

**THE LEADER SEEN
FROM HIS FIELD
GUIDANCE**



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PREFACE

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un keeps making a field guidance trip around the country to realize the Korean people's beautiful dreams and ideals.

It is not so long after he took office, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has greeted a new heyday in which everything changes morning and evening and the people's dream for happiness is coming true.

Kim Jong Un's era is characterized by a great upsurge and miraculous achievements in all realms of social life. By dint of his immortal revolutionary leadership he has laid solid foundations for providing all benefits of socialism to the people who have overcome all manner of difficulties.

He once said that he, cherishing the people's sincere loyalty to the Workers' Party of Korea as the greatest asset of the revolution, would bring earlier everything splendid in the future by shouldering all the burdens and clearing a thorny path for the sake of the brave, resourceful and beautiful people. Indeed, he works with devotion for the good of his country and people.

This book contains some stories about his field guidance trips and his warm affection for the people.

A drop of water reflects the universe, a saying goes. The anecdotes

that arose during his field guidance trips will help readers have a better understanding of his profound political philosophy, as well as his ennobling traits as an outstanding leader.

The Editorial Board hopes that the book will offer a glimpse of the Korean society in which the people trust in and support their leader with pure loyalty.

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1. SPIRIT OF SELFLESS DEVOTION TO THE PEOPLE

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A New Lift

On the early morning of August 17, Juche 98 (2009), Kim Jong Un visited the Pothonggang Shop.

The manageress greeted him and showed him around the shop. Arriving at the stairs leading to the second floor, he asked if there was a lift inside the building.

The manageress replied that there was one for the employees. But what he was asking about was a lift for customers. She then said that there was no such thing for them.

He was lost in thought for a moment. Walking up the stairs, he said that if the shop had no lift for customers, it would be exhausting for them to go up and down the stairs, holding two or three plastic bags in their hands.

At the turkey counter he asked how heavy the turkeys were. Told that they were 5-14kg, he said that they were too heavy for customers to carry, imitating a man carrying a huge bag of rice on his back.

The officials burst out laughing, but the manageress looked solemn. It was not until then that she understood why Kim Jong Un asked two questions.

One of the officials went to the entrance, pushed a trolley to the meat counter, put a turkey into it and came back. He showed it to Kim Jong Un, saying that each customer would wheel a trolley and move downstairs.

Kim Jong Un held the handles of the trolley and pushed it back

and forth, looking somewhat disappointed.

He said: If an escalator is installed in the shop, trolleys need to have brakes just like bicycles; these trolleys should be used at the counters only.

He then gave detailed advice on how to install a lift.

“Floral Carpet” for Workers

The following happened on May 1, Juche 101 (2012) when Kim Jong Un visited a factory.

I Will Do My Best to Help You

On arriving at the factory, he shook hands with the officials there and gazed at the Kangsong Health Complex with arms akimbo. It was an all-purpose welfare facility built under his benevolent care.

It was a few years previously that the factory employees broke ground for building the health complex by their own efforts. But owing to a series of difficulties, the project came to a standstill after a framework was set up. Worse still, winter set in and plastering in the interior could not be started.

One January day that year, Kim Jong Un visited the factory and looked round the shop floor for a long time. Before leaving there, he was told about the construction of the health complex. He was guided to the construction site, where he asked about the

plastering work. The officials explained the actual state of affairs. He said to himself that plastering and decoration in the interior would require much labour.

He noted it would be hard for the factory to complete the project by itself.

After a pause, he said: You should submit the design of the facility again; I will have it reexamined and completed; I will also have a unit of the People's Army enlisted in the construction to make it an excellent building without parallel in the country; I will do my best to help you; all what you need to do is to draw up a list of requisite materials and submit it; you do not need to worry about the modernization of your factory and its buildings.

This was how the health complex was built in a matter of three months, covering a total floor space of over 10 000 m². It is a facility with a swimming pool, bathroom for communal use, dining hall, gym, barber's and beauty parlour.

No Need to Feel Sorry

Looking at the new facility, Kim Jong Un was so satisfied that he urged the officials to go in. The army officers enlisted in the construction stepped forward to follow just behind him. He said to them: You should let the factory officials stand before you.

An official, looking much embarrassed, said that the soldiers had worked day and night to implement the Supreme Commander's order.

Kim Jong Un was very glad to hear that and told him not to feel sorry as it is natural for the army to help the people.

When looking round the bathroom on the first floor, the official again praised the soldiers for having worked hard with an attitude befitting masters.

Kim Jong Un said: It is the Party's intention to direct primary attention to improving workers' living conditions and the service personnel have carried out the order of their Supreme Commander; Party organizations in the industrial sector should pay attention to modernizing factories and building excellent welfare facilities so that workers would feel no inconvenience.

Then he set forth tasks to be tackled in building similar facilities in other factories.

Our Workers Would Like It

At the gym an official of the factory thanked him for having such a good facility built for them. Kim Jong Un said that the factory should focus on production, adding: **“Whenever I come here, I’m reminded of General Kim Jong Il. He trained our workers with considerable care and entrusted them to me. I wish I would lay a floral carpet in the compound of this factory for its workers.”**

To the officials accompanying him, he said, **“Excellent. Our workers would like it.”**

After making the rounds of the health complex, he proposed to pose for a photograph with its staff.

Then all the doors opened wide and the staff ran out like a stream. Some of them, who were in a swimsuit, put on overalls in a hurry and barbers were raising loud cheers as they



ran down the stairs.

Kim Jong Un motioned to them not to hurry.

Some women, full of tears, stuck to his sleeves, a girl pulling others to get closer to him.

He joked that the women were all very strong like warriors, making all burst into laughter.

Then he posed for a camera with all of them.

No Satisfaction

The Ryugyong Health Complex was under construction on the bank of the Taedong River in Pyongyang. The city has long been called Ryugyong as it is a beautiful place covered with willows.

With one underground floor and three floors above, the facility would have public, family and private bathrooms, fitness hall, barber's, beauty parlour, recreation hall, restaurant, snack bar and underground parking lot. It can accommodate over 7 200 people a day.

Quality of Construction

On May 24, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un inspected the construction site of the health complex. After being briefed on the facility in front of a map bearing its panoramic view, he went to the public bathroom. He stopped in front of a water tank and looked carefully at its ledge.

He told the officials that the tank had a rectangular ledge, adding that the sharp edge of the ledge should be blunted to prevent injury.

Then he made his way up to the second floor. Seeing the wooden handrails, he said: In such a place it is better to install handrails made of stone or sheet of stainless steel rather than wood; there is no need to place the wooden handrails by the wall, as they are aimed at preventing people from falling down from the staircase.

He looked round the salt and other saunas, noting that it was good to fix light-emitting diodes to make the rooms look cold and that he would send more reference books.

At the entrance to the men's private bathroom, he saw a diffusing glass wall with a three-dimensional effect. He spoke highly of it, joking that the officials must have guided him there

to show him the wall.

After looking round the construction site for a long time, he said that the construction was going quite well, but its quality would be assessed after the completion of the project.

He was very pleased that the inauguration of the Ryugyong Health Complex would mean the implementation of another instruction of General Kim Jong Il who had paid close attention to providing the people with a rich and cultured life.

As Befits a Welfare Service Facility for the People

Kim Jong Un visited the construction site of the Ryugyong Health Complex again on July 26 in the hottest season of the year.

He went into a dry sauna with a temperature of 90°C.

Touching the glass wall, he said that the aluminum bands between glass sheets were too narrow and if wider bands were

used and the gap between them filled with silicon, it would be good for both decoration and prevention of heat loss.

Looking around other places of the building, he said:

The beauty parlour looks like a medical treatment room; there is a magnifier attached to the apparatus for facial treatment; perhaps, it is used in assessing skin quality by expanding face, but I am afraid whether the skincarers would be skilful in using it; otherwise, they might make one look ugly; everyone who has been here should be made beautiful.

I have been told that the temperature in this cooling room falls to -7°C; it looks like a freezing chamber for storing tuna; the floor and walls should be covered with appropriate finishing materials, or people would be unwilling to enter this room after bathing; now it is just like a fish-freezing chamber.

Hanging on the wall of the reception room for family bath is a framed notice board; seen from afar, it is like a letter of commendation; such a notice board should bear simple pictures and short instructions and warnings. Foreigners may come here, so it is better to make it with internationally-recognized symbols such as that of a cigarette marked with the sign X, which means “No Smoking;”



such pictures and symbols will be a visual aid in understanding instructions and warnings.

Holding the officials' hands, Kim Jong Un said:

“Bearing in mind that there is no satisfaction in doing anything for the benefit of the people, you should work hard until you complete this project.

“The Ryugyong Health Complex can be called a present for the people by our Party, so you should build it into an excellent welfare facility to ensure the people’s happy and cultured life.”

A Sea of Wonders

It was June 30, Juche 101 (2012), when Kim Jong Un visited the Rungna Dolphinarium for the second time, prior to its inauguration.

On his first visit on April 30, he had given detailed instructions on how to build it into a public facility for leisure activities.

Guided by officials, he passed the lobby and entered the auditorium. As he stood at the rails in front of a pool, some dolphins began to perform a variety of stunts; a couple of them headed straight towards him and jumped bowing to him in the air.

Usually, dolphins are clever and nervous. When moved from their habitat, they seldom move or eat for a week or 20 days at the longest. Such bad habit caused anxiety among tamers.

To everyone’s surprise, the animals were moving so amusingly, looking as if they were welcoming the guest.

Kim Jong Un joked that the dolphins seemed to be more delighted as they had moved to this magnificent facility from a small one in a foreign country.

Noting that relevant measures should be taken to feed them with fresh fish every day, he said in a humorous tone that the dolphins should not be made to undergo an arduous march and they were not prepared well enough to serve the people while enduring difficulties.

This joke implied that the feed problem was the key to raising dolphins.

Then he pointed out some drawbacks: The temperature in the building is a bit high; inside the dolphinarium, one should feel as if in the sea, but due to the high temperature, it is stuffy; the audience would run with sweat while seeing their performance.

An official assured him that the temperature would be 24°C or so in the future.

Kim Jong Un said:

“The Rungna Dolphinarium should prepare for a good performance. In late July, just before the performance, the announcer may say through the radio ‘Pyongyang citizens will be shown a sea of wonders in hot summer.’ Then the atmosphere in the auditorium will be very good.”

Then he continued: While looking round the dolphinarium, I have found some shortcomings; after its inauguration it would be open all the year round, so everything should be re-examined and any drawback remedied.

The dolphinarium was inaugurated with due ceremony on July 25 the same year.



“I Will Come Again”

On September 4, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un visited Labour Hero Mun Kang Sun’s new flat on Changjon Street. As a weaver at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, the hostess was awarded Kim Il Sung Youth Honour Prize.

The guest said that he came to congratulate Mun and her husband Kim Hyok on their moving into a new flat.

Being shown around the rooms, he stopped in front of the photos hanging on the wall of the drawing room. The photos were what they had taken with General Kim Jong Il.

You are a blessed couple as both of you had a photo taken with the General, and Mun was awarded the title of Labour Hero and you have been allotted such a nice flat, he said, and asked if their parents had been there.

The husband replied that Mun’s parents had passed away and his parents lived in a far-away province, not yet visiting the new flat.

Kim Jong Un said: I am sorry to hear that; I think it would be good to broadcast your flat on TV so that your parents would see it with their own eyes; then they would be very happy; if the General had been alive, he must have come together with me to congratulate you.

He then sat down on the floor, saying that he would fill a cup of wine for the couple as a token of congratulations.

Told that Mun was pregnant, he said that a cup of wine for her was only for form’s sake. Then he asked how long she was in pregnancy. She replied three months with a flushed face. He asked



Kim Jong Un visiting Mun Kang Sun's
new flat on Changjon Street

her husband if he wanted a son or a daughter, noting that most husbands would like sons.

The latter answered that he wanted his wife to bear a daughter to him because she would be a weaving hero like her mother. Kim Jong Un again asked him why, as others would wish to have sons.

The husband quoted an old saying that the first daughter is as precious as gold.

But it looks as if, you are not sure she will bear a son to you, the guest joked. This provoked a roar of laughter.

He gave the couple his gifts and posed for a photo with them.

Before leaving, he said, **“After you have a child, I will come again.”**

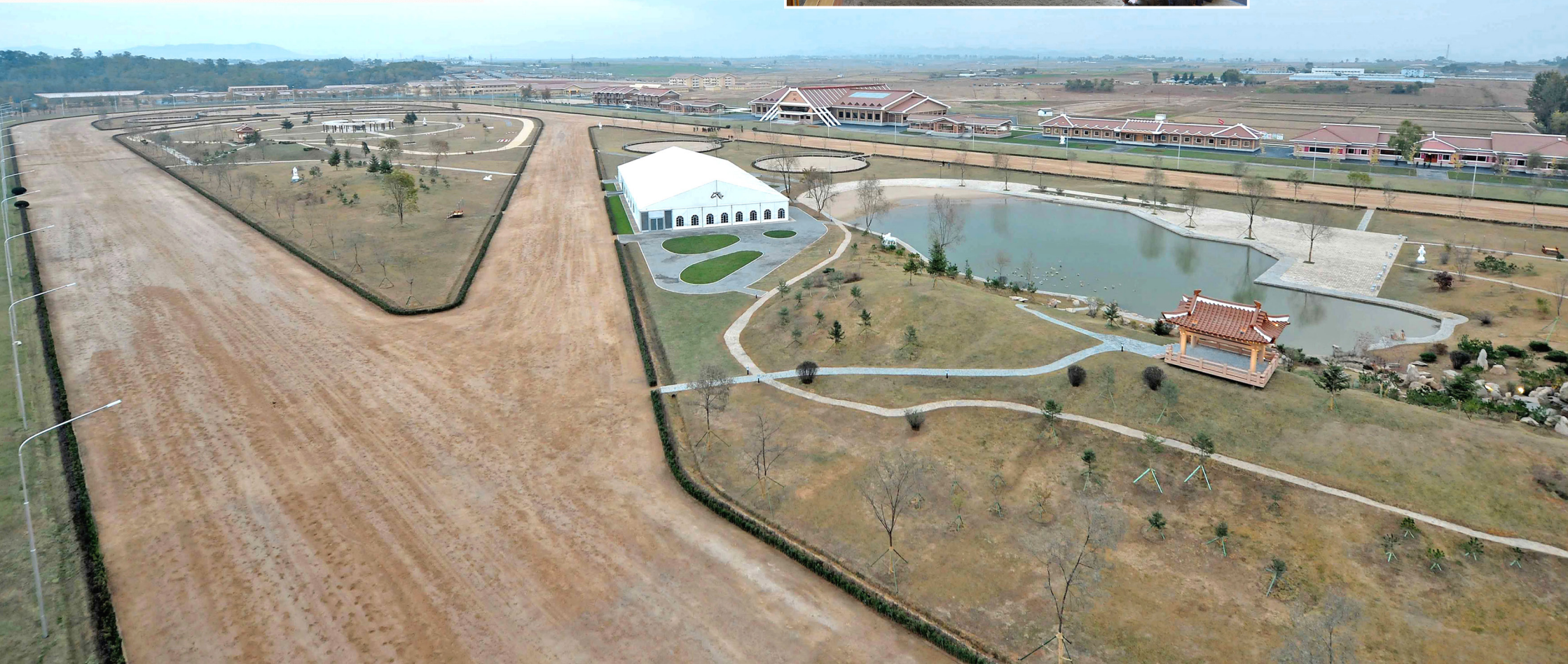
An Army Unit’s Horse-Riding Ground Transformed for Public Use

Kim Jong Un visited an army unit’s horse-riding ground in November Juche 101 (2012).

He told the officers of the unit that he came there to learn about implementation of the task he had given to transform its horse-riding ground into a riding club for the physical training of children and working people.

He rode a horse, and the horse ran the circular course several times. He commented that the course was quite good and suitable for riding exercise.

He said: The horse-riding ground should be renovated for public use as soon as possible; horse-riding is a good exercise that is helpful in fostering courage and daring spirit; it will help riders cultivate a sound



spirit and sturdy physique and prepare them for labour and national defence; from early childhood one needs to be taught how to ride a horse and do riding exercise on a regular basis; then one will have strong muscles, and when grown up, will not be likely to suffer from lumbago; now many people do mental labour, using the computer for office work, so they often develop symptoms that are evident among office employees; horse-riding is a good antidote to such symptoms; worldwide, interest in this exercise is growing; from olden times our people liked riding a horse and often held equestrian competitions, training both their mind and body; the new riding club will attract a lot of children and working people; horse-riding is good for training oneself spiritually and physically and making oneself feel more optimistic; now roller rinks have sprung up in different parts of Pyongyang, with the wind of roller-skating sweeping across the city; when the riding club is opened to public, the number of enthusiasts for the sport will grow rapidly; an important factor in encouraging horse-riding is to provide enough conditions for doing the exercise; the key courses of the riding club should be built up and an indoor training ground set up; around it there should be artificial mountains and many trees to make a nature-friendly environment; on a vast expanse of vacant lot at the centre of the main course there should be a walkway for the convenience of riders; in addition, a riding school should be built for the purpose of teaching people how to ride, raise and tame horses; to this end, feed and other problems arising in raising horses need to be tackled before it is too late.

On later occasions Kim Jong Un visited the riding club with a view to developing it into an excellent facility that embodies the Party's view of the people.

The Mirim Riding Club was inaugurated on October 25, Juche 102 (2013).

Palace for Workers

Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Condiments Factory on June 7, Juche 102 (2013).

After seeing a monument to President Kim Il Sung's on-site guidance, he enjoyed the view of the renovated factory and commented that the building was like a man in a fine suit.

Watching the video about the factory's renovation project, he said: This factory has been modernized as required by the 21st century; today, seeing its current looks, we reflect on the past and envision the future; at this factory the Party's line of the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—has been implemented; in pushing forward their renovation projects, other industrial establishments should follow suit; they should do it boldly and on a full scale as this factory did.

Then he was guided to the factory's nursery. Seeing some children in the yard, he asked them what they were doing as he held their hands in his. He made the rounds of diverse amusement facilities, lawn, room with a glass roof, kitchen, canteen, intelligent game room, breastfeeding room and education room, highly praising that they were conducive to nursing and suitable for children's psychology.

At the general control room of the factory, he was pleased to learn that the production lines and management were computer-based. He looked round the new production lines for refined cooking oil, MSG, refined salt, vitamin E and packaging, commenting that all the production lines were put on an automated and unmanned footing.



Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang
Condiments Factory

Being guided around the e-library and other sci-tech learning spaces, he said that in order to improve product quality and keep equipment in a good state of maintenance, the factory should actively disseminate advanced science and technology among the employees according to the Party's relevant policy. Told that at the remote lecture hall the employees are taking a correspondence course of Kim Chaek University of Technology on line, he stressed the importance of on-line education in making the whole of society intellectual.

Looking round the newly-built swimming pool, beauty parlour, barber's shop and music room, he praised officials for building the welfare service facilities well. Walking on the compound, he said that they wholeheartedly accepted the Party's policy of establishing a high level of cultured practices in production and life and built the factory like a holiday camp.

Calling it a palace for workers, a model in the era of the Workers' Party and a factory brimming with patriotism, he underlined the need for others to follow suit and had a photo taken with its employees.

Rural Town

On June 9, Juche 103 (2014), Kim Jong Un visited the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, and gave instructions on renovating it into an exemplary producer of greenhouse vegetables and into a model for all other farms in the country, as the farm is associated with the leadership exploits of the great leaders.

He paid another visit to the farm on June 29 the following year.

Looking around the room dedicated to education by means of



Kim Jong Un visiting the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District

revolutionary relics, he said:

This room has been laid out well; it displays materials showing the past and present of Jangchon-ri; they will be a great help in understanding the history of the farm which, under the great leaders' benevolent care, has been turned into a fine vegetable producer for Pyongyang citizens and a happy village; separated from the great leaders' close concern the present of Jangchon-ri is inconceivable; effective education should be conducted at this room and the room dedicated to the farm's history; then officials and farmers will take great pride in working at a meaningful farm; they will do their best to produce more and glorify the great leaders' undying exploits.

He made the rounds of the hall of culture, sci-tech learning space, Jangchon Health Complex, houses and several other places, noting that all buildings and facilities were built well as required by the new century.

He said: The hall of culture is as excellent as a theatre; here farmers will enjoy a good cultural life; the park and pleasure ground with a



volleyball court, swimming pool, roller rink and fishpond look fine; the Jangchon Health Complex was designed and constructed at a high qualitative level; it has ample equipment and they are immaculate.

He continued to stress that the farm should be a model for the whole country.

He climbed the observation post and enjoyed a panoramic view of the farm.

He said that the farm was itself a harmonious rural town.

The Party's Invariable Will

On September 27, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un came to see a newly-built full-service ship.

Months ago, he suggested building this ship plying between Okryu and Taedonggang bridges. The ship would have restaurants and other service and welfare facilities. He said that the ship would be a good amenity for the people's leisure activities, going over the design several times and resolving problems in building the ship. He named the ship Mujigae.

Mujigae has four floors comprising Korean restaurant, coffee shop, soft drinks stand, belt buffet, on-deck restaurant and revolving restaurant on top.

He stood long on the promenade by the Taedong River, enjoying the view of the ship decorated with dazzling illuminations.

He said: The ship looks like a beautiful rainbow; the Taedong River looks bright; the scenery of Pyongyang, the capital of our socialist country, is splendid both during the day and at night; General



Kim Jong Un looking round the newly-built floating restaurant *Mujigae*

Kim Jong Il wished to see such a modern ship float on this river and cater to the people’s needs.

He went aboard and looked round the ship, praising that the design and interior decorations were the best, everything was perfect and its formative and artistic beauty was on a high level.

He said: I am most pleased to see a new asset for the good of the people; officials should work hard to do more for their benefit, finding the joy and worth of their life in doing so; we have a lot to do for the people; the ship Mujigae can be likened to a lump of earth and we should amass such lumps to make a big mountain; it is the Party’s invariable will to create the best civilization at the greatest speed to the envy of the world; we should race against time to achieve rapid growth and develop ours into a cultured nation by our own efforts.

He continued to say, **“In one or two years we should achieve all what it took others a decade. We should make our people well-off**



without cause for envy, upholding the slogan ‘Let us ensure that our people enjoy the highest quality and standard of civilization!’”

Eye-Opening Transformation

Natural Disaster

Late in August Juche 105 (2016) rain fell in torrents for a couple of days in the northern part of the country.

The Tuman River burst its banks and landslides hit the nearby six towns and counties. The worst-ever calamity in history caused severe damage, leveling the residential area and destroying railway lines, roads, power grid, communications network, industrial establishments, and fields under cultivation.

Literally, it was a total destruction in the aftermath of a big war.

Hostile forces claimed that rapid restoration would be impossible because the above calamity could not be compared to the previous disaster that had hit Rason, adding that north Korea would be in a psychological shock as it had already invested a lot in the construction of Ryomyong Street.

Owing to the cut-off of communications, even the relatives of the flood victims were unaware of the calamity.

At the office of the Party Central Committee Kim Jong Un gave the following instructions:

As heavy flood hit the northern area, it is urgent to push ahead with the restoration work, including housing construction and river

improvement; as a matter of priority, prompt measures should be taken for stabilizing living conditions for the homeless; the restoration work must be completed by November; all units and all sectors of the national economy should concentrate all their resources on speeding up the restoration work in the northern areas of North Hamgyong Province, setting it as the central task of the 200-day campaign; the whole Party, the entire army and all the people should be enlisted in the effort to rehabilitate the affected areas as soon as possible; then the great army-people unity and the might of a harmonious whole would be demonstrated once again to the world.

Whatever the Cost

On September 10, Juche 105 (2016), the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea issued the following appeal to Party members, service personnel and all other people in the country.

...

There is no more serious emergency for the Party than the pain of the people and no important revolutionary work is as crucial as alleviating their misfortune.

To cope with this emergency, the Party has made an important decision—directing the main thrust of the 200-day campaign to the restoration work in the flood-stricken areas in the northern part of the country.

The Party will have all the human, material and technical potentialities of the country mobilized for the restoration work to recover the heavy damage as soon as possible and turn misfortune to good account.

In connection with this, our Party has taken important steps—rapidly

dispatching to the affected areas the main units active in the major sites of the 200-day campaign including the construction of Ryomyong Street, and letting the whole Party, the entire army and all the people concentrate their efforts on the restoration work.

...

This restoration work will be a do-or-die battle.

The result of this battle will decide whether the eye-opening successes, which our army and people achieved in 2016 by the sweat of their brows, can serve as a springboard in implementing the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress or they come to naught as wished by the hostile forces.

For our Party, which maintains the people-first principle as its lifeblood, the restoration work can be called a struggle to defend and serve the people.

Making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people is the mode of existence of the Workers' Party of Korea and its revolutionary climate.

According to the Party's policy of simultaneously developing the two fronts, miniaturized, light and diversified nuclear warheads and



ballistic rockets of different kinds have been made. These weapons are needed to defend our precious people. And the Party initiated and led the 70-day and 200-day campaigns with a view to translating our great people's dreams and ideals into reality at an early date.

Our Party has never thought of its existence and the progress of the revolution, separated from the people's destiny and their lives.

Strive with devotion for the sake of the people, their wellbeing, and the revolutionary ranks grow strong and the revolution advances dynamically—this is the Party's outlook on the revolution.

Whatever the cost, even if it means using up all the reserves available in the country, the Party will do its best to protect the flood victims from the imminent freezing cold.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea issues this appeal, as it is convinced that the service personnel and all other people will whole-heartedly support and actively respond to the Party's crucial decision for the sake of the flood victims.

The main thrust of the ongoing 200-day campaign is the restoration work in the northern part of the country.

...

Let us ensure that the residents in the flood-stricken areas raise cheers for the Workers' Party and for socialism. Then the indomitable spirit of the heroic people of Juche Korea will be demonstrated to the world and the 200-day campaign brought to a successful finish.

All efforts for the restoration work in North Hamgyong Province!

We Cannot Live Without the Dear Marshal

In response to the Party Central Committee's appeal many



army units on active service and others that were seconded to the construction projects for Ryomyong Street in the capital city, on the Sepho Plateau, in the Mt Paektu area and in other parts of the country converged on the flood-stricken region in North Hamgyong Province.

Trains, trucks, ships and various other means of transport available were mobilized.

This was how the restoration work began.

In 60 days eye-opening changes took place in the affected region—six towns and counties; over 11 900 houses, more than 100 schools, kindergartens, nurseries, hospitals and clinics, dozens of streets and villages sprang up.

Kim Jong Un said that for the Workers’ Party of Korea that adheres to the people-first principle as its lifeblood, the restoration work was a campaign to defend and serve the people.

True to the leader’s lofty intention the builders effected a remarkable transformation that was symbolic of the era of the Workers’ Party.

On November 13, Juche 105 (2016), the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea sent a letter of thanks to the service personnel, shock brigade members and all other people who made a miraculous achievement in the restoration work.

A ceremony for moving into new houses was held amid the great interest of the people across the country. Filled with joy and excitement, a resident said, “We cannot live without the dear Marshal.” This represented the flood victims’ gratitude to Kim Jong Un for making a bold decision and rousing the entire country to demonstrate the might of Juche Korea.

2. THE BANNER OF SELF-DEVELOPMENT FIRST AND THE PRINCIPLE OF PRIORITIZING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Satisfaction
- By Our Own Efforts and Technology
- I Want to Carry Them on My Back
- Turn Out Famous Products
- We Should Acquire the Habit of Making Things by Our Own Efforts
- Our Own Strength Is the Best
- To Go to the Future
- Creations of Self-Reliance
- Core of Renovation
- Ryomyong, Symbolic of the Future of the Revolution



Satisfaction

A Factory Full of Prides

On September 1, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un inspected the then Taedonggang Tile Factory.

After exchanging greetings with the factory officials, he gazed contentedly at the interior of the shop floor.

Recalling that General Kim Jong Il had initiated building this factory as a building materials producer of Korean style and fixed the site for it, he praised the officials and employees for completing the huge expansion project for three years and thus carrying out the task given to them by the General.

He was shown around several places of the factory and the general control room, in which he said it was well equipped. The general manager briefed him on the factory's production and its prospects.

Kim Jong Un said: The factory has achieved a lot; despite the difficulties facing them in producing tiles for many construction projects, the officials and employees of the factory have fulfilled the task given to them by the General; they launched the second-stage expansion project to build new production lines for the building-materials industry; they now rely on the locally available raw materials for production and obtain thermal energy through the gasification of anthracite whose deposits are abundant in the country.

Then he went over various kinds of sample products, commenting:

This factory's products are quite good, as compared with foreign tiles; only a few countries can produce such high-quality tiles; this is a smart, handsome factory full of prides; looking round its production lines, the General called it a youth factory with good prospects and a model of self-reliance; the officials and employees have proved in practice that he was right.

Through Practice, Not by Words

At the floor tile workshop Kim Jong Un was told that the factory sent a large quantity of tiles to major construction sites. Kim Jong Un said: We design and construct buildings as we want; now we can decorate them with our own tiles; we should take pride in this; figuratively speaking, both underwear and jacket we are in are domestic products.

At the sample counter he looked at the tiles with a variety of patterns, saying: Now you can make tiles as you like; there are many special ones that cannot be seen elsewhere.

The general manager said: Our factory will continue to prioritize science and technology with the aim of improving quality and boosting output; then we can catch up with other countries with an advanced tile industry; we are sure we can make it; I reassure you that by prioritizing science and technology and improving product quality, we will demonstrate the mettle of Juche Korea.

Kim Jong Un spoke highly of this resolve and said:

“I am very pleased that the officials of the Taedonggang Tile Factory have a concrete, long-term plan and are confident about the future. Listening to their firm resolve, I feel as if hearing the song

March of Socialism.”

He went on: Looking round the factory, I have been fully convinced that we can develop ours into a powerful socialist country by our own efforts; though everything is in short supply, the officials here work out plans with great care and make painstaking efforts to implement them one after another; indeed, they are proud of their job, ambitious, enterprising and patriotic-minded; the officials and employees of the factory are showing patriotism not by words; they are applying it through practice.

By Our Own Efforts and Technology

In June Juche 102 (2013) Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Condiments Factory.

He shook hands with the factory officials, and said that though he had received the report that the factory finished its renovation project, he had been busy, but he managed to find time that day to look round the factory in detail.

Infuse People with Confidence

While seeing the panoramic view of the factory, Kim Jong Un said that the buildings were clean and wonderful indeed, and that the tiles on the outer walls of the buildings looked nicer probably because they were home-made.

In the hall dedicated to the factory’s history he watched the monosodium glutamate production line on a screen through an



Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang
Condiments Factory

overhead projector. Appreciating the factory, he said: In the past the factory produced the seasoning with sugar but now it produces it with corn starch; it is commendable that the factory now produces monosodium glutamate with liquid glucose; as sugarcane is not cultivated in our country, we must produce the seasoning with locally-available materials; I see that the capital city had done something so distinguishable only from the fact that the factory has put the production lines on an unmanned footing, leading the factories in provinces in this regard; some of them pack their products manually; they should visit this factory to learn how to put their own production lines on an unmanned footing.

He went on: We should give free rein to the creative initiative of scientists, technicians and workers so as to put the equipment on a Juche basis; only then can we give impetus to the development of the country's machine-building industry and infuse our people with the confidence that they can certainly produce anything by their own efforts and technology if they are determined to do so.

The Masses' Spiritual Strength Is Fundamental

It was when Kim Jong Un dropped in at the cooking oil workshop.

A senior official of the factory explained to him the vitamin production line, saying that as this equipment was so expensive in other countries the factory produced it by its own efforts.

Very pleased to hear it, Kim Jong Un said that there was no need to import a complete set of production lines from other countries as we could put the production lines on a modern footing with the facilities produced by our scientists, technicians and workers. He continued that,

when renovating production lines, the necessary equipment should not be imported in a set but be produced with our own wisdom and technology as this factory had done.

He made the round of the factory for a long while, and asked which unit had renovated the factory.

An official of the factory replied that the factory employees had implemented the project, adding that the women workers had felt quite afraid at first when helping tiling the exterior walls on scaffolding but they had finally managed it by their own efforts.

Kim Jong Un said that what was fundamental was to give full play to the spiritual strength of the producer masses. He continued that what was noteworthy in the Pyongyang Condiments Factory was that it modernized its production lines and established a cultured way of production and life, but more noteworthy was that it renovated itself by its own efforts by giving full play to the spiritual strength of the producer masses.

I Want to Carry Them on My Back

On January 9, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the then Pyongyang Municipal Mushroom Farm.

Having entered the building of the newly-built enterprise, he looked at the automatic inoculation machine through the window on the corridor, asking if it had many domestically-produced facilities.

An official answered that the farm was furnished with many equipment produced by the universities, factories and enterprises in Pyongyang, most of the equipment in the substrate-moulding shop being manufactured by these units.

After listening to him, Kim Jong Un said that as the Korean people are so clever that they can invent three or four after seeing only one sample and that in future the units that would build mushroom farms should not try to import equipment needed in production but to produce what they can by their own efforts and technology.

He then looked round the control room and said that it was laid out well.

After learning about the production lines of the farm, he said: As I have listened to the explanation on the mushroom substrate-moulding, sterilizing and cultivation processes and management information system displayed on the LED screen, I can see that every management activity of the farm is controlled with the help of the computer; this is precisely an integrated manufacturing system; in future, other factories should build their control rooms at the level of the one in this mushroom farm; this system is the highest level of its kind at the units I have visited so far.

In the technical preparation room, he said that now that the mushroom farm had been built in Pyongyang, it was important to make its citizens enjoy its benefits from now on and that if not, it would be no more than an empty talk.

Saying that he was told that heat-resistant plastic bottles could be used for ten years and he wanted to see them, he moved his steps towards the cultivation room.

Pointing at the bottles, he said: A big mushroom is growing from this small bottle; a certain unit cultivates mushrooms in plastic bags so they grow sideward; but this farm cultivates them in bottles, so they grow straight; this farm is quite different from others.

Looking at the mushrooms again, he said that they looked good, calling the mushroom cultivation in heat-resistant plastic bottle an industrial method.



Kim Jong Un visiting the then Pyongyang
Municipal Mushroom Farm

While coming out of the building, he said that the problem he had been concerned with was solved and scientists and technicians found an effective method. He added that relevant scientists and technicians should set an ambitious goal to beat the world in cultivating mushrooms and break through the cutting edge, stressing that the validity and vitality of Party policy should be guaranteed by science and technology.

After looking round the outdoor cultivation area, he said: Today I am really satisfied; I am very pleased to have seen on the outset of the new year a creation that was built for the wellbeing of the people; I feel very happy; I will be glad if 365 days in a year are the same as this day; I want to carry on my back the scientists, technicians and workers who rendered a great service to building this modern mushroom production base as planned by the Party.

Turn Out Famous Products

Produce Quality Shoes in Great Numbers

On January 30, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory.

He first exchanged greetings with the factory officials before going to the hall dedicated to the factory's history. He looked carefully at the historic relics associated with the leadership exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. He then told the officials: Bearing in mind the leadership exploits of the great leaders, you should work harder; in future your factory should put the leather shoes



Kim Jong Un visiting the Wonsan
Leather Shoes Factory

production on a normal footing and improve their quality; now our people demand quality shoes as their living standards have improved; worldwide, it is said that Italian shoes are good; our leather shoes should not be inferior to those of other countries in terms of quality; if our shoes lose competitive edge in the market because of poor quality, our people will not have pride in theirs nor cherish the feeling of loving and valuing their own; the factory should refer to the data relating to shoes of other countries and launch a dynamic struggle to improve the quality of its products.

While making the rounds of several workshops, he heard from the general manager of the factory about how they restored the damaged equipment to their original state, and said that the factory should diversify the kinds, forms and colours of shoes, and that by doing so it can produce shoes in greater numbers that are popular among the people as they demand shoes that are suited to their ages, likings and occupations.

He stressed that the factory should strive to turn out famous products by further improving their quality.

Watching carefully one by one the shoes on display, he said that nobody would readily believe that these excellent shoes had been produced by a factory located on an edge of the city of Wonsan.

Expressing his satisfaction after looking round the factory Kim Jong Un said that the factory gave him pleasure and ease, and posed for a photo with the factory employees.

People's Need and Assessment

On November 26, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory again.

He recounted what he had heard from Chairman Kim Jong Il. On his return from a visit to a foreign country, Kim Jong Il related that when he was looking round a department store during his visit to that country the shoes counter caught his eyes for a long time.

Kim Jong Un continued: At that time I felt unhappy; the General was so much concerned with our footwear industry and with how to supply excellent shoes to our people that he could not take his eyes off the shoes counter; I thought of how to relieve him of his worry; in order to translate into reality his wish for the development of the footwear industry for the people, officials and other employees of this factory should play the role of vanguard in developing the footwear industry.

On the worktable at the injection-moulding workteam was the soles of men's winter shoes of size 40. Picking up a sole made with elastic vinyl chloride, he asked if the size was defined in the Korean way.

The general manager of the factory replied yes.

Kim Jong Un said that the European countries define the sizes of the shoes in milimetre, but our country did it as he had said previously. Indicating the shoe marked with size 40, he said that this was the Korean way and we should mark the sizes of the shoes in our own way.

The general manager told Kim Jong Un that the winter shoes from his factory were popular among the people.

He said with a broad smile on his face that he could not believe whether it was true or not, and that officials should go to shops to inquire about the need and assessment on the *Maebongsan*-brand shoes and their sale, and continued: The production plan and the amount forwarded should be compared with the amounts sold at the shops; if there were many shoes in dead stock at the shops, we should estimate that the factory's products are of low quality and are not varied in shape; factory officials should frequently get the feedback of the people on their products and should be sensitive to it; they should watch

carefully the shoes the people are wearing with the viewpoint and stand to produce quality shoes for the people, sometimes asking them about their opinion with the feeling that they are going to buy their children's shoes; the factory should make the *Maebongsan*-brand shoes as famous products so that the people would like to buy these shoes.

Demand of Our Party

Picking up the shoes without shoetrees, he said with pride that the shoes looked good and ours were excellent indeed.

He approached the table where the adhesives, brighteners and surface treatment material were on display, and read their manuals.

He said: The strength of an adhesive increases only when it is hardened properly; it would be advisable to have officials try on the shoes and listen to their opinion on the strength of adhesives; the adhesives should be fast in drying and strong in its strength; we should produce the adhesives used in the footwear industry by our own efforts.

When he heard that the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory was producing adhesives with some raw materials imported, he stressed that the problem of adhesives should be solved without fail, and that as the factory was supplied with vinyl chloride and synthetic leather by the February 8 Vinalon Complex and Phyongsong Synthetic Leather Factory, many problems would be resolved in shoe production if adhesive problem alone was solved.

Kim Jong Un continued: Everything to be used by our people should be on the highest standard—this is a demand of the Party today; officials and other employees of the factory should make a dynamic struggle to turn out famous products with a viewpoint and stand that our people's footwear should be highest in quality; it is necessary

to encourage them, who are making innovations this year in the production of footwear for the people.

He asked the officials to convey to the officials and employees his high appreciation for the strenuous efforts they had made for the whole period of the year.

We Should Acquire the Habit of Making Things by Our Own Efforts

On August 31, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Corn-Processing Factory.

A Self-Made Electronic Board

Kim Jong Un looked carefully at a board that shows the results gained in carrying out the instructions of the great leaders in relation to corn processing. He then asked about the production capability of the factory, saying that whenever opportunities were available Chairman Kim Jong Il stressed the need to produce several kinds of corn products by developing the corn-processing industry.

Then Kim Jong Un entered the sci-tech learning space.

He made a return bow to an official in the space, and asked an official accompanying him what the factory had done for operating the sci-tech learning space.

The official answered that they had established an on-line university education system and installed an electronic board. Pointing at the man who had just made a bow to Kim Jong Un, the official said that he was

the chief of a section of a research institute of Kim Il Sung University and the institute had manufactured the electronic board by itself.

Greatly interested in it, Kim Jong Un asked the section chief to have the board operate as he wanted to see the invention of Kim Il Sung University.

The man explained the structure of the electronic board before operating it.

Kim Jong Un spoke highly of the electronic board, laughing heartily, and said that it was particularly good that it was made in the way of installing a sensor at a corner of the LED screen. He added that if such electronic board was installed in a classroom it would be convenient for giving lectures, and ink would be saved much because marker pen would not be used, and that it would also be useful in the army for an operations plan.

Create Things in Accordance with Our Purposes and Capability

As Kim Jong Un was coming out of the sweet corn jelly production space after looking it round, he asked the general manager how much the factory was furnished with domestically-produced equipment.

An official said that the proportion was 30%. Then the general manager, pointing at the natural noodle drying line furnished in the noodle production space opposite the corridor, said that it was manufactured by Kim Chaek University of Technology.

Kim Jong Un said that equipment should be manufactured in our own way. He then entered the noodle production space, and knocking on the organic glass of noodle-ripening furnace, asked the general manager if it had been built by the factory itself.



Kim Jong Un visiting Pyongyang
Corn-Processing Factory

An official answered yes.

Kim Jong Un highly praised them for having made it by their own strength and technology.

While inquiring about the production of steamed corn bread, he suddenly asked how much foreign currency the factory had spent in importing necessary equipment.

The official replied that a considerable sum had been spent.

Kim Jong Un said: If they had manufactured them by our own efforts much foreign currency might have been saved; some officials, instead of trying to manufacture necessary equipment, they import them; if they continue to work in that way, the country's machine-building industry may collapse; we should develop the country's machine-building industry to encourage the people to acquire the habit of manufacturing necessary equipment by our own efforts; we should create things in accordance with our purposes and capability.

Our Own Strength Is the Best

Most Valuable Thing

On October 22, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex to see the newly-made subway train.

He exchanged greetings with the officials, and said that he had been very glad to receive the report that the complex had produced a subway train by its own strength and technology, so he came to see the train made by the working class, scientists and technicians. He highly



Kim Jong Un visiting Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex

praised their feats of labour, saying that the officials of the complex had carried out their pledge to produce the subway train by October 10, the Party founding anniversary day, adding that they must have taken much trouble to produce it.

He said that he had instructed to produce the train of our style without fail in order to show the people not by words but by practical deed the truth that only when they make everything by their own strength and technology and in their own way, would it become more valuable and set off its brilliance.

The officials felt sorry for failing to produce the train up to the world standards.

Kim Jong Un said that he had come there not to judge whether or not the subway train was made properly, that the first try may not produce a satisfactory result, and that what was necessary was to give a wide publicity to the fact that our country had designed and manufactured a subway train by its own efforts.

While looking round the interior of the train, he said that even though the train was not superior to those manufactured by other countries, it was more valuable as it had been produced by our own technology and efforts, and that it was a great success that our working class, scientists and technicians had produced the subway train, stressing that now was the time for us to hold our things dear.

After looking round the driver's cab, he said that as our working class, scientists and technicians had displayed the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance bequeathed by the great leaders, they were able to produce the subway train. He continued: Today I feel very pleased; I feel refreshed at the thought that the domestically-produced planes would be flying in the sky and our domestically-produced subway train running under the ground; I'll take the train when it is on a trial run as I did with the domestically-produced plane.

An official told him that the subway train left many things to be desired.

Kim Jong Un said: If coating and accessories-production lines are put on a modern basis, those problems will be resolved in the future; the strength of our working class, scientists and technicians is unlimited; we launched the earth satellite by dint of this strength.

What Is Significant Is that It Was Made by Our Own Efforts

At 22:30 on November 19, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un came to the Kaeson Subway Station, where the trial run of the domestically-produced subway train was due, as he had promised.

Seeing the train, he said: The train looks good; as I have already said, it is a great success that the working class, scientists and technicians of the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex produced it by their own strength and technology; I speak highly of the train because it was produced by our own strength and technology.

Stressing that he would not compare its technical indexes with those of other countries, and that the might of self-development is essential for cementing our revolutionary position rock-solid and occupying the high goal of building a powerful socialist country, he said:

“The source of the might of self-development is attachment for and trust, dignity and pride in everything that is ours. Our own things are the best and the might of self-development is the best. It is of great significance in fostering our might of self-development that we produced the subway train by our own strength and technology.”

After a while the train started running.

He said jokingly that as the train gained speed, it was swaying too



Kim Jong Un acquainting himself with the test-run of the home-made subway train

much, and it would help him digest well what he had eaten.

The accompanying officials burst into laughter, and tension was removed in an instant.

He continued to say: We are giving wide publicity to the light planes we produced not because it was of great help to us but because we have to infuse the people with the faith that our own things are the best and our strength is the best; it is necessary to conduct education in faith among our people by taking the domestically-produced subway train as an example; we should implant in the minds of Party members and other working people the faith that our own things are the best and the might of self-development is the best.

The subway train arrived at Yonggwang Subway Station.

Getting out of the train, he felt the surface of the train body with his hand. He then said: The domestically-produced subway train may be less luxurious than other countries', but what is significant is that it was made by our own efforts; when the first tractor was produced in our country, it moved backward but this train moved forward; I feel very pleased as the train which was thought to be beyond our capability was produced; it is very good that the home-made subway train runs anyway; even though it has some shortcomings, it is good as a whole.

Greatly satisfied over the successful test run, he posed for a photo with the officials against the background of the subway train.

To Go to the Future

On October 27, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the newly-completed Sci-Tech Complex on Ssuk Island (ssuk means wormwood-Tr.).



Kim Jong Un visiting the newly-completed
Sci-Tech Complex

He said that last February when he came to its construction site, he saw only something like bomb craters made for foundation work, and continued: It is a miracle that the gigantic project was completed in less than several months; the Party has demanded such a working manner and set it as an objective of struggle, but this is an amazing speed indeed; I cannot but admire the fighting speed of our people; there is a Korean saying that a decade changes rivers and mountains, and we have built many monuments by working, reducing ten years to one; until last year we created new things every year, but now we are creating new things, changing yesterday and today, morning and evening; we must bring earlier the final victory of the building of a powerful country by continuously dashing forward at this speed.

He spoke highly of the harmony presented by the Sci-Tech Complex, Scientists' Lodgings, outdoor exhibition area and outdoor resting place and the solar panels installed on the river bank to generate electricity for the complex.

He then said:

“As the Sci-Tech Complex has been built, Ssuk Island has undergone a sea change. Old appearance of the island has disappeared completely. It is called Ssuk because the island was covered with wormwood. It has now turned into an island of science, an island of learning.”

He continued: It is a powerful demonstration of our Party's idea of giving importance to science and technology that the Sci-Tech Complex has been built; anyone who wants to go to the future by advancing the revolution must learn science and technology, and for this, they must frequent the Sci-Tech Complex; this complex is as good as an office that sells tickets of the train that is bound for a bright future.

Creations of Self-Reliance

On October 30, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Catfish Farm.

Floating Feed Producing Machine Should Be Made by Your Own Efforts

Kim Jong Un spoke highly of the officials and other employees of the farm for their revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, saying that it was a miracle that the farm had doubled catfish production compared with the previous year while renovating its production lines, and that the catfishes here were not those brought from somewhere else but those cultivated by the farm through strenuous efforts.

He said in an emotional tone of voice that our officials might not be fully aware of how much effort Chairman Kim Jong Il had paid for the improvement of people's living standards in the last days of his life, that many facts related to it were yet to be made public, that he could not inform them in details, of when and where he had told what, but they should remember his devoted efforts.

He then asked the general manager of the fish farm if the farm was furnished with the machine of producing floating feed.

The farm manager replied that it had no such a machine.

Kim Jong Un told him that the farm must be furnished with that kind of machine, and, recalling a catfish farm he had visited previously, he told him to go there with scientists and technicians in this field. He had

in mind the floating feed producing machine at that catfish farm.

He continued: If such machine is installed in this farm, you can boost catfish production by using less feed, and this farm would become a perfect fish farm; installing that machine would require a considerable sum of money, but you must equip your farm with it; eliminating waste of feed is the core in lowering the rate of feed consumption; as it would also be a significant success to make that machine by your own efforts, scientists of the farm should go there to learn the experience.

He went on to say that officials of the catfish farm and scientists and technicians in this field should go to that farm to see that particular machine and calculate if they could manufacture it by their own efforts, adding that in his opinion, 30 or 40 percent of the parts of the machine could be made by their own efforts, specifying the ways and means to this end.

It Is Better to Make Everything by Our Own Efforts

He then went into the general command room.

After hearing from the head of a section of the State Academy of Sciences about the composition of the integrated production system and production lines of the farm, he spoke highly of the great success the State Academy of Sciences had achieved in establishing at the farm an integrated production system, saying that if the fact that the pieces of equipment which had been imported previously were manufactured and introduced by enlisting our strength, technology and wisdom, was highly praised, it would encourage our scientists and technicians to lead the universities and scientific research institutes in foreign countries.

The man from the State Academy of Sciences told Kim Jong Un that



Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang Catfish Farm

the control devices of integrated production system had been imported previously, but for the system of the Pyongyang Catfish Farm, they had established it by using home-made devices including a dispersion processor.

Kim Jong Un said with a broad smile that that was why criteria were necessary, adding: Devices needed in establishing an integrated production system in fish farms should be made locally as far as possible to save funds to the maximum; we should give wide publicity to the achievements gained in the field of science and technology this year; in this respect, we should give high commendation to this farm as it lowered the proportion on imports while developing necessary devices by its own strength and wisdom.

He entered the liquid fermentation room at the fermented feed processing workshop. An official from the State Academy of Sciences said that a feed additive production line had been built and they had succeeded in turning out trial products of red yeast, which had previously been imported.

He spoke highly of them for producing red yeast in our way, and said: This farm should be designated as a model unit, a unit for demonstration lecture, in the sector of fish farming; people from other fish farms should visit here; visiting is studying; a visit to this farm is the course of studying Party policy, science and technology, a course of demonstrative education.

He then looked round the solid fermentation room on the second floor. He passed under the facilities with his body bending and arrived before a conveyor belt.

He gazed at it with care before asking the general manager if the farm had made it by itself

The general manager answered with a trace of blush that this room supplied fermented vegetable materials to the general feed processing

workshop, and that as the facilities in this room were made by the factory itself, they were not good.

Looking at him, Kim Jong Un said:

“You have said the facilities in the solid fermentation room are not good as they were manufactured by the factory itself, but I like the facilities made by our workers than those with foreign brands. These are creations of the spirit of self-reliance displayed by the workers of this catfish farm.”

Core of Renovation

On November 13, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un inspected the Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory.

Pride in the Things of Our Own

After being briefed by the general manager of the factory on the result of the renovation of the factory, he said with satisfaction that it was a high level that 78 percent of the equipment used for the renovation project had been produced at home, that the core of renovation was conducting the project with things obtained locally, that the large proportion of things obtained locally for the renovation project was meaningful, and that he was most pleased with this fact.

He continued: Now some officials claim that they have undertaken renovation project by importing sets of equipment from other countries; they are wrong; we must produce by our own efforts the equipment and materials needed for renovating factories and enterprises; increasing the



Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang Children's
Foodstuff Factory

proportion of indigenous equipment and materials is the core and basic index for renovation project; when the country's machine-building industry has developed, we will be able to develop well-built machines and sell them to other countries; the core of this factory's renovation project is that it was done by obtaining machines and equipment locally.

When he entered the products storehouse, he said that he had been reported that when the soya milk containers are put on the belt, eight of them are moved by the robot at a time, adding that it was beyond imagination in the past, and that he wanted to see the robot working. After looking at it, he expressed his satisfaction with a bright smile and came out of the storehouse.

While going up to the second floor after looking round the workshops on the first floor, he told the officials: This factory is a smart factory, fantastic both in and out; we can show it even to foreign heads of state; those who are to go to foreign countries on economic affairs should visit this factory; then they can learn the level of their own things and feel a pride of them before going to foreign countries.

Renovation Expected by the Party

At the soya kefir workshop on the second floor he highly spoke of the high level of automation of the production line, saying: This factory should be shown to our officials, so that they can have a correct understanding that when they are to renovate their units as required by the times and as expected by the Party, they have to follow this factory in undertaking it with their own force and their own technology.

Officials told him how the renovation project had been implemented: The valve for feeding the exact amount of milk powder for babies demanded high precision, so some claimed that it must be imported; but

the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory succeeded in manufacturing it; the heat-blown drying oven was built by the University of Sciences; the automatic nutritional powder packing machine was developed by the Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering; the machine that needles the filled sacks was also manufactured by our own efforts.

After listening to their boastful explanation, Kim Jong Un said: Our scientists and technicians are capable of making anything once they are determined to do; when I came here last year I saw a process being done manually, but it has been automated; if we are determined, nothing is beyond our reach; I am very happy with it.

After looking round each and every production site, he said: This is really a fantastic factory; I have visited many units, but this is the only factory which has put its production lines—from beginning to end—on a modern footing; most of the renovated units failed to put the last packing process on a modern footing, but this factory is fully automated.

Then he continued, **“What I’m most happy with is that the Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory has obtained its equipment at home while renovating itself. What is important in its renovation is that it has increased its production capacity and provided a sanitary guarantee for its production lines. But the great success is that it has increased the proportion of home-made equipment; this should be the core in renovating the industrial enterprises.”**

Ryomyong, Symbolic of the Future of the Revolution

On March 17, Juche 105 (2016), Kim Jong Un went to the street running in front of Kim Il Sung University.



Kim Jong Un setting forth the important tasks in building Ryomyong Street after declaring the start of the construction project

He went over the sand table of Ryomyong Street to be built, its formation plan, the drawing of a bird's-eye view of the street and the building and reconstruction plan of houses and public buildings, and said to the officials: Today we are going to proclaim to the whole world that we are starting to build another street; over the recent years we are rushing 20 years ahead in construction.

After looking at the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun and Ryongnam Hill for a good while, he said solemnly that as he had mentioned previously, the street should be named Ryomyong (daybreak–Tr) in the sense that the revolution dawns from Ryongnam Hill over which the sun rises and that the country's architecture aspires after the future.

He then continued: Construction of Ryomyong Street is a very important undertaking aimed at laying out more solemnly the area around the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred place of the Sun, where the great leaders are preserved in their lifetime appearance, and demonstrating to the whole world once again the true features of the Juche-oriented idea of architectural beauty of our Party and the art of Juche-oriented architecture; if it is completed, it will improve the



living conditions for our educationalists, scientists and other people, and make a great contribution to developing Pyongyang, capital city of the revolution, into the centre of a culturally advanced country; proclamation of the beginning of the construction project will demonstrate a greater power than the explosion of a nuclear bomb; the construction constitutes an important political occasion that will demonstrate far and wide once again our country's strength; but for a great economic potential, we would not have dared to build such a street under the present conditions and circumstances; building the street this year—this fact alone is enough to demonstrate our economic potential; the project is not simply an economic and practical matter of building a new street; it is an important political undertaking.

He stressed once again that through the construction of the street, we should demonstrate our strength and will to the whole world and instil the confidence in victory in our people.

True to his militant call, the Korean people, regarding construction of the street not simply as a construction project but as a campaign for defending the prestige of their socialist country and socialism, a campaign for demonstrating the strength and capability of their country, turned up as one, finishing the project by the time set by the WPK and on the standard demanded by it while conducting the large-scale campaign for rehabilitating the northern area stricken by heavy flooding.

The street was inaugurated in April Juche 106 (2017) on the occasion of the 105th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung.

3. ENNOBLING AFFECTION FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS

- Love the Future
- At an Ice Rink
- A Baby Named in a Conference Hall
- An Important Task Entrusted to Young Nurses
- Earnest Request
- Steep Water Slide Made in Korea
- At the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station
- “Girl Mother”
- At Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory
- Nothing Should Be Spared



Love the Future

In Juche 101 (2012) Kim Jong Un initiated inviting 20 000 Children's Union members across the country to Pyongyang to celebrate the 66th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Children's Union.

Special Measure

Kim Jong Un gave instructions on the detailed problems arising in ensuring a success of all the celebration events.

In line with his instructions that the events, as they were to be held on a large scale, should be a concern of the Party as well as that of the youth league, the passenger service sector in the capital city, civil aviation sector and railway sector each made deluxe coaches, charter aircraft and trains available for the young passengers. The People's Army, whose mission it is to defend the country, prepared new coaches and fuel to be used during the period of celebration events. The people's security sector ensured that senior officers went to the railways, venues of events and visiting places to confirm the security on the spot and take measures where necessary. Competent medical doctors made full preparations to take care of the young delegates while accompanying them.

Officials of the Party Central Committee and operational commanding officers of the People's Army went to the rendezvouses in provinces to greet the young guests and escort them to the capital city.

Children, some of whom were yet to enjoy the benefit of travelling

by train and more than 70% of whom had not been to Pyongyang, left for the city by charter planes, trains, buses and vessels.

Kim Jong Un saw to it that provinces, cities and counties held large-scale ceremonies to send off their delegates; when they arrived in Pyongyang, he took measures for ensuring that the celebration events were held on the same level as those for a Party conference.

The whole country warmly saw off and welcomed the children.

On their arrival in Pyongyang they put up at the well-conditioned April 25 Hotel, and were provided with delicious dishes, confectionery and soft drinks every day during the whole period of celebration events.

Endless Affection

On June 6, the Joint National Meeting of the Korean Children's Union in celebration of its 66th founding anniversary was held in the Kim Il Sung Stadium in Pyongyang.

Kim Jong Un attended the meeting and delivered a congratulatory speech. He began the speech with the words that, as he saw their dignified appearances and dear faces, he felt as if he were seeing their friends and teachers, their parents, brothers and sisters who had seen them off on their journey to Pyongyang, and continued: To our Party and country, you dear KCU members are treasures more valuable than billions of tons of gold, and represent our hope and our future; our Party is determined to hand down to you a thriving socialist country that will be the greatest in the world.

His speech moved the participants, both children and adults, to tears.

That day in a lounge of the stadium he met some of the young



Kim Jong Un with the participants in the celebrations of the 66th anniversary of the Korean Children's Union

delegates; he asked them their hopes, blessed their future and posed for a photograph with them.

In the evening he enjoyed, with the young delegates, an artistic performance *Love the Future*, specially prepared for celebration of the 66th founding anniversary of the KCU.

After the performance was over, fireworks were set off in the nocturnal sky over Pyongyang in celebration of the holiday of the KCU members.

At first the performance had been planned to start at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, but Kim Jong Un said that it should be ensured that the children enjoyed their holiday more pleasantly; so the performance was delayed and the fireworks were set off immediately after it was over.

Under his close concern the young delegates visited various places in Pyongyang, and 260 of them were presented with birthday spreads. Emergency measures were taken to print 20 000 more copies of *Sonyon Sinmun*, issued during the period of celebration, so that the delegates could take them when they were leaving Pyongyang.

On June 7 he had a photo session with the delegates, moving his place 20 times, in the Plaza of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, and when they were making preparations for leaving Pyongyang, he told a senior official of the Air Koryo Administration to fly the planes when the weather was fine, and that he should command their flight in a responsible way.

At an Ice Rink

Kim Jong Un visited the People's Open-air Ice Rink on November

3, Juche 101 (2012), some days before the inauguration of the new facility.

Seeing the children and other skaters enjoying themselves on the ice, he said that as the ice rink was built on the basis of cutting-edge technology, working people and children could skate on it, wearing short-sleeved shirts in the midst of hot summer.

After listening to what the skaters had to say about it, he called the ice rink a world-class facility and offered to see the children skating there even though it would take some time.

Saying that the children were pretty and good in skating, he asked their names and ages. Then he told them to continue skating.

Encouraged by his praise, the children were in high spirits. Looking at them with a happy smile, Kim Jong Un said: They say they began learning how to skate only a month ago, but they are good skaters now; I wonder how they can skate so well; unlike adults, they are catching up with global standards; it's a pleasant sight to see the children skating, which offers a glimpse of the bright future for our country's sports; just as a modern chicken farm mass-produces eggs, so the rink seems to bring up lots of reserve ice-skating players; the minister of Physical Culture and Sports would benefit from the ice rink.

After a while, he told the children to continue skating and turned back to get out of the rink.

At that time a four-year-old child rushed towards him and asked him to pose for a photograph with them.

Officials were surprised by this unexpected behaviour. With a broad smile, Kim Jong Un held the child's hand in his and posed for a photograph with all the children.



Kim Jong Un having a photo taken with children
in the People's Open-air Ice Rink

A Baby Named in a Conference Hall

April Juche 103 (2014) saw the First Conference of Pilots of the Korean People's Army held in the presence of Kim Jong Un.

When the meeting was declared close, Kim Jong Un sat in his chair instead of leaving the conference hall. He then said: I have one more thing to discuss with you; some days ago, when I inspected an air wing, I promised to name the new-born son of a woman pilot; I am sorry for not keeping the promise.

It was on March 6 that year that he inspected an air force unit to see women pilots under flight training. That day he called the pilot couples patriots, saying that they were more concerned with state affairs than their family affairs. He suggested posing for a photograph with them, one for each couple, which, he said, he would see back in Pyongyang, whenever he was missing them.

The photographing began. After a few couples, a woman pilot took her turn with her husband. After their photograph was taken, the woman stood still, looking as if she had something to say. The commander of the unit told him that she gave birth to a son a few days ago, asking him to name the baby.

Kim Jong Un said to the officials, jokingly, **“Look. Each time I visit this unit, they come up with an unexpected request.”** Then and there he said that he would ponder on how to name the baby and inform them two days later.



Kim Jong Un at the First Conference of Pilots
of the Korean People's Army

In the conference hall the baby's mother was looking back on this episode. When she realized that Kim Jong Un was looking at her, she stood up.

When he asked her if the baby was named, she replied that her son had no name yet because he had promised to name him.

Noting that he would name the baby now, he said: **“I am not sure whether your son would become a pilot and it would be good for him to do so to defend the sky over the country. Even in case he chooses another job, I wish him to support the Party with a pure conscience and devote his life, with loyalty and patriotism, to the prosperity of the country. In this sense I want to name him Ri Chung Do.”**

All the participants stood up at once, raising thunderous cheers.

Shedding tears of gratitude to the Supreme Commander, the pilot couple trotted towards the platform.

Standing before him, they pledged that they would remember the moment of glory all their lives and the family would become red hawks generation after generation.

An Important Task Entrusted to Young Nurses

In May Juche 103 (2014), during his visit to the Taesongsan General Hospital, Kim Jong Un inquired about the children who had been brought from the baby home and orphanage in South Phyongan Province.

Back in February he learned about the actual conditions at the baby homes and orphanages across the country. At that time he came to know that there were some weak children in the above baby home and orphanage. He ordered the army to carry them to the Taesongsan General Hospital for recuperation.

At the hospital he embraced the children and said that he was very pleased to see that they were all healthy in the pink.

Pointing at the nurses standing around the children, he asked if they were all girls.

An official answered yes, and he said to the nurses, **“I am sure you have trained enough before your marriage.”**

At this joke the officials smiled.

He continued to say, **“Very good. Excellent. You, girls, must have taken much trouble to look after these children.”**

A senior official of the hospital told him that each nurse took charge of two or three children and looked after them with maternal affection, adding that they felt ill when their charges were ill.

Listening to what the official had to say, Kim Jong Un said, **“Great. Our soldiers are really laudable.”**

He moved to another room, where a teary-eyed nurse was jumping up and down to welcome him. As she was holding a baby in her arms, the baby’s head was bouncing.

He told the nurse that the baby’s neck might get hurt if she held the baby in such a way.

He pulled her right hand and put it under the baby’s neck. Then he said, **“You should hold a baby in this way. These nurses are all girls and I can see they do not know how to hold babies in their**



Kim Jong Un visiting the Taesongsan
General Hospital

arms. I entrusted this important task to you, as it will be part of preparations for your marriage.”

All laughed at this joke.

Adjusting the nurse’s right hand on the baby’s head, Kim Jong Un said, **“You need to hold the baby this way, supporting his neck. I want you to take care of the baby with maternal affection.”**

Earnest Request

On June 6, Juche 103 (2014), Kim Jong Un paid a visit to Mangyongdae Revolutionary School.

Saying that he came there to congratulate the students on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the Korean Children’s Union, he proposed to pose for a photograph with the teaching staff and students of the school.

Walking towards the cheering students, he said to the officials: The cheering children on the stands are shedding tears; I think they are crying as I am here with them; today they would miss their fathers more than ever before.

He came up to them and told them to stop crying as a photograph would be taken of them.

A senior official introduced to him the students standing in the first row—son of Hero Pak Thae Son who was a miner at the Yonggwang Pit of the Kumgol Mine under the Komdok Mining



Kim Jong Un visiting Mangyongdae Revolutionary School in celebration of the 68th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union

Complex; son of Hero Kim Ki Bong, the first hero in the 21st century; son of a deputy chief of a navy squadron, the 40 sailors of which died when on duty.

Kim Jong Un soothed one student after another and said to a boy, holding his hands in his, **“I am pleased to see you. Stop crying.”**

He went up to another boy next to him and rubbed his cheeks, saying **“We are happy to see each other. Do not cry.”** After a while, he resumed, **“To see tears in your eyes, I do not feel good.”**

Then he took out his handkerchief to wipe his own tears.

When he was moving to the next stand after having a photograph taken, the students came up to him, calling “Father.”

He told the officials, **“They must be missing their fathers.”**

The officials tried to block their way.

He said, **“Let them go. I am afraid they might fall down. I am sure they are longing for President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il.”**

After the photo session was over, the students rushed toward him again calling “Father.” The officials dissuaded them, again blocking their way.

Kim Jong Un told them that they must not do so and he could see they were yearning for the great leaders and for him.

Tears gathered in the officials’ eyes.

Kim Jong Un said to them, **“I would like to say this again. Revolutionary schools should prepare their students, who are grandsons and granddaughters of the President and the General and precious treasures of the revolution, to be true revolutionaries who bear the characteristics of the great leaders.”**

Steep Water Slide Made in Korea

On July 5, Juche 103 (2014), Kim Jong Un paid a visit to the Songdowon International Children's Camp to see how the children were spending their summer vacation.

Ours Is Good

After having a panoramic view of the camp for a while, he passed a spiral slide pool and went to a steep slide. He touched its horizontal track and said that this steep slide at the Songdowon International Children's Camp had been made for the first time in the country, adding that it was good to produce amusement facilities at home. He stressed the need to design facilities for a wading pool in a variety of forms.

Then he asked an official of the camp whether the children had a ride on the steep slide during the fourth camping term. The latter answered no, saying that the slide had not been installed in that term. Kim Jong Un said that from the next term the steep slide should be run for the campers.

He went on, **“We should ensure that the Songdowon International Children's Camp overflows with children's laughter. Such laughter inspires optimism and confidence in us, whereas, it strikes**



Kim Jong Un visiting the Songdowon International
Children's Camp

terror into the enemy.”

After looking around several places of the camp, Kim Jong Un came back to the outdoor wading pool. Then he asked the officials to have a ride on the steep slide. Probably, he wanted to see if it was safe enough. With a broad smile on his face, he gazed at the officials who were enjoying the ride. Then he said: It is really wonderful; the slide looks better than the ones made in other countries; in future we should produce various forms of facilities for a wading pool; this time the steep slide made by our own efforts and technology has been installed here; ours is good; our trademark *Taedonggang* on the slide looks fine and the roof on top of the slide looks nice, too.



Meticulous Attention to Detail

Kim Jong Un approached the horizontal course of the steep slide and looked at its inside carefully.

He pointed out that the inside of the course was smooth and its outside was rough. Bending over, he had a close look at the frame supporting the course. He said that it was a weak point and it would be better to protect it with turf-covered mounds. Pointing at the support again, he reiterated that the weak point of the course must be supported by turf-covered mounds.

At that time an official slid down. Kim Jong Un asked him how it was. The answer was that it was safe. He told him to enjoy the riding.

He looked still uneasy as he was examining the horizontal course to estimate its length.

He looked at the steep slide again and said that young people would love such a thing. He then came to the jumping pool beside the horizontal course and asked the officials to go up and jump from the springboard.

After seeing the officials jumping into the pool, Kim Jong Un came back to the horizontal course of the steep slide and asked the above official how he felt about the joints. The official said that there was no problem.

Then Kim Jong Un said: Other countries use silicon in connecting the joints of the waterslide but ours is a complete set; ours is better.

At the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station

As Young People March Fast, the Country Advances So Much

On April 19, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the construction site of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station in the rugged mountains.

After shaking hands with the leading officials of the shock brigade, he said: It took an hour and a half to come to the construction site from Samjiyon County; as the road is in poor conditions, I tired; it must have been hard for General Kim Jong Il when he came here along the same road; it rends my heart to recollect what a hard journey it was for him.

After being briefed on the project in front of a map, he looked around several places of the construction site and acquainted himself with the progress of the project and the living conditions for the shock brigade members.

He highly praised them for their remarkable achievement. Despite unfavourable circumstances, they pushed ahead with the building of the concrete dam for Unit 1 of the power station, the pivot of the construction project. And they were speeding up the digging of waterway tunnel for Unit 2, which was at the final stage. While carrying on the construction project in a three-dimensional way, they built hundreds of houses for



Kim Jong Un inspecting the construction site of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station

the residents in the area to be submerged. They also built a sanatorium and supply bases and ran them efficiently. Their hearts were burning with loyalty to the cause of the Party and the leader. Fully determined to contribute to resolving the electricity problem, they achieved miraculous feats in the large-scale hydroelectric power station project.

Speaking highly of what they had done, Kim Jong Un said: At this construction site of the power station, I can see that the ideological and spiritual state of the shock brigade members is admirable; they give active support to the Party and go straight ahead all the time, following the Party; this gives me a great encouragement; I feel as if I won the world; you should tell the young people that today I have appealed to them to step up the building of a powerful country as soon as possible, I believing in them and they believing in me.

He continued to say to the accompanying officials and the leading officials of the shock brigade: As young people march fast, the country advances so much; I am convinced that they will complete the construction of Units 1 and 2 with credit till the 70th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea; by doing so, they will demonstrate to the world that the 70-year-long history of our Party is the one in which constant priority has been given to young people.

Legendary Tale of Heroic Youth

On September 13, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un paid another visit to the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station.

Greatly encouraged by his previous visit in April the same year, the youth shock brigade waged an intensive struggle in close cooperation with the service personnel who were diverted to the project upon the

order of the Supreme Commander. In a little over four months, they achieved a greater success than they had done over the past decade. This was unprecedented in the history of hydropower station construction.

Kim Jong Un said to the officials of the shock brigade: You have built the dam for Unit 1 of the power station on the occasion of the Youth Day, August 28; this is a miraculous success made in the Paektu area; our young people are very laudable; they have created a legendary tale of heroic youth, to the admiration of the world; this can be done only by the Korean young people who have been educated and trained under the care of our Party.

Then he looked around a monument to the revolutionary activities of the peerlessly great persons of Mt Paektu and an education hall under construction. He said that the exploits performed by the young people in building the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station were a precious treasure to be etched in the history of the Party, and named the education hall Paektusan Hero Youth Exploits Exhibition Hall.

He looked at the dam for Unit 1 from various angles and had a walk on the dam.

He then said: It looks majestic; it is like a handsome man; as seen from below, it seems to be representing our young people's soaring spirit and, from afar, it resembles a large contingent of young people forming a bulwark in defence of our Party.

Blessed with Young People

On October 3, over half a month after that, Kim Jong Un visited the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station again and said:

Here, at this construction site at the foot of Mt Paektu, where a



Kim Jong Un acknowledging the cheering young people at the completed Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station

legendary tale of heroic youth has been created, our trustworthy young people have built this grand monument by shedding their patriotic sweat and blood in the spirit of death-defying implementation, to the admiration of the whole world; thus they have lived up to the expectations of the Party Central Committee; no words will be enough fully to describe the feats of labour performed by the shock brigade members in building dams and digging waterway tunnels inch by inch, breaking rocks and moving mountains with sledgehammers and crow bars for several years in the face of the biting northern cold; when even the means of transport were frozen due to the intense cold, they transported building materials on large and small sledges; the death-defying corps members held up the railway bridges with their bodies in the icy waters of the Sodu; everyone bows to the revolutionary,



self-sacrificing and patriotic spirit they and other young people have displayed in building the power station; there are no young people in the world as praiseworthy as ours, who volunteered to work in this remote mountainous area, not in the flourishing urban quarters, who find the worth of life in carrying out the Party's intentions, and who cultivate themselves in a revolutionary way by working out the curriculum of the "Paektu Youth University" and giving marks to their conscience every moment and every day; whenever our revolution faced trials and difficulties, those who reassured me were the young people who volunteered to start their career at the construction site of this power station and earned a diploma from the "youth university" after working with patriotic devotion in the Paektu area; the problem of young people is currently the most difficult one in the disputed areas of the world, but our young people serve our Party as its spiritual buttress, as its solid cornerstone; sure enough, our Party is blessed with young people.

"Girl Mother"

Among the speakers at the Second National Conference of Model Youth of Virtue held in Pyongyang in Juche 104 (2015) was Jang Jong Hwa, 20, who was a worker at the public catering agency in Chollima District, Nampho.

No one imagined that she, the youngest among the speakers, would be placed in the front rank of exemplary young people of virtue.

In appreciation of her deed, Kim Jong Un said; **"The laudable deed of the 20-year-old 'girl mother,' who is nurturing seven orphans with maternal affection in the prime of her life, moves all the people."**

Before a photo session he met some exemplary young people. Holding her hands in his, he said: I was told that you have taken warm care of seven orphans; do not cry; you are a mother with seven children; to see your crying eyes, you are still young; you are a laudable “girl mother.”

Patting her on her back, he continued: The phrase “girl mother” can be coined only in our country; others would not even dream of such a beautiful deed.

It was one January day in Juche 102 (2013), when Jang Jong Hwa became a worker at the public catering agency.

That day, as usual, she went to a steel workshop where her mother had been listed as an honorary member. While walking across the shopfloor, she happened to see three sisters with red neckerchiefs on. The children’s parents died of illness while working at the steel workshop. Their colleagues at the workshop were looking after the children.

Back at home, Jang could hardly sleep as the thought of the orphans and the workers weighed upon her mind. She knew well how much



Kim Jong Un was concerned about parentless children. “I know I am not qualified as their mother but I can be their eldest sister,” she said to herself. Some days later, she brought the orphans to her house. Soon afterwards, she adopted another four orphans, among whom was a two-year-old boy.

Bringing up these seven children, she did not regard her decision as something praiseworthy. Nor did she think of her ability to do so. She just took it as her own duty to take charge of the orphans. The fatigue and agony she endured in the subsequent two years were beyond expression, but she matured spiritually and morally. Now called “girl mother” so affectionately, she enjoys due respect as the most beautiful flower of the era.

At Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory

On November 13, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory.

Children’s Smile

Being led around the factory, Kim Jong Un halted at the steps to the soya milk workshop.

Then he said to officials: General Kim Jong Il ensured that this factory maintained regular production even during the Arduous March and forced march; now there is no reason why we cannot operate it on

a normal basis; this factory should be provided with plenty of raw and other necessary materials; this is the way to make sure that the great leaders' ennobling love for the younger generations and the future of the country is handed down for ever.

He paused for a second and resumed: The factory should make great efforts to put its production on a normal footing as it has been renovated in a modern fashion; by doing so, it should maintain regular production; the General stressed that the factory should produce enough soya milk for children; in this sense, how this factory maintains regular production is not merely an economic and technical problem; it is a matter of moral obligation to the General; when supplied with nutritious foodstuffs, we will see children smile happily all the time and their parents will be optimistic about the victory of socialism.

He went on: **“The officials and employees of the Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory should produce larger amounts of foodstuffs such as soya milk and supply them to children. Then we will see our children smile happily all the time.”**

He reiterated that the factory should put production on a normal basis before the Seventh Party Congress and make the people feel confident of the victory of socialism.

Criterion of Product Quality

In the sample display room, Kim Jong Un picked up a 500g pack of formula and praised its packaging. Saying that it looked better than the one he had seen the previous year, he noted that the product's trademark and packaging were suited to children's tastes.

An official told him that in Pyongyang there were more domestic



Kim Jong Un visiting the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory

foodstuffs than foreign ones.

Kim Jong Un said to him: It does not necessarily mean that the quality of our products has been improved; it is true that domestic foodstuffs are being sold in large quantities nowadays; but you should remember that it does not mean that their quality has reached the international level; the Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory has laid solid foundations for satisfying the nutritious and hygienic requirements of the products by modernizing the production lines and establishing a product analysis system; now the factory should focus on improving the foodstuffs’ tastes.

Noting that the factory should compete with its foreign counterparts in terms of taste, he said:

“It is hard to deceive children into eating less tasty food. They are very sensitive to food. Even a new-born has an appetite. If they prefer a foreign formula rather than this factory’s, it means that the latter is less tasty. When told about the shortage of food and persuaded to take unpalatable foods, adults will eat them. This is not the case with children. The criterion for assessing the quality of this factory’s products is whether children like them or not.”

Looking at the foreign samples, he underlined the need to import high-quality products from developed countries for reference purposes.

Nothing Should Be Spared

On November 30, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren’s Palace which had been renovated as



Kim Jong Un visiting the renovated Mangyongdae
Schoolchildren's Palace

required by the new era.

Gazing at the magnificent building, he said: We can be proud of it before the world; its exterior is covered with granite slabs, which adds grandeur to the building; the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace is a monumental structure, which demonstrates to the whole world the validity of our Party's policy on the education of the younger generations and the might and superiority of our socialist system; other countries cannot have such a palace, nor can they imitate its architectural style.

Seeing President Kim Il Sung's instructions inscribed on the inside wall of the building, he said that they encapsulate the President's ennobling view of the younger generations, the future and the revolution. Reading them word by word, I have realized how much he loved our children, he added.

Then he looked round the room dedicated to the education with revolutionary relics. He emphasized that it was important to conduct effective education in this room so as to equip the teaching staff and the children with the leadership exploits performed by the great leaders. Then they will be fully aware of how much the great leaders and the



Party love the younger generations and how is it that they can study to their heart's content and cultivate their talents in this wonderful palace, he said.

He continued: President Kim Il Sung called children kings of the country and set taking good care of them as the most important task facing the Party and the government; every New Year's Day he visited the palace, seeing the children's artistic performances and even dancing with them; General Kim Jong Il planted a tree with them as a token of blessing for their bright future; such leaders cannot be found elsewhere in the world.

After looking round several parts of the palace, Kim Jong Un said:

“We should spare nothing for children and ensure that they smile happily all the time.”

He gave instructions about the inauguration ceremony, noting that as the palace was renovated in a splendid fashion, the ceremony should be held in grand style.

4. DEFENDERS OF THE COUNTRY, ARTISTS OF THE PEOPLE'S HAPPINESS

- A Rare Fish
- Cheers on Cho Island
- The Mettle of the People's Army
- The Supreme Commander Exists for His Soldiers
- As Befits an Army for the People
- Request, Not an Order
- Objective of the Revolution
- Tomb Owner
- Promise with Soldiers
- Daughters and Daughters-in-law of the Party
- Laudable Daughters of the Country and the People
- Rason Transformed beyond Recognition



A Rare Fish

On January 20, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un visited an air-force unit. There was a big fish in his car.

The fish was so big that one man could not carry it. It was a variegated carp, weighing more than 60kg.

Variegated carp occurs in the Taedong River, the Amnok River and the middle reaches of the Tuman River.

It is 40-50cm long on average, one metre at the longest, and weighs more than 30kg.

It weighs nearly 30g one year after hatching, 1-1.5kg two years and 3-4kg three years.

It was uncertain how old the huge fish was.

Kim Jong Un taught the officers and cooks of the unit how to cook the fish.

The cooks made dishes with the fish.

Enjoying the delicious food, the pilots wondered how such a big fish had been caught in the depth of winter. They didn't know that it was a gift for Kim Jong Un, reflecting the fishermen's wishes for his good health.

But this fact was kept secret from the pilots.

Cheers on Cho Island

On March 9, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un set out on a voyage to Cho Island, after inspecting a naval unit on the west coast.

When the vessel gathered speed, the officers advised him to have a rest in the captain's cabin.

But he refused, saying that he was to acquaint himself with the state of combat readiness of the ship while voyaging with the sailors. Then he went up to the bridge deck of the ship, noting that he was the happiest when mixing with his soldiers.

He continued: This voyage to Cho Island reminds me of General Kim Jong Il who, in November 1996, sailed through surging waves to see the soldiers on the island; that day the waves were violent, so he often recalled the voyage.

On arriving at his destination, he was greeted by the officers of the unit. They were in tears and Kim Jong Un said that he came there to meet the service personnel defending the frontline post on the west coast.

He looked round several places of the unit along the course taken by the General.

Expressing his expectations that the soldiers on Cho Island would perform proud exploits in defending the socialist country, he



Kim Jong Un with the families of officers
of Cho Island Defending Unit

gave them binoculars and an automatic rifle as a present and had a photo taken with them.

It was when he was taking his leave that he saw the officers' wives raising cheers outside the barracks at the foot of a hill.

So pleased to see them, he motioned to them to come. Then the women dashed towards him. He had another photo taken with them.

When Kim Jong Un got on board to return, the service personnel and all other people on the island came out to see him off.

On the vessel he urged his entourage to wave back to the sailors on the wharf, soldiers, officers' wives and children on the nearby hills until they could not be seen.

The following day he said to officials: Yesterday I inspected the frontline unit defending Cho Island on the west coast; I found something emotional in their behavior as islanders usually yearn for people and land; when I motioned to the officers' wives stamping their feet outside the barracks in order to have a photo taken with them, they dashed forward and clung to me; and when posing for a photo, they vied to get nearer to me; the news that I had a photo taken with them spread so quickly that when we were taking our leave, other residents over the hill came out in holiday attire and raised loud cheers on both sides of the path; the image of them following my car and cheering in tears is still vivid in my memory.

The Mettle of the People's Army

The following happened in July Juche 101 (2012) when some parts of the country were hit by the strongest-ever typhoon.

Kaechon in South Phyongan Province suffered the severest damage.

Overnight, due to a heavy rainfall, the dams near the mountain north of the Joyang Coal Mine burst and this caused a devastating landslide. Consequently, the Joyang Coal Mine under the Kaechon Area Coal Mining Complex and the Joyang Railway Station were severely damaged, the locomotives and wagons buried or overturned, and the coal depot reduced to a mountain of earth.

In particular, the railway section, several hundred metres long, between Kaechon and Joyang was covered with stones and mud to a thickness of three metres and the railways were warped.

The Kaechon area is famous for its abundance in coal deposits and the coal from the Joyang Coal Mine was transported by rail to the thermal power stations and other key industrial establishments on the west coast.

The railway line had to be rehabilitated immediately; otherwise it might cause serious damage to economic construction and the people's living.

On being briefed on this, Kim Jong Un called the name of the commander of a KPA brigade and assigned his unit the task of rehabilitating the railway section and removing the debris.

He said to officials: The recent rainfall caused heavy flooding in several parts of the country; I have been told that owing to the torrential

rainfall on the west coast, the railway section between Kaecheon and Joyang was covered with over tens of thousands of cubic metres of mud and the railway service was paralysed; so I ordered a brigade commander to move to the affected area, emphasizing that the People's Army must demonstrate its mettle.

When issuing this order, he said that the service personnel should lay no burden on the residents, fully conscious of being soldiers of the People's Army, and ask for nothing but water and air.

On receiving the order, the brigade rushed to the affected area and arrived there at dawn the following day. They immediately buckled down to the rehabilitation campaign.

The soldiers carried debris on their backs to build roads as heavy machines could not be transported because traffic was cut off due to landslides.

Less than one hour after the rehabilitation campaign began, a relief road, several miles long, was opened. Heavy machines could now



move along the road. And within one day the railway station and the railway section were all restored.

In less than one day and a half about 40 000 cubic metres of debris around the railway line for the Joyang Coal Mine were removed and 10 000 cubic metres of earth carried to fill up hollows and build up the road beds, so that the trains carrying coal could pass freely. In three days the surrounding area was cleaned up.

In addition, the railway lines and the dams were strengthened, dozens of houses, kindergartens, nurseries and schools were repaired or built.

The Supreme Commander Exists for His Soldiers

I Must Go

On August 16, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un said that he was going to inspect the unit defending Mu Island the following day. All officials were surprised because it is a small island in the hottest spot in the southernmost part of the southwest front.

They tried to dissuade him, saying that it was too dangerous.

But he dug his heels in, saying: I must go however dangerous the spot may be and however perilous the voyage may be; you do not need to dissuade me; or I will go by swimming with a snorkel; I must go because there are my beloved soldiers on Mu Island; so, who else but I, the Supreme Commander, should go.

Looking out at the southwestern sky he continued to say: If I go

to the island and have a photo taken with the soldiers within a stone's throw from the enemy, the soldiers will never forget it and serve the army better.

Now the officials had no alternative but to accompany him.

At dawn the following day, the officials went to a port on the west coast and searched for a boat. But it was very hard to find any vessel. The port was very small and it was too early.

They managed to find one, but it was a 27-hp wooden boat.

When informed of the situation, Kim Jong Un said that if the fishermen and soldiers could use it, he could do so. He got on board first, urging others.

After a few moments, the vessel began to move.

To the Dangerous Spots

Kim Jong Un sat in front of the wheelhouse and urged the officials to sit down on the deck as the voyage would take long. But all stood still. He held a hand of an officer of the local unit and urged him to sit, saying: You are the host and we are guests; if you are standing, we will be more anxious.

Then he joked that the officer must be planning to leave others on board and make an escape back to the shore.

The officer was perplexed, others laughing.

Kim Jong Un asked him where Yonphyong Island was and which island was the nearest to it.

The officer pointed his finger at Yonphyong Island, saying that the nearest one was Jangjae Island.

Looking at the direction of the latter island, Kim Jong Un repeated



Kim Jong Un on his way to Jangjae and Mu islands

its name to himself and ordered that the boat should change the course to Jangjae Island.

All on board jumped to their feet, looking very shocked.

Kim Jong Un said: Even if the enemy is targeting Jangjae and Mu islands, I must go; I know that both islands are quite dangerous, but my beloved soldiers are on Jangjae Island as well; if I visit Mu Island, but not Jangjae Island, the soldiers on the latter island will be disappointed.

He went on to say, **“I will go everywhere my soldiers are, no matter how dangerous it might be. I, Supreme Commander, exist for my soldiers.”**

This was how he inspected both islands in the dangerous part of the frontline aboard a small wooden boat.

As Befits an Army for the People

On October 14, Juche 101 (2012), Kim Jong Un had talks with some officers of the People's Army. He praised the service personnel for making rapid progress in improving the Pothong River after completing the Hapjang River improvement project. He said that he decided to entrust the military academies with the project of renovating the parks in the capital city underlining the need to conduct effective political and organizational work so as to complete the project at the highest level and in a short period.

On the 29th he said to the officers: The service personnel buckled down to the project of renovating the parks in Pyongyang after completing the improvement projects for the Hapjang and Pothong

rivers; they should not lay a burden on the residents but complete the projects soon at a high qualitative level; as I often say, the People's Army should never turn to the residents for help or cause inconvenience to them even when doing something for their benefit; they should think that water and air are all what they can use in the region concerned, otherwise they are not worthy of being members of the People's Army.

He continued: **“I tasked the People's Army with renovating the parks in Pyongyang, as well as improving the Hapjang and Pothong rivers. My intention in doing so is to make the army do more things for the benefit of the people to show their intrinsic features and appearance as befits an army of the people and consolidate the great unity between the army and the people.”**

He added: I was told that civilians rendered active help to the soldiers engaged in the Pothong River improvement project; the army helps the people and the latter assist the former—such great unity is the root of our society and its true image; only when they trust in and rely on each other, can we win victory in times of emergency by dint of the army-people unity; if not, we can never defeat the enemy.

True to his intention, the soldiers performed remarkable feats in implementing the above projects: the Hapjang and Pothong rivers were improved in six and nine days, respectively, and the parks in the capital city were renovated in 25 days.

Request, Not an Order

The following happened on May 27, Juche 102 (2013), when

Kim Jong Un visited a fishing station of the army after having four fishing boats sent to it.

The fishing boats were of an modern style and the fishermen at other stations were envious of them.

An official of the fishing station thanked Kim Jong Un for these boats.

The latter said: I am pleased that all the fishermen here like the boats; you should catch plenty of fish to supply them to the service personnel on the front line all the year round; then the boats sent by the Party will pay off.

At the wheelhouse he saw a fish detector and asked about its performance.

Then he walked into the engine room, in which he inquired in detail about its structure, consumption of fuel, horsepower, etc.

He asked how much fish a boat could catch and said:

Every boat must catch 1 000 tons every year; this is my earnest request, not an order of the Supreme Commander; you should make every effort to catch more fish and supply them to the service personnel; when you fulfil the plan, write a letter to me; I will wait for your good news.

He stressed: If this fishing station can catch sufficient amounts of fish, I will make sure that necessary implements are obtained in time and everything provided for keeping the boats in a good state of repair; I will do my best to help you as this is for my soldiers; you should focus on catching fish; it is good to name the boats *Tanphung*, in the sense that a large amount of fish should be caught in the sea just as a rich harvest is reaped in autumn; this name reflects my request for catching plenty of fish for the service personnel.

Objective of the Revolution

Kim Jong Un inspected an army unit defending Jangjae Island on September 2, Juche 102 (2013) for the third time in a little more than one year.

Acknowledging the unit commander's salute, he asked him what he thought of the new look of the island.

The officer replied that it was wonderful.

Kim Jong Un held several children in his embrace and stroked their cheeks. He asked their names and ages, before telling the officers that they should take good care of the children.

Then he was guided around the new barracks, houses and positions. He was very pleased to hear that the soldiers said the barracks were better-looking than their native homes and everything was provided for their living. Even those in the inland areas would envy the soldiers on the island.

At the education room he said that it was well furnished as suited to the sentiments of the service personnel and it was good to put the high-quality furnitures in a complete set.

He was then guided to the village where there were new houses for the officers.

He said: It looks like a holiday resort; the living rooms, kitchens, washrooms, TV sets and other furnishings are fine; you say you wanted me to see these new houses; the officers' families should move into the houses without delay so that they can live without cause for envy.



Kim Jong Un looking round the newly-built houses of the officers of Jangjae Island Defending Unit

Then he had a photo taken with each family against the background of their new houses.

He also listened to a song sung by the commander's daughter and solo play, and clapped his hands in praise of her performance.

He noted that the barracks and the residential area had changed beyond recognition, calling it a new fairyland in the era of the Workers' Party.

He said, **“There is a saying about ‘eye-opening transformation of the land.’ As for Jangjae Island, it would be right to say ‘eye-opening transformation of the island.’”**

He continued: The great leaders directed close attention to providing good living conditions for the service personnel and their families on the islands; now their wish has come true; this is an objective of our revolution; the parents of the soldiers and the officers' wives would be glad to hear about this transformation; they entrusted their children to me and I am now relieved.

Tomb Owner

Photo of a Sailor

In mid-October Juche 102 (2013), Kim Jong Un received a report that the officers and sailors of a naval unit had fallen during the performance of their combat duty. He could not believe the news, so he asked officials concerned to confirm it. He then took steps for finding out all their remains under the sea and holding a grand funeral. He

went over the formation plan of a tomb several times and gave instructions on the stone colour, handrails and other details. He decided to have the photographic images of the combatants put up on the tombstone.

According to his instructions the officers of the relevant unit obtained the photos of the deceased. But the photos were of varying sizes and poor quality. Particularly, in one of them a sailor was closing his eyes.

No other photo of him was available at his unit.

The officers could not but send Kim Jong Un this photo as well as those of other sailors.

Still stricken with deep grief, he examined the photos one after another. The photo of a sailor closing his eyes caught his attention. As this sailor, 19 years old, spent most of his time in the vessel, there was no other photo of him. However, Kim Jong Un decided to add glory to the young sailor's heroic life.

He was lost in thought for a good while and summoned an official to tell him about the photo in question. He asked him to find the photo, which he had taken with the service personnel of the unit during his visit the previous year.

This was how the photo of the young sailor was found for the photographic image to be carved on the tombstone.

On November 1 he came to see the tomb. He took a close look at the photographic images that were carved on the tombstone, saying that they were of good quality and he felt as if the martyrs had been welcoming him. And he stopped in front of a photographic image and recalled how the photographic image was prepared after the sailor's death.



Kim Jong Un visiting the tomb of the sailors
who fell in action

Immortal Martyrs

Looking round the tomb of the sailors, Kim Jong Un said: I had the tomb of the sailors built where their unit is located; it is a good location; as in their lifetime, the deceased would see the naval port, other soldiers and the sea; other sailors would set out on the voyage to perform their combat duties, while seeing the tomb and keeping in mind the martyrs' spirit; now I feel at ease as their remains have been buried in the tomb; one must be prepared for death in defending the country, but as the sailors died at so early ages I can hardly sleep; I feel heartbroken whenever I think of them who had had great ambitions and spent the days of military service burning their hearts with the dream and hope of performing feats, their parents who would shed tears over the death of their sons who left home villages, saying with a smile that they would return after becoming heroes, and the wives who had been waiting for their husbands; as I am so heartbroken, how grief-stricken they must be!

Gazing at the tomb for a long while, he said that the name of the tomb owner was not inscribed on the tombstone and he would become the owner in his capacity as the Supreme Commander .

He went on: **“The words ‘Tomb owner: Kim Jong Un, Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army’ should be carved on the tombstone. Then I would feel a bit relieved.”**

Again praising the sailors for their heroic feats, he said: All of them are my comrades-in-arms who, together with me, should fulfil the lifelong desires of the great leaders; even though they are dead,

they showed, at the cost of their lives, how a soldier must discharge his duty; their revolutionary spirit is alive as they laid down their precious lives to defend the sea of the country; they were faithful to the last moment of their lives carrying out their combat duties death-defyingly; all the soldiers of the unit and other service personnel should learn from their feats and ennobling spirit.

Promise with Soldiers

Kim Jong Un visited the Taesongsan General Hospital in May Juche 103 (2014). Looking round the hospital, he said that he wanted to see the soldiers who got injured during their combat training.

Officials in his company were afraid that if he met them who were not fully recovered, he would be worried, so they asked him to meet the soldiers later.

However, he told them that if the soldiers knew that he left the hospital without seeing them, they would be very disappointed and stay up all night thinking about him.

He was guided to a room where the injured were. He stood at the door for a while, looking at them.

The soldiers were very surprised to see him.

He held their hands in his and asked how they were. They answered that they were all right. He asked an official of the hospital when they could walk. The official said that they could walk in four months, adding that after wearing prostheses, they would be able to run and play basketball. But this joke could not be a comfort to him.



Kim Jong Un talking with the soldiers
who got injured during combat drill

He told a senior official that when they left the hospital, they should be sent to a school for training Party officials.

Turning back to the soldiers, he said: **“You must not think that you will be discharged from the army. Never. You can become political officers.”**

It sounded like an earnest request and the soldiers burst into tears.

What worried them most after getting serious injuries was the thought that they could not realize their dream of serving in the army all their life. Actually, they could hardly endure this mental agony.

Gazing at them for a long while, he asked the officials whether they could really walk within four months.

Then he said to the soldiers: **“Right! To serve in the army, you have to be prepared for death and overcome all trials cheerfully. After four months, you should walk on foot and come to my office. I will prepare letters of recommendation and wait for you. I will take responsibility for your future.”**

All were in tears looking up to the benevolent leader.

Daughters and Daughters-in-law of the Party

On December 8, Juche 103 (2014), Kim Jong Un, together with the participants in the Second Korean People's Army Conference of Active Officers' Wives, saw a performance given by amateur art groups of

officers' wives of the units, which had been rated excellent at the fifth round of the Second Contest of Amateur Art Groups of the Wives of the KPA Officers.

After the performance was over, he made a speech.

The following is an excerpt from his speech:

Today I have received enthusiastic cheers from you, wives and mothers of my dear and beloved comrades-in-arms. I am grateful to you for trusting and following the Party faithfully. I have been impressed by your extraordinary zeal for the revolution and revolutionary optimism. I have come onto this stage to express my gratitude. You are strong-willed, tender-hearted and dependable comrades. You are the wives of my beloved comrades-in-arms, warm-hearted mothers of our children who will shoulder the future of our great nation, reliable assistants to your husbands who are defending our revolution on the same trench with them and eternal "cooks" for our revolution. This thought has convinced me that victory in the revolutionary cause of Juche is guaranteed. Our revolutionary armed forces are strong, not simply because it has possessed powerful modern strike means. I know that as you help and support your husbands well, our People's Army can reliably defend the Party and the revolution without vacillating even in the face of worldwide political upheavals, and fulfil the noble mission and duty it has assumed before the times and history. From your eyes I can read your expectations. I will keep your trust and expectations in the depth of my mind. As Supreme Commander, I have hardened my resolve to lead our revolutionary armed forces, composed of your beloved husbands and children, along the road of victory. It is a source of great pride for our Party and country to have an army of iron-willed women revolutionaries like you.

He went on to say, **“The service personnel of our People’s Army, who are your husbands and children, are my comrades-in-arms who cannot be bartered for anything valuable in the world. I entrust their living conditions to you, our Party’s daughters and daughters-in-law.”**

Kim Jong Un concluded his speech by saying that he wished them good health and harmony in their family life and hoped they would support their husbands and children better.

Laudable Daughters of the Country and the People

On June 21, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un saw a flight training by women pilots of supersonic fighter jets.

On the runway he inquired about their solo flight training plan for taking off and landing. The pilots flew high up in the sky demonstrating their remarkable skills.

Seeing them dealing adroitly with an unexpected situation, he highly praised them and said that he was very pleased to see the brave girls under flight training. Piloting a supersonic fighter would be a great challenge even in case of men, and I am proud of the girls who are piloting the fighter jets, he added.

Taking the pilots’ hands in his after the flight, he said: Only a few countries have women pilots capable of piloting supersonic fighter jets; these girls were quite successful in their solo flight; it is not merely because they are well prepared physically and technically; it is



Kim Jong Un meeting women pilots
of supersonic fighter jets

a manifestation of the ennobling revolutionary spirit of the pilots who, cherishing ardent love for the country and the spirit of safeguarding it, have accepted the Party's training-first policy ideologically and faithfully supported their Supreme Commander; today is meaningful in that our women pilots of supersonic fighter jets made their first appearance; this fact will bring delight to all the people, women in particular; you are proud daughters of the country and the people, indomitable revolutionaries.

After having a photo taken with them, Kim Jong Un said that their parents would be very glad to know that their daughters could pilot supersonic fighter jets to defend the sky over the country. He told the Air Force Commander and Political Commissar to visit their houses with them and convey his regards to the parents.

Rason Transformed beyond Recognition

A Legendary Tale of Loving the People

On September 17, Juche 104 (2015), Kim Jong Un visited Rason to guide the restoration work on the spot.

On August 27, he called an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the Party. At this meeting which was expected to discuss strategic matters related to national defence, he issued an order in the name of the Supreme Commander on entrusting the army with the restoration work and finishing it by the 70th anniversary of the Party.



Kim Jong Un giving guidance on the spot
over the rehabilitation project of the city of Rason

He came to the flood-stricken city to acquaint himself with the restoration project and encourage the soldier-builders.

He said: I could hardly sleep as I was concerned about the flood victims in Rason who have been left homeless; our service personnel are devoting their all to the restoration work, just as they have gone through fire and water in the past to carry out the Party's order; now I feel relieved, as I can see new houses going up one after another; even though the project is unprecedentedly colossal and difficult, I believe the service personnel of the People's Army who have devoted their sweat and blood to doing things beneficial to the country and the people; they will turn Sonbong District in the city of Rason into a people's paradise, thus achieving a new miraculous success; I was told that the foreigners staying in Rason said that they could pass through the eye of a needle if the Koreans finished the restoration work within a month, and our soldiers are working day and night to complete the project ahead of schedule; they should demonstrate again the might of



the powerful revolutionary army of Mt Paektu that does not know the word *impossible*.

Then he underlined the need for the soldier-builders to complete the restoration work with credit and create another legendary tale of loving the people to be etched in the annals of the Party.

The People's Trust in the Party

According to Kim Jong Un's instructions the service personnel built in a matter of one month over 1 300 one-storey houses in Paekhak-dong and over 500 houses in other places.

On October 7, Juche (104) 2015, Kim Jong Un visited Paekhak-dong in Sonbong District of Rason to see the new houses.

Holding the officials' hands in his one by one, he praised them for carrying out the order on completing the restoration work in Rason by the Party's anniversary.

And he said: I have come here as I thought I would be relieved if he looked round the new houses before anybody else; today I have been very delighted on my way here; the soldier-builders have restored this flood-stricken area in the same manner as they would display in building up their own homes and villages; through this campaign they have fully demonstrated the ideological, spiritual and moral traits of our People's Army which serves the people; what remains to be done now is to let the local people move into the new houses; the service personnel should return to their units after helping them move into the new houses and doing everything necessary for them.

Looking at the houses in Paekhak-dong with a smile, he said:



Kim Jong Un visiting the newly-built dwelling houses at the then Paekhak-dong, Sonbong district, Rason

Excellent! I am really pleased and it was a worthwhile project; as I often say, nothing is more important than what is for the benefit of the people; the People's Army defied death to carry out the Supreme Commander's order on completing the restoration work by the Party's anniversary, thus defending the authority of the Party and the leader and consolidating the people's trust in the Party.

Empty Knapsack

An official told Kim Jong Un about the “battle” between the soldier-builders and the local people during the restoration work.

From the first day of the restoration work, the soldier-builders and the locals waged a “fierce battle”—the latter tried to give the former aid materials and the former were unwilling to receive them.

The soldiers told the residents that air and water were all what they needed, and the residents said that if it was right that they were taking



boiled rice and meat soup when they could not help the soldiers who were working day and night to build their houses.

On arriving at the flood-hit area, the soldiers gave the locals all of their spare rice and even one or two cobs of corn they found in the fields, but received nothing from them.

They set up “checkpoints” here and there to prevent civilians from coming in.

The locals employed various “tactics”—detouring the rugged mountains or crawling across the corn fields, etc—to carry aid materials to the construction site and the soldiers’ camps. Sometimes, trucks loaded with construction materials arrived, which were in fact food and other supplies for the soldiers. The latter returned them to the locals again by truck. Officials often received reports on the aid materials whose owner could not be identified. Some women in Paekhak-dong prepared rice cakes for the soldiers. But the latter refused to take them, and after some days the cakes became hard. So the women fried them and asked the soldiers to receive them. The answer was still no.

The restoration work proceeded with this “battle” going on.

After being briefed on what happened in Paekhak-dong, Kim Jong Un praised the soldiers for not receiving aid materials from the residents and said that the service personnel and civilians helping each other is a true feature of the socialist society, which cannot be invented.

He went on: **“The soldiers should not lay a burden on the residents, even when returning to their units. They arrived there with empty knapsacks, so they should leave with empty ones. If not, they cannot be called the army for the people.”**



Kim Jong Un waving back to the cheering soldiers

One Hour and a Half

Looking at the new houses, Kim Jong Un gave thanks in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to all the army units that took part in the construction.

He said to an official: The People's Army has achieved a miraculous success; it is really wonderful; the service personnel has defied death to implement the Supreme Commander's order, thereby defending the authority of the dignified Workers' Party of Korea and the people's trust in it; my heart thumps with delight at the thought of the laudable exploits performed in the Rason area by the service personnel, and I feel very proud of them; I cannot leave without having a photo taken with them; you say it will take quite a long time for them to gather; my schedule is tight but I will wait here; you should have them gather at a place that commands a fine view of the new village.

Kim Jong Un stressed that no soldier should be omitted. He waited for one hour and a half before having a photo taken with the service personnel.

When his car was moving off, the soldier-builders began to run after it.

Seeing them all in tears, he told the driver to drive slowly and waved back to them until they could not be seen.

**THE LEADER SEEN FROM HIS
FIELD GUIDANCE**

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It is not so long after Kim Jong Un took office, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has greeted a new heyday in which everything changes morning and evening and the people's dream for happiness is coming true.

**DPR Korea
Juche 108 (2019)**

