



# KOREA TODAY

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# 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Los Andes University Medallion (Certificate)



Chairman Kim Jong Il received 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Los Andes University Medallion (Certificate) from a delegation of Los Andes University, Venezuela, in March 1990.







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**Front Cover: The iron and steel production is increasing at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex after the completion of a Juche-orientation project.**

*Photo by  
Hwang Jong Hyok*



**Back Cover: Chongsokjong in Mt Kumgang**

*Photo by Ra Jin Hyok*

13502 ☎ - 1882038

Edited by Kim Myong Hak  
Address: Sochon-dong,  
Sosong District,  
Pyongyang, DPRK  
E-mail: flph@star-co.net.kp

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## Inexhaustible Power of Self-development



**T**HE THIRD PLENARY MEETING OF THE Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in April last put forward a new strategic line of concentrating all efforts on the socialist economic construction. Since then unprecedented successes have been brought about through a grand onward march for economic construction in the country.



The power production is increasing with the construction and renovation of electric power production bases including the completion of Orangchon Power Station No. 5, and the sector of the metal industry has been made Juche-oriented on a higher level—for example, new steel production processes have been established at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Com-

plex and the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex—and the production capacity of the relevant factories is increasing.

The Yonphungho Fish Stocking Station and the Rinsan Catfish Farm were newly built, a maize processing factory was inaugurated in Wonsan and other factories are appearing one after another, all of which are conducive to the improvement of the people's living standards.

Over 1 240 industrial establishments, including the Joyang Coal Mine of the Kaechon Area Coal-mining Complex, the Pyongyang Locomotive Corps, the Taedonggang Battery Factory, the Osoksan Granite Mine and the Pyongyang Building Materials Factory, fulfilled their tasks for the annual national economic plan by early September last, and are continuously increasing production.

Though under the unprecedentedly harsh sanctions, the economy of the country is briskly growing. ►

► This amazing fact clearly shows how inexhaustible the country's power of self-development is.

Over the past years the Korean people, regarding themselves as masters of their own destiny, have built up their own force in the spirit of carving out their destiny solely with their own effort. And on the strength they have built socialism. They have thus laid the foundation for the independent economy and obtained a legion of scientists and technicians capable of scientifically guaranteeing the development of the economy.

The Korean people's spirit of self-development handed down through generations is now being displayed on a higher level under the guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

The leader put forward the spirit of self-development first as the permanent strategic line to be held fast to in the socialist construction, and is leading the Korean people to display the spirit of self-reliance in implementing the new strategic line of concentrating all efforts on the socialist economic construction.

Through his energetic on-the-spot guidance, he implants in the people a stronger spirit of self-development.

From late June to early August this year he inspected industrial establishments in North Phyongan Province, Ryanggang Province, North Hamgyong Province, Kangwon Province, Pyongyang and other provinces and cities.

In June last, during his inspection of the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory whose production processes are unmanned, germ-free and dust-free, he spoke highly of the fact that almost all the processes were modernized with domestically produced equipment. The factory should increase the production of world-standard cosmetics representative of the country, thus ushering in a heyday of the cosmetics industry, he said. In August, during his inspection of the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory, he examined a new type of trolley bus, and said he was more pleased and thankful that all parts of the bus were produced by the factory. He was very satisfied, he went on to say and rated the bus as perfect product.

He firmly believes that the people full of the spirit of self-reliance and self-development can make the best achievements even in the worst condition bravely through any trials and ordeals.

His firm conviction and continuous field guidance are leading to miraculous successes across the country and further consolidation of the foundation of the independent economy.

Recently there was completed the Koam-Tapchon railway, the first marine railway bridge in the country. It was followed by the establishment of a new Juche iron production process relying on domestic technology, fuel and raw materials at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex—this put an end to

the method of producing iron using coke which was handed down through centuries.

The proportion of Korea-made equipment, production processes and products is growing in all sectors of the economic front, and a firm foundation is taking shape for the sustainable and stable development of the national economy.

The rapidly developing science and technology of the country are helping enhance the Korean people's power of self-development constantly. The State is putting primary efforts in providing in full the conditions needed by the sector of science and technology, and sees to it that a climate of prioritizing science and technology prevails throughout society. In recent years Wisong Scientists Residential District and Mirae Scientists Street were built on the highest ever level; and the Sci-Tech Complex was built as a great house of learning for all the people and a multifunctional centre for disseminating science and technology. Now sci-tech learning spaces are in active operation at factories and enterprises.

In July last the Supreme Leader inspected the Songdowon General Foodstuff Factory, when he taught in detail how to make its sci-tech learning space help its scientists, technicians and producer masses improve their expertise and technical knowledge and skills.

It is his firm will to prepare all the members of society as intelligent workers and as developers of science and technology, and to turn the economy of the country into a knowledge-based economy as soon as possible through a vigorous campaign to surpass the cutting edge in the sector of science and technology.

Under his energetic guidance the Korean people's creative power is steadily improving, and rapid progress is being made in making the national economy Juche-oriented, modern, scientific and IT-based.

Factories and enterprises befitting the era of knowledge-based economy are under construction across the country. This year alone there have appeared the Kangwon Provincial Tree Nursery whose sapling production is put on a scientific, industrial and intensive footing, the Mubong Pumice-made Finishing Materials Pilot Plant that produces unique finishing materials with pumice richly available in the Paektu Plateau area, and the Mirim Coloured Roof Tile Factory whose production processes are all automatic and flow line-based.

Thanks to the Korean people's daily increasing enthusiasm for self-development and the rapidly developing science and technology, the country's power of self-development is steadily increasing, and accordingly, the economy is developing faster.

It is doubtless that the country with strong power of self-development will make a new appearance in the economic realm in the near future.

*Sim Chol Ok*

# By Our Own Effort and Technology

## Standard of Modernization

A FEW YEARS AGO SUPREME LEADER Kim Jong Un visited a factory that had turned into a model and standard of foodstuff factory in Korea.

Looking round all the production processes that are unmanned, germ-free and dust-free, he expressed great satisfaction with the fact that the factory had realized modernization with its own effort and technology.

He said about the standard of modernization: Modernization our Party wants is not what is done by employing others' effort and technology or by installing foreign equipment as they are, but what is done by relying on our own strength and technology.

The officials accompanying him were deeply impressed by his words reminding them of the patriotic faith and the spirit of self-reliance he implanted firmly in the mind of the people wherever he went.

Looking up to the leader who gave an inspiration for new creations and leaps forward, they all took to heart the standard of modernization and the true meaning of *our own way*.

## A Ten Thousand Ri Is a Short Distance If You Believe in Your Own Strength

One August day in 2016 Kim Jong Un visited the Suncheon Chemical Complex to look round a newly established acrylic paint production process.

Told that the process was established in a Korean style and that all the relevant equipment was designed and manufactured by the complex itself, he delightfully said it was a great thing.

Mentioning that he saw something really good, he said: The sight of the acrylic paint production process newly established by the Suncheon Chemical Complex filled my heart with joy not merely because I could see our own acrylic paint being produced but

because I keenly felt that we are surely capable of making chemical industry Juche-oriented and modern on a high level with our own effort, technology and raw materials if we buckle down to it.

And he added: What we can believe in today is our own effort alone. Nobody intends to help us. A ten thousand *ri* is a short distance if you believe in your own strength, and a short distance seems a ten thousand *ri* if you rely on others' strength. We will be able to achieve the best results even in the worst condition and our revolution will advance steadily only when we have the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

## High Appreciation

One January day this year Kim Jong Un inspected the reconstructed Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory.

He looked round different places of the factory including processing, motor and bus assembly workshops to acquaint himself with their modernization and the actual condition of production. Then he expressed great satisfaction with the fact that the factory established an integrated manufacturing system properly, manufactured modern equipment by itself and supplemented itself with new equipment, thus ensuring the proportion of Juche-orientedness at more than 92 percent.

And he referred to it as something laudable that the managers, workers and technicians of the factory had applied remote control to the bus assembly line, automated production processes and introduced advanced technology so as to consume less manpower and electricity than before.

He also highly appreciated their success in having increased the traction power of trolley bus 1.2 times by designing and manufacturing a new kind of motor with good control characteristics, and in having introduced into production an automatic breaker and other accessories they had developed by themselves.

*Yom Song Hui*



# Power Base Seething with Increased Production



RECENTLY THE PUKCHANG THERMAL Power Complex has been continuously increasing the power production. The complex is putting emphasis on increasing power production by dint of science and technology, ensuring a close connection between power production processes and taking foresighted measures for production in winter season including maintenance of equipment. And it is pushing ahead with those projects as planned without exception.

It is making by itself what are needed for normalization of production, and introducing valuable technical innovations into production through an active mass technical innovation campaign. It has introduced a frequency-transformation speed-control system to the stoker for pulverized-coal fired boiler of each generator so as to radically decrease the cost of power production, and make it possible to produce more and better electricity. It also runs the sci-tech learning space regularly on a higher level to further improve the technical knowledge and skills of workers.

The main production units of the complex are kindling the flames of innovation. The officials and workers of the units set a goal of maximizing the output of each generating equipment while saving heavy oil and coal and are ensuring full operation of equipment and machines at full capacity by carrying out maintenance during recesses and cyclic maintenance scrupulously.

The complex is also pushing ahead with the maintenance of generating equipment as scheduled. Different departments of the complex and the units in charge of maintenance of thermal equipment, electrical equipment and turbine successfully carried out the overhaul of generator No. 6 through close cooperation and entered the stage for a trial run of it.

The steel foundry, engineering workshop and sheet metal processing workshop are making strenuous effort to produce in time all sorts of quality materials, accessories and sheet metal products, which are needed for power production and maintenance of generating equipment. The steel foundry, through a dynamic production campaign, is registering good results in the production of cast-steel ball day after day and making in time everything needed for full operation of coal-pulverizing equipment.

Today the complex is making further achievements in power production in order to make a contribution to accelerating the socialist economic construction.

*Pak Thae Ho*



# GENERAL FOODSTUFF PRODUCER



NOT LONG AGO I VISITED the Songdownon General Foodstuff Factory in Wonsan, Kangwon Province.

The compound of the factory just looked like a nice park. It was characterized by a shady pine grove and flower fragrance.

Welcoming me there Rim Sun Hui, general manager of the factory, said that hers is a general foodstuff processing base built nearly 10 years ago. It produces varieties of processed foodstuffs such as confectionery, bread and *jangjorim* (preserved dish) using locally available farm products, wild fruit, wild vegetables and other raw materials.

Rim guided me to a sample room first. On display in the room

were varieties of confectionery, bread, processed vegetables, similar wild vegetables and beverages. What especially attracted my eye were staples including instant noodle. Pointing to instant corn noodle which took first place at an inter-provincial corn products exhibition, she said the noodle is popular with people as it is tasty and highly nutritive. The factory is increasing the kinds of quality products by tapping local raw materials, she added with pride. Actually the kind of its products numbered scores.

All the products were the result of her workers' effort to make foodstuffs that would be popular with the consumers, she said and led me to an analysis laboratory.

In the room there were analysts in a discussion. The discussion was on the sugar of fried glutinous rice cake. If the cake was low in sugar it would break easily, and some people said they'd better eat sweets if the cake was too high in sugar. So the analysts were at a loss to know how to solve the problem. Then Rim said to them clearly, "What have we regarded as the criterion? It is the people's requirement. If they want a hundred tastes and shapes we should make such cakes."

Han Un Hui, one of the analysts, said their factory made it a point to regard the people as the strictest examiner. Only when their products meet their requirement 100 percent can they say

▶ they are those of their factory, she added and explained that any product could not be through the examination or forwarded if it misses a certain flavour even a bit.

Her words made me think it is not fortuitous that people unanimously refer to the products of the

factory as those good enough to be compared with those from that at a national level, and express wonder at the fact that products from a local factory are so good.

Rim now showed me to a general control room where a controller was busy monitoring and controlling production process by computer. Pointing to the production process diagram and the computer display, the controller told me that raw material feeding, production and packaging were done by the equipment they manufactured by themselves, and that now that they were able to push ahead with production as they wished by dint of their own technology and raw materials they felt self-confident and easily proposed new ideas. Workers of the sweet, cake and *jangjorim* workshops also said so.

Next I looked round the bread workshop. The place was filled with pleasant smell of bread. I saw workers smilingly taking well-baked bread out of ovens.

Then Rim said, "Our products are supplied through public service amenities to the provincial residents. They say *Songdownon* foodstuffs are always new and unique in taste every year and in every season. We are proud that we work for the improvement of the people's living standard."

They were really striving to bring earlier the happy future in the spirit of devotedly serving the people, I thought.

I left the factory thinking of the factory's name to be referred to more pleasantly by the people in future.

*Chae Kwang Myong*

Kinds of quality foodstuffs are increasing.







At the sci-tech learning space.

## Standard of Quality Evaluation

**K**EEP A MOTHERLY CARE in making bags—this is an iron rule the workers of the Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Bag Factory maintain in producing bags. They put considerable efforts in making even a single bag.

Since the renovation of the factory in August this year its technicians mixed themselves with children almost every day in order to find out the colours, pictures and bag shapes they like. Children have different likes and dislikes. Accordingly the factory often organized a mass design contest

for prize.

The workers frequented the sci-tech learning space to learn the global trend in the development of bags and the knowledge of industrial design. Bag designs they created in a month numbered scores. When the relevant sample bags were produced, members of the technical preparation section went to see children taking the bags with them. They had schoolchildren shoulder the bags to see whether the shoulder straps were proper in width and length, whether their shapes and

sizes suit the children's physical features and which colours and decorations went well with them, and asked teachers' and children's opinions. They also visited the homes of children to ask their parents' opinions. Such opinions were reflected in the creation of designs without omission.

But good designs never meant production of good bags.

Last September when bags for primary schoolchildren were under production, some of the products turned out inferior to the design as the factory had to produce them in large quantities beyond the capacity.

Then a mass technical innovation drive was launched to make bags equally good in shape and quality. This resulted in an original idea of reducing errors in the operation of the automatic cutter, thus making it possible to ensure

▶ high accuracy of cutting, and valuable ideas were suggested to make different parts of bags with domestic materials. This was followed by production of quality bags.

The high activity of children was the first to be considered in the quality test of the completed products. The bags were very popular. Parents of children say, "My child is fond of playing with a ball, and he is always reluctant to put off his bag shaped like a ball. The bag makers read the mind of children better than me, I think." "The shoulder straps are softer and stronger, and

the partial decorations are fine." "It is of great utility because it can be shouldered or held in hand."

General manager Ri Jong Bom of the factory says, "Schoolbag is not large. But each of the bags reflects the sincerity of our disabled soldiers who want children to acquire the spirit of valuing their own things shouldering them."

Bags from the factory are rated high in exhibitions at home. The *mothers* at the factory are striving steadily to increase the bag production.

Ri Song Chol, and





# Key to Growth of Production



**T**HE AEGUK CHOE JONG RAK GARMENT Factory, situated in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, does not fail to fulfill its annual national economic plan.

Whenever asked of the secret of its success, Ryu Yong Son, general manager of the factory, says, "I think there would be no problem if only we develop the producers' creative enthusiasm while giving priority to science and technology."

The factory pushed the work of solving all the problems arising in the production and management by relying on science and technology, regarding it as one of important aspects for increased production.

First of all, it saw to it that all the employees of the factory enrolled in the study-while-you-work system learned modern scientific and technical knowledge, thus increasing the number of technicians and skilled workers. Having appointed teachers of the vocational school and technicians as lecturers, it also ran the day of study once a week to improve their technical and practical skills.

Considering study not as a routine matter but as an important process of improving the technical and practical skills and bringing about an innovation in production, the managers of the factory directed a great effort to the work. For example, they made sure that employees conducted the technical study referring to the multimedia about garment processing techniques on TV in their working places.

In this way, everyone could easily find an answer to problems arising in their work while getting good experience.

The factory also saw to it that all the employees set plans for specialized technical study, basic computer learning and technical study of garment facilities by weeks and months. Then it confirmed the state of their understanding with reference to their production results in various ways, thus enhancing their enthusiasm for study.

As a result, the technical knowledge and skills

of the employees have further improved, displaying good validity in the practice.

Maintenance worker Kim Jong Ryol and lathe-man Jang Tae Hyon developed more than 120 facilities of over 20 kinds—they manufactured a cutting blade of overedging machine and remoulded the oil pump of a two-shoe sewing machine.

Jang Chan Song, a building caretaker, created a pushcart for carrying facilities and materials and a portable cloth unrolling device so as to reduce manual labour and save manpower and materials. Kim Pun Ok, Kim Kum Ok and many other skilled workers created and introduced rational processing methods and devices, thus making a great contribution to increasing production and improving qualities.

The factory holds a skilled workers competition every year, which helps all the employees learn a lot. In November, a scientific and technical festival is organized, in which model employees are praised and all other workers are encouraged to improve their technical knowledge and skills.

This year alone, a mass technical innovation campaign has been effectively conducted, making a great contribution to increased production: They introduced efficient numerical sewing machines into production, developed and introduced more than 40 rational processing methods capable of increasing productivity and improving qualities, manufactured over 20 kinds of devices, and laid out rational production assembly lines for over ten kinds of products to improve the production and technical process.

In addition, the factory is actively conducting a mass technical innovation movement to create new designs of clothes suited to the people's tastes, which are very popular among the people. Scores of kinds of its clothes are now supplied to different shops in Pyongyang.

*Pak Thae Ho*



## MULTIFARIOUS SEAFOOD PRODUCER

**T**HE RASON SAHYANGSAN Seafood Processing Company is a complex with an enormous capacity of production, processing and storage. While channeling great efforts into the capacity building of existing fishing means like vessels that catch fishes and crabs, the company is introducing scientific fishing methods for increased catch. Meanwhile, it runs hundreds of hectares of cage net-style farms to grow rainbow trouts, salmons, Ryongjong fish, carps and other kinds of fish. It also has a number of general processing shops which are equipped with facilities for shelling, cleaning, steaming and all other necessary processes—they turn out thousands of tons of seafood like crab, sea urchin roe, squid, lockington and gray mullet.

In recent years the company has made a good record in the effort to put fish farming on a scientific and intensive basis. Also, production processes have been reinforced with latest processing facilities, and the freezing and storage capacities have increased to produce a good deal of frozen

and dried products. The company's storage capacity amounts to thousands of tons.

Another feature of the company is a breeding fish farm which produces fry exclusively in an area of thousands of square metres. It is made up of an integrated production control room, an analysis room, a hatching room, an indoor fry-growing pond occupying hundreds of square metres, and an indoor medium-sized fry growing pond.

The company has set a breeding salmon farm in a short span of time, which can grow different kinds of fishes including salmon and carp. The farm has shops for hatching, fry growing, fattening and other processes as well as those for naturalizing fries of fresh-water fishes in the sea water and hatching spawns of different kinds of fishes.

The integrated production system is in operation which ensures sufficient supply of sea and fresh water on a scientific basis.

The technicians of the company solve scientific and technical problems arising in growing fries

in cooperation with scientists and researchers of the State Academy of Sciences and Wonsan University of Fisheries.

After a scrupulous plan the company laid a number of modern fish-growing ponds through well-regulated organization.

Much attention is paid to the establishment of a scientific system of farming and management. The managers and workers introduce advanced technologies and methods of fish growing in keeping with the modern fish farming trend. In addition, they have obtained tens of thousands of fries for themselves and are rearing them in compliance with scientific and technical regulations.

With the establishment of a comprehensive salmon growing base with indoor and outdoor ponds, a strong material and technical foundation has been laid for fish farming in the sea water.

The company is fulfilling its fish catching and processing plans without fail by conducting a scientific and intensive campaign.

*Sim Chol Yong*

**The integrated production control room and the indoor medium-sized fry growing pond of the Rason Breeding Salmon Farm.**





# Historic Fifth North-South Summit

## Mt Paektu, Starting Point of Peace

THANKS TO THE BROAD-MINDED determination of Kim Jong Un who is turning a new page in developing the inter-Korean relations and realizing the cause of national reunification with his warm love for the nation and magnanimity the historic Pyongyang summit meeting and talks took place filling the whole land of south Korea with impact, jubilation and admiration. After witnessing the meeting and talks of the top leaders of the north and the south and the publication of the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration the people of all walks of life in south Korea said that the meeting was impressive, that being one was really good and inspiring, and that they were looking forward to reunification.

Especially, the heart-touching news that the two leaders climbed Mt. Paektu, the sacred mountain of the nation, captured the attention of the south Korean media and the fellow Koreans. The south Korean media featured the event, saying, "The fact that the leaders of the south and the north climbed up the sacred mountain of the nation is really a great and significant event, auguring well for reunification. Their new appearance on the mountain has a deep meaning, telling the 80 million Koreans and the whole world that 'now we are heading for peace,' and that 'Mt Paektu is the starting point of peace.'"

In their comment congratulating the leaders' climbing of the mountain south Korean political figures said that it was significant indeed that the leaders of the south and the north had climbed Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the nation, that the mountain is the place symbolizing the spirit of the nation, and that it has served as an occasion to help the international community understand that the south and the north have one root. They also asserted that the visit to the mountain would remain a most dramatic scene of putting an end to the cold war on the Korean peninsula.

The south Korean media also reported that all people expressed admiration of the measures Kim Jong Un had taken for the inter-Korean summit, and that concrete results were to be expected.

## Landmark Event in Opening a New Era in Korean Peninsula

The Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade welcomed another round of the meeting and talks between Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, and President Moon Jae In of south Korea, and stated that the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration adopted at the summit was of great significance in revitalizing exchange and cooperation between the north and the south, and establishing a lasting peace mechanism.

The Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, welcoming the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration signed by the top leaders of the north and the south, said that it earnestly wished that a permanent peace would settle in the Korean peninsula in such a course. And the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasized that

the meeting held in Pyongyang marked a milestone in opening a new era in the Korean peninsula.

Meanwhile, many governments, including those of Columbia, Nicaragua, Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Belarus, Germany, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay, Ecuador and Costa Rica, expressed their expectation and belief that a new era of peace and prosperity would be open in the Korean peninsula through implementation of the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration.

Himori Humihiro, president of the Japan Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, expressing his support and welcome to the inter-Korean summit and the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration, noted that he welcomed the historic north-south summit meeting and the publication of the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration, and that the declaration was the fruit of Chairman Kim Jong Un's energetic activity for peace, prosperity and reunification of the Korean peninsula.

The Arab Regional Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People released a statement, mentioning that it was convinced that peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula would be achieved in the near future under the leadership of His Excellency Kim Jong Un. □

**In September last the fifth north-south talks took place, and it led to the historic September Pyongyang Joint Declaration. The noteworthy event in the history of the nation was a result of the iron will of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who is dedicating himself to the cause of making a reunified and prosperous Korea for the entire nation as soon as possible.**

# For the Future of the Country

ONE SUMMER DAY IN 1946, the year after Korea's liberation (August 1945) from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation, the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk came across two homeless children, who seemed to be brother and sister, on a street. She was so heartbroken that she washed their faces and bought some foods for them. The innocent children, however, disappeared when she was absent for a while.

That night, when Kim Il Sung, leader of the new Korea, was back home late, she told him about the children and suggested that it would be necessary to establish an orphanage first in Pyongyang.

Kim Il Sung, with a grave face, said that it would be undesirable to leave poor orphans unattended when the people themselves became masters of the country. He took a measure for the State to take care of such children.

Soon afterwards orphanages appeared in the capital city and different provinces.

Kim Jong Suk also voluntarily led the work to implement his instruction relating to establishing lots of nurseries and kindergartens.

When a building was selected to be used as a nursery she sat up deep into the night drawing a design for rational arrangement of a bedroom, a dining hall, a nursing room, an amusement room, a clinic, a dressing room and so on. Then she took it to the place and gave detailed instructions to the officials concerned.

When the nursery was opened she was requested to name it. So she named it March 8 Nursery after International Women's Day.

She paid deep attention to the effort to solve the pencil and textbook problems, too. One January day in 1946 when she went

to a suburban village to learn the living condition of peasants, she was depressed to see a pupil at work writing and erasing letters on a sand board for want of pencils. Later that day she told Kim Il Sung about it.

Hearing her story the leader said that it was necessary to take a step for small and medium entrepreneurs to produce and supply pencils immediately while planning to build a large pencil factory in future. True to his words she groped for a way to produce pencils. Then she came to know about a general shop selling pencils without running out of stock. So she visited the shop where she knew of an enterpreneur engaged in pencil production. She bought some pencils and brought them to Kim Il Sung.

He tried and wrote letters with one of the pencils she sharpened, and said that it was good enough to be used by children. And he delightfully said that she had discovered something precious.

The next day he went to see the enterpreneur and encouraged him to produce much more pencils saying that the State would provide him with all supplies.

Later he saw to it that the issue of pencils was placed on the agenda of the First Session of the North Korean Provisional People's Committee.

Kim Jong Suk also visited different schools to acquaint herself with their problems and take necessary measures. One morning she went to a printing factory in an effort to relieve Kim Il Sung of his worry about the fact that textbooks were not sufficient for pupils in the new school year.

The factory was printing publications in the order of contract, so the textbooks were to be printed later. Knowing this Kim Jong Suk said: Now that our country was liberated and we work for the rev-

olution, not for money, the order of printing should be fixed in the interest of the revolution.

Encouraging the managers she said that if they were determined they would be able to finish the printing of the textbooks before the new school year.

Later she told Kim Il Sung about the actual condition of the factory. There should be a factory printing textbooks exclusively, she said and proposed the relevant measure and opinion.

As a result, the printing factory began to print the textbooks preferentially. Afterwards, there appeared a factory printing textbooks alone.

When Kim Il Sung celebrated his birthday for the second time in the liberated country, Kim Jong Suk prepared a homely meal for him. He, however, refused to take the meal saying that he could hardly feel happy to take the meal because he could not provide children with even candies though the country was liberated.

Understanding his mind she visited the Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory where she learned about its condition from production to the kind of products, and wrote in her handbook the problems the workers spoke of. Kim Il Sung was deeply worrying that children could not eat sweets and cakes regularly, she said to the workers and earnestly called upon them to give joy to him by solving the problem.

Encouraged by her words the workers and technicians of the factory brought about a collective innovation—they increased the production of confectionery in 1948 3.5 times more than that before liberation.

Kim Jong Suk worked with all devotion to bring up children of the liberated country into future pillars as Kim Il Sung wanted.

*Ri Jong Nam*



# Great Life

IT IS DECEMBER NOW AND the land is all covered with white snow, which brings back the memory of the time when the Korean nation suffered the greatest loss, that is, the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il on December 17, 2011. Over the past seven years the land has changed a lot, but not the Korean people's longing for and loyalty to the leader. They are sorely feeling what a great heritage they have got from him, while seeing beautiful streets filled with the people's happiness, edifices rising everywhere, changing fields, orchards full of ripe fruits, application satellites in orbit in outer space, and invincible armed forces equipped with state-of-the-art weapons.

In the era of Chairman Kim Jong Il, Korea attained great prestige and inexhaustible potentialities while shattering the imperialist moves to isolate the socialist camp and impose an embargo on it. The mainstay of his great lifetime dedicated to the building of a socialist power lied in the spirit of devotion as pure as the white snow which covers the land in the cold season and gives it water in the warm season of spring.

Regarding the philosophy of white snow as his lifelong motto Kim Jong Il worked devotedly all his life. Born a son of the nation into a guerrilla's family at the Paektu Secret Camp, he saw his life as inseparable from the people and as meaningless when apart from his nation.

Once Kim Jong Il said to the following effect: I feel proud of my Mangyongdae lineage. It is not

simply for their achievements. I am proud of them because they are blessed with the work for the people as President Kim Il Sung once noted, and they have worked hard with all their devotion to carry out what they decided to do. We have to be more diligent at work if we are to be true to the President's words that we should not blame our ancestors who used to indulge in reciting poems with horsehair hats on astride donkeys, but make ten or a hundred steps ahead when others make one. True to his advice, I will engage myself in people-oriented jobs all my life. Make a summary of my life, and there will be left the word "people" alone. My innermost wish is to glorify the people by bringing the flower into bloom even on the stone.

Kim Jong Il worked with a burning heart for the sake of the people to the last moment of his life. For example, in 2011, the last year of his life, there came reports on as many as 160 occasions of his revolutionary activities. Spearheading the national endeavour to break through the cutting edge all the year round, he laid a strong foundation for the building of a thriving economic giant based on knowledge.

Inspecting Jagang Province two times, he set goals for them to reach in the effort to lead the time of knowledge-based economy. Giving field guidance to important machine factories, he proudly declared that the Korean machine-building industry had attained cutting-edge levels.

Everywhere he visited he encouraged them to give full play



An unforgettable blizzard-swept road in Jagang Province.

to the effect of Juche-orientation and modernization by developing state-of-the-art technology. While inspecting a glass bottle manufacturer he stressed that the greatest material assets for the younger generation should be a Juche-based economy. And when he was at Songgang, Taehung and Namhung, he implanted the iron principle that Juche-orientation should be the invariable course of development of the Korean economy.

That year—from January when the bitterest ever cold in the past 60 years hit the country through the rainy season to the end of December—Kim Jong Il gave on-the-spot guidance to doz-

ens of units in South Hamgyong Province. He visited the workers of the Ryongsong Machine Complex and the February 8 Vinalon Complex four times and inspected the gasification project of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex several times, helping to make a new Chollima speed, a Korean speed. As a result the flame of Hamnam flared up giving energy to the building of a powerful socialist nation.

Kim Jong Il continued to provide material and cultural establishments for improvement of the people's living standards. In 2011 he inspected a lot of units from cen-

tral light industrial plants to small local production cooperatives. Everywhere he went the people's dream developed into reality—the Pothongmun Street Fish and Meat Shop, Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm, Tudan Duck Farm, Kujang Fish Farm, Taedonggang Terrapin Farm, Kosan Combined Fruit Farm, Kwangbok Area Supermarket, etc. All these things were firm foundations he laid with great devotion to provide the people with the most civilized and happiest life.

His last field guidance was at an establishment related with the people's living standards, and his

great heart stopped beating when he was on his journey for field guidance. Even on the last day of his life it snowed heavily with a snowstorm. He left behind his instruction that they should follow the road of Juche to the end upholding the red flag of revolution fast—but not in any writing or speech. His whole life served as the instruction which was inscribed indelibly in the heart of the people.

True to his instruction the Korean people are marching ahead faithfully along the road of their choice.

*Kim Ju Hyok*



# Stamp and Patriotism



**I**N THE 1950S MY HUSBAND Ri Jong Ryun and I had the honour to attend Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 together with the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il getting instructions from him on many occasions.

Those unforgettable days left a lot of episodes related to him. The following is one of them.

One day during the summer vacation of 1956 Kim Jong Il visited Ri at home. While asking how much he studied, what book he was reading and if he helped with housework, he noticed a stamp album on the desk. It contained stamps Ri had collected.

Opening the book the leader asked him if he, too, was collecting stamps.

At that time my classmates were vyingly collecting stamps. It was their pride to collect more stamps than others. So Ri, too, had begun to do it. He replied that he was collecting stamps with interest in pasting them one after another in the book.

Kim Jong Il opened the leaves of the book one by one saying that stamp collecting was both interesting and helpful in learning a lot in various aspects. The stamps in

the book included those on scenic spots and fauna and flora of our country. The stamps showed how beautiful and good our country was to live in and how resourceful and brave our people were, he said and praised Ri for his collection of a good deal of stamps in the short vacation.

Inserted between the leaves of the book were some stamps that were not pasted. Their pictures were simple and their colours were not beautiful. Looking at them Kim Jong Il asked Ri why he had not pasted them. He picked up one of them, which depicted Ulmil Pavilion standing high on a stone embankment. Ri replied he had not pasted them because they were not beautiful in colour and appearance. Sorry that he had selected and pasted only beautiful stamps, Kim Jong Il said in the following vein:

Do you know how many stories and intents these stamps are associated with? This one is not made beautiful, but it reflects our country's laudable history and culture that have lasted for thousands of years from the period of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668), and the indomitable spirit of our people who fought bravely against foreign aggressors. During the Imjin Patriotic War (1592–1598) the people in the Walled City of Pyongyang smashed the Japanese invaders from across the sea. You should not consider stamp collecting merely interesting. You should thoroughly regard it as an opportunity to develop patriotism. Stamps made in our country in particular are dedicated to introduction of the Party's policies, achievements our people have made in the socialist construction, the splendid culture of our country, scenic spots and rich natural resources. This is why the stamps of our country have more

value in edification for the people than others.

Later, Kim Jong Il, looking through Ri's stamp album again, advised him to caption the stamps in order to make better use of the book.

So Ri captioned each of the stamps. Underneath the stamp of *khullaksae* (a white-bellied black woodpecker) he wrote, "*Khullaksae* is a beautiful bird chirping *khullak, khullak.*" Then, feeling the caption awkward, he erased it.

One day, while looking into the book, Kim Jong Il said: This is a rare bird that can be seen in Korea alone, and it usually lives in the temperate southern half of Korea. So it should be said to have come over to the northern half of Korea.

Then he wrote underneath the stamp, "*Khullaksae* that has come over to the socialist northern half good to live in. You sing as much as you want with the wings spread!"

Later Ri took off stamps and classified and pasted them again by content and historical period.

As suggested by Kim Jong Il the school often organized a meeting for a joint review of stamp albums and a meeting for telling about stamps. This made it possible for the pupils to take pride in living in the embrace of the great country.

Everything seems important to me on this land. Every blade of grass and every tree associated with the leader's revolutionary exploits inspire me to become a patriot who loves the country and looks after everything on this land like he did.

*Merited Scientist  
Choe Sun Yong,  
a candidate academician  
and professor of Kim Chaek  
University of Technology*

# Father of Soldiers

## Be Elder Brothers and Sisters

**O**N THE NEW YEAR'S DAY of 2012 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspected Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105<sup>th</sup> Tank Division of the Korean People's Army (KPA).

The leader showed parental concern for the life of the soldiers while looking round different places of the division.

In a barracks he himself took the temperature of the room, and said he would come at any time without a notice to see the temperature.

In the mess hall, looking at piles of different dishes on the cooking table, he said: Today is a holiday. I hope you will give the soldiers nice dishes. Only then can our great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il feel satisfied. We should ensure an abundant supply of foodstuffs to the soldiers whom he took loving care of all his life.

It is officers' duty to take good care of soldiers' life, and they should not only be elder brothers and sisters to the soldiers but also their true revolutionary comrades-in-arms, he stressed.

## Supreme Commander's Request

One January day in 2012 Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un, during his inspection of a KPA air force regiment, visited the regimental commander's house. The officer's wife was tearfully happy. Holding her hand kindly, Kim Jong Un asked if she was in the middle of prepar-

ing supper, and then looked round the kitchen and living room. Just like their own father should, he bent and felt the floor of the room, and apprehensively said it was cold. His affectionate words reminded the couple of Chairman Kim Jong Il who had loved soldiers most. Overwhelmed with the yearning for him, the man and wife shed tears throwing themselves into his arms.

As if to change the atmosphere the Supreme Commander said with a smile: Look at this family photo, and it seems this family has three daughters alone without a son. This regimental commander is blessed with daughters.

Told that the daughters were serving as officers in air force units, the leader said they were following in the steps of their father, and congratulated the couple for their daughters' serving at the posts of national defence.

Before leaving the house he earnestly said to the wife of the regimental commander that only when wives of airmen looked after the health of their husbands well could the men fly well in good health, and that he entrusted the health of airmen to their wives.

He never minded the trouble he had to take on another long journey he was going on later that night.

The regimental commander and his wife shed and shed tears of emotion seeing him off.

## Village as Good as Fairyland

Early in September 2013 Kim Jong Un visited the Jangjae

Islet Defence Unit.

When he asked the unit commander if he was satisfied with the recent renovation, he replied he was so pleased beyond description. With a bright smile on his face the Supreme Commander turned his steps.

Then, he was quite pleased to hear the officer's words that his soldiers liked the barracks as they were smarter than their homes, and that even soldiers on land envied them.

Looking round the newly renovated houses for the families of officers on the islet, Kim Jong Un learned that they had been waiting for him to come and see the houses. He advised that the families should be soon moved into them so that they could live as happily as anyone else in the world.

A new islet post, an islet village as good as fairyland, appeared, he mentioned so delightfully and said: We've now carried out another wish of the great leaders (President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il—tr.) who wanted to make soldiers and families of service personnel on islets better off than others. Herein lies the aim of our revolution.

Later that day he said with satisfaction: The parents of the soldiers and the families of service personnel on the islet will be glad. Now I'm more or less relieved. Now we can save our face even if we meet the parents who have entrusted their children to us.

It was an episode of the fatherly concern of the leader who does not spare anything for soldiers and families of service personnel. □



# People, Foundation of Socialist Law

**L**AWS HAVE ORIGINATED AND DEVELOPED along with states. In Korea laws for the working people were established along with the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (September 1948), and they have served as a powerful means to consolidate and develop the socialist system.

The socialist law of Korea was enacted absolutely on the basis of demand and interest of the popular masses. The people's will and demand, and their aspiration and desire are considered first in making laws in the country.

Not only the Socialist Constitution but also sectional laws were established on the principle of prioritizing and respecting the people. When the laws were revised and supplemented or a new law was created as required by the times and the developing reality, all of them were done to fully favour the people's interests.

Today the country establishes lots of laws that give top and absolute priority to the people's interests and convenience. For this reason, the Korean people regard socialism as their lifeblood and life and are striving to glorify their socialist land and develop it into a prosperous socialist power as soon as possible. The socialist law of Korea practically provides the masses of working people with the right to independence. Only when the popular masses become masters of national sovereignty and the means of production and enjoy genuine freedom and right can they realize their socio-political independence.

In Korea all the people are fully provided with democratic freedom and right as masters of national sovereignty and the means of production. Thanks to the socialist law each citizen enjoys political rights and liberties such as the right to elect or to be elected, irrespective of sex, occupation, property status, the standards of education and differences in political view and religious belief, the freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association and demonstration and the right to submit complaints and petitions.

The working people are also provided with the right to get a job, the right to be rewarded in accordance with the quantity and quality of work done and the right to get free education and free medical care, and the freedom of research, literary and artistic activities. And the State legally takes respon-

sible care of the people's material and cultural life.

Ordinary people become deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly and any citizen is allowed to go to the polls. And free medical care and free education are invariably enforced at State expense however difficult the situation of the country may be. And all the people can learn to their heart's content and take part in the mass sports activities and mass cultural and artistic activities to develop themselves into civilized persons.

The socialist law of the country is in the interest of the masses of the people, so it is abided by on the basis of the high level of voluntariness. Through observance of laws every one enjoys an independent and creative life. Laws are enacted for the sake of the masses of working people and executed to provide them with an independent and creative life.

The Korean people keep a high spirit of law observance, well aware that the implementation of socialist laws is just the way to defend their interest and happiness as well as people-centred socialist system.

It is attributable to their original feature and beautiful personality that the Korean people safeguarded the equipment and machines of their factories even when they were on the verge of starvation in the difficult time of the Arduous March and the forced march, and devoted themselves to the socialist system in consecutive trials.

The State and social system of Korea is developing steadily into a genuine people's one and the building of a powerful socialist country is going full steam ahead under the coordinated guidance of the State. This is just thanks to the powerful legal system of the State and the Korean people's voluntary observance.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un put forward a line that the DPRK is a genuine people's country and a law-governed country where law defends the people and the people obey the law, thus giving a new light to the popular character of the socialist law.

Under the wise leadership of the Supreme Leader who swore to become a true servant of the people and who faithfully supports them with a pure conscience, Korea's policy of giving precedence to the people is in full force.

*Ri Jong Nam*

# Korea Seen through Film Festival

## I Want to See Beautiful Korea Prosper Steadily

This is the first time I have taken part in the Pyongyang International Film Festival. The festival provides a true creative meeting of filmmakers who produce and spread films throughout the world. I see Korea a wonderful and amazing country in which the traditional architecture and the modern one are combined. The stirring atmosphere I felt changed my idea of Korea completely. I'm confident that the Korean people will overcome any ordeals. Here in this country I met lots of talented persons, and I want to maintain exchange with them. I also want to continue to take part in the film festival to see new, interesting films and see beautiful Korea prosper steadily.

*Prof. Olga A. Pasko, Tomsk Polytechnic University and full member of the Academy of Television and Radio*



*Olga A. Pasko*

## I Am Very Glad to Be in Your Country

It was extra special for me to be here this year because it has been such a great year for Korea. It was my pleasure to come here for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the DPRK and then to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> film festival afterwards. This year the inter-Korean relations and those between Korea and the United States have moved from confrontation and conflict towards peace and cooperation. I am very glad to be in your country at this momentous time. Since the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un came to power, we have seen very rapid construction in your country. That is what has impressed me the most. And it happens everywhere in all sectors of society as far as I can see. I see that when the Korean people really decide to do something it happens very quickly.

I wish you the best of success with the continued construction.

*Henrik Nydqvist, head of the delegation of Corner Film Company of Sweden*



*Henrik Nydqvist*

## Each Time I Feel Something New

This is the third time I have visited Korea. Each time I feel something new. It is that the country changes for the better year by year. In Pyongyang, for example, there have appeared new streets, and much more motor vehicles can be seen running along streets. This makes it possible to see how rapidly the country is developing.

This time, while looking round Pyongyang Teachers Training College, the Natural History Museum and many other places, I could have a deeper understanding of the extent to which the country has developed. The Natural History Museum, for example, is more admirable than the similar museum with a history of 200 years in France. The French mass media gives only subsidiary data on Korea. They are not enough for us to know all about the country.

This time I am really glad to see things admirable here in the country. And I had opportunities to broaden my view while getting acquainted with many artistes and talented directors at the Pyongyang International Film Festival. I want to express my thanks to the government of your country for affording the opportunities.

*Pierre Beltante, head of the delegation of the French Film Exchange Association*



*Pierre Beltante*



# Broken Established Formula

NOT LONG AGO I VISITED THE Pukchang Thermal Power Complex, a large-scale power production base. Kim Yong Chol, general manager of the complex, welcomed me gladly and said, "I would like to ask you to introduce researchers of the State Academy of Sciences this time. They have solved scientific and technical problems to help substitute coal for heavy oil and succeeded in introducing the result in practice. It is really a gigantic success." He continued to say that the researchers, without clinging to the established formula, conceived a bold idea and intensified the research, thus bringing about such a success. Then he told the following story.

It was when the researchers were designing a large boiler to use anthracite coal and oxygen instead of heavy oil. Jang Sung Gwon, a section chief of the academy, fell into deep thought. Because it was recognized at that time that there should be auxiliary equipment in order to maintain temperature in the ball mill which pulverizes coal into small particles. The other problem was that the temperature of admixture of pulverized coal and oxygen should be over 130°C to prevent adhesion phenomenon in conduit—this was another accepted formula.

Jang wanted to challenge those formulas. *There is no absolute established formula, and we should conceive our own way to suit the reality*, he thought. Then he stated his opinion to the members of his section. They unanimously agreed with him, saying that they should make it in a fresh way as they were determined to do it. And they each took charge of individual research projects such as designing of ignition and combustion chamber, calculation of ignited heat output and designing of a system of supplying pulverized coal by means of cold air.

In the course of intensifying the research to solve scientific and technical problems in their individual projects the researchers scientifically proved through a pilot examination that there is no need



Researchers solve problems arising in practice.

to raise temperature in the ball mill, and that it was unnecessary to raise the temperature of admixture of pulverized coal and oxygen. Full of confidence they pushed ahead with their projects day and night. Soon they completed the large boiler as they had designed, and started its trial operation. But unexpectedly the double-extension combustion chamber often turned red-hot and melted, and the fire of the boiler died out during its operation.

Through repeated experiments they found out the reason why the chamber turned red-hot and melted, but they could not find out the reason why the boiler fire died out during its operation. It was obvious that the fire died owing to lack of oxygen, but they had no perfect technique enough to measure it.

The researchers deepened the research to solve the problem, and developed a technique of stabilizing ignition and combustion. It has been introduced into two large-size boilers of the complex.

On the basis of the successes they have set a phased goal of renovating all boilers of the complex.

Pak Un Yong

# Thesis on the Rack

UNEXPECTED SERIOUS CEREBRAL thrombosis causes hemiplegia, hemiparesthesia, aphasia and other cerebral nerve disorders. It is difficult to remove such disorders completely, so people ask medical workers, "Is it impossible to prevent paralysis caused by cerebral thrombosis?"

Pak Yong Ju, a section chief of the medical genetics institute of the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University, and Kim Yong Min, a researcher of the institute, give a satisfactory answer to the question now that they have developed a recombinant pit viper venom-based injection against thrombosis.

Kim tells the following story.

One day, on his visit to the college hospital, he happened to see one of his old college fellows hospitalized there. He was very sorry to find him suffering from hemiplegia caused by cerebral thrombosis. Remembering the patient had been famous as left wing in football matches in his college days, Kim could hardly go to sleep that night, as the image kept haunting his mind. And he was reminded of the fact that vascular diseases broke out a lot among people in their advanced and middle ages. Now he felt an urge to alleviate their agony.

The existing thrombolytics were efficacious in preventing the diseases, but less so in emergency treatment. Kim decided to develop a more efficacious thrombolytic. His boss Pak, who had worked together with him for certain research projects, agreed to his idea.

What drew their attention was Alfimeprase, which is found in the venom of South American pit vipers. It singularly acts on fibrin, and is characterized by higher thrombolyticity than other thrombolytic agents. The problem in producing the substance

in a biotechnical way was how to recombine it. When synthesized Alfimeprase gene is cultivated in colon bacillus, it has no pharmacological function. Recombining the substance means shaping a mobile space structure so as to provide activity. Until then it was a conventional idea in the field of bioengineering that it was very difficult to recombine Alfimeprase by means of colon bacillus.

Earlier, he had developed gene-synthesizing enzyme for the first time in Korea, and acquired rich experience while carrying out a research project to recombine interferon. So, he managed to develop an original method of recombining Alfimeprase, and to complete a new method of producing the substance by means of colon bacillus, the one capable of enhancing both efficacy and productivity, in a short period of time. And the method turned out most suitable for the prevailing condition of the country.

Even a few ampoules of the injection brought back to life those who were on the brink of death. The emergency treatment based on the use of the injection soon improved the circulation in the cases of myocardial infarction, cerebral thrombosis and other disorders.

Four hours after the injection was administered to acute cases of blocked peripheral artery, the blood circulation in the artery improved among over 80 percent of the cases without any side-effects.

The research findings just constituted a thesis.

Pak, pioneer of gene engineering in Korea and designer of pharmacological structure of the above-mentioned injection, advised Kim to present the findings as a doctoral thesis. The latter had previously won the February 16 Sci-tech Prize, the top award for Korean scientists, for his excellent research findings. Now, however, he refused to accept Pak's advice, saying, "You know the research was aimed at helping people benefit from the injection. When the injection restores a lot of people to health and everyone admires it, I'll apply for a doctorate."

The injection is widely used for treatment at lots of hospitals including the hospital of the aforesaid medical college and provincial people's hospitals.

Rim Ok



Stamps depicting the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *The Glorious Country* held in celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of the DPRK.



Section chief Pak Yong Ju (left) and researcher Kim Yong Min.



# Let's Guarantee Tomorrow with Ability

IN AUGUST LAST A national university students' scientific forum was held in Phongsong, South Phyongan Province, where a fourth grader from the bio-pharmaceutical engineering department of Hamhung University of Pharmacology won first place again. Students of the college are highly appreciated at the forum which is held annually.

Actually, the university is well known across the country as a college of merit with a lot of talents. The teachers of the college did not resort only to the established theories and teaching methods from its early days. They have developed teaching methods of their own to help the students acquire knowledge capable of practical application. When teaching even a single definition, they did not take to a cramming method but led students to scientifically delve into the relevant problems. To this end they improved their ability while swapping good experience.

An inspection of a class at work is an example. The administrators of the college saw to it that the inspection served as an occasion for discussion between the teacher and the observer for raising the quality of teaching, not merely the one for the observer to point out merits and demerits of the teacher. After inspection the observer asked the teacher questions related to the proportion of the lecture on each stage, the practicability of the example quoted during the lecture and the teacher's application of a teaching method suited to his or her individual characteristics. And the teacher was required to advance his or her contentions to such questions.

Through such a discussion teachers accepted good contentions and solved problems with their concerted wisdom. Thus lectures improved helping students enhance their ability.

**Students consolidate what they learn through practical exercises.**



Meanwhile, the college is combining theoretical education with practical exercise properly. Previously it carried out practical exercise while putting emphasis on theoretical education. But now it follows up theoretical education by practical exercise, thus helping students assimilate theories better through practical exercise and raise their own point in a short span of time.

According to Yun Ui, a postgraduate student, she chose the issue of survival analeptic for acute heart-failure when she was a second grader, and intensified the relevant research when she was a fourth grader. Now she is preparing the relevant degree thesis. The previous medicines used for



**They congratulate the winners of the Student's Scientific Research Award.**

► acute heart-failure contained ingredients unavailable in Korea. So Yun created a basis for making a similar medicine with ingredients from a mixture of medicinal herbs in the country. The ingredients are not inferior to imported ones.

In the course of exploring new teaching methods the quality and methods of education have improved, and so has the ability of students. The college has thus produced scores of professors, associate professors, doctors, over 140 MSc holders and more than 100 winners of the title of October 8 Model Teacher. Its graduates are now distinguishing themselves as fine engineers, researchers and experts.

The college is making education mul-

tilateral in keeping with the fast updating of the pharmaceutical industry. It is concentrating efforts on improving education in the theory about developing new medicines by means of CAD and designing a synthetic pharmaceutical process by way of a simulation program.

Researchers of the college are focusing on the research to put pharmaceutical factories on CNC and GMP basis as well as that to obtain medicinal materials needed for treating diseases.

"Let's guarantee tomorrow with ability!"—this is an aspiration and goal of the teachers, researchers and students of the university.

*Rim Hye Gyong*

## Brain Nutrition Pill Developed

**B**RAIN PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN man's life, and its functions are multifarious from different reflex actions to sophisticated thinking.

To ensure the functions of brain on a high level, it is necessary to provide enough nutritive substances like glucose, vitamin and mineral.

It is more important for growing children, students, and mental workers to take enough nutritive substances needed for the growth and activities of brain. In particular, brain is badly

affected by malnutrition in its growth period, and if brain is undernourished in this period, it will have an irreversible bad effect on its normal development throughout one's life.

The Medical Science and Technology Exchange Agency of the Pyongyang Medical College, Kim Il Sung University, developed brain nutrition pills through several years of research. The pills are health food made with natural ingredients at 100 percent. As it is based on harmonious combination of nutritive substances needed for the growth and activities of brain, it obviously supplies nutrition to brain.

The nutrition pills help students develop their memory, and do middle-aged people enhance their thinking power.

*Sim Chol Yong*





Demonstration classes are held regularly.



At the foreign language laboratory.



Students develop patriotism tending saplings.

## Educator's Pleasure

EVERY EDUCATOR WANTS THEIR disciples to develop into excellent persons, but it is not easy to devote oneself to their development.

Teachers of the Tong Senior Middle School in Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province are held in high esteem by the local people for their tireless efforts for their pupils.

In recent years, they renovated school buildings Nos. 1 and 2 and the hall in a modern line, and built another school building and new courts for football, volleyball and table tennis, thus improving the educational conditions and environment of the school.

Originally, its educational conditions and environment were not so good as to meet the needs of the era when the universal 12-year compulsory education system is enforced. This badly affected the education and edification of students.

One day in August 2014 its teachers held a meeting in which they decided to bring about a radical change in the existing educational conditions and environment of the school including the renovation of its buildings and the turning of all classrooms into multifunctional ones. Pooling efforts with the officials and supporters' organiza-

tions in Sinuiju, they finally translated their decision into reality.

To renovate the school on a high level they completed the designs of the buildings by revising them as many as eight times, and worked hard together with the builders in their spare time after class.

Recollecting those days, Ju Hye Yong, a mother tongue teacher, says that whenever she was in trouble mentally and physically she would control herself envisaging the students learning and playing to their heart's content in the renovated classrooms and school.

Of course they might renovate the educational conditions and environment of the school with the help of the State. They, however, turned out for the renovation of the school out of their ardent desire to devote themselves to the students and out of their selfless love for posterity.

Though busy with the renovation project, they never stopped giving lessons and improving their qualifications. They improved their qualifications ceaselessly through a teaching materials seminar on Tuesday, a departmental demonstration class on Thursday and a school-wide demonstration class show on Friday.

Thus, the number of teachers with the title of model teacher increased every year, and they took first place in the annual national symposium on educational method.

And the number of its graduates enrolled at schools of higher grade increases every year, and its brass band and fine arts circle members win annual national competitions.

Pak Kyong Ae, headmaster of the school, says, "The image of a teacher is like a mirror to students. They will surely remember our efforts, and they'll devote themselves to the country."

The teachers are busy teaching their students finding pleasure and joy of life in their work.

Pak Un Yong

## National Classic

# History of Koryo

**H**ISTORY OF KORYO IS A CHRONICLE-style book which records in order of date the history of Koryo (918–1392), the first unified feudal state in Korea.

The book began to be compiled in 1392, the first year after the establishment of feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910), and was almost completed in the 1440s. In 1451 it was finally completed by Kim Jong So (1390–1453) and Jong Rin Ji (1396–1478).

It consists of 139 volumes in total.

The main historical materials used for the compilation of the book were *Chronicles of Koryo* and other historical documents that remained until that time.

The book was published in 1454. It records in chronological order the history of 32 of the 34 kings of Koryo, and systematizes sectional data including those on astronomy, geography, defence, farming and music. It also deals with the biographies of figures active in the period of Koryo, and lots of scientific and cultural achievements its people made during their creative work.

Meanwhile, it contains in a broad way the data on the political structure, economic life and defence power of Koryo, and describes relatively in detail the history of the popular masses' struggle to defend independence against oppression by the ruling class and aggression by foreign forces.

And it contains considerable data on China, Japan, Mongolia and some other Oriental countries, and on the Jurchen and other races that failed to leave their own records.

The book that comprehensively describes the history of Koryo leaves much to be desired owing to its compilers' class interests and the limitation of the period. It, however, is valuable historical materials for the study of Koryo's history and that of the Orient at that time as it is rich in quantity, coverage and data.

Ri Song Chol





# Pharmaceutical Researcher's Dream

AT PRESENT LOTS OF medicines are used in clinical practice thanks to the development of modern science and technology. Still there is great demand for insam (ginseng) as it is a tonic with wonderful curative efficacy.

Not long ago the pharmaceutical institute of the Academy of Medical Science that has made a profound study of Kaesong Koryo insam developed insam solution, a new liquid medicine, thus making it possible to maximize the efficacy of insam and popularize it.

Kang Song Guk, who developed the medicine, told the following story.

After finishing the pharmaceutical faculty of Pyongyang Medical College, Kim Il Sung University, Kang became a re-

searcher of the aforesaid institute as he wished.

Out of strong curiosity about insam he put his heart into his study of it because he knew there were lots of purchasers of Kaesong Koryo insam abroad as well as at home.

Insam has been used in Korea for over 2 000 years. The Koreans made and took health drinks like insam decoction and tea and foods such as insam-stuffed chicken at first. Later they developed ginsenoside capsule, insam injection and other more efficacious medicines.

Kaesong Koryo insam became famous for saponin it contains as its main ingredient. Saponin is a tonic capable of enhancing hematogenous functions, immunity and other physiological functions of the human body.

Previously it was difficult for the human body to absorb saponin of insam at 100 percent. So lots of insam had to be used for a long time.

Kang thought that if only saponin was extracted and injected into the vein it might result in faster and maximum efficacy. But there was a problem in translating the idea into reality. It was liable to cause side-effects followed by an irretrievable consequence.

After several years of efforts he established a technique of separating only saponin from insam and refining it, and succeeded in making the insam solution. It was favourably commented upon by lots of people, especially cancer patients for whom it turned out effective.

Chemotherapy was not appropriate for the patients whose leukocyte count was below 2 000. But after being given an intravenous drip injection of a bottle of the insam solution their leukocyte count rose to 4 000. And it markedly reduced a rapid drop in leukocyte count and the weakening of immunity and other side-effects commonplace among cancer patients, and increased their survival rate.

Those who had been confined to bed owing to physical weakness after operation or illness and various haemorrhages sat up several days after taking only a few bottles of the solution.

The solution that brought life back to lots of people rapidly spread among the masses. It ranked first at national invention and new technology exhibitions and intellectual property shows, and got a domestic patent in 2016.

Kang says, "Insam solution

IN KOREA THERE ARE many doctors who are striving to develop the traditional Koryo medicine. And the doctors of the Koryo Internal Treatment Department of Pyongyang Medical College Hospital of Kim Il Sung University are well known for their having made great successes in treating chronic disease cases by combining Koryo medicines and modern medicines properly.

Especially, the department distinguished itself by curing irritable bowel syndrome by means of coloclisis of Amur cork tree bark extract. It has conducted researches to systematize the treating experience and many folk remedies theoretically. In the course of this it published the *Collection of Experience in Koryo Therapy and Secret Recipe for Folk Koryo Treatment*, which classifies and describes therapies based on folk Koryo medicines for individual diseases. And on the basis of the talent, wisdom and clinical experience of the Korean ancestors the department also made public *Collection of Classical Acupuncture and Moxibustion Prescriptions* which explains the historically-developed treating methods. Those books draw the attention of the medical world.

The department mainly consists of young doctors. All of them have their own fortes. Recently Kim Kum Chol and other young doctors carried out the clinical research for treating biliary dyskinesia and succeeded in treating 80 to 90% of relevant cases, striking the medical circle

## Able Group



with wonder. The therapy is highly commented upon at the hospital as it is so simple as to be used as a home treatment. In August Ju Un Hye, 32, a resident of Neighbourhood Unit No. 24, Sinwon-dong, Pothonggang District, said, "I suffered from biliary dyskinesia for nearly four years. It caused dyspepsia, slight fever, sense of unease, bile vomiting and insomnia. After getting the Koryo treatment and acupuncture for 25 days (one cycle of treatment) from the department I recovered from the disease."

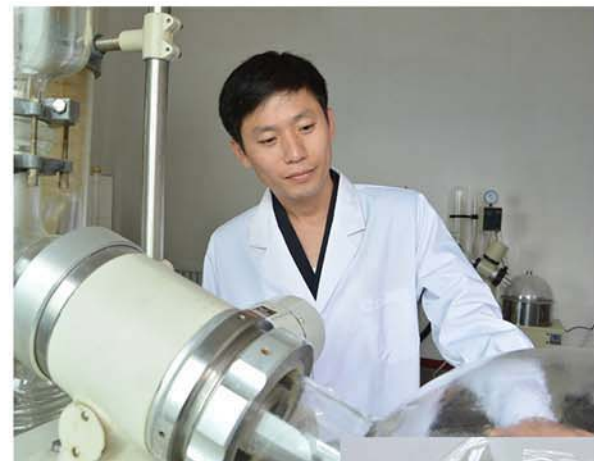
Among the members of the department is woman doctor Ju Jong Ok who has worked there for nearly 40 years. Once she takes charge of a patient, she never fails to cure the patient. She recently cured a simple goiter case in four weeks using Koryo medicines, moxibustion, acupuncture and a kind of Koryo liquid medicine she

developed.

Yun Yong Hui, 42, a resident of Neighbourhood Unit No. 42, Tonghung-dong, Central District, says, "I sweated too much and lost weight continuously owing to hidrosis, so my family worried about me very much. After Ju treated me with a few acupuncture needles for fifteen days, I was completely recovered from the disease, and the losing of weight stopped. It was marvellous. Ju's is really a medicinal hand."

Ri Kang Il, head of the department, says that it is their duty to dedicate themselves to improving the quality of the people's life, and that they will keep developing the traditional medicine of Korea to turn his department into an able group making a contribution to the improvement of the people's health.

Sim Chol Yong



Kang Song Guk is engrossed in developing a high-tech medicine.



is merely the first research result that realized my dream of making a medicine which does not lose its viability for ever."

He believes that the viability of the solution will not change as long as Kaesong Koryo insam is popular with people. And he is

satisfied that much more people have become able to benefit from valuable Kaesong Koryo insam reckoned as the best of Koryo medicinal materials.

His enterprising spirit of inquiry, high ability and clear purpose enabled him to be the young-

est section chief of the institute. His section is engaged in developing high-tech products. He is now engrossed in the work to develop advanced medicines including much more kinds of Koryo medicinal solutions.

Rim Ok





## Promising Girls' Football Team

SOME TIME AGO, WHEN passing by Wasan Primary School in Sosong District, Pyongyang, I heard little girls shouting, "One, two, one, two." So I turned my eyes to the playground of the school, where the girls in football uniforms were absorbed in training. Each movement of theirs was so earnest and vigorous that I could hardly believe it was done by little girls.

Attracted by the scene I entered the ground before I knew. So Kyong Il, physical education teacher who was guiding the girls in training, told me that they were members of the school's football class who had won first place at the 12<sup>th</sup> national football contest of primary schools' football classes held in July last. When I asked them the secret of their win, they said in unison about their teacher and captain.

### Best Player

At the contest Jo Yu Jong, 11, captain of the school's football team, was selected as the best

player. The way she skilfully dribbled and passed the balls here and there on the ground was as smart and smooth as a machine's operation run by a program. And she never missed a good opportunity to kick the ball towards the goal post, surely scoring a goal. She scored six goals at the contest.

During the contest spectators were unsparing in praise for her, calling her *football prodigy*. But she does not think of herself alone. She once said, "I hope all of us will be the best players. Then we will be able to always retain first place." The way she takes the lead in training serves as a good example to others.

### Run towards Dream

So Kyong Il became an object of envy among his fellow students because of his high football skill in his university days. They all thought that he would distinguish himself at a professional sports club. So when he volunteered to become a physical education

teacher of primary school, they tried to dissuade him, asking him if he was going to give up his dream. But he decided to dedicate his dream to children. "A dream does not come of its own accord. Now let's all run forward for the dream!"—this was what he said before children when he started his career as a teacher five years ago.

One day he thought over the pupils' training of the day. Then he noticed that their training was behind the reality of the sport developing into a speedy one day by day. He knew he was following the established formula because his charges were little children.

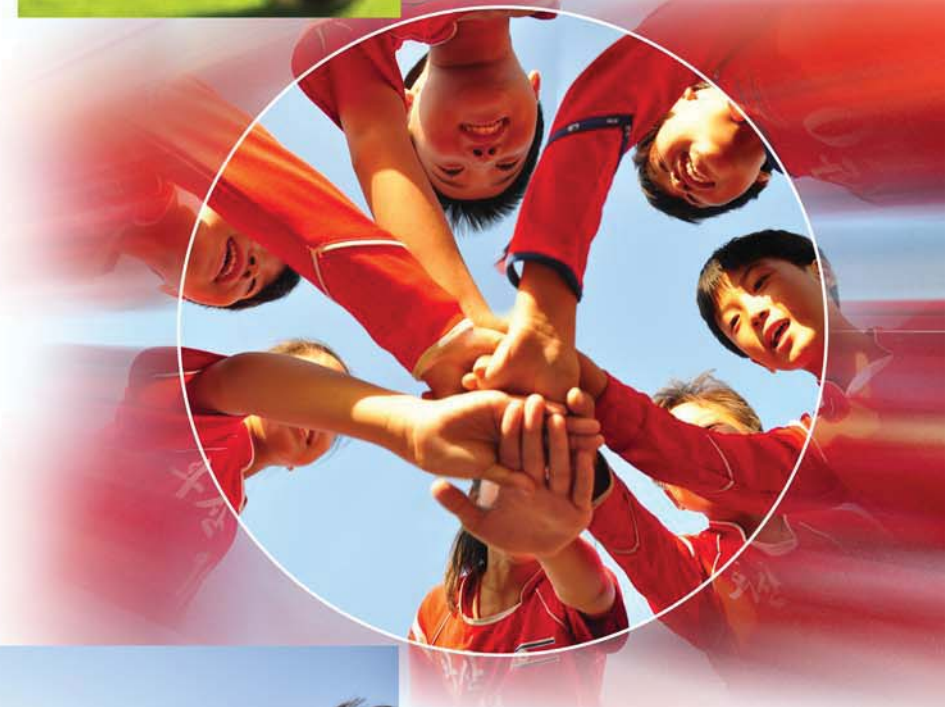
Now he mapped out again the daily training plan scrupulously. He overcame the previous tendency toward stressing the amount of all kinds of training, and concentrated his efforts on making even a single training movement into a perfect one. In practical training, too, he had his charges repeat any movement dozens of times if they failed to master it.

▶ When some women teachers told him that he was too strict with the children, he said, "The playground where they kick the ball is small, but they kick the ball of the same size as that for adults. They should add lustre to the honour of the country tomorrow."

He personally took



charge of those children who were relatively behind others in technical development, and systematically taught them the basic movements in detail so that they could master them. As a result all of them registered a high record at the estimation of the training in the new school term. From then on there was an



unbelievable change in the realm of their thinking, and today they are demonstrating their discipline and team spirit in training.

So says, "A high aim brings about a conscious way of training and good results in games. My dream will always be the same as that of children who want to become a football star to add lustre to the honour of the country."

*Chae Kwang Myong*





# Woman Parachuting Coach



**T**HE PYONGYANG Municipal Aviation Club has a woman parachuting coach. Her name is Kim Ae Suk.

It was 30-odd years ago that Ae Suk began to do parachuting. At that time, she, aged 14, was attending an athletic course of the Pukchong County Juvenile Sports School in South Hamgyong Province. She was full of youthful vigour and fight. But no progress was made in her record. She frequently looked up at birds flying freely in the sky, and wished she, too, had a wing.

Then, one day, she heard that a woman parachuting event was to be launched. Soon afterwards

some people came from Pyongyang to take girls fit for the sport. No girls of her age would bring themselves to stand before them, except her. After passing the tests related to such indexes as rate of reaction and endurance, she delightfully said to her fellows, "Today is the day when I've got a wing."

Later she was transferred to the aforesaid club. From then on she regarded parachute as the wing to take her to success. She knew no life apart from parachute.

One day she accidentally got a bruise on her leg during her preparation for an international competition after the 13<sup>th</sup> World

Festival of Youth and Students. The following day, however, she took part in the training for dropping on a fixed point to the wonder of her fellows. Then she said, "How can we say we are parachutists if we can't overcome even this sort of difficulty?"

Such a spirit of hers enabled her to become one of the first Korean women parachutists who ranked among the first three winners at an Asian Championship, and to be recognized at annual international competitions as an ace who displayed the extent to which the women parachuting of the country developed.

Later when she was married, ▶

▶ she was sorry to leave her favourite sport. But the State highly appreciated what she had done as a parachutist, and made sure that she worked as a parachuting coach. And it took a step for her to get university education while working so that she could improve her qualification as a coach. This made her think again what the wing was that had always led her to success.

The country discovered and developed the bud of her talent, and led her to attain her goal. In order to return the favour by training much more parachutists she studied hard, and after graduation, volunteered to work as a coach at the abovementioned club, not a national sports club.

Those who she selected and trained are distinguishing themselves at domestic competitions, including the Mangyongdae Prize Games, and many international competitions.

Once a Korean national team of five members participated in an Asian Championship, and four of the members were those she had trained. This shows how much she is attached to the parachuting event and how hard she strives to train reserve parachutists.

She never puts on airs or wields authority as a coach. Her feminine delicacy and gentleness earns her the trust of her charges.

Regarding such a trust as more important than authority or dignity, she is cheerfully guiding her charges.

*Ri Kum Chol*



# Worker Footballers

**T**HE EAST PYONGYANG Metal Fittings Factory, located in Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, is a small factory. However, the factory has the best workers' football team. The team always won national workers' football matches. The team consists of those who learned football in their school days and those who improved their football skills during mass sports activities.

Some years ago the team had a final with its rival from the Pyongyang Lift Factory. The two teams had often competed in similar matches, so they had a good grasp of each other. And the team from the metal fittings factory had several new players. Spectators watched the match carefully commenting that the Pyongyang Lift Factory team would be a winner as it had a lot of experienced players or that the East Pyongyang Metal Fittings Factory team would win as it had a tradition of victory. The match was fierce from the beginning. Thinking nothing of its rival, the lift factory team chose to take the offensive. Depending on tough defence, the metal fittings factory team often made a surprise counterattack on the opponent's goal. The lift factory team became impatient as the time went by as it did not yet score a goal. At the time O Kwang Min, a new forward of the metal fittings factory team, received the ball from a halfback and shot towards the left corner of the goal after skilfully beating backs of the opposing team. At the time there occurred a great applause and cry of spectators.

O had been admitted into

the team for his quick action and good dribbling recognized in football matches between workshops. Now the match ended with victory of O's team by the score of 3:0. They returned to their factory driving a heavy truck awarded to them.

They are not only bitter forwards, impregnable defenders and a reliable goalkeeper but also talented welders, sheet metal processors and repairers.

Kim Won Chol, the goal keeper, is the best sheet metal processor in the factory. The newly replaced handrails of Okryu Bridge were attributable to his sweat and wisdom. Making of the new handrails required a high skill of processing sheet metal in terms of their quality and aesthetic value. He invented and introduced a new welding technique, thus shortening the time of welding and making a contribution to making fine handrails in a short time. Ri Kwang Jin, a defender, is able to judge the state and defects of a machine merely from its sound in operation. He says, "Gears of machines spin engaging each other accurately thanks to scientific calculation. I apply mathematical and physical laws to football as well as repairs on machines." In matches he often helps his colleagues score delightedly by passing the ball accurately.

They take pride in being innovators and best football players. They love both their factory and football. So, they are striving hard to remain the best in their workplaces and on football field.

*Kim Chol Hyon*



# Rhythmic Exercises Promote Sports Development



Wisdom is pooled to complete rhythmic exercises for different sports.

**R**ECENTLY VARIETIES OF rhythmic exercises for several sports have been produced consecutively. Those for football, basketball and wrestling were already created followed by those for athletics and heavy gymnastics. They are now spreading widely. Some time ago a Korea Today reporter had an interview with president Sin Tong Gyu, Pak Chol Ho, head of the athletics department and teacher Jong Un Suk of the Korea University of Physical Education.

I know that it is attributable to the strenuous effort of teachers of your university that new kinds of rhythmic exercises have been produced. And I also know that special attention was paid to

the formation of movement in creating them.

**Sin Tong Gyu:** We put emphasis on rational formation of movement to achieve maximum effectiveness free from physical burden. Previously, players had to warm up with jogging and other special auxiliary exercises for 30 or 40 minutes to do main exercises. As a result, the time of the warm-up was long, and it consumed much energy and caused boredom, resulting in inefficiency of warm-up. To overcome such shortcomings, we formed the rhythmic exercises with scores of kinds of basic technical movements, main technical movements and special technical movements for each event in harmony with different rhythmic movements and

musical rhythms. The result of practical application of such movements suited to characteristics of individual events was successful.

**Jong Un Suk:** We are now introducing widely the newly-created rhythmic exercises for heavy gymnastics, and the players like it very much. It shortens the time of warm-up much more than before, reduces energy consumption of players and enhances muscle control ability of the central nervous system. Furthermore, it makes it possible to quickly regain the kinetic rhythm peculiar to heavy gymnastics, and thus further quicken the speed of training.

**I think you had many troubles in creating rhythmic exercises for several events.**

**Pak Chol Ho:** When we decided to create them we were at a loss what to do at first. Because athletics is a simple event relying on arm and leg movements as compared with other events with many basic and technical movements. It has only a few basic technical movements such as short-step running and bent knee holding. So, when we added unnecessary movements or failed to provide scientific and technical guarantee, it only increased the physical burden as much. To



A scene of rhythmic exercises for athletics and a scene of rhythmic exercises for heavy gymnastics.

# Real-time Question-and-answer Service for the Disabled



**SOME TIME AGO** A Korea Today reporter visited the Sci-Tech Complex and had a talk with Ri Song Ran, a librarian of the reading room for the disabled. Excerpts:

**I want to learn about the reading room for the disabled.**

When the State had my complex built, it saw to it that the room was specially arranged for the disabled so as to enable them to learn science and technology just like normal people and create and enjoy a more cultured life. The room has braille keyboards, braille printers, audio reading machines for the blind and braille books, and books for retarded persons. As all the disabled across the country could not come to the complex, we are distributing necessary data via an academic question-and-answer system.

**I heard that the room has newly started a question-and-answer service for deaf and dumb schools and blind and dumb schools.**

It is giving image, audio and letter conversational service to

such schools which have joined the State network according to the universal 12-year compulsory education curriculum. Its researchers and librarians have already conducted the work to establish a nationwide distribution network exclusively for the schools, and prepared for the development of a question-and-answer program for the disabled to disseminate in time the data wanted by the disabled. And through close cooperation with the Central Committee of the Korean Federation for Protection of the Disabled, we have created varieties of video data and e-books suited to the mental qualities and physical preparedness of the deaf and dumb, and the blind and dumb, and established a network to enable the retarded persons to study at their homes.

We also made strenuous efforts to possess the capability to have a perfect real-time dialogue with the disabled by learning hard the deaf-and-dumb signs and braille points. At last we established a massive database which can provide enough knowledge and infor-

mation to the disabled, and established a new question-and-answer system helping them to improve their ability and rehabilitation and have better occupations.

In June last we completed the development of the question-and-answer program for the disabled and put it on trial for the Taedong School for the Blind. The trial was successful. The program enables the deaf and dumb and the blind and dumb to get the question-and-answer service through image dialogue and audio dialogue respectively, and they can receive the data they need at the same time. This system has been introduced in the Pongchon School for the Blind, the Hamhung School for the Blind and other schools for the disabled, thus enabling the disabled to get various data when they want to do without inconvenience.

In the future we will vigorously conduct the work to provide a real-time question-and-answer service to the schools for the disabled to make a positive contribution to raising the cultural level of the disabled. □

► solve the matter, we had many consultative meetings to confirm various postures and balances and find out detailed movements which make it possible to give full play to the amplitude and mobility of joints of different parts.

Jump-running movement can be cited. It requires one to raise one's forward-stretched leg to the maximum height, and simultaneously stamp the other foot on the ground. It involves both gen-

eral and special motions. At first we stressed the technical aspect alone, so it was done by moving a distance of 30 metres forward and backward. This was little different from the previous movement, and made it impossible to retain the characteristics of rhythmic exercises. We thought and thought how to create scientific rhythmic exercises for athletics which can enhance the effect of motion with less consumption of physical

strength. At last we could complete the exercises with movements conducive to increasing the running speed.

**Sin Tong Gyu:** We cannot be content with that. In the future we will do our duty in improving and developing all fields of sports, including physical education and training of reserve sportspersons, on the basis of modern sports science. □



# Growing Enthusiasm for Sketching



Vice-chairman Song Chun Nam (left).

**SOME TIME AGO A KOREA** Today reporter had an interview with Song Chun Nam, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea Artists' Union.

**Sketch has long been encouraged in Korea for its appealing power and rich reflection of reality.**

You're right. Anyone can do sketch with a pencil, pen or other kinds of simple tools, thus it is drawing a great favour from experts and working people. In particular, workers in industrial

establishments and mines have created many good sketches which show pleasure from work and add fuel to the flames of increased production.

Once there was held a sketch show at the Inpho Coal Mine on the theme of "Life of Coal Miners Full of Optimism." Scores of works were presented at the show such as *A Girl Electric-car Driver* depicting a model girl worker receiving bouquets of congratulation from people, and *A Merry Family Members' Support Squad* portraying the wives of miners giving a helping hand sincerely. The heroes of the works and the painters were miners themselves, and the venue of the show was also in a pit face, so it

exerted a powerful influence upon the miners. After the show, coal output of the mine increased by 70% compared to that of the previous month.

A lot of sketches were created at sites of major construction projects such as the Youth Hero Road, the Huichon Power Station and the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station. They portrayed the builders truthfully, encouraging them to perform miracles and innovations and offering them pleasure and optimism. The builders depicted their life and pulsating realities in the sketches while waging a day-and-night struggle to complete the projects. And on-the-spot shows were held frequently on the field, sometimes on dams rising majestically across rivers and sometimes on far-stretched roadbeds—without special ceremony. Amidst trials and difficulties the builders created many sketches full of optimism and emotion such as *One More Spadeful, Let's Return Hero to Our Alma Mater* and *A Knee*



진위평



Jon Wi Phyang and his pencil sketch *My Dream*.

► *Struggle Between Platoons*, encouraging them to accelerate the speed of construction.

Like this, sketching has become a pleasant and joyful activity among the working people, and all people enjoy it.

**Now the enthusiasm for sketching is growing more fervent as national sketch festivals take place, I think.**

A national sketch festival is held in keeping with the growing public favour and interest. It was opened first in 2006 in commemoration of the Day of the Shining Star on February 16, birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il. The festival takes place every two years, its scale and participation growing ever higher.

The seventh round of the festival which was held this year can be cited. Over 700 sketches were presented, twice more than those of the past one in number, with more diversified themes and varieties of works including pencil sketch, pen sketch, Conte drawing, charcoal drawing and brush-and-ink sketch. In particular, children produced works



Choe Kang Jon and his pencil sketch *Ours Is the Best*.



representing novel ideas. The participants and visitors were attracted to *My Dream* by Jon Wi Phyang of Changgwang Kindergarten, *Ours Is the Best* by Choe Kang Jon of Ryukkyo Primary School in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, and *We Are Reserves of a Prosperous Korea* by Kim Jong Hui of Tongmun Senior Middle School in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, for their truthful portrayal of characteristics and psychology of children of each age group.

**I think public interest in fine art in general is also growing in the country.**

Different kinds of shows and

exhibitions including the national fine art exhibition take place one after another, arousing greater interest in fine art as well as sketch among the people. Everywhere you can see people draw pictures of scenic spots, people enjoying a happy life under the socialist system and changing realities of the country. The improving landscape and ever-growing enthusiasm for sketching and fine art are giving a steady impetus to the art of the country which is getting on a new stage of development. □

Kim Jong Hui and her pencil sketch *We Are Reserves of a Prosperous Korea*.





## Both Are Deputy Directors

**S**TEADILY INCREASING IS the public interest in the traditional Korean medicine called Koryo medicine. Rich resources of Koryo medicaments, acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping, massage and other original remedies have brought about amazing development in treating diseases. One of them is a guide duct-used treatment of chronic hepatitis, which was completed by Kim Jin Il, deputy director for technical affairs of the South Hamgyong Provincial Hospital of Koryo Medicine.

Jin Il started the research into hepatic problems while he was attending the then Hamhung University of Pharmacology. After he was assigned to the hospital he got to the research in real earnest. His method of treating chronic

diseases by means of a duct got favourable comments as it made it possible to deal with liver-related diseases directly without any side-effects on the stomach or other organs. Applying Koryo medicinal materials richly available in Korea, instead of rare ones, the new method of treatment brought a lot of people back to life who had been suffering from chronic hepatitis with different patho-histological and clinical findings.

His research continued. While seeing his patients find it inconvenient to insert the duct, he developed a guide duct, which set a milestone in treating diseases.

Jin Il cut a prominent figure in applying manual therapies as well. Even after he was appointed as deputy director for technical affairs he continued to engage himself in research while making sure that the medical staff improved their qualifications to achieve successes in treatment. His hospital is now counted as one of the most competent medical establishments in the country.

Jin Il is in close competition with Kim Jin Song, deputy director for Koryo medicine at the Hamhung Municipal People's Hospital. The two men are brothers, and they went to the same

college. They are very competitive with each other for the same profession of Koryo medicine. Their silent rivalry is to be seen in the effort to develop a better remedy and medicine and get a better record in treatment.

While the elder is making a success in his treatment of hepatic diseases, the younger is rising to prominence in treatment of kidney problems. The latter has made a persistent study of the disease for a long time, which is one of the modern obstinate troubles as it causes profuse release of protein from the body. His application of the guide duct to the treatment of the disease has turned out quite effective.

Without resting content with this Jin Song made a profound study to use the prickly ash instead of cinnamon, which brought him an academic degree.

Jin Song also makes exact demands on the doctors. His present target is to overtake the provincial hospital of Koryo medicine. For the purpose he set a good goal and is making profound research into the efficacy of Koryo medicines and the effective ratio of their composition. He makes sure that the doctors of his hospital are enlisted in the effort to know the proper ratio of compounding traditional and modern medicinal materials and develop more than one drug each so that they can make the most of them in clinical treatment. The work for increased application of Koryo medicine went well under the patronage of the hospital administration, and a demonstration course was given at the hospital this year attracting the provincial interest.

Thanks to the effort of the two deputy directors who are competing with and assisting each other, the local realm of Koryo medicine has remarkably increased with patients getting well to good health.

O Kyu Rim, 51, who works at the Hamhung Forest Manage-

## Believe in Yourself



**P**EOPLE'S ATHLETE AND LABOUR HERO KIM KYONG HWA of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is now working as a women's football coach. She often says to his charges, "Believe in your strength and ability. And run and run to fulfil your desire. If you believe in your future and put forth all your energy, you will surely become winners."

A former renowned footballer she occasionally looks back with deep emotion upon those days when she, with burning enthusiasm for football, developed into a laudable footballer of the country while undergoing lots of distress and trials.

### Grandmother and Rubber Ball

The sun was rising above the dark blue horizon like a large ball of fire, soon colouring Taegu Islet and the white beach of Nobau gold. Streets, villages and industrial establishments in Sinpho City just resembled those of a paradise in a fairy tale.

Off a train in the early morning Kyong Hwa's grandmother was looking at her home city with rapt attention while drawing a lungful of fresh air on the shore. Then she held up her hand backwards and fingered a rubber ball in her knapsack thinking of her six-year-old granddaughter Kyong Hwa. Her face was expressive of joy.

As her third granddaughter Kyong Hwa would be engrossed in playing football, slap-matching cards and playing horse just like boys. The grandma was unusually glad to think of her now. She

was very attached to the girl as she thought her growth was just similar to hers. Perhaps that was why her pace quickened before she knew.

The moment she saw her grandmother stepping into the yard of her home Kyong Hwa ran precipitately up to her, clinging to her sleeves.

"I've been waiting for you eagerly, Grandma. I've missed you so much," the child babbled.

"Is that so? What a good child! Have you missed me when it is merely for less than a month that I was absent? You've grown up now. I've also missed you. Well, here's a rubber ball I bought for you. It's a gift from Musan. From now on, play with it, and don't go after any others' ball," the grandma said taking the ball out of her knapsack.

"Oh, it's nice. Thank you, Grandma. Now I have got a ball," the girl exclaimed with joy. Then

she ran out with the ball to the village street.

"Hey! Let's play football," she shouted, and children of the village gathered to begin playing.

"She looks just like a boy. Though small she is strong and good at running. It reminds me of my childhood," the old woman said thinking of her past.

The grandma Kim O Sun hails from Kyonghung-ri, Hongwon County, South Hamgyong Province. As a mischievous child she could not keep still for a minute. She was uncommonly strong and good at running. Her neighbours called her Kim Odol meaning she was short, sturdy and prompt in action.

Looking back with deep emotion on those days she, for a good while, watched her granddaughter play with the ball together with boys. She thought that if Kyong Hwa became a footballer or runner she would surely succeed. The girl began to walk merely eight months after birth. So it was clear that she had the make-up of an athlete.

Since the girl began to go to kindergarten, the grandma showed special concern for her leading her to be attached to football or other sports unobtrusively.

One day the girl approached the grandma fretfully.

"Help me, Grandma," she com-

Kim Jin Il (right) and Kim Jin Song discuss about a new Koryo therapy.



ment Station, said after getting treatment for his nephritis at the Hamhung Municipal People's Hospital: "I contracted an obstinate disease, which they expected would take my life within five years. But since receiving treat-

ment at the Hamhung Municipal People's Hospital I have lived a dozen years. I am sure Koryo medicine is really good."

Thanks to the health workers who are enthusiastically engaged in developing the traditional Ko-

rean medicine, the Koryo medicine is attracting ever greater interest of the international community, bringing a hope to those suffering from obstinate diseases.

Kim Il Ryong



► plained. “They don’t allow me to join the ball-driving race because I am short. I know I can do it well.”

“Then let’s go and see your teacher,” the grandma said soothingly.

When they met Kyong Hwa’s teacher she said that the kindergarten was to participate in a sports meeting of the city on the occasion of the International Children’s Day and that only tall and strong children were selected to participate in the meeting. The headmaster of the kindergarten was responsible for the preparation of the children, the teacher added.

The grandma immediately went to see the headmaster taking her granddaughter. After listening to what the elderly woman explained, the headmaster looked troubled very much. Then she proposed that the girl try and compete with the selected children.

“Do you have any other opinion, Grandma?” asked the headmaster.

“I agree, and let her try and do the ball-driving race and cycling. She says she is confident in the games,” said the grandma.

So the headmaster took the girl to the place where children were having an exercise in the two sports, and let her drive a ball to and from a basketball post 30 metres away together with selected tall girls. Unexpectedly Kyong Hwa, the smallest of them, was the first to come back outstripping all her five rivals.

Her grandma then boastfully looked at the headmaster who was watching the girl in admiration. Now the headmaster let her have a tricycling game with others in the same way. This time, too, she won leaving her rivals quite far behind. In great amazement the headmaster exclaimed, “What a sturdy girl! I will take her right now.”

A week later there came June 1, International Children’s Day. From early morning children and teachers from over 20 kindergar-

tens in the city and the children’s parents crowded into the Sinpho Stadium. The opening ceremony started at 10 am, and the sports meeting soon followed.

Children in sportswear took part in different events, their chests bearing the names of their kindergartens. The stadium began to resound with cheers of children, their parents and teachers and other spectators along with sounds of drums, gongs and trumpets.

Representing the kindergarten of a canning factory Kyong Hwa took part in running to and from a point 30 metres away from the starting line while driving a ball. She ran calmly and without difficulty, thus winning the event leaving all her over 20 rivals behind. And in a tricycle race she fell down, but soon overtook many of her rivals to take second place. All spectators praised her.

After the sports meeting everybody who met her father told him that he’d better have her do football.

In her days at Sinpho Primary School she, after school, would play football more enthusiastically till late in the evening together with other children.

It was when she got ten years of age. On the evening of her birthday her father’s friends gathered in her house to congratulate her. They included sports teacher Jo Tae Son, basketball instructor Ri Hak Chol, director Maeng Yong Gun of the cultural department of the city’s people’s committee, and neighbours Pak Yong Chol and Kim Jin Su, all of whom were enthusiasts for sports.

In his middle school days everyone said Kyong Hwa’s father Kyong Chol looked like Rikidozan (Kim Sin Rak, a world-famous pro-wrestler) as he had broad shoulders, thick legs, straight nose and strong jaws in a brown face. He learned wrestling and weightlifting at the then sports club of the city before joining the Korean People’s Army.

The visitors were his close friends in their days at the city’s juvenile sports school. They knew that Kyong Hwa, his third daughter, had enjoyed playing football in her kindergarten days, and heard the news that she was now well known as a little footballer of the aforesaid primary school. Feeling happy with her development they visited her home with the desire to train her into a fine footballer with the help of a professional football instructor.

When they advised her father to have her do football, he said, “Thank you for your congratulations and advice. But the problem is whether she will grow tall. I mean she is too small to become an athlete. What if she should resemble my mother?”

“You can’t tell it at the moment. You need not worry. She may grow tall like you and your wife,” Maeng insisted.

“He’s right. From the hereditary point of view it is unlikely for her to be short when she is old enough. Do let her join the football world. Wait and see.”

“That’s a good idea,” another agreed.

Then they drank a toast to Kyong Hwa.

From then on her father further meticulously observed her play football, and made exact demands on her.

He encouraged her, saying, “You have decided to do football. Now don’t kick the ball carelessly. Watch football matches on TV, and try to learn even a single thing which may be useful in games.”

Whenever a football match was on TV she watched it until the end late into the night. The next day she was engrossed in practising the football movements she had seen on TV.

Her father saw her doing more and more football movements day after day, and decided to send her to the city’s juvenile sports school.

(To be continued)

## Developers of Green-pine Essence

A FEW YEARS AGO THERE WAS A conversation in a family between a father and his daughter with her college diploma before them.

“Well, think of it carefully. If you should change your decision halfway, you had better not take such a road,” the father said.

“Don’t worry, father. You know I’ll go the road I’ve taken to the last,” replied the daughter.

It was the talk between Dr. Choe Tung Gwang, head of the Pyongyang Natural Essence Research Institute who is an authority in this field, and his daughter Choe Yong Sun, graduate of Chemical Faculty of Kim Il Sung University.

Tung Gwang developed a green-pine essence, a functional one extracted from the pine needles, for the first time in the country. The essence changes the indoor air into the one similar to that in a pine wood, and it received national quality authentication, a patent right of the DPRK, a national certificate of invention, and a gold prize at a China international patent technology and goods trade fair.



That day Tung Gwang asked his daughter in the capacity of a veteran scientist, not her father, as follows, “Faith is the most important thing to the scientists.”

Now she became a natural essence researcher following in her father’s step. She started her career at the natural essence workteam of the Pyongyang Essence Factory. To her it was not merely a job. There she tried to understand the demand for natural essence and solve problems whose solution was urgent in actual production. She carried on her research and labour simultaneously.

Actually, the popularity of natural essence was great. After her father had developed a green-pine essence oil, she invented aqueous essence, gel essence, powdered essence and solid essence.

Meanwhile, she made an amazing speed in the development of *Artemisia messerschmidtiana* essence and apricot-stone essence. Using them she has developed several sorts of essence and over 300 functional products in a few years. In 2018 she received a doctorate and was appointed workteam leader. It meant that both the father and daughter are doctors in the field of natural essence.

What is noteworthy in the daughter’s research is that she has introduced modern science and technology so as to make it possible for people to use natural essence in their everyday life. For example, a soap using natural essence is usually soft as the essence is oil. But the soap she has developed contains 20 or 40% of natural essence, and is very hard and lathers well. When you wash your face with the soap with apricot-stone essence, you can have the effect similar to that of oiling the face with apricot-stone oil. The green-pine essence soap has a fresh aroma, prevents the skin disease, removes wrinkles and pigmentation due to the turn of life, softens skin, improves whitening and performs the function of removing cosmetics poisoning.

She also designed the soap production equipment and process by herself, which produce soap without using electric power. She has many certificates of invention and certificates of registered sci-tech achievements, and her research was highly appreciated at national sci-tech festivals, national sci-tech paper readings, and national youth and students’ sci-tech achievement exhibitions. She is to be seen at all domestic sci-tech festivals, shows and readings.

When people ask her the secret of success, she says, “Natural essence has aroma and taste and medical significance, so it is related with a wide realm of people’s life. It is true that its development is very hard. But when I see people love to use my products, I brace up myself.”

Now she is 35 years old, and is making a strenuous effort to hold supremacy in the field of natural essence. The consistent efforts of the father and daughter dedicated to study on natural essence will further refresh the people’s life with natural aroma.

Rim Ok



# Pyongyang Kanggye Noodle House

THE PYONGYANG KANGGYE NOODLE House, situated in Taesong District, Pyongyang, is one of the most popular restaurants in the city.

It is furnished in such a way as to make the customers feel as if they were in a thick forest. Its popularity comes rather from the special dishes of Jagang Province far away from the city. It prepares and serves dozens of staple foods and dishes as well as drinks using raw materials found in the natural forests in Jagang Province.

Teas they make from *Eleutherococcus senticosus* and barrenwort growing in deep forests in the province are favourites with customers because they relieve the mental and physical fatigue and have many pharmacological actions.

Wild vegetables sautéed with bracken, shiitake mushroom and broad bellflower roots is an inherent speciality of the restaurant. The health food



has unique tastes and medicinal actions—anticancer, sedative and diuretic.

Dishes made with anise and aralia shoots, delicacies of Jagang Province, are also very popular with the customers for their high content of protein, mineral matters, microelements and vitamins B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub> and C.

The popularity of the restaurant is partly attributable to the tastes and quality of its dishes. In the past the restaurant served a noodle made with corn and elm bark powder which is helpful for protect-



A scene of a dish exhibition.



National Intangible Cultural Heritage (25)

## Sinsollo

LOTS OF DISHES WERE NAMED AFTER their materials. But a dish is named after its vessel. It is *Sinsollo*.

Originally it was the name of a unique vessel for boiling food. Then it gradually changed into the name of the food boiled in the vessel. The dish has the following history. During the period of feudal Joseon dynasty a Jong Hui Ryang lived a retired life alone in a deep mountain. He made a brazier of a singular shape and carried it by his side to cook in it wild animals he caught or wild vegetables he picked. At that time people likened him to a spirit (*sinson* in Korean), and called the brazier *sinsollo* in the meaning that it was the one used by the spirit-like elderly man.

The dish ranks top among Korean national dishes in view of the kind of materials and seasonings. Its materials number scores of kinds including meat, fish, edible herbs, vegetables and fruits. And it contains in rational proportions nutritive substances such as protein, oil, vitamin, mineral matter and carbohydrate.

The method of cooking the dish is also unique. Different materials are processed separately, and



they are boiled together in the brazier. Perhaps this is why it tastes very good. And the arrangement and shapes of its foodstuffs are so graceful and palatable that it is almost enough to produce all the true tastes of Korean dishes as if all sorts of delicacies are gathered in one vessel. The dish is also called *yolgujathang* because it looks so appetizing that one opens one's mouth before one knows.

It is regarded as the best of Korean dishes for its various materials and unique vessel, the artistic arrangement of the palatable materials and its refreshingness and warmth. It is known as a typical Korean dish along with Pyongyang Cold Noodle and kimchi. Chongnyu Restaurant and other restaurants serve the dish.

It is registered as national intangible cultural heritage.

Kim Chol Hyon

ing stomach and treating inflammation. It, however, was not in good demand. At that time it was regarded that the aforesaid noodle could be made only in Jagang Province for its complicated processing like material compounding and kneading.

So Kim Yong Hwa, general manager of the noodle house, went to Jagang Province to learn its processing technique from the cooks of the Kanggye Noodle House, and sometimes she heard experience from local elderly people. At last she found demerits in her restaurant's processing method and found a method to improve the original taste and quality of the noodle.

Recollecting those days, she says, "Though we learnt the processing method of the corn and elm bark noodle in Jagang Province, it didn't work well in my restaurant. Then I noticed that there were some differences in its processing. You know, even a small difference in the processing leads to great effect on the taste and quality. Without losing courage, we made an effort to solicit assistance from specialists and pool collective opinions through consulta-

tions. At last we understood its abstruse processing technique which is regarded as know-how of Jagang Province."

Thanks to their tireless efforts, the aforesaid noodle is now favourably commented upon by the people.

Kim Jun Sop, an old man who lived in Kanggye, Jagang Province before moving to Pyongyang to live with his children, says that he felt as if he were in his native place when eating the aforesaid noodle in the restaurant.

Ma Kum Sil, a resident in Yokjon-dong, Central District, Pyongyang, says that though she lived abroad for several years, she thinks the Korean national food is the best and that the noodle of the Pyongyang Kanggye Noodle House, in particular, is a national speciality.

The national dishes presented by the noodle house are highly appreciated at national food contests, provincial speciality competitions and dish exhibitions.

Kim Il Bong



# Mt Myohyang

(Continued from the last issue)

## Old Buildings in Mt Myohyang

IT WAS ABOUT THE 7<sup>TH</sup> century that temples began to be constructed in Mt Myohyang.

According to the monumental inscriptions, there were more than 360 temples in the mountain. The remainder of them add beauty to the scenic mountain.

The Pohyon Temple is of high artistic value representing the architecture of Korea in the early 11<sup>th</sup> century. It was built first in 1042 and later rebuilt many times. The existing main buildings of the temple are those reconstructed mainly between 1441 and 1775.

The temple was named after the Bodhisattva of Pohyon. Consisting of 24 buildings and pagoda

at first, it was the biggest temple in South and North Phyongan provinces and the centre of Buddhism in the areas north of the Chongchon River. Boasting its grand sight along with the magnificent view of Mt Myohyang, the Pohyon Temple is a nice place for a visit. Thanks to the Workers' Party of Korea's policy of preserving the cultural heritage, the Myohyangsan History Museum was established and such old buildings as the Taeung Hall and the Manse Pavilion were restored to their original states. And a house was built to eternally preserve the 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures.

The main area of the temple is occupied by the Taeung Hall, the Manse Pavilion, the Kwanum

Hall, the Jogye Gate, the Haethal Gate and the Chonwang Gate, a 9-storey quadrangular pagoda, a 13-storey octagonal pagoda, a monument to the Pohyon Temple and other relics like the Dharani Stone Monument brought from the Puljong Temple in Songdong-ri, Pihyon County, North Phyongan Province, and a bell (2.1 metres high, 4.1 metres round and 7 tons in weight) from the Yujom Temple, Mt Kumgang.

Behind the Manse Pavilion there is a 13-storey octagonal pagoda that testifies to the high stone architecture of Koryo dynasty (918–1392) and the Taeung Hall, the central building of the temple.

The Taeung Hall, which was built as the main hall of the tem-

ple in 1042, is the biggest and finest building in the temple. It is really a spectacular old building in harmony with low walls and a gable roof along with pillars. The building is associated with the patriotic struggles of the Buddhist monks, including Saint Sosan, who fought bravely against the Japanese invaders. During the Imjin Patriotic War (a war the Korean people waged against the Japanese aggressors between 1592 and 1598), Saint Sosan, aged over 70, organized a volunteer army with the monks and turned out in the struggle to repulse the invaders. The Saint Sosan-led army made a great contribution to the victory in the battle to rout the enemy who occupied the Walled City of Pyongyang.

In the mountain, there are also lots of branch temples of the Pohyon Temple, including the Sangwon Hermitage, the Nungin Hermitage, the Pulyong Hermitage, the Kumgang Hermitage and the Habiro Hermitage.

The Sangwon Hermitage is located on the top of mysterious rocks and cliffs in the Sangwon Valley. On the left side of the hermitage is the Chonsin Pavilion tourists can use as a resting place. In the front yard of the hermitage there stands the Ginkgo Tree of Sangwon Hermitage, which is well known as a ginkgo tree growing on the highest place in Korea. In the yard there is also a big plain rock called Ttokdol of Sangwon Hermitage, which is associated with a legend about Buddhism.

When you go round the Ryonggak Rock beside the Sangwon Hermitage, you can see a building named Chuksong Hermitage. It was built in 1875 by the corrupt rulers of the feudal Joseon dynasty for the purpose of wishing the king good health. An 8.83 metre-long girder lies across the front floor without pillars. So when



The Kumgang Hermitage.

you sit on the front floor, you can command a fine view and get the atmosphere of a dwelling house. Decorated with various sculptures and colourful paintings, the hermitage is a building that testifies to Korea's architecture and colourful painting technique in the late feudal Joseon dynasty era. The building has one of excellent pictures in Mt Myohyang.

When you cross down a hill on which there stands the Oson Pavilion, a resting place, you will reach the Pulyong Hermitage. As it is located on a spot open to all directions, it commands a fine view. Especially, you can see a full moon rising up above the hill from the floor of the hermitage. For this reason the Korean ancestors called the spectacle *Pulyongwanwol* and regarded it as one of the "eight beautiful views of Mt Myohyang."

An area of 500 square metres in the yard of the hermitage is covered with many Rhododendron yedoense flowers that add beauty to it. *Chronicles of Feudal Joseon Dynasty*, well known as part of Korea's valuable cultural heritage, was preserved in the hermitage during the Imjin Patriotic War.

(To be continued)

The 13-storey octagonal pagoda.



The Pohyon Temple.







## General Ulmil and Ulmil Pavilion



ULMIL PAVILION IS situated on Moran Hill in Pyongyang. It was built in the mid-sixth century as northern command post of the inner wall of the Walled City of Pyongyang of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668). It stands on an embankment piled vertically with well-trimmed stone pieces about 11 metres high. There are battlements at the top of the embankment.

The name of the pavilion was derived from the Korean word *utmirutho* meaning upper hill. Legend has it that General Ulmil fought to defend the place during the period of Koguryo. The legend has been handed down by Pyongyangites who like it in particular.

They held the general in respect and affection as he always rendered distinguished services in battles to defend the Walled City of Pyongyang against foreign aggressors.

In his old age he taught martial arts to his son Narae and other young people. But things did not go well as he expected. So, after discussion with people in the city, he decided to send young men to a general in a mountain for 39 months' training in martial arts. Narae entrusted the care of his father to his love Kobi before leaving for the mountain.

One day, two years after the young people left, foreign aggressors invaded the city. Though not good in health as before, Ulmil led soldiers to turn out to defend the city. During the period of difficult battle Kobi and other people fight-

ing close to the general repeatedly entreated him to send for the young men.

Then he said, "Should we give up our ambition for the purpose of getting through this momentary crisis? It is the disposition of us Koguryo people to consider the security and future of the country and the people more precious than our own lives. If you wish for the security of the country and posterity follow me!" And he unsheathed his sword and led the fighters.

Knowing that the general was seriously wounded by an arrow in

a battle, the enemy pulled their forces together and rushed in again. Informed of this Ulmil wore his helmet and armour and went in a stretcher up to the command post on Moran Hill. He ordered that soldiers be deployed in accordance with the geographical features of the hill for a decisive battle.

When the battle was at its height enemy soldiers secretly approached the command post and rushed upon the general. Ulmil was fatally injured, and soon afterwards, his people came in haste and tried to awaken him but in



## Famous Painter Solgo

SOLGO WAS A FAMOUS painter of Korea active in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. His activities are described in detail in *Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms* compiled in Koryo in 1145 and in *Jibongryusol* published after 1634.

He was unusually fond of painting from his childhood. He often skipped meals for his poor living, but would never do without painting even a day. While helping his parents with their work he often used a hoe or arrowroots to draw on the ground beautiful mountain peaks and deep and quiet streams he saw. Sometimes he carefully observed flowers in full bloom on mountains and fields, and sometimes he drew till late at night without knowing the passage of time.

As he grew up he became more enthusiastic about painting, and produced varieties of pictures of mountains and streams around his village. His skills were overwhelmingly higher than any other contemporary artists', and

his name became widely known across Silla (a feudal Korean state that existed from the early first century AD to 935) as well as at his birthplace.

Then, one spring day, he was ordered to paint a picture on a wall of Hwangryong Temple, the biggest of its kind in the country. Reluctantly he went to the temple. On arrival, however, he was at a loss what to do on the wall. After a while of thinking he remembered a pine tree standing alone on a cliff. *It grows strong on the cliff all the year round despite violent storms*, he thought. Then he began to make a picture of the tree. With a dip he painted branches of the old pine, and at the second and third strokes there appeared pine needles on the branches swaying in an autumn wind. The tree standing imposingly with its root deep in the ground looked just like a real pine tree with thick green foliage, a trunk with rough barks looking like the backs of a dragon and drooping branches—all these

were so realistic that one might feel like taking a rest beneath it if it were a hot summer day. Even birds flew to the mural to sit on it only to fall, it is said.

Thus the painting was regarded as treasure of Korea. The picture, however, grew discoloured and its corners crumbled with the passage of time. So monks of the temple repainted it with great sincerity. But since then birds never flew to it again because it was not restored to its original state.

Solgo was also good at painting landscapes, portraits and Buddhist pictures. It is said that he painted scores of portraits of Tangun, founder king of Korea.

*History of the Three Kingdoms* written in the 13<sup>th</sup> century has a record that the Punhwang Temple in Kyongju, South Kyongsang Province also has a portrait of the Buddhist Goddess of Rain Water painted by Solgo and that the painting was held in affection through generations.

Pak Thae Ho

▶ vain.

At that critical hour Kobi left for the young men in the mountain.

At her urgent report Narae and other young men instantly rushed for the city. Early in the next morning they arrived there. Seeing the flag of the general fluttering and lances and swords flashing on the command post, they mowed down the enemy.

After the end of the battle they climbed the hill beating the drum for their victory. They, however, found the general dead. When

they were looking at him dumbfounded, an elderly man said, "The general died two days ago. But before closing his eyes he told us to keep him here until the invaders retreated."

Wailing for the general the young men and other people from Pyongyang pledged to carry on his ambition without fail.

From then on hundreds or thousands of generals like Ulmil grew up to defend the city.

It is said that the people in the walled city built the aforesaid pavilion on the command post and

named it so after the general so as to convey his exploits to posterity.

The pavilion was also called *Sahojong* as it is situated on a scenic spot open to all directions. Colourfully painted the pavilion goes well with the surrounding scenery. So the scenery is called *Ulmilsangchun*—which means greeting spring on Ulmil Pavilion—as one of the eight famous views of Pyongyang.

The pavilion now serves as a recreation ground for the people.

Kim Il Ryong



# Deceptive Advertisement

IN AUGUST LAST THE Korean Committee on Measures for the Victims of Sexual Slavery for the Japanese Army and Forcible Drafting made public an investigation report, which inspired in the Korean people strong hostility against the Japanese imperialists.

Nakamura Sumie, a Japanese woman aged 92, testified that she had witnessed a “comfort station” for the Japanese army in Kyonghung County, North Hamgyong Province, Korea, where she lived before returning to Japan following the defeat of the Japanese imperialists. On the basis of her testimony, the committee carried out an investigation into the Sonbong area, Rason in northern Korea since last year, and issued a report disclosing the Japanese army’s crime of sexual slavery in the locality. The issue stoked up the hatred of the Korean people for the Japanese imperialists, the century-old enemy of their nation.

What also arouses great indignation is the fact that the sexual slaves for the Japanese army were all forced or deceived into sexual slavery contrary to the Japanese authorities’ assertion that the women chose to become such slaves.

“My family was poor, so I was sold here and there to serve as a slave for a landlord before reaching Haeju. One day towards the end of 1941 strange men appeared on a street to advertise that they would recruit labourers. They lured only girls saying that they would get them good jobs. Very tired of slavery I swallowed their words. I was taken to the front line of the South to be forced into sexual slavery.” This is what Kim Jong Sim said while testifying that the Japanese imperialists had abducted and forced Korean

women into sexual slavery for their army by means of deceptive advertisement.

The following is what Kim Yong Sil, another victim of sexual slavery for the Japanese army, testified.

Born the first daughter of a poor peasant’s family, she, as a child, was sold off to pay debts as a baby sitter or an errand girl of a pub. Then she went to Hoeryong to get help from her father’s sister. One autumn day of the year when she was 18 a man in a suit appeared and enticed her to go with him saying he would help her to get a good job. Deceived by his words she followed him to a one-storey house in an out-of-the-way place on the Tuman River in northern Korea. She found many Korean girls gathered there. Only afterwards did she know that it was a “comfort station” for the Japanese army. And to her fright the man, who brought her there, showed up in military uniform and bestially violated her chastity, revealing his true character.

The old Japanese government set a goal of allotting a sexual slave for every 29 soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army throughout the war of aggression, mobilized the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the “Government-General in Korea” and all other power organs in enforcing a system of sexual slavery and had the military directly organize and carry out the undertaking.

In the 1920s “comfort stations” for the Japanese army appeared in the present Ranam District, Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province, Changwon, Kyongsang Province and many other areas of Korea. And in March 1932, after the Manchurian Incident, there ap-

peared a similar station in Shanghai, China, in accordance with the order of Okamura, the chief of staff of Japan’s expeditionary force in the city.

Later, with the prolonging of the Japanese imperialists’ war of aggression and the expansion of the areas occupied by the aggressors, hundreds of such stations were installed in over ten countries of Asia and Oceania, to which hundreds of thousands of Korean and other Asian women were forcibly drafted taken in by the large-scale sexual slave hunting ordered by the then Japanese authorities.

In February 1992 Yoshita Seiji, who had been involved in the crime, testified at a press interview, “To put it flatly, the ‘comfort women’ were not recruited but forcibly arrested. None of them voluntarily responded to the ‘recruiting.’”

Nevertheless, the present Japanese government recklessly said that the words *sexual slave* were contrary to the fact and that it was by their “voluntary requirement” or “will.” And it went so far as to call the victims “prostitutes” and “spontaneous servants for money.” Even at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UN Commission on Women’s Status it said that the number—200 000—of sexual slaves was groundless and that Japan made a contribution to the global peace and security after WW II.

Sincere apology and reparations for the past crimes mean atonement for them and determination not to commit such crimes again. It is natural that the international community denounces politicians of Japan who don’t know such atonement and determination.

Kim Yong Un

# Pyongyang Taedonggang Fish Restaurant



The restaurant is situated on the picturesque Taedong River.



Indoor ponds teeming with sturgeon, Ryongjong fish, salmon, rainbow-trout and other delicious fishes, shellfish and turtles, and an angling site.



Rooms serving traditional dishes, sushi and the like.



