

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits flying group of Guards 1st Air Wing of Korean People's Army and guides drills

He sets forth important tasks for orientation of development of air weapon systems, anti-air defence means, integrated detection and electronic warfare system and integrated anti-drone system



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, visited a flying group of the Guards 1st Air Wing of the Korean People's Army and guided anti-air combat and air raid drills of flying corps of the Air Force on May 15.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, Jo Chun Ryong and Kim Jong Sik, leading officials of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Pyong Chol, general advisor for the munitions policy of the WPK Central Committee, and Kim Yong Hwan, president of the Academy of Defence Sciences.

He was greeted by Air Chief Marshal Kim Kwang Hyok, commander of the KPA Air Force, and air wing commanders of the Air Force.

After hearing the report on the results of the agreement between clients and producers on the development of air weapons and equipment and the long-term plan, he clarified the view of the Party Central Committee as regards the development of the new-generation air assault and anti-air weapon systems of a high level, and advanced important tasks for its realization.

He mounted the observation post at the flight control station, and guided the anti-air combat and air raid drills of the flying corps of the Air Force.

The drills were aimed at making the

flying corps, anti-air missile sub-units, radar sub-units and electronic warfare sub-units experienced in the anti-air mission to detect, track and destroy the enemy cruise missiles and suicidal drones attacking from different directions and in the combat mission to make the enemy drones blind and destroy them with different electronic means.

There also took place an application test of new-type long-range precision guided glide bomb and a drill of flying corps' raid on targets.

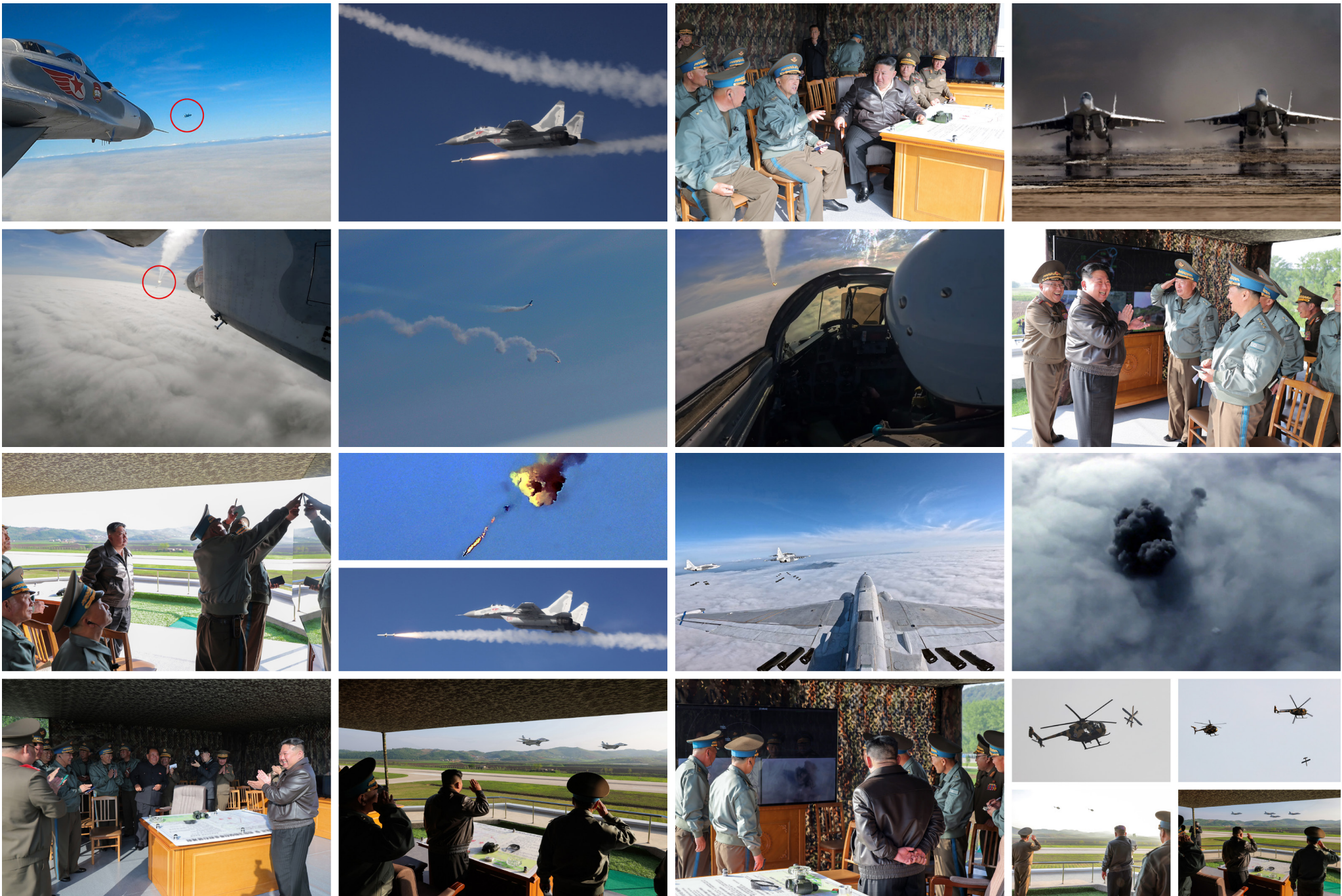
In performing the anti-air defence tactical mission to detect, track and destroy enemy cruise missiles and suicidal drones attacking from different directions, the anti-air missile sub-units and detection and electronic warfare

sub-units carried out only the task of detecting and tracking air targets and the flying corps, while performing guard flight mission in the air duty area as in an actual war environment, detected, tracked and destroyed the attacking air targets.

The drills proved the anti-air defence capabilities of the groups of the Guards 1st Air Wing.

Saying that it is very important to judge the abilities of the anti-air units for carrying out their missions in actual war and take necessary measures, Kim Jong Un stressed that such drills as today's are very useful for making pilots experienced in modern air combat methods.

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Expressing the view of the Party Central Committee on the theoretical and practical issues arising in further enhancing the combat effectiveness of the state anti-air defence systems, he set forth important tasks for the orientation of the development of air weapon systems, anti-air defence means, integrated detection and electronic warfare system and integrated anti-drone system.

The flying corps of the Guards 1st Air Wing, which perfectly carried out their anti-air tactical mission, made zero-feet flight over the observation post to pay the highest tribute to Kim Jong Un, who has remarkably developed the KPA into an

ever-victorious revolutionary army for the security of the state and the well-being of the people with his outstanding military ideas, far-sighted military wisdom and energetic leadership.

Kim Jong Un acknowledged the flying corps and expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the pilots proved the combat reliability of the KPA Air Force with practical manoeuvrings and set an excellent example in rounding off the war preparations.

There took place a drill of destroying enemy drones with helicopter and flying corps' precision bombing of naval targets, followed by a demonstration flight of strategic reconnaissance drones and multi-mission drones.

Saying that victory in war is decided first

on the training ground and that when all the service personnel devote themselves to combat and political training with the noble sense of mission of defending the country and the revolution, the sky, land and sea of our sacred country will be further consolidated as an impregnable fortress no enemy would dare attack, Kim Jong Un called upon all the units of the entire army to bring about a radical turn in making preparations for war in constant readiness while remaining on full alert.

He met the pilots who took part in the drills, highly praised them for fully demonstrating their combat capability that deserves trust and confidence of the country and the people, and gave thanks to the commanding officers of the Air

Force and the pilots.

Expressing belief that all the officers and men of the Air Force will reliably defend the security of the territorial airspace of our state and the safety of its people with matchless bravery and a heroic fighting spirit in the future, too, he had a photo taken with them.

The service personnel of the Air Force, who won the great trust of Kim Jong Un, pledged to fully consolidate their air operations combat capability under the slogan "We only wait for the Party's order to make a sortie!" and thus fulfill their honourable mission as the army of lifeguards of the Party Central Committee and the first death-defying corps for defending the revolution.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects combined tactical drill of different arms conducted under training course of Conference of Training Officers of KPA

He clarifies various tasks for preparing KPA to be an army that is capable of fighting a war any time, an army that wins without fail if it fights and expanding its strategic potential as a powerful army



KCNA

A combined tactical drill of special operations sub-units for surpassing the standards for an all-mission battalion and a match and joint fire strike drill demonstration of tankmen's sub-units were held on May 13 as a demonstration drill under the training course of the Conference of the Training Officers of the Korean People's Army.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited Training Camp No. 60 of the Capital City Defence Corps of the KPA and watched the tactical drill demonstrations of different arms held under the training course of the conference of training officers.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted on the spot by No Kwang

Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the KPA, Jong Kyong Thack, director of the General Political Bureau of the KPA, and other leading commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and military and political commanding officers of large combined units of the KPA.

Before watching the drill, Kim Jong Un acquainted himself with the functions and components of the training base, and appreciated that all conditions are well provided for properly conducting various tactical drills of sub-units as befitting a multi-functional combined training base.

He watched various tactical drill demonstrations together with commanding officers of the KPA at the observation post.

Also watching the demonstrations were the participants in the Conference of the Training Officers of the KPA.

The combat training department of the KPA General Staff explained to the spectators the forms, methods and contents of various tactical drills and

matches.

Various tactical drills conducted by special operations sub-units for surpassing the standards for an all-mission battalion and the match between tankmen's sub-units held afterwards aroused the spectators' special interest.

Kim Jong Un said that scientific combat training systems have been established throughout the whole army as our Party set forth the five-point policy for effecting a revolution in training and paid close attention to thoroughly establishing a climate of prioritizing training at all levels of the KPA, strengthening the integral system of organizing, judging and reviewing training and putting the main stress on war-like training in keeping with the developing aspects and changing trend of modern warfare. He affirmatively appreciated that this has promoted substantial changes in the training sector and the strengthening and development of combat capability of units and sub-units. And he continued:

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Amid the training matches of different services and arms being held in an innovative way in various spheres to cope with the actual war, changes have begun to take place in the understanding of the officers in the training sector. The fundamental change in the viewpoint on training will play a great role in cultivating the high combat spirit of our service personnel, perfecting the military and technical preparedness and improving the combat efficiency and effectiveness of our weapon systems, and this serves as a potential driving force for developing our armed forces' capability to fight a war to the full.

Our revolutionary armed forces are now in charge of not a few fronts, but the most important among them is the anti-imperialist class front and making full preparations for war is their most

crucial task. Combat drill to turn all the levels of the army into elite ranks that are thoroughgoing and perfect in executing any order is the first revolutionary task.

In order to implement the Party's military strategic plan for putting the special operations forces on an all-mission arms of services and all-mission specialists basis, it is important to launch a vigorous revolutionary movement to surpass the standards for an all-mission battalion.

Modern warfare is a showdown between military talents and war of commanding officers' brains. In order to firmly maintain and strengthen the qualitative superiority of our army, all combat drills should be organized on the principle of enhancing the initiative, independence and creativity of commanding officers and practical brain drills and actual manoeuvres be intensified.

The secure prospect of building a

powerful army desired by our Party is provided on the training front, and the combat preparedness of the KPA is completed and guaranteed first by the training sector. To this end, it is necessary to decisively improve the quality of military education and put the main emphasis on educating and strengthening the ranks of training officers.

He then underlined the need to perfect in all aspects the training apparatuses and elements of training grounds for preparing all levels of our armed forces for modern warfare as required by the reality that urgently demands their qualitative change, to introduce IT and scientific judgement systems into training, and to renew the training system in keeping with the developing trend of the new century.

That day, he met the combatants of a sub-unit under the 11th Corps of the KPA, who surpassed the standards for an all-mission battalion, and appreciated

and warmly encouraged them, saying that they played the role as vanguard fighters in bringing about a revolution in training and as a model in rounding off the war preparations. Then he had a photo taken with them.

He clarified the tasks for fundamentally improving the contents, forms and methods of operations and combat drills in the training sector and making the training part of life, habit and mental quality of the service personnel in order to prepare the KPA to be an army that is capable of fighting a war any time, an army that wins without fail if it fights, and for expanding its strategic potential as a powerful army.

Hoping that the seventh conference of training officers will serve as an occasion for bringing about an epochal leap forward in further enhancing the qualifications and abilities of all the training officers, he extended militant encouragement to all the participants in the conference.

Seventh Conference of Training Officers of KPA held

KCNA

Amid the invincible prestige of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK being fully demonstrated in firmly defending the national sovereignty and well-being of the people with arms and powerfully promoting the comprehensive rejuvenation and development in the vanguard of the sacred struggle for defending the ideology and cause of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Seventh Conference of the Training Officers of the Korean People's Army took place in the capital city of Pyongyang on May 14-15.

The conference, the seventh in the history of building the Juche-oriented army, is of weighty significance in accelerating the qualitative change of the armed



forces of the DPRK by possessing the overwhelming capability for countering a war and thoroughly keeping full war posture capable of smashing at a stroke the reckless war hysteria of hostile countries and their undisguised act of aggravating the tension by kindling further fiercely the flames of effecting a revolution in training throughout the entire army.

The conference analyzed and reviewed the successes and experience gained in the training sector of the People's Army over the past seven years since the Sixth Conference of Active Training Officers of the Korean People's Army. And it discussed the tasks and practical ways for consolidating

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the training front as a strong fulcrum firmly guaranteeing the mightiness and invincibility of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK and a reliable fortress for training the elite army, and for highly improving the actual war capability of all units and sub-units.

Present there were the training officers of the armed forces of the Republic, commanding officers of all military and political organs, officers of military educational institutions at all levels and officials concerned.

No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the KPA, Jong Kyong Thack, director of the General Political Bureau of the KPA, leading commanding officers of all military and political organs and exemplary training officers took the platform.

Ri Yong Gil made a report at the conference.

The reporter said that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un put forward the strengthening of training as a vital issue decisive of the destiny of the revolution and the success in the building of the revolutionary armed forces and energetically led the entire army to bolster up the strongest combat capability in every way in the flames of effecting the revolution in training.

Kim Jong Un set forth the five-point policy for effecting a revolution in training, the idea of opening up a new stage of developing the revolutionary armed forces with strengthening the KPA politically, ideologically and in military technique as the core goal of army building, the idea of holding fast to effecting a revolution

in training and military education as the two fronts for building a powerful army and other important guidelines, he said, stressing that they are the militant banner that the training sector should uphold in the struggle for powerfully promoting and accelerating the work for putting the People's Army on an elite and strong basis.

Kim Jong Un redoubled the militant enthusiasm of the soldiers and instilled great vitality into the training front through his ceaseless leadership to units, sub-units and training grounds, and attributed all the successes to the training officers, the reporter said, adding that his great loving care and trust serve as pabulum for making the officers and men of the entire army training heroes and future combat heroes.

The reporter referred to the great successes made in bolstering up the political and military might of the People's Army in the days of strengthening its actual war capability, holding Kim Jong Un in the vanguard of the campaign for effecting a revolution in training.

The noble idea of the great brilliant commander that the ideological and moral superiority of the army means the qualitative superiority of the army has been thoroughly embodied in all training, the political and ideological strength of the army has been further consolidated as an invincible one and a scientific combat training system was established, and thus innovative changes have taken place in units and sub-units in possessing a perfect actual war capability to fight any time and win without fail if they fight, he said, adding:

Thanks to the tireless enthusiasm, militant spirit and unsparing

devotion of the training officers who deeply cherished the trust of the Party which put forward them at the outpost of effecting a revolution in training, the training front is being consolidated and the militant might of the People's Army is further increased.

The proud successes made in the training sector are a precious fruition of the energetic leadership and boundless devotion of Kim Jong Un who has firmly consolidated the training front with the unshakable will that the shortcut to making a strong army and victory in the revolutionary war lies in prioritizing training and intensifying training.

The report analyzed and reviewed the deviations to be surely corrected in the training sector.

The thorough and perfect implementation of the Party's line of building a powerful army in the new era aimed at the strongest military muscle and the victory in the future revolutionary war are firmly guaranteed by successfully effecting a revolution in training, the reporter said, calling upon all the officers in the training sector to strive for firmly consolidating the invincible combat capability and ever-victorious might of the People's Army in hearty response to the Party's training-first policy.

The report was followed by speeches.

Introduced in the speeches were successes and experience gained in the course of firmly preparing the commanding officers and soldiers to be the strongest in mental power pulsating with the indomitable spirit, matchless bravery and mettle of anti-Japanese war generals, stalwart fighters possessed of high combat spirit and perfect military temperament and the spearhead

of the elite revolutionary armed forces that make enemies shudder by putting primary efforts into spiritual arming true to the unique military idea of Kim Jong Un who stipulated ideology as one of three major elements of armed forces together with soldiers and weapons, and turning all training into practical actual war drills centred on accomplishment of combat missions which have been brought closer to the war.

Mentioned in the speeches were a series of deviations and lessons training officers revealed and drew in their work as they failed to be deeply aware of the Party's idea that innovation in the training sector begins with a change in the level and qualifications of the training officers who are directly responsible for it and the preparedness of the training officers is the actual war capability of the army.

The speakers expressed their firm determination to possess the practical qualifications and ability to lead a new innovation and development of the training sector and put the training front on a high level as early as possible in conformity with the Party's military strategic plan and the requirements of modern warfare by deeply bearing in mind their important mission of holding a vanguard position and assuming a key role in effecting a revolution in training, and thus firmly prepare all the officers and men to be the strongest in mental strength and the brave fighters with indomitable revolutionary faith, heroic combat spirit and transparent outlook on war.

The venue of the conference was full of extraordinary determination and militant enthusiasm of all the participants to hold fast to

Kim Jong Un's idea of attaching importance to training and the Juche-oriented military training tactics as the lifeline and make more vigorous efforts to effect a revolution in training to prepare the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK to be invincible and strong army in conformity with the developing aspects and changing trend of modern warfare.

The conference was followed by a ceremony of awarding Party and state commendations to the meritorious officers in strengthening training.

Jong Kyong Thack read out a decree of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

The venue of the awarding ceremony was full of boundless gratitude and pledge of loyalty towards Kim Jong Un who understands the unknown efforts of the training officers devoting all their life to the sacred road for implementing the Party's policy on effecting a revolution in training and puts them on the high platform of honour.

The Seventh Conference of the Training Officers of the Korean People's Army marked a significant occasion in setting a new milestone in further strengthening the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK into the ever-victorious elite ranks equipped with perfect capability to fight a war and the world's strongest revolutionary army of Kim Jong Un by thoroughly establishing a scientific combat training system in the entire army in keeping with the developing trend of the new century and bringing about a radical leap forward and fundamental change in rounding off the combat preparations.



Russian President speaks highly of combat capability, bravery and heroism of DPRK service personnel

KCNA

the combat capability, bravery and heroism of the service personnel of the DPRK who offered assistance in liberating Kursk Region. He said:

The service personnel of the DPRK, together with Russian combatants, successfully and faithfully carried out the tasks assigned to them in the operation to liberate Kursk Region from the units of the Kiev authorities. I'd like to emphasize that they displayed bravery and heroism. I want to say again that they showed the highest combat capability and high level of combat readiness. He said he was pleased to have personally expressed thanks to the commanding officers of the Korean People's Army and sent the warmest regards to the soldiers and commanding officers of the special forces of the DPRK who fought near Kursk.

May 21 architectural festival held

KCNA

The 22nd May 21 Architectural Festival took place from May 13 to 16 under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the Architects Union of Korea. Exchanged at the festival were successes and experience gained in the work to build structures as the model and standard of the era embodying the architectural idea based on the people-first principle and boost architectural science and technology to a higher level. During the festival there took place an experience-sharing meeting on architectural aesthetic features of the dwelling house section of the fourth-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area which attained a new phase of development of Juche architecture under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and a video show on the world architectural trend. South Phyongan, South Hamgyong and North Hwanghae provinces were highly appreciated at the festival. A closing ceremony took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on May 16.



Visitors look round the venue of the 22nd May 21 Architectural Festival held at the Sci-Tech Complex.

Symposium on architectural aesthetics held

KCNA

The 17th Symposium on Architectural Aesthetics took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on May 14 by way of video-conferencing. Present there were officials and technicians in the fields of construction design, construction inspection, building operation, city management and land and environment protection. The symposium was held on the theme of "New era of efflorescence of socialist civilization and Juche-oriented architecture". Speeches were made by officials of the National Design Administration, the National Industrial Design Administration, the Pyongyang Construction Commission, the Ministry of State Construction Control and Pyongyang University of Architecture. They expressed their resolve to lead the development of civilization through a new revolution in construction by fully embodying the Juche-oriented idea and theory of architectural aesthetics of the Workers' Party of Korea and fulfil their duty in the efforts to keep the great golden age of construction going continuously.

Schoolchildren's art troupe returns home

KCNA

The schoolchildren's art troupe of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace led by Kim Song Il, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, returned home on May 12 after wrapping up performance activities on their visit made to Primorsky Krai of Russia from May 2. It was greeted at Pyongyang International Airport by officials of the Central Committee of the SPYL, officials concerned and the Russian ambassador to the DPRK. In Russia, the art troupe gave the premiere at the Maritime Territorial Branch of the Mariinsky Theatre and staged performances in Vladivostok and Artyom cities, which elicited deep admiration of the audiences, thus demonstrating the proud looks of rising generation of Juche Korea. They gave full play to the artistic talents they had cultivated to their heart's content in the warm embrace of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un, who spares nothing for younger generations, in various vocal and instrumental numbers, including prelude "We Are the Happiest in the World", vocal duet "Our Father Is Best", female solo "My Best Country" and kayagum solo "Arirang". They also sang well such Russian songs as "Katyusha" and "Happy Birthday" to add friendly feelings to the audiences and thereby their performances brought forth great positive response from the Russian people.

Rice transplanting begins

KCNA

Rice transplanting began at farms across the country. After organizing an effective nationwide pass-on-technique conference related to rice transplantation, officials of the Agricultural Commission and agricultural guidance organs at all levels responsibly carry on the agricultural planning and control, while visiting farms to learn about the tending of rice-seedling beds and offer detailed technical guidance so that rice seedlings are properly cultivated. Officials and working people of the Wonhwa Farm in Phyongwon County, Chongsan Farm in Kangso District, Township Farm of Thosan County and Ogyc Farm in Anbyon County got off to a good start. Kangnyong and Anak counties increase the operation rate of farm machines according to detailed plans for rice transplanting in plots and fields, while expanding successes by enhancing the role of rice-transplanting machine operators and rice seedling suppliers. Agricultural workers in Samchon, Pyoksong and other counties, in which rice seedling beds were made and seeds sown as required by technical regulations, are speeding up the rice-transplanting by interlocking the processes of removing young rice plants from seedling beds, their delivery and others. After growing healthy rice seedlings by taking responsible care of their nutrition according to rice varieties, North Phyongan Province is now transplanting rice seedlings in a large area every day. Agricultural workers in Sinuiju City and Yomju, Pakchon and Uiju counties are pushing ahead with rice transplantation as scheduled while ensuring the correct number of bunches of rice seedlings per *phyong* and that of seedlings per bunch in full consideration of the date of sowing and the characteristic features of the growth of rice seedlings. Rice-transplanting is going full steam ahead in South Phyongan and North Hwanghae provinces. Officials and agricultural workers in Anju City and Jungsan, Phyongwon and Hwangju counties organize work according to a well thought-out plan to minimize the damage to crops by extreme weather conditions. To this end, they pay special attention to the positive introduction of scientific farming methods and the transplanting of rice seedlings in a qualitative way. Farms in Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces and Nampho and Kaesong municipalities have taken thorough measures to supply enough water to the fields by operating pumping equipment at full capacity. They are launching into rice-transplanting one after another while providing a sure guarantee for safe farming.



Agricultural workers transplant rice seedlings at the Sokha Farm in Sinuiju. Rodong Sinmun

NEWS IN BRIEF

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends birthday spread to centenarian in Jagang Province

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to O Pong Yong, a woman centenarian living in Neighbourhood Unit No. 3, Saeng-ri of Tongsin County in Jagang Province, on her

100th birthday.

Amid the congratulations of officials of the Tongsin County Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, families, relatives and villagers, the centenarian extended thanks to Kim Jong Un for bestowing the great favour on the ordinary old woman in a mountain village.

Students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School conduct motivation activities

Students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School visited

the Chongsan Farm in Kangso District on May 13 to conduct motivation activities for increased production.

The performance which started with the playing of the cheerful song "A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain" revved up the atmosphere of the seething farm field through colourful numbers including medleys of songs and an accordion ensemble reflecting the changed appearance of the country which is turning into a more beautiful people's paradise better to live in under the leadership of the Workers' Party.

‘For common development and prosperity’



The 23rd Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair takes place at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang from May 12 to 16. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Ri Sang Il PT

The 23rd Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair took place at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang from May 12 to 16 on the theme of “For the common development and prosperity”.

On display there were electronic appliances, building materials, medicines, light industrial goods, foodstuffs and daily necessities presented by more than 110 enterprises and companies of the DPRK, Russia, China, Myanmar, Mongolia, Bangladesh and

Thailand.

“It is the consistent stand of the Workers’ Party of Korea and our government to expand the external economic relations with different countries and regions of the world and continue to develop bilateral and multilateral cooperation on the principle of complete equality and mutual benefit,” said Kim Il Hyok, section chief of the Ministry of External Economic Relations. “The exhibition was aimed at making positive contributions to the economic development of the country and the improvement of the

people’s living standards by expanding foreign trade.”

Many specialties and natural products of the DPRK were on show at the trade fair.

The booth of the DPRK Ryonhap Trading Company which presented wild insam and cultivated wild insam of Tungji Peak attracted many foreign visitors. Tungji Peak wild insam extract liquor and tea were in great demand.

Also seen there were apicultural products, agricultural products and drinks made from natural raw materials of Mt Kumgang, a world-famous

mountain and pollution-free area. In particular, various teas including mulberry mushroom, Ganoderma lucidum, Inonotus and matrimony vine fruit teas preserved their unique tastes and fragrance while maintaining their properties and state.

The Ryongaksan Technology Trading Company presented a far infrared radiator for local irradiation.

An upgrade of the far infrared radiator for high heat compress, it is a patented product which is 30 times stronger in radiation intensity

than the ordinary far-infrared radiator, but has no harmful thermal stimulus that constricts the capillary.

What drew special attention of visitors were the room and kitchen furniture pieces of distinctive designs installed in an environment like a real home, which were presented by the Yehung Joint Venture Trading Company.

Smartphones and high-performance electronic appliances, products of the Phurun Hanul Corporation, were also popular. Among them demand for the digital TV signal converter with the karaoke function was high

as it is convenient to use and multi-functional.

Exhibits also included Korean paintings, oil paintings, optoelectronic toothbrushes, ornamental fish globes, crafts and various kinds of perfumes presented by the Paekho Trading Company, Pyongyang Hyangryo Trading Company and Pyongyang Trading Company. And dozens of kinds of bags made by many units by applying various techniques of the traditional hand embroidery to suit the modern aesthetic taste also drew the interest of many visitors.

2025 Pyongyang Underground Store Spring Commodity Show held

On display at the show were more than 800 000 pieces of products in over 1 600 kinds produced by well over a hundred units across the country.



The 2025 Pyongyang Underground Store Spring Commodity Show is held successfully drawing the interest of many visitors. On show were foodstuffs, household goods and regional specialties. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Pang Un Ju PT

With a new era in which the countryside changes for the better, regional products are now as popular as those of centrally-run factories.

This is evidenced by the 2025 Pyongyang Underground Store Spring Commodity Show held some time ago.

On display there were more than 800 000 pieces of products in over 1 600 kinds produced by different units across the country.

Conspicuous were products made by effectively using the local raw material resources.

The booth of North Hamgyong Province was crowded with people.

The ceramic products, including utensils and flower pots, produced by the Kyongsong Ceramic Factory were in great demand as they were refined in shape and colour, diverse in kind and of good quality.

Visitors also lavished praise on gem cutting craftworks.

The booth of Jagang Province was filled with piles

of woollen quilts.

The quilts were favourably commented upon and honey won popularity.

The province has developed bee-farming on a large scale to suit its physiographic conditions with many mountains and rich honey resources.

Thus the province also exhibited such apian products as wild honey, songi mushroom honey, matrimony vine fruit honey, *Schizandra chinensis* honey and bee pollen, which were in enormous demand.

The Sinuiju Cosmetics

Factory of North Phyongan Province put on display Pomhyanggi-brand cosmetics favoured by women.

“Our province has always won the top prize at the exhibition held every year. But we are not content with it. This time we exhibited 30 000 products of 28 kinds we had produced by channelling efforts into reducing costs, improving quality and expanding varieties,” said Ri Yong Chan, senior staffer of the North Phyongan Provincial Shipment Wholesale Store.

Also popular were dried

persimmons, speciality of Kangwon Province, various kinds of pickles and seafood produced in Sinpho City of South Hamgyong Province with a prospect of becoming a rich city, grasswork exhibited by South Hwanghae Province and shellfish by Nampho Municipality.

Regional-industry factories in 20 counties built as the first entities of the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers’ Party of Korea also exhibited quality products.

Foodstuffs produced by the Songchon County Foodstuff

Factory, the Unpha County Foodstuff Factory and others were quite popular.

So were various models of furniture pieces produced by the Unpha, Orang, Ichon and Kyongsong county daily necessities factories.

“I have always noticed the steadily improving quality of regional products at every exhibition. The enthusiasm for making quality products with the people’s demand and requirement as the standard is unusual,” said Pak Hyang Sun, senior staffer of the Pyongyang Underground Store.



National science and technology festival held

By To Kyong Chol PT

The 38th National Festival of Science and Technology closed with due ceremony at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on May 7.

Exchanged at the festival were valuable successes and experience conducive to the country's economic development and the improvement of the people's standards of living. And the sectional symposiums and presentations on science and technology and technical lectures took place for scientifically and technologically guaranteeing the successful completion of the five-year plan and the implementation of the regional development policy in the new era.

Present at the closing ceremony were Choe Tong Myong, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned and

working people.

The general examination results were announced at the ceremony.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the Heat Engineering Institute of the State Academy of Sciences and three other units took the special place and more than 70 units the first place.

The new technology product development prize were awarded to 21 units and the merit prize on 13 units.

In the standings of ministries and national agencies and provinces, the State Academy of Sciences and Pyongyang Municipality took the special place and four units including the Academy of Agricultural Science the first place.

Diplomas, trophies, medals and prizes were awarded to excellent units and participants.

Kim Song Bin, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology, made a closing address.



The 38th National Festival of Science and Technology is held at the Sci-Tech Complex from April 23 to May 7.

Factory has its eye on full automation

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The Jindallae Mobile Phone Factory is constantly building up its reputation.

Established in 2018, it produces dozens of types of mobile phones including those using AI technology.

"Our factory set it as the long-term goal to realize full automation of the production line which would raise the proportion of domestic production and guarantee the stabilization of quality control," said senior engineer Ko Song Bo. "We are concentrating all technical and talent forces to this end."

The factory produces mobile phones of Jindallae series in various sizes and shapes on the principle of making small quantities of many types of products.

The factory relies on its own technical personnel in the development of operating systems and core technologies as well as the exterior design and circuit design of mobile phones, while steadily upgrading the production and technical processes and striving to bring out popular products with

the world competitive edge.

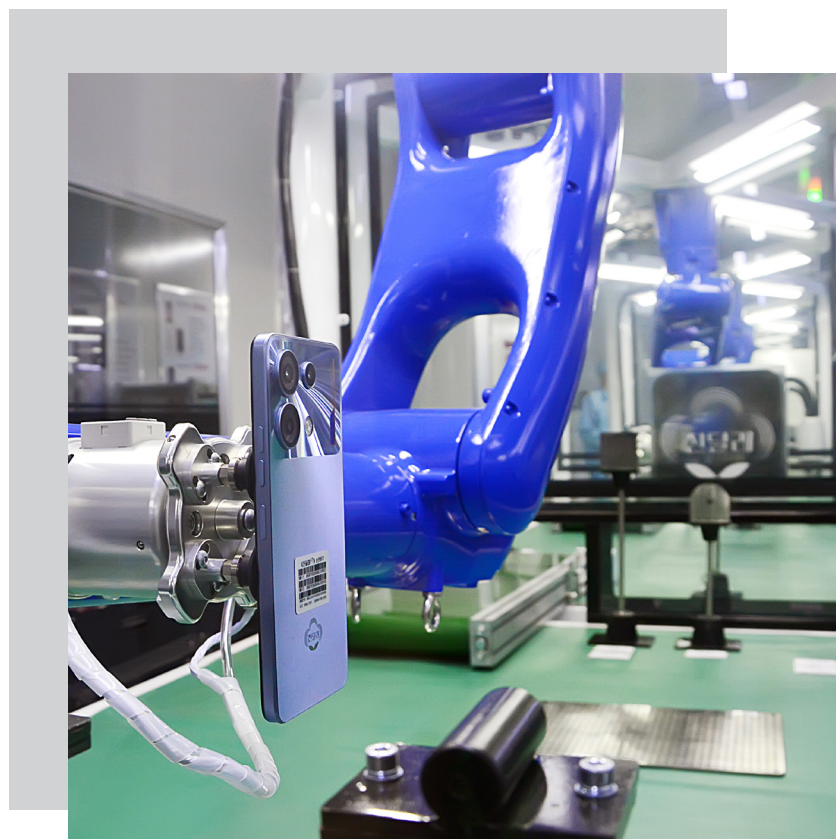
Thanks to their collective effort for improving the quality of products, many processes and facilities have newly been devised and built to be installed into the production line.

Now the factory's motherboard element assembly process has been fully automated and the product inspection is done by machines and robots at a high level.

The integrated production system of the factory tracks the products to record all data related to them from their "birth" to "death", including those about which processes they were assembled in, when they were shipped and what kind of repairs they underwent.

Jindallae phones are much sought-after by the customers as they are exquisite in appearance and colour, excellent in quality and easy to use.

Experts say that the development prospects of the factory are bright as it is enjoying a high demand and channelling constant effort into the development of new products.



Fashionable smartphones are produced at the Jindallae Mobile Phone Factory.

RI RYON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Patriotic zeal spreads like wildfire

By Pak Song Min PT

Students volunteer for army posts of national defence

In March, many final-year senior middle school students across the country volunteered for front-line border posts, hardening their resolve to mercilessly punish with arms of the revolution the US and the ROK clan for their reckless war drills seriously threatening the sovereignty of the DPRK.

Well over a hundred of

them in Chongjin expressed their determination to volunteer for front-line army units, regarding national defence as the highest expression of patriotism, the most sacred duty and the foremost mission.

Among them were those who decided to join the Korean People's Army for national defence, instead of entering universities, with a strong desire to

successfully carry forward the resolute spirit of national defence displayed by the victorious wartime generation.

As they felt the preciousness of the country through their actual life during their 130-day stay in Pyongyang, dozens of graduating-class students of Hadan Senior Middle School No. 1 in Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province, resolved

to defend their beloved native place with arms. Those of Kim Kwang Chol Senior Middle School in Kujang County hoped to guard front-line posts, vowing to make their proud alma mater remember their names, too.

One hundred and ten graduating-class students of Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans, too, volunteered to join the KPA.

They said that while

learning to their heart's content without nothing to envy in the world under the great loving care of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un so as to prepare themselves to be successors to the revolution, they had a unanimous desire to repay his benevolence even a bit.

It is a natural duty for them to perform laudable military merits for national

defence in the prime of their life, though there are many places where they can bring their hopes and ambitions into full bloom, they added.

The successive news about the graduating-class students volunteering to join the KPA is fuelling the zeal for advance of the people across the country, who are out in the building of a powerful socialist country.



Many final-year students of senior middle schools in Pyongyang volunteer for military service.



To difficult and labour-consuming sectors of socialist construction

Amid a new surge of spirit of the young vanguard across the country who are out for performing the important tasks set forth at the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, more than 80 young men and women in South Phyongan Province volunteered to work at the major projects for socialist construction in January this year.

Scores of young people in Kaechon and Tokchon cities and Pukchang and Mundok counties made up their mind to become young labour innovators and heroes who will make a breakthrough for advance in the important workplaces for the development of the self-supporting economy

and joined the youth shock brigades at coal mines.

They were followed by many other young people across the country including Pyongyang Municipality and North Phyongan, Kangwon, South Hamgyong, North Hamgyong and Ryanggang provinces.

In the past decades, the DPRK young people had brought their dreams and ideals into line with the plans of the Party and volunteered to work on the major fronts for building a powerful country, stirring up the times.

In hearty response to the Party's call for wonderfully building the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station as a grand monument to youth ten years ago, young people carried out their uphill tasks in over 120 days, creating the

Paektusan hero youth spirit and legend.

In 2021 alone, more than 10 000 young people found their jobs in the difficult and labour-consuming sectors and were congratulated by all people as standard-bearers in performing feats, doing laudable deeds and creating

civilization and heroes of stories about noble virtues and traits. In 2023 which marked the 75th founding anniversary of the DPRK, over 100 000 youth league officials and other young people volunteered for major fronts of socialist construction.

Last year nearly 300 000

young men and women volunteered all at once for the reconstruction of flood-hit areas into cultured country towns and fairyland villages, true to the call of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un.

The ranks of patriotic young people who are

glorifying their youth at the posts to which the country calls them, vowing to open up a new era of national prosperity in the van, are on the steady increase, with the news giving encouragement to all the people who have turned out for the overall development of socialism.

First step taken after graduation

Among more than 300 young people in North Hamgyong Province who volunteered to work at major sites of socialist construction in January this year, there are university graduates who settled at the revolutionary battle site management station in the area of the Paektusan Secret Camp, newly-built regional-industry factories, the Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm, etc.

They expressed their determination to devote all their strength and wisdom to the country, saying it is the duty of university graduates to shoulder the heavy burden on the country before others and add youth and vitality to

the motherland.

Many other university graduates across the country also settled in the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu and schools in mountainous areas.

The graduates of the History Faculty of Phyongsong University of Education said they volunteered to work as lecturers of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area with the resolve to become standard-bearers in the field of ideological work who convey forever the immortal revolutionary history and exploits of the peerlessly great persons and implant the revolutionary spirit of Paektu into the

people.

True to the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state, which put forward education as the primary state affair to which priority should be given and the greatest effort should be devoted at any time and in any stage and as the most responsible and important affair that should make steady progress, university graduates of the capital city and graduates of universities of education and teachers training colleges across the country took the first step of their education work at schools in remote mountain and island villages.

Among the graduates of Phyongsong University of

Education and Phyongsong Teachers Training College, who keenly felt the gratitude to the socialist system as they built the tower of knowledge high at their bright campuses, there are those who offered to work at schools in mountainous counties and schools for students with disabilities out of a sincere desire to fulfil their hopes by getting them to learn to their heart's content without slight gloom.

And among the volunteers for the schools in outlying island villages there is a graduate who has followed in the footsteps of the parents who had volunteered as teachers at a mountain village school a long time ago.

New urban district underpinned by love for people

By Ri Sung Ik PT

An endless stream of jubilant crowds is flowing to the Hwasong area.

Among them are those who cannot easily cross the threshold of their new flats wetting the house licences with tears of gratitude and those who are taking photos while tirelessly looking round the skyscrapers, high-rise apartment houses and distinctive commercial and public-catering establishments.

Another street that rose up in the Hwasong area, this is a flourishing socialist living space dear to the people, which was created by the Party's audacious decision for the people and its tremendous power of courageous execution.

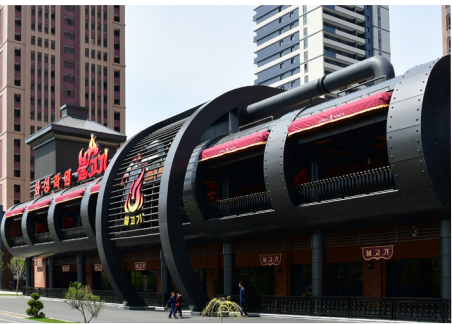
Common working people moved into the new street.

Illuminated on the walls of the towering skyscraper whose top is decorated with the national flag of the DPRK are the letters "Long live socialism!" which is none other than the expression of the strong emotions from the bottom of the people's heart.

Therefore, the people who are admiringly looking round the wonderful urban district as well as the owners of the new flats unanimously say that it is the people's home which can be created only by the respected General



Parts of the recently completed quarter of the third-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Secretary Kim Jong Un who is setting higher goals and standards of creation for the promotion of the people's well-being and making tireless efforts.

He personally perfected more than 660 layouts one by one for the construction project.

His mind is always filled with the ardent sincerity that there should not be any slightest flaws in the flats where the people live and the facilities they use and the ardent sense of duty that

the most magnificent and splendid wealth in the world should be created at any cost, if people want it, even by bringing flowers into bloom on a stone or plucking a star from the sky.

That is why he even went up a steep scaffold when he visited the construction site of the third-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area that was nearing completion and came to the construction site again when all others were asleep to look round various modern service facilities

including commercial, public-catering, technical and recreational amenities and repeatedly stressed that the relevant units should make effective preparations for their operation as they were structures planned and carefully put up by the Party for the people and the young generations.

The new street for the people has risen up thanks to such a meticulous loving care.

However, at the inauguration ceremony, the

respected General Secretary met the working people and elderly persons who would move into new flats and said that he was sorry to provide the modern apartment houses only then and that he was firmly determined to take upon himself more tasks for the people while seeing the citizens full of emotion and joy that day.

The home of love built in the Hwasong area was a site of all blessings for the people, but for him it was a new starting point of making

selfless, devoted efforts that hardened his will of devotion to the people.

At the groundbreaking ceremony for the fourth-stage project to build 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area held last February, he said that the housing construction in Pyongyang should continue until the Party's plan was turned into reality to provide its citizens with perfect conditions for leading a civilized and happy life without any inconvenience.



Brightly illuminated Hwasong area of Pyongyang in the evening.

New street filled with joy and excitement

By Kim Kwon PT

Deep gratitude is now overflowing in the new street built in the Hwasong area as a flourishing socialist living space.

Trucks, bearing a piece of

paper, reading "Moving into new house in Hwasong area", on their front windows, enter the street one after another and passers-by wave hands to the owners of the new houses.

Happy laughter and cheerful songs are heard in every block and building on the new street wrapped in a festive mood.

The whole street is so excited that everyone has sleepless nights.

A workers' family consisting of a man and his wife and daughter has become the owner of house 1 on the 16th floor of entrance 3, building 9, block 12.

War veteran Kim Song Gu

said she can see wonderful service facilities she has never seen or heard before near her new apartment building.

"I have brought up three children alone since my husband, honoured disabled soldier, passed away some

ten years ago. As my eldest daughter grew up, I got anxious inwardly. But the country provided us with this spacious new flat to relieve my anxiety," said U Sun Sil.

Kim Kwang Hyok, worker of a medical supplies factory who moved into a new flat, said that words failed him to express his delight and that he was determined to work hard for the country.

It is not only laughter of joy and expression of gratitude that are heard from the people's ideal street.

The owners of the new houses are all filled with the resolve to repay the favour shown by the state.

Kim Hyang, honoured disabled soldier who settled in building 13 of block 14, said that when she arrived with household goods, soldier-builders came to help her and officials of Pyongyang Municipality

and Hwasong District have frequently called on her to inquire after her living conditions lest she should feel any inconvenience, adding that she is determined to make a contribution even a bit for the benevolent system and embrace of the country.

Saying that she did neither dig even a spadeful of earth nor carry even a brick for the construction of her house, Hong Jong Hui, a saleswoman of the East Pyongyang Department Store, expressed her determination to devote all her efforts and intelligence to repaying the favour shown by the country.



Kim Song Gu



Kim Kwang Hyok



Hong Jong Hui

Moran Hill in Spring



By Ri Sung Ik PT

Moran Hill, famous as a scenic spot in Pyongyang, has now become more famous as a nice cultural recreation ground of the people.

It was named Moran (peony) Hill as a chain of round peaks looks like a blooming peony blossom.

The hill is beautiful in all seasons, and its scenery in spring is mild yet animated.

Many young men and women add distinctive sights to the beautiful hill in the season.

In spring and autumn it is one of the best places for wedding couples to have photos taken from the entrance to the hill where water flows down peaks to form ponds and which evokes deep national sentiments for the Phyonghwa, Aeryon and other pavilions, traces of the mossy walls of the Walled City of Pyongyang and the arched stone bridge they saw only in films on the theme of history.

According to keepers of the hill, many brides and grooms visit the hill every day in the

seasons.

Keep walking up the hill, and you will find it more beautiful.

You can see fresh green leaves budding on twigs of trees which survived winter, turf looking like green carpet and flowering trees with just-open flower buds, and hear the sounds of streams flowing down valleys and those of waterfalls accompanied by the chirping of birds. While going up the hill, listening to the “symphony” played by nature, you can see pavilions like the Sangchun and Aeryon pavilions one after another. And in different places of the hill, there can be seen people singing and dancing fascinated by its vernal scenery.

As natural woods in the centre of the city, the hill is also a good place for primary schoolchildren’s nature study.

Listening to the explanations of their teachers and looking round ancient sites of historic interest, including the Ulmil and Choesung pavilions, they broaden their common knowledge of animals and plants and learn about the

patriotism, wisdom and talents of their ancestors.

The Ulmil and Choesung pavilions dating back to the period of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668) were those for watching the movements of foreign invaders and commanding troops, but they are counted as part of the eight famous scenes of Pyongyang. The open view from the Ulmil Pavilion in spring and the sight of the rising moon enjoyed at the Pubyok Pavilion are unrivalled indeed.

The painters busy painting pictures and photographers taking photos of the beautiful scenes add to the breathtaking

sights of the hill.

Not a few passers-by often gather around painters engrossed in painting the appearance of Pyongyang seen from the hill, and all of them express admiration at the changed looks of the city.

Recalling with deep emotion that the spot with a nice pleasure ground was once a lonesome island and that the place where modern buildings rose was a vast plain, the elderly tell the rising generations that the beautiful scenery of Moran Hill and the wonderful change on the banks of the Taedong River have been brought about not by nature

or time, but by the Workers’ Party of Korea’s policy for the people.

The hill is associated with many significant stories.

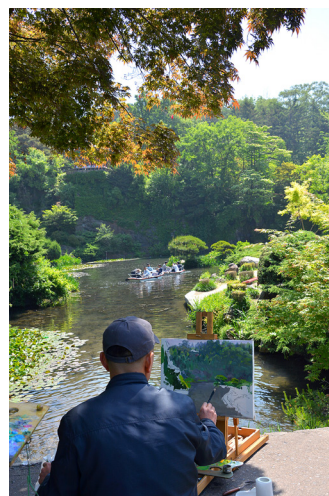
In October 1945, General Kim Il Sung went up the hill to have a bird’s eye view of Pyongyang, resolving to turn it into a pleasure ground for the people. In March 1946 he went up the hill again to look down at the surrounding landscape damaged under the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists, mapping out a far-reaching plan for turning all mountains of the country into the people’s paradise covered with green foliage by planting them with many

trees. The Moran Restaurant frequented by people, waterfalls and even a single stream there on the hill are associated with the guidance of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who were so concerned about providing the people with beautiful and excellent cultural recreation grounds.

Therefore, the words of the elderly are a “special lecture” which cannot casually be heard and which can be given only by them as witnesses of history.

No matter how beautiful the hill is, it cannot be claimed to be a scenic spot apart from the people’s bright smile.

Many people come to have a pleasant time on Moran Hill, a famous scenic spot of Pyongyang. JO CHOL
JU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



WPK never satisfied in work for people

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

This year, regional-industry factories were built in 20 cities and counties across the country as the first creations of the Regional Development 20×10 Policy, and the second-round construction of regional-industry factories and the construction of three essential projects—hospital, leisure complex and grain storage station—started in succession.

As another grand new street for the people took on a majestic appearance in the Hwasong area of Pyongyang, the fourth-stage construction of 10 000 flats started in the area as the final-stage task of the five-year plan for the construction of the capital city.

In the meantime, beautiful

villages boasting of the DPRK-style rural civilization are rising up in all parts of the country.

It is noteworthy that the amplitude of all these projects, including the capital city construction, the rural housing construction being pushed across the country and the implementation of the Regional Development 20×10 Policy, is getting bigger day by day.

In the first year of the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, the Workers' Party of Korea pushed ahead with the construction of a luxury residential area on the picturesque bank of the Pothong River, while building 10 000 flats in the Songsin and Songhwa area. Last year, Rimhung and Jonwi streets were completed in Pyongyang and citizens joyfully moved

into the new flats.

The construction of rural houses simultaneously underway in all parts of the country is also getting more gigantic year after year, and the happy events of house-moving are taking place in rural villages successively, adding festive mood to the whole country all the year round.

It is the steadfast will of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to put forward the DPRK people as the happiest in the world.

He said that it is the requirement of the Party that the undertakings for the people should always be done on the highest level and that there should never be satisfaction in them.

The Party which is never satisfied in the work for the people—this indicates for

whom and what the Party exists and struggles and what is the true meaning of the blessing of having a great party which the DPRK people eulogize generation after generation.

Thanks to the grandiose ideal of the respected General Secretary to provide the people with the best civilization and happiest life in the world, the people are not dreaming but vividly picturing the future when they will enjoy a new, civilized and affluent life, wherever they live, as the capital and regions are changing at the same time and not just the urban areas but the rural areas are undergoing a remarkable transformation.

It is the love for the people of the WPK that is never satisfied in the work for the people.

Bees and our life



Jo Sung Chol, staffer of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea

Bees are closely related to our life.

The benefits derived from them are not confined to honey which they make and which is good for human health.

At present, one third of agricultural products on earth are produced through pollination by such insects as bees. It is said that bees bring global agricultural producers 500 billion euros of economic profits.

But bees which are so useful for human existence are gradually dwindling.

The main cause of the decrease in their number is human activities. The breeding and other activities of bees are seriously affected by such factors as different kinds of insecticides and agrochemicals, which are widely used in the agricultural sector, exhaust gases released from engines of motor

vehicles, electromagnetic waves emitted by electronic products like mobile phones, the destruction of ecological environment caused by indiscriminate deforestation and abnormal climate conditions arising from global warming.

Einstein, one of the greatest scientists in the 20th century, predicted that if bees were extinct on earth, it would cease to exist within four years.

Actually, fatal consequences have ensued since 2006 when the number of bees began to decrease by over one third. Scientists fear that if insects including bees disappear at such a fast rate as at present, the price of agricultural products will further rise and the food crisis will persist, causing another calamity to humankind.

Therefore, the United Nations set May 20 as World

Bee Day in 2017 and has ensured the importance of bees and bee-farming is widely publicized on that occasion.

Our country develops apiculture on a large scale while positively protecting and multiplying bees.

The bee institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science has resolved sci-tech issues arising in breeding good varieties of queen bees with a high egg-laying rate and preventing diseases of bees and raising and tending them, thereby contributing to the stable and sustainable development of agriculture.

Jagang Province and other mountainous regions develop bee-farming on an extensive scale in conformity with their physiographical conditions with rich honey resources. Various kinds of honeys are produced in our country, including indigenous bee

honey, pine pollen honey, raspberry honey, natural wild honey, linden honey and chestnut honey.

Many beekeepers produce a large amount of honey and apian products every year by introducing modern science and technology into beekeeping and processing apian products, while positively drawing on the good experience and practice of beekeeping of ancestors.

Such honey products are supplied to baby homes, orphanages, war veterans, honoured disabled soldiers and new mothers.

Last year, the national apian products show and beekeeping technique workshop-2024 was held with an eye to sharing and exchanging success and experience achieved in raising and tending bees and boosting the quality and productivity of apian products a level higher.

To develop bee-farming is an important work to protect and increase bees and preserve ecological environment.

Intolerable plunder of manpower resources by Japan

By Choe Song Jun PT

The Japanese imperialists who occupied Korea by force of arms in the last century were hell-bent on plundering human resources.

After starting the Sino-Japanese War in 1937, they tried to realize their ambition for aggression at the cost of the blood and sweat of the Koreans by mobilizing the manpower resources of Korea for the execution of war through the requisition of all of its labour resources including "conscription".

Accordingly, they promulgated the "special ordinance on Korean volunteers of the army" in February 1938, enforced it from April that year, enacted the "regulations governing volunteers training centre" with a six-month-long course and set up "volunteers training centres" extensively.

They also cooked up the "law on national mobilization" in April 1938 and the "national personal service drafting law" in October 1939 to take away Korean young and middle-aged men to the sites of backbreaking labour of death. At the munitions factories, coal and other mines and construction sites of military installations, the Koreans were forced into slave labour usually for over 16 hours a day.

The Japanese imperialists also forced all the able-bodied Koreans to do hard labour for the execution of the war of aggression under the signboard of the "national service corps" and "labour service".

In May 1938 Japan issued an order to organize "national service corps" for the purpose of forcibly drafting Koreans into coal and other mines, railways, roads, harbours, timber felling places, the construction sites of airports and elsewhere.

The "national service corps" was aimed at forcibly requisitioning labour involving the old, women and even children. In November 1941 Japan proclaimed the "law on national service cooperation" in order to build up the "national service corps".

It forced even students into compulsory labour under the pretext of "labour service".

It not only drove a large number of Koreans into wartime forced labour, but also treated them as "talking tools", killing them in group or crippling them at slave labour sites.

Thus, many Koreans were mercilessly exploited and overworked at coal mines across Japan including Hokkaido, and the number of those killed amounted to over 60 000 between 1940 and 1944.

The Japanese even buried many Koreans as sacrifices in dams, claiming that the dams would become solid and always be protected by God only when the human body was added to the concrete mixture.

They maltreated and killed Koreans not only in Korea and Japan, but also in the occupied territories of Southeast Asia.

Thus they forcibly drafted and abducted more than 8.4 million Koreans.

Japan's plunder of human resources in Korea was not merely the appropriation of manpower and military force. It was a heinous crime of completely obliterating one country and nation.

The DPRK people never forget the crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists in the past, but will settle accounts with them without fail.

BYWORD

Our beautiful Pyongyang

Pyongyang is undergoing a remarkable transformation.

Over the past ten and more years, the appearance of the city has been dramatically changing in the midst of the golden age of construction.

Many cultural recreation grounds for the people, including the Munsu Water

Park, Mirim Riding Club and Rungna People's Pleasure Ground, were built in different parts of the city and new modern streets are being built extending the urban areas.

The Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District, called a beautiful gem

terrace, rose up in downtown Pyongyang and people's ideal streets like Songhwa, Hwasong, Jonwi and Rimhung streets were built according to a decision of the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea attaining a new higher phase in terms of

modernity, formative art and convenience each year and transforming the landscape of the capital city.

The people's happy laughter is growing louder in Pyongyang which is becoming more beautiful and brilliant with each passing day.

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For defending national sovereignty and security

By Choe Song Jun PT

Russia continues to spur the buildup of defence capability for defending national sovereignty and security. Russian President Vladimir Putin, at a munitions industry committee meeting on April 23, stressed the need to actively update the military hardware in conformity with the rapidly changing forms and methods of military operations on the basis of experience gained in the special military operations. It is necessary to effectively adapt weapons

and equipment to the forms and methods of military operations and there is every possibility for Russia to do so, he said. He noted that the curriculum of military schools and academies should be improved and at the same time the tactical manual for the ground force should be carefully and deeply updated in consideration of the experience of military operations. He also called for speeding up the development of various unmanned weapons and rapidly developing laser weapons capable of destroying various targets

including aircraft and missiles in the future. In addition, he said that it is important to build a multipurpose network of space systems in time to ensure all types of reconnaissance and continuous communications even in the complex jamming situations and widely encourage the military application of homemade patented software products and developed AI products. Late in April the first deputy prime minister of the Russian government inspected the Dnieper army group deployed in

Zaporozhye Region. He met commanding officers of the unit to learn about the operation of drones and the production of drones in the area and looked round new-type military and technical equipment. Russian designers have already developed a missile to destroy the West-made fighters, including US-made F-16 fighter jets. The missile is reportedly very accurate, capable of shooting down a wide range of aircraft including irregularly manoeuvring targets and designed to be mounted on any fighter planes.

They also developed a drone-borne missile capable of attacking the armoured technical equipment, shelters, defence facilities and others of the enemy. On May 9, a grand military parade took place at Red Square in Moscow to mark the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War. The military parade was a momentous event which demonstrated the will of the Russian people to firmly defend the sovereignty and security of the country by adding lustre to the history of war victory and steadily bolstering up the defence capabilities.

KCNA commentary on Japan's routine missile launching drills in its proper

Japan plans to conduct a surface-to-ship missile launching drill of the Ground "Self-Defense Force" in the country from around June this year. This proves that Japan has broken the precedent whereby it had mastered the capability of conducting a war of aggression by waging missile launching drills abroad under the signboard of "exclusive defense" so far existed for mere form's sake, and that it has embarked upon the practical action for launching a direct attack from the archipelago where huge missile forces are deployed. It is a proof that Japan has become more audacious in its reckless moves for overseas aggression. Its possession of the capability of attacking enemy base has already gone beyond the stage of discussion and the ranges of most of its missiles are at the level that can reach the territories of the neighbouring countries. Japan plans to equip surface-to-ship missile regiments with type 12 surface-to-ship missiles with the increased range of over 1 000km by the next year and is speeding up the development and improvement of capability of submarine-launched guided missiles, high-speed gliding projectiles, long-range cruise missiles and hypersonic missiles. According to the plan of the Ministry of Defense of Japan, the surface-to-surface, ship-to-surface and air-to-surface missiles with increased range will be developed and introduced in a few years. Also being revealed is the data on the research and manufacture of a new-type ballistic missile with a range of 3 000km. Meanwhile, the Japanese militarists are also putting spurs to reorganizing and reinforcing the "Self-Defense Forces" as the attack-type aggression forces to keep up with the development and introduction of long-range strike

means. In March, the "integrated operation command" was formed to command all the "Self-Defense Forces" in a unified way and operate long-range missiles, and the "8th surface-to-ship missile regiment" armed with missiles with the range of hundreds of kilometres was organized again to increase the number of regiment-level surface-to-ship missile units. What should not be overlooked is that the Japanese reactionaries are openly asserting that they will independently make decision on the strike at neighbouring countries and the time for it when necessary. Proceeding from this, clear is the purpose of Japan to conduct a missile launching drill on its proper, away from the existing mode. The ultimate aim of Japan which has dashed toward militarism is to prepare the archipelago into a state capable of fighting war and thus launch a continental invasion as in the past. Now that all the war preparations on Japan proper are being completed, the verification of actual war capability in the proper is more urgent than the missile launching drills outside the archipelago under the obsolete cloak of "exclusive defense". It is the cunning intention of Japan to launch a surprise preemptive attack on the neighbouring countries while routinely conducting the drills of long-range strike means in the country under the absurd pretext of "security environment getting serious". The countries in the Asia-Pacific region are paying strict attention to the military moves of Japan, a war criminal state, which has not abandoned its nonsensical ambition for the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere". Japan that has unhesitatingly taken up the position for preemptive attack should not be mistaken.

Murderers in Middle East, their shadow

By Song Jong Ho PT

Shortly ago, the Israeli Cabinet approved the plan for expanding the war in the Gaza Strip. Earlier, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu asserted that to sweep away Hamas is more important than the release of hostages, arguing that they are pursuing many purposes in this war and that their ultimate aim is to wipe out Hamas. The chief of the general staff of the Israeli army also said that they are ready to deal a decisive blow to Hamas. By saying so, the Israeli warmongers revealed their intention to further expand the bloody military operations in the Gaza Strip, which has turned into a living hell for humans. After resuming the invasion of Gaza by breaking the fragile truce in March, Israel already occupied more than 50 percent of the area and killed a large number of civilians. On May 2 alone, the Israeli army carried out air raids on hospitals, houses, funeral halls and others without discrimination, killing 32 Palestinians and injuring many other people. According to statistics published by the local public health authorities in the Gaza Strip on May 4, the number of Palestinians killed and injured has increased to 2 436 and 6 450 respectively since the resumption of Israel's military attack in March. Regarding hunger as a means of war, Israel is keeping humanitarian aid materials necessary for the survival of its population, including food, water, medicines and fuel, from being brought into the area. Its already vulnerable public health situation has been pushed to the brink of collapse. Many countries in the world are now calling for an immediate halt to the massive bloodshed, denouncing Israel for the terrible consequences of its brutal massacre. However, Israel is trying in every way to lighten and justify its hideous war crimes, stating it "would not yield to any pressure or threat".

Israel is behaving like a guilty party filing the suit first as it has committed a massacre in the Middle East, entirely because it enjoys the support of the US. Historically, the US has patronized and backed Israel to rise to a "power" in the Middle East and establish its domination over it. The US had the illegal "resolution" on establishing Arab and Jewish states by dividing Palestine adopted at the Second Session of the UN General Assembly in November 1947. In May the following year, the US rigged up the bellicose "state" of Israel to secure a bridgehead for implementing the strategy for dominating the Middle East. In the past Israel started several rounds of the Middle East war and persistently pursued the policy of blockade and military aggression against the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of Palestine and the construction of Jewish settlements, all at the instigation and under the control of the US. Under the patronage and military support of the US, Israel occupied a large area of the region and developed strong "immunity" to public criticism from the international community. Whenever resolutions for denouncing Israel for the reckless military moves were submitted, the US prevented them from passing at the UN and even instigated Israel to commit a massacre by delivering an enormous amount of military equipment. Encouraged by the backing of the US, Israel is getting frantic with military attack on the Palestinians. It has already declared that even if the Gaza crisis is over, it would continue to remain in the "security zone" unilaterally set by it. The Gaza crisis is entirely attributable to the US. The world is now expressing increasing concern over it, saying that the Palestinians would be miserably exterminated unless Israel's brutal massacre is brought to a halt. As long as the US interference continues, peace in the Middle East can never be expected.

Briefly

Mexico

President censures US for its infringement upon national sovereignty
The Mexican president condemned the US for its infringement upon national sovereignty at a press conference on May 9. Referring to the US' change of the name of the Gulf of Mexico into the "Gulf of America" in a map as an infringement upon the sovereignty of Mexico, she said that her country brought a suit against the American company related to it. She stressed that the US can change the names of regions, mountains and lakes in its territory but not that of the Gulf of Mexico.

Belarus
EU dubbed a military and political bloc
Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko branded the European Union as a military and political bloc in his speech made at the military parade in celebration of 80th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War on May 9. He censured the EU for making Poland and Baltic states a foothold for attack from the eastern line of NATO in a planned way and trying to increase the military expenditure for this year of the 80th anniversary of the victory in the war to over 3 percent of the GDP of its member states.

China
US' unilateral tariff threat denounced
A spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce of China answered a journalist on May 8 as regards the coming talks between China and the US on the tariff issue. China is consistent in its stand to resolutely oppose the US' abuse of tariff, the spokesperson said, adding that if the US intends to solve the issue through negotiations, it should squarely see the grave impact made by the unilateral tariff measures on itself and the world, international economic and trade rules and fairness and justice, and show its sincerity for the talks. The spokesperson stressed that if the US' deeds are different from its words and if it even keeps resorting to threat and blackmail behind the signboard of talks, China will never have the talks and try to reach any agreement at the sacrifice of international fairness and justice.

CSTO
History distortion decried
The collective security treaty organization released a statement on May 9 to condemn the moves to distort the history of the Great Patriotic War. The statement said that the organization decisively rejects any attempt to distort the result of the Second World War and reevaluate the historic significance of the Great Patriotic War.

DPRK players take first places at 2025 Asian Weightlifting Championships



Song Kuk Hyang



Song Kuk Hyang sets new world and Asian records in the women's 71kg category.

Ro Kwang Ryol wins the first place in the men's 89kg category.

Pak Myong Jin takes first place in the men's 61kg category.

Kim Il Gyeong bags three gold medals in the women's 59kg category.



Pak Myong Jin



Ro Kwang Ryol



Kim Il Gyeong

KCNA

DPRK players have proved successful in the ongoing 2025 Asian Weightlifting Championships.

DPRK weightlifter Pak Myong Jin won gold medals in the 2025 Asian Weightlifting

Championships being held in China.

The championships brought together more than 170 men and women players from over 20 countries and regions including the DPRK, China and Kazakhstan.

In the men's 61kg category,

Pak Myong Jin took the first place in clean and jerk and total, with the lift of 170kg in clean and jerk and 306 kg in total, and came second in snatch.

Kim Il Gyeong bagged three gold medals in the women's 59kg category by lifting 103kg in snatch, 132kg in

clean and jerk and 235kg in total on May 11.

DPRK player Ro Kwang Ryol won the first place in the 2025 Asian Weightlifting Championships.

In the men's 89kg category, Ro Kwang Ryol lifted 212kg in clean and jerk and 380kg in total to take the first place

and win gold medals and came second in snatch on May 12.

DPRK player Song Kuk Hyang set new world records in the 2025 Asian Weightlifting Championships.

In the women's 71kg category held on May 13,

she lifted 155kg in clean and jerk (new world record, new Asian record) and 276kg in total (new world record, new Asian record) to take the first place in clean and jerk and total respectively and bagged gold medals. She came second in snatch.

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The news that a DPRK player won the 20th Asian Marathon Championships held in China last March brought pleasure to the people all across his country.

The champion is Han Il Ryong of the Amnokgang Sports Club.

Later, he was picked by the Amnokgang Sports Club, where he improved his physical and technical abilities as a player.

He underwent rigorous training according to his ambitious goal and began to make remarkable success in national and international games some years afterwards.

marathon of the 19th Asian Games in 2023.

As a result, he was selected as one of the top ten players of the DPRK for 2023.

He made uninterrupted efforts for victory and improved in ability with each passing day.

Han demonstrated his competence from the beginning of the race at

with composure and started to gather speed at the 30km point. He left others far behind and crossed the finish line more than 200 metres ahead of the runner-up.

He breasted the tape,



Marathon champion

Born into a family of common farmers in Rinsan County in North Hwanghae Province, he learned the rudiments of athletics at a sports school in the county.

He continued his winning streak in the domestic marathon race from 2021 to 2023, thus becoming a domestic marathon star and came second in the men's

the 20th Asian Marathon Championships. He led others from the beginning to the 15km point. He then adjusted his pace while running in the leading group

displaying the DPRK flag on his uniform.

He set a new record of the championships and won a trophy and gold medal.

Natural monument-Kwimyon Rock

By Jo Ryong PT

Kwimyon Rock stands near Samson Rock in the Manmulsang (Myriad-shaped Peaks) section of Outer Kumgang in Mt Kumgang.

The rock is one of fantastic rocks like Samson and Tokson rocks.

It attracts the attention of people as the curious-looking stone on top of its pillar seems to fall down in an instant.

Plants growing in the cracks of the rock bloom in spring and turn red and yellow in autumn, adding more

beauty to the surrounding scenery.

The rock is a natural monument of significance in academic research and makes the surrounding scenery more gorgeous.

