



KOREA TODAY

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Cheers in February

ON FEBRUARY 8 LAST A grand military parade took place on Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang to celebrate the 70th birthday of the Korean People's Army (KPA).

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and Supreme Commander of the KPA, made a congratulatory speech at the celebration. The Supreme Leader said, "The first parade of the regular armed forces held 70 years ago in the square in front of the Pyongyang Railway Station demonstrated the proud image of the newly-emergent Korea, and today's military parade will demonstrate the mettle of the powerful Democratic People's Republic of Korea which has developed into a world-class military power."

Columns of elite services, arms and special corps marched in fine array past the front of the platform, and a sea of beautiful flowers spread in the surrounding amidst enthusiastic cheers.

The founding of the KPA was a historical event in which the Korean people, who had been forced into colonial slavery for over 40 years, announced the birthday of their revolutionary regular armed forces.

For 70 years since its birthday the KPA has made such a miracle as firmly defending the sovereignty and dignity of its country directly against the US imperialists whose army is incomparably superior to it in number and technique.

The cheers resounding in the sky of the capital city were not merely for celebration of the birthday and laudable development of the KPA.

The Korean people made as

much efforts as they could to put an end to the US imperialists' nuclear threat and denuclearize the Korean peninsula while pushing ahead with socialist construction amid the constant nuclear threat from America. But their sincere efforts bore no fruit.

In 2006 Korea announced her possession of nukes at last.

She has since accelerated the building of her nuclear forces steadily by her efforts and technology. The course of this has been accompanied by days of severe life-and-death confrontation. The US and its vassal forces, arguing for Korea's "nuclear abandonment," imposed rigorous military pressure and unprecedentedly severe sanctions upon the country, and even big powers, yielding to Washington's pressure, interfered with her building of nuclear forces in every way. Despite sanctions and blockades jeopardizing their



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un waves back to the participants in the military parade for celebrating the 70th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army in February 2018.



▶ existence, the Korean people, under the line of carrying on economic construction and the building of nuclear forces simultaneously, conducted tests of various means of nuclear delivery and super-intense thermonuclear weapon by their efforts and technology, and at last came to possess a powerful and reliable war deterrent, which no force and nothing can reverse.

Last year alone Korea successfully conducted an ICBM-ready H-bomb test in September, and succeeded in a test fire of ICBM Hwasong 15, which can carry an extra-large heavy nuclear warhead to attack any place in the US mainland, in November. Thus the KPA came to possess the strongest national defence capability to resolutely check and thwart the US imperialists' any nuclear threats. And the Korean people, who had had to build socialism amid America's constant nuclear threat, had a mighty sword for defending peace of the Korean peninsula and the world. This clearly

proved that any military threats, sanctions or blockades cannot break the Korean people's will.

At present the international community warmly applauds Korea's possession of nukes. The Canadian newspaper *Toronto Star* stressed: What the world should know is the fact that north Korea is winning the prolonged confrontation and that the US and its allies are passively reacting to north Korea's policy; and anyhow north Korea is not large but it is a military power and playing a leading role.

The cheers from the venue for the military parade for celebration of the KPA's 70th birthday were those of victory reflecting the pride of the Korean people, who had raised with dignity the status of their country to that of a strategic state recognized by the world, overcoming harsh trials and ordeals, and their confidence in their final victory.

Kim Won Sik



Scenes from the military parade.





Scenes from the military parade.



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Front Cover: Producers of Unhasu cosmetics at the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory

Photo by An Yong Chol



Back Cover: Ullim Falls

Photo by An Kang Rim

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Shortcut to Thriving Nation

THE KOREAN PEOPLE ARE PUSHING AHEAD with the building of a powerful socialist state vigorously. They regard science and technology as the means of accelerating the project in accordance with a hopeful plan and schedule. Science and technology are playing the role of locomotive in all sectors and fields of the socialist construction.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un attaches importance to science and technology in leading the project of building a powerful socialist nation. He said that the strength of self-reliance and self-development is that of science and technology and that the shortcut to implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development is to give importance and precedence to science and technology. His intention is to make sure that all sectors dynamically advance by relying on science and technology.

It is the Supreme Leader's view that science and technology are the most important in developing the country. Under his wise leadership, science and technology of Korea are rapidly developing, actively helping strengthen the national power and promote the people's well-being. Eye-opening events occurred in succession including the success in the test of the country's first H-bomb, the test fire of different means of attack, the test explosion of a nuclear warhead, the development of advanced military hardware and the

test fire of ICBMs—all greatly helping to increase the nation's defence capability. This is the precious fruit of the Supreme Leader's policy of attaching importance to science and technology.

The country succeeded in the static firing test of a new-type high-thrust motor of the launch vehicle for a geostationary satellite, opening up a broad avenue to the exploration of outer space. And unmanned production systems were established in industrial sectors, high-yielding strains were bred in the agricultural sector and other sci-tech achievements have been recorded in succession for the growth of the economy and the improvement of the people's living standards.

In December last year Pyongyang had a ceremony of launching new-type tractors and trucks. Pyongyang citizens looked joyfully at them running in rows.

The Supreme Leader was so glad to see the tractors manufactured with the nation's own efforts and technique that he himself got on one of them to make a trial run of it. And mentioning that he wanted to have *Chollima 804* tractors run all across the fields of the socialist cooperative farms, he said with a broad smile that he was full of confidence to picture to himself the sight of the 80hp tractors of new type cultivating rice paddies and dry fields of the country.

During his visit to the Sungni Motor Complex, he said that the more he saw the trucks the smarter

Korea succeeds in the static firing test of a new-type high-thrust motor on March 18, 2017.



► and more attractive they became to him, that the five-ton trucks of Korean make were precious treasures produced in the era of Mali-ma and that the more desperately the hostile forces were trying to check their advance the stronger the unyielding spirit of the Korean working class was growing.

The Supreme Leader was so glad to see the tractors and trucks of new types because they were the fruit of self-development, and science and technology.

Space science and technology are recognized as a complex of cutting-edge science and technology. Since the launch of the first artificial earth satellite, only a few countries have been able to put their satellites in orbit by means of their own carrier rockets and launch sites and pads.

Korea literally leaped forward skipping the stages others had gone through. Its scientists and technicians did by themselves all the designing, manufacturing, assembling and launching of their satellites and the post-launch ob-



The ceremony of launching new-type tractors and trucks takes place in December 2017.

► servation of them. This is the greatest of the miracles made in pioneering cutting-edge science and technology and developing the country's space science and technology.

The Supreme Leader gave the relevant scientists and technicians the task of breaking through the world level in conquering space, and dedicated himself to space development, and they succeeded in launching the sci-tech satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2, the first application satellite of the country, and in launching and putting in orbit the earth observation satellite Kwangmyongsong 4. These amazing events are attributable to the energetic guidance of the Supreme Leader. He put forward the task of space development as part of important national affairs for demonstration of the dignity of the country and the indomitable spirit of the people, entrusted its space scientists and technicians with the task and led their work to success. When things were not going well, he encouraged them, saying that when man grows by eating, science develops through failures. Sometimes he stayed up all night trying to find out the causes of failures together with them and took measures to overcome the defects. He visited the launching site to direct the relevant preparations in detail and inspected the Satellite Control Centre of the National Aerospace Development Administration

to give detailed instructions related to development, launch and control of application satellites. So it was not without reason when the space developers said, "Our carrier rocket and satellite are not merely the combination of the physical things, but just a complex of deep trust and affection."

The Supreme Leader puts great trust in and favours on the scientists and technicians who have helped demonstrate the dignity of the country and strengthen its power, referring to them as revolutionaries and patriots. Under his deep concern and care there appeared modern residential districts and service facilities for scientists and technicians such as Wisong Scientists Residential District, Mirae Scientists Street and Mirae Shop.

The day he looked round the apartment houses for teachers of Kim Chaek University of Technology, the Supreme Leader said that they should create a new world by dint of science.

Thanks to his plan science and technology are vigorously leading the building of a powerful socialist state in Korea. The outstanding leadership of the Supreme Leader, who is writing a new history of building a sci-tech power and a talented nation, serves as the great motive power of sci-tech development and the shortcut to prosperity.

An Song Duk

A view of Mirae Scientists Street.



On the Strength of Science and Technology



SOME TIME AGO, A KOREA Today reporter had an interview with Kye Hui Nam, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea. Excerpts:

Korea is making vigorous efforts to build a socialist economic power on the strength of science and technology.

That's right. The historic Second Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK)

was held in October last year.

At the meeting, Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the WPK, stressed that a fresh turn should be brought about in the building of a socialist economic power with the great spirit of self-reliance and self-development as the driving force and on the strength of science and technology.

The strength of self-reliance and self-development is that of science and technology, and the shortcut to implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development is to give importance and precedence to science and technology.

The goal of building a sci-tech power is to take an honourable place among the ranks of the most advanced nations leading the world in the near future in terms of overall scientific and technological strength.

So the sector of science and

technology is concentrating efforts on solving scientific and technological problems arising in modernizing factories and enterprises and putting their production on a regular footing with the main emphasis on ensuring the domestic production of raw materials, fuel and equipment.

And they see it that production units and scientific research institutes intensify cooperation between themselves, and enterprises build up their own technological development forces and conduct a proactive mass-based technological innovation drive to bring about valuable sci-tech achievements conducive to expanded production and improvement of business operation and management.

It can be proved by the recent national science and technology festivals and exhibitions and seminars, I think.

You're right. Last year, our

The 32nd national sci-tech festival is held.



Symposium on space science and technology 2017 takes place.

country made sure that all sectors and units attached importance to science and technology and continued with the mass-based technological innovation drive, and thus solved lots of scientific and technological problems arising in modernizing factories and enterprises and putting production on a steady basis.

And there were held the national nano sci-tech exhibition 2017, the symposium on space science and technology 2017, a national meeting for presentation of sci-tech papers on earthquake and volcano, a national meeting for presentation of sci-tech papers on chemical industry, a national meeting for presentation of sci-tech papers on coal-mining industry and a national meeting for presentation of sci-tech papers on crops breeding and relevant exhibitions, which were attended by lots of units, scientists, technicians, officers and working people.

In particular, the 32nd national sci-tech festival was participated in by not only members of provincial organs, ministries and national organs but also a lot of scientists, technicians, officials and working people from across

the country. This shows their high enthusiasm for improving their business by dint of science and technology.

At the festival there were made public lots of sci-tech achievements that would ensure domestic production of raw materials, fuel and equipment and acceleration of IT-based modernization of factories and enterprises so as to further strengthen the independence and Juche character of the national economy and transform the country's economy into the one that is knowledge-based.

And more than 250 units put lots of IT achievements on display at the 28th national IT achievements exhibition. The satellite image analysis system *Pyol* (star) from Kim Il Sung University made it possible to make forest management scientific and IT-based on the basis of the satellite image analysis technique, and many IT-based achievements including some valuable integrated production systems from the State Academy of Sciences made a great contribution to modernization of factories and enterprises. The X-ray image diagnosis support pro-

gram *Jongsong* (sincerity) from Kim Chaek University of Technology also attracted the public attention. The program is designed to help reduce damage by X-ray as much as possible, ensure rapid, exact diagnosis and make image data IT-based to be seen on the computer display or TV. In addition, the university presented other valuable research achievements such as a program for analysing the quality of children's foodstuffs and that for analysing videos on sports.

Through the festivals, exhibitions and symposiums, all the participants learned from one another's success and experience, acquiring knowledge of advanced science and technology they needed for their business, and became confident that they can build a thriving socialist power on this land by dint of their own efforts, technology and resources.

This year, too, we will strive to open a bright prospect for implementation of the five-year strategy for national economic development and further upgrade the overall national economy by relying on science and technology. □

Dedicated to Sci-tech Development

Keep Your Feet Planted Firmly on This Land and Look Out Over the World!

ON MARCH 19, 2009 Chairman Kim Jong Il looked round a newly built swimming pool at Kim Il Sung University. On the occasion he also examined the master plan of the development of the university. One of the features of the plan was the construction of an e-library, which was an essential point in the modernization project of the university.

After hearing details about the position of the library and its construction plan from a senior administrator of the university, the Chairman suggested specific tasks for the project and indicated relevant ways to implement them.

Now the building of the e-library got started. The Chairman had teams of authoritative designers and IT professionals sent for the project so that the whole process from the designing to the purchase, installation and test operation of IT facilities was accelerated at a high speed on a high level.

In April 2010 he visited the university again. After looking round the e-library from an open reading hall, an academic exchange room, a distance education room to the general auditorium, he judged that the e-library was finished perfectly in a modern style, and said earnestly that the university should put the e-library in good operation and thus train better revolutionary personnel with higher ability.

In the central hall of the library there was his autographic message, which reads:

“Keep your feet planted firmly on this land and look out over the world!”

“Become reliable pillars of the Songun revolution with an ennobling spirit and profound knowledge!”

“Redouble your efforts for the great Party and Kim Il Sung’s Korea to be admired by the world!”

**December 17, 2009
Kim Jong Il”**

On the occasion of his visit to the university he had a photo taken against the background of the wall bearing the message.

True Sense of Success

Chairman Kim Jong Il inspected the Hamhung Branch of the State Academy of Sciences in June 2009. After looking into several places there he stepped into the exhibition hall of research achievements. There he saw a sample coated with a water-soluble organic paint, when his face turned seriously worried. He knew the paint had already been developed.

Turning to accompanying officials, he said that every scientific research project could be evaluated as successful only when it is widely applied in reality. Explanation within the range of laboratory could hardly be called successful, he said, and added that scientific research should be done well both in the laboratory and in the practice of application. As far as evaluation of the research of scientists is concerned, it is necessary to judge it by considering how much it has been in use in practice. If there is any problem in the introduction of any completed research project, then the project cannot be evaluated as perfect, he stressed.

The Chairman said in real earnest that the scientists should conduct researches that are helpful for the building of a thriving country, that they should avoid doing researches simply for the sake of research, and that science and technology should be closely combined with production.

“Let’s Make It Unmanned!”

Kim Jong Il visited a ma-

chine factory, which had attained a high level of CNC technology, on July 30, 2010. It was an exciting, smart workplace in which robots were working from process to process. One of the officials told the Chairman that manpower was almost needless as the robots were doing most of the jobs, and that making production processes unmanned could be done without difficulty.

Seeing the officials glowing with self-confidence, Kim Jong Il said, **“That’s fine. Now our goal is to make it unmanned.”**

He went on to say that the unmanned processes would make it possible to increase the production capacity nearly two times without any manpower and that once they began to find the unmanned process useful, there would come a greater enthusiasm for pushing back the frontier of science and technology.

He told the officials emphatically, **“To introduce unmanned processes—which is the highest stage of the CNC campaign—is what we have long thought. For a dozen years we have made strenuous efforts and now reached the high stage in which we are going to establish the integrated system of production. If only we succeed in making the production processes unmanned, we will be able to lead the world admirably.”**

To make production processes unmanned was the highest ideal and target of the Chairman who was leading the people in the campaign to surpass the cutting edge in science and technology.

When the officials said confidently that they could accomplish the project of establishing unmanned processes if only they were provided with the relevant blueprint, the Chairman declared in a convincing voice with a hand raised high, **“Let’s make it unmanned!”** □

Developer of Distinct Treatment

RYOM UN HUI, A PHYSICIAN OF THE Tongdaewon District People’s Hospital, is famous for her distinct treatment of varieties of diseases. It is called treatment based on heated oxygen. Nowadays natural factor-based treatment without using modern medicines is popular. Worldwide, oxygen has been used in treating some diseases, but Ryom was the first to invent a method of treating general digestive troubles.

It was since she began to work at the hospital in her twenties that she focused on gallbladder in studying digestive troubles. In the course of clinical practice, she discovered that improvement of function of gallbladder plays a decisive role in restoring function of digestive system. So she further intensified the research on treatment of gallbladder. The previous relevant treatment using modern medicines had some limitations: different constitutions showed different reactions to the treatment; though highly effective, it damaged liver and other organs and produced side effects; and when the disease became serious it should be treated by means of operation.

One day she unexpectedly found a digestive disorder getting better by virtue of oxygen used for extermination of entozoa, and she started to try to find a new treatment using oxygen. In the course of this, she ascertained that oxygen heated 60 or 80 degrees centigrade boosts the motility and spouting pressure of gallbladder and bile duct, thus accelerating dis-



charge of bile and gallstone and strengthening secretion of pancreatic juice. She also obtained scientific evidence that the treatment remarkably increases concentration of oxygen in blood so as to enhance metabolism, and accelerates elimination of intestinal septic gas so as to facilitate enterokinetic motion.

Not content with this, she made logical tactics of the treatment for different cases. As a result, she succeeded in establishing the treatment based on heated oxygen which ensures high effect without using modern medicines. The highly effective treatment with a wide range of application cost very little and caused neither strain on patients nor side effects. The period of the treatment was short as compared with that using modern medicines, for example, fifteen days for an acute disease and a month for a chronic disease. The treatment that easily cured varieties of obstinate diseases without relying on operations or modern medicines drew the attention of the medical circle and caused a great sensation across the country.

Thousands of patients, who had been suffering from cholecystitis, cholelithiasis, stomach ulcer and duodenal ulcer, recovered by virtue of the treatment.

Ryom also succeeded in making it possible to use both heated oxygen and Koryo medicines to treat functional disorder of heptopancreatic papillary sphincter and other obstinate digestive disorders with high incidence and relapse rates without using special facilities and modern medicines.

Some time ago she received a doctorate. A patient, who had once received treatment in a large hospital abroad while suffering from continuously recurring acute pancreatitis and diabetes for over a decade, said, “I never imagined that the District People’s Hospital had a physician with a doctorate, and her treatment was the one I’d never known. Being well again, I sincerely thank Dr. Ryom for her invention of the wonderful treatment.”

Ri Song Chol



The students prepare to become inventors in their twenties.

Student Inventors

THE FOURTH CLASS OF the fourth year, computer engineering department, college of information science and technology, Kim Chaek University of Technology, is composed of honour students who have produced varieties of research achievements. They are held in respect in the university.

Winner of Student's Scientific Research Award

Ryom Jin Hyok is the first in his class to win the Student's Scientific Research Award. He keeps as his motto Chairman Kim Jong Il's famous statement of **"Keep your feet planted firmly on this land and look out over the world!"** From the first day he entered the university he has engrossed himself in studies and tried to invent something. One day when he, as third-year student, was in the university's e-library studying something of his

major subject on the computer, he happened to see an open file replaced by another one on the monitor. He asked a librarian if it was a usual occurrence. It happened occasionally—that was the reply.

Jin Hyok decided to make a program to get rid of the problem. The task, however, needed a lot of time, so he spent all his spare time of his studies dealing with the research. Working with all his enthusiasm he managed to create a program called "Intrusion search and check system" which later earned him the first prize at a national exhibition of students' achievements in information science and technology.

Meanwhile, reading a lot of reference books and other scientific documents, he published several essays helpful for the country's sci-tech development. For these achievements he became the first in his class to receive the science research award which is given to excellent students.

Age Does Not Matter

Kim Yu Jong is a 21-year-old student. In June last year she happened to hear that the university was discussing how to put the operation of the newly built Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital on an IT basis, which was a task of crucial importance related to the health improvement of the people. She asked the university to allow her to join the research team, but was rejected for the rea-



son that she was too young and inexperienced. She persistently argued that age does not matter as far as development of the nation's science is concerned. Finally she was admitted into the team.

To do research tasks while carrying on her studies at college was quite a difficulty. But she pushed her research tasks tenaciously, travelling the four-storeyed outpatients' block and the eight-storeyed inpatients' block—the receptionist's office, dozens of treatment rooms, the theatre, intensive-care rooms and many other rooms. Based on the precise field materials she had gathered she successfully developed a program she was assigned. The pro-

gram earned her the first prize at last year's national exhibition of students' achievements in information science and technology.

They say she is behind nobody in the spirit of supporting the nation with science, although she is young.

Master at Robot Engineering

Choe Pok Nam is held in respect as master at robot engineering not only in his class but also in the university. As child he used to be interested in electricity because he often followed his father who worked at the North Phyongan Provincial Power Dis-

tribution Station. At the time he nourished the hope of becoming a technician to control the nation's power grid with the use of computer. Driven by curiosity he used to disassemble electronic facilities he came across to see how it worked. His neighbours predicted that he would grow to make something big.

In August last year Choe heard that a national students' contest of robot football was to be held. He decided to participate in the games, and collected tiny electronic elements and got down to development of a relevant program. It cost him a lot of effort to make three small robots, and what was more difficult was to create a program which could make

The class of honour students whose research achievements draw the attention of the college, and their certificates of registered programs and diplomas of presentations.



The Song of the River Amnok

THE KOREA TODAY
Editorial board introduces excerpts from President Kim Il Sung's reminiscences With the Century.

One day early in 1923 my father told me to sit at his side and asked me what my intention was having finished my primary education.

I said I wanted to go to secondary school. That was also my parents' long-cherished desire, and I wondered why he was asking such an obvious question.

He said with a serious look that I should go to the homeland and continue to study there.

This advice was unexpected. Studying in Korea meant leaving the care of my parents, something I had never considered.

My mother who was sewing was surprised and asked if I couldn't study somewhere nearby for I was still young.

My father seemed to have made a determination. He repeated that I must go, though we might miss one another for a time. He would never change his decision without a proper reason.

He said in earnest: You have

suffered a lot of hardship, moving with us from place to place since your childhood; you may find yourself in a worse plight when you are in Korea again; nevertheless, I am determined to send you there; a man born in Korea must have a good knowledge of Korea; if you get to understand clearly while you are in Korea why she has been ruined, that will be a great achievement; share the fate of the people in your home town and experience how miserable they are; then you will see what you should do.

...

On the last day of the first lunar month (March 16 by the solar calendar) I left Badaogou. A snowstorm was severe from the morning.

...

As I began my journey, various thoughts flooded my mind. For more than half the 250 miles of my journey I would have to walk over steep, craggy mountains which were virtually uninhabited. It would not be easy to cross them alone. Even in full daylight beasts of prey prowled about the woods on both sides of the road from Huchang to Kanggye.

I suffered a lot during the

journey. I really had a hard time of it while crossing the Jik Pass, Kae Pass (Myongmun Pass) and the like. It took me a whole day to cross the passes in Mt. Oga. When I had crossed one pass another would appear. It seemed there was no end.

As I crossed Mt. Oga, I got blisters on my feet. At the foot of the mountain I fortunately met an old man who cured my blisters by burning them with matches.

After Wolthan and Mt. Oga, I passed through Hwaphyong, Huksu, Kanggye, Songgan, Jonchon, Koin, Chongun, Hui-chon, Hyangsan, Kujang, arrived at Kaecheon and then proceeded to Mangyongdae by rail.

A narrow-gauge railway service was available from Kaecheon to Sinanju; a light train pulled by a small English locomotive *Nikisha* covered the route. From Sinanju to Pyongyang a widegauge railway as we have today was working. At that time a rail ticket from Kaecheon to Pyongyang cost 1 won 90 jon.

During that journey I met many kind-hearted people. Once, when I was suffering from sore feet, I was picked up

Sim Chol Yong

▶ by a peasant on an ox-drawn sleigh. When parting, I offered him some money, but he declined it and bought me some toffee instead.

The most memorable of them was the inn-keeper at Kanggye.

I arrived at Kanggye late in the evening and came to the inn. The inn-keeper came out to the gate and received me cordially.

...

His elderly mother, referring respectfully to my father as "Mr. Kim," was as glad to see me as if I were her own grandson. She said, "When you were here with your father 4 years ago on your way to Junggang, you were a small boy but now you are quite grown up." She served me with beef-rib soup and fried herrings which she had probably been saving for her own grandchildren. She made a bed for me with new quilts. They showered me with full hospitality.

The next morning I went to the Kanggye Post Office and sent a telegram to my parents as my father had told me to. The telegram would cost 3 jon for each of the first six characters and 4 jon each for any more. So I wrote 6 characters "Kang Gye Mu Sa To Chak" (Arrived safely in Kanggye—Tr.).

...

Towards sunset on March 29, 1923, fourteen days after my departure from Badaogou, I entered the courtyard of my old home.

My grandmother, who was making yarn inside, hurried out to the yard, without stopping to put on her shoes, and took me in her arms.

"Who has come with you? How have you come? How are your father and mother?"

She showered me with

questions, giving me no time to answer.

Grandfather stopped making straw mats and ran out into the yard.

When I answered that I had come alone on foot, she exclaimed doubtfully, "Oh Lord! Really? Your father is more hard-hearted than a tiger."

...

After staying for a few days at Mangyongdae, I started in the fifth year of Changdok School where my grandfather on my mother's side was the head teacher. This was the beginning of my education in the homeland. From that time on I stayed in my mother's maiden home in Chilgol to attend school.

...

My grandfather used to say that it would be an honour for Changdok School if it could produce only one great man such as An Jung Gun and that I should study hard to become a prominent patriot.

I replied that, even though I might not become such a praiseworthy martyr as An Jung Gun, I would become a patriot who would not spare himself for the independence of the country.

...

In Chilgol and Mangyongdae there were many families that could not afford a school education for their children. It was a pity to see children cooped up in their homes with no access to schooling because they were so poor.

For such children I would organize night classes whenever I went to Mangyongdae on holidays. I called them all to the class and taught them. I began by teaching them the Korean alphabet with the *Korean Reader* and then taught history, geography, arithmetic and songs. It was simple en-

lightenment that I undertook for the first time in my life.

...

Thus I spent two years. One day a few months before I left school I heard from my mother's father that my father had been arrested again by the Japanese police. This was a great shock. I felt a terrible anger and hatred for the enemy. The distressed people of Chilgol and Mangyongdae seemed to examine my face.

I made preparations for a journey with a determination to fight at the risk of my life to take revenge on the enemy of my father, my family and my nation.

...

I had spent only two years back in my motherland, but I had learned and experienced much in those years. My most valuable experience was to have acquired a deep understanding of our people. Our people were simple, and industrious yet brave and strong-willed. They were staunch people who did not yield, whatever the adversity or hardship; they were polite and kindhearted and yet resolute and uncompromising against injustice. When the national reformists were conducting the reactionary "autonomy" campaign in the name of the "Yonjong Association," the popular masses, particularly the workers, peasants, young people and students, were shedding their blood in resistance to the Japanese imperialists. From the image of them I felt an undaunted sense of national dignity and unbreakable spirit of independence. From that time I believed that our people were the greatest in the world and that I could liberate the country if I organized their efforts properly. □

▶ each component work properly to the command. Meeting the challenges daringly, Choe searched a huge amount of scientific books and documents and pushed ahead with the studies. Finally, he succeeded in making ideal robots he had wanted.

The competition went furious among the teams from 12 univer-

sities. Choe's robots turned out to be the best.

He said that though he made small robots now he would become an able information engineer in the future and develop cutting-edge products.

Song Jong Su, the teacher in charge of the class, says that all

the members of the class are top-honour students and won certificates of registered programs and diplomas of presentations at a number of program exhibitions and festivals. He adds, "They hope to become famous inventors and masters of ingenuity in their 20s."

Juche Idea, Revolutionary Doctrine of Independence (3)

Historic Declaration of Origination of the Juche Idea

FROM THE AUTUMN OF 1929 TO EARLY May of 1930 Kim Il Sung was behind bars in Jilin Prison. In his reminiscences *With the Century* he wrote as follows:

“While in prison I pondered over the way to lead the Korean revolution. I racked my brains about the forms and methods I should employ in the struggle to defeat Japanese imperialism and liberate the country, how the anti-Japanese forces should be united, and how the party as the leadership body of the revolution should be founded. I also considered what tasks I should undertake preferentially after my release.

“At that time, in view of the specific situation and the socio-class relations in our country, I defined the Korean revolution as an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, and formulated the fighting policy that an armed struggle should be waged in order to defeat the armed enemy, imperialist Japan, and to liberate the country, that the working class, the peasantry, national capitalists, religious believers and all other patriotic forces that were against the Japanese should be rallied under the anti-Japanese banner and roused to action and that a new revolutionary party, free from factional strife, should be formed.

“Because I had acquired a clear viewpoint and attitude towards the Korean revolution and because I was able to visualize the line and policy, I felt an irresistible impulse to get out of prison as soon as possible.

...
“While in prison I made a summary of the early communist movement and the nationalist movement and, on the basis of the lessons I learnt from this, I planned the future of the Korean revolution.”

Thus the stand and viewpoint to be maintained in carrying out the Korean revolution became clear. Kim Il Sung proclaimed the initiation of the Juche idea on the basis of a far-reaching plan he had matured, the development of the Korean revolution and the requirement of the prevailing situation at home and abroad.

He delivered a historic report *The Path of the Korean Revolution* at a meeting held at Kalun from June 30 to July 2 of 1930. In the report he clarified the character and the main task of the Korean revolution, and the motive force and objects of the revolu-

tion, and set forth the unique line of armed struggle, the line of the anti-Japanese national united front and the line of founding the party in order to successfully carry on the Korean revolution. He defined the character of the Korean revolution as the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution. He thought that if it were a simple class revolution, workers and peasants would only be the motive force of the revolution, and that as the character of the Korean revolution itself was to oppose feudalism and imperialism, not only workers and peasants but also youths and students, intellectuals, patriotic religious believers and non-comprador capitalists could all belong to the motive force of the revolution.

Kim Il Sung put it forward as the main line of the anti-Japanese national liberation struggle and the foremost task of the Korean communists to wage an anti-Japanese war with arms. In the condition without any support he decided to found an army of a new type and defeat the Japanese imperialists because he believed in the strength of the popular masses, and was confident that the Koreans themselves were fully capable of winning the independence of their country if they were united to beat the Japanese imperialist aggressors everywhere.

The lines and policies put forward as the path of the Korean revolution originated from the specific situation of the Korean revolution, and they comprehensively reflected all the problems arising in carrying out the Korean revolution at that time. As to the fact that his work *The Path of the Korean Revolution* made public at the Kalun meeting constituted the line and guiding ideology of the revolution Kim Il Sung said:

“I made public in *The Path of the Korean Revolution* the idea and standpoint I had perceived in my days of struggle and elaborated in prison.

“This has become the line of our revolution and its guiding idea.

“We can say that the content of the treatise was based entirely on the Juche idea.

“Since then the idea has been steadily developed and enriched through the various stages of the revolution, including the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, and through a difficult and complicated practical struggle and it has become a philosophical idea in which ideas, theories and methods have been brought together as an integral whole as we now see it.”

With the birth of the Juche idea the Korean people could have a hope of national restoration for the first time.

Ri Jong Nam

Clear Proof of Truth

SUPREME LEADER KIM JONG UN, AT THE March 2013 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, set forth a strategic line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces.

At that time the United States and its followers were intensifying their military pressure on and economic sanctions against Korea as never before in an attempt to isolate and suffocate the country which was invariably holding high the banners of independence, Songun and socialism and staunchly advancing towards final victory. Having a clear understanding of the prevailing grave situation and the lawful requirement of realization of the cause of national independence the Supreme Leader laid down the line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces. The line was the comprehensive development of that of simultaneously carrying on the building up of the economy and defences put forward and applied by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The new line constituted an ever-victorious sword that enabled the Korean people to frustrate the hostile forces' ever-intensifying schemes to suffocate the DPRK, achieve decisive victory in the showdown with the US and make an all-out effort to build a socialist power.

After publication of the new line the world press commented that Korea would direct more resources to economic development by drastically cutting investment in conventional weapons, and that North Korea is a nuclear state—the unlimited meaning of the single sentence would magically bring about boundless prosperity and happiness for the country.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un made tireless efforts to implement the new line. Sometimes he made his way through the rough sea to go to examine the underwater test fire of a ballistic missile from a strategic submarine or inspected a dangerous site where there was underway general assembling of a ballistic missile for several days, encouraging the defence scientists and technicians. The Korean people do not forget the inspiring fact that he examined a static firing test of a high-thrust rocket motor of Korean style and embraced the scientists and technicians with great satisfaction.

His such tireless efforts continued through lots of days and nights. And at last Korea has risen to the status of a dignified and strong nuclear, and military, power in the Orient. The complete success in the two rounds of H-bomb tests, the March 18 revolution,

the July 4 revolution, the miraculous victory on July 28 and the great victory on November 29 were the nation's auspicious and extraordinary events which opened an era of great change in the development of the country's defence industry and translated into reality the Korean people's long-cherished desire for powerful defence capability.

On November 29 last year a test fire of ICBM Hwasong 15 took place successfully. The missile soared into the space before diving exactly into the selected spot in international waters of the East Sea of Korea. Very satisfied with the success at one try, the Supreme Leader said that the day which gave birth to the great might that would raise the country's strategic position to a higher level, should be recorded specially in its history.

The fact that the line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces is definitely right and an ever-victorious one for the nation's dignity and prosperity has been proved true in the economy, the people's life and other fields. Now that it had a powerful military guarantee, a nuclear deterrent, for successfully pushing ahead with the building of a powerful socialist country, the State, in recent years, has taken positive measures to enable the people to enjoy the highest quality of civilization on the highest level. Some examples: the indigenous planes fly in the sky and an indigenous subway train runs under the ground; the people's laughter echoes at the modern cultural recreation centres such as the Munsu Water Park and the Masikryong Ski Resort; the sound of the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* reverberates at orphanages, baby homes, and primary and middle schools for orphans as smart as palaces in fairy tales; a sea of apple trees spreads at the foot of Chol Pass; drastic changes on the Sepho Plateau; spectacular scenery of big fish catch; and the construction of magnificent monumental edifices including Mirae Scientists Street, the Sci-Tech Complex and Ryomyong Street.

The Korean people themselves have learned well it was right for them to have advanced along the line with full confidence, and that the leadership of the Supreme Leader brought about victories and changes despite the worst adversity. And they came to bear in mind the truth that the line means the road towards a powerful socialist country in which the people live as well as anybody else in the world and the only one toward final victory of the Juche revolution.

Kim Jin Ju

Quality *Unhasu* Cosmetics

SOME TIME AGO I VISITED the renovated Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory. The outer walls of the factory building decorated with blue and white tiles looked neat and smart like a galaxy. The trademark of its products is *Unhasu* (Galaxy), which users of the products have long regarded as a synonym for beauty.

The fine appearance of the building made me expect to see a number of new things in it. In the factory compound, I met Ri Son Hui, chief engineer of the factory, who was going to the detergent cosmetics workshop to inquire about the actual production of newly developed shampoo. I followed her to the workshop.

In the workshop, she took a bottle of shampoo from the flow line and asked me to smell it. It smelt very sweet and fresh indeed, I said. Then she told me the following story.

In the past, the idea was dominant that quality shampoo should

be high in detergency and that hair should feel smooth after being washed with it. But the developing aesthetic sense of people required that the aroma of shampoo is constantly improved.

So the factory used its new production potentials and raw materials the country is rich in to develop and introduce some kinds of new natural aromatic essence, whose smells last long after use. Now the users of *Unhasu* shampoo say in admiration that they recognize it from its smell alone.

Back out of the workshop, we made for the powder cosmetics workshop. Ri told me on the way that the workshop is the one with most Juche-oriented facilities in the factory. I really saw lots of new facilities such as robots for providing inner and outer caps and so on. The facilities were not only to replace manual labour, Manager Paek Chun Hui of the workshop said and told the following.

With the expansion of production, the factory decided to give numbers to not only lipsticks but also powder foundation. To do so required more labour. While discussing about the solution to the problem they were not interested in the problem alone. In order to increase the production of the cosmetic to meet the people's daily increasing demand for it, they planned to make all the production processes based on a flow line, and put it into practice.

Next the chief engineer guided me to the basic cosmetics workshop. The production process of the workshop had also been modernized on a high level, and its production environment met the international standard.

Mentioning that the workshop recently developed nearly 40 cream and beauty lotion items of over 20 kinds, the chief engineer said that most of them are functional. She went on to say that a whitening lotion is being produced



The production of popular cosmetics is on the increase.

► divided into those for different ages, sexes and skins.

Jong Un Dan, a member of the workshop who is a student of a distance education college and played an important role in developing a new whitening lotion for the elderly, said, "The elderly who have used this say that it is characterized by its faster effect than the previous ones. Not only women but also men say with joy that they seem to look younger since using it. Whenever I hear that more and more customers ask for our *Unhasu* cosmetics in different shops such as the Kwangbok Area Supermarket and Pyongyang Department Store No. 1, I take great pride in my job."

Other workers of the factory

Kim Un Jong



expressed their pride in their jobs. The chief engineer said, "We will further increase the kinds of popular products with our wisdom and effort to make the name *Unhasu* more famous."

Some of the products.



A view of the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory.



Obvious Attraction

WALKING ALONG THE BANK ROAD IN THE Songyo area down the picturesque Taedong River, I finally got to the entrance to the Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory which I had been to several times before for news coverage.

At the gate I met Jon Tong Chol, chief of the technical preparation section of the factory. As soon as he saw me, he said, "I think I've seen you here a few times."

"Sure, the production processes are familiar to me," I responded cheerfully.

"Then, you don't want any explanation," he said, and led me to the biscuits workshop.

When I stepped into the shop, however, I found myself quite surprised. The image of the shop I had kept in my memory was all gone to give its place to a completely new one. It looked even strange.

There were two biscuits production processes, one for ordinary types and the other for wafers. No one was allowed to enter the dust- and germ-free workshop without going through the sanitation compartment.

I found the processes operating on an entirely automatic and flow-line basis. Quite a number of facilities were strange to me. "This looks unfamiliar. Where is it from?" I asked.

My guide answered that his factory had made the machine itself and added that over 95 percent of the new modern equipment had been developed by his factory itself.

When I was surprised at the fact that the factory had made more than 100 facilities by itself when it is far from a machine manufacturer, Jon said that they had had a lot of difficulties in the modernization project. "But now I am proud of our struggle. We have

done what we planned," he recalled.

The work of making the production processes free from dust and germ was also put on a high level. The air in the workshop was purified by air conditioners and sterilized by the ozone and ion generator during the break between shifts of work. The standard temperature and humidity were provided in the workshop. The information system which helps monitor and control the production processes in real time was also a one which the factory had set up with the help of a company concerned. I found the packing of wafers on the conveyor belt up-to-date.

A slogan in the workshop read, "Quality is first and foremost," which reflected the concern of the workers.

Downstairs was a general analysis laboratory in which I saw a lot of new analytical apparatuses. They had been developed by Kim Il Sung University, Jon said and then explained how they worked.

"We have set up a third-party analysis system. This is to make an objective evaluation of our products through other units' examination of quality. We use it to assure the nutritional standard and hygienic safety of the products," explained Om Hui Suk, chief of the laboratory.

The next leg of my visit was the sample room. Having on show different kinds of products made from corn, which is called king of the dry-field crops, the room was also refurbished. I could see a good many kinds of products like biscuits, sweets, dextrose, corn syrup, corn sugar and corn starch, and certificates for patented products. My guide said that the great pride of the factory was that it had solved the sugar problem using corn which is widely grown in the country. Then, he told me stories about the factory's achieve-



ments. One of them was how they had changed the chemical process of corn sugar production into an enzyme-based process by putting the enzyme production on an industrial basis. The story about a kind of healthy oil extracted from the corn germs was particularly interesting. Hearing his endless explanation in the sample room, I said, "Now I know I am mistaken when I think I am well informed of your factory. You are making remarkable progress."

Jon made a meaningful smile.

Bidding farewell to my guide, I got out of the factory. Looking back at it, I felt like returning for another look at the factory that was ever prospering on the strength of the spirit of self-reliance and self-development.

Rim Ok



Production is increasing thanks to the modernization of the processes.



On Principle of Utility

THE KANGSO PIG FARM is raising the production of meat using substitute feeds. It has attained a lot in developing substitute feeds to suit the regional features and its own conditions. One of the typical achievements is the production of feed from rice chaff and *Pistia stratiotes cv*, which is popular in the field of animal husbandry. In general, rice chaff is composed of hemicellulose, so it is believed as a dogma that if the chaff is to be used as feed, it has to be treated to extract nutritional materials.

The farm found the process quite costly and unprofitable. A few years ago the managers decided to pull it down determinedly and develop a new one that would be suitable to the actual conditions of the farm.

One day Chief Engineer Pak In Sik went on a business trip to a rural community. There he happened to see some pigs rummaging a heap of rice chaff for something to eat. With his occupational curiosity, he watched the pigs carefully. It was crude chaff, and yet the animals were poking into the heap and eating something. An idea flashed into Pak's mind.

He formed a research team and had them find out that the pigs ate broken chaff. Now the farm launched a research project of pulverizing the rice husk before feeding it to pigs, instead of

processing it. There were a lot of sci-tech tasks to tackle, including the identification of the size of the powdered chaff suitable for the digestive function of the pigs, the ratio of broken chaff in the feed, the effect on digestion, and the growing rate and period of pigs when fed with the kind of feed.

A lot of experiments took place. Some people were dubious about the feasibility of the project, arguing that even if the chaff was broken before feeding, it could hardly be digested and would rather cause negative effects. The researchers, however, pushed ahead unyieldingly, as they knew that animals take in what they need in any way. Through a persistent research they finally found out the suitable size of the powdered chaff, ratio of mixture, effects on digestion and so on.

The new substitute feed turned out quite good in many ways. When fed with the feed, the pigs' hour of sleeping increased, and the digestion rate grew by more than 20 percent. This led to the establishment of the foundation for increased production of meat with a less consumption of grain feed.

The farm advanced the growing peri-

od of *Pistia stratiotes cv* by more than 40 days to suit the local geographical characteristics of the farm's area, thus producing more of the plant than other farms. By developing and introducing an advanced cultivation method it gathered nearly 2.2 tons of the grass a day from the end of May, thus saving some 20 tons of grain feed a year. Noteworthy is the fact that the grass is fermented and made into a compact feed so as to increase the ratio of non-grain feed.

Besides, the farm raised the protein content of the grain feed by four percent using monad, thus saving a huge amount of grain feed. (This is the first instance in the field of stockbreeding.)

Pak says, "Our foremost concern is utility. On this principle we conduct every research project to suit the actual conditions of our farm and make actual profit. We make effective use of whatever is available for substitute feed—corn straws, green forage, excrements of chicken and ducks, pig hair and poultry feathers."

Kim Ye Ryong



The Kangso Pig Farm.



Educator's Joy

her work hopefully.

One day she inspected a class at work as the school had planned. The lesson was well done as it was given by an able teacher. But the headmaster had a different opinion. From then on she often inspected classes at work. She carefully watched the way the teachers gave lessons and wrote down something in her notebook. And, she went out silently after the lessons were over.

The teachers and department heads—even the submaster—didn't know why she did so.

Ri came to grasp some points during the period. The first of them was that in general the teachers' preparation for lessons was not as good as that for inspection, and the second was that teachers with a long career failed to prepare teaching plans as required by the developing time. The third was that young teachers thought that a long career just meant ability.

After much thought she referred to the points at a teachers' meeting. The teachers put forth different opinions most of which were good ones. She said, "The school's history doesn't mean that it's on a level required by the time. The time is continuously developing and the pupils' standard of demand is doing so. If one is content with one's current success, one will surely lag behind others tomorrow. And our school is no exception."

From the next day, Ri saw to it that the school organized inspection of classes at work at any

time. After a month the ranks of teachers and departments were decided.

Having set a strict system of review, she made exact demands on all the teachers without exception. The teachers and departments launched a campaign to overtake, learn from and exchange experience with one another. The campaign intensified by the month and the quarter, and the ranking kept changing.

Ri provided inferior teachers with teaching reference books and other books she had obtained herself. And she often made a long journey at night to help them solve their family problems. In this course, the teachers came to understand her sincere, exact demands on them and corrected their demerits in time.

The school boasts 33, 27 and 22 holders of the title of October 8 Model Teacher, certificates of registered new teaching methods and those of teaching aids invention respectively. One of them holds seven certificates of registered new teaching methods and another does five certificates of teaching aids invention.

As the teachers' practical ability and qualifications improved, the school has recently produced over 170 winners of the July 15 Honour Student Prize, and lots of its graduates visit the school every year.

Now the headmaster is over sixty, and she still finds pleasure in the education and edification of the rising generation.

Kim Ye Ryong



ONE DAY IN 2005, A woman was entering the Sonjuk Senior Middle School in Kaesong City. She was Ri Son Ok, a Merited Teacher who was appointed as a new headmaster of the school.

Looking at her as she was making an inaugural address in a teachers' meeting, some of the teachers said, "I heard that when the headmaster was working as a submaster at the Tonghyon Senior Middle School, she saw to it that the school took 28 orphaned children under its charge until their graduation," "It is said that she's strong in grip," "But she doesn't look like that kind of woman," and "Wait and we'll see."

First of all, Ri acquainted herself with the details of the school's actual conditions.

Actually, the school was already well-known not only in the city but also across the country. The teachers' practical qualifications were on a high level and the pupils did quite well at school. Many of those who had graduated from the school became DPRK Hero, People's Artist, Merited Teacher, Merited Artiste or masters of sports.

Then the headmaster started

New Aspect of School Good at Singing

THE RYULGOK SENIOR Middle School is well known across the country as a school good at singing.

The pupils of the school have sung the songs recorded for cartoon films and displayed the hon-

derful palace were so bright and cheerful.

At a meeting held next day the teachers told about their impressions of the palace. Kim Yon Hwa, the headmaster of the school, then said, "The Mangyongdae School-

the relevant subject which pupils should know and exerted themselves to make necessary visual aids in various forms. For example, Jo Kum Ok, a biology teacher, decided to make visual aids to show the principle of photosynthesis because it is the most important in learning about flora, and those to explain what pupils are most curious about, for example, how blood types are inherited and how clone animals are produced.

To make those aids suited to the mind of the pupils and perfect in visual quality, scientific accuracy and cultural refinement, she often visited the Sci-Tech Complex and the Grand People's Study House. Her designs of the visual aids were completed one by one through modifications based on results of sectional consultations and those of the whole school.

Meanwhile, the teachers tried to furnish the laboratories of limited areas in such a way as to make the most of each subject's characteristics and made the classrooms multifunctional on a high level. For example, the geography study site was put on the basis of a modern IT system that shows the intensity of wind, temperature and humidity and weather condition in real time.

Thus all the spaces of the school were changed to give knowledge and general information, and its educational condition and environment were improved. As a result, the real ability of the pupils has further improved and their love for the school grown stronger.

After looking round the school, teachers and officials from many



The teachers are in consultation about designs of visual aids.

our of the school by singing songs with their peculiar voices at national performances. Now they have the monopoly over the music of cartoon films, including *The Boy General* (series) which are enjoying great popularity.

The school, which people remember as the one good at singing the songs of cartoon films, recently shows a new aspect drawing public attention.

One day some years ago the teachers visited the newly-renovated Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace. It looked strange as it was completely changed, and they felt as if they were in a fairytale world. The faces of pupils singing and dancing in the won-

children's Palace was renovated as required by the modern sense of beauty and juvenile mind and as befits the one of a civilized socialist power in terms of style and content. It showed us how we should improve our school's educational condition and environment. Let's renovate the school newly so that our pupils can learn and sing in a wonderful school."

All the teachers responded to her call. They put primary efforts in improving the corridors' visual aids because they knew it would enable the pupils to broaden their knowledge and consolidate what they learn.

Each teacher selected important and essential contents of



The pupils happily study and sing at the renovated school.



other schools admired it as an excellent school with a creative staff. The experience of the school was widely introduced across the country, and last year the school was awarded an official commendation for having taken the lead in education and edification of pupils, and the headmaster the title of People's Teacher.

She says, "We put a special emphasis on helping the pupils know well about nature and geography of the country and have a determination to better them."

The school has friendly relations with a school in Indonesia.

Rim Ok



Pioneers



THE ANGIOGRAPHIC THERAPEUTIC Department of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital treats benign tumour and other gynecological diseases by means of a technique of interventional angiography.

It is Ri Myong Hye, head of the department, who pioneered the technique for the first time in Korea. It always made her heart hurt to see uterine myoma and adenomyosis cases. At that time there were no other methods to treat diseases but hysterectomy and myomectomy. She keenly felt that it was a pressing problem to treat the diseases without removing the organ. While racking her brains to find a method of solving the problem Ri was convinced that it was the most ideal way to introduce a technique of interventional angiography in the treatment of such gynecological diseases. Because an operation based on the technique imposes less burden on the patient, helps to hasten the post-operative recovery and, more importantly, makes it possible to leave the organ in tact. She merely had skimpy knowledge of interventional angiography, and she had to undergo difficulties in

mastering it. Through repeated studies she strove to invent an advanced method of performing the relevant operation.

Then, one day, a woman was hospitalized for sterility. The examination of her condition showed that the patient's uterus was full of large and small myomas, so the patient had to have an operation for extirpation of her uterus. But Ri proposed that they introduce uterine artery embolization based on the aforesaid technique. It was a minimally invasive surgery to treat the lesion by injecting an embolic agent into the uterine artery to obstruct the artery through angiographic equipment. Three months and a half after having the operation the patient was completely free from myomas. Eleven months after that, she got pregnant, and later gave birth to a child. Many other women wanted to get the treatment. The operation was done in a short span of time while the patient and the doctor were in conversation. Thus it relieved the relevant patients of their fear of the previous operation.

The department established a rational operation method suited

to the actual reality of the country and the physical constitution of Korean women and put it on a scientific footing, thus raising the efficiency of the treatment over 90%. In the course of this it restored more than 1 000 women to health, and over 80 of them became mothers. The operation was successful even in the treatment of a woman's large uterine myoma which the established theory considered difficult. Thus the woman could have her child.

Members of the department also succeeded in the similar treatment to prevent postpartum hemorrhage and ectopic pregnancy, and are striving to extend the application of the technique to ovarian artery embolization and other gynecological operations. The high appreciations and certificates they have won at different medical science symposiums and exhibitions and sci-tech festivals encourage them. They have helped many women enjoy happiness, but they are enthusiastically continuing with their research, saying that their successes are no more than a beginning.

Rim Ok

Devoted Doctors

AT ABOUT 11:30 A.M. ON September 20 last year Kim Jong Chol, a worker who severed the lower part of his left forearm in an accident during work, was rushed to Pyongyang Municipal Hospital No. 1. At that time the bones of the severed parts were broken, their skin was torn seriously, and all the hypodermis, muscles, blood vessels and nerves were cut.

Immediately the hospital held a technical consultation. But the doctors were undecided about the fate of the case who was in critical condition. The patient needed a major operation none of them had done before. At this juncture Ri Man Guk, head of the clinical laboratory of the hospital, said, "If you hesitate like this, the patient will be deformed permanently. Let's think about our duty before discussing about impossibility and possibility. I think we can do anything once we are determined to do like health care workers of the former generation did. We will perform the operation."

Now practical measures were taken to that end. An operation team was formed with Ri as chief surgeon and several other doctors as assistants. That day the operation on the patient took place under the concern of the whole

hospital. The wound was more serious than they had thought. The operation had to undergo several processes—the first operation on the wound, coaptation of bones, nerve suture, suture of tendons and muscles and stitching of skin—and there were often emergencies during the operation. It took much trouble to sew one blood vessel because it took dozens of stitches to finish it. The operation took as many as six hours, successfully completing the coaptation of the severed parts of the left forearm.

The doctors, however, did not relax even a moment. They had to take measures for checking poisoning, preventing infection and minimum blood circulation disorder and restoring the relevant function. While holding over ten consultations, they did scores of medical examinations and several times of skin grafting. And a round-the-clock treatment continued for tens of days. At last nerves in the patient's rejoined arm were restored, making it possible for him to move the fingers. And his

health recovered gradually.

Kim Jong Ran, wife of the patient, said, "I read about and witnessed on books and TV how devotedly our doctors work for patients. And I considered it ordinary. But this time I actually experienced it. The doctors and nurses made more sincere effort for the sake of my husband than they should do for their own relatives, even skipping meals and sleep. I really thank the Workers' Party of Korea for providing us with such a benevolent social system."

Kim Jong Chol said, "I never thought that I could have the arm again. When I regain consciousness from almost two days of coma, it was in place as it had been. I just felt as if I were in a dream. But when I saw the bright smiles of the doctors I came to know it was reality. I wish to express my gratitude to them for making me full of life again. After leaving the hospital I'll work hard for this benevolent system and country."

Sim Chol Yong

Doctors attend to the patient with sincerity.

Before operation (left).
After operation (right).



Rising to Challenges

THE FEMALE CONTORTION DUO OF KOREA is recognized as a strong one in the acrobatic gymnastics circle of Asia. Not long ago the Korean team—the one from the Sports Club of Korea’s Ministry of Commerce—won the relevant event again at the 10th Asian Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships 2017. This completed three consecutive wins for the Korean team.

The Korean team made its debut against its strong rivals of Asia at the eighth round of the aforesaid championships held in 2013. As it was attended by the experienced gymnasts from Asia, the competition was fierce from the outset. Many of them had won the same event at other international competitions.

The Korean gymnasts were comparatively green-horns who had never attended such an international competition. They, though, performed difficult move-

DPRK Ministry of Commerce Sports Club wins the 10th Asian Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships 2017.



ments wonderfully, winning big hands. The spectators were impressed by their rhythmic and attractive performance done to a soft tune. Thus, they won first place at the championships. This was what they deserved for their efforts made to hone new movements—a series of tossing and catching for three somersaults and a non-stopping standing on one hand.

Later, the coaches and acrobatic gymnasts of the sports club continued to strive to win consecutive victory, thinking that they had beaten the second winner only by one point at the event of the championships 2013. The lopsidedness could have been made up for if someone performed a new stunt or some attractive dancing movements or formed an exciting ensemble. Reviewing the past competition the gymnasts trained hard to renovate their stunts. And efforts were made to invent more graceful and beautiful dancing movements reflecting their national characteristics.

In 2014 the duo was faced with an unexpected problem: for some reason the equilibrist would not be able to participate in the ninth round of the championships to be held in 2015. The contortion duo performance requires that the two gymnasts be one in mind before trying to be well-balanced in performing stunts, so it was a risk for the coach to select another gymnast for the duo. What also mattered was whether there would be an appropriate reserve.

It was at this juncture that young Pyon Yun Ae, who had just come up to the senior group as an acrobatic gymnast after acting as a heavy gymnast with the junior group, volunteered to join the duo. Later Pyon said, “Though I volunteered courageously, I was ill at ease at the thought that if my attempt failed I would only make a fool of myself. Then I remembered what my maternal aunt, a Merited Athlete, told me in my childhood when I was aspiring to be a gymnast. Her theory was that one who constantly challenges oneself is sure to do something to add to the honour of the motherland.”

Now Pyon concentrated her energy on training to do somersault and thus mastered world-level difficult movements such as landing on the shoulder of the support after pirouetting in the air. This made the duo take first place again at the aforesaid round of the championships by beating their strong rivals.

The two consecutive victories encouraged Kang Kum Hwa, coach of the Korean duo, to invent such new stunts as the support’s catching the equilibrist



They work hard to attain a higher goal.

after the latter performs a 360° backward somersault with the waist straightened and the latter’s 90° backward pirouette before holding the support’s waist between her legs and doing two consecutive backward somersaults. Others worried that the duo might fail to perform those stunts. But the coach herself simulated the movements scientifically proving that they could perform them. Then she made painstaking efforts to have the duo master the movements. This just led to their third win.

The coach, who has led the duo since their first win at the championships in 2013, says, “The moment we bring a laurel of victory to the motherland is just the happiest moment we feel proud of. To see such a happy moment without interruption we’ll keep making strenuous efforts invariably.”

Ri Song Chol



The Taekwon-Do Holy House.

Taekwon-Do Holy House

THE TAEKWON-DO HOLY House is situated in the centre of Chongchun Street in Pyongyang. Standing in a thick pine grove it is a Korean-style gable-roofed house that boasts its peculiar architectural beauty national in style. Its architectural style blends well with the surrounding environment, and it makes the beholders feel the spirit and staunch stamina of Taekwon-Do. Here in the house is the Hall of the His-

tory of Taekwon-Do dedicated to introduction of the whole history of Taekwon-Do, the orthodox martial art of the Korean nation.

Some time ago I looked round the hall. Kim Ye Song, a lecturer of the hall, welcomed me. Saying that the hall covers a total floor space of over 1 700 square metres and consists of three rooms, she led me to room No. 1. On display in the room are historical data, relics and remains which show

that Taekwon-Do has historical root in Thaekyon. The first wall of the room is hung with a portrait of Tangun titled *Tangun, the Founder of National Martial Art of Korea*. The portrait is flanked by a *pipha*-shaped dagger and a narrow bronze dagger showing the characteristic of the ancient culture of Korea.

When I was looking at the portrait Kim said, "Tangun is not only the father of the Korean na-

tion but also the founder of the national martial art. The national martial art was created by Tangun in the Taedong River area around Pyongyang. On the basis of the martial art, the Koreans, from ancient times, cultivated their strength and wisdom and defeated foreign invaders, demonstrating the nation's dignity and mettle to the world."

Listening to her explanation, I looked around paintings and data on display. They include a scene of *subak* (a kind of Korean martial art) performance from what is painted on a wall of the Mausoleum of King Kogukwon, that of a hunting competition from a mural of the Mural Tomb of Yaksuri and that of a *ssirum* (Korean wrestling) match from a mural of the Ssirum Tomb, and historical books such as *Samguksagi* (Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms), *Samgukyusa* (History of the Three Kingdoms), *Palhaegukjijangphyon* and *Koryosajolyo*, all of which describe the features and development of the nation's martial art. In particular, I was deeply impressed by *Koryosa*

(History of Koryo) that contains a story of Song Jong So, a chief guard of the king, beating to death with bare hands a tiger which unexpectedly appeared on the field of Uthachon, *Chronicles of the Feudal Joson Dynasty* that tells that archery, horse riding and subak competitions and mock fights with stone missiles widely took place on a nationwide scale and that Pyongyang is the birthplace of Thaekyon, and describes the might of Thaekyon, and *Muyedobothongji* (Illustrated Book of Martial Arts), a national martial arts book that explains in detail about the basis of Thaekyon and its hand, foot, head and body movements with the help of pictures.

Then we went to room No. 2. On display in the room are data on how the Taekwon-Do Palace and the Taekwon-Do Holy House were built in Chongchun Street and how the martial art was made mass-based.

The room also keeps the data on the Korean Taekwondoists who won gold medals at the World Taekwon-Do Championships, the

world junior and senior and Veteran Taekwon-Do World Championships and the Asian Taekwon-Do Championships, demonstrating the honour of the country, the home of Taekwon-Do. I also saw there the photos of Jang Kyong Ok, Labour Hero and People's Athlete, who snatched many gold medals at domestic and international championships, People's Athlete Sa Ok Jin and Jang Son Ae and other excellent Taekwondoists, and trophies and medals they had won.

Now we stepped into room No. 3. It had data on the International Taekwon-Do Federation, those who helped organize and develop the federation, the Standing Committee of the ITF and the ITF's flag. What attracted my eyes was a large board showing the worldwide dissemination of Taekwon-Do. The member nations of the ITF number 127 (32, 44, 21, 25 and 5 from Asia, Europe, Africa, America and Oceania respectively) and its trainees over 60 millions.

Choe Sol Mi

The Hall of the History of Taekwon-Do.



Respected Women Deputies

DEPUTIES TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLIES OF THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea are held in respect and affection by the people. Not a few of them are women referred to as flowers of the society and a synonym for beauty.



Jo Yong Hui.

Enterprising Officer

"It's really wonderful. Maybe people will like it," a woman said contentedly seeing varieties of clothes produced by a clothing factory they had built by themselves. She was Jo Yong Hui, director of the Hangu District Commercial Management Office in Nampho City. Though having a dream of becoming a scientist in her school days, she has devoted her life to public welfare work, for the following reason.

Her father, who had been a war veteran and hero company commander, volunteered to work as a cobbler with a welfare service centre after being discharged from the military service, though he was able to enter a university. Rain or shine, he repaired shoes to order and made a long journey to visit a factory, enterprise or school to undertake mobile services. This deeply impressed Yong Hui. So, when she moved to Nampho following her husband after

marriage, she unhesitatingly decided to become a worker of the commercial management office.

Since then Jo has been invariably engrossed in the welfare service, always without being content with what she did. She saw to it that the district's all industrial goods shops and grocer's shops were renovated nicely and that a lot of modern houses were built for demobilized officers. The office also cultivated tens of hectares of land to produce raw materials for production of foodstuffs and built a fish farm of hundreds of square metres and vinegar and fermented soy sauce production bases for improving the local people's diet.

Whenever such bases increased one by one, the local residents congratulated and admired Jo, and she said, "Still I have a lot of work to do to meet the people's demand."

Residents of the district call her *our deputy* and *enterprising officer*.

Motto of Life

"*Work devotedly!*" This is said by Ryu Un Hui who has devoted her life to the treatment of people's eye diseases. She is a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly and the director of the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital. As an ophthalmologist who specializes in the treatment of people's eyes she regards it as her creed and motto of life to work devotedly to restore sight to the blind.

Thanks to her mother who was a doctor of a hospital, Ryu had a lot of opportunities to



Ryu Un Hui (second left).

come into contact with medicine and could easily read many medical books in her childhood. This is how she stepped into the world of medicine. She started her career as a doctor at the Pyongyang Ophthalmic Hospital after graduating from the then Pyongyang University of Medicine. At that time she determined to put an end to the misfortune and agony of those suffering from eye diseases.

It was, however, not an easy job to carry her determination into practice. Sometimes she sat up several nights attending to a patient whose condition became

► worse rapidly after operation. And it was not once or twice that she lost confidence over a patient who did not get well even after a long treatment. But she never gave up. Thinking of the misfortune and agony of the patients, she accelerated the relevant research and treatment as sincerely as she should do for her own sisters and brothers.

She read the paper *Research on Clinical Epidemiology of Senile Cataract* at the 25th medical science seminar of the national ophthalmology sector, issued scores of other papers such as *Research to Improve the Efficiency of*

Vitrectomy Using Corneal Prism Lens and Clinical Research on Change of Corneal Thickness after Cataract Operation, and invented over ten devices including lens capsule extension ring and an ophthalmic operating microscope. Additionally, she depicted in some books including *Nursing of Eye Diseases and Nutrition* her experience and technology gained in ophthalmic research and treatment and devotion for the good of people.

Work devotedly, then comes light.

This truth is always impressed on her mind.

Spring Woman

It cannot be said that beauty and fresh fragrance of spring can be experienced only in a flower garden that draws bees and butterflies or a field where the air is shimmering with heat. Such fragrance can be experienced at *Pomhyanggi* (Spring Fragrance) cosmetics counters of different shops in the capital city of Pyongyang and other provinces. In the shops you can see girls carelessly touching this and that of scores of kinds of lipsticks and middle-aged women examining fragrance of transparent soap, shampoo and rinse of different kinds and colours. *Pomhyanggi* cosmetics are popular with not only women but also men and the elderly. This is attributable to lifelong efforts of Kim Hye Yong, the general manager of the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory. It was 17 years ago that she was appointed to the present post. Full of gratitude to the country and the people for entrusting the factory to her, a daughter of an ordinary worker, she worked hard to provide people with lasting *spring fragrance* so as to live up to their

expectations. What she insisted on and aimed to do was to satisfy not only tastes of women but also demand of people of different ages and strata.

She devoted all her efforts and wisdom to cosmetics production. As a result, the factory completed the modernization of water purification and air conditioning processes and put production processes on an automatic flow-line basis, thus laying the foundations for making the production processes unmanned and free from dust and germs. This made it possible to improve the quality of cosmetics remarkably.

Cosmetics from the factory were recognized as excellent at many festivals and exhibitions held at home and abroad. Tests by BIO-EC Institute of France made the cosmetics recognized as remarkable in their functions of retarding aging, convergence and moisturizing and whitening functions.

As a deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly, the general manager is devoting herself to her job as ever.

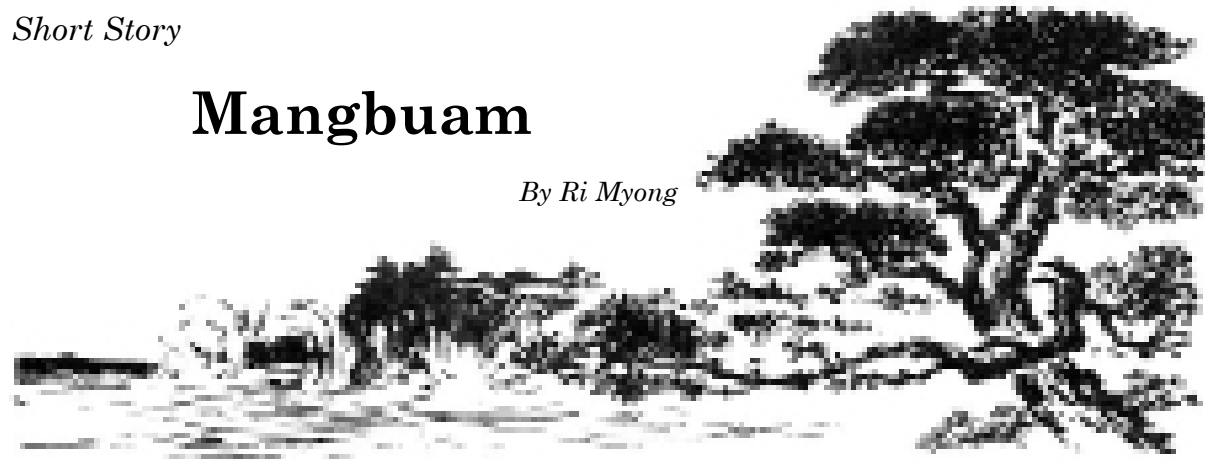
Kim Son Myong

Kim Hye Yong (second right).



Mangbuam

By Ri Myong



1

THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE reverberated in the theatre, light flashing from cameras and varieties of flowers flying onto the stage. Repeatedly expressing her thanks to the audience, Sin Ye Rim hurried to the dressing room. The audience was still clapping towards the stage, quite deeply impressed by her performance. Sin had always been excited and extremely tense as it was her debut on a national stage as a singer. Now, however, she felt a lump in her throat, her heart filled with great delight.

The national vocal solo contest, sponsored by the then Ministry of Culture and Art, was for new stars selected from local art troupes and art promotion teams. Sin was selected from a provincial art troupe.

Darkness was gathering in the garden of the theatre, and a strong aroma of lilacs was spreading there carried by the wind. Overcome by the fresh aroma flowing in through the open window, Sin was happily envisaging her kindly relatives and neighbours who she thought must have seen her performance televised live across the country. But when there flashed the image of her husband Ri U Jin, with whom she wanted to share her joy first, she felt gloomy as if rain clouds had been gathering in the clear sky.

Before she left home, her husband burst out sobbing over a failure of his research to which he had devoted half his life. Still, he followed her to the railway station and saw her off, waving his hand for a long while and wishing her success. Now she felt guilty about her having forgotten his agony.

What is he doing now? Perhaps he is writhing in agony over the dead saplings for the coastal windbreak. Or he is probably confined in his study, she thought.

Then a guide of the theatre silently opened the door of the dressing room and told her that someone wanted to see her.

Ridding herself of the feelings mixed with joy and agony, Sin changed into an outdoor dress.

In the drawing room of the theatre she unexpectedly found Choe Il, an official of the Ministry of Culture and Art, waiting for her. He had been one of her classmates at the conservatory.

Choe Il was wearing light grey trousers and a creamy, striped summer jacket. His dark curly hair combed down behind the ears contrasted strikingly with his fair complexion in such a way that the face looked bright and nice without a speck. He affectionately shook her hand the way only old friends should do. Before feeling glad to see one of her old classmates, she wore a mysterious smile curious about his expert opinion as a member of the con-

test's jury.

"Today you won sweeping popularity with the audience," Choe Il said with a quiet smile and leaned back in an armchair, lighting a cigarette. It was not so long, but Sin was oppressed with tedium and impatience.

"You displayed your skill as a soprano singing the first song," he went on to say. "You passed the interval of the three-line octave rather smoothly when even famous singers' sound is usually uncertain in that part. You seemed to have demonstrated your forte as a soprano. And the second song *My Country* used to be your favourite during the college days, I know. You've developed very much. In keeping with the light lyricism of the tune you showed passionate gestures. That struck a deep impression of our country on the audience. I think you have selected the right song for your timbre, and your performance was surely perfect."

"Your words sound excessive," Sin said shyly. But she was filled again with joy at his kind admiration she had really wanted.

"It's hot. Why don't we go out for a walk?" asked Choe.

"Shall we?" Sin agreed readily, for she thought it would be unbearable to be alone that evening.

Some time later they were out on the bank of the Taedong River. Sin's burning body was infiltrated

▶ by a fresh damp wind fumbling with tree leaves. The rippling surface of the river reflecting the light of street lamps on the promenade was shining like lustrous jewels as if clusters of stars had descended on it. Night anglers were seen along the riverside where birds were occasionally chirping. Choe was looking at the sights with satisfaction, and his eyes were shining in a sly smile.

*"An evening water-bird is chirping in a silver tone,
And a baby star is lured into the water.
Then an elderly angler is casting his line."*

Choe recited.

Sin chuckled and said, "You are the same as before." She became cheerful to remember the way Choe had always won popularity with his improvised poems during the college days. His soft face revealed deep emotion.

"You see, Ye Rim. What a wonderful night of Pyongyang!" Choe exclaimed. Then, suddenly, he became serious.

"Today I witnessed your development. And I envisaged you coming up with the first-class performers," he said. "Why don't you think of changing the stage as you have practised to that extent in the local area? I, however, don't mean I look down upon it. But it's true that the capital is the centre of art and culture. It has not only excellent instructors but also many rivals you can exchange your experience and compete with for ability. So to speak, it's like fertile soil in which you can cultivate your skill as much as you wish. And don't you want to become a Merited and People's Artist held in affection by the time and the people?"

The scent of his cigarette reached Sin's cheek, carried by his warm breath. His unexpected advice upset her very much. She had never considered herself to be on such a level, so she remained silent, her eyes fixed on the moon that had just appeared. Filling the

bluish space the moonlight covered the water surface, piercing through a shadowy willow grove on the other side of the river.

"Well, how is U Jin? He still keeps staying there in Mangbuam, doesn't he?" asked Choe.

His sudden mentioning of her husband's situation startled her. Spellbound by her success and joy she had forgotten the image of her husband like dim reflected light. Heart-striking agony welled up in her, but she deliberately chuckled, saying, "It is his living stage."

"His research is successful, isn't it?" Choe asked.

Sin was now at a loss what to say. Her eyelashes were trembling, and the smile of a moment before disappeared from her face. This evening, when even the rippling water, the dewy turf of the promenade and the wind felt affectionate to her, the image of her husband appeared miserable before her mind's eye and she felt ashamed to say to Choe about her husband.

In general, women inwardly want to boast to their close male friends about their husbands' successes. Now, however, Sin had nothing to do about her husband. At the moment she was sorry her husband could not meet her simple wish while repeatedly failing to succeed in the research for developing species of trees for the coastal windbreak. For all that she did not want to lie as she had done once earlier to avoid her awkward situation. That day she had been quite embarrassed because of her husband's unsavory behaviour in the presence of Choe Il.

It was one year before.

Sin was preparing supper in a hurry, eagerly waiting for her husband to return from Mangbuam. She had come back home directly from the trip for an itinerant performance on the site for the project for the expansion of a complex. She was busy making different dishes for more than an hour. The house was filled with pleasant and savoury odours of the dishes.

Dear me! He must be frozen,

she thought and put the cold beef soup pot on the oven again. She waited in further anxious suspense for his arrival as the time for his commuting coach to arrive was drawing near.

"Oh, they smell delicious," her son shouted, rushing into the kitchen. He had just come back home from sleighing until sunset. Sin gently pushed the tip of his nose with her wet finger.

"Hong Chol, you ought not to taste the dishes before your papa," said the mother.

"Is it his birthday?"

"Birthday? Ha-ha. Yeah, today is birthday for you, your papa and me. It's the birthday of our home," she said.

"Pshaw! Does a home have a birthday?" the son asked in return, tilting his head sullenly.

Yes, it's the birthday of our home, Sin thought, tears welling up in her eyes. That afternoon she received a telegram from the breeding laboratory of the botanical research institute. The telegram read, "The rate of growth of the saplings is 83%. Congratulations on your success."

The short telegram made her quite doubtful for a while. *Is someone joking? Isn't this cooked up in sympathy for his agony? I'm not in a dream, am I?* she thought, looking out with her throbbing breast leant against the window sill. The winter sky was hazy and snow was falling in flakes, covering the roofs and streets. No, it was not a dream. It was the news of the fruit of his long-time efforts. From his youth until now when he reached his middle age he strenuously continued with the research in the area of the Mangbuam coast, rain or shine. At last his efforts bore fruit.

Still, he might be there without knowing this, she thought and burst into sobs recollecting the past difficulties.

The difficulties made the man and wife live apart from each other for a very long time.

(To be continued)

From Generation to Generation

IN MARCH 1959, FIFTY nine years ago, the then Kangson Steelworks produced a Chollima workteam, the first of its kind in Korea. It was just Jin Ung Won's workteam. Since then his name, along with the name of the steelworks, the birthplace of Chollima, was widely known across the country. His descendants are firmly supporting the country with steel.

Recollection of Father

In November last year the State Merited Chorus, the Moranbong Band and the Wangjaesan Art Troupe gave a joint performance in Nampho City. A man was shedding tears in silence while listening to a male trio and male chorus singing *The Glow over Kangson*. He was Jin Ung Won's son Jin Yong Il, the manager of the general steel shop of the Chollima Steel Complex. He thought of his father, who had passed away long before, while watching on the background screen scenes of the then Premier Kim Il Sung meeting the father during his visit to the steelworks and the father working by the sweat of his brow before an electric furnace.

On December 28, 1956 Jin Ung Won, a workteam leader,

had the honour to meet the Premier who was inspecting the factory. Explaining about the situation of the country in detail, the Premier said as follows: The country must successfully carry out the first five-year national economic plan (1957-1961). But it is short of money, labour and materials, and there is a great strain on the supply of steel and rolled steel in particular.

At the time it was difficult for the factory to carry out its quota for the plan with its production capacity. In order to carry out the task, it had to increase its steel production capacity per hour by decisively reducing the melting time.

Jin called on his workteam members to redouble their efforts. They launched a vigorous campaign to maximize production and economy. They found out what was in short supply and made anything that was not available, and conducted a technical innovation movement to scrap the old norms. Those, who were infected with conservatism, passivism and mysticism about technology, stubbornly tried to stand in their way saying that it was impossible to reduce the melting time of an electric furnace.

But overcoming all difficulties and trials, Jin inspired his work-

team members to fully display their creative enthusiasm and ability. Thus they miraculously reduced the melting time by three hours and five minutes for the first tapping on the first day for the five-year national economic plan. And in the first year for the national economic plan, the workteam made a tangible contribution to production of 120 000 tons of rolled steel at the blooming mill with a rated capacity of 60 000 tons through collective innovation, thus greatly helping accomplish the five-year plan two years ahead of schedule. During the period Jin was the first to raise the torch of the Chollima Workteam Movement under the slogan *One for all and all for one!* and his workteam became the first to be awarded the title of Chollima Workteam.

Jin Yong Il said that he could not forget the day his father held him up with joy at his workteam's glory, and added, "Still our country is in a difficult situation because of those who do not want us to be well off and our country to be strong. But we will surely build a socialist power as long as we have our forerunners' tradition of heroic struggle and we and our descendants firmly follow the tradition."

Following Their Forerunners' Tradition

It was when the steel shop was setting up a UHP electric arc furnace in accordance with a modernization plan of the complex. Some officers insisted that the furnace should be made large-sized following the global trend. To do so, all the infrastructure of the complex had to be reconstructed. This would require a huge state investment.

Jin Yong Il and his workteam members could not tolerate it. Modernization must not be done at random. *We should take into account the actual conditions of the complex and the situation of the country.* With this thought, they,

pooling efforts with designers, set up in their original production building the present furnace that makes use of the original infrastructure of the complex. Like this they thought of the complex and the country first before producing a ton of steel.

The complex is making efforts to reduce the cost of steel production. Especially it is meticulously organizing the work to steadily reduce the standards of power consumption. The workteam put forward many good ideas for producing more steel while reducing the cost of steel production per charge. Among the ideas were that of enlarging the cubage of the furnace by making low the furnace basement and laying firebricks in a rational way, that of reducing heat loss of the furnace by decreasing times of material charge by increasing the weight of

the charge per bucket and that of increasing the actual molten iron production rate by preventing molten iron from being frozen to the insides of the pouring ladle and tundish.

And as heavy oil could not be imported due to tenacious sanctions and pressure of the US imperialists the workteam invented a method of heating the steel-tapping ladle using dust coal instead of the oil, making it possible to regularize steel production while saving hundreds of tons of the oil.

The workteam also succeeded in using electrodes of Korean make to operate the furnace, putting an end to dependence on imported electrodes.

Through the active technical innovation movement and modernization campaign, Jin and his workteam members successfully



Jin Ung Won (left).

produced additional steel for the reconstruction of the afflicted northern area and the building of Ryomyong Street.

When his son, who had worked as a smelter together with him, was to leave for school, Jin saw him off, saying, "Learn a lot. After you graduate from the school let us produce steel together again."

Kim Ye Ryong

National Intangible Cultural Heritage (16)

Chuothang

CHUOTHANG IS A Korean expression of loach soup. Loach contains essential amino acids, including methionine, arginine and praline, an unsaturated fatty acid, vitamin A, vitamin B2 and varieties of minerals such as calcium. So, from olden times, the Korean people used the fish a lot for diet. Loach dishes are effective in restoration of the liver function, and in treatment of tuberculosis, diabetes and impotence.

The soup is the one boiled with other foodstuffs, and the method of cooking the soup is different in provinces.

To make the soup, put living loaches into two- or three-percent salt water to remove the smell of slime from the fish.

Then take them out of the water and spray salt over them to make their surfaces inviscid to some extent.

Now clean them and cut them into slices of a certain size. Put sliced ginger and onion into weak salt water and boil it before putting the loach slices in it. When the slices are done, put slightly-roasted beef in it and boil it. Then boil it again with soybean or red pepper paste, and crown daisy and parsley put in it. And put chopped bean curd in it and boil it once more. When the chops of bean curd float, season the soup with salt and put sliced red pepper and onion, smashed garlic, pepper and ginger juice in it. The soup



tastes good when it is cooked in the juice of soybean or red pepper paste.

Another method of making the soup is to put cleaned living loaches into hot juice of uncurdled bean curd to have them die in it. Then wrap the uncurdled bean curd in a cloth so that it turns into bean curd, cut it into slices of a certain proper size and put them into the juice of bean paste to make the soup.

Cooking the soup is quite easy, and it is as good as a tonic for all people from children to the elderly.

Rim Ok

Jin Yong Il's family.



People Living for Tomorrow



At the sci-tech learning space.

THAETHAN COUNTY OF SOUTH HWANGHAE Province covers a seaside area. Looking at luxuriant forests in the county, the local people appreciate the effort of the officers and workers of the county's Forest Management Company.

It was in 2011 that Jong Yon Ok, who had been promoted to different posts after beginning to work as a forest ranger at the age of 27, was appointed the manager of the company. While looking around forests in the county from a new point of view, he could not help but feel guilty. Though he thought that he had done a lot of things, there were still many imperfections. *I'll turn my county into a land of thick forests true to the State's call for changing all mountains into golden mountains, treasure mountains*, he determined.

First of all, Jong set a goal of creating 15 300 hectares of forest in the county. To this end, it was

imperative to prepare saplings. So, he, together with the workers of the company, created a parent tree nursery. And in 2012 they completed a hectare of outdoor cultivation ground and two circular cutting beds of 120 square metres. They also built a pumping plant of 90 m² for the purpose of preventing drought damage, and introduced an irrigation system in five hectares of area. Thus the company produced over two million saplings of good species, including over 200 000 Changsong larches, over 400 000 pine-nut trees and 1.5 million *Pinus rigida* trees, making a contribution to the forest restoration.

The company also put great efforts in protecting the forests. Based on their past experience in exterminating pine-eating caterpillars in 80 hectares of area, they established a process capable of annually producing over two tons of biological pesticide using juice extracted from potato buds.

Other officers and workers of the company were content with those successes, but Jong was determined to build a sci-tech learning space as required by the era of the knowledge-based economy. At that time some people suggested taking it easy as they had done a lot of things so far. Then the manager said, "The forest restoration campaign can bring about a greater success when it relies on science and technology. I know it is difficult for us to go on, but we should do so for the future appearance of thick forests." Soon after they completed a nice sci-tech learning space at the parent tree nursery. Now they are benefiting from the place. A steam-pressure-driven vermiculite bulk furnace can be cited.

Though they produced lots of saplings, they were faced with a problem in planting them. Most of the mountains were covered with clay sand, and a strong wind blew from the sea in the spring season. To

▶ solve the problem, it was necessary to use vermiculite, but when vermiculite was spread raw on the land, it did not decompose into the soil. To process vermiculite requires that the mineral is bulked in a furnace whose temperature should be raised by means of an air blower.

The manager saw to it that the problem was discussed among not only officers but also all other members of the company. This resulted in a novel idea of building a furnace which does not use electricity at all. Thus they built a factory which does not use electricity but mass-produces bulked vermiculite by using less raw materials and waste heat. Previously they had grown saplings outdoors with much effort for over three years to plant them in the mountains, but now they could plant one-year-old saplings there. Their experience was introduced not only in the province but also in all other provinces.

The officers and workers of the company also laid a firm foundation for planting trees not only in spring and autumn but also in the rainy season.

The manager says that he feels a lump in his



They tend tree saplings on a scientific basis to suit the winter.

throat seeing the mountains of the country turning into thick forests thanks to their efforts and that he is determined to keep working hard for the good future of the forests.

Kim Hyon Ju



Kim Yong Su (middle) has worked as forest ranger for over 30 years, and his son Kim Ju Chol works also as forest ranger following in his father's steps.

Ri Jong Hui, wife of Kim Yong Su, also tends forests like her husband.



Conservation of Water Resources and Their Effective Use

MARCH 22 IS THE WORLD Water Day. On the occasion a *Korea Today* reporter had an interview with Ju Song I, a researcher of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea. Excerpts:

Now in the world water resources are radically decreasing owing to the climate changes and other factors. How about the situation in Korea?

As you know water covers over 70% of the earth's surface, but actually only 0.3% of the water resources can be used by people. And even the amount is quickly decreasing due to the climate changes, rapid industrial development and urbanization, and the water is getting seriously polluted. According to data water resources in Africa, central and southern parts of Asia, western part of the United States, the Middle East and other regions have already become incapable of meeting the

demand. It is said that about one third of the global population are living in the areas where water is in short supply, and that if there is no relevant measures taken in those areas in the coming years, two thirds of the global population will be faced with the danger related to water by 2025.

Data of a few recent years shows that water resources in our country, too, are decreasing due to drought and so on caused by the worldwide climate changes. Last year alone drought lasted for several months in the country, resulting in decrease in the water level of rivers and streams. This badly affected the economic development and the people's life.

What do you do to manage and preserve the water resources in an integrated way?

Our country has established a regular system to manage and utilize the water resources and prevent their pollution. First of all, it instituted a strict system and



order in survey, development, protection and use of water resources so as to provide enough water for the country's economic development and the people's life. It already adopted laws relating to the management and use of the water resources such as the DPRK Law on Water Resources, the DPRK Law on Rivers and the DPRK Law on Prevention of Marine Pollution, and has been effectively conducting the work to enforce and

▶ supervise the laws.

These days several power stations or waterways have been built or are under construction, making it possible to make effective use of the water needed for the economic development of the country. In the sectors of agriculture and land and environment protection they are striving to make effective use of water by introducing an irrigation system of water-dropping and rotary sprayers. In particular, a nationwide, all-people tree-planting campaign is underway to protect water resources and better

and streams and lakes and sea.

In recent years alone new streets went up one after another in Pyongyang, and facilities for water supply and drainage and those for sewage treatment were built before those projects. Meanwhile, an organic compound fertilizer factory was built and is now in operation. It comprehensively treats urban waste, mud from the Pothong River, deposits from sewage treatment plants, slag and other waste materials from industrial establishments and other urban effluents and produc-

flotation and absorptive process, a new nano-silver functional water disinfectant and a technique of treating water by dint of reverse osmosis.

What do you do with different international organizations?

My union is acting as a member of the Global Water Partnership. It also helps the relevant sectors annually do cooperation and exchange with different international organizations including the UN Development Programme, the United Nations Food and Ag-

An event to mark World Water Day.



A meeting to mark Global Handwashing Day

the appearance of the land.

And the State is putting effort into preventing the pollution of water and providing the people with clean water and beautiful natural environment. Factories, enterprises, cities and counties are arranging sewage treatment plants in consideration of the amount of industrial effluents and sewage and consistently modernizing their facilities. In mines they have built new sedimentation ponds to prevent ore residue and effluents from flowing into rivers

es quality organic fertilizer.

Successes are made in the scientific research to thoroughly purify effluents and sewage from industrial establishments, urban communities and rural residential districts. And scientific research institutes and production units achieved and introduced many successes including a new method of purifying spent dye liquor, a technique of making inorganic compound agglutinant for wastewater treatment, a method of purifying oil waste by means of an air

riculture Organization and the European Union for conservation and use of water resources. And each year my union conducts in different forms and ways the activities to enable the people to have a deep understanding of the importance of water, the harmfulness of water pollution and dirty sanitary facilities and the aftereffects on the occasions of the World Water Day on March 22, the Global Handwashing Day on October 15 and the World Toilet Day on November 19. □

Mt. Chilbo (2)

Outer Chilbo

UNLIKE THE BEAUTIFUL Inner Chilbo, Outer Chilbo is majestically beautiful. So it has long been regarded as a scenic masterpiece expressive of masculine beauty.

In terms of its local features and sightseeing courses, Outer Chilbo is divided into Jangsu Peak, Manmulsang, Taphokdong and other sections. The ranges of Outer Chilbo spread downwards forming into singular peaks and valleys beyond description.

Wiin (great man) Peak can be counted as the best in Outer Chilbo. It is a rocky peak situated in the centre of the Jangsu Peak section. As it towers above a pine forest, its magnificence and singularity can be discerned even from a great distance.

The peak is surrounded by lots of other peaks including Suri

(eagle) Peak which is said to have long been a habitat of an eagle, Janggun Peak, Sungchon Peak and Kyemyong Peak, adding to the beauty of Outer Chilbo.

Outer Chilbo is also famous for the beauty of its valleys. The most beautiful of the valleys is seven valleys and eight ridges of Songnim Peak. Only from the top of the peak can you see the true appearance of the seven valleys and eight ridges which bristle with magnificent big rocks.

Go up over 200 stone stairs on a steep rocky face of the peak (70 metres in height), and you can reach the top of the peak which overlooks the seven valleys and eight ridges in the southern slope of the peak. The width of the ridges is 20~30 cm, the width of the valleys is 100 m, their total length is one kilometre and their gradient is 80°.

In the rainy season of summer, tilting falls competitively cascade down from the seven valleys and the fantastic rocks of the eight ridges appear above water fog, greatly enchanting the beholders.

Every peak and valley of Outer Chilbo boasts rocks of every fantastic shape that attract the beholders' attention. Among them are Jangsu Rock that looks like a chief sentry guarding Suri Peak, Tongsong Rock which resembles a fortress, Kojang Rock which stands majestically as if it guarded Outer Chilbo and those looking like a beast of prey, a dragon, a hawk and a brown bear.

Outer Chilbo also has lots of big and small waterfalls and pools that are very spectacular, harmoniously surrounded by thick forests. The waterfalls include two-, six- and multistage falls resembling unfolded rolls of silk cloth, tilted Kosok Falls which often appears and disappears while flowing beneath an enormous rock. The pools include Ok Pool in which, it is said, fairies saw themselves dressing their hair like in a mirror and Umnok Pool where, it is said, a couple of deer used to quench their thirst. The waterfalls and pools are those that cannot be seen in other scenic spots, thus drawing tourists.



A waterfall and rocks of fantastic shapes in Outer Chilbo.

► And Outer Chilbo is characterized by a section called Taphokdong, which is famous for its many beautiful waterfalls and pools. They are all different in shape and beauty. The aforesaid waterfalls, pools, rocks and thick forests can be said to be the most beautiful in the scenery of Mt. Chilbo.

► Outer Chilbo has many other

attractions including the Paekho Pavilion, where it is said a tiger of Mt. Paektu used to descend along the Thaebaek range, the Rakson Pavilion where it is said fairies used to descend to play, Hwangjin Hot Spring, Tahe Hot Spring and Talgal (egg) Mineral Water that are said to be good for longevity and Ice Cave where icicles hang

from the ceiling even in midsummer.

As a recreation ground Outer Chilbo is frequented by lots of people.

Yun Sin Yong



Time to Give up Delusion

THE AMERICANS' MALEVOLENCE AGAINST the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is reaching the extreme. Arguing frantically for extermination of the Korean nation and total destruction of the country, US President Trump is continuing to conduct different kinds of military rehearsals by mobilizing huge forces constantly deployed in and around the Korean peninsula, while applying sanctions of unheard-of harshness to the country by instigating nations that are subservient and servile to him.

Nevertheless, Korea is going its way unperturbedly and steadfastly, cutting a prominent figure that can drive the US to its destruction. In November last year, in particular, it successfully carried out the test fire of new-type ICBM Hwasong 15 which can deal a blow to any place in the US. This meant the failure of all the American attempts to foil the Korean cause of building a complete nuclear force.

American challenge to inevitability

The vulnerability of the US is not limited to the Trump administration alone. After it militarily occupied the southern half of Korea which was liberated from the Japanese imperialist military occupation on August 15, 1945 with the end of the Second World War, the US started the Korean war (June 1950–July 1953) to take control of the whole Korea. And after the war it has uninterruptedly made all sorts of military provocations, which, however, brought it failures and shame alone.

This is in no way attributable to the American economic and military power, for it has never been inferior to the opponent over the 70-odd years. Take for example the time when the Korean war broke out. At the time the US was incomparably superior in economic potentials and military power plus its 78 times greater territorial area, ten times greater population and 174 years of history as a country compared to the DPRK's no more than two years. Moreover, those who were aware of the power of the atomic bombs which the US dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki of Japan in August 1945 took it fait accompli for the US to win the war. Nevertheless, the Americans began to receive a telling blow from the start of the war and had to beg for negotiation for ceasefire in no more than one year, and finally bit the dust in the war, which was the first time in its history.

Immediately after the war a Western military expert wrote in *New York Times*: The first error came when the merchants of Wall Street made little of North Korea. Are the Koreans weak? Absolutely not.

As is clear from the course of the war, they, despite their inferior military equipment, edged out their enemy by employing unusual strategies and tactics and methods of fighting. The American generals should have belatedly paid attention to the fact that Kim Il Sung, the supreme commander of the opposing army, is master of guerrilla warfare with rich experience.

Notwithstanding the defeat, the US, even after the war, would not give up the ambition of taking control of the whole Korea. It made military provocations ceaselessly against the country, all of which, however, ended in the US raising the white flag and making apology.

Americans' critical option

History is a light over the path ahead, they say, because it refers to lessons from failure and key to success and victory.

The US should have learned serious lessons from the Korean war in the 1950s. Indulging in its aggressive ambition even after the war, however, it has desperately clung to the policy of power in its confrontation with the DPRK for over 70 years, despite repeated failures.

Korea has always maintained a harder line to cope with the American hard line, persistently trying to build up its military and technical potentials enough to take the military and technical superiority which is the only card left in the American hand. This has resulted in the possession of H-bombs, ICBMs and strategic sub-based ballistic missiles. However desperately the US is attempting to put super-tension military pressure and harsh sanctions by mobilizing even its vassal nations, Korea sees it as no more than a bluff.

Many of the mass media around the world and the reasonable minds of America are giving the warning about the actual danger the US is faced with, and demand that the White House change its Korea policy.

An American scholar once raised the question of what to recognize and notice about Korea's present reality and answered: It would be wise to remember that north Korea that has been subjected to the protracted direct confrontation with the US is an unusual bulwark which is incomparably stronger than any of the earlier communist forces. Considering this political entity with a special political integrity, the Americans' Korea policy should be reexamined.

However humiliating a blow it may be to the American self-esteem to recognize Korea's nuclear possession and capability of nuclear attack, that

Independence, Lifeline for National Reunification

OVER SEVENTY YEARS HAVE PASSED since Korea was divided into two. After Korea's liberation from the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule on August 15, 1945 the country was divided by the US imperialists who occupied south Korea. The Korean nation has since struggled adopting independence as the lifeline for its reunification.

In April 1948 a joint conference of representatives of political parties and social organizations in north and south Korea was held in Pyongyang. The conference showed that political parties and social organizations different in political views and class stands could unite based on a common national ideal in the struggle to achieve national reunification and wage a nationwide struggle to prevent the division of the nation and establish an independent unified government by dint of great national unity. Later the US intensified the attempt to perpetuate the division of the nation. So, in 1972, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) discussed with south Korea what mattered in hastening the independent and peaceful reunification of the nation on the basis of the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, and then they adopted the July 4 North-South Joint Statement.

In 1980 there was put forward the plan of establishing the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo, which is to form a reunified state by the formula of federation based on the aforesaid three principles. It was also a plan of national reunification with independence as the lifeline.

The Ten-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country made public in 1993 showed that the whole nation should unite to achieve independent and peaceful reunification and that those, who worry about destiny of the nation, should unite into one to open the road towards reunification, whether they are communists, nationalists, have-nots, haves, atheists and theists in the north, the south and abroad. The cores of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration adopted in 2000 and the October 4 Declaration in 2007 are to solve the problem of the country's reunification on the principle of national self-determination.

► would clearly be preferable to a possible nuclear attack against the US mainland—which is currently a nightmare to the Americans.

It is high time for the White House to judge what a dangerous result it would yield to cling to the hos-

The DPRK consistently insists on independent reunification in accordance with the attitude of *By Our Nation Itself* because it is foreign forces who divided Korea and check the reunification of the nation. The June 15 reunification era showed the truth that inter-Korean contacts and dialogues without depending on foreign forces can remove mutual misunderstanding and distrust and lead to unity and reunification of the nation. The unforgettable days of the era showed that the Korean nation is one and that the reunification should be independently achieved by the Korean nation itself.

So, last year, on the occasions of the 45th anniversary of the publication of the July 4 Joint Statement and the tenth anniversary of the publication of the October 4 Declaration, the DPRK called on the whole nation to open an avenue towards independent reunification by concerted efforts and exerted itself to that end.

This year, on the occasions of the 70th anniversary of the above-mentioned joint conference and the 25th anniversary of the publication of the Ten-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country, the DPRK is striving for independent and peaceful reunification of the nation.

In his New Year address 2018 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said that 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 fulfill their responsibility and role they have assumed for the times and the nation.

The DPRK, in the future, too, will resolve all issues by the efforts of the 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.

The Korean people are confident that the nation will surely be reunified when they unite into one under the ideal of *By Our Nation Itself* while regarding independence as the lifeline for reunification.

Rim Hye Gyong

tile Korea policy which has already turned out to be futile. A critical option alone is left for the Americans. Deathbed repentance is probably the last thing they want to have.

Choe Ki Man

Don't Gamble with the Country's Fate

TODAY JAPAN IS HELL-bent on trying to secure its capability of pre-emptive strike against Korea. In November last year its Prime Minister Abe, at the plenary session of the House of Councilors, insisted that it is necessary to actively consider a plan for its capability of pre-emptive strike against an enemy base in order to protect its people's lives and peaceful life from "north Korea's missile attack." Since then the insular country is desperately trying to get capable of waging war.

Actually the country has engaged in the development of Tomahawk cruise missiles which can be launched from an escort to strike ground, and is putting spurs to the development and possession of the relevant armament relating to the striking capability. Japan's Ministry of Defense is propelling the plan to add ground attack capability to the anti-ship cruise missiles which it is going to start to develop this year, and has decided to invest a budget of ¥ 7 700 million for completing the trial missiles by 2022. Meanwhile, the Japanese ultra-right conservative ruling forces are spreading a rumour about "threat from north Korea" at home and abroad, and on the pretext of the rumour, are doggedly attempting to create public opinion in support of their possession of pre-emptive striking capability. It is Japan's sinister intention to reorganize the "Self-defense Forces" into the offensive type and revise its constitution by imbuing its society with a feeling of hostility to the DPRK and that of "security crisis" under the pretext of checking "missile threat" from Korea.

In retrospect, last year was a year of trials to Abe and the conservative ruling forces of Japan. They were just on the brink of resignation owing to the uninterrupted disclosure of their scandals and the different strata's criticism of and resistance to the revision of the constitution. So Abe and

the ruling Liberal Democratic Party misled the public opinion within and without by means of anti-DPRK smear campaigns just like their predecessors had done whenever they were driven into the corner politically.

Abe and the LDP dissolved the House of Representatives abruptly and held an early election to use the opportunity for their sinister purpose while prattling on about "nuclear threat from the north" and the "abduction issue." On every election campaign site they insisted that north Korea's nukes and missile provocation were a great danger to Japan and called for support to the LDP government "capable of resolutely coping with the north's threat" as if their country were in a "national crisis" because of Korea. Meanwhile, they clamoured to settle the "issue of the abducted."

During Trump's visit to Japan they raised "north Korea's nukes and missile threat" and the "issue of abducted Japanese" as the core of the agenda and entreated him to put stronger "pressure on north Korea." And they extremely aggravated the situation by shipping weapons of US make into their country.

Abe and the conservative forces yelled as if a nuclear bomb of Korea were just about to drop on Japan. Needless to say, it was aimed at striking terror into the Japanese society, the only one in the world that had suffered damage from A-bombs, so as to keep assuming the reins of government and make headway towards a military power. Actually, the "security crisis" in Japan was caused by Abe who has plunged the whole society of the country into disorder and catastrophe with his ultra-right reactionary politics and is aggravating the situation of the Asia-Pacific region by acting as a tool of the US, a seeker after hegemony over the region. Not satisfied with having turned Japan as a whole into America's sortie base and war supply base, he is mak-

ing needless haste to open up the way to reinvasion even by revising the constitution in order to realize the old dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere." This is the root of the security crisis in the society of Japan.

Abe was imbued with militarism and wild militaristic ambition by his maternal grandfather Nobusuke Kishi, who had once held premiership, and since his assumption of power the Japanese society is becoming extremely reactionary and rightist.

Dwelling on Abe and his conservative forces' anti-DPRK moves growing further reckless with the passage of time, the international community expressed deep apprehension commenting that it was a mere pretext for revising the constitution and expanding military expenditure, and that they will more frantically drive the wagon of militarism with "anti-north Korea campaign."

The apprehension is being translated into reality. Japan is making a serious mistake as it has forgotten what kind of country Korea is. Now Korea is not the one it used to be. It has developed into a power capable of manufacturing and launching artificial earth satellites and the one with strong self-defence capability. The Korean people are still sharply watching Japan which is committing crimes one after another without apologizing and compensating for its past extra-villainous inhuman crimes including aggression.

The Abe forces are very dangerously gambling with the future of their country and the people's destiny. It is their tragedy that they are behaving frivolously without having even an elementary understanding of their counterpart.

Japan would be well-advised to keep it in mind that no one will be able to rescue Japan if the Korean people give vent to their pent-up hatred against it.

Kim Hyon Ju

Podok Cell

THE PODOK CELL IS A monastery located in Manphok Valley in Kumgang County, Kangwon Province. It was built in the period of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), and the present one was reconstructed in 1675 during the period of the feudal Joeson dynasty. The monastery is a one-room building supported by a single bronze pole in the middle of a 20-metre-high cliff, leaning against the rock in front of the Podok Grotto. As it perches precipitously on the cliff, every viewer admires its architecture. Originally, the cell consisted of two buildings—the main hall which is the present one, and the Phando room for monks' study, which had stood on the grotto.

The cell is covered with triple roofs. The plane of the building is 3.35 m in length and 0.85 m in width, and it is floored with wooden boards. And the tops of the interior columns are crowned with a single wing space-way headspace having a spray-of-flowers-patterned cow's-tongue layer, and painted fairly. The ceiling of the cell is painted with lotus patterns. The lower roof is a double-eaved, gabled one while the middle is a gabled one and the upper has a ridge in such a way as to cover the bedrock. As seen above it has a peculiar structural formation of a one-room building supported by a single bronze pole, and the three layers of different roofs blend well with one another.

On the upper flat part of the bedrock of the cell was the Phan-

do room with three bays (6.49 m) in façade and one bay (3.47 m) in side, and there only remains steps down to the Podok Grotto. The cell is connected with the natural grotto which is 1.6 m in width, 2 m in height and 5.3 m in depth behind it. The name of the grotto was originated from the following story. Once upon a time a kind-hearted girl named Podok lived with her widowed father in the

grotto. Later, the cell was built in the grotto, and a jade image depicting the girl was made and put in it.

As a valuable cultural heritage which goes well with the surrounding natural scenery and shows the extent to which Koreans' architecture developed at that time, the cell is well preserved as national treasure.

Sim Chol Yong

