



The Day of the Shining Star Celebrated as the Greatest National Holiday



Kim Jong Un, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, accompanied by the members of the WPK Central Military Commission and the DPRK National Defence Commission, members of the operations command staff of the Supreme Headquarters and commanding officers of the KPA

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Statues of Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il erected at Mangyongdae Revolutionary School



On the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star, the greatest national holiday of the Korean people, the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun together with his wife Ri Sol Ju on February 16 to pay high tributes to Generalissimo Kim Jong Il.

He was accompanied by the members of the WPK Central Military Commission and the DPRK National Defence Commission, members of the operations command staff of the Supreme Headquarters and commanding officers of the KPA.

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, supreme sanctuary of Juche, was permeated with the sublime atmosphere, full of yearnings for Generalissimo Kim Jong Il, who was a peerless patriot, outstanding Songun commander and the eternal sun of Juche.

Kim Jong Un entered the hall where the statues of Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il stand.

On both sides of the statues were put up the flags of the WPK and the DPRK and the colours of the KPA, and the guards of honour of the Ground, Naval, and Air and Anti-aircraft Forces of the KPA and the Worker-Peasant Red Guards formed in array.

The head of the guards of honour made a salute report to the statues.

Kim Jong Un, together with the participants, made a bow to the statues.

He then entered the hall where Kim Jong Il is preserved in his lifetime appearance and made a bow to him in the humblest reverence.

He looked round the room where the national and foreign orders, medals and honorary titles conferred on Kim Jong Il are exhibited and the halls that house the car, battery car, vessel and coach he had used in his lifetime.

Statues of Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il were unveiled at Mangyongdae Revolutionary School on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

The colours of the Ground, Naval, and Air and Anti-aircraft Forces of the KPA and the Worker-Peasant Red Guards were put up on both sides of the statues, with the guards of honour and students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School making an array.

The guards of honour held an entering ceremony.

The respected Kim Jong Un was present at the ceremony.

Also present there were senior officials of the Party, the state and the army, teaching staff and students of the school and its graduates, service personnel of the KPA and Pyongyang citizens.

The military band of the Korean People's Army and the female brass band of the Korean People's Internal Security Forces gave a performance of military music. Then the flag of the WPK and the colours of the Supreme Commander were hoisted.

Amid the playing of the immortal revolutionary songs, *Song of General Kim Il Sung* and *Song of General Kim Jong Il*, the unveiling ceremony started.

The moment the statues of Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, great images and symbols of victory and glory of the powerful Paektusan nation, were unveiled, thunderous cheers of the participants reverberated the place, with fireworks display and decorative balloons in the sky.

Laid before the statues was a floral basket sent by Kim Jong Un. Also laid there were a basket of flowers in the joint name of the Central Committee and Central Military



Various Events Held



The first conferment ceremony of award watches inscribed with the autograph of Kim Jong Il was held in the presence of Kim Jong Un

Commission of the WPK and the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and a floral basket in the name of the school.

Ribbons of the floral baskets bore the letters, "The great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il will always be with us!"

All the participants paid a tribute to the Generalissimos in the humblest reverence.

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, director of the General Political Bureau of the KPA and Vice-Marshall of the KPA, made a speech.

The ceremony ended with the playing of the song, *We will defend with our very lives General Kim Jong Un*, and cheers of hurrah burst forth again.

On the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star there was the first ceremony of conferring award watches inscribed with the autograph of Kim Jong Il.

The respected Marshal Kim Jong Un was present at the ceremony, accompanied by senior officials of the Party, the state and the army, and other officials of the WPK Central Committee and armed forces organs.

Kim Yong Nam, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, delivered an address at the ceremony.

He said the respected Marshal had the award watch inscribed with the autograph of Kim Jong Il newly instituted in order to venerate Generalissimo Kim Jong Il as the eternal leader of the Party and people and inspire all the service personnel and people to the struggle for realizing his lifetime wish and intentions.

Noting that thanks to the initiative and personal guidance of Kim Jong Un, supreme incarnation of loyalty and moral obligation, the lifetime instruction of President Kim Il Sung, who proposed to institute the award watch inscribed with the General's autograph, was brilliantly carried out and the ardent desire of our army and people fulfilled, he pointed out that the institution of the award watch was of great significance in adding eternal lustre to the revolutionary career and undying exploits of the General and encouraging all the Party members, service personnel and people to live and struggle as befits the soldiers and followers loyal to the General.

He continued that the respected Kim Jong Un had taken measures to invite the service persons, scientists, technicians, and labour innovators to be awarded the watches to Pyongyang and hold the conferment ceremony, and also have senior officials of the Party, the state and the army, officials of the Party Central Committee and armed forces organs participate in the ceremony to congratulate them. He then stressed that all the participants should always keep in mind that they were the first to be awarded the watches and live up to the trust and solicitude of the Party, thus making their lives worthwhile.

Kim Jong Un personally conferred the watches. The award-winning participants were all overwhelmed by great emotions and jubilation, and made up their minds that they would bear that day's honour and happiness throughout their lives and follow the Party invariably along the road of Songun-based revolution, holding in high esteem the great Generalissimos as the eternal sun of Juche.

Article: Choe Kwang

Amid jubilation of the successful 3rd underground nuclear test that demonstrated the firm conviction, will and inexhaustible national strength of the powerful Paektusan nation, all the Korean service personnel and people celebrated in a grand style the Day of the Shining Star (February 16), the birthday of Generalissimo Kim Jong Il.

A national meeting was held in the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium to mark the 71st birth anniversary of Kim Jong Il.

Kim Yong Nam, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, delivered a keynote speech.

Stressing that the revolutionary career and great achievements of Kim Jong Il are being carried forward by Kim Jong Un, he continued that the Korean service personnel and people, as long as they are led by Kim Jong Un, would have a rosy future and the powerful Paektusan nation resplendent with the august name and great image of Generalissimo Kim Jong Il will prosper down through generations.

Similar meetings took place in all provinces, cities, counties and industrial complexes in celebration of the day.

Service personnel, working people from all walks of life, youth and students across the country paid floral tributes to the statues of the great Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and large portraits of their beaming images.

At Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp was held a pledge-taking rally to venerate Kim Jong Il for all eternity and remain faithful to Kim Jong Un's leadership, and an ice sculpture festival took place in the Paektusan area.

The 17th Kimjongilia Festival was held in the Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition Hall in Pyongyang and Kimjongilia exhibitions in every province.

There were also the 22nd Paektusan Prize International Figure Skating Festival, national photo and art exhibitions and a ten-day film show.

People, youth and students across the country held meetings in memory of Kim Jong Il's inspection tours for national prosperity and celebration concerts.

There were joint meetings of the Korean Children's Union organizations in Pyongyang and in every province, in which many students joined the KCU with a determination to grow into reliable reserves of Songun Korea.

Article & photos: Choe Il Ho



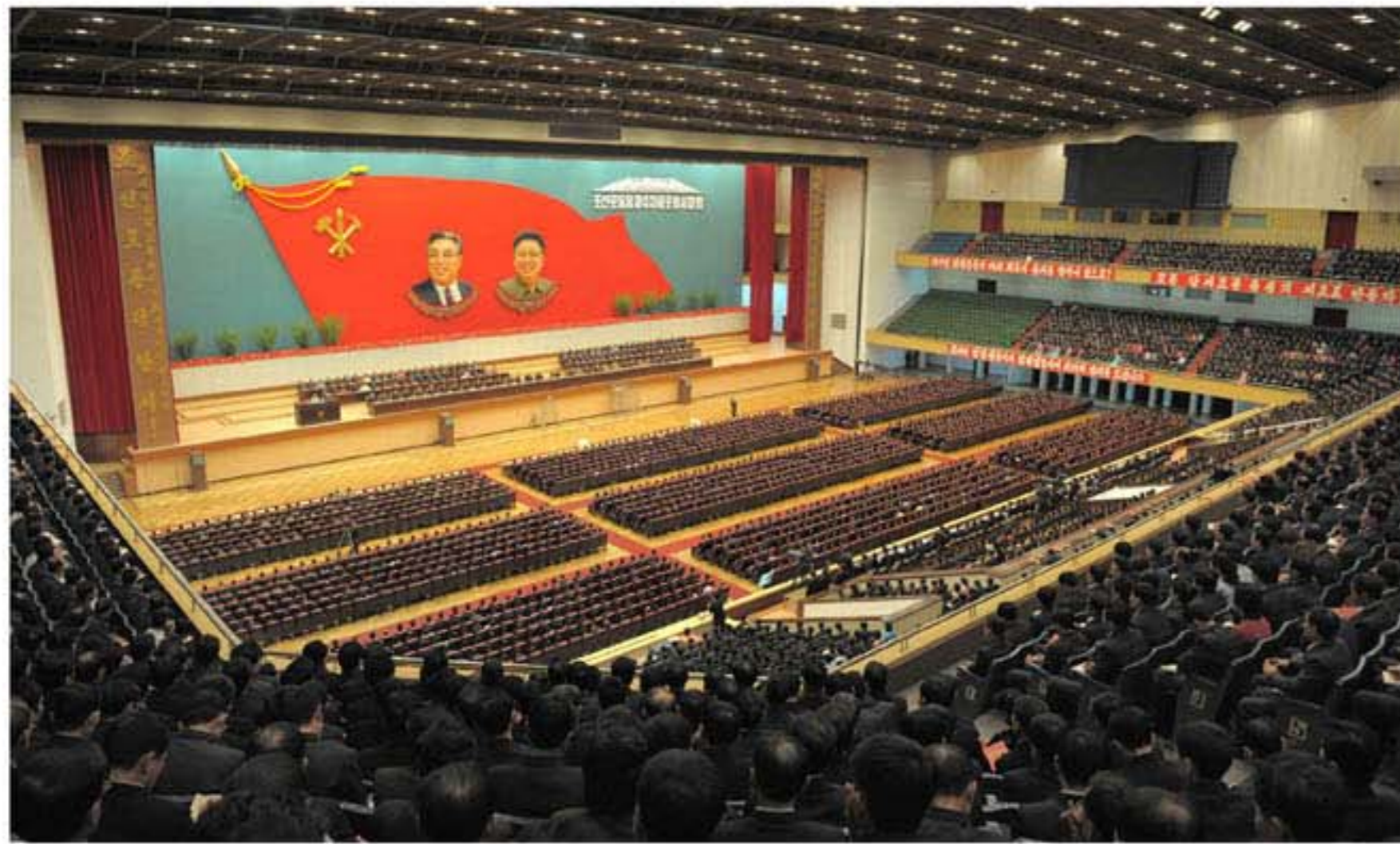
The 17th Kimjongilia Festival



Joint National Meeting of the Korean Children's Union Organizations



Dancing party of youth and students in the plaza of the Party Founding Memorial Tower



The Fourth Conference of Cell Secretaries of the WPK Held

The Fourth Conference of Cell Secretaries of the Workers' Party of Korea was held in Pyongyang last January.

It was attended by exemplary Party cell secretaries working devotedly to developing the cells of the WPK, lowest-level organizations of the Party, into vanguard organizations in implementing the Party's ideas and cause and building the country into a thriving one, and senior Party officials in the capital and provinces.

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the WPK, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, took part in the Conference.

All the participants observed a moment's silence in memory of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, the founder and leader of the WPK and eternal leaders of the WPK and the revolution.

Kim Jong Un delivered an opening address in which he stressed that the current Conference, the fourth of its kind in the glorious history of the WPK, was a significant meeting that was called according to the lifetime instruction of Kim Jong Il and it would serve as a milestone in radically improving the functions and role of Party cells and enhancing the Party's militant efficiency in every way as demanded by the new era of the Juche revolution.

Kim Ki Nam, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, made a keynote speech followed by many speeches of the participants.

Saying that the ideas and the cause of Juche-based Party building of the great leaders are being carried forward brilliantly by the respected Kim Jong Un, the speakers noted that they would bear deep in mind great honour and pride of living and working as political workers of primary organizations of the glorious party of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and pledged themselves to be faithful to Kim Jong Un's leadership and fight staunchly for the final victory in building a thriving socialist nation.

In the Conference Kim Jong Un delivered an important speech.

Saying that the most important task facing Party cells at present was to prepare the Party members as genuine Kimilsungist-Kimjongilists and true comrades and comrades-in-arms of the Party, he noted they should provide scrupulous guidance to the organizational and ideological life of the Party members, while paying particular attention to implanting them with love for the people and spirit of serving them devotedly.

Mentioning the firm determination of the Party to respect people and devote everything to them as it held the President and the General in high esteem, he stressed that Party cells should implant the leaders' noble outlook on the people deep in the officials and Party members to make them serve and love the people like their parents, wives and children.

He also set it as important tasks facing Party cells to work with the masses properly so that broad segments of people should establish a firm bond of kinship with the Party and actively mobilize the Party members and other working people to carry out the Party's policies.

He continued that cell secretaries should enhance their sense of responsibility and role in order for Party cells to discharge the heavy mission and duty they assume on behalf of the times and the revolution.

He placed deep trust on all the Party cell secretaries and Party officials to creditably fulfil the honourable mission and duty they assume on behalf of the Party and revolution, fully aware that they themselves hold the flag of the Juche-oriented Party.

The Conference adopted a letter of pledge to the WPK.

Kim Jong Un made closing remarks.

The Fourth Conference of Cell Secretaries of the WPK fully demonstrated the firm faith and will of all the Party members and people to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche firmly rallied around the respected Kim Jong Un.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon

Lunar New Year Performance of Schoolchildren



Artistic Performance of Schoolchildren "Blessing of the Sun" was held at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in celebration of the lunar New Year's Day of Juche 102 (2013)

Photos: An Chol Ryong



Power Generation Increases

Employees of the East Pyongyang Thermal Power Station who have turned out as one to carry out the tasks the respected Kim Jong Un set forth in his New Year Address, are striving hard to generate more electricity.

At every workshop of the station the workers are displaying high enthusiasm to produce more electric power and send to various sectors of the national

economy.

The workers at the steam-generating workshop ensure full operation of the machines through substantial maintenance work and observe technical regulations and standard procedures in the operation of boilers, thus generating more steam while saving a large amount of coal.

The workers at the turbine workshop put primary efforts into running turbines

in an effective and responsible way by fully using the steam.

With the assistance of the technicians, they have introduced several kinds of technical concepts into production, including the monitoring system of vibration of turbogenerators, which pay off greatly.

The workers at the coal conveyance workshop, who are in charge of the first

process of power generation, keep in mind the slogan **“Let us bring about a radical turn in the building of an economic giant with the same spirit and mettle as were displayed in conquering space!”** and ensure full operation of equipment so as to supply coal to boilers in time.

Innovations are also created in the electric power and chemical workshops.

They take good management of turbogenerators, transformers, breakers and other equipment to properly transmit the generated electric power, and manufacture desalted water of good quality to feed the boilers.

The workers at the power station are not satisfied with their successes and continue to increase the production of electric power with a determination to devote themselves to the building of an economic giant.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon
Photos: An Chol Won



The introduction of the integrated control system pays off in electric power production



Emulation Drive Spurs Production

The DPRK has put forward light industry as one of the major fronts for economic construction this year. Now a great upsurge is being brought about in production at the factories and enterprises in this sector.

Sinuiju Textile Mill is one of them. Its employees have turned out with great enthusiasm in a socialist emulation drive for increased production to carry out the tasks set forth by Marshal Kim Jong Un in his New Year Address delivered on the first day this year.

The emulation drive between workshops, workteams and individuals is effecting great innovations throughout the mill.

The workshops of mixing and whipping, carding, drawing, spinning, knitting threads and other preceding processes renovated accessories and components of equipment to suit their specific conditions and thus raised the efficiency of the machines and operated them at full capacity.

Weavers at the key production lines are also full of zeal.

The weavers of the weaving workshop No. 2 increased the speed of making the rounds of machines under charge by 1.5 times while strictly observing technical regulations and standard manuals.

Choe Yun Hwa, Tokko Sun Bok and other workteam leaders are taking the lead in making innovations. They are taking charge of several weaving machines and always operating them at full capacity. And they are inspiring their workteam members to fulfil their daily, weekly and monthly quotas without fail.

A technical innovation drive is also under way at the mill.

Technicians and workers made concerted efforts to upgrade machines in several production lines such as mixing and whipping, roving and weaving, thus opening a vista for an increase in textile production while economizing in many raw and other materials.

Thanks to the great enthusiasm its employees are displaying in order to make a substantial contribution to the improvement of people's living standards, Sinuiju Textile Mill is making a daily increase in textile production.

Article & photos: Choe Myong Sik



Giving Priority to Science and Technology

-At the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory-



The Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory located in Ponghak-dong, Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, has a 50-year-long history, but there are few people who know where it is. But the factory is well known for its Unhasu-brand cosmetics.

Last year alone, six kinds of its cosmetics, including Insam Cream and Aloe Skin Lotion, were awarded the top prizes at the 3rd Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 Goods Show and registered as February 2 products that are acknowledged by the state as high-grade ones.

Functional cosmetics produced at the factory were also highly appreciated at the National Science and Technology Festival held in celebration of the President Kim Il Sung's 100th birthday.

These successes are attributable to the great efforts of the factory's technicians.

Manager Kim Hyon, chief engineer Ri Son Hui and other offi-

cials of the factory scrupulously organized business administration and technical management so as to turn out a wide variety of cosmetics in conformity to the global trend and aesthetic demands and tastes of the Koreans, always giving top priority to the work with technicians.

Ryu Kyong Sun and other technicians of the quality management section displayed their high abilities, so that the factory was qualified for the state QMS as well as the international GMP.

Engineers Yu Hyon Suk and Cha Jong Sun of the new products development section developed a skin softening cosmetic and Ho Gum Sun of the same section a hairdye, and introduced them into production.

University graduates accounting for nearly 30 per cent of its employees are making strenuous efforts to upgrade the quality of products, while operating machines and equipment at full capacity.

This year, too, its technicians are vigorously pushing ahead with the work of developing new products and modernizing production processes, full of confidence in breaking through the cutting edge like space scientists who succeeded in launching the artificial earth satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2.

Thanks to their efforts Unhasu-brand cosmetics are enjoying greater popularity.

*Article: Choe Il ho
Photos: Ri Song Ik*





President Kim Il Sung plants a tree on Munsu Hill (April 1947)

Green Forests Tell

Every March a nationwide campaign of planting trees is conducted throughout the country on the occasion of the Tree Planting Day.

All the Korean service personnel and people turn out as one to plant trees on mountains and hills, etching deeper in their minds the undying efforts the great leaders made to turn the country's

mountains into forests thickly covered with trees.

On March 2, Juche 35 (1946) the great leader Kim Il Sung climbed Moran Hill in Pyongyang, together with young Kim Jong Il and anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk and stressed the need to plant more trees and flowers on mountains and hills that had become bare during the Japanese military occupation of Korea (1905-1945).

This is how the nationwide tree planting started in Korea, and the day was instituted as the Tree Planting Day later.

On April 6 in the following year, Kim Il Sung climbed Munsu Hill in East Pyongyang and planted trees, thus enlisting the people in the afforestation campaign.

In the grim days when the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953) was at its height, he issued an order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army on protecting forest resources and summoned the soldiers from the front to appoint them forest rangers.

Metasequoia glyptostroboides, which is now widespread across the country, was multiplied from the one he planted and grew in the flowerpot in those days.

Thanks to his painstaking efforts, the mountains across the country turned into the green forests, and his ennobling intentions were carried forward brilliantly by Kim Jong Il.

General Kim Jong Il who held dear every blade of grass and every tree of the country, ensured that the KPA stood in the van of the afforestation and the entire people turned out in the work during the arduous period of the 1990s.

Seeing a flower on a pass on his way to the frontline army posts, he nurtured a plan of making the country's appearance more beautiful. On his visit to a renovated factory he first acquainted himself with the afforestation of its surroundings and spoke highly of the efforts of its officials and workers.

Picturing the prosperous future of the country with its mountains and hills in full verdure, he visited the Central Tree Nursery again in October Juche 100 (2011) and earnestly said that the beautiful motherland with thick woods and all sorts of

flowers in full bloom should be handed down to coming generations by making a consistent nationwide effort in afforestation and greening work.

On the Tree Planting Day last year the respected Kim Jong Un inspected a KPA unit. Saying that he did not intend to plant trees for form's sake that day, he dug holes and planted *Picea koraiensis* and magnolia he brought with him.

Under the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un, another peerless patriot, the Korean people are exerting more efforts into improving the appearance of their country.

Article & photos: Choe Kwang Ho





Kim Jong Un among service workers of the Kangsong Health Complex (May 2012)

Cherishing Memory of the Day

The service workers of the Kangsong Health Complex established in the machine factory led by Ho Chol Yong always remember the day when the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un visited it last year.

It was May 1, a very fine day, and they had the honour of welcoming him, whom they longed to see even in their dreams.

The Kangsong Health Complex was built thanks to the care of General Kim Jong Il for the workers' material and cultural life.

That day Kim Jong Un looked around the complex, including its swimming and wading pools and dining rooms on the ground floor and indoor gymnasium, table-tennis room, e-library, barber's and beauty salon on the first floor. At every place, he kindly posed for a photograph with service workers there, and warmly encouraged them to become genuine servants of the people.

Article & photos: Ri Kwang Song

I Feel As If I Were in a Dream

Nearly one year has passed since the respected Marshal visited our Kangsong Health Complex, but it seems as if we were still in a dream.

We should have expressed our warmest gratitude to him who had this excellent service centre built for ordinary workers. But that day we failed to do so. The keener our regret becomes, the stronger our yearnings for him become.

Manageress Kim Chun Hui



I'll Be a True Servant

The respected Marshal stepped into our bathhouse, too. Touching with his hand the walls of the sauna, made of pine trees, he asked me about the temperature inside. Looking at the shower stalls in a public bathroom, he even paid no heed to his clothes wet from the running water but was very satisfied.

He said that our working people should enjoy such benefits.

He posed for a photograph with me, a daughter of an ordinary worker. Looking up at the photograph, an heirloom of my family, every morning and evening, I pledge: "I'll live as a genuine servant of the working people whom the respected Marshal holds dear so much."

Attendant Kim Jong Hwa



I'll Make Workers Handsome in the Songun Era

The respected Marshal walked into our barber's with a broad smile on his face. He asked us kindly whether we were good at haircut and what we did to improve our skill. He was satisfied that we were trained at the Changgwang Health Complex in Pyongyang.

When he asked again if he could have his hair cut here and who could cut his hair, every one of us volunteered willingly. Seeing us, the Marshal said that he would like to have his hair cut by us.

We knew well that it was his earnest request made to us to dedicate our all to the working class. Bearing his request in our minds, we will do our best to make our workers handsome.

Barber Myong Yong Hui



I'll Make Workers Beautiful in the Songun Era

The respected Marshal dropped in at our beauty salon. Sitting on a chair without reserve, he observed in detail hairdressers' tools, towels, toilet soaps and hairdyes, expressing satisfaction with them again and again.

He reminded us of a meticulous mother who wants to make her daughter more beautiful than others.

Cherishing his love for the working women, I'll make them fairies in the Songun era.

Hairdresser Jin Hye Yong



Age-old Desire Realized



A monument to the agrarian reform built in Okdo-ri, Ryonggang County, Nampho

There is a monument in Okdo-ri, Ryonggang County, Nampho, the peasants there, who received the land thanks to the historic Law on Agrarian Reform made public in Korea on March 5, Juche 35 (1946), erected to hand down for ever the benefit of the country.

After the country's liberation from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945, President Kim Il Sung determined to kindle the torch of democratic reforms by settling the issue of land in light of the circumstances of those days when peasants constituted the overwhelming



People support in cheers the proclamation of the historic Law on Agrarian Reform (March 1946)

majority of the population. He thus put forth the slogan "Land to the tillers!" and aroused the peasant masses to the victorious implementation of the agrarian reform.

The promulgation of the law on March 5, Juche 35 (1946), declared an end of the feudal relations of landownership, and realized the long-cherished desire of the Korean peasants to become the masters of land.

With the enforcement of the land reform, a great change was brought about in the social status of the peasants, who braced themselves with patriotism to contribute to the building of a prosperous country with grain production.

The peasants in Okdo-ri turned out for the increased grain production during the grim days of the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953), to say nothing of the period of democratic nation-building, with confidence and optimism.

In the postwar days they took an active part in realizing the agricultural cooperativization and strengthening the rural position, thus developing their home village into a socialist countryside good to live in.

Among those Okdo-ri people was Rim Kun Sang who worked throughout his life with sincerity and pure conscience.

Born into a farm-hand family, he had experienced every kind of humiliation and insult, engaged in tenant farming, before he received the land by the agrarian reform after the liberation. Hammering into the ground a signpost bearing his name, he pledged himself he would repay the benefit of the country by working hard.

He set an example in increasing grain production under wartime conditions and had the honour of meeting President Kim Il Sung for the first time in his life at the national congress of peasants with high crop yield held in January 1952. After the war he took the lead in implementing the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on the agricultural cooperativization, and worked as a chairman of the cooperative farm management board. He was awarded the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK and elected the deputy to the Supreme People's



Rim Kun Sang

Assembly.

Following in his steps, his son and then his grandson have supported the country with increased yield of rice. Other new generations in Okdo-ri, too, full of patriotic ardour, redouble their efforts to make their home village a paradise good to work and live in.

While actively introducing advanced farming methods including double cropping and organic farming, they make ceaseless efforts to effect mechanization of farm work on a higher level and enrich their technical knowledge.

They have already realigned small patches of paddy and non-paddy fields into standardized ones and built modern houses at the sunny foots of mountains to turn the rural village into a socialist fairyland.

The people in Okdo-ri who have become the genuine masters of their native place are displaying a high sense of responsibility that they are in charge of the nation's granaries and playing the leading role in carrying out the tasks set forth for this year.

Article: Choe Kwang Hyok
Photos: An Chol Ryong



They turn out in this year's farming preparations



It is often said that sculptures are set images representative of the contemporary times.

The Chollima Statue, winner of the People's Prize, was built in 1961 in the DPRK, and is well known as a monument demonstrating the heroic mettle of the Korean people who wrought miracles and innovations in socialist construction in the Chollima era as well as a symbol of Korea.

The statue depicts a male worker and a female farmer riding Chollima (a legendary winged horse which covers 400 km in one day—Tr.) soaring into the sky with its wings spread wide. It was quite distinct from previous statues, in the profundity of the content and the presentation of speed, rise, strength and stamina, all combined in a harmonious and formative way so as to intensively express the heroic mettle of the Korean people.

This statue was the virgin product of the Merited Sculpture Production Company of the Mansudae Art Studio.

During the past five decades the company has produced a large number of sculptures which are greatly favoured by the Korean people.

Typical works are the Grand Monument on Mansu Hill, the Samjiyon Grand Monument, the Victorious Battle of Pochonbo Memorial Tower, the Tower of the Juche Idea, the Arch of Triumph, the Party Founding Memorial Tower, the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong and other grand monumental structures across the country.

The production company also created the sculpture "The Snow Is Falling" built in fountains of the Mansudae Art Theatre, of female dancers in graceful movements describing the mental world of the Korean people who cherish deep in their minds the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, and the decorative sculpture "Flower-bedecked Carriage Full of Happiness" in front of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, depicting happy images of the Korean children.

The monumental structures the production company created in every chronicle of history are numerous.

In the new century, too, it produced fine sculptural pieces of historical figures and relics for the Pyongyang Folk Park, decorative sculptures on the outer walls of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Memorial Museum, statues at the Cemetery of the People's Army Martyrs, and others.

The sculpture erected in the Pyongyang Folk Park are the replicas of the past history of the Korean nation spanning some 5 000 years, and thus attract



It was awarded the title of the Merited Sculpture Production Company in Juche 98 (2009) and produced many renowned sculptors

the visitors there.

The Merited Sculpture Production Company is also famous worldwide.

The sculptors from the company created statues and memorial towers in many countries of the world, and they were highly commented for their excellent craftsmanship and prominent accom-

plishments.

They erected a bronze statue of the first president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2010, which brought them a great fame among the Congolese people for its high level of artistic representation.

The production company was awarded the title of the Merited Sculpture Production Company in 2009 for its distinguished services, and produced so far many famous sculptors with honorary titles. Among them are O Tae Hyong and Ro Ik Hwa, both Kim Il Sung Prize winners, Labour Heroes and People's Artists, as well as U Ung Ho, Rim Sung Nam, Hwang Sun Hak and Pak Kum Song, who are People's Artists, and Merited Artist Ri Sun Myong.

Article: Kim Kyong Hui
Photos: Ra Phyoung Ryol

Prestigious Sculpture Production Company

The Merited Sculpture Production Company of the Mansudae Art Studio erected a great number of monuments throughout the country



Chollima Statue



A trio group sculpture of the Tower of the Juche Idea



Sub-thematic group sculpture of the Samjiyon Grand Monument "Bugler for the March"



Sub-thematic group sculptures of the Grand Monument on Mansu Hill



Thematic sculpture "Victory" of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Memorial Tower



Some of the statues and monuments the production company built in different countries



Profitable Chicken Farm

Situated in North Phyongan Province, the Kusong Chicken Farm overfulfils its national economic assignments every year by putting its management activities on a scientific basis.

Whenever its employees speak of achievements they have made, they are proud of having many inventors.

Its officials are making endeavours to introduce the cutting-edge science and technology into its management activities by enlisting the working masses positively in this work.

Entering the new century, the farm ran experimentally both cage and free-range systems by comparison in breeding chickens. On this basis, they built five blocks of free-range type and furnished them with facilities by their own efforts so as to mass-produce eggs and meat. In this way, it has laid a firm foundation on which the country's poultry farming could make a great leap.

The farm concentrated all its efforts on staffing it with competent technicians, while training skilled workers in a larger number and raising their technical levels. As a result, it suc-

ceeded in applying the profitable chemical treatment method by developing new excretion treatment agents Nos. 1 and 2 with locally-available raw materials.

Consequently, it has not only increased the output of eggs and meat by 1.8 times higher than previous years, while substituting most of the feed grains needed for chicken breeding, but also established a food production cycle by using animal excretion. Therefore, every year they can produce more eggs and meat while saving hundreds of tons of feed grains.

It established a production base of organic composite fertilizers with a capacity of turning out 1 500 tons as well as those of making excretion treatment agents and Jonghyang composite fungi. With the fertilizers produced by it, the farm can raise the crop production sharply.

It has designed and manufactured highly efficient hatching machines and egg testers in collaboration with researchers from Kim Chaek University of Technology and the State Academy of Sciences, thus ensuring a higher rate of incubation by 2-3% and



The farm is boosting egg and meat output by effecting a food production cycle

reducing the expenditure of effort to one eighth.

With the increase of production on the strength of the latest science and technology, the farm has saved an enormous amount of foreign currency used for import of raw and other materials and equipment, and overfulfilled its annual economic assignments, thus rendering a great benefit to the country.

Kim Kwang Am, a leading official of the farm, said: "We are very pleased that our farm gives a huge profit to the country. I also feel proud of our reliable technical force promising a brighter future of the farm."

Kim himself is a qualified technician who was awarded a top prize and a gold medal at the national festival of science and

technology and the national exhibition of inventions and new technologies respectively, and many other state diplomas for introduction of science and technology and invention certificates.

The farm has produced among its employees several academic degree or title holders and received 270 registration certificates and diplomas for inventing and introducing scientific and technological achievements and 300 certificates for technical conceptions. Indeed, this is more valuable than economic profitability.

Article & photos: Ri Hak Myong

Composer Kim Ok Song

The National Symphony Orchestra of the DPRK has established a good reputation at home and abroad for its excellent performances. The audiences, gripped by its performances, are deeply immersed in the wonderful world of emotion and often demand several encores.

"A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan

Plain" is one of its most famous orchestral pieces which always receive a big hand from the audience.

The song was composed by Kim Ok Song scores of years ago, and is still in much vogue among the Korean people.

Some time ago the Korea Pictorial reporter talked with Un Yong Nam, wife of

the late composer.

Korea Pictorial reporter: You look hale and hearty for your age. I'd like to know about your husband.

Un Yong Nam: Now I am nearly 80, and nearly 40 years have elapsed since my husband passed away.

After so many years, though, the songs my husband composed in the past are popular among the people. Whenever I hear many of the songs he had composed during and after the Fatherland Liberation War being widely sung, I recall the days of some 50 years previously, when he set off for the snow-covered Chongsan Plain with a knapsack of scrolls of music papers on his shoulder.

He often said that he got his musical thoughts by listening to the ballad melodies of the Chongsan-ri people, matured them through his experiences with the farmers, and at last composed the song "A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain," incorporating the farmers' delight at their gold harvest.

People asked him where he got such novel melodies at the start of the song. And he answered that he was inspired by the sounds of a pedal-driven threshing machine. He then said he only put on his music papers the reality of the country and the delight of the Korean farmers, who realized their long-cherished desire of becoming the real masters of land.

Indeed, he was filled with ardent love for his country and people.

It is still vivid in my memory when we first met. At that time my husband, holding my hands in his and looking over the vast field with golden ears of rice waving in the wind, said in a determined way he would compose a symphony of the countryside without fail.

Reporter: Your husband was a gifted composer, I think.

Un: I don't think so. He became a famous composer in the embrace of the Republic.

He was born on June 30, 1916, when Korea was under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists, at the then Phunghae Sub-county, Songhwa County of Hwanghae Province (now the seat of Kwail County of South Hwanghae Province). He was a second son of a poor woman diver. He grew up listening to sad melodies of his mother's singing and developing his sense of music. However, he was too poverty-stricken to learn the music.

Only when the great leader Kim Il Sung liberated the country on August 15, 1945 could he realize his wish for developing his talent for music.

Vibrating reality of the country encouraged him to produce a lot of musical pieces.

He composed "Song of Women," witnessing the Korean women like his mother who, bereaved of husband in her early years, had eked out a living with her sons before liberation, but were leading a worthwhile life in the building of a new country.

His productivity was further improved during the arduous war (1950-1953) Korea fought against US imperialism.

As a war composer he took part in many battles including those on the Raktong River and nameless heights, where he watched the People's Army soldiers fighting unto death in defence of the motherland General Kim Il Sung won back. Such famous war-time songs as "To a Decisive Battle" and "My Song in the Trench" he composed greatly inspired the army and people in their struggle for victory.

He was calm and a man of few words in ordinary times; but he used to change into a man of enthusiasm when composing the songs, because he was greatly excited by the fact that the ordinary people became the genuine masters of the country. So he produced over 100 pieces of music, all reflecting the country's real-

ity, until he died of an incurable disease at 49.

President Kim Il Sung expressed his heartfelt grief over the death of my husband, saying that he was a talented composer, and saw to it that a state funeral was held for him.

Thanks to the deep trust and boundless affection of the peerlessly great persons of Mt. Paektu he became the first to be awarded the titles of the Merited and People's Artists in our country and his remains were buried in the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery. Under the meticulous care of the great leaders my husband is alive in the memory of the Korean people.

Reporter: What are your children doing now?

Un: My eldest son and his wife, and their first son, and my third grandson are now active at the National Symphony Orchestra and other art troupes.

I wish my descendants to become famous musicians like my husband.



Stamps issued in memory of Kim Ok Song

Reporter: I hope you will realize your wish.

Thanks for your story.

Photos: An Chol Won



Kim Ok Song engrossed in composing (1961)



His family remembers his life



Roller Rink Roller Rink

Roller rinks are being laid out in many places in the DPRK, enriching the people's cultural life.

Most-frequented roller rink is the one newly built in the Munsu area of East Pyongyang on the bank of the Taedong River.

The rink has a main track occupying 2 250 m², a roller hockey rink and a stunt field, so everybody can play speed, figure and hockey roller skating and skateboarding. It also has a room for lending skates, changing rooms, shower rooms and snack bars.

The rink has a constant stream of visitors, including youth and students, day and night, regardless of midwinter cold, who enjoy roller skating at their leisure time.

Little children, who, at first, were practising skateboarding, led by the hands of the trainers, are now skilful with their skateboards, performing various stunts.

Sometimes the aged people are seen roller skating on the track, full of vigour.

The trainers say that they have already many regular visitors and, with spring approaching, the number of visitors continues to increase.

The roller rink, another favourite sports centre for the people built in one of the best places in Pyongyang, is giving pleasure and optimism to the people.

Article & photos: Kim Song Chol



National Flower of the DPRK

Magnolia

The national flower of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the magnolia.

President Kim Il Sung, saying that the magnolia flower can be regarded as the king of flowers because it is fragrant as well as beautiful, and its tree bears fruits and has great adaptability to the surroundings, designated it as Korea's national flower.

Magnolia is a deciduous shrub or a high tree which grows of itself or is cultivated in all regions except the northern highlands of Korea.

It grows 2 to 5 m tall, and its flowers bloom between late May and mid-June.

A large, aromatic and beautiful white flower, 8 to 10 cm in diameter, comes into bloom at the tip of the branches in the order of the spreading. Colours of petal, stamen and pistil are so harmoniously

blended that the flower is very beautiful. Its flowers last for about one week.

Leaves alternate and have short leaf-stalks. They are oval-shaped and 12-14 cm long and 5-10 cm wide. Some are bigger, 25 cm long and 15 cm wide. They are deep green and glossy on the upper side, and greyish green and thickly covered with white trichomes on the other.

In autumn seeds in oval-shaped pods, 5-6 cm long and 3-5 cm round, are borne. When they are ripened, pods become split apart, each producing two red seed balls, which hang pendulously by cottonlike threads before falling on the ground.

It can be propagated by seed or by grafting, layering, separating roots and cutting.

Article & photos: Choe Kwang Hyok



Participating in the Fourth National Meeting of Mothers

A heart-warming story about a teacher is much told among the people in Jesan-ri on the outskirts of the capital city of Pyongyang. The heroine of the story is Ham Ok Suk, teacher of Pyongyang Jesan Primary School, who showed all sincerity to her pupil, Pak U In.

Ham Ok Suk got to know the girl several years ago when she went to the Jesan village to inquire into schoolaged children. Though others of U In's age were rejoiced at their entrance to a primary school, her face looked sad. Ham learned that the girl was seized by cerebral paralysis, so she could not walk and even stammered since she was a baby.

Ok Suk could not erase sad looks on U In's face from her mind. She

teacher, as they could teach their daughter at home by themselves.

Ok Suk, however, was firm in her determination. She visited the girl's house almost everyday, until her sincerity moved them deeply, and they decided to send their daughter to school.

Since then Ok Suk carried U In on her back to and from school, rain or shine.

She taught the girl how to hold a pencil and to read, write and count.

Every tree, even a head of crop, they could see on their way were good teaching aids for her.

When U In was ill at home, Ok Suk went to her house to tutor her, and during vacations she took the girl to her house to take care of her.

As days went by, the girl began to mix with the classmates and recite a poem and sing a song before them.

Witnessing U In's progress, Ok Suk was greatly encouraged.

Whenever she thought of the kind people around her, including her colleagues and villagers, medical workers in every hospital she went for the girl's treatment and even the passengers who offered their seats in the bus to her with the girl on her back, she felt keenly that she was blessed to live in such a harmonious society.



Woman Teacher in Jesan

thought again and again: "In our society, where the whole country forms a large, harmonious family, every child receives free and compulsory education, growing up into reliable personnel for the future of the country. So U In cannot be left out alone. I, too, as an educationist, should never turn away from the girl."

She met the girl's parents and expressed her determination. But the parents did not accept her, saying that they could not trouble the

Thanks to her tireless efforts, the girl could walk to school by herself after two years and six months.

Ham Ok Suk has devoted herself to the education of the rising generations since she graduated from the then Pyongyang Teacher Training College in Juche 73 (1984).

The state awarded her the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK in November last year for her devoted services to the education work.

*Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photos: Kim Song Chol*



She carried U In on her back, rain or shine



With a High Target



A heated enthusiasm for sports is being encouraged in the DPRK.

Excited matches are held between sports teams, while an atmosphere of the mass-based sports prevailing across the country. This hot wind of sports also spurs the Kigwancha Sports Team.

Organized in January Juche 45 (1956), it has produced good results in many games at home and abroad.

Last year alone, it won 12 gold, 3 silver and 6 bronze medals in the 30th Olympics, Asian youth and juvenile championships and other international games.

Elated with successes, it set up a high goal of bringing up world champions in various sporting events, and makes strenuous efforts to raise the scientific level of coaching and introduce into practice efficient training methods as

required by the developing trend of sports science.

It strives to scientifically analyze sports information through technical discussions and meetings for sharing experience and reviews of the previous games, and makes close contact with the sports scientists to find out various training methods, diversified techniques and tactics congenial to the physical conditions of the individual athletes.

The players of the team are also in high spirits.

The football players, both men and women, are concentrating on perfecting their tactics through intensive trainings on a football field, while basketball players training hard to polish their dribbling and throwing-in skills and those in combat sports striving to perfect their fortes by building up their bodies through weight-liftings and training with their counterparts.

Let us exalt the honour of the country that soars into space by winning more gold medals!—this is the goal all the coaches and players of the sports team have set.

Ro Chol Ok, vice director in charge of techniques, says that his sports team will be in the vanguard of the national sports development, as its name Kigwancha or the locomotive implies, and bring glory to the country.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photos: Jin Yong Ho



Kigwancha Sports Team has produced good results in games at home and abroad

“The Tale of Chun Hyang”



The National Circus of the DPRK created a new acrobatic play in October last year, which is now a huge box-office success.

A Korean classic written in the 18th century, *The Tale of Chun Hyang*, is a progressive work of those days, that criticized the feudal caste system which classified people by their rank and wealth and claimed that love between

men and women is free irrespective of their different social status.

The novel was already well known among the Korean people and liked by them through its adaptation for film and opera in the past. But it was the first time for it to be adapted for an acrobatic performance.

This acrobatic play combines in a harmonious and dramatic form all elements of acrobatics, such physical and traditional acrobatic feats as flying trapeze, synchronized swimming, acrobatic techniques on ice, animal stunts, clowns and magic art. It thus portrays in a genuine artistic way the love of the heroes, through which it exposes the reactionary nature and injustice of the feudal caste system and eulogizes the beautiful moral

ethics of the Korean people.

In Scene 1 “Spring Wind over Kwanghan Pavilion,” of Act 1 “Promise” the acrobats perform the seesawing and other acrobatic skills, depicting merry life of the people and the love story between Ri Mong Ryong, son of an aristocrat, and Chun Hyang, daughter of a commoner.

The play, comprised of Act 2 “Parting,” Act 3 “Chastity,” and several other acts and scenes, reaches its climax in Act 4 “Punishment” and finishes in Act 5 “Reunion.”

The acrobatic play has thus ushered in a new phase in developing the Juche-based acrobatics.

Article: Choe Kwang Hyok
Photos: Kim Kum Jin





With high medical art and devotion

Surgeons at Orthopaedics Department

-At Kim Man Yu Hospital-

In April last year, a girl was leaving Kim Man Yu Hospital, with a hearty send-off of the people.

She was 11-year-old Ju Kyong Suk. Her father had carried her on his back five months previously to the hospital.

She could not walk since she was a baby because of congenital contracture of legs.

Seeing the handicapped girl, the doctors at the orthopaedics department of Kim Man Yu Hospital thought: "We should not let her live in agony, as she was born in our socialist country where all the people form a great, harmonious family."

The department head Kim Hyo Hwan and other doctors discussed detailed methods of treatment and exerted their devotion, thus bringing the girl back on her own feet.

The other time the medical workers at the department participated in skin-grafting operations three times for a patient with a chronic ulcer, and in December last year they did not

hesitate to graft their skin on a patient who got a third-degree burn on 50% of the body.

They have achieved many successes in treating aseptic necrosis on the head of a thighbone and the stricture of the spinal canal through operations and raised the effects in convalescence by applying various remedies of Koryo medicine. They don't attribute their achievements to merely high medical art. They hold it as their creed that the high medical art can only be displayed with their devoted sincerity to the patients, and with that sincerity they instill hopes in those suffering from diseases.

Many people who have received treatment at the orthopaedics department say that they feel again their blessed life under the grateful socialist system.

Article: Choe Song Jun
Photos: Kim Song Chol



Receiving letters from the patients they cured

Plunder and Burning of Korean National Classics



A silver-powdered painting of Buddhist images that was originally preserved in Pojok Temple in 1294



Wooden blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures from Koryo period were looted by the Japanese



Some of the literary classics plundered by the Japanese



National Museum in Tokyo has the largest collection of the Korean cultural assets the Japanese took to their country

During their military occupation of Korea (1905-1945) the Japanese imperialists went hell-bent on burning to destruction and looting many Korean classical books in order to deprive the Korean nation of its spirit and obliterate its history and culture.

They mobilized gendarmes and policemen and even gangsters to ransack the bookshops, local institutions and private schools of Confucian learning and even the houses across Korea and burned to ashes the literature on Tangun, founding father of the Korean nation.

They also burned or took to Japan all the books written in Korean language including history and geography books.

Terauchi Masatake, the first Governor-General of Korea, built in Yamaguchi, his hometown, the "Korean House" in which were on exhibit the relics and classical documents taken from Korea.

At present over 450 volumes of Korean classics and historical documents are on display in a women's college in Yamaguchi, many of which are the documents of the feudal Joseon dynasty and the writings of the scholars in those days.

The one copy of Chronicles of the Feudal Joseon Dynasty in over 1 800 volumes he had donated to Tokyo University was destroyed during the Great

Kanto Earthquake of 1923 in Japan.

Korean historical classics, including Samguksagi (Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms), Samgukyusa (History of the Three Kingdoms), and diaries of feudal government offices, various literary classics such as Biography of Ulji Mundok, Records of Loyalty, Biographies of Great Persons and others were forcibly taken away by the Japanese.

There still remain in the Imperial Palace, national government agencies, Tokyo Archives of Oriental Literature, Osaka Prefectural Library, and other places in Japan a large number of Korean classics and old documents the Japanese imperialists had plundered during their military occupation.

A lot of Korean classics are being sold across the world.

The Japanese crime of plundering the Koreans of their classics is not only the crime they committed against the Korean nation but the international crime of destroying the world cultural treasures.

The Japanese authorities must make an apology and reparations for this crime and return the Korean cultural assets back to the Korean people.

Historical Relic

Changsong Confucian School

Among the historical relics of Korean architecture is found Changsong Confucian School in Changsong County, North Phyongan Province.

The building stands halfway up the hill, exposed to the south, some 300m away from Nae Stream running through the county seat.

It was set up in the early days of the feudal Joseon as the first institution to teach the children of the aristocratic class in the village feudalistic Confucian ideas and ethics.

It is written on the ridgepole of the building that it was reconstructed in 1765.

In the front of the building is Myongryun Hall erected on an embankment faced with stones. It is 15.4m in front and 5.6m on the flank, has no walls and is gable-roofed with double eaves.

At the back of the hall are found Tong-mu and So-mu, gabled houses with double eaves built on a terraced ground facing each other.

Taesong Hall which stands behind them is also a gabled house with double eaves, measuring 11.15 m in front and 7.1 m on the flank. Its pillars and roof brackets are exquisitely dovetailed, and slender-ribbed doors are attached to push aside.

Changsong Confucian School has unique features of composition and placement common to such buildings of those days, thus representing the contemporary architecture and management of Confucian schools.

Article & photos: Jin Yong Ho



Tong-mu (above) and So-mu (below)



Myongryun Hall



Colourful paintings of Taesong Hall

