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Order of Dmitry Donskoy



Chairman Kim Jong Il received Order of Dmitry Donskoy from Academy of Security, Defence, and Law and Order Problems of Russia in February 2008.





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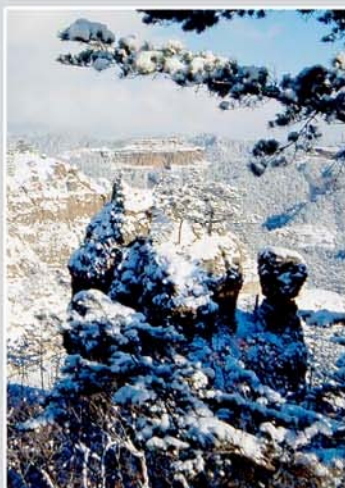


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Front Cover: Footwear production is on the increase.

Photo by Ri Song Ik



Back Cover: Naegyongdae in Inner Chilbo of Mt. Chilbo in winter.

Photo by Ra Jin Hyok

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Korea's Time and Tempo

Korea succeeded in the test fire of a new-type ICBM Hwasong 15 on November 29, 2017.



FROM THE OUTSET OF THE YEAR 2018 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is making headway at a greater speed toward the building of a powerful socialist nation. Although the US imperialists and their lackeys are resorting to all sorts of ways and means they find it difficult to derail the advance of the Korean people from the course of socialism of their own style.

Last year they did all they could to block the way ahead of the Korean people through unheard-of sanctions and pressure. Unsatisfied with even instigating the UN and Korea's neighbours, the US pressed those countries that have diplomatic relations with Korea to demote or cut off the relations.

Now, look, who won the laurels after all?

When Korea succeeded in the static firing test of a high-thrust rocket motor, which the Korean people call "March 18 revolution," the south Korean military experts commented that the motor is of an original type which is completely different from RD-170 and RD-180 motors which are thought to be the most advanced types in the world's rocket industry, and that the Korean motor has a great jetting force compared to its small size. The international media also argued that the new type of Korean rocket motor seemed to be the strongest in the world in terms of specific thrust.

Later in May Korea carried out a test fire of Hwasong 12, a ground-to-ground intermediate-range strategic ballistic missile, and on July 4 a test fire of Hwasong 14, an intercontinental ballistic missile, which made the enemy lament that Korea brought shame on the world's strongest nation by carrying out a test fire on the eve of the US's Independence Day. Launch of another missile of the same kind was made on July 28.

With these events Korea's general power and strategic position rose higher, bringing a radical change in the world's political landscape.

The chairman of the US Senate foreign relations committee said to a hearing that he regards Korea as a nuclear state as a matter of fact and that his stand is shared by a considerable number of people.

American experts of Korean studies and mass media asserted that it is the Korean tradition and mode of existence not to yield to any pressure, urging that it is high time to recognize and approach Korea as a nuclear nation.

Scared at this argument, the American authorities and their followers called for maximum pressure, thoroughgoing cutoff and total destruction of

Korea. Nevertheless, Korea's effort to complete its nuclear force accelerated with the lapse of time.

In less than two months the Korean people made a great success in an ICBM-ready H-bomb test, which made the Americans suffer from terror and nightmare day after day. In November, two months later, Hwasong 15, another ICBM type, was successfully fired for a test. As it can carry an extra-large heavy nuclear warhead to attack any place in the US mainland, the event meant that Korea accomplished the historic cause of developing a complete nuclear force of the nation, that is, becoming a missile power.

In retrospect, it is not long since 2013 when the country declared the strategic line for economic construction and nuclear force buildup. Over the five years the Korean people won the historic cause of completing their nuclear force in the direction and at the tempo the international community has never imagined or anticipated. What is more surprising is that Korea totally relied on its own resources and technology in the project, instead of using a weapon system based on foreign technology.

When the country succeeded in the H-bomb test in 2016, the BBC said that nobody expected that it would carry out an H-bomb test so early after its third nuclear test in 2013. The director of the US Institute for Science and International Security said that Korea had finished the work of complete possession of nuclear weapons three years earlier than the anticipation that it would attain the aim in 2020. That much of nuclear capacity has been demonstrated only by the five nuclear nations, leaving India and Pakistan unable to show it in reality, he admitted.

A research fellow for the Cato Institute, who used to be a special assistant to former President Reagan, acknowledged that Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un achieved a lot in the development of the national economy and nuclear force and is successfully pushing the line of simultaneously promoting economic construction and the upbuilding of nuclear force. Korea's means of nuclear delivery have made much greater progress than anticipated by the foreign experts, he noted.

Korea's time is passing at Korea's tempo—amidst the observation of the international community. With the passage of the time, the country's general power and strategic position are rising higher, making radical changes in the US-led political map of the world.

Kim Ye Ryong

New Year Address

Kim Jong Un

January 1, Juche 107 (2018)

DEAR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN AND BRAVE service personnel of the People's Army, Dear compatriots,

Today, recollecting with great pleasure and pride and deep emotion the proud achievements we performed last year through our diligent and worthwhile labour and sincere efforts and by the sweat of our brow, we are all seeing in the new year 2018 with fresh hopes and expectations.

Greeting the hope-filled new year, I wish the families across the country good health, happiness, success and prosperity. I also wish that the beautiful dreams of all our people, including the hopes of our children in the new year, would come true.

Comrades,

As I look back upon last year, when I worked strenuously on the road of achieving national prosperity, gaining great strength and wisdom from the pure minds of the dauntless people who invariably trusted and followed the Party even in the face of manifold difficulties and trials, I feel my heart swelling with the pride in waging the revolution shoulder to shoulder with a great people.

On behalf of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I extend sincere thanks and New Year greetings to all the people and service personnel who won miraculous victories to be noteworthy in the national history of 5 000 years by sharing mind and purpose with the Party and supporting its determination on the road of arduous yet glorious struggle.

My New Year greetings go also to the compatriots in the south and abroad who are fighting for the reunification of the country and to the progressive peoples and other friends across the world who opposed war of aggression and gave firm solidarity to our cause of justice.

Comrades,

The year 2017 was a year of heroic struggle and great victory, a year when we set up an indestructible milestone in the history of building a powerful socialist country with the spirit of self-reliance and self-development as the dynamic force.

Last year the moves of the United States and its vassal forces to isolate and stifle our country went to extremes, and our revolution faced the harshest-ever challenges. In the face of the prevailing situation and the worst trials on the road of advance, our Party

trusted the people and the people defended the Party death-defyingly, turning adversity and misfortune to good account and achieving brilliant successes on all the fronts where a powerful socialist country is being built.

Through last year's grandiose struggle we powerfully demonstrated at home and abroad our immutable faith and will to follow to the end the road of Juche-oriented socialism opened up by the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and the single-hearted unity of socialist Korea in which all the people are firmly united behind the Party.

An outstanding success our Party, state and people won last year was the accomplishment of the great, historic cause of perfecting the national nuclear forces.

On this platform one year ago I officially made public on behalf of the Party and government that we had entered the final stage of preparation for the test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile. In the past one year we conducted several rounds of its test launch, aimed at implementing the programme, safely and transparently, thus proving before the eyes of the world its definite success.

By also conducting tests of various means of nuclear delivery and super-intense thermonuclear weapon, we attained our general aspiration and strategic goal with success, and our Republic has at last come to possess a powerful and reliable war deterrent, which no force and nothing can reverse.

Our country's nuclear forces are capable of thwarting and countering any nuclear threats from the United States, and they constitute a powerful deterrent that prevents it from starting an adventurous war.

In no way would the United States dare to ignite a war against me and our country.

The whole of its mainland is within the range of our nuclear strike and the nuclear button is on my office desk all the time; the United States needs to be clearly aware that this is not merely a threat but a reality.

We have realized the wish of the great leaders who devoted their lives to building the strongest national defence capability for reliably safeguarding our country's sovereignty, and we have created a mighty sword for defending peace, as desired by all our people who had to tighten their belts for long

▶ years. This great victory eloquently proves the validity and vitality of the Party's line of simultaneously conducting economic construction and building up our nuclear forces and its idea of prioritizing science, and it is a great historic achievement that has opened up bright prospects for the building of a prosperous country and inspired our service personnel and people with confidence in sure victory.

I offer my noble respects to the heroic Korean people who, despite the difficult living conditions caused by life-threatening sanctions and blockade, have firmly trusted, absolutely supported and dynamically implemented our Party's line of simultaneously promoting the two fronts.

My warm, comradely greetings go also to our defence scientists and workers in the munitions industry who made devoted efforts all the year round, to demonstrate to the world that the plans and decisions of the Party Central Committee are a science and a truth and that they automatically mean their materialization.

Last year we also made notable headway in carrying out the five-year strategy for national economic development.

As a result of our vigorous endeavour to establish the Juche orientation in the metallurgical industry, an oxygen-blast furnace of our own style was built at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex to maintain regular production of pig iron by relying on anthracite, and prospects were opened up for consolidating the independent foundations of the chemical industry and attaining the five-year strategy's goal for the output of chemical products.

Numerous light-industry factories in such sectors as textile, footwear, knitwear and foodstuff industries raised high the banner of Juche orientation and made proactive efforts to propel the modernization of several production lines by means of our own technology and our own equipment. By doing so, they provided a guarantee for making the range of consumer goods varied and improving their quality.

The machine-building industry, by upholding the banner of self-reliance and relying on science and technology, creditably attained the Party's goal for the production of new-type tractors and trucks, and thus laid solid foundations for speeding up the Juche orientation and modernization of the national economy and the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy. The agricultural sector, by actively introducing scientific farming methods, increased the ranks of high-yield farms and work-teams and reaped an unusually rich fruit harvest in spite of unfavourable climatic conditions.

Our service personnel and people built magnificent Ryomyong Street and the large-scale livestock farming base in the Sepho area, and completed the task for the first stage of the forest restoration campaign, thereby demonstrating the might of great army-people unity and the potential of the socialist

independent economy.

Amid a vigorous struggle for the creation of the Mallima speed, new model units emerged one after another, and a large number of factories and enterprises fulfilled their quotas of the yearly national economic plan ahead of schedule and made a proud achievement of surpassing their peak-year levels.

Successes were also made on the scientific and cultural fronts last year.

Scientists and technicians resolved scientific and technological problems arising in the building of a powerful socialist country and completed research projects in the cutting-edge field, thereby giving stimulus to economic development and the improvement of the people's living standards. The socialist education system was further improved and the educational environment upgraded, while medical service conditions were bettered. An example of artistic performance activities was created to infuse the whole country with revolutionary optimism and the militant spirit, and our sportspeople won victories in different international competitions.

All the successes made last year are the triumph of the Juche-oriented revolutionary line of the Workers' Party of Korea and a precious fruition of the heroic struggle of the service personnel and people who are firmly rallied behind the Party.

Our Party and people achieved such signal victories others could never think of achieving by their own efforts in the face of the sanctions-and-blockade moves the United States and its vassal forces perpetrated more viciously than ever before to stamp out the rights to sovereignty, existence and development of the DPRK. Herein lies the source of their dignity and their great pride and self-confidence.

I would like to extend my warm thanks once again to all the people and service personnel who victoriously advanced the cause of building a powerful socialist country, always sharing the destiny with the Party and braving all difficulties and trials in the eventful days of last year.

Comrades,

This year we will mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the glorious Democratic People's Republic of Korea. To mark the 70th anniversary of their state with splendour is of real significance for the great people, who have raised with dignity the status of their socialist country, the greatest patriotic legacy of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, to that of a strategic state recognized by the world.

We should make constant innovations and continued progress until we win the final victory of the revolution by carrying on the tradition of heroic struggle and collective innovation which adorned the founding and course of development of Juche Korea. A revolutionary general offensive should be launched to achieve fresh victory on all fronts of building a powerful socialist country by taking the

▶ historic victory in the building of the DPRK's nuclear forces as a springboard for fresh progress.

"Let us launch a revolutionary general offensive to achieve fresh victory on all fronts of building a powerful socialist country!"—this is the revolutionary slogan we should uphold. All officials, Party members and other working people should launch an all-people general offensive to frustrate the challenges of the hostile forces who are making last-ditch efforts and raise the overall strength of our Republic to a new stage of development as they brought about a great upsurge in socialist construction overcoming all difficulties through the great Chollima upswing after the war.

A breakthrough should be made in reenergizing the overall economic front this year, the third year of implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development.

The central task facing socialist economic construction this year is to enhance the independence and Juche character of the national economy and improve the people's standard of living as required by the revolutionary counterstrategy put forward by the Second Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Party.

We should concentrate all efforts on consolidating the independence and Juche character of the national economy.

The electric-power industry should maintain and reinforce the self-supporting power generation bases, and direct a great deal of efforts to developing new power sources. A dynamic campaign should be conducted to drastically increase thermal power generation, and lower the loss of electric power and increase its production as much as possible by maintaining and reinforcing imperfect generating facilities. Provinces should build power generation bases to suit their local features and put power generation at the existing medium and small-sized power stations on a normal footing to satisfy the needs of electric power for local industry by themselves. Alternated production should be organized scrupulously throughout the country, and a vigorous struggle waged against the practices of wasting electric power to make effective use of generated electric power.

The metallurgical industry should further improve the Juche-oriented iron- and steel-making technologies, increase the iron production capacity and drastically raise the quality of metallic materials in order to satisfy the needs of the national economy for iron and steel. It is necessary to ensure a preferential, planned and timely supply of electricity, concentrated iron ore, anthracite, lignite, freight wagons, locomotives and funds for the metallurgical industry. By doing so, we can fulfil next year's iron and steel production plans and make the industry Juche-oriented without fail.

The chemical industry should step up the establishment of the C1 chemical industry, push the pro-

jects for catalyst production base and phosphatic fertilizer factory as scheduled, and renovate and perfect the sodium carbonate production line whose starting material is glauberite.

The machine-building industry should modernize the Kumsong Tractor Factory, Sungni Motor Complex and other factories to develop and produce world-level machinery in our style.

The coal and mineral production and rail transport sectors should make concerted efforts to make the country's self-reliant economic foundations prove their effectiveness.

Notably, the rail transport sector should make the best use of the existing transport capacity by making transport organization and control more scientific and rational, and maintain discipline and order in the railways as rigid as in the army, so as to ensure an accident-free, on-schedule rail traffic.

A turn should be brought about this year in improving the people's standard of living.

Light-industry factories need to transform their equipment and production lines into labour- and electricity-saving ones and produce and supply more diversified and quality consumer goods with domestic raw and other materials, and provinces, cities and counties should develop the local economy in a characteristic way by relying on their own raw material resources.

The agricultural and fishing fronts should effect an upswing. We should introduce seeds of superior strains, high-yield farming methods and high-performance farm machines on an extensive scale, do farming scientifically and technologically so as to fulfil the cereals production plan without fail, and boost the production of livestock products, fruits, greenhouse vegetables and mushrooms. We should enhance our ship building and repair capacities, launch scientific fishing campaigns, and reenergize aquatic farming.

This year the service personnel and people should join efforts to complete the construction of the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area in the shortest period of time, push ahead with major construction projects including the renovation of Samjiyon County, the construction of the Tanchon Power Station and the second-stage waterway project of South Hwanghae Province, and channel steady efforts into the construction of houses.

Building on the success we achieved in the forest restoration campaign, we should properly protect and manage the forests that have already been created, improve the technical conditions of roads, conduct river improvement on a regular basis, and protect environment in a scientific and responsible manner.

Every sector and every unit of the national economy should enlist their own technical forces and economic potential to the maximum and launch a dynamic struggle to increase production and prac-

tise economy, so as to create a greater amount of material wealth.

A shortcut to developing the self-sufficient economy is to give precedence to science and technology and make innovations in economic planning and guidance.

The scientific research sector should solve on a preferential basis the scientific and technological problems arising in establishing Juche-oriented production lines of our own style, ensuring domestic production of raw and other materials and equipment, and perfecting the structure of the self-supporting economy. Every sector and every unit of the national economy should make a contribution to achieving production growth by intensifying the dissemination of science and technology and waging a brisk technological innovation drive.

The Cabinet and other economic guidance organs should work out a realistic operational plan to carry out the national economic plan for this year and push forward the work for its implementation responsibly and persistently. Positive measures should be taken by the state to ensure that the socialist system of responsible business operation proves its worth in factories, enterprises and cooperative organizations.

Socialist culture should be developed in a comprehensive way.

It is necessary to strengthen the ranks of teachers, improve the contents and methods of education as demanded by the trend of developing modern education, apply the people-oriented character in public health service in a thoroughgoing way, and boost the production of medical equipment and appliances and different kinds of medicines.

We should conduct mass-based sporting activities briskly, create sporting techniques and tactics of our own style, and produce artistic and literary masterpieces which truthfully depict the heroic struggle and life of our service personnel and people in the Mallima era and the beautiful and sublime features proper to human beings. In this way, we can crush the bourgeois reactionary culture by dint of our revolutionary socialist art and literature.

A vigorous struggle should be waged to tighten moral discipline throughout society, establish a socialist way of life and eliminate all kinds of non-socialist practices, so as to ensure that all the people, possessed of ennobling mental and moral traits, lead a revolutionary and cultured life.

The self-reliant defence capability should be further consolidated.

In this year of the 70th anniversary of the development of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army into a regular revolutionary armed force by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the People's Army should perfect its features as befits the revolutionary armed forces of the Party. It should organize and conduct combat training in a highly in-

tensive way, in a real-war atmosphere, to develop all its units in different arms, services and corps into the ranks of a-match-for-a-hundred combatants.

The Korean People's Internal Security Forces should sharpen the edge of the sword of the class struggle and detect and frustrate the schemes by undesirable and hostile elements in time. The Worker-Peasant Red Guards and Young Red Guards should enhance their combat capability in all aspects through intensive combat and political training.

By consistently holding fast to the line of simultaneously promoting the two fronts in accordance with the strategic policy set by the Party at the Eighth Conference of Munitions Industry, the defence industry should develop and manufacture powerful strategic weapons and military hardware of our style, perfect its Juche-oriented production structure and modernize its production lines on the basis of cutting-edge science and technology.

The nuclear weapons research sector and the rocket industry should mass-produce nuclear warheads and ballistic missiles, the power and reliability of which have already been proved to the full, to give a spur to the efforts for deploying them for action.

And we should always be ready for immediate nuclear counterattack to cope with the enemy's manoeuvres for a nuclear war.

The political and ideological might is the first and foremost strength of our state and the great propellant for opening up an avenue for building a powerful socialist country.

In order to successfully carry out the fighting tasks facing us, we should rally the whole Party more firmly on its organizational and ideological basis and establish a thoroughgoing revolutionary climate within the Party. In this way, we can constantly enhance its fighting efficiency and leadership role in the overall revolution and construction.

All Party organizations should never tolerate all shades of heterogeneous ideas and double standards of discipline that run counter to the Party's ideology, but strengthen the single-hearted unity of the whole Party centred on its Central Committee in every way possible.

The whole Party should launch an intense struggle to establish a revolutionary climate within the Party with the main emphasis put on rooting out the abuse of Party authority, bureaucratism and other outdated methods and style of work, so as to ensure that the ties of kinship between the Party and the masses of the people are as solid as a rock.

Party organizations should intensify Party guidance to ensure that the work of their respective sectors and units is always conducted in conformity with the ideas and intentions of the Party and the requirements of its policies, and find satisfactory solutions to the problems arising in the building of a powerful socialist country by giving definite prece-

dence to political work and motivating the people ideologically.

We should rally all the service personnel and people firmly behind the Party ideologically and volitionally so that they throw in their lot with it whatever the adversity and fight with devotion for the victory of the socialist cause.

Party and working people's organizations and government organs should orient and subordinate all their undertakings to strengthening the single-hearted unity. The benchmark in planning and launching their work should be the people's demands and interests. And they should go deep among the people, sharing good times and bad with them and solving their mental agony and difficulties in their lives. They should ensure that the shorter the supply of everything is, the fuller play is given to the beautiful traits of comrades and neighbours helping and caring for one another with all sincerity.

We should give free rein to the indomitable mental strength of the heroic Korean people on the present grand Mallima march.

Party and working people's organizations should ensure that all the working people cherish patriotism in their hearts and bring about collective innovations one after another in the great campaign to create the Mallima speed with the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and science and technology as the dynamic force. They should see to it that officials, Party members and other working people carry forward the fighting spirit displayed by the elder generations who brought about epochal changes on the grand Chollima march and all of them become Mallima pioneers who vigorously rush forward in the vanguard of the era.

Comrades,

Last year, too, our people made strenuous efforts to defend the peace of the country and hasten national reunification in keeping with the aspirations and demands of the nation. However, owing to the vicious sanctions and pressure by the United States and its vassal forces and their desperate manoeuvres to ignite a war, all aimed at checking the reinforcement of the self-defensive nuclear deterrent by our Republic, the situation on the Korean peninsula became aggravated as never before, and greater difficulties and obstacles were put on the road of the country's reunification.

Even though the conservative "government" in south Korea, which had resorted to fascist rule and confrontation with fellow countrymen, collapsed and the ruling circles were replaced by another thanks to the massive resistance by the enraged people of all walks of life, nothing has been changed in the relations between the north and the south. On the contrary, the south Korean authorities, siding with the United States in its hostile policy towards the DPRK against the aspirations of all the fellow countrymen for national reunification, drove the

situation to a tight corner, further aggravated the mistrust and confrontation between the north and the south, and brought the bilateral relations to a fix that can be hardly resolved. We can never escape the holocaust of a nuclear war forced by the outside forces, let alone achieve national reunification, unless we put an end to this abnormal situation.

The prevailing situation demands that now the north and the south improve the relations between themselves and take decisive measures for achieving a breakthrough for independent reunification without being obsessed by bygone days. No one can present an honourable appearance in front of the nation if he or she ignores the urgent demands of the times.

This year is significant both for the north and the south as in the north the people will greet the 70th founding anniversary of their Republic as a great, auspicious event and in the south the Winter Olympic Games will take place. In order to not only celebrate these great national events in a splendid manner but also demonstrate the dignity and spirit of the nation at home and abroad, we should improve the frozen inter-Korean relations and glorify this meaningful year as an eventful one noteworthy in the history of the nation.

First of all, we should work together to ease the acute military tension between the north and the south and create a peaceful environment on the Korean peninsula.

As long as this unstable situation, which is neither wartime nor peacetime, persists, the north and the south cannot ensure the success of the scheduled events, nor can they sit face to face to have a sincere discussion over the issue of improving bilateral relations, nor will they advance straight ahead towards the goal of national reunification.

The north and the south should desist from doing anything that might aggravate the situation, and they should make concerted efforts to defuse military tension and create a peaceful environment.

The south Korean authorities should respond positively to our sincere efforts for a détente, instead of inducing the exacerbation of the situation by joining the United States in its reckless moves for a north-targeted nuclear war, which threaten the destiny of the entire nation as well as peace and stability on this land. They should discontinue all the nuclear war drills they stage with outside forces, as these drills will engulf this land in flames and lead to bloodshed on our sacred territory. They should also refrain from any acts of bringing in nuclear armaments and aggressive forces from the United States.

Even though the United States is wielding the nuclear stick and going wild for another war, it will not dare to invade us because we currently have a powerful nuclear deterrent. And when the north and the south are determined, they can surely prevent the outbreak of war and ease tension on the Korean

▶ peninsula.

A climate favourable for national reconciliation and reunification should be established.

The improvement of inter-Korean relations is a pressing matter of concern not only to the authorities but to all other Koreans, and it is a crucial task to be carried out through a concerted effort by the entire nation. The north and the south should promote bilateral contact, travel, cooperation and exchange on a broad scale to remove mutual misunderstanding and distrust, and fulfil their responsibility and role as the motive force of national reunification.

We will open our doors to anyone from south Korea, including the ruling party and opposition parties, organizations and individual personages of all backgrounds, for dialogue, contact and travel, if they sincerely wish for national concord and unity.

A definite end should be put to the acts that might offend the other party and incite discord and hostility between fellow countrymen. The south Korean authorities should not try, as the previous conservative "government" did, to block contact and travel by people of different social strata and suppress the atmosphere for reunification through alliance with the north, under absurd pretexts and by invoking legal and institutional mechanisms; instead, they should direct efforts to creating conditions and environment conducive to national concord and unity.

To improve inter-Korean relations as soon as possible, the authorities of the north and the south should raise the banner of national independence higher than ever before, and fulfil their responsibility and role they have assumed for the times and the nation.

Inter-Korean relations are, to all intents and purposes, an internal matter of our nation, which the north and the south should resolve on their own responsibility. Therefore, they should acquire a steadfast stand and viewpoint that they will resolve all the issues arising in bilateral relations on the principle of By Our Nation Itself.

The south Korean authorities need to know that they will gain nothing from touring foreign countries to solicit their help on the issue of inter-Korean relations, and that such behaviour will give the outside forces, who pursue dishonest objectives, an excuse for their interference and complicate matters further. Now it is not time for the north and the south to turn their backs on each other and merely express their respective standpoints; it is time that they sit face to face with a view to holding sincere discussions over the issue of improving inter-Korean relations by our nation itself and seek a way out for its settlement in a bold manner.

As for the Winter Olympic Games to be held soon in south Korea, it will serve as a good occasion for demonstrating our nation's prestige and we ear-

nestly wish the Olympic Games a success. From this point of view we are willing to dispatch our delegation and adopt other necessary measures; with regard to this matter, the authorities of the north and the south may meet together soon. Since we are compatriots of the same blood as south Koreans, it is natural for us to share their pleasure over the auspicious event and help them.

We will, in the future, too, resolve all issues by the efforts of our nation itself under the unfurled banner of national independence and frustrate the schemes by anti-reunification forces within and without on the strength of national unity, thereby opening up a new history of national reunification.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I extend warm New Year greetings once again to all Korean compatriots at home and abroad, and I sincerely wish that in this significant year everything would go well both in the north and in the south.

Comrades,

The international situation we witnessed last year was clear proof that our Party and our state were absolutely correct in their strategic judgment and decision that when we are confronting the imperialist forces of aggression who are attempting to wreck global peace and security and make mankind suffer a nuclear holocaust, our only recourse is the power of justice.

As a responsible, peace-loving nuclear power, our country will neither have recourse to nuclear weapons unless hostile forces of aggression violate its sovereignty and interests nor threaten any other country or region by means of nuclear weapons. However, it will resolutely respond to acts of wrecking peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

Our Party and the government of our Republic will develop good-neighbourly and friendly relations with all the countries that respect our national sovereignty and are friendly to us, and make positive efforts to build a just and peaceful new world.

Comrades,

The year 2018 will be recorded as another year of victory for our people.

At this moment when this year's gigantic march has begun, I am filled with confidence that our cause is ever-victorious as it is supported by the people, and I harden my resolve to make devoted efforts to live up to their expectations.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Republic will never cease to struggle and advance until achieving the final victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche by relying on the trust and strength of the people, but surely hasten the future of a powerful socialist country where all the people lead a dignified and happy life.

Let us all march forward dynamically towards fresh victory of the revolution by displaying the unyielding mettle of heroic Korea under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea. □



Kim Jong Il, eternal General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

“Single-hearted Unity Is My Revolutionary Philosophy”

ONE DAY KIM JONG IL, ETERNAL General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), expressed his political creed as follows: “**Single-hearted unity is my revolutionary philosophy.**”

Over the whole years of his leadership of the WPK and the people, the General Secretary demonstrated the absolute truthfulness and might of his creed through practice.

One day he said to the following effect: Revolution is aimed at developing love for the people. One who can't love man can't make a revolution. Revolution that realizes independence of man, indeed, can be said to be maximum love that makes a perfect

man. This is a philosophy of love.

At every opportunity he instructed officials to value and love people from the bottom of their heart like parents should do their children, share life and death, sweets and bitters with the people and eat at the same table with the people. And he saw to it that officials always went among the masses, breathed the same air as them and lived the same life as them, settled what they wanted in time, and paid deep attention to the people's life.

One December day in 1982 he was informed that workers of a mine were working in a place with poor labour safety devices. Officers of the mine, however, were thinking that it could not be helped because it

► was a graphite drying-ground built long before and its equipment was out of date.

The General Secretary immediately convened a meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee with the problem of the drying-ground on the agenda, in which cadres indifferent to health and working conditions of workers were subjected to intensive criticism. After the meeting he made sure that the senior officer of the mine apologized to workers there for his faults. And he said that workers had the right to judgment on wrongdoings of officers and that if the workers generously understood the officer's faults, he could be forgiven and that if they did not, it could not be helped.

The following day the officer criticized himself before the workers. The workers were deeply touched by the warm care of the General Secretary who was anxious about the fact that their faces were smudged with graphite powder, which they had regarded as not serious, and made the officer apologize to them.

Later a renovation project of the drying-ground began at the mine. At the same time all units across the country launched a dynamic campaign to improve the working conditions of their workers.

Kim Jong Il did not overlook in the least what officials did infringing upon or disregarding the interests of the people. This constituted an important factor in further deepening the broad masses' trust in the WPK and rallying them more firmly around the Party.

He put absolute trust in the people and broke through difficulties of the revolution while sharing sweets and bitters with them.

He also encouraged the young people to be the vanguard and shock force for the socialist construction. Keeping his trust in their mind they volunteered to go to socialist construction sites in response to the Party's call and rendered distinguished services. It was always young builders who took the lead in bringing about changes and performing feats in any sector or place including Haeju-Ongjin and Singangnyong-Pupho broad-gauge railway construction sites and hydropower plant construction sites across the country. Thus, they made a breakthrough in the socialist economic construction.

The construction of the Youth Hero Road marked the climax of their feats. In September 1998 Kim Jong Il proposed and assigned the project to young people. Then lots of young people turned out for the work. They laid the roadbed using hammers and chisels to chip away at rocky mountains. And every day they ran over 40 kilometres carrying sacks of soil and stones on their backs to lay the roadbed

while managing to overcome the hardships of nature.

The General Secretary told officials that the young builders were laying the monumental motorway to be handed down to posterity for ever in the indefatigable fighting spirit and that they deserved to sit on gold cushions. The young builders drew fresh strength and courage from his instructions numbering over 100 and his warm care for them, and finished the project before the 55th anniversary of the founding of the WPK.

He also showed great trust to industrial and agricultural workers and intellectuals and helped them fully perform their duties.

In April 1995 he received a letter from some miners of the April 5 Pit of the Kumgol Branch Mine of the Komdok Mining Complex. After reading the letter, he, remembering the trustworthy images of the miners he had met in a deep underground cutting face 20 years before, wrote on the letter, **"The Party firmly trusts our working class. April 12, 1995, Kim Jong Il."** This reflected his great belief that the working class, who had cast in their lot with the Party whether in prosperity or in adversity, would invariably play the leading role.

In the 1990s when Korea had to make the Arduous March and the forced march owing to the imperialists' vicious schemes to stifle the country by means of sanctions, Kim Jong Il firmly trusted the working class as the main pillar of the country and had them act as the vanguard in the building of a powerful socialist state. He visited lots of factories and enterprises in the northern part of the country and the eastern and western coastal areas covering tens of millions of *ri* (One *ri* equals 392.73m.) to inspire the workers to bring about a new great leap forward in the revolution. In 1998 he visited Jagang Province five times to encourage the local workers to take the lead in the struggle to defend socialism. Living up to his trust, the workers exerted themselves and created the Kanggye Spirit, and their way of work was introduced throughout the country.

In the difficult time of the Arduous March Kim Jong Il admired the people as very good people and showed great trust in and concern for them. This further hardened their pure will to follow him, and the single-hearted unity based on a harmonious whole formed between the leader and the people was further consolidated.

Now the Korean people are pushing ahead with the building of a powerful socialist state, firmly rallied around Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, another great leader of the nation.

Ri Jong Nam

Voice of Motherly Party

Devote All Your Sincerity to the People

IN JANUARY 2013 THERE WAS HELD the Fourth Conference of Cell Secretaries of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) in the capital city of Pyongyang, at which Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un made a historic concluding speech. He said that the Party cell secretaries should devote all their sincerity to people, like mothers do to their children, in order to move their hearts. The call of the Supreme Leader for officials to live and struggle as those whom the popular masses sincerely follow and the Party sincerely wants is as good as reflection of the thoughtfulness of a mother reading the inner thoughts of her children.

The Benevolent Autograph

In early December 2012 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un received a letter from a naturalized Japanese woman living in Neighbourhood Unit 15, Janghung-ri, Yonggwang County, South Hamgyong Province. In the letter she wrote that her Japanese father deserted her family like a roadside stone, that though her stepfather's home was in south Korea, her family came to and lived happily in the northern half of Korea where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il administered the politics of love for the people. She also wrote in the letter that her eldest son, who had once committed a crime before the country, had been admitted into the WPK some time before, and that she would be faithfully loyal to the Supreme Leader who had fathomed her unknown anxiety.

After reading the letter Kim Jong Un wrote on the letter as follows:

"Our Party embraces more deeply and puts forward those people with sour wounds in their mind.

"It is a mother who grieves more over her child's pain than anyone else, soothes it, and unhesitatingly sacrifices her skin or blood for him or her. I think it is the mind of mothers in the world to be glad about their children's success and regard it as joy of their life that can be bartered for nothing.

"So our Party is called motherly Party.

...

"Thank you for your invariably believing in and relying on our Party.

**Kim Jong Un
December 26, 2012"**

A Hundred Tons of Rice Rejected

In mid-February 2012 the local residents moved into new houses in Manpho City. Chairman Kim Jong Il had visited the city several times and given an instruction for turning it into a socialist fairyland. True to the instruction soldier-builders constructed those houses in a short span of time.

The residents sent a letter of thanks to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. In the letter they expressed their simple yet earnest will to fulfil their obligation as his people by contributing a hundred tons of rice they had prepared to the work to erect the statue of the Chairman. They, however, received an unexpected reply from the Supreme Leader two days later. Understanding the true heart of the people he wrote on the letter:

"The people in Manpho City proposed to send a hundred tons of rice they had prepared with sincerity to the soldiers engaged in the project of building the statue of the General. I am thankful for their sincerity.

"I really appreciate it. But I only accept it as a matter of sincerity, and reject that proposal.

"I will report to the General the crystal-clear mind our people, who have close ties of kinship with the leader, dedicated to him.

"It is my suggestion that the officials of the Provincial Party Committee and the Municipal Party Committee send that rice they proposed to offer to the people and children in the city true to the noble intention of the great General who devoted his whole life to the people's interests and happiness.

"Do so exactly.

"The letter from the people in Manpho City encouraged me indeed, and I have a firm determination to redouble my effort to carry on the revolution.

**Kim Jong Un
February 14, 2012"**

Immortal Flower—Thirty Years

IT IS 30 YEARS SINCE Kimjongilia, bred by Kamo Mototeru, a renowned Japanese floriculturist, appeared in the world. He presented the flower to Chairman Kim Jong Il on the occasion of the Chairman's 46th birthday in February 1988.

Mototeru bred the flower of the tuberous begonia family through 20-odd-year-long painstaking efforts with a desire to breed a new variety of flower symbolizing the era. Kimjongilia is the most beautiful flower bright

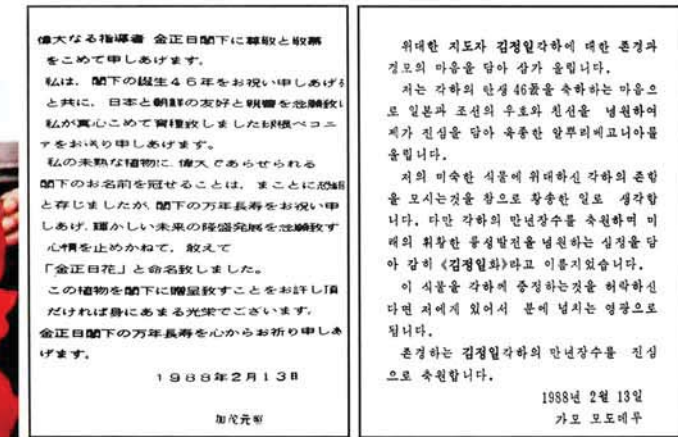
red as if to symbolize enthusiasm. He denominated the flower Kimjongilia as a reflection of his lifelong wish to name it after the august name of the greatest man produced by humankind and the aspiration of the time. When presenting the flower to Kim Jong Il as mentioned above, he sent to the Chairman a letter that reads in part, "I have the honour to write this letter in reverence and admiration for the great leader Your Excellency Kim Jong Il.

"I respectfully want to present

you with a tuberous begonia I have bred with sincerity, congratulating Your Excellency on your birthday and hoping for the friendly relations between Japan and the DPRK....

"I am afraid it would be too much to name my plant after the august name of Your Excellency, but I dared to denominate it Kimjongilia, wishing you longevity and your country a bright future of prosperity and development.

"If you allow me to present



Kamo Mototeru, a prominent Japanese floriculturist, and the letter he wrote to Chairman Kim Jong Il.

this plant to Your Excellency, it will be a greater honour to me than I deserve.

"I sincerely wish Your Excellency Kim Jong Il a long life.

February 13, 1988
Kamo Mototeru"

As soon as Kimjongilia appeared in the world, prominent political, social and academic figures in many countries of the world sent Korea letters reflecting their wish to grow the flower in their countries. It was recognized as the king of flowers while winning top prizes at international flower exhibitions and horticultural expositions, creating a great sensation. And then numerous bases propagating the flower appeared across the world, and over 100 rounds of Kimjongilia exhibitions were held. Amidst the growing enthusiasm for cultivating the flower decade after decade and century after century the flower has spread to over 70 countries.

In May 1991 Kimjongilia won the special prize and gold medal at the 12th International Flower Exhibition in Czechoslovakia while creating a great sensation among the visitors who referred to it as the most beautiful flower in the world and the symbol of loyalty and zeal. In 1995 a Kimjongilia association was organized in Sweden, the one aimed at spreading and giving publicity to the flower, and similar and amateur associations were formed in different countries and regions

including Indonesia, Japan and Ethiopia. And Kimjongilia greenhouses were opened in succession there.

Now the cultivation and propagation of Kimjongilia is becoming an irresistible tendency of time. The press of 100-odd countries, including Russia, Cuba, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Thailand, Congo, Guinea, Egypt, Peru, France, Romania and the UK, have given wide publicity to the story of how Kimjongilia came into being, its biological characteristics, and international comments on it under the titles such as "What Kind of Flower Is Kimjongilia?", "Flower of Leader" and "Appearance of Juche Korea—Immortal Kimjongilia."

An Egyptian newspaper reported that it was not merely because of its beauty that Kimjongilia was drawing the attention of all people, and that it was the manifestation of humankind's boundless reverence for the leader Kim Jong Il praised as the first of the world's greatest men.

A Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism institute of America wrote on its Internet homepage that Kimjongilia is really majestic as it reflects the personality of the peerless great man of the century who is representative of humankind's beautiful emotions and aspirations such as justice and truth, independence and revolution, love and enthusiasm, happiness and prosperity, and peace

and future and that it is an immortal flower whose deep and pure red petals, wide green leaves and thick and hard stem reflect humankind's boundless respect for General Kim Jong Il with a great ideology, wise leadership and a noble personality.

A professor of Japan's Rikkyo University, in his poem entitled *The Eternal Crimson Flower Kimjongilia*, eulogized the flower as follows:

...
*The eternal flower of reverence
for the great man!
Though the sun and the moon
change over oceans
and continents
And a severe gale and trials
are in the face of you,
You will come into full blossom
more brightly and firmly.
A matchless celebrated flower,
Kimjongilia!*

A veteran botanist of a country once said that cultivating beautiful flowers is to cultivate beauty and mental world, and beautiful tomorrow, that the voice of the people is the voice of God and that if there were to be held a flower festival on the moon, Kimjongilia, together with Kimilsungia, the flower of the sun (the flower named after President Kim Il Sung—ed.), would be presented as the principal flower of the earth, the cradle of mankind.

Sim Yong Jin

Event of 70 Years Ago

FEBRUARY 8, 1948 IS A HISTORIC DAY OF epochal significance in the building of armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. On the day the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRI) was developed into regular revolutionary armed forces.

When Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945, Kim Il Sung put forward the building of regular revolutionary armed forces as one of the three major tasks related to the building of a new Korea—the other two tasks were the building of the Party and that of the State.

At that time Korea had no experience in building a regular army and lacked commanding officers prepared in the aspect of military technique. Though the country was liberated, they had only empty banks and their economic foundation was as good as nothing owing to the Japanese imperialists' cruel colonial rule. Worse still, some quarrelers opposed the building of regular revolutionary armed forces while placing their hope on a foreign country.

Kim Il Sung, however, pushed forward with the building of a genuine people's army on the basis of his rich experience in founding the KPRI during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

He made public such works as *On Establishing the Pyongyang Institute, Let Us Create the Air*

The first military parade (on February 8, 1948) of the Korean People's Army that strengthened and developed into regular revolutionary armed forces.

Force of the New Korea, For the Building of a Revolutionary Army, Immediate Tasks of the Security Officers Training Centre and Let Us Found a True People's Army, a Modern Regular Army, clearly illuminating the character and mission of a revolutionary army and the ways and means of building a regular army, an important index of a sovereign and independent state.

In November 1945, a few months after national liberation, Kim Il Sung set a place where a military and political officers training centre would be built and named it Pyongyang Institute. Then he saw to it that the Central Security Cadre School and the Security Cadres Training Centre were established and that the veterans of the anti-Japanese armed struggle were dispatched to play a leading role in organizing model units of different services and arms.

He often visited the schools and training centres, ▶

▶ warmly took care of the students in their study and life, and paid deep attention to their military education and field training while giving lectures to them.

Thanks to his wise leadership, regular core units were founded and the material and technical foundation for the building of services and arms was laid in two years and a half after the liberation of the country.

On February 8, 1948, a military parade took place in the capital city of Pyongyang. At the ceremony, Kim Il Sung made a speech to proclaim the founding of the regular revolutionary armed forces. He said:

“Dear fellow countrymen,

“In celebrating the second anniversary of the People's Committee of North Korea, the organ of genuine people's power, we today proclaim the founding of the Korean People's Army, the first regular armed forces belonging to the people in the history of Korea. The Korean people, who had been subjected to all manner of persecution and suppression under the bayonets of the Japanese imperialists,

took power into their own hands after liberation and set out to create a new, happy life. And now they have their own full-fledged regular army to defend the country and nation.

“Expressing the great national pride and joy of the liberated people of Korea, I wholeheartedly hail the creation of the People's Army.

...

“Let us all march vigorously forward, with an unshakable faith in victory and ever greater national pride, for the establishment of a Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for new victories!

“Long live the Korean People's Army, the true armed forces of the Korean people!”

The birth of the regular revolutionary armed forces was really a great political event that added to the national pride and delight of the Korean people who turned out to create a new life with a great joy at their liberation.

The foundation of the KPA made it possible for the Korean people to smash the manoeuvres of the



US imperialists and internal and external reactionaries at every step and vigorously push forward with the work for national reunification and the prosperity of the country.

The KPA strengthened and developed into an invincible regular army under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The KPA is now at its best as it has Kim Jong Un as its Supreme Commander. Under the energetic guidance of the Supreme Leader who frequently visits air, land and naval units, including those on the front line, and training fields, a turning point has come in the KPA's political and ideological work and preparation for fighting and its exhaustible might has been further consolidated.

February 8 will go down for ever in the laudable history of the heroic KPA.

Sim Yong Jin

Juche Idea, Revolutionary Doctrine of Independence (2)

Truth Found in Revolutionary Practice

THE JUCHE IDEA IS the revolutionary idea President Kim Il Sung founded on the basis of not any preceding ideology he studied but a new revolutionary truth he discovered through the bloody struggle to save the motherland and the people and pioneer a new era.

It was when he conducted a youth and student movement that he made an earnest study into an advanced idea, a new trend, in connection with the practice of the Korean revolution and the reality of Korea. At that time he waged revolutionary activities at Hwasong Uisuk School which was a two-year military and political school the nationalists established at the beginning of 1925 with a view to training cadres for the Independence Army. He read many Marxist-Leninist classics including the Communist Manifesto, and actively disseminated them among youths and students.

Of course, Kim Il Sung deeply sympathized with the revolutionary essence of Marxism-Leninism and its role of change. He, however, paid special attention to the fact that the situation in Korea at that time was different from the one in Russia when the October Revolution had started up. He saw that in the then circumstance of Korea, which was a colonial, subjugated country, they had to win back the deprived land first instead of starting a socialist revolution, and felt convinced that they had to carve out the path of the Korean revolution independently.

Through the practical experience in and lesson from the na-

tional liberation movement in Korea he found two truths. One of them is that the popular masses are the masters of the revolution, and that one can emerge victorious in the revolution only when they go among the masses and educate and mobilize them in an organized way. At that time the national liberation movement in Korea consisted of two camps—nationalists and communists in the early days. Both sides never thought of going among the popular masses, and educating and organizing them for the revolutionary struggle, but were engrossed in a scramble for hegemony and in empty talks, divorced from the masses. And their factional strife resulted in separation of the masses, instead of their unity.

In particular, Kim Il Sung deeply analysed once again the March First Popular Uprising led by the bourgeois nationalists and the June 10 Independence Movement by the communists, and came to clearly understand how important the view of and attitude to the popular masses was in the revolutionary struggle and how vital the work of educating and rallying them was in achieving victory in the revolutionary struggle. So, he conducted steadily the work to educate the masses and rally them into revolutionary organizations.

In 1926 alone, he organized such revolutionary organizations as the Down-with-Imperialism Union, the Saenal Children's Union and the Anti-Japanese Women's Association. And he himself mobilized broad sections of workers, peasants and youths and students for victory in the campaigns to oppose Jilin-Hoeryong railway project by Japan and boycott Japanese goods.

In the course of this, he keenly felt that when the masses were educated and mobilized in the right way, they would demonstrate tremendous strength that any force of arms cannot suppress. Recollecting those days Kim Il Sung wrote in his reminiscences *With the Century*, **“My faith in the strength of the masses became more unshakable and our method of leadership of the masses became more seasoned. In the practical struggle not only was I trained but also the organizations developed.”**

The other truth he found in the practical revolutionary struggle is that one should bear responsibility for the revolution and carry it out in accordance with his own faith, not by other's approval or direction, and that one should solve all problems arising in the revolution in an independent and creative way. When he embarked on the road of revolution, some higher strata of the then nationalist movement and other fighters for independence were trying to achieve national independence by relying on foreign forces.

Analysing the situation Kim Il Sung had firmer confidence that he should never try to carry out the revolution as they did. He confirmed his view of and attitude to the revolution of his country—that the revolution cannot be done by its own accord even if someone approves it, that national independence cannot be achieved even if it is recognized by someone, and that the fundamental question is whether one has a standpoint and will to bear responsibility for the revolution of his country and carry it out with his own strength, not whether it is approved or recognized by someone or not.

Changes in Sepho Area



RECENTLY A LIVESTOCK breeding base has been laid in the Sepho area of Korea, making it possible to develop livestock breeding radically.

The Sepho area consists of Sepho, Ichon and Phyonggang counties in Kangwon Province. It covers the relatively wide and flat Sepho and Phyonggang-Cholwon plateaus and hillocks not so high above sea level. And it is rich in fauna and flora because of its proper annual average temperature and high annual precipitation. Situated in the east of the central Korean peninsula, the area is good for livestock farming

as it has Chuga Pass Valley and a number of ravines that can provide good ventilation and rich water resources such as dozens of big and small rivers, reservoirs and spring water.

At the end of 2012, Korea decided to turn the Sepho area into a large livestock farming base and use it as a model to develop the nationwide livestock breeding. A lot of builders gathered there from all parts of the country, and the project was started at the beginning of December 2012. By the existing formula, it would have taken over 50 years even if every 1 000 hectares of the area were

cleared a year.

The builders, however, pushed ahead with the project without interruption in defiance of snowstorms and heavy rains, true to the slogan “Korea does what it is determined to do!”.

The nature transformation produced lots of amazing and laudable stories including those of over 50 000 hectares of land overgrown with shrubbery turning into a wide plain in less than a year and thousands of modern dwelling houses appearing in place of little clusters of old houses so that an old woman, who came there from Pyongyang to see

► From this point of view Kim Il Sung, based on a thorough independent stand, formed revolutionary organizations in keeping with the practical requirement of the Korean revolu-

tion, and independently organized and led all sorts of struggles against the Japanese imperialists, formed the first party organization and founded the Korean Revolutionary Army, the

first of its kind in Korea.

The two truths he found in practice became the starting point of the Juche idea.

Kim Kuk Chol

► her daughter, could hardly find out her house. Among the stories is the following one.

Originally, the soil of the Sepho area in general was poor in humus and acidified. Therefore, if grass seeds were sown on such soil, it would not have produced plenty of feed grass, making it impossible to increase meat production. So the soil had to be improved.

At that time, the builders had

no equipment and facilities for producing fertilizer and additives necessary for the soil improvement. Still, they did not give up. They decided to solve all the problems with their own efforts and techniques.

Under the guidance of scientists and technicians, they conducted the relevant research to produce the agent for the improvement of the soil and began to build the necessary production

bases on their own working places. Thus there appeared more than 200 limekilns and lots of fertilizer production bases in less than a week, and the agent and humic acid fertilizer were produced by over 500 tons and scores of tons respectively every day. As a result, they obtained and took more than 60 000 tons of the agent to the relevant sites in over 20 days.

Such successes were made



► there day by day. Hundreds of new valuable technical innovations were invented and introduced, including a method of gathering seeds of feed grass, that of exterminating harmful insects, introduction of several kinds of growth promoters, a technique of embryo transplantation and that of artificial fertilization.

Meanwhile, there were laid hundreds of hectares of wind-break groves and over 12 600 hectares of groves to protect the grass fields, and an over 2 000 km-long road for grazing, an over 360 km-long drain and high-capacity terraced reservoirs were completed in a short span of time.

The builders also built the Phyonggang Meat Processing Factory and the Phyonggang Feed Processing Factory whose production processes are all automated on a flow-line basis, general production control centres, the Sepho Animal Husbandry Research Institute, an epizootic prevention centre and agronomy study centres, all of which go well with the surrounding scenery and have nothing to be wanted even in the future.

Today, there can be seen flocks of grass-eating domestic animals like cattle, goats and sheep across the Sepho area, and the aforesaid factories produce meat and milk in large quantities, giving pleasure to the people.

The Sepho area will help make the Korean people's life happier and more enjoyable.

Kim Son Myong

Footwear Production Goes Up

THE RYUWON FOOTWEAR Factory in the capital city of Pyongyang was renovated last year. Now it is increasing production of a variety of trainers and sneakers for different kinds of sports.

making Machine Factory. Later, they modernized over 1 800 machines and completed the construction of a building with a total floor space of 24 700 square metres in a year. Thus such processes as mixing of raw materials,

has made the work of sci-tech research and development mass-based. Through a sci-tech book reading room, a distance learning room and a sci-tech learning space, it regularly conducts the work of disseminating the trend

► for developing the relevant science and technology the workers of the factory are steadily increasing the production of better footwear.

Famous Brand—Ryuwon

The *Ryuwon* shoes produced by the factory won top prize at the 26th national consumer goods

exhibition held in October 2015, and technical prizes and medals at other exhibitions and festivals. The *Ryuwon* shoes are characterized by various kinds and shapes suited to the developing reality and people's taste. So, not only children and young people but also the elderly like the shoes. In the shop run by the factory there are over a hundred varieties of shoes, satisfying different de-

mands of the people. It is also equipped with a laser 3D foot measuring device that allows customized production.

Now the factory annually produces and supplies a million and several hundred thousand pairs of trainers and sneakers to relevant shops in Pyongyang and all other provinces.

Choe Sol Mi



The production of varieties of trainers and those for special sports is on the increase.

Relying on Their Strength

The workers of the factory say that the change of their factory started with the efforts to put the shoemaking flow line on a Juche-oriented and modern footing. Previously it imported equipment needed for shoe production from other countries. It caused difficult problems in operation and maintenance of machines, frequently impeding the production in no small measure.

In 2016 the managers and workers of the factory set a bold goal of putting the factory on a Juche-oriented and modern footing with their own strength and technology, and succeeded in designing and manufacturing a shoemaking flow line of a higher level in cooperation with researchers of the Pyongyang Shoe-

cutting, injection-moulding, shoe-making and sewing were put on an automatic flow line, enabling the workers to work in a good working condition and environment.

The factory introduced a solar-panel generating system, a cooling and heating system and a water heating system, and built cultural and welfare facilities including a bathhouse and swimming bath for its workers. The administrators and workers of the factory say anybody can do anything when they are determined to do by relying on their strength.

Masters of Development of Science and Technology

Attaching importance to science and technology is the main strategy in the factory's business activities. Especially, the factory

in the development of footwear industry and the latest science and technology to its scientists, researchers and workers. This steadily enhances scientific and technical force of the factory and the technical knowledge and skills of the workers.

It was thanks to its strong scientific and technological force that the factory manufactured and installed lots of machines by itself last year.

As a result of invention and introduction of a technique of using supercritical carbon dioxide to make polyvinyl chloride foam with its own efforts and technique, the factory produces light and quality soles. And it newly installed a laser cutter, an upper cutter and a screen printer to make it possible to diversify the products in terms of kind, shape and colour.

Conscious of being responsible ►



Makers of Famous Products

THE SINUIJU GRASS-work Production Cooperative produces a lot of grass products such as hats, shoes, mesh bags, slippers, blinds, cushions, pillows, mattresses, mountaineering hats, rucksacks, sunbathing mats and armchairs.

Peerless Specialities

Corn-shuck-made goods are famous products of the cooperative. When such goods from the cooperative were put for sale for the first time they evoked different responses. Some people said in admiration that the previously useless by-product turned into the goods, and others said it was better to make flexible goods with corn-shuck instead of hats or fans similar to those of sedge. Young mums with infants said they would like to have smarter baskets and footlockers. And some people asked how the articles were good for health. The requirements of the customers were really multifarious.

Then Cha Hwa Suk, manager of the cooperative, felt that the customers required grasswork with flavours and their own distinct individual characters. She

immediately convened a technical consultation. Later they produced designs of new products which scrupulously reflected the opinions of consumers. Among the products were a mattress and a pillow made of corn-shucks and wormwood. They invented the articles taking into consideration the customers' wish for good health and longevity. Such mattresses and pillows turned out effective in relieving headaches, hypertension and insomnia and treating neuralgia and arthritis. In the course of this, the products from the cooperative became indispensable to the local people's daily life, and peerless specialities at tourist resorts.

Cha says, "Our products often win popularity at different international expos. On such occasions we once again realize the truth that we can create a world-famous product when we always give ear to the people's opinion."

Science and Technology, Impetus to Famous Products

In recent years the cooperative applied a new method in bleaching different fancy items such as cushions for seats of cars and

bathing mattresses and invented a new method of colour designing and weaving, making it possible to better the appearances of the products. This is inconceivable apart from the cooperative's strong sci-tech force. Many of its workers received special education through the study-while-working system. Now almost all other workers are getting such education. Among them are married women.

The cooperative also organizes weekly technical study for its workers for the purpose of helping them improve their technical knowledge and skills. And it holds a monthly meeting for reviewing products to introduce technical successes achieved by each workteam in all workshops. This is very profitable. In the course of this Workteam No. 1 translated over 100 technical innovations into reality in five years.

Newcomers are also distinguishing themselves as masters of invention. Ri Jin Myong is one of them. Though it is only several months after he began to work at the cooperative he succeeded in nano treatment and oxidation and hydrogen-used treatment of raw



Invariable Target

THE MEMBERS OF THE Bioelectronics Laboratory of the Electronics Faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology developed a lot of latest medical appliances and equipment conducive to improvement of the people's health and welfare, thus enjoying affection and respect from the people.

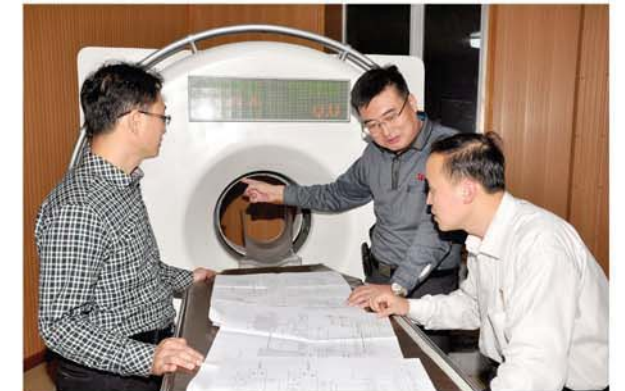
It was a decade ago that they started the research for developing electronic medical equipment. At that time it was recognized as an established idea that designing and manufacturing of cutting-edge medical appliances were possible in only a few developed countries. The research team led by Dr. and Assoc. Prof. Ri Mu Chol, head of the laboratory, challenged the conception and buckled down to the research to break through the cutting edge with their own effort and technology. The first they developed was an eight-channel unipolar induction electroencephalograph, a portable medical appliance capable of diagnosing brain and nervous system diseases by measuring micro brain waves of μV level. This meant that they pioneered a new phase in making medical appliances Juche-oriented, and their achievement drew the attention of the medical circle and was highly commented upon at a national sci-tech festival.

Not content with this, they pushed ahead with new development projects. In the course of this, the research team succeeded in developing a portable insulin pump, a somatic component analyser, a standard twelve-derivation electrocardiograph, an electromyograph, a multi-detector

CT and many other advanced electronic medical appliances and equipment. All of them are associated with the researchers' sincere study and effort.

In August 2016 the researchers were tasked with developing an ECC device for a multipurpose roentgen. The roentgen is an advanced equipment for ordinary roentgenograph, cardiovascular examination and general vasograph. The roentgen consists of various special devices, and the ECC device was the core of the machine. Some people worried that they might fail to develop the device as they did not have any basic data on it.

The team, however, did not give up. They had gained rich experience in conducting development projects for several years, and were full of confidence that they could do whatever they were determined to do. So, they interpreted over 80 functions of the ECC device in a week, and found out an encoded code protocol, the main key to network communication. And in a month the researchers developed in a completely new way an algorithm for connection between the ECC device they had developed and the host computer, thus succeeding in putting the machine into normal operation. This laid a solid tech-



The researchers are in a technical consultation about a medical facility.

nical foundation for putting the multipurpose roentgen on a Juche-oriented footing.

The aforesaid was only part of their achievements. The research team has developed into an experienced group capable of developing not only medical appliances but also up-to-date equipment for different sectors including a voltage-frequency stabilizer for industrial and home use and an industrial CT.

Ri Mu Chol was awarded a certificate of February 16 Scientific and Technological Prize, which is conferred on the best scientists in Korea, and some members of the laboratory became holders of academic degrees or titles. Ri says, "Breaking through the cutting edge! This was and is our invariable target. Adding lustre to the motherland by breaking through the cutting edge—this is just the honour of the collective and the happiness of individuals, I think."

Kim Yu Jin

► materials and products, making it possible to have the goods made to resist any climatic conditions and humidity. He says, "Some people think if science and technology

are necessary for making grasswork. They say long practice and experience are just enough. But my experience shows that it is imperative to get the help of sci-

ence and technology to make the traditional goods win popularity with our contemporaries."

Chae Kwang Myong

Pure-hearted Aspiration



The researchers intensify the research on the technique of measuring the hydration heat of cement.

IN APRIL LAST YEAR LOTS OF PEOPLE participated in the inauguration ceremony of the modern Ryomyong Street, and a woman scientist, one of the participants, shed tears of happiness. She was Han Chol Sun, head of the building-materials laboratory of the building-materials faculty of Pyongyang University of Architecture.

Previously Han had invented latest experimental apparatuses and new methods of experiment to solve scientific problems arising in cement production, thus greatly helping bring major construction projects to earlier completion. Whenever a project was completed she was really quite happy, but her happiness at the ceremony was unusual. Then she thought of the period during which she was engaged in the research to increase the cement production for the building of the aforesaid street.

When she began to work as executive director of the project, there was a great strain on cement supply as many buildings had to be built almost at the same time. Having understood the fact she went to the Suncheon Cement Complex to solve the cement problem. Then, in early September 2016, the northern part of Korea suffered from flood damage and, consequently, the demand for cement was increasing day by day. It was obvious that the required amount of cement could not be produced without finding a new method of producing cement.

At that time researches on the technique of measuring hydration heat of cement intensified worldwide, and there were invented new measuring methods based on varieties of cutting-edge technological successes. The heat caused by the reaction of cement to water is called hydration heat of cement,

and the quality and productivity of cement greatly depend on how quickly and accurately the heat is measured. In the past cement factories in Korea used to measure the heat by means of dissolution heat, but that method required expensive imported equipment, appliances and reagents, and the relevant operation was complicated. *The strain on cement urges us to find out as early as possible a method conducive to its increased production*, Han thought and started the research to complete a new system of measuring hydration heat of cement as required by the actual condition.

First of all, she rejected the established idea and introduced a new method of measuring the hydration heat of cement by means of direct method. For this she had to make a new measuring instrument. Kim Ryong Bok and other researchers of the laboratory helped her. It needed over 20 kinds of experimental devices to do a preliminary experiment. They, however, pooled their wisdom and succeeded in making the device by finding out what was in short supply and producing anything that was not available. The device made it possible to know how much additive available in the country they had to use in order to increase the cement production.

Not content with this, they decided to make a program for the device to estimate how much the cement production could be increased. Through repeated discussions they agreed that if they combined several experimental devices into one and thus established a system of combining and managing data on hydration heat and all other experimental data, it would predict the intensity of cement faster than before and make a leap forward in cement production. With their concerted efforts the researchers developed a multi-channel automatic measuring device and an application program capable of pooling and managing data on measurement of hydration heat and other experimental data, thus establishing an automatic system of measuring hydration heat of cement.

The system turned out to be successful in the Suncheon Cement Complex and other similar factories. From then on it became possible to quickly predict intensity of cement and the growth of its production. And the Suncheon Cement Complex could increase the monthly cement production by 10%, thus contributing to the early completion of Ryomyong Street. The system was awarded the State certificate of registered sci-tech achievement in September last year. An officer who was in charge of the Ryomyong Street project says, "Love for the country and the pure-hearted aspiration could bring about such a success."

Sim Chol Yong

Developers of New Teaching Methods

THE MATHEMATICS FACULTY of Kim Il Sung University is recognized as a faculty with lots of model teachers in the university.

It was when the law on enforcing universal 12-year compulsory education was adopted at the Sixth Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly in September 2012. At that time, Rim Chang Il, one of the then administrators of the faculty, said at a meeting of its teachers, "It is the Workers' Party of Korea's noble intention to make ours a country of education and talents by bringing about a radical improvement in education in the new century. We should make fresh progress in our educational work in accordance with that intention."

Since then, the faculty started the work to invent new teaching methods. While inspiring the teachers to improve their standards of lecturing, the faculty put a primary emphasis on evaluating the standards correctly. Formerly objectivity had not been thoroughly ensured in evaluating the standards because they had fixed subjective criteria for evaluation and established subjective relations between the criteria.

The faculty made a new mathematical model for evaluating the teachers' practical qualifications objectively and scientifically, and developed a new system for evaluation of teaching qualifications on the basis of the model. This greatly helped the teachers improve their practical qualifications and devote themselves to the educational work through a campaign for overtaking and learning from others and exchanging experience.

Then the faculty had all the classrooms turned into multifunctional ones, and developed Our Classroom Question and Answer System, a new practical and superior teaching method.

Previously there had been

face-to-face questions and answers between a teacher and students during the teacher's checking of the students' assignment result or during a lecture, making it impossible to correctly grasp the students' assignment result and how much they understood in a short span of time and maximize their concentration during a lecture.

But the new teaching method is a simultaneous response system in which all the teachers and students can have questions and answers at the same time by a computer network in multifunctional classrooms and the computer gives marks immediately to a team who answered a question from a student of the other team during a group competition. Therefore, the system is highly commented upon as a practical educational method among the teachers.

The system makes it possible for the teachers to check the students' assignment result, have questions and answers, hold a midterm examination at a moment and mark the examination result promptly so as to make

lectures practical, maximize the students' concentration during a lecture and further enhance their enthusiasm and emulation in study and their ability.

Some of the teachers presented a paper titled "Experience in developing students' mental faculties and practical ability in teaching differential equations through solutions to practical problems and an education support program" and invented a "method of drawing a model of tree for the students to synthesize and systematize what they learned," a "system of marking at the same time," "Question Windows" and other new diversified teaching methods that have been practically employed.

Along with this, its students' ability has been further improved, and many of its graduates are playing a big role in the economic construction of the country.

Aware that the students' ability depends just on the teachers', all the teachers of the faculty are striving to invent more and more new teaching methods.

Sim Yong Jin

The teachers make efforts to enhance the level of their teaching.



Noble Spirit Implanted in Pupils

UNDOK PRIMARY SCHOOL in Sukchon County, South Phyongan Province is well known across the country for its success in improving its educational conditions and environments. The school holds the title of Honoured Red Flag School. My coverage of the school unexpectedly started on the bus I took from Pyongyang to Sukchon. We had a talk with passengers in the bus running through snow-covered fields. Knowing that we were journalists on the way to the primary school in the county, they welcomed us

saying, "Are you going to Undok Primary School?" "Although living in the county we didn't know well about the school, but it has changed beyond recognition for recent years," and "Well, you have selected the wrong time. The school is more worth seeing when apple blossoms are in full bloom and the trees covered with fruit."

The primary school was located on a low hill by a road from downtown Sukchon to Mundok County. It was not so big a school the kind of which can be seen anywhere. When we arrived at

the school we heard the tune of the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* coming from its building. Merited Teacher Son Kwang Un, headmaster of the school, said that the song signalled the end of lessons and that they used the tune of the song to tell the start and end of lessons.

Then the headmaster guided us round the school. All classrooms were on a multifunctional basis, and an IT learning room and an English laboratory were fully provided with necessary conditions and environments. We

The teachers better their educational conditions and environments, and have the pupils improve their ability.



were surprised to see that the rural school's conditions and environments were equal to those of an urban school. The walls of each corridor were hung with boards including those dedicated to questions and answers and general knowledge to suit pupils' psychological peculiarities and their difference in age. What caught our eye in particular was the noticeboard titled *Pride of Our School*. It was dedicated to introduction of 25 holders of the title of October 8 Model Teacher and other teachers who were devoting their life to the education of the rising generation, and pupils who displayed the honour of their school including those who ranked among the top three in the National Schoolchildren's Quiz. The board alone enabled us to realize that the school had a strong teaching staff and that its pupils were good at school.

The boards of questions and answers introduced interesting topics for pupils in different grades like proverbs related to studying; breeding seasons of birds living in Korea and number of eggs they lay; the reason why insects and worms do not crawl into birds' nests; the time swallows come to and leave Korea; and descriptions of famous mountains and rivers in Korea. The board of general knowledge gave explanations of differences between river and lake, between dew and frost, between mineral water and hot spring water and between mammals and birds, and of marine animals, fish in the East and West seas of Korea, advantage of a bird to fly, and the reason why a rabbit gnaws wood.

The headmaster said that they introduced general knowledge of the kind related to pupils' life in the rural area. And he guided us to the 3-2 classroom where a music lesson was under way. The class was learning a song of a cartoon everybody likes singing, and they seemed to quickly understand what they



The teachers are in a consultation.

were learning while watching the cartoon on TV.

We also looked round other places of the school. The edge of its compound and its grove were covered with peach, plum, apricot, persimmon, cherry, pine nut trees and hawthorns. The headmaster said that the school gathered five tons of fruits from the trees last year and that it would do 15 tons of the fruits at maximum in future. He added that they were cultivating strawberries and broad bellflowers beneath the fruit trees, and that they gathered 500 kilogrammes of the roots of the broad bellflowers a year.

They also built a mushroom growing house, a vegetable hot-house and a stockbreeding base operated by natural energy, and they produce five tons of mushrooms, two tons of vegetables and a large quantity of meat. This benefits the school very much in terms of education and edification of pupils, supply of the products to pupils and teachers and renovation of the school.

The school supplies school things to the pupils free of charge by itself. And it had all its classrooms equipped with LCD TVs, projectors for visual

education, computers and solar panels and the English laboratory and the IT learning room equipped with modern teaching aids with its own efforts.

The headmaster said, "Everybody looks round our school in wonder. It is a small rural primary school. But it has got such educational facilities and environments by itself. Of course we were worried a lot at first. But when we decided to deal with the problems by ourselves, good ideas hit us, and we all turned out."

A lot of visitors to the school say that its teachers, who implant in the pupils the noble spirit of dealing with everything by themselves, are more beautiful than the scenery of the school surrounded by fruit trees in full bloom.

Now the tune of the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* came out. Another lessons were over, and at the same time we finished our coverage. The pupils were going home holding each other by the hand with their bags on their backs, and we left the school hoping that the teachers would better the educational conditions and environments.

Kim Ye Ryong

Koryo Medicine-based Diagnosing and Treating Apparatus

TODAY NON-PHARMACEUTICAL TREATMENT draws the attention of many people in the world. *Can't we treat diseases without using modern medicines that badly affect organs, or Koryo medicines to be taken for a long time? Can't we recover from diseases without feeling physical pains caused by acupuncture or moxibustion?*—this is what patients and doctors all thought.

A bio-resonance-based diagnosing and treating apparatus developed by the Medical Appliances Research Institute of the Academy of Medicine satisfies such demands of the people. The principle of the bio-resonance technique is to treat diseases by measuring electromagnetic field in the human body, separating and reversing electromagnetic information into the body to reduce pathological electromagnetic vibration and improving the body's immunity and self-curing ability. Through their painstaking study the researchers of the institute added a novel idea to the technique, further enhancing the treatment effect.

The bio-resonance technique requires a digital technique and that of making precise medical appliances. The researchers pooled their effort and wisdom and created an unprecedented speed of development. They pushed ahead with the drawing of the general design of the medical appliance and the designing, assembling and adjusting of the general board, and the developing of the diagnosing and treating system simultaneously. They put emphasis on making the apparatus suited to the physical constitution of Koreans. First of all, they completed the diagnosing and treating system by introducing Koryo medicine, the traditional medicine of Korea.

Science of acupuncture and moxibustion, a branch of Koryo medicine, relies on Kyongnak

They strive to widen the treatment range of the diagnosing and treating apparatus.



(channels and collaterals) for diagnosis of diseases. Kyongnak is a Koryo medical term which constitutes an important theoretical foundation in the science. The Kyongnak system of Koryo medicine was discovered in ancient times. In 1992 a Korean scholar of Koryo medicine completed a meridian chart, which shows 201 motor points corresponding to 14 hard pulses and 361 meridian points, and 31 neural segments plus meridian lines that gather in Taechu and Kyolbun acupoints.

From long ago, Koreans measured and analysed conductivity of acupoints, set its standard value and, on the basis of it, diagnosed in a comprehensive way the pathological and physiological states of the viscera and organs related to channels and treated diseases by applying acupuncture or electro-impulse stimulation on the affected spots. The research team designed and manufactured a device which can measure acupoint conductivity and diagnose and treat diseases.

They also established several testing methods based on Koryo medicine, making it possible to do real-time and quantitative diagnosis and treatment on the basis of the principle of bio-resonance.

The researchers repeated the research for making the necessary electrodes. The electrodes enable the bio-resonance technique to diagnose and treat diseases. In the course of doing a profound study of the skin and skeleton of Koreans they set a proper size, shape and material of the electrode. Thus the bio-resonance-based diagnosing and treating apparatus was completed in several months, and it underwent a full clinical examination at central hospitals. The result confirmed that the apparatus can restore the damaged Kyongnak system of an organic body, correctly find and remove pathological electromagnetic information, adjust the physical conditions of patients and improve the immunity and self-curing ability of an organic body.

They also developed a similar apparatus for home use. Without causing any pain it is effective in treating allergic diseases, obstinate skin diseases and circulatory diseases, so it is popular with the users and the demand for it is increasing day after day.

Ho Chang Il, leader of the research team and head of the institute's medical appliances laboratory, says, "In the course of developing the apparatus which employs the success of Koryo medicine in a more profitable way we further improved our ability. We will continue with the research to widen the range of its usage."

Rim Ok

Wish Fulfilled

A KOREAN GIRL WAS selected as the Most Valuable Player and the Top Scorer at the AFC U-16 Women's Football Championship 2017 in Thailand. She is Kim Kyong Yong from the Naegohyang Women's Football Club.

Born in Taesong District, Pyongyang, she, as child, liked to see other children play football. And she wished to do it herself. When she was in the second year of primary school, one of her friends was in the sports class, and Kyong Yong used to find it a great fun to join the pupils in the class after school was over in the morning. One day her mother asked her to join the sports class herself and learn football as she wanted.

Days later Kyong Yong was admitted into the class and began to learn football. Soon she cut a figure in matches with teams of other schools.

When she finished primary school, she entered the Naegohyang (My Home Town) Women's Football Club which had just been formed. Many people asked why she chose to join the new one of all clubs. She answered, "I like the name of the club. I am not sure whether I will be of any help to my country in the future, and yet I wish I would have our national flag hoisted high up by winning international games."

Kyong Yong tried as hard as anyone—in order to fulfil her wish. When her teammates enjoyed themselves on holidays, she was in the field for training.

Her endeavour began to bear

good results. She distinguished herself at a number of domestic competitions. In particular, she displayed her ability to the full at the AFC U-14 girls' regional championship (East Asia) 2016, and at the AFC U-15 girls' regional championship 2017. Her figure became sharp last year at the AFC U-16 Women's Championship 2017.

The AFC gave an article about Kim Kyong Yong about the nine goals she had made, which was the highest at the championship. It reads: "The best team at the AFC U-16 Women's Championship 2017 was decided on September 23, the last day of the games, but it seemed the Most Valuable Player of the championship had already been decided. Kim Kyong Yong, the outstanding forward of the Korean team, made nine goals at five matches, and thus was selected as the Most Valuable Player and the Top Scorer of the championship. Quite fast in movement, she ranked the highest in terms of score at the championship already after the game with the Bangladeshi in the group league matches. What is noteworthy about her achievement is that she made goals in diversified ways, like heading and no-stop kick. When she was dashing to the goal, the backs of the opponent team could not catch up with her. Kyong Yong has been in football for only five years, but it is likely that she will win fame great enough to represent the Asian women's football in a few years."

When reporters told her she



Forward Kim Kyong Yong.

must be happy to bring the Most Valuable Player and Top Scorer awards to her country after the final match, she said, "To tell the truth, I made it my goal to become the Most Valuable Player at the AFC U-16 Women's Championship. I've never imagined I'd become the Top Scorer." Then, she expressed her thanks to her team for their help.

The AFC chairman said, "The Korean team's win of the championship is the victory of the players and the coaches, and it is also a good sign of the fact that the Korean Football Association has done its work very well. I know that their effort will become a great encouragement to the Asian footballers and football enthusiasts. I believe that the Asian teams will play very well again at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup to be held in Uruguay in 2018."

Kim Kyong Yong fulfilled her wish to have the national flag of her country fly high in the foreign country before returning home.

Sim Chol Yong



Joy of Riding

NOW PEOPLE ARE ASPIRING TO MORE optimistic and creative enjoyment of civilization. The desire can be satisfied by riding as well. Riding is a high-grade exercise for people to build up their bodies and get rid of their mental stress regardless of seasons. It also can prevent and treat hypertension, diabetes and other diseases, and check the mental strain and aging that occur among the middle-aged. Riding for ten minutes and 30 minutes is as good as having a massage for ten hours and having a football match respectively. So, riding is getting popular across the world.

In Korea, too, riding is becoming popular, and the

people's enthusiasm for the activity is growing. In 2013 the Mirim Riding Club was established in the Mirim area of the capital city of Pyongyang. This began to enliven riding. The club has seven different outdoor basic training grounds and indoor training grounds, three riding tracks, a riding service centre, a room for dissemination of knowledge of riding and a leisure centre. The club enables people to learn various equestrian skills as they wish, and broaden their knowledge of horse and that of riding.

Riding is very popular with young people and children as it helps them cultivate their courage and bravery, build up their physical strength and develop

Members of the extracurricular circle learn the knowledge of riding and practise in the relevant technique.



▶ their physique in a balanced way. On the increase is the number of those who wish to take the riding course and attend the extracurricular riding circle.

The club regularly gives a two-year riding course from April to October. After finishing the riding course the attendees can practise in riding skills at the extracurricular circle. The finishers of the course and members of the circle unanimously say that they learned much more about riding—the origin of horse



the age of over 12 participated in the competition. When the participants possessed of high skills, perseverance and lofty sportsmanship showed impressive scenes, spectators gave them enthusiastic cheers and applause. The competition climaxed with the race, and Ri Hyon Chol, a student of the Geology Faculty of Kim Il Sung University, won in the match. After the end of the competition Yun Kwang Hyok, a worker of the Mangyongdae Kyonghung Foodstuff Factory of the Kyonghung Guidance Bureau, said that he came to know well that riding is a good exercise to cultivate perseverance and develop the brain, and that he would learn it to take part in the next round of the competition.

In the future, too, we will frequently organize such a competition to actively encourage among the people the riding which is good to the promotion of people's well-being. Together with this, we will dynamically conduct international cooperation and exchange.

Ri Tong Jun, chief secretary of the DPRK Equestrian Association



The Autumn Amateur Riders Competition held in October 2017 amidst the rising enthusiasm for riding.

race, the kinds of race horses, and the indices to determine the cooperation ability of a horse and a rider in horsemanship.

Amidst the people's growing enthusiasm for riding the Autumn Amateur Riders Competition was held at the riding club in October 2017. It was divided into a riding amusement game, equestrian skill game and amateurs' race. Scores of amateurs at



Spring

By Ri Myong



(Continued from the last issue)

“I REMEMBER. THAT DAY the teacher and we all wept,” Ok agreed. It was still fresh in her memory along with the smart pain she had felt at the time. Gasping in anguish, Kwon gravely added, “The day I made the teacher cry was the fifth of the third lunar month. I didn’t know it was his birthday.”

“His birthday?” Ok exclaimed. Until then she had had no idea of the teacher’s birthday. She only wondered how Kwon had known and remembered it.

“Five years ago, when I was crossing the River Tuman after escaping from the police detention, the sound of the raging waves reminded me of the teacher who had told us that we should plant our own trees in this deprived land. So I hurried my way,” Kwon paused for breath.

“Later,” he went on. “I joined the guerrilla army. And once I told my comrades about what had happened during the school days. Then General Kim Il Sung somehow knew it,” Kwon was interrupted by Ok who abruptly asked, “Who did you mean?”

“Ms. Ok, I’m a soldier of the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army under the command of General Kim Il Sung,” replied Kwon.

Ok felt a thump in her heart at his words. The story about the General Star of Mt. Paektu had

sounded like a legend to Ok. *Is Kwon really a man under the command of the General?* Ok wondered, and abstractedly looked at him as if she were in a dream. *That’s how he showed up as a self-sacrificing, unyielding man full of love for people and the nation.*

Now Kwon’s haggard face fully brightened with a silent smile.

He then said, “The General said that the people in the homeland are lamenting in poems and songs their being deprived of spring by the Japanese gangsters and that we Korean revolutionaries should take back the spring for the people and look after it. And he spoke highly of the way Mr. Song Min Cho had told us to plant our own trees, the soul of Korea, in this deprived land. He said that it is something only an educator who warmly loves his country and nation can do.”

“Is that true?”

“And he said: after the ‘Korea-Japan annexation’ not a few pioneers and patriots attributed the ignoble loss of their national sovereignty to the country’s backwardness. Keenly realizing that education is the very work for the everlasting prosperity of the country and that they could not achieve the independence of the country or accomplish the modernization of the society, they launched a movement to establish private schools across the country. Mr. Song Min Cho is one of them.

What they chose is not the way to win back the country, but people with such a noble national spirit are a great encouragement to us.”

Now Ok was beside herself with excitement once again. Boundless respect for the teacher she had forgotten welled up in her.

At the moment the old carter who bound his head tightly with a cotton towel showed up at the door. He gasped for breath as if he had come running in haste, and his wrinkled face was soaked with sweat.

“Hey, you leave here quickly,” he called out to Kwon. “There’s a message that your safety may be endangered and that there’s no moment to lose,” the old man said, just about to pick Kwon up in a hurry.

“The boat you are to get aboard has been brought alongside the Obunjang pier. The man from Jolla Province said he will follow you,” said the old carter.

“What? Isn’t he returning to his home village?” asked Kwon.

“He said that he felt chagrined at having lived for nothing and that though belatedly he will hold a rifle and fight against the Japs.”

“Um.” A trustful smile played about Kwon’s shut lips and eyes. He nodded and said to the old man, “Big Daddy, I still have something to do here.”

“Are you crazy? The Japanese police have sent out spies here and there to take you. Last night alone they rummaged each and

every house at random once again. They also exercise strict control over passage through the gate of the walled city,” said the old man.

“I know. I have a place to go to without fail, so please bring the cart here,” Kwon asked.

“Impossible! Do you want to have a hard time of it? Now get on my back!” the old man refused pointblank, thrusting his back toward Kwon. Promptly Kwon held his two gnarled hands and said earnestly, “Big Daddy, my mind doesn’t allow it. So please...”

For a moment the old man stood still as if he had had nothing to say. Anguish of his heart caused deep wrinkles on his forehead and the space between the eyebrows. After a while, unable to complain anymore, he nervously cut the air with his hand and stamped out of the room.

Listening to the dialogue between the two men, Ok was excited at the fact that Kwon was never lonely, that an underground organization was active in the walled city and that even a man, who had wandered working as a day laborer, volunteered to join the organization to take part in the sacred war to take back the country. She sensed that the man had done so under the influence of Kwon. So she was sorry to have to part from him.

“The outdoor atmosphere seems gruesome. Are you sure to go there?” Ok asked earnestly as she thought it advisable for him to escape soon when there was the boat ready for him because he could hardly move his own body. Kwon beamed with a smile.

“The new morning has dawned, and today is Mr. Song’s birthday. I just want to wish him a long life,” said the man.

Ok felt a lump in her throat for a moment. She found him so greatly and laudably emotional and very warmhearted. Now he seemed the dearest to her.

“May I convey your wish to the teacher?” Ok asked.

“You know, I worried him on this day in the schooldays. How can I leave without meeting him

when I am here?” Kwon explained.

A shadow of sincere apology appeared on his obviously haggard face with unkempt whiskers. Realizing again that her requirement was useless, Ok whisperingly and bashfully said, “Though belatedly, I also want to see the teacher.”

“I thought so at first,” Kwon said. “I wish we could together give pleasure to him! We might sing the song that implanted the spring of our country in our mind.”

“Do you mean *Dear South of the River?*”

“Yes, but you can’t go there,” said Kwon.

His words puzzled Ok whose heart had throbbed with joy. Kwon hesitated. His eyes gradually dimmed as if he were confused in mind. Then the eyes began to glitter again. They seemed to reflect his determined attitude in firmly making up his mind to take the road he was not sure to come back along but could not leave over even if a trap awaited him there.

“Ms. Ok, U Sang Gi is dogging me. He tried to catch me with the man from Jolla Province for a decoy. They have not arrested me till now for the purpose of using me to find out the network of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland organizations here. Now that they have come to nothing they will tenaciously come down on me. Let us part here. Ms. Ok, I’ll trust you!”

Now Kwon tightly held her hands and let go his hold. Ok shed tears she had repressed as her body was all aglow with happiness. Filled with indescribable joy of stirring life and excitement at having found a bright hope, she could hardly take her tearful eyes off the man. She seemed to try to stamp on her eyes his trustworthy, affable image—the clear-cut face that revealed his firm will, the intelligent eyes and the full lips.

“I wish you will fight in good health,” Ok whispered at last.

A little later the cart passed

the alley and went up a bank path along the seashore. A balmy wind blew from the sea in the early spring. The sea was swelling pushing out the darkness, and the horizon was becoming bright. The dawn was breaking.

Without knowing all that, Ok was seeing off the cart in tears. Her old memory of the private school rose before her vague mind—the teacher Song Min Cho who was resentfully reciting, “*Does spring come to the deprived land?*” and the boys and girls who were shedding copious tears.

The sorrow that had filled the heart of the ruined people began to disappear in the embrace of the General of Mt. Paektu, and the land began to be flooded with spring light.

Ok felt like responding in a loud voice to the soul of a poet who had already left this world—he died before his time. *O, you listen. You bitterly cried, “Does spring come to the deprived land?” Now spring is coming to this deprived land.*

It was the man, a soldier of General Kim Il Sung, who brought the light of the sun of Mt. Paektu. He was like spring of love that came to this frozen land and this mind.

A tearful song was reverberating in Ok’s mind. It was the song of dream she wanted to sing yearning for warm spring that would come to this land, and the one of upset love her heart was burning with.

*After January and February
comes March.
When the swallows return
from the south of the river,
Spring will come again
to this land too.*

Postscript: The following day a local newspaper carried a short article that partly read, “...On the morning of the fifth of the third lunar month in 1943 U Sang Gi, who had done his best for the sake of the great empire of Japan, was shot to death in a gunfight with communist bandits...”

The end



Ri Kum Sun and Jong Mi Gyong.

Evening Glow in Mountain Village

DARKNESS WAS FALLING in Jonggok Valley of Mt. Kuwol.

A woman was standing for a good while in front of the Jonggok branch school of the Wonphyong Senior Middle School, Unryul County, located in the dead end of the deep mountain, where, it is said, once a king got off his carriage to take a rest on his way.

She was Ri Kum Sun who had devoted all her life to the branch school. But now she was to leave the platform. Past events swept across her memory one after another. The first of them was what happened one evening over 40 years before when she had given the first lesson in the branch school. After school, the children were getting out of the school gate clinging to her sleeves while laughing boisterously. Looking up at the evening glow on the mountain in front of the school, they shouted full of hope, "Knowledge is power!"

At that time I made up my mind to live like the evening glow inspiring hope in the children, Kum Sun recollected and missed the eleven simple children who had been very glad about her arrival, but hesitated to approach her. Kum Sun had wanted to devote all her affection on them.

She rang the school bell every day and the sounds of the children reading and singing reverberated over Mt. Kuwol, inspiring dreams and hope in her.

One day, less than a month after her arrival there, a fire broke out unexpectedly in her

temporary residence. Her clothes and hair were singed and her trunk, the single property of hers, and her teaching plans were all burnt. She felt as if the sky had fallen. The villagers tried to persuade her to go to their homes, but she vacantly stood still. The house was the first residence all the villagers had turned out and built for her, and the teaching plans were what she had written with all the ardour of a young teacher. She was not merely sorry about the loss, but felt a sense of collapse and got weary of the life in the mountains once again.

Clinging to her sleeves, the children said with tears, "Miss Ri, our mothers said you would leave here. Please don't leave." At the children's earnest appeal, she was aware of her mission once again. Having calmed herself, she began to remove the heaps of ashes.

Told about the fact, all the administrators of the county and the village turned out and built a new house for her in a week, saying that there should be no hindrance to the educational work of the school.

There could be remote and secluded places topographically, but there should be no shadow in any places, she thought then and determined to live there for ever to teach the children. Her determination enabled her to bear up under the strange roars of mountain animals and the wildness of nature, and under the

heavy burden of multiple lessons she had to give for the first time to the children different in age.

Without delay of a second she rang the school bell, and on holidays she visited other schools in her county or others to learn from their good experience. Each day she had to give several times as many lessons as teachers of the principal school, guide the children in their extracurricular activities, write teaching plans and make teaching aids. It was not an easy job for her and time was not enough.

Every night she, in the light of a bonfire, dug out stones from the site where she would arrange the school's grove and strove to prepare the site for a playground big enough for playing football. She also planted fruit trees around the playground, cultivated waste land to raise soybean to supply soya milk to the students regularly, and bred many rabbits to treat pupils on their birthdays to thick rabbit soup. The mothers of the children often shed tears of gratitude for her sincere devotion.

Kum Sun took pride in seeing the growth of her pupils.

The State saw to it that the

Jong Mi Gyong gives a lesson.



YAKBAP (MEDICINAL RICE) is a dish made with steamed glutinous rice mixed with honey, sesame oil, chestnut, jujube, pine nut and soybean sauce.

Honey is regarded as medicine, so the dish is also called medicinal rice as it is mixed with honey.

The dish began to be eaten by Koreans in the period of the Three Kingdoms—Koguryo, Paekje and Silla—and the people of Koryo (918–1392), too, loved to cook and eat the dish.

*Made into a lump and mixed evenly with honey,
The cooked glutinous rice is beautiful in colour.
And mixed with jujube, chestnut and pine nut,
The rice becomes further sweeter.*

National Intangible Cultural Heritage (15)

Yakbap

The verse is part of a poem about the rice in the period of Koryo.

In the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910) the rice was more widely popularized, and the method of cooking the dish improved. Books from the period record details about the cooking method.

First, soak, wash and steam the rice. Peel the endocarp off chestnuts and slice the nuts. Remove the seeds from jujubes and boil the flesh into thick juice. Mix the steamed rice evenly with honey, and season it with soybean sauce. Then mix together the rice, sesame oil, chestnut slices and jujube juice, and put the mixture in a pot or a hollow vessel. Now seal the mouth of the vessel, and steam the vessel on a steamer or on water in a cauldron over strong fire. When it is steaming hard, adjust the fire while steaming it for a long while. Then the colour of the rice turns red and the dish becomes glossy. Scoop the rice in a bowl, put pine nuts on the rice in a shapely manner and sprinkle cinnamon powder on it.

Formerly, dried persimmons,

dried bracken, mushroom and walnuts were also used for the cooking of the rice.

Besides, the glutinous rice would be mixed evenly with honey, jujubes, chestnuts, sesame oil and soybean sauce before being put in a cauldron or on a steamer. This time the chestnuts and jujubes would be put among the other components, and they would be covered with glutinous rice flour before being steamed. Then, it is said, the rice becomes dark red.

According to old documents, the rice was also called Hyangban (aromatic rice), Michan (beautiful dish) and Japgwan (fruit-mixture dish).

Foreigners called the dish Koryo rice praising its taste as fantastic.

The dish is a special one mainly for the 15th of the first lunar month.

With a very long history, the dish has been widely known as the one peculiar to the Korean nation. It is still regarded as a unique dish.

Rim Sang Jun

children in the mountain village were provided with school uniforms, school things and shoes like those in urban areas, and that a new wide road was laid in the deep mountain for the sake of children of the branch school. And the State appreciated her sincere efforts as pure-hearted devotion, had her make a speech at a national conference of educational workers and invited her to such national celebrations as those of the 50th and 60th founding anniversaries of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It is over ten years since her daughter started to work as a teacher at the branch school following in her steps. In her child-

hood the daughter dreamed of becoming a stage actress. But she was determined to become a teacher of the branch school of her home village when she had an opportunity to see her mother's photo left in the history of the Haeju Jo Ok Hui Teacher Training College. Mi Gyong wished to live like her mother had done. From the first day when she started to work at the school she pushed ahead with the construction of a new school building and the improvement of its educational environments as befits an educator of the new generation.

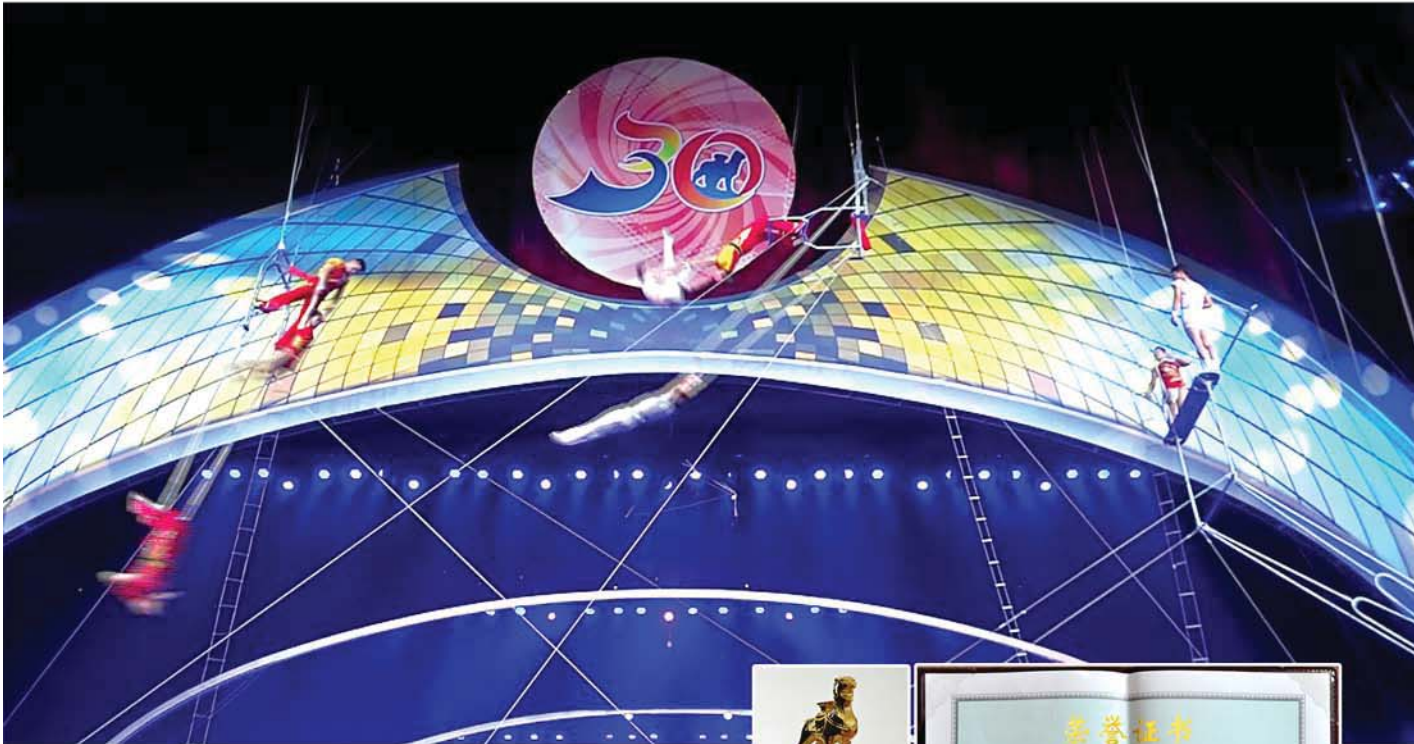
The State invited her as a delegate to a conference of the

teachers from branch schools on islands and schools in the front-line areas and mountain villages held in Pyongyang some time ago. Then she had the honour to have a photograph taken with Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. At the conference, she took the floor to express her determination to keep working hard like her mother....

Kum Sun looked up again at the evening glow over Mt. Kuwol reflected by the windows of the branch school. She envisaged the bright future of Mi Gyong, her granddaughter Jong Gyong, and the pupils who would add lustre to the motherland.

Kim Chol Ung

Korean Acrobatic Stars



The Korean acrobats win Prize of Gold Lion, the top prize of the 16th China Wuqiao International Circus Festival.



“AS I ALWAYS FEEL, Korean acrobats’ aerial stunt is really the acme of enchantment.” This is what the international jury of and participants in the 16th China Wuqiao International Circus Festival said after seeing Korean acrobats’ act “Aerial Trapeze.”

Some time ago I had an opportunity to meet the performers of the stunt who had won the festival’s top prize of Gold Lion.

Motive

Among the stunt performers who draw the spectators into a state of ecstasy mixed with excitement and admiration is Merited Actress Hwang Kum Hui who performs triple backward somersaults. In her girlhood spectators called her swallow as she was able to fly in the air as she liked. A mother now, she still retains the nickname. With an aptitude for gymnastics, she already distinguished herself in the circle of gymnastics in her teens. Since beginning to act as an acrobat in 2005 she has developed into an experienced aerial acrobat. Referring to acrobatics as her first love and all of her life, she says, “I still have things to do to live up to the concern and expectations of all the people who hold us aerial acrobats in affection.”

Such a sense of her duty serves as a motive for her to always perform aerial stunts with confidence, she says.

Behind Stunt Performers

In aerial acrobatics stunt performers are important. And more important is the role of supports who adjust and help the former. Jon Jong Won, leader of the team that performs the aforesaid aerial act, plays such a role. Having never made a mistake, Jon drew the attention of the spectators by exactly getting hold of and letting go of the hands of the stunt performers in the aerial act done at the aforesaid festival.

In 2005 Jon changed his career from Korean wrestling to

acrobatics. In the early days when he began to act as a member of the team, his calm and staunch character earned him popularity with his colleagues.

He says, “Aerial acrobatics has neither major nor minor parts. But it is us supports who have to sweat much more in training for the sake of their colleagues.”

At the age of 33 this year he ranks with the best leaders of such acrobatic teams mentally and physically.

No Satisfaction

Spectators unstintingly applaud Merited Actor Kim Chol Guk’s performance of thrilling, difficult movements such as four backward somersaults and 14-metre-fly.

As a schoolboy, Kim practised in heavy gymnastics at the Pyongyang Students and Children’s Palace before he started his career as an acrobat in the second grade of senior middle school. And he was the latest of the performers of the “Aerial Trapeze.”

His high skill was fully displayed at the aerial act at the 26th Golden Circus International Acrobatic Festival held in 2010. This was the first time for the aerial act of Korea to be presented at an international festival. It, however, created a great sensation, winning the first prize. Back home Kim was awarded the title of Merited Actor, thus becoming the youngest Merited Actor of his team. He says, “I still have a lot of cutting-edge stunts to pioneer.”

The chief of the organizational committee of the 16th China Wuqiao International Circus Festival said, “Since the first round of the festival Korea has kept taking first place. This is thanks to the State’s great guidance, assistance and concern for the development of acrobatics.”

Peter, a member of the jury, said that satellites of Korea are flying and that the Korean acrobats brought glory to the stage of the festival like the satellites.

Kim Un Jong

The acrobats are in a consultation on creation.



Pyongyang Fine Arts Education Exchange Agency

THE PYONGYANG FINE Arts Education Exchange Agency of the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts is dynamically conducting exchanges of fine arts education, scientific discussion and creation with its counterparts of many countries in the world.

In 2016 the agency held in Mongolia a photo and art exhibition of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of President Kim Il Sung's visit to the country. On display at the

exhibition were over 80 works of fine arts created by not only teachers and students of the university but also members of the agency. After looking around the exhibition the visitors said that while seeing the Korean paintings, jewel pictures, oil paintings, acrylics and landscapes they were deeply impressed by their exquisite, accurate and profound depiction of the Korean people's life and the country's natural sceneries. They also mentioned that the works enabled them to know well

about the high level of Korea's fine arts education and, in particular, the mettle of the Korean people invariably advancing along the road they chose despite international sanctions and blockades, and asked for more works reflecting the reality of the country.

In 2017 the agency conducted various activities with several countries including art exhibition, creation of ordered works on the spot, and exchange of architectural decoration and computer image process techniques. It

A DPRK photo and art exhibition held in Mongolia in 2016.



Delegations from different countries visit the Pyongyang Fine Arts Education Exchange Agency.

regularly does similar activities with delegations of other countries on their visit to Korea. Last year delegations of the Netherlands, Norway, Austria, France, Germany, Russia and China visited the agency. The members of those delegations, after looking round several places of the aforesaid university, and the studios of the agency, said in great admiration that when the world was heading for abstract painting, Korea was creating popular and genuine works suited to its people's ideological and mental world and emotional feelings.

Members of the European region cultural exchange delegation, who had created works and had on-the-spot training in concert with members of the agency while staying in Korea, said that the agency had a competent creative force, that artists of their countries had additional occupations in general as it was hard for them to make a living with only one job, that in Korea, however,

artists were displaying their talent to the full with attachment to their occupation, and contributing sincerely to the people's cultural and emotional life, and that they were really envious of the Korean artists.

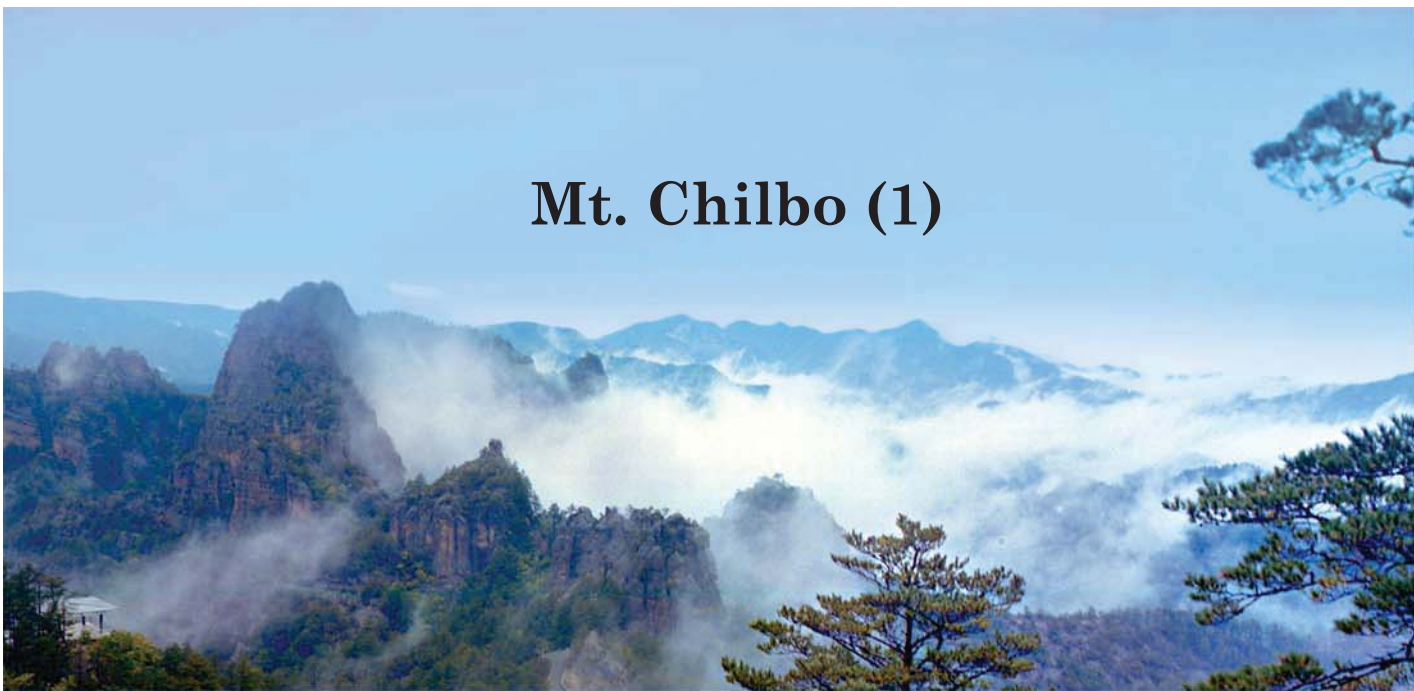
The agency also has a creative group capable of exchanging fine arts education with other countries in the world. And it, with its People's Artists who have produced art works as good as national treasures, experienced artists and promising artists in their twenties and thirties, is giving full play to its ability at national fine arts exhibitions. In 2016 and 2017 they produced over 40 works, and not a few of them were evaluated as national treasures and won special prizes. Meanwhile, they have positively engaged in construction projects such as those of Ryomyong Street, Mirae Scientists Street, Wisong Scientists Residential District, Pyongyang Orphanage, Song-dowon International Children's

Camp, Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum and Central Zoo.

Recently the agency is developing computer fine arts, which is a global trend, and expanding relevant exchange with other countries. Ri Hak Song, director of the agency, says, "Through exchange of fine arts education with different countries in the world we often saw that our fine arts theory and orientation of creation are correct, and that they draw the attention of fine arts experts and amateurs of many countries. Based on this, we will have a deep understanding of the global trend in fine arts development through contacts with fine arts education units and fine arts companies of other countries, and visits to art museums there in the countries, and promote mutual friendship and cooperation through a wider range of exchange activities."

Kim Ye Ryong

Mt. Chilbo (1)



MT. CHILBO HAS LONG been regarded as one of scenic spots in Korea with a long history and time-honoured cultural traditions. Located north-east of the Korean peninsula, the mountain, thanks to its topographical and geological features, has unique natural beauties including seascapes, the kinds of which cannot be seen in other celebrated mountains.

Its name *Chilbo* means seven treasures. It is largely divided into Inner Chilbo, Outer Chilbo

and Sea Chilbo.

Inner Chilbo

Inner Chilbo has short mountain ranges and its valleys are not deep. So it is worth sightseeing.

Its fantastic peaks are characterized by rocks standing in the shapes of men, animals and so on, and its beauty has long been likened to womanly beauty.

Inner Chilbo is divided into four districts of scenic beauty

including Kaesim Temple and Isonam districts, and the districts are connected by a sightseeing road and mountain-climbing routes.

In the centre of Inner Chilbo stands magnificent Chonbul (a thousand Buddhas) Peak. The peak is surrounded by lots of curious peaks such as Mansa (ten thousand temples) Peak, Kungang Peak which overlooks Inner Chilbo and Jorong Peak which seems laden with clusters of rocks.

Chonbul Peak.



Pabu (man and wife) Rock .

▶ Inner Chilbo also has lots of rocks of fantastic shapes including Hwanho (cheering) Rock whose name comes from the legend that a man, who visited the mountain after hearing that its scenery was the best, turned into the rock while shouting for joy enraptured by the scenic beauty of the area, Ryangjwa Rock which resembles two brothers sitting astride their horses side by side and Ssangchim (two sharp needles) Rock, all of which always attract the visitors' attention.

▶ In particular, Pabu Rock, 15 metres in height, evokes the admiration of the beholders as it looks just like a man and his wife. In Inner Chilbo there are also lots of other fantastic rocks including those looking like a monkey, a horse, a shark, a tortoise, a rabbit, tiger's mouth, a masque performer, a Buddha, a peasant, a woman of matchless beauty, a bodhisattva, a lady, two fairies, a group of fairies, a spirit, rice cake, a shop, a piano, an umbrella, a rice stack, a helmet, a fist, a piece of bean curd, a spear and a lotus flower. These rocks may excite famous stonemasons' admiration.

And waterfalls and pools in-



Nongbu (peasant) Rock.

cluding the Kungang Falls and the Kuryong (nine dragons) Pools, which carries the tale that a filial boy succeeded in digging a wild insam (ginseng) after defeating the nine dragons, add to the beauty of the mountain.

Inner Chilbo also has Kangson, Kwanum, Sonnyo and other famous caves and Kaesim, Sungson, Haemang, Yongchun and other pavilions. Noted places of Inner Chilbo are associated with old tales and legends, which give pleasure to the visitors.

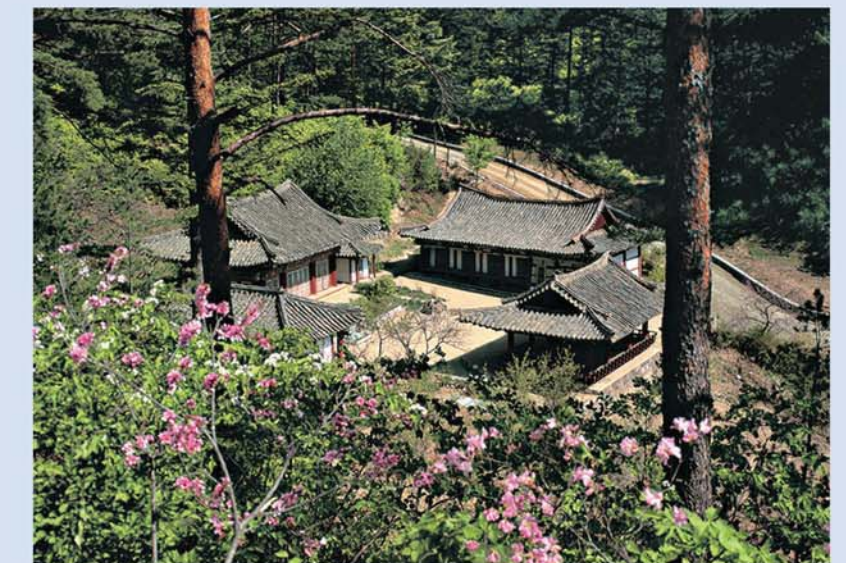
There is Kungang Cave (12m in width, 8m in depth and 2.5m

in height) at the eastern foot of Kungang Peak, which is known as the best one in Mt. Chilbo. At the entrance to the cave you can see Kungang Spring associated with an old story, according to which a mouthful of the water extends your life ten years but two cut your life ten years.

And Inner Chilbo has many historical relics, like Hama Monument and Kaesim Temple, which testify to the long history of the Korean nation and its ancestors' excellent architecture and sculpture.

Yun Sin Yong

Kaesim Temple.



Befitting Members of Socialist Community

THE KOREA TODAY editorial board had an interview with Yun Jong Ho, vice chairman of the central committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, on the occasion of the party's founding anniversary. Excerpts:

We know your party was founded following Korea's liberation (August 15, 1945) in reflection of the desire and requirement of the popular masses that were anxious to liquidate the aftereffects of the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule and build a new society.

My party was established on February 8, 1946 as an independent and democratic party that champions the interests of our Korean nation and believers in Chondoism. We follow Tonghak's basic principle of "Man and God are one" as our guiding idea. We carry on the spirit of independence and the tradition of patriotism and national unity our fore-runners demonstrated in the sacred war against the Japanese imperialists for national liberation. The ultimate aim is to achieve independent and peaceful reunification of the country through great unity of the whole nation, build an egalitarian society and set up an ideal, heavenly world in which all people live an enjoyable life. The basic mission is to reject foreign aggression and intervention in the spirit of national independence and establish a pan-national reunified state where the working people enjoy a blissful life altogether.

After foundation our party, as a member of the Democratic National United Front, took an active part in the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution,

the Fatherland Liberation War, the socialist revolution and socialist construction along with fellow democratic parties. Meanwhile, we have worked hard to give positive support to the south Korean people from all walks of life in their struggle for independence, democracy and reunification, and to the overseas Koreans in their patriotic, righteous effort while trying to improve solidarity with democratic parties and other organizations of different countries around the world.

The ultimate aim of your party is based on the principle of loving the country, the nation and the people, I would say.

The fundamental doctrine is just the idea that man and God are one, which means man is just the God. Regarding man as the developed and marvellous being and the centre of the universe, Chondoism maintains that heaven is a great universe that is infinite in space and eternal in time represented by man. In this sense man means just the God. This idea consists in the human chauvinism or humanism that demands that man be given the same status as God, which is regarded as the Supreme Being in the universe, and be held in respect. It also maintains human equality so as to help all people live a happy life under the care of Heaven. Such Chondoist doctrines as those on earthly paradise, national and public welfare, and propagation of the virtues of Chondoism all over the world are now the motive force for us Chondoists to turn out as one to build a socialist power. Many of us are making contributions to the work of making the country prosperous



Vice chairman Yun Jong Ho.

with a patriotic mind, when others are struggling devotedly for independent national reunification with a heart of loving the nation.

I know that after national liberation Chondoism was divided into the north and south, and in the north the Korea Chondoist Church and the Chondoist Chongu Party were organized and have worked hard to achieve national reunification and prosperity of the country.

The highest ideal of Chondoism is to build an earthly paradise where all people work on an equal footing, lead an enjoyable life and live a long life in good health. The important tenets of the belief are the idea of defending the country and protecting the people against foreign aggression to maintain national independence and safety of the people, and the one of propagating the virtues of Chondoism all over the world by completing society and people in the moral point of view and establishing the order of morality throughout the country.

Although the country is divided into north and south due to the Americans' occupation of the

"Game Is Over"

RECENTLY, ADVOCATING all-out compact diplomacy to put pressure upon the DPRK for the purpose of completely blockading and subduing the country, the US is coercing many countries of the world into breaking off or reducing relations with Korea.

A British daily newspaper reported as follows: The US is not a single superpower any longer; at last it has felt the limit of its force and become as mean as to beg for help using its dollar; and this enables us to know well about the power of Korea that has made the US awkward.

The US has used all cards in its hand in the decades-long confrontation with Korea. The economic sanctions and military pressure have been the mightiest cards the US could use consistently.

The successive presidents of America and their hawks resorted to varieties of economic sanctions and military pressure of their own in an attempt to trample upon and check the sovereignty of Korea and its rights to existence and development. They, in turns, brandished the cards probably

because they thought that the sanctions and pressure by their predecessors had not been strong enough to bring the country to its knees.

In this century alone the US designated Korea as a top-priority target of nuclear attack in its report on the nuclear posture review in 2002. And in 2005 it adopted a joint nuclear operation doctrine to achieve that purpose and frequently staged preemptive nuclear attack drills. In 2008 the US continued powder-reeking joint military exercises, changing their names from RSOI and Foal Eagle to Key Resolve and Foal Eagle and from Ulji Focus Lens to Ulji Freedom Guardian, which involved strategic means like an extra-large nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, nuclear-powered submarines and strategic nuclear bombers and lots of aggression troops and even troops from the countries that had participated in the Korean war (1950–1953).

Besides, the US has systematically extended the range of sanctions against Korea. There are dozens of acts of unilateral sanctions the US has imposed on

Korea starting with the trade with enemy countries act put in force at the beginning of the Korean war.

In recent several years alone the US took sanctions measures against Korea in succession, such as the act for strengthening sanctions and policy against the country in 2016 and the administrative order for sanctions. At the same time it instigated the UN to adopt anti-Korea sanctions resolutions Nos. 1695, 1718, 1874, 2094, 2270, 2321, 2356 and 2371, viciously checking the sovereignty of the country and its rights to existence and development. Not content with this the US tried to enlist the help of the countries adjacent to Korea to bring it to submission by any means.

Things, however, did not go as the US wished.

Last year Reuter and the British newspaper Independent and other Western press reported that Korea's economy was growing though it was suffering from severe sanctions, that especially the fact that Korea's economy grew to its maximum scope in

▶ south, the ideal of Chondoism remains invariable. We Chondoists in the north are bringing our dreams and ideals into reality as members of the socialist community. We know that our socialist country is just the earthly paradise where everyone works on an equal footing and lives a happy life enjoying a long life in good health, so all Chondoists are engaged in the struggle to achieve greater prosperity of the country.

We also work hard to win the

reunification of the country. The joint national ceremony held in commemoration of the National Foundation Day (Tangun's Accession) in 2002 and 2003 was attended by Korean delegates from the north and the south and abroad. A much bigger ceremony of the kind took place on October 3, 2014 on the 20th anniversary of the renovation of the Mausoleum of King Tangun. This served as an important occasion to encourage the whole nation in the struggle to

put an end to the history of national division and build a reunified, prosperous country. We cannot tolerate or stand the pains and sufferings from division due to the foreign forces, so at the annual anniversary of the National Foundation Day we Chondoists renew our determination to open an avenue for independent reunification by enlisting the great effort of our nation and giving vent to the fervent desire for one Korea. □

► 2016 was astonishing the world, that in recent several months Korea conducted a number of test fires of missiles capable of reaching the US and attained even the technique of loading missiles with nuclear warheads, that although an allegedly strictest UNSC sanctions resolution was adopted in March 2016, Korea's amount of trade did not decrease but increased, that after all it was revealed that the UN's sanctions against Korea, too, were pointless and that the efficacy of the sanctions against Korea should be put to question.

Recently former high-ranking officers of the US commented: the Trump administration is trying to solve the problem of Korea's nukes by means of sanctions and pressure, but the review of the 20-odd-year-long Korea-US confrontation shows such a policy was absolutely futile. And they stressed that no sanctions measure would be strong enough to reduce Korea to submission.

Former White House national security advisor Rice, former US State Intelligence Agency chief Clapper, former US senior representative to the six-party talks Christopher Hill and other former leading figures of the US administrations said: The US is compelled to tolerate the nukes of Korea, and it should approve of Korea's nuclear possession like it did the former Soviet Union's nukes.

President of the US diplomatic society Huss, who is said to be Trump's mentor of diplomacy, said that now they could not help but acknowledge Korea's nuclear possession.

CNN, AP, New York Times and other major media of the US reported that after Korea's success in the H-bomb test the opinion that it is high time to recognize Korea's status of a nuclear nation is arising in their country.

There is always victory and defeat in a game. As for the present state of the Korea-US confrontation, the director and members of the US Institute for Science and International Security commented that the game was over with Korea's win.

Professionals of Korean studies argue that it is silly to try to make Korea change its policy by means of sanctions, that it is impossible to destroy Korea's nukes, that military action is reckless gambling that may invite trouble alone now that Korea's ability of nuclear attack has strengthened, and that the only choice left is to have dialogue with Korea and withdraw GIs from Northeast Asia.

The Trump administration would be well-advised to bear the words in mind and change its Korea policy as soon as possible.

Kim Ye Ryong

Echoes of the February 7 National-salvation Struggle

THE FEBRUARY 7 NATIONAL-SALVATION struggle in 1948 was an anti-US struggle waged by the south Korean people against the entry of the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea, which was fabricated by the US. At the time the country was separated into the north and the south by the US. In September 1945 the US, with a wild ambition to dominate the world, occupied south Korea in an attempt to put under its control Korea located in an important strategic position.

In 1947 the US brought up the Korean issue in the UN and cooked up the aforesaid commission with its vassal states, and brought it into south Korea on January 8, 1948. This was aimed at fabricating a separate government in south Korea to consolidate and perpetuate the US's governor-general rule there in another form. The Korean nation waged a resolute, positive struggle against the commission's entry in south Korea. Workers of several factories in south Korea including those of the Kyongsong Textile Mill in Yongdungpho went on a strike, declaring that the time came for themselves to turn out bravely with the fate of the nation in danger.

With the strike of the Yongdungpho workers as signal the struggle expanded towards Ryongsan, Seoul and Incheon, and on February 7, it spread across south Korea, covering over 40 cities such as Taejon, Mokpho and Pusan. That general strike was participated in by over 80 000 workers of hundreds of industrial establishments of different sectors like railway and communications. They, with the support of citizens in Seoul and other cities, conducted demonstrations and raided police stations. Peasants turned out in response to the workers' struggle. On February 7, peasants in Hamchon, Wanju and Kimje counties assaulted police substations, and dealt a heavy blow to the enemy through various forms of struggles like a torchlight demonstration.

Students also embarked on the struggle in the forms of school strike and demonstration. On February 13, youths and students, with such placards as "No entry of the UN Temporary Commission on Korea," waged demonstrations before a park in Thapdong, at a crossroad in Jongno Street and on the streets in Namdaemun. They fought undauntedly against the puppet policemen

► who attacked them.

The struggle was waged on a mass scale from the outset. On February 7 alone, the patriotic people assaulted and destroyed 26 puppet police substations. Later, they broke 61 locomotives, 27 communications apparatuses and many roads and bridges while cutting telegraph and telephone lines at 83 points. Through the national-salvation struggle the south Korean people stroke a blow to the US and the pro-US forces, vividly demonstrating their patriotic fighting spirit.

Seventy years have passed since then, but the Korean nation is still suffering the pains of division owing to the US. Its ambition to dominate the Korean peninsula, which is located in a geopolitically important position, is now reaching the extreme. Trump uttered absurd words on war such as "total destruction" of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which any of his predecessors had not dared to do. Whenever the DPRK took measures for strengthening its self-defensive nuclear force, he recklessly talked about "fire and fury" and "ready to start war," and went so far as to say that he would annihilate the 25 million population in the northern half of the Korean peninsula. His thoughtless remark that if a war broke out, it would do in the Korean peninsula and that if thousands died, they would do there, is enraging the south Korean people.

It is just the United States that forced the present south Korean authorities to ship THAAD into the south, turning the Korean peninsula into an acute arena of confrontation with its neighbouring countries, and purchase ultra-modern weapons of American make worth billions of US dollars and an MD system. The US insists that it is natural that south Korea pays more defence expenses and suffers losses in the US-south Korea Free Trade Agreement.

The US's avarice and wild am-

bition are as invariable as 70 years ago. So the south Korean people are waging an anti-Trump, anti-US mass struggle across the south shouting "Do away with the war maniac Trump!" They seriously condemned their present ruling authorities' flunkeyist and treacherous acts, saying that what those, who had accomplished the candlelight struggle, wanted was to maintain their sovereignty and the peace in the Korean peninsula.

Today in all areas of south Korea a vigorous anti-US candlelight struggle is taking place amidst the intensifying mass struggle of all social strata. The shout for national salvation 70 years ago seems to be echoing throughout south Korea as a whole.

Kim Il Ryong

South Koreans express their wish for peace on the Korean peninsula and their opposition to war, shouting anti-Trump slogans.



Politicians without Sense of Guilt

IN THE 20TH CENTURY Japan committed lots of extra-villainous crimes out of its ambition to have dominion over Asia as a whole using the Korean peninsula as stepping stone under the cloak of the “Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.”

In Korea alone the Japanese imperialists inflicted mental and material agonies upon the Korean people for more than 40 years. Typical was their extra-villainous anti-ethical crime of reducing 200 000 Korean women to sexual slaves for their army.

Nevertheless, the Japanese politicians are trying to deny the fact and going so far as to insult the women.

The Japanese consul general in Atlanta, Georgia, the United States, made reckless remarks insulting the victims of sexual slavery for the Japanese army and arousing anger of the international community. In an interview with a local newspaper he said that there was no evidence that the Japanese army had used Korean and other women as sexual slaves during the Second World War, that the women had not been taken away against their will and that they had been prostitutes. Previously the right-wingers of Japan had unhesitatingly uttered such thoughtless words as “the history of ‘comfort women’ is that of dressing rooms” and “voluntary acts to make money.” So the consul general’s words testify again to Japan’s immorality and depravity that have never changed at all.

It is common knowledge that the shameless attitude of the Japanese politicians who stubbornly deny the organized and institutional crime of sexual slav-

ery for the Japanese army reflects their criminal attempt to distort the history of their nation’s invasion and avoid making reparations for the past crime of their country.

History has records on a number of wars of aggression, but no other country than Japan took away, kidnapped and abducted women of other countries in an organized manner for the purpose of using them to satisfy the sexual desire of its soldiers and took to battle fields and forced the women into inhuman sexual slavery for its soldiers.

The vulgarity of the Japanese who regard women as nothing but tools to satisfy animal desires, that is, sexual playthings, has never changed in the present age of modern civilization.

Human rights activists estimate that five hundred thousand or one million women in Japan have been reduced to sexual slaves since the early 1980s and that lots of women from Asia, East Europe and Latin America are forced into the status of prostitutes in the country.

There is a group of highly aged prostitutes in the centre of Tokyo—a shame of the times—and rapes and group rapes occur almost every day in Japan. So, the moral meanness of the shameless insular nation without sense of guilt is no surprise.

The abnormal predisposition and tendency that still dominate the society of Japan are an inevitable outcome derived from the Japanese army’s crime of sexual slavery it does not atone for.

Therefore there appeared a statue of a girl for peace in the south of the United States for the first time, and in many countries of Asia and Europe there is under

way in earnest a campaign to have the data on the Japanese army’s crime of sexual slavery registered in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register.

Recently an official document of the Japanese government was made public, which proves that the Japanese imperialists’ crime of sexual slavery was an anti-ethical one committed in an organized way under the sponsorship of their state. In 1937 the police superintendent of Wakayama prefecture, Japan, drew up and sent a document to the Home Ministry. The document refers to the fact that at the dictation of the Japanese army three Japanese abducted and took away as “comfort women” Korean women residents in the Tanebari area. It is said that the area was inhabited by lots of Korean women who had been taken there for labour conscription. This is the first time that the fact of such a crime has been confirmed by an official document of the Japanese government. The document has the expression of “abduction of Korean women” in two places. This is clear proof that the crime of sexual slavery was an unprecedented infringement upon human rights the Japanese authorities committed in an organized and planned way, and it reveals the moral meanness of the Japanese politicians who refer to the victims of the crime as “prostitutes” while trying to avoid atoning for their past.

Such politicians are really criminals without a sense of guilt, and constitute the general entity of the Japanese political circle that nobody believes will not commit such a crime again.

Kim Hyon Ju

Anbul Temple

THE ANBUL TEMPLE located four kilometres north of the seat of Tonghung-ri, Kumya County, South Hamgyong Province is one of the historical relics showing the Korean peo-

ple’s excellent architecture and artistic talent.

Built in 1393 the temple consisted of seven buildings with the Kungnakbo Hall as the centre, but all of them were burnt down. It was rebuilt in 1843. The hall, the main building of the temple, is a gabled house with double eaves, with three bays (9.89m) in front and two (7.52m) on each side. It was used to house an image of Amitabha tathagata, which was said to rule over a “paradise,” for the ritual to offer worship to him. Kept intact in the hall are valuable relics including the Buddhist image, *thaenghwa* (Buddhist painting), a curiously engraved

and beautifully painted palanquin of a Buddha, and a bell and a drum which were used for Buddhist rituals at that time. The interior and exterior of the building are painted gorgeously.

The ceiling of the hall is painted with a crane with a branch laden with peaches in its mouth, rare to be found in other temples. Though it is a small gabled house, the hall’s splendid decorations are conspicuous. And the Kumya ginkgo tree, which is over 2 120 years old, stands near the temple, adding beauty to the temple and its surrounding scenery.

Kim Ye Ryong

The interior of Kungnakbo Hall.



