabinet.

Pak Thae Song made public measures for the raised issues.

The session adopted a decision of the SPA of the DPRK "On approving the report on the work of the DPRK Cabinet."

Deputy Ri Myong Guk, minister of Finance, made a report on the second agenda item.

The session recognized that the state budget for 2024 was fulfilled as planned in the struggle to successfully attain the immediate goals of the five-year plan for national economic development, and that the state budget for 2025 was drawn up to successfully fulfil the five-year plan by concentrating the investment on accelerating the significant changes in the national defence capabilities and displaying the might of the self-supporting economy in major sectors of the national economy, and to ensure the improvement of



the people's living standards and the comprehensive development in all the sectors of socialist construction including science, education, public health and culture.

The session adopted with unanimous approval a decision of the DPRK SPA "On approving the fulfilment of the state budget of the DPRK for 2024" and an ordinance of the DPRK SPA "On the state budget of the DPRK for 2025."

Deputy Kang Yun Sok, vice-chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, made reports on the third and fourth agenda items.

The SPA Standing Committee submitted the draft laws of the



The Twelfth Session of the 14th SPA of the DPRK discussed the following agenda items:

First, on the review of the work of the DPRK Cabinet in 2024 and its tasks in 2025

Second, on the fulfilment of the state budget of the DPRK for 2024 and the state budget for 2025

Third, on the deliberation and adoption of the law of the DPRK on building-materials industry

Fourth, on the deliberation and adoption of the law of the DPRK on offshore farming

Fifth, on the review of the work of the DPRK Central Court in 2024

Sixth, on the revision of some provisions of the DPRK Socialist Constitution

Seventh, organizational matter

DPRK on building-materials industry and offshore farming for deliberation at the current SPA session, in accordance with Article 95 of the Socialist Constitution.

The session adopted with unanimous approval the ordinances of the DPRK SPA "On adopting the Law of the DPRK on Building-materials Industry" and "On adopting the Law of the DPRK on Offshore Farming."

The session discussed the work of the Central Court in 2024 as its fifth agenda item.

The SPA deliberated on the report on the 2024 work of the Central Court and recognized that it had successfully fulfilled its duty stipulated in the Constitution, and adopted a decision of the DPRK SPA "On approving the report on the work of the Central Court of the DPRK."

The session discussed the sixth agenda item. It unanimously

adopted an ordinance of the DPRK SPA "On amending some provisions of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK" as regards the issue of renaming the Central Court and the Central Public Prosecutors Office the Supreme Court and the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office.

The session discussed the organizational matter as its seventh agenda item.

Pak In Chol, speaker of the SPA, made a closing address.

The Twelfth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly successfully finished its work amid the high political enthusiasm of all the participants to be loyal to their duty as the representatives of the supreme power organ and masters of state affairs in the sacred struggle for hastening the comprehensive rejuvenation of our state, true to the ideas and leadership of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un with single-minded efforts.



First Entities in Implementing Regional Development Policy

Precious entities of the regional industry revolution have been inaugurated one after another across the DPRK under the wise leadership of the Central Committee of the great Workers' Party of Korea for bringing about a dynamic phase in regional development in the new era.



January 8, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Sukchon County

The smart factories built in a granary along the West Sea of Korea, showing off the new looks of development of the regional industry, are the precious assets which will signally improve the living conditions of the residents of Sukchon County and firmly support the regional economic development and a proud creation which inspires confidence in the local population that they can bring forward a rosier future by their own efforts in their region.





Unpha County in North Hwanghae Province, which has witnessed a dramatic stage of regional rejuvenation, is now known throughout the country as a blessed region.

January 10, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Unpha County





January 12, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Kyongsong County

The county residents in the northern part of the country are enjoying the benefits of fresh vegetables even in midwinter cold produced by the large-scale vegetable greenhouse farm that was built in the county before anywhere else, thanks to the benevolent affection of the motherly Party. And the modern regional-industry factories newly erected in the county will bring greater joy to them.





January 14, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Uncheon County

In the past they had only Mt Kuwol, one of the country's celebrated mountains and a scenic spot along the West Sea of Korea, to be proud of, but the local people can now boast about famous products and commodities produced by the newly-erected regional-industry factories.





January 16, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Yonhan County



Thanks to the inauguration of the modern regional-industry factories, the people in Yonhan County, rich in materials for Koryo medicines and chokeberry, have felt once again the advantages of the socialist system of Korean style.



The county people will enjoy greater benefits from the fresh vegetables harvested all the year round at the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm and a wide variety of condiments, confectionery, and other daily necessities produced by the modern regional-industry factories.

January 18, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Hamju County





January 20, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Onchon County

Onchon County, renowned for hot springs with rich mineral contents, will gain increased popularity with the specialties produced by the new regional-industry factories.





January 24, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Kujang County

Regional-industry factories have been built in Kujang County, North Phyongan Province, in less than one year, thus making the county residents enjoy an affluent life like urbanites.





January 25, 2025

Regional-industry Factories in Usi County



Usi County in Jagang Province, an out-of-the-way region in the northern part of the country, witnessed the erection of regional-industry factories giving pleasure to the county residents.



2025년 1월 25일

대방발전 20x10 정책

Building Materials Giant Increases Production

The Sangwon Cement Complex, a leading building-materials production base of the country, is boosting its production to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Ninth Congress of the WPK with proud labour feats.

This year, too, gigantic construction projects to open up a new era of regional rejuvenation, along with the fourth-stage construction project of houses in the Hwasong area, are to be

pushed forward.

In order to satisfy the growing demand for cement across the country, the complex set a goal to produce more cement this year, whose additional amount will be ten times that produced over and above the plan last year.

This is a huge task for the complex, though in the recent previous years it exceeded several times the peak year level since its inauguration.

《지방발전 20x10 정책》의 위대한 승리를 위하여!



The complex had surpassed the peak year level several times since its inauguration, and this year it has set a goal of increasing cement production by hundreds of thousands of tons, ten times the amount it produced over and above the plan last year.



Mindful of the fact that the method for increased production to attain the goal with the existing capacity is in attaching importance to science and technology, its officials drew up detailed plans by month, day and shift, and, based on this, have made strenuous efforts to execute the plans.

Technicians and workers of the Sangwon Limestone Mine,

Samchong Mine and Hwachon Coal Mine are solving in time the technical problems arising in securing raw materials and fuel deposits and increasing the utility rate of their facilities, further heightening the zeal at the following production lines.

Putting the emphasis on lengthening the operation time of its major equipment to the maximum, the calcination workshop in charge

of a main cement production line is operating the facilities more efficiently to produce quality clinker.

Workers at the cement workshop, by waging a brisk mass technical innovation campaign, have introduced valuable technical conceptions to increase the rate of operation of the equipment.

Those in compound raw-materials, pulverized coal and other workshops are bringing about joint innovation while guaranteeing the quality of their products.

As a result, the complex has increased the daily production of clinker and cement by 5% and 14%, respectively, in the beginning of the new year as compared with the same period of last year, when it exceeded the peak year level.

All the employees of the complex are filled with an enthusiasm to victoriously wind up this year's struggle for increased production.

Photo: Choe Won Chol, Ra Pyong Ryol
Text: Kim Son Gyong





Large-scale nonferrous metals production base

Tanchon Smeltery

Officials and workers at the Tanchon Smeltery are bringing about a surge in production with a mind to glorify this year which marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea

with brilliant labour feats.

The smeltery boasts about complete sets of lines for producing a dozen kinds of metal products including lead and zinc.



In recent years it has prioritized sci-tech development, regarding it as the key link in the whole chain of production and economic growth; it has also carried out the plans for the readjustment and reinforcement of its production lines, ensuring quality of its products.

Through a mass-based technical innovation drive, the workers and technicians have presented and introduced hundreds of novel conceptions, thus

bringing substantial benefits to the state.

The management has organized a prize contest two times every year—involving officials, researchers, technicians, shop-floor engineers and workers—with the aim of upgrading the production lines according to the technical indices.

The smeltery has promptly analyzed the factors that influence the effort to carry out the production tasks on all indices in terms of quality and quantity, and made effective

use of labour, equipment and funds to ensure greatest profits.

The above technical schemes, geared to achieving optimization through scientific calculations, are paying dividends.

All the products from the smeltery, each with a purity of 99.98% or above, are in growing demand.

Photo: Choe Won Chol
Text: Pak Pyong Hun





“Gardener” Training for Coming Generations

The college, established in September 1968, has performed its mission of training teachers. It has put its education on a scientific, IT and modern footing.

Pyongyang Teachers Training College specializes in bringing up teachers for primary schools and kindergartens.

In recent years, under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un it has further developed into an institution of education that can boast about itself before the world in terms of the level of education and the scale.

At the time of its inauguration, there were only scores of teachers, but it has now over a hundred teachers holding academic degrees and titles including candidate academician, professor and PhD, and is furnished with wonderful teaching and



living environments.

Here more than one thousand students of the capital city are studying the courses of their choice, receiving scholarships from the state. Brilliant graduates are given postgraduate course.

Education is a fundamental issue that has a direct bearing on the future of the nation, and what is of great importance here is to

train teachers who are in direct charge of education.

For this reason, the college is steadily updating its teaching contents and methods while continuously improving the quality of education.

In order to make the teaching contents practical and detailed, it has set up several new courses, pioneered scores of subjects and developed many educational methods.

It is conducting in various forms and by

various methods the work of preparing its students into teachers capable of giving education of a higher level.

Most of the classrooms have been built into multi-functional ones for skills training in virtual and actual teaching environments, thus helping the students obtain qualification as teachers.

The college’s research team has developed many educational programs which render a tangible contribution to the development of teaching.

With a well-regulated system of unified



academic guidance over the primary education sector, the college serves as a hub of academic research and dissemination for the teachers training colleges across the country.

Its original and highly-effective teaching methods are disseminated countrywide.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin, Son Hui Yon,

U Jong Guk

Text: Kim Son Gyong

Students are preparing themselves into teachers with versatile knowledge and skills.



The college has set up several new courses by making the teaching contents practical and detailed, pioneered scores of subjects and developed many educational methods.





Cradle of Happiness and Beautiful Dreams

- Phyongsong Orphanage -



Phyongsong Orphanage was inaugurated in Yoram-dong, Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province, in April 2016.

An orphanage in the DPRK is an institution for pre-school education, which looks after the parentless children and gives

them basic education at state expense.

The state regularly supplies them with new clothes, Mindulle notebooks, Haebaragi school things and nutritional foodstuffs such as bread, meat, milk, fruit and confectionery.

Phyongsong Orphanage, with a history of nearly ten years, has ample conditions and environment for education.

Its officials and teachers are making efforts for intellectual development of the children with individualistic aptitudes



and hobbies.

The teachers are steadily improving their qualifications to introduce new teaching methods as suited to the children's psychological features.

And putting emphasis on the children's

health and hygienic and nutritional management, they prepare various kinds of

nutritional dishes and organize some plays good for their growth.



Seeing children laughing and singing merrily, headmistress Kim Ryo Il of the orphanage says, "These are the happiest children in the world. True to the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un's ennobling intention to give the parentless children all affection as their fathers would do, we will bring them up as future pillars of the country."

Photo: Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Pak Pyong Hun

Skiing Tour on Masik Pass

The Masikryong Ski Resort, a comprehensive winter sporting base, is fully equipped with conditions for sports, tourism and recreation and attracts people.

The snow-covered Masik Pass is resounding with merry laughter of the people.

The pass, whose name originated from the fact that it is so rugged that even a horse

had to take a rest before crossing it, was transformed into a ski resort ten-odd years ago.

Every winter the resort is crowded with ski enthusiasts, working people and

holidaymakers from across the country.

It is thrilling to see skiers, both experts and fans, sliding down the different slopes starting from the summit of Taehwa Peak at 1 363 metres above sea level.





What also draws admiration is that even novices in the skiing kit boldly try to enter the slopes.

However, as the saying goes, "Seeing is one thing and doing is another."

With the help of the instructors, they take warm-up exercises and learn the rudiments of skiing.

It is not skiers alone who are fascinated by this resort; those climbing to the





summit of Taehwa Peak on the chairlift give loud exclamations of excitement at the marvellous landscape while young people and children play cheerfully on the sledding course and in the snowballing area.

The resort unfolds spectacular scenery

of charming snowscape of the remote mountainous region going well with the people full of delight and optimism.

After enjoying a pleasant time on the pass, people relax themselves at the service facilities of the Masikryong Hotel splendidly laid out in conformity with

natural scenery.

The attraction to Masik Pass is getting more obvious with the growing number of the people visiting the mountain cultural resort.

Photo: Ri Kwang Song, U Jong Guk
Text: Pak Ui Chol



Masikryong Hotel/

Ryuwon Trainers Gain Popularity



The Ryuwon Footwear Factory, inaugurated in November 1988, is widely known in the country for its quality products.

Recently, it has developed and installed an automatic cutting machine, doubling the speed of cutting of a part of the shoe's outer rim and improving its quality.

It also has modernized the production line of sole mould, laying down material and technical foundations for producing more footwear of new shapes.

It organizes a prize contest of footwear design on a regular basis among the employees. Most of the trainers, which won high appreciation at several exhibitions

including the Autumn National Footwear Exhibition-2024, were those developed through these contests.

The smart, quality footwear of various shapes is in high demand among the clients.

Photo: Pang Un Sim
Text: Kim Son Gyong



Light & Durable



Ryuwon-brand trainers that are designed and made to suit the individual physical constitution and meet the requirements of sports win great popularity.



Spectacular Scenery on Pothong Riverside

A distinctive open-air ice rink on the bank of the picturesque Pothong River in the capital city of Pyongyang is attracting many people every night.

Surrounded by safety railings and chairs, the ice rink is provided with all facilities for relevant service including skate rental and repair rooms and a clinic.

Most of those enjoying skating here are young men and women including students.

Seen in the rink are young girls gliding elegantly to the tune of light music, little boys performing skills, and even the elderly skating with their arms swinging briskly as if they had regained the prime of life.

Kindly girl instructors teach skating to those who seem

inexperienced in skating.

According to the instructors, regular skating helps exercise the whole body, having beneficial efficacy on the heart, lungs and other organs. In particular, they say, young people develop strong physique through skating in winter.

Though the night wears on in the city, merry laughter and music never die down in the open-air ice rink.

Similar facilities have been built in every district of the city so that the working people and youth and students can train their body and soul and enjoy leisure activities.

Photo: Ra Phyoung Ryol, Ri Myong Guk, Ri Chol Jin
Text: Pak Kyong Chol



The open-air ice rink is always teeming with people enjoying their leisure time.





Ryomyong Pheasant Delicacy House



The Ryomyong Pheasant Delicacy House on Ryomyong Street in the capital city of Pyongyang opened to the public in October last year on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Its two-storeyed building is furnished

with modern facilities, interior finishing decorations and excellent service conditions. It retains traditional and natural atmosphere as befitting the base specializing in delicacies made of pheasant.

In the dining rooms on the first floor

dishes like pheasant broth, pheasant boiled in water, pheasant soup with boiled rice in it, pheasant *jongol* (casserole), dumplings stuffed with pheasant and chow mein with pheasant, are served. Those on the second floor serve cold noodles garnished with pheasant meat and

served in a tray, grilled pheasant and soft drinks.

Popular dishes at the house include pheasant meat-garnished cold noodles served in a tray, roast pheasant meat sausage with pepper, grilled pheasant, pheasant meat balls, pheasant steamed

with insam in it, and pheasant broth with insam.

Pheasant meat has been used in Korean cuisines for its high and remarkable nutritional and medicinal values.

After savouring traditional pheasant dishes, people unanimously feel the

benevolent affection of the Party that dedicates all to providing them with a more civilized and affluent life.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin, U Jong Guk
Text: Pak Kyong Chol





Choi Hong Hi (1918-2002), former president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, who initiated the formation of the International Martial Art Games Committee

International Organization of Martial Artists



Emblem and flag of IMGC



International Martial Arts Torch Tower

In reflection of the growing desire among martial artists and amateurs for international friendship and cooperation and for sound development of martial arts, the International Martial Art Games Committee was organized in September 1999, on the initiative of Choi Hong Hi, the then president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation and with the active support of the government of the DPRK.

IMGC's activities



First Congress of IMGC



Eleventh Congress of IMGC

The International Martial Art Games Committee (IMGC) was organized on September 2, 1999, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on the initiative of Choi Hong Hi, the then president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation and with the active support of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The founding of the IMGC was a reflection of the growing desire among martial artists and amateurs for international friendship and cooperation

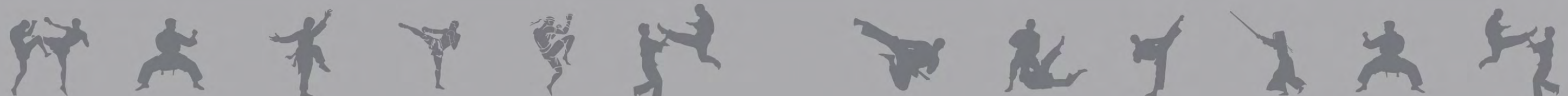
and for sound development of martial arts.

The inaugural meeting brought together more than 20 representatives from 14 countries, including the DPRK, Russia, Brazil, Argentina, Spain, Zimbabwe, Canada and Paraguay.

The formation of the IMGC was the first step towards establishing martial arts—a powerful means of defending oneself from the others' attack and punishing all sorts of injustice resolutely—as the ideals of justice, preserving and developing martial arts, each

set on its own trajectory of evolution, as the assets shared by humankind, and ensuring that they contribute to promoting social progress.

The IMGC is headquartered in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK. Since its inauguration, it has had more than ten meetings of its executive committee and general meetings, their agenda items including the adoption and revision of the IMGC Rules, composition of the executive committee and arrangements





Ri Yong Son, chairman of IMGC and president of ITF, making a speech at the international martial arts games



At the biennial international martial arts games martial artists of different nationalities demonstrate their physical strength and technical abilities as well as martial arts techniques.



for international games. By tackling these and other matters effectively and in a timely way, the Committee has played its proper role as an international martial arts organization.

Until now, it has organized nine international martial arts games in the DPRK, Thailand, Estonia, Australia, India, Belarus, Italy and Uzbekistan, in which martial artists competed in various events including Taekwon-Do, karate, muay, pangration, jiu-jitsu and kowat alrami.

Leading up to the biennial games is the torch-lighting ceremony in the Taekwon-Do Holy Place in Pyongyang, where the First International Martial Arts Games were held.

Spectacular at the international martial arts games are high-difficulty movements requiring intense concentration and great abilities, both physical and technical, as well as fierce competition among, and demonstration of techniques by, the participating practioners of different nationalities.

Affiliated to the IMGC are 19 international organizations, such as the International Taekwon-Do Federation, the World Karate Confederation, the World Pangration Athlima Federation, the World Muay Federation, the International Jendo Federation, the International Federation of Taichichen Associations, the World Judo Federation, the World Federation of

Jiu-jitsu, the World Federation of Kowat Alrami & Self-Defence and the World Pan Amateur Kickboxing Association, as well as national martial arts games committees of 45 countries.

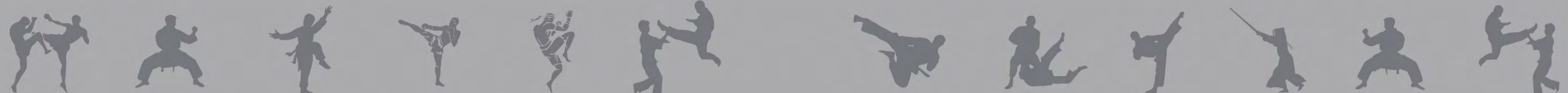
Martial arts have evolved as a means of physical training and self-defence, now spreading far and wide across the world along with football, basketball and other popular sports.

The IMGC remains committed to preserving and developing martial arts as part of humankind's cultural heritage and promoting friendship and cooperation among martial artists in various countries of the world.

Text: Pak Ui Chol



Scenes from the international martial arts games

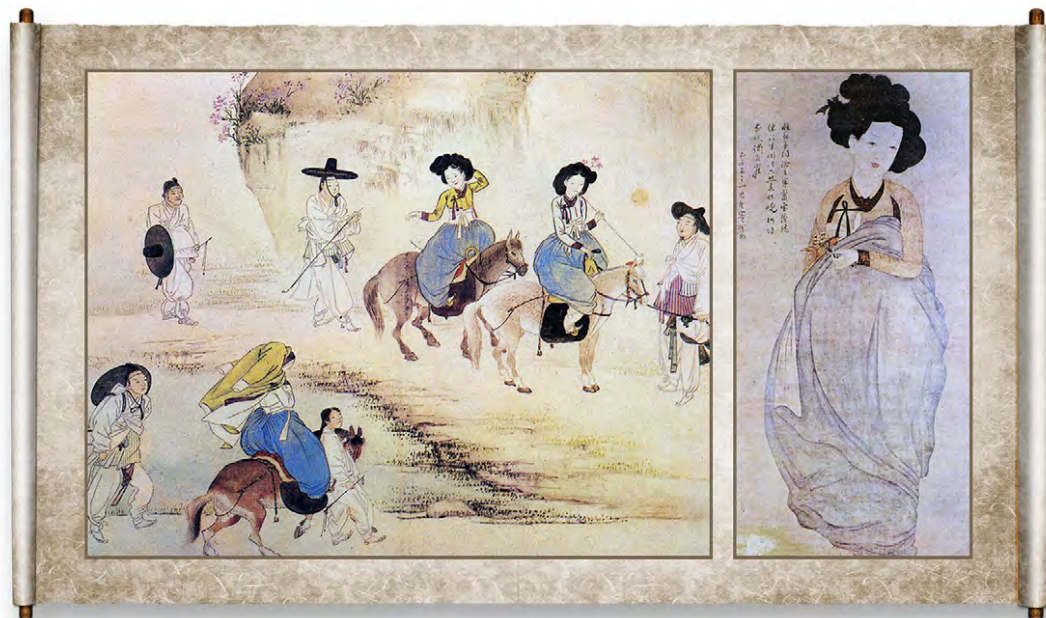




Put on List of World ICH,

Korean Clothing Practice

Korean clothing practice includes the manufacturing techniques and methods of clothes and footwear for men, women and children, as well as the way of wearing them. Typical Korean clothes are *chima* and *jogori* for women.



Korean clothes seen in old paintings

Korean clothing practice is an element of excellent cultural heritage created by the Korean nation.

The practice with time-honoured history includes the manufacturing techniques and methods of clothes and footwear for men, women and children, as well as the way of wearing them.

The Korean clothes, which reflect the distinctive national characteristics, consist of upper garment (jacket), lower garment (skirt or trousers) and seasonal overcoat (*turumagi* and *paeja*).

They have collars and breast-ties, and the skirt is particularly longer than the jacket in women's clothes, which are unique to



The elderly in the traditional clothes spend merry time at pleasure grounds.



the Korean clothes.

Specific knowledge and techniques are employed in designing, cutting, attaching collars and breast-ties, matching colours, embroidering and painting geometrical and other patterns, making ornaments and trinkets, and so on.

Silk, ramie, cotton and other fabrics are used in tailoring Korean clothes.

It has been a traditional custom for the Korean people to wear traditional clothes as everyday wear as well as on occasions celebrating first birthday, wedding and so on.

In particular, women like to wear their traditional clothes that add beauty to them,

and take pride in their national costumes.

Thanks to the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to sustain the Juche character and national identity, the Korean clothing practice has further improved to suit the socialist lifestyle.

At the 19th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO held in Paraguay on December 4, 2024, the Korean clothing practice was put on the Representative List of ICH of Humanity.

Photo: Pang Un Sim
Text: Kim Son Gyong



The graceful curves in Korean clothes add more to the formative and rhythmic characters unique to Korean dances as well as their national flavour.



Children frequently wear their traditional clothes.



Korean clothes are uniforms of girl students.



Historical Relic

Pothong Gate

The Pothong Gate was built as a western gate of the middle wall, when the Walled City of Pyongyang, the capital of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), was erected in the mid-6th century.

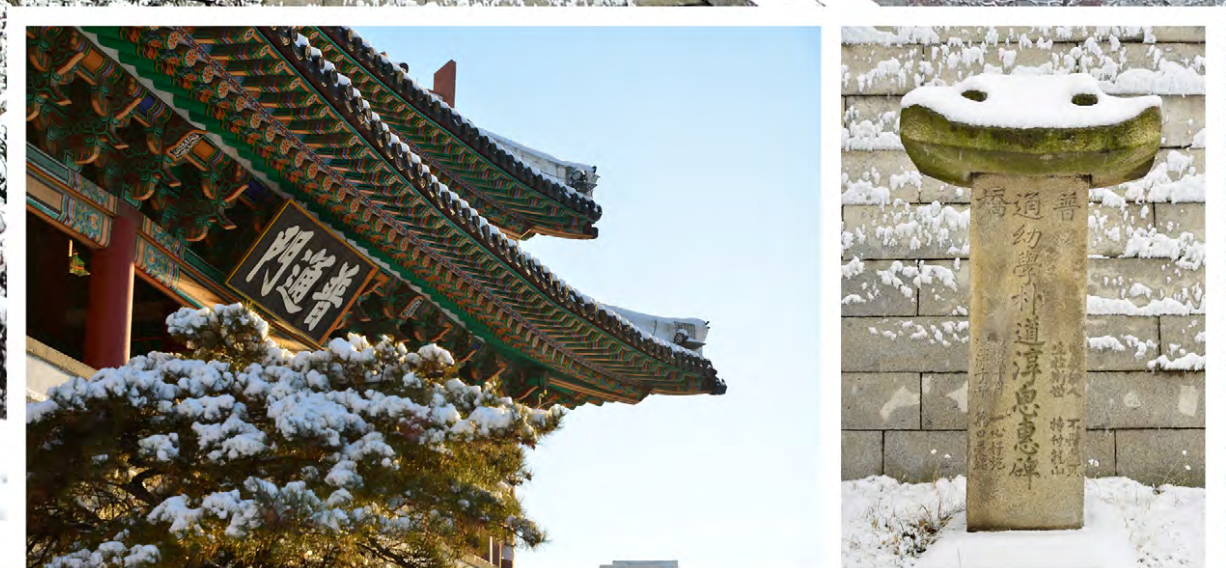
The present-day one was that which was rebuilt in 1473 in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty.

As it consists of a platform made of well-trimmed granite slabs and two-storeyed gate tower on it, it looks magnificent and stable.

It is permeated with stories that convey the patriotic spirit of the ancestors of the Korean nation.

As a precious cultural asset that showcases the architectural skills and talents of the nation, it is preserved in its original state on the bank of the Pothong River in Pyongyang, which is getting more and more beautiful day by day.

Photo: U Jong Guk
Text: Pak Kyong Chol





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