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Great Contribution to World Culture Order

Chairman Kim Jong Il received Great Contribution to World Culture Order from the Anna Pavlova Charity Foundation, Russia, in June 2006.



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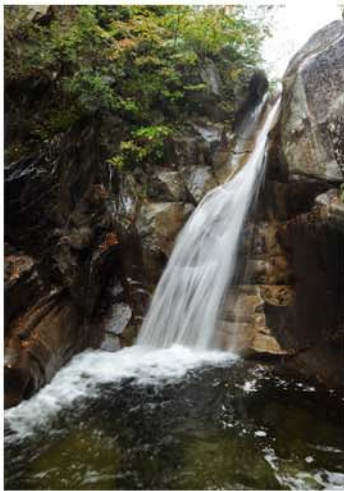
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Front Cover: DPRK women footballers won the 17th Asian Games

Photos by courtesy of the KCNA



Back Cover: Puyong Falls (October 2014)

Photo by Choe Kyong Guk

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Three Years of Immortality and Inheritance



Kim Jong Il, Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission (January 2011).

IT IS THREE YEARS SINCE THE KOREAN people had the greatest national loss of the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il. Nevertheless, their respect for the Chairman has not diminished in the least, but rather has grown still intenser. This is evident from the fact that the Korean people have carried the cause of immortalizing the Chairman to culmination while steadily inheriting his idea and work.

In the past three years the Korean people have completely realized the cause of immortalizing the Chairman, yearning for him and firmly believing that he will always be with them. They laid the Chairman in state in the Kumsusan Memorial Palace where President Kim Il Sung lies in state, renamed the memorial palace the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun and arranged the palace as the sacred shrine of Juche. They erected the bronze statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill, followed by the erection of the bronze statues of the Chairman at Kim Il Sung University and other

places. The towers dedicated to the immortality of the President and the Chairman and the mosaic murals depicting the beaming images of the President and the Chairman were put up at many places. They designated the Chairman's birthday the Day of the Shining Star and held colourful celebrations in honour of his birthday every year. This was an expression of the Korean people's boundless admiration for the Chairman who had performed immortal feats for the motherland and the people, and a manifestation of their firm will to safeguard and glorify his revolutionary exploits.

The Korean people have dynamically advanced along the road of independence, Songun and socialism during the three years as wished by the Chairman, rising up with strength and vigour from the sorrow of losing the Chairman. The 4th Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea and the 5th Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly in April 2012 adopted a decision to designate Kim Jong Il as the eternal General Secretary of the Workers' ►

- ▶ Party of Korea and the eternal Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This was an expression of the unshakable will of the Korean people to inherit the ideas and lines of the Chairman without any deviation in the future.

Actually, Kim Jong Il's unique Songun revolutionary leadership has been carried forward invariably over the past three years. As a result, national defence capability has augmented remarkably, the security of socialist Korea and peace in Northeast Asia have been guarded firmly, and the soldier-builders of the People's Army have grown into the main force making breakthrough on the socialist construction sites. All the modern structures built fast and superbly including the Korean People's Army January 8 Fishing Station, Masikryong Ski Resort, Munsu Water Park, Songdowon International Children's Camp, Unha Scientists Street and Wisong Scientists Dwelling District are associated with the selfless work of the soldier-builders of the KPA. Meanwhile, the Korean people have focused their efforts on the construction of the economy and improvement of the people's living standards to hasten the building of a thriving socialist nation which was the wish of the Chairman. In this course, they successfully launched the man-made satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 and newly built modern facto-

ries and enterprises such as the Chonji Lubricant Factory, a complex of scientific research and production, or renovated the existing factories. Moreover, they have vigorously carried on the national reunification movement, true to the idea "By our nation itself" elucidated by the Chairman.

All the remarkable changes that have taken place in these three years in Korea are inconceivable apart from the wise leadership of the national leader Kim Jong Un and the Korean people's high fidelity to his leadership and also from their devoted efforts. In December 2011 when the Korean people were overwhelmed with grief at the loss of the Chairman, the world public expressed their deep condolence to them, but they little knew such astonishing changes would take place in Korea in the future. Despite the unexpected passing of the leader, Korea remained unperturbed without any political upheaval or change. Rather, the respect of the people for their late leader grew still higher, and they closely banded together round Kim Jong Un, the heir to the ideology and cause of the Chairman.

The Korean people are now firmly convinced that the Chairman's ideology and cause will be faithfully carried forward because Kim Jong Un is at the helm.

Kim Il Bong

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state.



Catalyst of Construction Boom

A KOREAN SAYING GOES that “Ten years are enough to change mountains and rivers.” This, however, is no longer a proper saying to epitomize things in the country where modern structures mushroom. Last year, for example, edifices perfect in formative and artistic representation were built across the country including the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, Unha Scientists Street, Munsu Water Park and Masikryong Ski Resort, changing the appearance of the country remarkably in a year.

The resources of the popular masses are inexhaustible, and it is a traditional method of guiding masses proper to the Workers’ Party of Korea to hasten the socialist construction by a mass-based innovation movement while

actively encouraging their exertions. Last year the WPK brought about the heyday of construction by pooling the creativity of the masses in a campaign to make the Masikryong Speed, a mass-based innovation movement. This year the WPK has opened a new golden age of construction by encouraging the creative zeal of the masses to the maximum. In his New Year Address for 2014 Kim Jong Un, first secretary of the WPK, set it as one of the important tasks of this year to usher in another heyday of construction. He kindled the flames of creating the Korean Speed, another mass-based innovation movement, and spearheaded the movement so that it spread all over the country.

On January 6 he provided his first field guidance of this year to the marine products freezing fa-

cility newly built by a Korean People’s Army unit and called on the KPA to take charge of supplying fish to the orphanages, baby homes, orphans’ primary and middle schools and the elderly’s homes throughout the country every day all the year around. Then he issued on the spot an order of the KPA Supreme Commander to set up a fishing station in the army for the purpose. Afterwards, the supreme leader visited the construction site of the fishing station two times and gave detailed instructions so that the fishing station was built as a model of fishing stations in the country.

His indication of the direction and ways of construction associated with his warm human love and world-level viewpoint became the motive force for the soldier- ▶

The Songdown International Children’s Camp.





The workers' hostel of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill.



The lecturers' apartments of Kim Chaek University of Technology.



► builders to build a breakwater, a wharf, production buildings, facilities and dwelling houses for fishermen in a little over two months in the face of severe cold, heavy snowfall and rough sea. In April last Kim Jong Un, visiting the January 8 Fishing Station again, said that the successful completion of the huge construction project and full preparation of operation were truly a miracle and that that was just the Korean Speed.

Later, the movement of creating the Korean Speed spread across the country, and a new revolutionary upsurge came in Korea. Thanks to the movement the workers' hostel of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, Songdowon International Children's Camp, Kalma Foodstuff Factory and a wire netting fence factory of the Kosan Fruit Farm were inaugurated in succession. And buildings which are perfectly provided with convenience and aesthetic appeal were built rapidly ►

Apartments in the Wisong Scientists Dwelling District.



► such as the Wisong Scientists Dwelling District, Pyongyang Baby Home, Pyongyang Orphanage and Yonphung Scientists Holiday Camp. In the summer of this year over 300 schoolchildren from different countries had camping vacation at the newly facelifted Songdownon Interna-

tional Children's Camp. The campers unanimously said that they would keep it a lifelong memory to have enjoyed themselves at the Songdownon camp which is wonderfully provided with all necessary conditions and environment suited to the psychology of the children and camping.

Over the year the revolutionary zeal and creativity of the Korean people have increased amazingly, and the mass-based innovation movement has got much more dynamic. Accordingly, the country is changing into a civilized socialist nation at a high speed.

Sim Yong Jin

The Korean People's Army January 8 Fishing Station.



Training Students Into Reliable Pillars

THE TEACHERS AND researchers of the architectural engineering faculty of the Pyongyang University of Architecture have not only rendered great services to construction work by inventing and applying practical building methods at the major construction sites but also improved the quality of education by using them. In recent years they have designed various structures for the reconstruction of pleasure parks, fun fairs and May Day Stadium in Pyongyang, and the construction of power stations in tiers on the Chongchon River, the stock farm in the Sepho area and the waterway project in South Hwanghae Province.

In this course, they have created new building methods, greatly helping the projects forward. Their efforts are redoubled as more construction projects are

undertaken along modern lines these days. When the construction of Changjon Street was under way, Kim Myong Hui, dean of the faculty, suggested the method of using large-size plywood as shuttering board to build one whole floor at a dash. The adoption of this method brought about the saving of large amounts of materials while speeding up the construction work and improving its quality. Meanwhile, the teachers and researchers devised a new scaffolding ensuring free work at different heights and the smoothness of the surface of concrete walls and increasing the construction speed by far. They also worked out a way of lifting finishing materials including wall glass for high-rise buildings. This raised the speed of construction three times and saved labour force by 17 per cent.

Early in last September, the teachers and researchers of the faculty displayed many teaching aids and devices of their own make including a cement tester at the national exhibition of experimental apparatuses for education and teaching aids. For their original ideas and practical significance the exhibits were highly appreciated. All of them were based on the ideas gained from the reality and experiences. The building methods and contrivances created in reality are theoretically systematized and reflected in teaching plans and reference books. The teachers and researchers of the faculty are combining theory and practice more closely in order to train the students into reliable pillars in building a civilized socialist nation.

Ri Sun Nyo

Bangladeshis Publish Books in Praise of Korea

IN SEPTEMBER LAST A ceremony took place for the publication of *Songun Internationale* (Vol. 2) and *Ten Days in the Oriental Korea* in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in the presence of political and social figures of Bangladesh.

Songun Internationale (Vol. 2) was written by M. Jahangir Khan, chairman of the Songun Politics Study Group of Bangladesh. On the first pages the book carries three photos of Chairman Kim Jong Il showing his revolutionary career of Songun-based leadership, including the one of him enjoying the sight of sunrise from Piro Peak in Mt. Kumgang.

The book consists of four chapters; the first one refers to the reason why the DPRK chose the road of Songun and why it was historically inevitable; the second one tells the essence, originality and truthfulness of Songun politics; the third one describes Korea which demon-

strates its dignity and might in the international arena as a nation possessed of nuclear arms and capable of making and launching satellites; and the last one emphasizes the fact that the voices of the world progressive people supporting and praising Songun politics are growing stronger. In the end the writer stresses the need to loudly sing *Songun Internationale*, which encourages the cause of independence of humankind, in order to resolutely frustrate the moves of the US-led imperialist powers for supremacy and secure global peace and prosperity.

Ten Days in the Oriental Korea was written by M. Kaiser, secretary of the above-mentioned group, based on what he experienced in the DPRK when he visited it in April 2009. In the book he tells what he saw visiting the sacred place of revolution Mangyongdae, the birthplace of President Kim Il Sung, the

Party Founding Memorial Tower, the International Friendship Exhibition House and other monumental edifices across the country and scenic spots. He gives an accurate description of the history of the Workers' Party of Korea, the brilliant culture and tradition of Korea and the civilized and noble moral traits of the Korean people, and the appearance of the country developing with each passing day in the Songun era. And he points out the happiness of the Korean people who have nothing to envy in the world and are enjoying their life to the full thanks to the universal free medical care system and the universal free compulsory education system under the care of their great national leader and the benevolent Party. He touches on the advantages of the educational and public health systems in Korea, and gives a good account of his impression. □

For the People's Happiness

An Astounding Number of Designs Examined

ONE DAY LAST YEAR WHEN THE INAUGURAL ceremony of the Munsu Water Park was around the corner, the national leader Kim Jong Un said to some officials that he had examined 109 pieces of suggestion for the construction of the park until a few days before and that now that he studied four more that day, the number of designs totalled 113. The officials were surprised, for they had not expected it at all. The designers had numbered the pieces since they had presented the first one. As they had received his instruction on their suggestions almost everyday they had forgotten the correct number. The experts who had been engaged in designing all their life had never made so many designs for a single project. Kim Jong Un examined their ideas at any time of the day—at midnight, at dawn, even on Sundays and holidays. He gave a new idea for each of the models suggested. He inspected the construction site at any time, going round it for a long time and asking the designers to draw up a better plan for details of the project. All of the 113 pieces were associated with such guidance.

A few days later he came to the Munsu Water Park near the inauguration and gave detailed instructions for the completion, looking round every nook and corner—the multicoloured zigzag water slides, different sizes of pools, diving boards, an artificial waterfall, a man-made mountain of cliffs that look like those in Myohyang and Kumgang mountains, real-like animal sculptures. On October 15 after the celebration of the 68th anniversary of the founding of the WPK, the Munsu Water Park was opened to the public. People believed that the supreme leader who had put his heart and soul in the project would attend the inauguration ceremony. But the tape was cut by ordinary people instead of him.

Newly Laid Lawn and Sandbank

One day Kim Jong Un gave field guidance to the construction site of the Rungna Wading Pool. He

attentively examined the design and found something that all designers had failed to see imperfect. The design did not include a resting place for the people to lie at ease after their playing in water. At that time officials didn't think of this point, because the project was far away from the sea.

Kim Jong Un said that it was necessary to make a resting place for the people to lie down as they couldn't lie down on the tiled floor or pavements beside the pools, and that it was better to make the lawn or a sandy beach in the space between the changing room and the pools. He went on to say that the lawn would be better than a sandy beach for appearance's sake but that people would prefer a sandy beach rather than the lawn as it were, that it would be advisable to make a beach spread with the sand from Monggumpho and set up showers in front of the sandy beach so as to help people wash their bodies before jumping into the pools.

And he gave a kindly advice that in the large space between the changing room and the pools not only a sandy beach but also the lawn should be laid for good looks. Thanks to his advice the lawn and a sandy beach of the Rungna Wading Pool came into being.

In Spite of the Rainy Day

One rainy day in July last year, the national leader Kim Jong Un visited the construction sites of the Okryu Children's Hospital and the Ryugyong Dental Hospital that were going up in a modern style.

At that time his clothes was wet with rain and his shoes were smeared with mud from the dirt road to the construction sites. But it was no problem to him.

His face was beaming with a smile over the joy of presenting another valuable gift to the people. He went round the construction sites for a long time and said that it was the WPK's firm determination to build the Okryu Children's Hospital and the Ryugyong Dental Hospital as perfect people's health centres of the world level.

Choe Chol Jin



Chollima Tiles

THE CHOLLIMA TILE Factory in Kangson, the cradleland of Chollima, is a leading building-materials factory. The panorama of production buildings with their spaces well allotted for work and rest impresses one with the sense of modernity and cosiness. The ceilings of the buildings so contrived as to prevent pollution provide a clean and cultural working environment.

inauguration a few years ago, the factory has overfulfilled its annual plans for production of exterior and interior wall tiles, marble tiles, decoration and belt tiles, and porcelain roofing tiles. The factory is equipped with such processes as those of baking microlite, large-sized glass compound tiles, and large-sized artificial marble, and the general grinding process and others. The production processes from the input of raw materials to the output of finished products are arranged in an assembly line, and the high-pressure cutter and other equipment are operated on CNC lines. A large new modern production building was constructed for production capacity expansion a ▶





► few years ago, and recently an adhesives production process and a digital colour printing process have been set up. Now adhesives, putty, and waterproof stuffs are turned out. Besides, a workshop has been established to make plastic sacks for packing adhesive agents. The digital colour printing process prints patterns on tiles to the fancy of customers.

So, the factory produces various encaustic tiles as much as needed, and also makes high-grade tiles looking like brick and stone. The factory has provided tiles for the construction and renovation of many structures including the buildings in Changjon and Mansudae streets, Rungna Dolphinarium, People's Theatre, Mansugyo Meat and Fish Shop, Taedonggang Combined Fruit Processing Factory, Majon Hotel, Unha Scientists

Street, Okryu Restaurant, Folklore Street in Sariwon, National Theatre and Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun Conservatory.

The factory founded only a short time ago has developed rapidly in a brief space of time, thanks to its scientific management in keeping with the trend of development of the tile industry and continuous improvement of the working environment and the living conditions of its employees. Laboratories have been set up in the workshops so that scientific and technological problems arising in the process of production are solved on the spot. Over 200 sci-tech problems have been settled in this way and hundreds of workers received the February 16 Sci-tech Prize, certificates of technological innovation and contrivance, patents and certificates of

invention. A few of them have won the title of Labour Hero. Chollima tiles vary in size, shape, colour and pattern and are waterproof and heat insulating. They have been authenticated by the ISO quality control system for their high permissible plane and rectangular numerical value, contraction rate, intensity and resistance to cold. Their raw materials like kaoline, silica and silica sand are inexhaustible in Korea and they are baked by the process of anthracite gasification.

Today the factory is bent on the development of new tiles of varied sizes and colours and those of different purposes, and is doing its best endeavours to use domestic raw materials in making all its products.

Kim Yong Ok

Fortune of Korea

CHAIRMAN KIM JONG IL was appointed Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army on December 24, 1991. This was a great honour to the Korean people. Today they recall with emotion what a great leader they had in their grave struggle against the US imperialists for decades.

No sooner had the former Soviet Union collapsed in the early 1990s than the allied imperialist forces headed by the US imperialists applied folds of encirclement of the DPRK, seeking a chance of a total nuclear war in Korea. In 1993 the US resumed the US-south Korea joint military exercises code-named Team Spirit, which it had agreed to discontinue, and introduced a huge amount of means of nuclear strike into and around the Korean peninsula. At this juncture Kim Jong Il issued an order of the KPA Supreme Commander to the whole country, all the people and the entire army to enter into a state of semi-war on March 8 that year when the Team Spirit was going on a full scale. On March 12 the government of the DPRK made public a statement to the world declaring that it would withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The tough countermeasure of the DPRK left the United States no other choice than announcing the ending of the Team Spirit ahead of schedule and agreeing to have the DPRK-US negotiation. At the talks the US signed a joint statement which committed the US to a peaceful solution of the nuclear problem in Korea and the DPRK-USA Agreed Framework (October 1994), the core of which prescribes the US's provision of light-water reactor and alternative energy to the DPRK.

Later, the DPRK leader administered the unique Songun politics in all fields, thus strengthening the KPA in every way and leading it to imbue the

whole country with the spirit of giving priority to military affairs. From 1995 until the last moment of his life in 2011 he made a forced march, inspecting armed forces-related units numbering over 2 490. By dint of his Songun politics the Korean people have won victory after victory in the fight against the US imperialists, their country has become a nuclear state, and the KPA has developed into the main driving force making breakthroughs in socialist construction while assuming the duty of national defence.

Later on December 30, 2011 the Korean people acclaimed their leader Kim Jong Un as Supreme Commander of the KPA and have since dynamically pushed forward the building of a thriving socialist nation while resolutely smashing the Americans' intensified moves to stifle their country. In January 2012 the leader inspected the KPA Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division, marking his first inspection as the Supreme Commander. This was an indication of his will to invariably carry on the Chairman's Songun-based revolutionary leadership. When an acute tension set in the Korean peninsula in March 2012 due to the Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military rehearsals of the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets, he inspected the Panmunjom Post (it directly faces the enemy), implanting the faith in victory in the KPA soldiers.

His unusual military sagacity and matchless courage came into the limelight when there was a fierce confrontation caused by the US on the absurd pretext of the DPRK's successful launch of artificial satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 in December 2012. The US misled the international public opinion by vilifying the satellite launch for a peaceful purpose as "threat" and "provocation" and mobilized large armed forces in south Korea to wage Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military ex-

ercises. Worse still, Washington and its vassal forces railroaded "resolution on sanctions" against the DPRK in January and March of 2013 at the UN Security Council. To cope with this situation Pyongyang undertook a third nuclear test successfully in February 2013, and the KPA artillerymen took a significant posture to defend their country from the enemy's aggression.

In those days the supreme Korean leader convened the March 2013 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and set forth the strategic line of carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces simultaneously. In April that year, at his initiative, the ordinance on consolidating the status of the self-defensive nuclear state, and the law on space exploration and the decision on setting up the DPRK National Aerospace Development Administration were adopted at the Seventh Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK. The Korean people are successfully defending the security of the country and pushing ahead with the efforts for economic construction and the people's standard of living because they have Kim Jong Un who takes a tougher stand against a tough one of the US and other hostile forces.

The small nation of Korea has safeguarded its sovereignty while undauntedly facing the US, the imperialist ringleader, and confidently followed the road of building a thriving socialist nation. It is just because the country is under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, the Supreme Commander of the KPA who is precisely the same as Chairman Kim Jong Il in ideology, leadership, courage and grit. And this is the greatest fortune of the Korean people.

Kim Il Ryong

Ushering in Anti-Japanese Armed Struggle



AFTER OCCUPYING KOREA militarily with the fabrication of the illegal “Ulsa Five-point Treaty” in 1905, the Japanese imperialists launched an armed invasion against the northeastern region of China by fabricating the September 18 Incident or Manchurian Incident in 1931. On the pretext of security in the home front for the sake of the war, they instigated much more ferocious oppression on the Korean people. This gave rise to a sharp increase in the Koreans’ struggle against the repression, which gradually turned into a violent form.

On the basis of a scientific analysis of the situation, Kim Il Sung, who had been spearheading the anti-Japanese struggle of the nation, made a bold and resolute decision to put up an armed struggle against the aggressors. Then he set out to estimate the validity of the policy on armed struggle and the relevant strategy and tactics suggested at the historic Kalun Meeting (June 1930) and make an all-round, concrete programme for their implementation.

He called a meeting of Party and Young Communist League cadres in Dunhua, Jilin Province, China on September 21, 1931, three days after the Japanese imperialists started the war of aggression of Manchuria. Addressing the meeting, Kim Il Sung said that it was the

essential task of the Korean communists to develop the anti-Japanese national liberation movement into the stage of armed struggle. He stressed the need to make preparations in real earnest for organization of armed units which would launch armed struggle under the revolutionary banner of “Arms for arms!”

Later at the meeting of chiefs of the revolutionary organizations in the Antu area held in Songjiang, Jilin Province, China in late September that year and the meeting of political workers active in Korea and leaders of the underground revolutionary organizations held in Kwangmyong Village, Onsong County (Jongsong County at the time), North Hamgyong Province, Korea in mid-October the same year, Kim Il Sung suggested tasks for pushing preparations for the anti-Japanese armed struggle. The tasks included training hardcore of the armed units, laying a mass foundation for the struggle, and obtaining arms. In the first half of November that year he was staying in Mingyuegou, Yanji County, China, supervising the work of preparation for the armed struggle as a whole. There he made efforts to work out the policy of organizing and waging anti-Japanese armed struggle and defining the strategic and tactical standards. Alienating himself from dogmatic conceptions and adopting a creative way of thinking, he decided the guerrilla warfare as the form of armed struggle suitable to the actual condition of Korea which was under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists. On this basis, he solved strategic and tactical problems pertaining to the armed struggle.

Referring to his revolutionary activities in this time, *Short History of the Korean Revolutionary Movement Overseas* that was released immediately after Ko-

rea’s liberation on August 15, 1945, writes in the subtitle *Kim Il Sung’s Free Activities*: “Later, what had become of Kim Song Ju (Kim Il Sung or Hanbyol), a 19-year-old man who was enthusiastically engaged in the youth movement and the anti-imperialist struggle while commanding expectations of his comrades and the affection of the general public in the turbulent Manchurian society from his early years? Having obtained energy in the expanse of Liaohe Plain (Wujiazi) and steeled himself in the rough waves of the Songhua River, he returned to the mountainous region of Fusong, as had been mentioned previously. When the Manchurian Incident broke out in 1931, he, breaking the long silence, turned out with a prominent banner, like the bright morning star, for the purpose of radical overthrow of Japanese imperialism and liberation of the weak Oriental nation.” (*Short History of the Korean Revolutionary Movement Overseas* Vol. 2, Page 66, the Agency of Oriental Culture, Seoul, 1946)

Referring to the fact that Kim Il Sung worked out a policy of organizing an armed struggle and the relevant strategy and tactics for it following the September 18 Incident, the Chinese newspaper *Renmin Ribao* (dated July 19, 1950) wrote: “General Kim decided that the national liberation movement of the Korean people should necessarily switch over to the anti-Japanese armed struggle and that this armed struggle should characteristically be a guerrilla warfare. He closely combined a strong party, a broad national united front against the Japanese imperialists and the armed struggle, and laid the fundamental conditions for victory by establishing firm bases of the anti-Japanese armed struggle. Soon after the rapacious Japanese imperialists invaded ▶

► the northeast (of China) most of the local warlords and squires succumbed to the aggressors. But a large number of the people rose in resistance against the Japanese. With the frequent uprisings of the Koreans in different regions in autumn, the revolutionary advance got virile. Taking advantage of the upsurge in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, General Kim Il Sung personally organized an armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists while expanding the popular organizations by uniting the revolutionary forces.”

Meanwhile, Kim Il Sung had a good idea of the importance of the matter of cooperation with the Chinese communists since the Korean communists had to form armed forces and launch a war against the Japanese imperialists in Manchuria. So he was deeply concerned about the problem. But he could not have any counsel because La Tengxian, secretary of the Manchurian Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China, and Yang Rin, secretary of the Provincial Party Military Committee, were in hiding away from Shenyang after the September 18 Incident and Yang Jingyu was still in prison. Tong Changrong who was appointed secretary of the East Manchurian Special Committee of the Communist Party of China in November 1931 tried to meet Kim Il Sung while staying in Longjing after his narrow escape from “punitive operations” of the Japanese military. But as he was little informed of the local situation, he, going around to find out the whereabouts of the East Manchurian Special Committee (it had moved somewhere earlier), was pinched by enemy spies and put in custody in the Longjing Police Station. Kim Il Sung decided to rescue him by all means, and sent a man named Ko Po Bae for an arrangement for Tong’s release. Ko managed to make a bargain with the police to let Tong go out of custody soon.

In order to make a success of the upcoming meeting, Kim Il Sung called a preliminary

meeting and had a discussion on the tasks of revolutionary organizations in different regions, the matter to be put on the agenda of the full-dress meeting, the date, place, participants and order of the meeting, correspondence for the calling of the meeting and security problems.

Having made such preparations, Kim Il Sung opened a meeting of Party and Young Communist League cadres in Mingyuegou, Yanji County, on December 16, 1931. He delivered a historic speech titled *On Organizing and Waging Armed Struggle against Japanese Imperialism*. In his speech he expounded an original military strategic idea on waging guerrilla warfare as the main form of the struggle for national liberation in colony. The essence of the idea was that the struggle for independence in colonial countries should be done by means of armed struggle and that the struggle will emerge victorious only when it is done in the mode of guerrilla warfare. The suggestion was a scientific and creative choice which was fully compliant with the situation of the Korean communists who had to conduct revolutionary struggle in a foreign country since they were deprived of the national sovereignty, territory and all resources.

Talking about the matter of building a revolutionary armed force, Kim Il Sung suggested organizing the Anti-Japanese People’s Guerrilla Army, a standing revolutionary armed force, and made detailed explanations about the character of the army, its mission, the principle to be observed in organizing the army and how to build it up. He also indicated ways to form small guerrilla units by regions, equip them with arms and develop them into large units gradually. He established the method of obtaining weapons. Regarding the matter of laying guerrilla bases, he proposed to establish them in mountainous areas in Jiandao that had got good masses of people, good conditions for the material supply and advantageous

terrains. In addition, he gave succinct explanations about the problems of laying mass foundations for the armed struggle, forming anti-Japanese united front of the Korean and Chinese peoples and strengthening the work of Party organizations and the Young Communist League.

The meeting was attended by Tong Changrong and several other Chinese communists as well. Tong asked Korean comrades to make important remarks as they had long worked in East Manchuria, accumulating lots of experience.

Dwelling on the keynote of the problems discussed at the meeting, Kim Il Sung spoke of his idea of the organization of the armed unit and the armed struggle in Chinese and Korean alternately. Tong and other Chinese comrades gave full support to the idea and agreed with Kim Il Sung on all matters he mentioned including the form of the guerrilla warfare, the organization of the guerrilla army and the laying of guerrilla bases.

The ten-day meeting made a final, total and specific decision on the strategic and tactical matters relating the anti-Japanese armed struggle, and put forward detailed tasks.

Kim Il Sung stressed the need for the participants in the meeting to keep in mind the honourable revolutionary duty they assumed before the country and the people and fulfil the duty of the communists as revolutionaries by finally accomplishing the assigned tasks whatever ordeals and difficulties stood in the way of the revolutionary movement.

The Mingyuegou Meeting called by Kim Il Sung was a historic event that marked the beginning of the anti-Japanese armed struggle in Korea and gave a new impetus to the anti-Japanese national liberation movement and communist movement of the country.

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Noble Patriotism

Better Goods for the People

ONE DAY IN THE autumn of 1947 the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk visited a house in Kyongsong County, North Hamgyong Province. In the house she happened to see crude and unpresentable bowls. After that, she went to the ceramic factory that produced them. Starting from the raw materials yard, she looked round all the production process, chatting with the workers and helping them in their work. In this course, she got acquainted with the actual conditions of the factory. She picked up a soup bowl from the sorting table and asked the management officials around her if they could not make their goods whiter, lighter and better designed. One of them answered that the bowls sold like fun as they were the moment they were put on sale at the shops, and told her why it was difficult to improve their quality. She pointed out that they did not make an effort to improve the quality of their goods because they were not yet free from the old viewpoint on the people. "True, your technical skills might not be high enough as yet and there could be many difficulties ahead of you," she went on. "But if you make them with the utmost care just as if they were for your own children's table use, you would be able to make them fine and handsome. You are responsible for the production of rice and soup bowls used daily by the people. What is more, the Korean women regarded bowls as important kitchen ornaments from of old and had the way of decorating the kitchen with pretty and handsome bowls bought with money they saved. So, what do you think would be the feelings of



the women who handle your bowls of poor quality three or four times every day? Improving the quality of bowls is not a mere businesslike matter but an important affair to inspire the people with patriotism."

She told the management staff that the skilled workers should teach the unskilled hands and that the main thing was to rouse the workers and technicians ideologically, adding that the ideological problem should be solved before other issues. After her visit, the quality of the factory's production improved markedly.

The Nation Before the Hearth and Home

The defence capacity of a new Korea that had brought Japanese military occupation to an end and greeted liberation (August 15, 1945) was not great enough to beat off the enemy's aggression at a blow. For all that, the state could not purchase weapons from abroad for lack of funds.

The great leader Kim Il Sung

decided to solve this question by arousing the patriotism of the entire people. In the evening of the day after he appealed to the entire people to make contributions to the national defence fund, Kim Jong Suk set a dinner table for him who was just back home and then told him about the itemized account of the things to be contributed from their home to the national defence fund which she had drawn up in the daytime. The items included two silver candlesticks presented by a foreign friend, a gifted fancy box decorated with alloy, expensive tonics from a former anti-Japanese fighter, and even the savings from her domestic table expenses. The

great leader was highly pleased with the account, and said she did very well and that the Premier's home should take the lead in the contribution to the national defence fund. So the donation from his home was the first to arrive at the head office of the Association of Supporters for National Defence.

One evening some time later, Kim Il Sung heard again of his family's contribution to the national defence fund. Its items included a fine dagger, one of young Kim Jong Il's playthings, and the Premier's salary received some time ago. The great leader had given his salary to Kim Jong Suk telling her to use it on a suit of new clothes made, and not otherwise, for she had gone through all sorts of hardships during the anti-Japanese armed struggle without properly dressing. On that day he gladly approved his family's plan for the second contribution to the national defence fund praising the laudable deed of his wife and son who were devoting their all to the country. □

Socialist Constitution for the People



A REPORTER OF THE Korea Today had a talk with Dr. Hong Chol Hwa, head of the Law Research Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences on the 42nd anniversary of the enactment of the Socialist Constitution in Korea. Excerpts:

I'd like to know how the Socialist Constitution was enacted and developed.

During the period of the Japanese military occupation of Korea (1905–1945), the Korean people were subjected to the slavish life by wicked fascist laws which trampled upon the elementary freedom and rights of human beings.

A popular constitution was adopted and enforced for the first time with the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in September 1948. The draft of the constitution was based on the ten-point programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland written by President Kim Il Sung during his anti-Japanese armed struggle and the achievements and experience in the state building in the northern half of the Korean peninsula after national liberation, and adopted as the Constitution of the DPRK on September 8, 1948 at the First Session of the Supreme People's Assembly through an all-people discussion.

Consisting of 104 articles in ten chapters, the Constitution was a powerful weapon not only to legally consolidate the democ-

atic people's system in Korea at that time but also to accomplish the socialist revolution successfully and hasten the socialist construction.

Later, the changes in the socialist construction and the people's social life demanded that these successes be legalized and that relevant legal principles be adopted in the fields of politics, the economy, culture and national defence. Accordingly, the Socialist Constitution was adopted on December 27, 1972 at the First Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly and amended at SPA sessions in April 1992, September 1998, April 2012 and April 2013.

It can be said that the Socialist Constitution was adopted and has developed in keeping with the desire and demand of the people and the needs of social development.

Would you tell me about the character of the Socialist Constitution?

The Socialist Constitution is geared to meeting the demand of the working masses and defending their interest thoroughly.

Typically, Article 4 stipulates that the sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea resides in the workers, peasants, soldiers, intellectuals and all other working people and that the working people exercise power through their representative organs—the Supreme People's Assembly and local people's assemblies at all levels.

Article 25 also specifies that the DPRK regards the steady improvement of the material and cultural standards of the people as the supreme principle of its activities, that the constantly-increasing material wealth of society in the country, where taxes have been abolished, is used entirely to promote the well-being of the working people, and

that the state shall provide all working people with every condition for obtaining food, clothing and housing.

In addition, it guarantees the freedom and right of the working people to the full by stipulating all necessary principles including developing the universal 12-year compulsory education in accordance with the trend of modern science and technology and requirements of practical socialist construction, improving different forms of learning while on the job, and consolidating the universal free medical care, section doctor system and prophylactic arrangement.

Would you explain about the ideological foundation of the Socialist Constitution?

The ideological foundation of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK is just the Juche idea and Songun idea. Article 3 of the Socialist Constitution adopted in April 2013 at the Seventh Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly states clearly that the DPRK is guided in its activities by the Juche idea and Songun idea, a world outlook centred on people, which are revolutionary ideologies for achieving the independence of the masses of people.

The Juche idea and Songun idea are consistent with the principle of believing in the people as in heaven, which puts them forward as the most powerful being in the world and that everything should be in service for them. The principle is clearly implanted in the Socialist Constitution, so we can proudly say that the Socialist Constitution of our Republic is the most popular one. As we have it, we Korean people are fully provided with the right and interest as master of the country and devoting ourselves to the building of a powerful socialist nation. □

The Sun Shines in Our Hearts and Friendship Lights up the World



(Continued from the last issue)

FAREWELL WAS THE LAST word to be uttered between President Kim Il Sung and us (Zhang Weihua's family—ed.). Though the President had passed away, his loving care and benevolent affection for us continued as if he as our father had not given us all he wanted to give for our welfare and glory. The noble old friendship is unending despite the change of generations and centuries. Just like President Kim Il Sung who used to give us his boundless parental affection, Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Un cared for us in earnest.

In July 1994 when the President passed away, the rain fell in torrents in Fusong as if mourning over the unexpected heartbreaking news. It was like the heaven falling down. We started to weep silently, and then sobbed, and wailed aloud in the end. I seemed to hear the affectionate voice of the President saying that now he was father to us, and see his benevolent image

as he took into his arms the five-year old Zhang Mengmeng, a fifth descendant of Zhang's family, and pressed his cheek against the child's when we visited Korea to celebrate his birthday. My memory went back to the time when the President called at the house where Zhang Yu and Yue Zhiyun of the fourth generation of our family were staying over the New Year's Day in Pyongyang for the first time. He said that naturally a grandfather ought to come and see how his grandchildren are passing the New Year's Day, and talked about the Zhang family's savoury dumpling soups and the old Chinese lyric *Song of Su Wu*. His warm gracious affection shown to us that day vividly rises before my mind's eyes. The President was so sincere and ordinary. That was why he was great. He never tried to show himself off or win a person's favour, but he would speak without disguising his thoughts and mind. His face beaming with smile, meaningful remarks and familiar movement of his hands....

To the mourning room set up in our house at the time, the leading officials, public figures and towns people of Fusong County came endlessly to express their grief. We went to Pyongyang for mourning. Amidst the playing of the funeral music we went into the then Kumsusan Assembly Hall. I first made a deep bow before the bier of the President and sat on my knees to kowtow. Then I plumped down on the floor, feeling an urge to say something to the President:

"Dear President, our father! You asked us to come to Korea again in this summer. We had made preparations for the trip. We had planned to present you your photo in frame which was taken last year. I and Jinlu had a lot of things to say to you. My children had prepared the songs to be sung before you. But why didn't you wait until we would come? In Fusong they are waiting for you. There you ought to visit the old battle sites, walk along the familiar streets, go to see the tombs of your comrades-in-arms and then.... But now you're lying here, and what shall we do?"

At that time Chairman Kim Jong Il was standing guards at the sides of the bier. He firmly grasped my hand. I wanted to say some words of condolence to him, but with my heart fit to break, I could say nothing. Rather, the Chairman, who was suffering the pains of the greatest loss, consoled me. He asked me when I arrived in Pyongyang, thanking me for coming, and said I should not grieve so bitterly but take care of my health. His profound and thoughtful words impressed me deeply, and his image of a great man captured my heart. Who says the sun has set? The sun shines for ever. The sun over the sea of tears is more ablaze in red. To me the image of the Chairman was exactly like that of the President. Looking up to the sturdy but benevolent image of the Chairman, I recalled the instructions of the President given to my family 40 days before

► as his last words.

“It is wholly thanks to Kim Jong Il that I could work and live with a sound body until now. He has done very much to preserve my health. Keep coming to Korea in future, too. Kim Jong Il will take good care of your family. So, freely come to our country once a year. You should trust and take to him just as you do to me.”

Recollecting the golden words of the President, I thought of the unseen troubles and cares the Chairman had taken to look after us, the descendants of Zhang Weihua, regardful for the noble old friendship and true to the President's intentions. Whenever we visited Korea, the Chairman personally took steps to accord us the treatment of state guests in the arrangement of reception, lodging and itinerary, making sure that we should spend pleasant days seeing the sights of Mts. Kungang and Myohyang, and going to the Songdowon seaside resort and other celebrated mountains and scenic spots. Further, he ensured that the martyr's grandson Zhang Yu and granddaughter Yue Zhiyun study in Pyongyang, staying in the best guesthouse like a “prince” and a “princess”, and he settled problems arising in the business activities of my eldest son Zhang Zi. The Chairman saw to it that we were warmly welcomed by the Korean people, but he never once appeared at places where we had the great glory and joy of the presence of the President. We learned from Korean officials that the Chairman valued the friendship between the President and the martyr Zhang Weihua above all and was concerned more than

anyone else for strengthening the bonds of that friendship.

The past years have clearly shown to the world his noblest personality and moral character. I cannot forget the fact, among other things, that he turned the Kumsusan area, the former abode of the President, into the supreme sacred ground of Juche and ensured that the President rests in the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun as he did in his lifetime. It was a great feat and virtue worthy of praise by the Korean people, conscientious people of the world and our family generation after generation. Every time we came to Korea later, we visited the palace to see the President.

Following the model of the Chairman's noble morality, we rose from the abyss of sorrow and decided to turn the old house of our family which is associated with the President into the Memorial Hall of President Kim Il Sung. This was our moral obligation stemming from the bottom of our hearts to repay the benevolent favours bestowed on us by the President. The adults and even the children of our family regarded the work of building up the memorial hall as a most sacred undertaking and devoted their hearts to each of the historical relics to be put in the hall. The work took one year, and we opened formally the memorial hall on the first anniversary of the demise of President Kim Il Sung. This was the first instance in the world of building a memorial hall in honour of a great man in a house of a foreign country, but we regarded it as our obligation and thought it was the first step of gratitude.

The Chairman's friendly affec-

tion for us deepened day after day. I never forget October 27, 1997, when we had a ceremony of laying the wreath from him before the tomb of martyr Zhang Weihua, my father. Chairman Kim Jong Il had instructed the Korean official concerned to send a wreath to us on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the day when martyr Zhang Weihua died a heroic death. It was a magic happening. When the wreath sent by the Chairman arrived at Fusan, snow flakes fell again like bank notes as if praying for the soul of the martyr, like they had done when the President had sent the monument to him five years before. The wreath was laid solemnly before the monument to Zhang Weihua which had been dedicated by President Kim Il Sung. The wreath bore the letters “In memory of martyr Zhang Weihua, Kim Jong Il”. The flowers of the wreath rendered the greetings of the President and the Chairman to the martyr and the red ribbon bespoke the everlasting friendship defying change in spite of passage of time.

True friendship is like the heartbeats of the eternal great men and the indelible echoes of history. The participants in the ceremony felt in the depths of their minds that the life of the martyr was still continuing though he had died 60 years before. They all acknowledged the undeniable fact that the friendship between the President and the martyr was kept alive by Chairman Kim Jong Il. The Chairman sent a wreath again on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the martyr's death, making the noble old friendship last ►

► beyond the century. On the New Year's Day every year he sent us a New Year's card in place of the President, and he sent a gift to me on the occasion of my 70th birthday.

An old Chinese proverb says, "The treasured sword should be presented to a hero." The Chinese people traditionally considered a sword to be a valuable tool safeguarding the home and a symbol of power, victory and strength. Once we had the honour of presenting an ancient bronze sword to the Chairman as a gift. It was a choice adopted after our whole family had carefully deliberated. We did so because the Chairman was a great commander capable of beating off any formidable enemy and also a man building a beautiful human society with faith and ethics.

True friendship transcending the limits of space and time does not degenerate even in the storm of history; but rather it cultivates the human world more beautifully. The friendship that regards giving with no reward and compensation as pleasure and joy purifies human society infinitely and lights up the world. I think such friendship is a potent affirmation of socialism built from a noble ethical motive and, for its independent nature, is a proud assertion and admiration of the beautiful character of man.

The old affection shown for us by the President and the Chairman, great sages who loved and had a high regard for man is invariably inherited by the respected leader Kim Jong Un. To mark the 75th anniversary of the death and 100th birthday of Zhang Weihua in October 2012, he sent a wreath and took steps

cordially to hold a banquet in honour of the martyr's memory though he was busy guiding the building of a powerful socialist nation. Words failed to express our emotion at the banquet associated with Kim Jong Un's warm affection.

As was usually the case with me at a moment of happiness, I seemed to hear the President's kind voices. When beef dishes were served on the table at the banquet hall of the then Kumsusan Assembly Hall, the President who was glancing over the menu said to Zhang Yu, "Help yourself to the meat dish free from fear. Others have beef, but yours is pork. I know you don't have beef." On one occasion the President said to the martyr's grandchildren sitting around him, "Living for long in Fusong, I was very interested in *bingtanghulu*. It was tasty. Today I told cooks to prepare it for you as you've come to see me. Try it and see if it tastes as good as your homemade cake."

The respected leader Kim Jong Un sent me and my wife valuable gifts and dispatched a delegation to congratulate us on our 80th birthday. In 2013 he ensured that our couple at the age of 80 went to Pyongyang and stayed in a guesthouse for over a month, undergoing medical treatment in a renowned hospital. My wife who had despaired of her failing eyesight recovered it and I was cured of my senile disorders and became hale and hearty.

There is my father Zhang Weihua's jewel picture put up in the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum in Pyongyang. It was an opinion of the great President that just as love and

science have no frontiers, the revolution has no frontiers, either. Today the noble sentiment of friendship of President Kim Il Sung who glorified my father Zhang Weihua as a symbol of China-Korea friendship and a great model of internationalism is carried onward by Kim Jong Un. The history of warm affection for our family is an epic of noble friendship that can only be created by the great President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and respected leader Kim Jong Un.

Time passes, and Zhang Weihua's descendant in the sixth generation has been born. The day the child was born, I seemed to hear the voice of the President that he felt like seeing Zhang Weihua's great-great-great-grandchild. I whispered to the baby, "May you grow up fast. Then you'll see what a beautiful and great love and what boundlessly strong ties of affection there are in our world. And you, too, should become a flower to add to that beautiful flower garden."

It is 20 years since the President passed away, but the friendship between them, the President and martyr Zhang Weihua, continues. The President's friendship immortalizes the life of the martyr and takes care of his posterity. Although the times change, his noble model of friendship will endlessly touch the heartstrings of people and purify the human world.

The President, a great sage, will always live in our hearts and his noble spirit of friendship and lofty humanity will brighten the world.

(The end)

Mother's Life

(Continued from the last issue)

Unforgettable activities in Korea

IN 1920 I BECAME A logistic officer of the headquarters of the Kwangbok Independence Army. In the winter of that year I returned to Korea to raise military funds for arming the soldiers. My destination was Songchon. Staying at the Ros' village for several days, I conveyed the headquarters' instructions to the head of the village (his surname was Ro) to expand the Youth League organizations and strengthen the work of collecting military funds. Then I sent a telegram to Ju Yong Suk in Haktanggol, Pyongyang, to expect me in a few days. In Pyongyang I met Ju. We had a serious talk about the way of carrying out my assignment, where I should lodge and how to raise funds. The next day we made Ju's mother go to the house of Kim Pak Dal, a rich man in the neighbourhood. She asked Kim to hire a housemaid as there was a woman just right for the job. Kim was a pro-Japanese Korean in possession of gold mines in the area of South Phyongan Province. A hard sweater, he had plenty of money and gold. I entered into domestic service in the house under the false name of Pak In Do. In the daytime I looked after the baby borne by his concubine, and in the morning and evening I drew water and prepared meals for the family. While doing domestic chores, I closely watched the inside of the house. A few days later I learned that there was a huge amount of money and

gold in the house and found out where the safe was concealed. Immediately, I got in touch with Pak Thae Ryol, Kim Je Ho and Sin Kye Rim, operatives from the headquarters working at Songchon. They raided Kim's house at midnight, and took six bundles of banknotes and lumps of gold amounting to 40 000 won. They made Kim shoulder them and withdrew calmly from the city.

In 1921, the Kwangbok Independence Army headquarters was in need of increasing communication points within the country and the number of liaison men. In this period Kim Hyong Jik (father of President Kim Il Sung) received reports of Jang Chol Ho and Sin Kye Gwan from home and came back to Korea to personally guide the work of underground organizations. He was accompanied by Jang Chol Ho, Pak Thae Ryol, Sin Kye Gwan, Kim Chang Ui and myself. We ferried across the Amnok River. Owing to the strict watch of the enemy, we came to Sonchon by road via Pihyon. We took a train at Sonchon and came to Sunan where we spent a night at the house of Mr. Jon who was an underground worker. The next day we went to the house of Ro Tong Gwan in Taedong County. We stayed there for a few days and learned in detail about the state of the independence movement in South Phyongan Province. We discussed concrete ways to build up the underground organizations. We met Yun Ung Ryol and other women operatives and gave them the tasks of stepping up publicity for the independence movement and selecting reliable women for expanding the

ranks of secret operatives. After Taedong County, we proceeded to Sariwon by train and went to the house of Jon Jong Hui, a graduate of the Pyongyang Public Girls' High School, who was now a schoolmistress in the city. It was a very sultry day and we rested in the house, but Kim Hyong Jik, without resting, went out to the streets and had talks with local residents, conducting his work energetically. The next day we met many people from Hwangju, Pongsan, Yonthan and Sohung at the Songbulsa Temple on Mt. Jongbang, and accepted several youths including the Hwang brothers into the organization. In Hwanghae Province Pak Thae Ryol always walked at the head of the party because this was his native province. On arriving at Unryul, Pak said that the area had many champions of the independence movement, and that its people had a high anti-Japanese spirit. There we learned the prevailing situation in the area from the independence movement fighters introduced by Pak and assigned them to the task of building up liaison spots and having close contact with armed groups. We raised funds and distributed leaflets through village heads and financial commissaries in the province. Our group then journeyed to Sinchon, Haeju and Wonsan to meet the independence fighters and get information about how things stood in the areas. After giving instructions to them as to what to do, we turned back to Pyongyang. The group left Pyongyang by train for Uiju where they were to cross the Amnok River. But I remained behind ►

► in Pyongyang to keep contact with communication points around Pyongyang and collect funds.

One day I discussed with Sin Kye Gwan, Ri Su Yong, Choe Tok Bok and Kang Myong Sin the matter of securing funds at the Tokchon gold mine. A few days later we found out that cash was brought to the mine from Nampho in the middle of every month for payment of wages. So Sin and I ambushed at the Tokchon Pass and attacked the car of the mine, shooting two cops to death. But the money we captured was no more than a few hundred *won*. On the same day Ri, Choe and Kang raided the storehouse of the mine and seized six bags of high-grade gold ores. They handed them over to an individual mine owner and received thousands of *won*. After finishing our work in Tokchon, we received money from our comrades in Sunchon and returned to the house of Ro Tong Gwan, where we made preparations to go back to China.

I left with Kim Jin Jun with the money concealed in the quilt. We safely arrived at Andong across the Amnok River. There we hired a horse and put the quilt on the saddle. I sat on the saddle and Kim led the horse by the bridle. We went some distance when unexpectedly a squad of Japanese policemen appeared ahead. They forcibly searched Kim and took away some tens of *won* of money from him, but they did not pay attention to the quilt I sat on.

I only wished the large sum of money safe from mishap and left the Japanese rogues alone to do what they pleased to avoid a trouble. If they had tried to search the quilt, there would have been a gunfight.

When we arrived at the headquarters O Tong Jin, Jang Chol

Ho and Kim Sok Ha met us. Kim Hyong Jik was there. He warmly grasped our hands, acknowledging our trouble in the risky double journey. He said in my praises that I was a real heroine. Whenever I returned safely from a dangerous journey escorting donated money, my comrades lauded me in delight for my trouble. Seeing their cheerful faces, I would deeply think of our people's dearest wish for national independence and strongly feel that the work of collecting funds at the risk of our life at home was really a most honourable undertaking.

I have one thing more to say about my campaign at home for collecting subscriptions. One day I called on a wealthy man engaged in insam (ginseng) business to invite a donation. He had a daughter who was a student of the Pyongyang Public Girls' High School. She knew something about my career because newspapers reported now and then about me, the woman independence movement fighter Ri Kwan Rin.

When I went to his house with my comrades, he was having a drinking bout with his rich companions accompanied by girl entertainers. Entering the room, I bowed to them politely and said it was a sacred duty of all Koreans to restore the country and save the people, and that in the present situation when the whole country was overrun by the Japanese imperialists and our people were reduced to slavery, they should support the anti-Japanese independence movement by making contributions for it if they had the soul of Koreans. Hearing my name, they gazed upon me in astonishment. They were startled at my demand for money, but more at my presence there in the broad daylight when the Japanese rogues were after

me, a felon whom they were all out to arrest.

At this moment the daughter of the rich man burst into the room and introduced herself as a student of the Pyongyang Public Girls' High School. She said she had heard much of my fame and, as my junior, had been longing to see me, and that she was really glad to meet me at her own home. Then, turning to the whole assembly, she said, "All of you here have idled away your time, only infatuated with moneymaking and drinking, but doing nothing for the country. Today when the country is in distress and the people are homeless, you are offered an opportunity to render services to the country and help the people, but you are hesitating to come forward. I am really ashamed of you." All those present sat hanging their heads. The girl student dashed off to her room and fetched her money and personal ornaments, which she placed before me as gifts to the Independence Army. Probably from remorse of conscience at the girl's patriotic deed and bold behaviour, they produced their money and valuables. That day we returned with a large amount of donation.

Looking back on my days of the Independence Army, I think proudly of the time when I crossed into the homeland and worked with people of all walks of life in defiance of danger as the unforgettable glorious period in my life. I don't think human happiness lies in living high, feeding well and dressing fine, but I think it is the best and happiest life for a man to care for the fate of the country before everything else and struggle for the prosperity of the people with a high aim and intention.

(To be continued)

Stepping Stone

THE 13TH NATIONAL INVENTION AND new technology exhibition in Pyongyang in July and August last awarded one of its gold medals to a new control device developed by the Control Device Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

The researchers of the institute have developed up-to-date control devices and programs in succession, giving spurs to the effort to put the machine industry on the CNC basis as a whole. Some typical examples are top-notch technologies applied to many units including the Pyongyang Weaving Machine Factory, a horizontal borer of the Kim Chaek Rock Drill Factory, a milling machine of the Pyongyang Musical Instrument Factory and the CNC technology introduced to a plastic injector of the Korea Meari Co. Ltd. In recent years they introduced the control device CNC-14 to a number of machine tools of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex and thus made a breakthrough in raising the precision and efficacy of the generating facilities and brought huge profit to the country.

We don't recognize "completion"—this is what the researchers are wont to say.

The control device they presented recently was a renovated CNC-16A. It is different from their earlier devices in that it is equipped with a field bus of the Korean style. Originally, latest types of control devices have a field bus function, for it makes it possible to increase the number of control shafts and improve the operational confidence of the equipment supported by various functions affixed to it. Earlier one shaft had more than a dozen signal wires. The confidence of the mechanical device depends on that of each of the components. So, the less the number of signal wires is, the higher the confidence of the mechanical device is. This brought about the system of field bus of international standard that makes it feasible to control dozens of shafts by means of no more than two wires.

But the import of the field bus cost a huge amount of foreign currency. And it was coupled with a lot of restrictive measures. This strongly aroused the endeavour of the researchers. Even the CNC-14A they had developed a few months earlier with their painstaking efforts was not enough to give a consolation.

The project for the development of the field bus started with reliance on their own experience and wisdom, away from existing modes. The core task was to make a communications program set in the field bus system. The function of the field bus depends on the program. It must be a one that can promptly send a lot of signals speedily. As the inter-

face with the mechanical device is done on a real time basis, the incorrect or late conveyance of the signals results in poorer operation of the device. Failures repeated, but the researchers did not lose heart but carried out strenuous efforts. They decided a high-speed, high-density designing mode on the basis of the result of the 3D simulation, thus making a breakthrough in the work for higher confidence of the control device and for smaller size of the device. In August 2013, in less than a year after they started the research, they presented this communications program to the 4th information technology exhibition of the State Academy of Sciences. Their program took first place. No more than four months later, they completed a new type of control device whose processing speed is five to six times higher and whose cost was less than one third of the earlier device. The new device won a special award at the 29th sci-tech festival of the State Academy of Sciences. But the reserachers declined to put it in the showcase of a national sci-tech festival. They



went to the Taean Heavy Machine Complex and other major factories and enterprises to test the practicability and economic profit of the device by conducting experimental application to the field.

Asked of the secret of the success, Sok Song Chol, one of the core developers, said, "In a word, our achievement was necessitated by the situation of our country. By this I don't simply mean it was a result of the setting of the wall of transfer of special technology prescribed by the anti-DPRK sanctions. Our country is making progress by leaps and bounds. This demands us to set an uninterruptedly higher goal. For us, the recent thing is no more than a stepping stone for a new leap."

Chae Kwang Myong

Marvellous Efficacy of the Nano-Gold Injection

IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT GOLD CUPS, GOLD teeth, gold rings, gold pins and other articles made of gold have been used in many countries since early times for various purposes including treatment of diseases. In the new era of science and technology, people's concern in gold is growing ever greater. Accordingly, the development of various kinds of medicines and products by making use of the property of gold is going ahead briskly throughout the world. Many research teams are bent on the study of nano-gold injections of wonderful efficacy for health and long life and for the treatment of incurable diseases, but only a few countries are capable of their production requiring high-level technology.

The researchers of the Nano Technology Research Institute of Kim Il Sung University have succeeded in making a nano-gold injection in a unique way different from the previous procedures. Kim Sung Chol, chief developer of the research team, says, "A nano-gold injection was created already before us, and it is recorded in a book of pharmacopoeia, too. However, we sought for a new way of raising the efficacy of the injection in our own fashion. In this process, we drew a conclusion that a complex of metal and bio-active material would double the effect of treatment."

In December 2011 when they started the research, they considered two things: one was dissolution of material and the other, prevention of the dissolved parts of the material from coupling. They succeeded in the combination of metal and bio-active material in a year. Based on this success, they finally produced a nano-gold injection by combining nano-gold below 20-30 nm in size with bio-active material extracted from Kaesong Koryo insam (ginseng)



The researchers who developed the Nano-gold Injection.

which is well-known as a tonic for longevity.

The rheumatism research section of the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University has applied the injection in clinical treatment and registered over 80 per cent of curing rate. The injection with no particular contraindications and side-effects has a high absorption rate, clear of any harm to the internal organs of the body. Further, it works wonders on fatty liver, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, AIDS, drug and alcohol poisoning and radiation diseases. It is also efficacious against men's hypertrophy, and very effective in the treatment of women's diseases such as mastitis and breast cancer. It helps to make skin fair and soft. Meanwhile, the injection lengthens the life of patients with cancer impossible of operation, improves and recovers the health of feeble and underfed people regardless of sex and age, so that it is recognized as a general medicine. It needs a short period of treatment and has a high rate of curing intractable diseases.

The injection was authenticated by the State Academy of Sciences and the State Commission of Quality Management in 2013 and obtained a patent in 2014.

Sim Yong Jin

Researchers of Children's Nutrition

THE RESEARCHERS OF THE CHILDREN'S Nutrition Research Institute under the Academy of Medical Science in Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, develop nutriment for children. They are carrying out in a planned way the work of developing programs for scientific management of children's nutrition, accumulating the basic data on the growth of children and mapping out the standard amount of nutrition. They have achieved successes in the researches on the production of various processed foodstuffs for the children of different ages to provide sufficient nutritives to them such as protein, vitamins and fat.

The members of the therapeutic nutrition research room have established the methods of treating children's diarrhoeas caused by different troubles. Until 2009 it was a general rule in the world to prescribe antibiotics for children's diarrhoeas, considering that they were caused by virus infections. But the use of antibiotics reduced the immunity of children and hindered their growth. Head of the room Ri Hye Ok and other researchers sought after the causes of the diseases common to the children while studying relevant books. In this process they discovered lactose lytic enzyme and found out the causes of diarrhoeas from it. They deepened their researches on lactose intolerance, making great progress in the treatment of the children's diarrhoeas.

Researchers analyze nutritive elements of babies' milk powder.



Researchers of the therapeutic nutrition research room give children a regular medical examination.

The treating method they have developed is well received because it is good for the growth of children and has no harmful effect. The therapeutic nutrition method without the use of any magical medicine or antibiotics is widely adopted at the baby homes and orphanages across the country and at the children's hospitals in all provinces.

The researchers of the nutrition standardization research room have developed new iodine additives to foodstuffs so as to overcome iodine deficiency by adding iodine to soybean paste and soy sauce, favourite condiments of Koreans. Besides, the institute has developed babies' soy milk powder, lactobacillus milk powder, nutritive powder complex, carbonated sweet ginger juice, iodine foodstuff supplement, active enzyme yeast, digestive enzyme powder, lysine pills, and other health foods and medicines. These products are popular for their efficacy in promoting children's growth and in their treatment. The research successes of the institute are highly appreciated at the yearly national invention and new technology exhibitions.

Meanwhile, the researchers of the institute are redoubling efforts to register greater successes in their work for the promotion of health of children, kings of the country, and conducting many-sided sci-tech cooperation and exchange with different countries and international organizations including the UN Children's Fund.

Rim Kyong Ju

Education Making Progress

IN APRIL LAST A NATIONAL EXHIBITION of educational achievements and presentation of teaching experience was held. Displayed in the exhibition were over 900 items of educational gains conducive to the improvement of contents and methods of education including the results of teaching at different middle schools No. 1, and model teachers' experience was publicized.

The educational achievements and experience, experimental apparatuses and teaching aids of P'yongyang Middle School No. 1 were rated high in the exhibition. The section of physics of the school presented a computer-assisted general AC measuring device and the section of basic technology advanced a device showing the principle of engine operation. These exhibits drew the attention of visitors for their practical value for raising the effect of education. The visitors were acquainted with the efforts of the teachers of the school devoting their wisdom and zeal to the students and the fact that the way to improve the effect of education lies in ceaseless search and thinking.

From the beginning of the year the school directed efforts to preparing the teaching plans according to the new curriculum of compulsory education suited to the requirement of the teaching programme of the universal 12-year compulsory education. The executives of the school saw to it that the teachers reflect the teaching content on their teaching plans after studying the questions to be asked in class based on the full understanding of the teaching content. In other words, they made the teachers prepare the questions closely connected with practical life in a way to improve the creative thinking ability and the spirit of inquiry of the students. Then, they let the teachers have other additional leading questions conducive to making the students quickly understand the essence of the given problem. The teachers concerned themselves to fully understand the contents of the teaching texts beforehand and each section intensified the debate on the teaching materials. Every section pooled their collective wisdom to estimate the effect of the questions specified in the teaching plans to be asked during the lessons. They also evaluated the lessons to overcome the shortcomings.

In this way the teachers prepared teaching aids and teaching plans containing many questions. These teaching plans proved very effective in the lessons from the new school term. To prove this, a physics lesson can be cited. The teacher set various

questions that could arouse the creative thinking of the students in order to teach them physical laws. To find out the correct answers the students intensified discussions and debates by citing examples they had seen, heard and felt in life. In other words, they learn by themselves the essence of physical phenomena while conducting theoretical examinations based on the phenomena presented around them. Such lessons cultivate the habit of carefully observing even minor phenomena and the ability of wide-ranging, creative thinking in the students. The teaching materials and multimedia aids that give visual and lifelike representation also enhanced the cognitive power of the students. Along with this, the school ensured experiments and practical exercises for the



Students are engrossed in a physics experiment.

students to consolidate their classroom knowledge. Such teaching methods also improved the effectiveness of education in natural and social subjects.

The teaching methods which develop the active thinking of students by applying vivid examples and provide many opportunities to consider their learnings in the context of reality develop their thinking ability and make it easy to attain the goal of education. In this process the teachers' qualifications rose noticeably, three of them were granted the title of People's Teacher and one Merited Teacher, and many others awarded academic degrees and titles.

Kim Il Ryong

Winners of the 17th Asian Games





Son of Ryongnamsan

IN SEPTEMBER LAST THE 2014 World Wrestling Championships took place in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. It drew some 710 male and female competitors from over 80 countries, including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and regions. It was participated in by many of those who had cut figures in Olympics and world championships, so the world watched the competition with keen interest. What was more important was that it was the first worldwide contest after the then International Amateur Wrestling Federation changed the international regulations of wrestling competition, including those for the events of men's free and Greco-Roman styles and women's free style.

Yang Kyong Il from the Ryongnamsan Sports Team of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had to fight in the 57 kg category although he had competed in the 55 kg event earlier. He had been known for his wins at the 2009 World Wrestling Championships (this was his first world championship), Ivan Yargin Grand Prix Wrestling Tournament in 2010, and the 2011 Asian Wrestling Championships. He was the first of sports-persons in his country to win an international contest in 2013.

As the competing regulations were different and his rivals were all formidable, Yang knew he had to put up fierce fighting for the

championship. Ri Sang Jin, deputy chief secretary of the Wrestling Association of Korea, recalls, "Take his Iranian rival for an instance. He made a good record in the men's free 55 kg category at the 2013 World Wrestling Championships. The Georgian who came second in the 2012 Olympics was also powerful. We were nervous."

Yang went into his first match on the eve of the founding anniversary of the DPRK. He defeated the south Korean by a great margin of 11:1 and a Japanese 10:1 before rising to the quarterfinal to fight with an Iranian who unhesitatingly said to a press conference that he would win. In the contest of two three-minute rounds the Iranian achieved points in the first round. Yang who had been seeking a chance of attack in the lopsided situation, succeeded in throwing down his opponent by taking him by the legs and jerking him up. The fierce fighting ended 5:5 but Yang was decided to be the winner for his smart technical movements as prescribed by the regulations.

The final match against the Georgian was the fierceness itself. By employing his techniques he had honed through hard training—the most spectacular one was launching a surprise counterattack when the rival was engrossed in attacking—the Korean defeated the Georgian 5:3, thus



becoming the world champion. This brought him a double title at the world contest.

Yang was born into an ordinary worker's family and was praised as a sports prodigy in his childhood as he was agile and had a good athletic sense. He has made untiring efforts since he chose to be a wrestler at a juvenile sports school.

The country gave him a warm welcome, eulogizing him like a general on his triumphal return home.

When his colleagues congratulate him for his success he says, "I'm a People's Athlete known to the whole country and a retainer of a double world championship. But the titles are not so important to me as my pride in being a son of Ryongnamsan."

Yang is working harder at the Ryongnamsan Sports Team of Kim Il Sung University, the first ever university of the DPRK and alma mater of Chairman Kim Jong Il, to keep bringing honour to his country.

Kim Yong Un

A Glorious Sight Seen From the Chol Pass

A THRIVING SOCIALIST FRUIT GARDEN has come into existence next to the Chol Pass in Kosan County, Kangwon Province. The pass is well known for its steep feature, 16 km up and 16 km down, with 99 turns and bends. There is the Kosan Fruit Farm at the foot of the pass. The orchard was first laid out in 1947 on the mountain slopes and hillocks. It was planted mainly with apple and pear trees.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the government have taken measures to expand the fruit farm in a modern way, for it has favourable conditions for pomiculture. The builders removed a huge volume of earth, rezoned 2 200 hectares of land and planted fruit trees on it. And they also built 2 000 dwelling

houses, 90 production and public buildings and 120 km of roads. They worked hard to finish the extension project by the end of 2014. Thanks to the devoted efforts of the builders and workers of the fruit farm, the farm has undergone a radical change in a few years. In the past year they realigned dozens of hectares of land, mended the defects of the farm, erected nearly 300 000 concrete props and planted 260 hectares of land with fruit trees. Meanwhile, they finished irrigation and drainage works at 50 spots, 30-km-long water supply projects, 500 new homes and 50 public and production buildings. They also newly built a wire netting fence factory by their own efforts in 50 days, and now the factory has gone into operation. It is producing latticed wire netting, spiral wire netting, rectangular barbed wire and the coil of wire.

The farm is now presenting a glorious sight.

The builders are keen on their work to make the farm a model orchard befitting the civilized socialist nation, worthy of boasting to the world. In Korea today the song *The Sea of Apple Trees at the Foot of the Chol Pass* which reflects the wish of the builders, is popular among the people.

Kim Sol Gyong



Visit to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum

(Continued from the last issue)

LEAVING THE HALL showing the first stage of the Fatherland Liberation War, we went into the hall dedicated to the second stage of the war.

To make a turning point in the war situation

Finding themselves in the danger of being driven out of Korea after their serious military and political losses, the US imperialists launched a last-ditch attempt to gain their aggressive end at any cost. They mobilized all their ground, sea and air forces in the Pacific area, some of the Mediterranean Fleet, warships in reserve and their satellite countries' armed forces to hurl them into the Korean front. By doing so they intended to have massive armed forces land in Inchon and occupy Seoul and Inchon and advance in the directions of the 38th parallel, Taejon and Wonju so as to cut the KPA's front from

the rear and "encircle and annihilate" the main units of the KPA with their assaulting forces on the line of the Raktong River and occupy the whole Korea in a short period of time. In mid-September 1950 the enemy made an "all-out attack" at the front of the Raktong River with huge troops, cannons, tanks and aircraft while conducting the landing operations in the Inchon area. The Korean people were faced with the serious danger again.

To cope with the changes in the military and political situation Kim Il Sung put forward the strategic policy for the second stage of the Fatherland Liberation War (September 16, 1950–October 24, 1950). It aimed at gaining time by delaying the speed of the enemy's advance to facilitate the KPA's temporary and strategic retreat while organizing powerful counteroffensive forces with new reserve units. To carry out the policy successfully he saw that combined units under control of the frontline command delayed

the enemy's attack by promptly going over to defence from attack with their flanks and vicinal positions kept secure, that for formation of reserve units soldiers, non-commissioned officers and officers steeled in the combats were promoted to higher ranks in a bold manner, that military and political officers were produced in greater numbers in the military academies and a large number of reserve units were formed in the liberated south Korean areas. More importantly, he made sure that a second front was formed to combine operations in the front with strikes behind the enemy line. He took measures to move munitions factories elsewhere and increase the munitions production. Under his leadership the KPA units conducted numerous defence operations and combats such as defence combats in the Inchon-Seoul area and on the line of the Raktong River, and the defence operations along the 38th parallel and in the north of the parallel, thus striking serious

Exhibits showing the battle to defend the Inchon-Seoul area.



► blows to the enemy and delaying their attacks. As a result, the enemy's plan of the "general offensive" aimed at occupying the northern half of Korea at a single stroke came to a total failure.

We were stuck to photos of the defenders of Wolmi Islet and art works and exhibits that show their brave fighting. Taking Wolmi Islet that commands all the sea routes to Incheon was indispensable for the US aggression forces intending to land in Incheon. At the moment there were some 150 combatants including one coast battery and an infantry company. The enemy rained 4-5 shells per 1 square metre of Wolmi Islet which is less than 1 square kilometer in area and bombarded it three times 15 minutes before their landing, thus turning it into a sheet of flames. Putting up a valiant fighting against the numerically and technically superior enemy, the defenders sank or destroyed 13 of the enemy warships of different sorts including three destroyers, and delayed the landing operations of the 10th Corps of the US by three days at the cost of their lives.

During the period of the second stage of the war the KPA units inflicted serious damages on the 1st and 9th corps of the US



Exhibits showing activities of the people's guerrillas.

aggression forces and the 1st and 2nd corps of the south Korean puppet army. And the 2nd-front units dealt heavy blows to the enemy by carrying out activities in the enemy rear centering on the mountainous area of Kangwon, Hwanghae and South Phyongan provinces. What is more, the people's guerrilla armies and youth and children's guards, organized in the enemy-occupied areas, carried out ferocious attacks. All the people including workers and peasants successfully moved manufactur-

ing facilities, vehicles and farm products to safety zones and strove to produce more war supplies, upholding Kim Il Sung's historic October 11 radio address titled *Let Us Defend Every Inch of Our Motherland at the Cost of Our Blood*. The heroic struggle of the KPA and all the people accomplished the strategic tasks of the second stage of the war and made a full preparation for a new counteroffensive.

Kim Chol Ung
(To be continued)

Exhibits showing struggles of the second-front units behind the enemy line.



Sister and Brother Ceramists in Succession to Their Father

IN MAY LAST THE 2014 Shanghai International Ceramics Exposition was held. In this exposition the Carp-Pattern Openwork Vase and the Gourd-Shaped Grape-Pattern Teapot made at the Ceramic Production of the Mansudae Art Studio were highly evaluated. Their producers are U Pok Dan and U Chol Ryong. Their father is U Chi Son who was a Kim Il Sung Prize winner and People's Artist.

Before liberation U Chi Son worked at the Songnim ceramic plant and then at the Kaesong Koryo pottery. After the country's liberation from Japanese military occupation in August 1945, he worked as manager of the Nampho ceramic factory rehabilitating the factory ravaged by the Japanese villains before fleeing and baking chinaware for the people's use. Meanwhile, he studied hard to revive the method of making Koryo celadon. In the 1960s, he succeeded in making a chrysanthemum-pattern celadon pot and

a celadon fruit tray, his first celadon products. After that, in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, he produced so many fine artistic ceramic works that he was known as a great ceramist in Korea. After him, his son and daughter became ceramists. Here is an anecdote about five-year-old Chol Ryong. He used to play only with clay or sand. His elder sister Pok Dan was now a schoolgirl, but she would join him in the play. Seeing the girl fingering with mud, the villagers made a fuss. They were annoyed enough at the boy fouling the whole place with lumps of clay, and now, to their surprise, his sister, too, got lost in the play. So, not a day passed quietly for their mother without hearing grievances of neighbours about her children.

However, there was a person who did not pass over their playing casually. It was Chol Ryong's kindergartener. She saw that his play was not a mere childish pursuit. The clay toys he made

U Chol Ryong who created the Gourd-Shaped Grape-Pattern Teapot.



U Pok Dan who created the Carp-Pattern Openwork Vase.



were so peculiar, marked with individuality, and elaborate that no other children could imitate. So, she not only countenanced them but took them often to their father's studio to let them know the process of making craftworks and their purports. In this course, Pok Dan and Chol Ryong gradually came to have a knowledge of the history and trend of ceramic arts. After finishing primary and middle schools, they studied at the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts. After graduation, they came to work at the Ceramic Pro-

Family of Folk Musicians

NOT LONG AGO, ON hearing that a concert would be held in Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun Conservatory to mark the Day of Public Concert of the National Music, we went to the conservatory's concert hall. It was crowded with teachers and students.

Among many folk musicians demonstrating their skills with such national musical instruments as *kayagum*, *janggu*, *jangsaenap* and *okryugum*, the spectators were especially attracted to a family of instrumentalists giving a successful rendition of folk song *The Nodul Riverside*. Hwang Jin Chol played the melody by the flute, his wife Ju Hye Ryon with a speculative face played the *junghaegum* skillfully, his eldest daughter Hwang Ryon A made the best of the song's characteristic tune by the *yanggum* using four sticks unlike other musicians who usually use two sticks, and his second daughter Hwang Na Yon demonstrated her extraordinary bowing skill in playing the *taehaegum* while significantly supporting the sounds of the flute and the *yanggum*. Amid a stormy applause, their faces were all smiles.

Ju Kun Yong, teacher of the wind department of the folk instrumental music faculty, told us, "Hwang and I have been teaching



at this conservatory for over 30 years. He is a man of enthusiasm, devoting his all to the development of folk music. He had written a dozen reference books like *School of the High-pitched Flute* and more than 30 papers including *Newly Developed Method of Playing the High-pitched Flute and Its Scientific Instruction*, and made an auxiliary device of the high-pitched flute to produce a bird call, for which he was given a patent.

We also met his two daughters. Hwang Ryon A said, "My parents say to us that it is not an easy job to be better than others, and that we must love our instruments more dearly than oth-

ers and work hard to master them." Hwang Na Yon who had won the 21st round of the February 16 Art Prize Individual Contest said, "My father says the nation's soul and folk music will never change though generations change."

Doctor Hwang Jin Chol said to us, "Whenever I see people dance to the tune of folk musical instruments, I feel unusually proud. I'll make steady efforts to complete playing techniques of our folk musical instruments."

We knew the Korean nation's folk music would further develop thanks to efforts of people of his kind.

Choe Chol Jin

► duction of the Mansudae Art Studio. Here they acquired a wide knowledge and experience about ceramics and became able ceramists. They produced fine exquisite artistic ceramics of elegant pattern, colour and decoration congenial to the sentiments of the Korean people by developing the traditional techniques of Koryo celadon to suit the modern aesthetic sense. Their products have won many gold and silver medals and certificates of merit at exhibitions and fairs at home and abroad. Their joint product *Vase*

Inlaid with a Cloud and Crane Pattern won first prize for its singular pattern and decoration technique respectively at the Japanese exhibition of modern Koryo celadon and fine paintings in 1989, the 1998 inter-Korean art exhibition, and the international ceramics exhibition in Shenyang, China, in July 2007. And the *Vase Inlaid with a Magnolia and Azalea Pattern* produced by them won a gold medal and a certificate of merit at the state art exhibition held on the occasion of the centenary of President Kim Il Sung's

birth in 2012. At present their ten-odd works including the *Vase Inlaid with a Cloud and Crane Pattern*, *Celadon Inlaid with a Magnolia Pattern*, *Celadon Inlaid with a Flower and Bird Pattern*, and *Celadon with an Orchid Design in Relief* are preserved as national treasures. In May last they won honour again at the 2014 Shanghai International Ceramics Exposition. Their *Carp-Pattern Openwork Vase* was awarded a top prize for its high artistic technique and craftsmanship.

Sim Yon Ok

Students' Art Troupe



IN FEBRUARY THIS year there came a letter of official invitation from the Batida Theatre Company in Copenhagen, Denmark, asking a small-scale students' art troupe of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to visit Denmark for a travelling performance.

Packed to Capacity

On the evening of June 12 this year the Korean students' art troupe gave its first performance at the Beti Nanssen Theatre. They put a colourful repertoire on the stage, including chorus *Paean to the Motherland*, small chorus *Jubilation of the People*, instrumental ensembles *Arirang* and *We Are the Happiest in the World*, *kayagum* solo *Pyongyang Nalpharam*, bass guitar solo *Song of the Sea*, song and dance *A Picnic for Viewing Flowers*, dances *A Herdboy and a Girl* and *janggu* dance, world famous music pieces and Danish songs, etc. Clear and ringing voices, elegant and national dancing move-

ments, refined performance given by musical instruments including *kayagum* that is possessed of dim and unique timbre... The remarkable artistic ability of the performers called forth the admiration and high praise of the spectators.

They responded to the performers with a wild applause, keeping time with music whenever each item on the programme was on or singing songs after the performers, sometimes with tears in their eyes. The general manager of the Beti Nanssen ▶



Leaves Deep Impressions



► Theatre said: The performance given by the Korean stu-

dents' art troupe is unique and national, and their artistic ability is very high. We are proud of the fact that the talented Korean students have given their first performance at my theatre in Denmark and left an indelible impression upon the spectators.

Their travelling performances in the capital and local cities fascinated the spectators and enjoyed great popularity among them. After seeing their performances, spectators and workers of the theatres said: We sincerely congratulate the young Korean artistes upon their successful performances. We are struck with admiration for the talent and artistic ability of the performers who sang songs while playing musical instruments. We did not imagine that the performance would produce such a big repercussion among the spectators. Everyone who saw their performance would have got a completely new understanding of the DPRK.

Danish mass media gave a prominent coverage to the travelling performance of the Korean students' art troupe in Denmark and journalists from the mass media visited even their lodgings and places of inspection to ask for their interviews with them. Having heard of the scheduled performances of the Korean students, many people came to see the performances. As a result, the theatres were filled to capacity. Many people intruded their way into the theatre just before the commencement of the performance and sat on the floor or on the stairs beside the seats when they were told that tickets had been sold out and the seats reserved.

The officer in charge of cooperation of the Batida Theatre said that at no time had there been an artistic performance given amid as great an excitement and admiration of the spectators in the theatre as that day.

Young Artistes



Han Song Sim, who touched the heartstring of the spectators for her silvery voice and unique timbre in the performance, has cultivated her talent while receiving professional training at the faculty of performing art of the Kumsong School.

Yun Kyong Sim, who performed *kayagum* solo *Pyongyang Nalpharam* and other programmes in the performance, fascinated the spectators by the unique timbre of her instrument. Hyon Ok who appeared on the stage with a bass guitar in the hand played the guitar solo *Song of the Sea* and the like. Ku Sol Song was in charge of the playing of an electronic musical instrument and Kim Jin Hyok took charge of the striking of percussion instruments. Those students are now studying at the faculty of instrumental music of the Kumsong School. Thak Sol Song who took the part of the herdboys and Pak Yun Gyong who took the part of the girl in *A Herdboy and a Girl* and Jong Un Byol who enthralled the spectators through such rhythmic, interesting *janggu* dances performed to the rhythms of *kutkori* and *hwimori*, etc. are now intent on their studies in the faculty of dancing of the same institute.

All of them developed their artistic talents at extracurricular educational establishments for schoolchildren including the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace and the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace since their primary school days.

Sinuju in North Phyongan Province is the home town of Pae Ryong Ju who stirred up the hearts of the spectators through his tactful accordion accompaniment and fluent singing of the Danish song *On Saturday Night*. He learned how to play the accordion at the Paeksa Kindergarten in his home town. In his middle school days he obtained good results in national solo contests both in vocal and instrumental music. His artistic aptitude was not confined to this alone. He is now exerting himself to realize his dream of growing into a fine future artiste while receiving professional education in the faculty of vocal music at the Kumsong School.

Ri Song Nyo, senior instructor of the faculty of instrumental music of the school, says, "The recent performance boosted my sense of pride in my school where talented reserve artistes grow up. I'll continue to train more of artistic talents who will be conducive to the development of the art of my country by conducting my instruction better."

Jo Yong Il

The Fleet-steed Girl

SOME TIME AGO I VISITED the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory. The lifting tune of the song *The Fleet-steed Girl* was resounding through the compounds of the factory.

The song was created when the Korean people were bringing about a new upsurge in the revolution full of hope and confidence after the Arduous March and the forced march. It is about the pride and joy of a girl worker who wins fame as a fleet-steed girl working miracles and innovations in the van of the advancing times. With its simple and popular words, the song is even now widely sung among the people from all walks of life because it reflects the thoughts and emotions of the people working hard for a better tomorrow. The music sounding gaily, the compounds were alive with vigour and vitality. When I said the song was best suited to the factory as its workers were mostly women, manageress Kim Hye Yong answered, "Yes, you're right. The woman who wrote the words of the song is in this factory." So I met Ri Kwang Suk who is still now called by people as "Fleet-steed Girl" due to the song.

Her childhood dream was to become a poet or a writer. Many writings of her childhood were printed in newspapers and other publications. In the primary and middle school days she won five literary prizes including "Our Classroom" prizes, the envy of all young literary aspirants. Surprisingly enough, she became a worker of the cosmetics factory after finishing her middle schooling. She did so because she followed the advice of her father who is well versed in literature. He told her, "A desk job won't

make a writer of you. Work hard, and you'll get an inspiration as to how to write." Her father never helped or praised his young daughter when she was plodding away at her writing poems or lyrics. But his words gave many hints to Kwang Suk who was now in the age of discretion. Most people wondered why she had become a worker. However, she did not care about it, only intent on her tasks. Meanwhile, she studied by herself the subjects of the linguistics course of the college of education and, at the same time, attended the study-while-working college.

During the Arduous March and the forced march, she grew up into a mistress at invention and a much praised multi-machine operator. In those days she produced many lyrics including the ones entitled *Blockade and Girls* and *The Beautiful Socialist Girl*. They enjoyed public favour for their true feelings and vivid expressions. In 1999 she decided to write words for a song that would comprehensively represent the joy, zest, pride and worth of their working life, because she keenly felt the great honour and worth of their work while seeing the deep concern shown by the state about the production of the factory even in the hard time. Especially, the appearance of the country changing day after day overcoming the difficulties and looks of the factory rising vigorously from depression inspired her with great confidence and energy. She told herself, "I must write about this pride and joy, and about the source of this zest."

The day when she received a bunch of flowers in praise of her fulfilling the annual quota ahead of schedule, her heart began to



burn with a poetical inspiration. She needed not rack her brains to search for the right words. She wrote in her diary about the occurrences of that day and put the words in verses. Then it became lyrics of fine words of vivid representation vibrant with the lyrical heroine's breathing. It was completed in a moment. Kwang Suk's adroit manner of work as a girl riding a fleet steed, her life itself, brought about a big leap in her literary work. As soon as the lyrics was set to music and made public as a song, it was enthusiastically received by the people. The song was played in breaks of work, at holiday scenes of merry dancing, at the venues of sports games, and at all places where people gathered.

Kwang Suk, now a mother of a ten-year-old son, is an acknowledged worker writer. One day a new writer visited her to hear her experiences and asked her why she refuses to work at the professional literary production company. To this she replied, "Because I love the fleet-steed girl in my heart just as people love to sing the song *The Fleet-steed Girl*."

Ri Kum Chol

An Elderly Woman's Recollection

“I AM PROUD OF BEING A CITIZEN OF the DPRK.” This is a remark the Japanese woman Yongsong Min Ok (Nagamats Toshiko by the Japanese name) made the day she received a birthday spread from the country on her 100th birthday that fell on July 4 this year. Her confession consummated her life of all vicissitudes, impressing her children and friends who were there celebrating her birthday.

She was born into a worker's family in the then Kojimatsi Nagadats, Tokyo. Following her parents, she left her native place and moved to Korea and then China—settling nowhere. In the course of this she was bereaved of her father, the breadwinner of the family, and her family was deeply indebted. So she was sold off to a restaurant in the then Nampho and was subjected to humiliation and insult of all hues and slavery. There were occasions for her to shake off such pains, and that was whenever she met a Korean young man named Kim Kun Yong she had made an acquaintance with. The boy was working at Nampho Port and he sometimes met her to show sympathy with and console her although she was Japanese. Later they got married dreaming of a happy family, went to China again and worked diligently. However, their living condition would not improve. They were worse and worse off as they had a number of children.

Their poverty-stricken life changed to a hopeful one when they returned to the DPRK in 1949. In the country they saw everybody striving for the building of a new democratic Korea helping and leading one another forward. The people's life was becoming

more affluent with each passing day. In the thrilling reality they made a happy home of their own, which had been impossible before.

But the happiness of life they enjoyed for the first time could not last long due to the Korean war (June 1950 – July 1953) detonated by the US imperialists. Kun Yong volunteered to the front and fought valiantly, dying a heroic death in battle. Two of their children lost their lives because of the germ warfare carried out by the American barbarians.

Min Ok was grief-stricken for the loss of her husband and two children. And she felt miserable for her livelihood as she had no citizenship of the DPRK yet. She thought she had to return to Japan to reunite with her mother, siblings and relatives. But she gave up the idea since she knew she did not like Japan where she had had sufferings alone as child. Moreover, Japan was assisting the Americans who had killed her husband and children. She remembered what Kun Yong had told her before leaving for the front: he had asked her to trust the DPRK and find her living in the country, no longer thinking that she was a foreigner. At the time the government was pursuing the policy of preferentially looking after the families in difficult living conditions although it was wartime when the country was in ruins with everything in short supply. Her family with six children also received a dwelling ahead of others, and an enough ration of food as well. Her neighbours taught her Korean language and helped her bring up the children.

Finally she abandoned her foreigner's resident card and applied for a citizenship card of the DPRK. She began to work at a local cooperative farm and devoted her all to the growing of silkworms. Soon she became well known to the farm for her skill, and was granted prizes. She also received citations.

Thanks to the country's education system, her children received primary and secondary schooling without paying a penny and were given jobs according to their hopes and aptitudes. Some of her children went to college.

Now she has got as many as 40 descendants. Living in Sangbisok-dong, Hanggu District, Nampho, she often tells her descendants that they should work harder to implement policies of the DPRK if they want to keep their happy home.

Sim Chol Yong

Centenarian Yongsong Min Ok (*second left*).



Brisk Activities for Protection of the Disabled



DEPARTMENT CHIEF JONG Hyon of the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Disabled was interviewed by Korea Today on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Excerpts:

How was the International Day of Persons with Disabilities instituted?

There are nearly 600 million disabled people around the world. According to a recent release, the disabled account for 20 per cent of the poor population in the developing countries. In order to defend the rights and interest of the disabled and provide them with the same living condition as that of the normal people the UN declared 1981 as the International Year of Persons with Disabilities and the UN General Assembly in 1992 decided December 3 when the World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons was adopted as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

How is the campaign for the disabled going on in Korea?

The looking after of the disabled people began soon after the nation was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation (August 15, 1945). In the early years of the building of a new Korea the state began to assume responsibility for the disabled-related work, their livelihood and health care in particular, by way of enforcing social

security and health service policies. In June 1946 the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea proclaimed the law on labour of the blue- and white-collar workers in north Korea. The law specified the measures for the livelihood of those who could not go to work for their physical damages from labour accidents. This gave rise to the work for the protection of the disabled persons in Korea, and it may be called the beginning of the effort. The soldiers who became disabled during the Fatherland Liberation War (June 25, 1950–July 27, 1953) were registered as honoured disabled soldiers while those who had been disabled due to the atrocities of the enemy were put to the state protection for their medical treatment.

The disabled are provided with all necessities of life and living conditions at the state burden. Rehabilitation centres have been laid at provincial, city and county people's hospitals, to say nothing of the central hospitals; sanatoriums have been established in Talchon, South Hwanghae Province, and many other parts of the country. The travelling to and from the sanatoriums is paid by the state, as well.

In order to develop the protection of the disabled in an all-round and coordinated way, the state developed the Korean Association for the Support of the Disabled Persons (organized on July 29, 1999) into the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Disabled on July 27, 2005. The committee has the mission of representing all the rights and interest of the disabled persons in Korea. By means of different forms of support, activities of their defence and press and other information services it promotes rehabilitation of the disabled persons' mental and physical functions, the laying of disability-free environment, preven-

tion of disability and enhancement of the social standings of the disabled persons. All this helps the disabled to play their role as true masters of society.

With the amendment and supplementation of the Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the Protection of the Person with Disability in 2013 a far better condition was laid for the defence of the rights and interest of the disabled in all fields of the social life and for the provision of stable livelihood.

The point in the protection of the disabled in recent years has been that the activities of the sports and artistic associations have become brisk. The Korean team won the swimming event at the 14th Paralympics in Britain in 2012 and carried off several silver and bronze medals in the swimming and table tennis events at the 3rd Asian Youth Paralympics in Malaysia in 2013. The artistic association is also working actively; it staged joint performance with professional artistic groups on the National Day of the Disabled Persons and the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This caused great repercussions at home and abroad.

The effort for protection of the disabled is now supported by active international cooperation, isn't it?

We are deeply interested in international cooperation as well. Particular attention is paid at present to the interchange with Korean nationals overseas and international organizations that are interested in rehabilitation of disabled children in Korea. In April last year a Hungarian delegation visited the Rehabilitation Clinic of the Disabled Children in Korea. In June and September a number of overseas Koreans and delegations of international organizations looked round the rehabilitation clinic before exchanging opinions about how to improve

My Subworkteam Members

By Pyon Chang Ryul

(Continued from the last issue)

HAVING ASKED YONG AE to look after the subworkteam, Chun Hwa washed her working garment and spread it on the pebbles. Then she washed her hair.

It was arranged that she was to take the afternoon bus to the town and return home the next day. She heard that a newly opened restaurant in the town was preparing a special service for the model workers who were to make appearance on the TV stage and that other catering and service establishments were also offering them kindly and sincere care.

Chun Hwa left the stream thinking over what she was going to tell at the TV stage. Getting home she was ironing her clothes, when there was a calling of her from outside. It was Hyo Sun who entered the house. Chun Hwa felt like to ask why Hyo Sun had gone to the Eighth Workteam the previous evening, but suppressed it. She looked up with a smile. Hyo Sun said, "I'm here to ask for the bill of man-days of labour. You know it is high time to make public the man-days for ten days. I'm afraid you're late with the submission of the bill."

Chun Hwa readily stood up and looked for her working garment. She was frightened now to see it hanging from the clothes line outdoors. Now she remem-

bered she had put the bill under a stone before she washed her clothes in the stream. But she did not want to tell the truth, so she said a lie, "I'm sorry I've put it in the publicity material I gave to Yong Ae. Well, wait. I'll get it in a minute."

Chun Hwa hurriedly put on her shoes.

Hyo Sun said, "Then, I'll ask Yong Ae for it tomorrow myself. I know you're busy preparing for the trip. You've little time to go to the field."

But Chun Hwa began to make a dash to the stream, leaving Hyo Sun's dissuading words behind. But she could not find the bill on the stream. She looked here and there, supposing the bill had been flown in the wind. No sign of it at all. As she had put it under a stone, it could not be flown in the wind. It would be a great mishap if it had been taken by children. She knew if it had been taken by any child it would have soared up into the sky or crumpled. She had seen her nephews do it very often. She knew she should have told Hyo Sun the truth. She could rewrite the bill again referring to the individual cards of the workers even if it would be late for a few days. But as she had told a lie, she would be in a perplexing situation.

Lies are the shield of the weak, Chun Hwa thought. She regretted she herself told a lie. She felt sorry about herself. She was displeased about herself since

she was going to be rebuked by Hyo Sun for the matter of submitting a report of man-days of labour. Now she decided there was no other alternative but to speak frankly to Hyo Sun.

Chun Hwa sighed and headed for her home. Fortunately, Hyo Sun was not at home. Her mother told that Myong Sik had been at home and that he had had a few words with Hyo Sun before he had left immediately.

Chun Hwa sighed a sigh of relief but had a doubt on the other way. She put toilet things and cosmetics in her bag and hung it on a hanger on the wall. She fell into a thought, unable to decide what to do. What to do with the bill of man-days of labour? Would it be better to open her heart to Hyo Sun about the bill or make another bill by recollecting the labour of the past five days? She thought she could remember the five days' work of the members of her subworkteam. All the members except two women on maternity leave and a man on a sick-off-day had been at work. The man-days of labour of each of the members were rather same, and she could not tell them exactly. Now Chun Hwa produced a few sheets of the form of man-days of labour, and began to fill in. She put in the date and the names of her workers. She decided to put in the name of the work and the practical point of work after all fillings, and began to fill in the point of labour. When she ▶

▶ the upbringing and education of the disabled children and their rehabilitation. They said they would have better exchange and cooperation in the field. Last year a delegation of Tilganga Eye Centre, Nepal, visited my country at

the invitation of the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Disabled performed surgical operations on cataract cases at several hospitals and donated a lot of ophthalmic facilities and other

aids. The Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Disabled is determined to continue with cooperation with more international organizations and national associations in different spheres. □

► finished one third of her work, there rang Myong Sik's voice calling her from outside. She abruptly felt an urge to see him as if she had not seen him for days. Her mother in the kitchen opened the door and greeted him in. Then she went to the back garden of the house, saying she was going to pick some vegetables.

Chun Hwa pushed aside what she was writing and welcomed Myong Sik into the room.

"What were you writing? Were you preparing a speech? Shall I check it?" Myong Sik asked in a careless way, looking through the sheets of paper on the table.

"I lost the bill of man-days of labour for five days," Chun Hwa answered, "I've been making the bill anew." She pushed aside the paper sheets to one side of the table.

Myong Sik frowned and watched Chun Hwa in her face staringly. His eyes felt dubious and doubtful.

"You're going to be more and more ..." he opened but stopped short. More and more what? Chun Hwa stared Myong Sik in his face.

"What are you going to do about yesterday's happening?" Myong Sik asked in a serious voice.

Chun Hwa tried to think what had happened the day before. What did he mean by yesterday's happening? She asked herself.

"Then, you forgot it clean?" Myong Sik asked.

"What do you mean?" Chun Hwa asked in an angry voice.

"I mean the artistic performance of the schoolchildren," Myong Sik announced. "Do you think you are conscientious when you did such a thing? You should have gone to the Eighth Workteam after the meeting of the management board to have a discussion about the arrangement of the performance with the teacher of the music circle. Is it too long a way for you to go? It is within a calling distance from here, you know."

Now Chun Hwa remembered.

She realized Myong Sik and Hyo Sun had gone to the Eighth Workteam to make up what she had done wrong. They had accepted it as their unfinished job when she herself thought it was a matter of the past.

Myong Sik said, "I thought you would more seriously take the collective reaction of your subworkteam members on the stream yesterday than any criticism or advice. So, I believed you would go to the Eighth Workteam after the meeting. But you didn't. I was embarrassed to hear the subworkteam heads of the Eighth Workteam praise you. At the moment Hyo Sun came to the workteam. She earnestly asked the students to stage another performance for the members of the Third Subworkteam who were the first to finish the rice transplan- tation in the county."

Chun Hwa apologized, saying, "I know I was wrong. I'm sorry I've caused such a trouble to you."

Chun Hwa made a sincere apology, but Myong Sik would not give up his rigid manners.

"Even if I pardon you, how could you make an apology to your workers?" Myong Sik asked. "It's the same with the bill of man-days of labour. One day you insulted your workers as if you were giving a great prize to them by giving a 0.5 point and now you're making up the bill as you like. You think it isn't any matter with you to give an absurd assessment about their work done."

Chun Hwa's eyes fell, and she seemed to know what he was so angry about.

"I didn't know you're such a liar. You cheated the masses and your own conscience," Myong Sik declared.

Even deceived her spouse! She mumbled to herself.

Myong Sik was silent for a while. Presently he said, "I've mistaken you, Chun Hwa," he said groaningly. His voice was soaked with anxiety. Chun Hwa seemed as if she had heard her heart fall with a thud. Like a girl

who had lost the last bridge that was connected to the earthly paradise of the happiness. Like a young girl standing by the flooded river. She knew Myong Sik had expected her to look for the bill, rummaging up and down the stream. *And he must have expected me to be chagrined by the failure to make sure that the workers saw the students' performance*, she thought. *But I was doing none of them while feeling nothing about the happenings. It was true that I thought it a thing of the past to help the workers see the performance.*

They say love is the spark coming from the joining of two hearts. The spark joins with another to be bigger ones and shine through the life. Such sparks had been evident in our hearts as well, and I thought our sparks had flared into flames in our hearts, Chun Hwa had thought. Was it a fantasy? Was it a mistaken image?

Cheating the masses and your own conscience!

Chun Hwa remembered the days when she had met him for the first time. *Was there anything private that sealed the bond between us?* Chun Hwa asked herself. She knew Myong Sik had once said he saw her warm heart in her care for the members of her subworkteam and her devoted service for them. And he had believed she would be so much genuine and enthusiastic about their own relationship. But today he came to doubt the truth of their relation for her hypocritical act. That was quite natural.

Myong Sik poured sharp criticism on her: you cannot expect to have any private love for any individual apart from the love for the collective or the masses, and, if any, it is doomed to fail after all.

Chun Hwa felt as if her heart were pierced through. She raised her face, wiping her tears. She could see her own image in the looking glass glaring at herself seriously.

(To be continued)

Spring Beside Kumgang Cave Makes Vision Acute

VISIBLE BESIDE THE Kumgang Cave in Mt. Myohyang is a spring that gushes out from under a big rock. Woven around this spring is the following legend.

In the lower village down the Hyangsan Valley there was a boy who was working as a farmhand in the rich man's house. Taken off to the well-to-do landlord's house because of the debts he had owed to him for the rice borrowed on an annual interest, the boy was hard at work, subjected to all sorts of humiliating insults and maltreatment.

He had to get up early in the morning and boil cattle feed and then sweep the yard. He had to work in the fields or collect firewood in the daytime and had to twist straw ropes in the evening. Whenever he had a breathing space the master growled in a haughty manner and flicked a whiplash at him.

The boy went round busily like a toy top all day along, and only when the night was far advanced he, reduced to a pulp, used to drop off to sleep at a corner of the hovel used for the boiling of cattle feed. He could hardly take a proper meal and the work he was doing was toilsome. So the long drawn-out eye disease he had suffered from since early spring that year became more serious with every passing day. His eyes became gummy dreadfully, the white of his eyes was congested with blood entirely and

the black apple of his eyes began to turn grey in the long run as if it were shrouded by fog. With his eyesight becoming dim, he could no longer recognize even a nearby person. His eye disease grew worse, but the rich man tormented him so that he could not take a rest even for a moment. The boy got impatient. He was ill at ease, saying inwardly, "I fear I'll go blind once and for all."

One day a little bird with blue feathers and the yellow stuff of the neck came flying and perched on a tree branch in front of him and twittered, craning its neck repeatedly as if consoling him when he was sobbing, overcome with sorrow.

Then the bird flew up and made a gesture of "Come here!" after circling round over the head of the boy several times. It was not in bad sight but its behaviour was so strange that the boy went following it up in the direction in which it kept flying away.

The bird, after taking wings for a good, sat before a big rock that was covered with moss and the vine of *tolmoru* (a sort of climbing plants belonging to the grape family). Limpid spring water was gushing out of the crevices of the rock in a steady flow. The bird drank the spring water and got its eyes and head wet with the water. Having stepped up to the place, the boy drank the water by dipping his hands first, as was done by the bird. Then he washed his eyes. No sooner had he done

so than his misty eyes became bright in an instant. After looking closely at the bird with his brightened eyes, he realized that in the spring of the previous year he had gone up a mountain to gather firewood and delivered a nest out of danger by striking to death a snake that was setting its eyes on bird eggs and that the aforesaid blue bird was none other than the mother bird of that nest.

The bird reciprocated the favour of the boy without forgetting it by finding out medicinal water helpful to the healing of his eye disease. It flew away to the green forest after chirping with its bill perking up on the tree as if overcome with joy. The boy felt thankful to the bird, indeed.

He frequented the Kumgang Cave indicated by the bird to drink the spring water and wash his eyes with the water. To his surprise he was completely cured of his disease and became able to see even a long way off.

Knowing this by hearsay, people living in Mt. Myohyang began to cure their eye disease with this spring water.

That is why they came to call the water *Myongansu* (the water making vision acute). *Myongansu* is underground water gushing out of the crevices of a rock in a thick forest. It is not only clear and good to taste but also efficacious to a certain degree in treating both eye and internal diseases.

Choe Chol Ho

Korean Folklore Museum

(Continued from the last issue)

Customs of Family Life

WE ENTERED ANOTHER ROOM IN WHICH are on display visual aids and other materials showing old customs of family life of the Korean people regarding the birthday celebration, wedding, memorial service and greetings. Pointing to a doll of child at the table laid in celebration of its first birthday, the guide explained about the celebration of the children's first anniversary of birth. "From ancient times the Korean people made new rainbow-striped jackets and prepared a special table for their children on their first birthday. On the table were laid different kinds of foods, rice, money, a bow, a book and a brush. According to what the baby grasped, they anticipated its talent and future, wishing it would grow to be a laudable person."

The guide said relatives and neighbours used to pay a visit giving a gift like clothes, toys, foods and money as a token of congratulation. "Loving the children was regarded as a beautiful long-standing practice in our country," said the guide before talking about the customs of wedding ceremony.

Wedding is one of the biggest ceremonies in the family. In the past Koreans held *Kwanrye* and *Kyerye* before having the wedding ceremony. *Kwanrye* was a ceremony held to honour men's entering the adulthood while *Kyerye* was the one to do the same for women. On the occasion men tied their hair upward while women fixed a pin to fasten the rolled-up hair. The guide said that the wedding ceremony was a good reflection of the Koreans' lofty manners of morality and emotions of everyday life, the customs

A wedding ceremony.



A ceremony of celebrating the first birthday of a baby.

of the man and wife getting old together until parted by death.

Hearing his explanation, we looked round displays including a box of dress materials for the wedding, a saddle on horseback and visual aids showing the wedding process. According to the guide, the bridegroom's family sent a box of dress materials to the bride's family before the wedding ceremony while the bride's family prepared materials for a new home. When the bridegroom got to the bride's house, he presented a wooden wild goose to her mother, which signaled his trust in and love for his spouse. At the wedding ceremony the bridegroom stood in the east and the bride in the west to make deep bows to each other and then exchanged a gourd of wine as a

Different bridal costumes of some areas.



▶ sign of their allegiance to lasting bond of marriage. The arrangement of the wedding table varied a little from region to region, and they mostly included a couple of bottles with a pine and a bamboo in them, jujubes, chestnuts and a couple of chickens.

We saw the model attire of the bride and the bridegroom, the wedding carriage of the bride, the costumes of the brides in different areas, and other displays, which give good information about the customs of wedding in the contemporary times.

What was peculiar about the wedding ceremony was the bride's making a bow to her parents-in-law, when she offered a tray of jujubes to her father-in-law and a tray of dried meat to her mother-in-law.

Saying that Koreans regarded it as an obligation to hold the elderly in respect and take good care of them, the guide explained, "The most important ceremony for the elderly was their 60th birthday. On the occasion the children prepared new clothes for their parents while giving a feast. At the ceremony they offered toasts to the parents in order of age, made bows and presented their gifts. Relatives and neighbours joined the celebration, behaving in the same way."

The guide added that the Koreans now in the age of the Workers' Party of Korea sing of long life in good health, proud of being still "young" at 60 and celebrating the "successful completion of a round of life" at 90.

Hearing the guide we went to look at a picture of a folding-screen style. The ten-screen work was *Picture of a Life* by Sin Yun Bok, a famous painter in the 18th century. It shows the contemporary customs and manners of attire, dwelling, table, family life and folk games.

"You can also have a good idea of the good morality of the Korean people from the practices of mourning service. They had a nice habit of forming a kind of association of neighbours to have mourning service," said the guide, leading us to some relevant visual aids. There on display were some historical relics like an incense-burning table, an incense container and an incense burner which had been used at mourning. There I saw a figure of male child of the dead wearing a straw-rope hemp hat and straw sandals with a thick straw rope wound around the middle of the body, and a figure of female child of the dead wearing a straw-rope-hat and straw sandals with a straw rope wound around the middle of the body.

The guide pointed to *Sinju*, which she said was a piece of wood inscribed with the name and rank of the dead. It was used in memorial service.



Photos and data on forms of graves in relevant historical periods.

In the hall were also photos and data on the shapes of graves in each of the historical stages from the primitive and ancient to the middle ages, including dolmen, jar grave and stone-coffin grave.

We also saw some documents on greeting manners in the past, which show that the Koreans made greetings at meeting or parting by bending the body and dropping the head and that the mode of their respectful and sincere greeting words was different according to occasions, places and persons concerned.

We stepped into the next hall.

Jo Yong Il
(To be continued)

Mourning attires.





Mt. Chilbo Area Registered as World Biosphere Reserve

The Ryongso Falls.

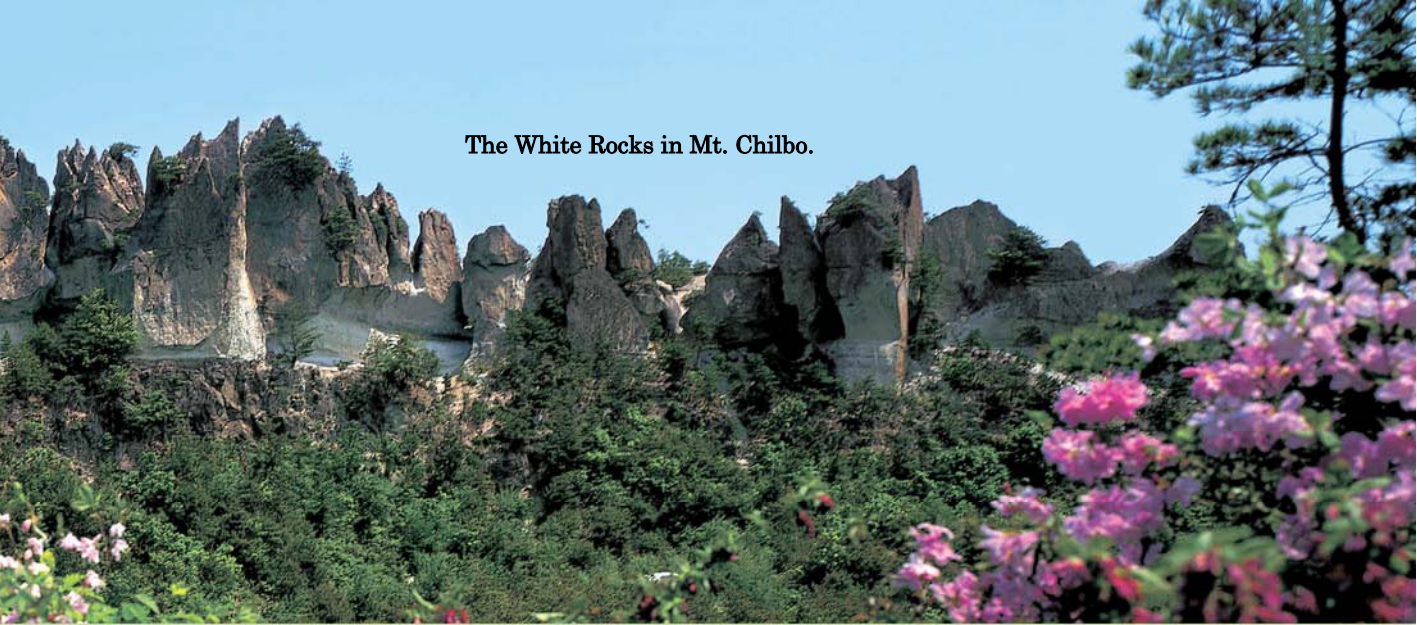


THE 26TH CONFERENCE OF THE UNESCO International Coordination Council for Human and Biosphere Planning was held in Sweden on June 10-13 this year. The meeting decided on registering the Mt. Chilbo area in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a world biosphere reserve. With the locality's unique and rich biodiversity clarified in detail and with the area registered as a world biosphere reserve, a more favourable environment has come for the protection of the biodiversity.

Mt. Chilbo on the coast of the clear and blue East Sea of Korea presents incalculable views of curious peaks rising high, precipitous cliffs, and deep valleys covered with rocks of strange formation and richly-wooded forests. Stone gates, caves in cliffs, gorges of unique and various shapes and large and small falls formed in every ravine make the ►



The White Rocks in Mt. Chilbo.



► natural scenery more lovely and picturesque.

Because of physiographic peculiarity and abundant feed environment, there live more than 800 species of higher plants and hundreds of species of vertebrate animals in the Mt. Chilbo area. Besides, plants and animals that are of great economic value and scientific significance are distributed, including *Songi* mushroom that is famous as a speciality of Mt. Chilbo. That is why this area is considered to be a “storehouse” of gene multifamily.

Also to be found in Mt. Chilbo are precious natural monuments of the nation as well as ruins and relics of the primitive, ancient and mediaeval ages showing the time-honoured history of Korea.

This biosphere reserve abounds in mineral spring resources including the Hwangjin, Sari, Tahoe and Manho spas. These resources are now making a great contribution to the promotion of human health.

Thanks to the policy of the country, Mt. Chilbo has been built up more splendidly as a people’s recreation ground and a celebrated mountain. No wonder that the number of sightseers from many countries is also on the increase year in and year out.

Kim Un Jong



Nongbu Rocks.

Songi mushroom-gathering in Mt. Chilbo.



Tal Gate in Sea Chilbo.



The Four Falls in Mt. Kumgang

VISIBLE IN THE CENTRAL part of the east coast of Korea is Mt. Kumgang. It is known as one of the six noted mountains of Korea.

To be seen in this mountain are the Kuryong, Pibong, Okyong and Sibi falls that are called the Four Falls. The Kuryong and Pibong falls are found in Outer Kumgang. The magnificent and vigorous Kuryong Falls offers a grand spectacle with crystal-clear water cascading tens of metres down the cliff without letup. It is 74 metres high, 84 metres long and 4 metres wide and is abundant in the volume of water. The falls sounds like shaking heaven and earth, drops of water remind you of billions of pearls pouring down, and the water course looks as if a roll of white silk cloth were hanging down the sharp-cut cliff face. A rainbow rising from there makes all visitors to this falls feel refreshed and gives them a charming effect. Seen below the falls is Kuryongyon or Nine-Dragon Pool. To be found in the circularly hollowed-out stone like the body of a mortar—13 metres deep—is glittering blue water that flows in whirls at all times. Once upon a time nine dragons are said to have lived there. Hence the name Kuryongyon.

The Pibong Falls is 139 metres high (166 metres long) and four metres wide. Clouds of spray sent up by waters of the falls dance gently and sluggishly with the rising of a whirlwind. This makes you feel as if a phoenix were flying up to the sky, swinging its tail. Hence the name the Pibong Falls.

The summit of its towering upper part seems to have reached a white cloud floating in the sky. And water of the falls, while cascading down to some extent, gently bumps against the deeply hollowed-out spots on the wall of the falls, thus getting dispersed in all directions and changing into misty clouds of spray, and partly coming down in torrents just as they are. This appearance provides a grand sight. The current

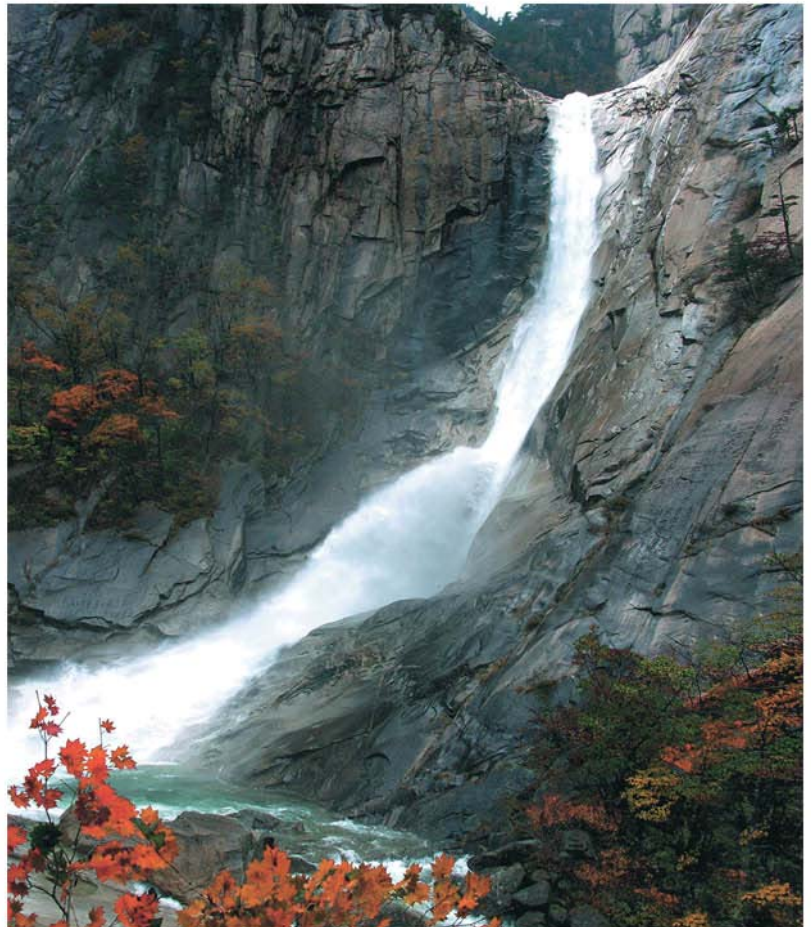
changes in various forms according to the shape of the rock face and finds its way into Ponghwangdang, an elongated whirlpool shaped like a small dining table.

The Okyong Falls is situated in the upper reaches of the Kumgang Stream in Tanhung-ri, Kumgang County. The streams that start from Oknyo and Yongnang peaks meet at a point before falling down a cliff. Hence the name Okyong Falls. The falls is 31 metres high (10 metres high at the first stage and 21 metres at the second) and three metres wide. Its face is about 20 metres wide. After getting into the mortar-like hollow formed on the face of the falls, the water comes down in two

stages as if blowing off powdered snow. To be found below is a long and round blue-black whirlpool covering a space of nearly 200 square metres. The stream water flies down furiously and vigorously onto the glossy and whitish rock. So the falls looks somewhat sequestered and yet refreshed, fitting in well with the thickly wooded forest in the vicinity.

The Sibi Falls is located in a valley in Outer Kumgang where there stands the Songnim Temple. The water comes down a 12-tiered cliff. That is why it is called the Sibi Falls. It is the highest of the four falls in Mt. Kumgang and the falls throughout Korea. It is 289 metres high and four metres wide. The maximum height between the tiers is 80 metres and

The Kuryong Falls.



Joint Stamp Show Promotes Friendship



Andrei Vadimovich Strygin, president of the Russian National Philatelists Academy.

A STAMP SHOW OF philatelists of the DPRK and Russia was successfully held in Pyongyang in September last under the co-sponsorship of the Korean Philatelists Union and the Russian National Philatelists Academy. The president of the Russian academy and head of the Russian delegation, summing up the current show, said that he got a better idea about the history, culture and reality of Korea during his sojourn through the recent show, and that he felt once again the Korean people's warm sense of friendship with Russia. After going round the show the first-vice president of the Council of the Russian Federation wrote in the visitor's book that it was a good thing to hold a joint stamp show of the two countries, that he extended thanks to the authority of the DPRK for giving an opportunity to hold the show, and that the friendship between Russia and the DPRK is strengthening with each passing day.

I'll work hard for cultural exchange and friendship

This is my first visit to Korea and I have a very good impression. The most impressive was that the Korean people gave us warm hospitality with feelings of friendship. I didn't expect the Korean Stamp Museum is well furnished. It's a really wonderful museum. And the Korean stamps are excellent. On this occasion I knew that the Korean philatelists have high skills, and the overall management of the show was of a high level. I am pleased that the mass media of this country had widely introduced the joint show. Korea has many young philatelists, and a lot of people came to see the show. I am very impressed by the structures of high formative representation in Pyongyang, modernly-built Munsu Water Park, a high level of acrobatics in this country and the historic relics in Kaesong. All the members of my delegation have got nice impressions. We have a saying, "If you know and understand each other, it will be the beginning of mutual affection." During my stay I have got a better understanding of the history and culture of Korea. A few days after my arrival I got a feeling of friendship with the Korean people. I love Korea. I'll contribute to further strengthening of cultural exchange and friendship between Russia and Korea by arranging more shows.

Andrei Vadimovich Strygin, president of the Russian National Philatelists Academy

I aspire to exchange and cooperation

The success of the current joint show belongs to the philatelists in

Russia and the DPRK. This is my first visit to Korea, and I have got a very good impression from it; the people are nice and Korea has a good nature. The most impressive to me as architect is that the architectural formation of Pyongyang is excellent. The city is laid out harmoniously. The bird's-eye view of Pyongyang from the belvedere of the Tower of the Juche Idea is marvellous. High-rise buildings are simple and clean, and in harmony with each other. The Pyongyang Metro is really wonderful like an art theatre. When I heard that many of the wonderful structures were designed by the architects of the Mansudae Art Studio, I had an urge to visit the studio and talk to them. The Korean artists have great talents, indeed. As architect, I am ready to have exchange and



S. B. Tkachenko, head of the Architectural Designing Institute of the Mosproekt-5.

cooperation with the studio.

S. B. Tkachenko, head of the Architectural Designing Institute of the Mosproekt-5

► the minimum is 16 metres. The water flowing from the valley between the Chaeha Peak (1 588 metres) and Mt. Wangchongbaek (1 482 metres) falls in stages down the southern cliff of the

Chaeha Peak. The appearance of the water pouring down from the soaring cliff makes one feel as if a roll of white silk suspended from the sky were fluttering in the wind. From olden times it was

called a white rainbow. Sounds of the falls are uproarious.

Many sightseers come to see these four falls in Mt. Kungang.

Choe Chol Jin

Serious Things in the Asia-Pacific

CENTURY AFTER CENTURY the Korean peninsula has been the ground of confrontation between powers. In this century, particularly in 2014, it has been the hottest spot in the world due to the anti-DPRK policy and Asia-Pacific priority policy of the US.

From February this year the Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military rehearsals of the US and south Korea took place one after another in the southern half of the peninsula at the American initiative. A combined landing exercise which was the largest since 1993 and a combined joint air drill which was the largest ever in scale went off recklessly. In August south Korea was swept by the Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercises into which were hurled a huge force of the US aggression troops and the south Korean puppet army and as many as 480 000 south Korean civilians.

All the military drills conducted by the US in south Korea were aimed at conquest of Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, and targeted at the supreme leadership of the country. The Ulji Freedom Guardian exercises employed the so-called “tailored deterrent strategy” that is geared to launch a pre-emptive attack against the DPRK with all the military potentials including the nuclear weapons at their own discretion in peacetime as well as in wartime. Meanwhile, in August three B-2 strategic bombers which can carry 16 nukes and reach any spot in the Asia-Pacific region for operational missions were deployed in a forward base in Guam away from the US mainland. American troops equipped with latest military hardware were

massively reinforced in and around south Korea.

The American military drills and arms buildup for the purpose of aggression elicited the DPRK’s hard-line countermeasures and strong reactions of the neighbouring countries. The DPRK made its harder-line stand clear by releasing a number of statements including the one of the spokesperson of the general staff of the Korean People’s Army in August in which it declared that the DPRK would launch the most powerful, merciless pre-emptive strike in advance at a certain time it would choose. Meanwhile, the nation conducted different sorts of military exercises including the missile-launching drills.

On May 20 this year Russia and China adopted a joint statement which noted that they would join efforts in the political, military and other fields to oppose the American strategy of giving priority to the Asia-Pacific. They have since headed for its implementation. While maintaining a tough stand against the US, Russia is channelling efforts into development of latest offensive and defence weapons like new-generation strategic bombers and long-range interceptor missiles that will surpass the American types. High-ranking officials of the US Air Force said that Russian strategic bombers were routinely flying as far as to Guam, an American dominion, and the coast of California in the west of the US mainland and that accordingly the number of sorties of the American F-15 was on the increase.

China is also taking a firm stand, giving a number of warnings, to deal with the planned deployment of the US’s THAAD in

south Korea, which is supposed to be used to watch main points in its territory.

The Asia-Pacific region is turning into a ground of showdown of forces and arms race. This is totally because of the US’s policy of giving importance to the Asia-Pacific. The Americans intend to get hold of the DPRK—as they do south Korea at the moment—and use it as a springboard to gain control of the regional powers and establish an order of American domination. The basic means in their pursuance is the military force. Guided by the strategy, the US recklessly carries out military exercises and arms buildup to take supremacy over the DPRK and its neighbourly powers and gain a military control. Misleading the world opinion by talking as if peace were in danger due to the DPRK’s possession of nuclear weapons and rocket-launching exercises and the neighbourly nations, the US is justifying its military exercises and arms buildup. This is a poor pretext to accomplish its strategy of control of the Asia-Pacific by means of the military force.

The Russian deputy foreign minister said that the US would have aggravated the Russo-American relations by finding fault with another problem but for the Ukrainian incident, and added that the strife between the two countries is unavoidable at present.

For the sake of a single country, many nations’ security is exposed to a grave threat and the percentage of breakout of a nuclear war is growing day by day. This is a serious reality in the Asia-Pacific.

Kim Myong Chol

Jasan Ginko Tree

THE JASAN GINKO TREE IS SEEN IN Jasan-ri, Phyongsong City, South Phyongan Province. It has grown for over 700 years. Shaped like an umbrella, it is 24 metres high, its crown 23 metres across, its stump 6.8 metres round and 2.6 metres across and its trunk 5.5 metres round and 1.6 metres across at the breast height. The trunk is grayish brown and a lot of splits can be found throughout the length and breadth of its surface. Leaves of this tree are five to six centimetres wide and three to four centimetres long and are smaller than those of other ginko trees and the end of leaves are not divided into two. The nuts produced by this tree are especially small in number. As it adds beauty to the landscape and is significant

in ecological research the tree was designated as State Natural Monument No. 33 in January 1980 and is currently under protection.

Sim Yong Jin





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