



KOREA TODAY

1

Juche 107

(2018)

Happy New Year

GREETING THE NEW Year 2018, we *Korea Today* editorial board extend congratulations to all our readers.

We hope that you will realize your beautiful dreams and wonderful ideals, and that your families will be full of happiness and affection.

Today the Korean people are

pushing ahead with the building of a thriving socialist country while resolutely thwarting the hostile forces' severe challenges, and they are making all efforts to build an independent and peaceful world.

We will try our best to inform you of the pulsating reality of Korea as much and as accurately as we can. We will further raise

our voices for the effort to ensure peace and security of the Korean peninsula and the world and realize international justice.

We are sure you will be better aware of the Korean people's indomitable spirit and the country's development through this magazine.

Happy New Year!





C O N T E N T S

3 Self-reliance and Self-development Is the Only Way Out

The Korean people achieved great things in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development implanted by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.



6 Fruits of Wise Guidance

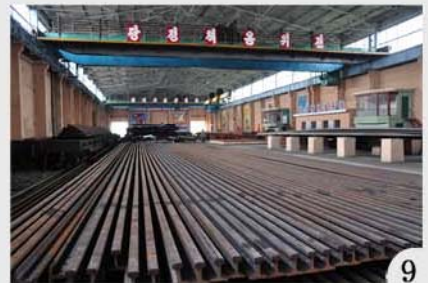
7 For the Better Quality of Products

8 By Giving Priority to Science and Technology

10 Best Beer

12 Motto of the Supreme Leader of the DPRK

14 Juche Idea, Revolutionary Doctrine of Independence (1)



Monthly journal *Korea Today* is printed in English, Russian and Chinese, and posted on the Internet site www.korean-books.com.kp in English, Russian, Chinese, French, Spanish and Arabic.



Front Cover: Molten iron production is on the increase at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex.

Photo by Ra Phyoung Ryol



Back Cover: Piano Rock in Mt. Chilbo

Photo by An Kang Rim

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- 16 *Saenal* Yesterday and Today
- 18 Benefit from Science
- 19 Rising to Challenge of Cutting Edge
- 20 Ultrasonic Developers
- 21 Respectable Koryo Medicine Researchers
- 22 A Day in a Primary School
- 24 Brisk Extracurricular Circle Activities
- 26 Mineral Enriched Beverage
- 27 Developer of Mineral Koryo Medicine
- 28 Orphan Grows to Be a Sports Ace
- 28 Delicacies and Gold Medals
- 30 Their Dream to Be World Champion
- 32 Couple of Doctors
- 34 Secret of Successes
- 35 New Kind of Saccharide Medicine Developed
- 36 *Short Story*
Spring
- 38 Eight Scenic Spots in Kwanso
- 40 Hyecho and His Travelogue
- 41 Trump's Question to Answer
- 42 Back Street Villain
- 44 Sanctions Resolutions—Unwarranted
- 46 Result of Sycophancy and Treachery
- 48 Invariable Wild Ambition





Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspects the newly renovated Ryuwon Footwear Factory in October 2017.

Self-reliance and Self-development Is the Only Way Out

THE ONLY MAINSTAY FOR US AT THE moment is our own exertions. Nobody would help us or wants our nation to become powerful and prosperous. This is the philosophy Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un implanted in the mind of the Korean people securely.

In August 2016 he inspected the newly built acrylic paint production process of the Suncheon Chemical Complex, when he said that the successful establishment of the process with the Korean technology, Korean materials and Korean equipment and its full operation was another proud achievement in the chemical industry sector and that that was eloquent proof of the truth that nothing is impossible to achieve when they march ahead upholding the banner of self-development first.

The Supreme Leader visited the Wonsan Army-People Power Station one December day in 2016.

Marvelling at the blue water of the great artificial lake, he remarked that he keenly felt how powerful and formidable the exertion of determined people is and that the creative ability and wisdom of the Korean people who harness the nature as they want is really inexhaustible. He declared that nothing in the world can break the indomitable spirit of the Korean people who are determined to build a powerful socialist country with their own efforts, technology and resources.

In this way, whenever he drew up a plan to bring a happy life to the people and visited factories in full operation and vigorous construction sites, he stressed the need to make things of the Korean style using the Korean efforts and technology, thus inspiring the people to work in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development.

The spirit has been a great motive power for the ►

▶ people to overcome all trials and ordeals and achieve best things in the worst conditions. Last year witnessed an upsurge in the struggle to make a watershed in the building of a socialist economic giant. Representative of the struggle were the completion of Ryomyong Street, the setup of a quilt production process in the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, the inauguration of the Pyongyang Bag Factory, and the development of the Ryugyong Kimchi Factory into a model and standard kimchi maker. These are all the crystallization of the self-reliant and self-developing spirit the Korean people kept in their heart.

Innovations occurred in the leading and major industries. The workers of the Suphung Power Station established a scientific system of water control and raised the generating efficiency up to the peak while other power stations, including the Sodusu, Namgang and Kanggye Youth, were in full operation. Hundreds of collieries hit their production targets for the year. The railway transport sector maintained a dynamic transport control system and gave precedence to accident-free runs of trains for concentrated transport, while cutting the round-trip time of the goods wagons and elevating the cargo transit capacity. As a result successful transport was ensured for the giant power plants and construction projects.

The machine industry developed scores of new products through the campaign of surpassing the cutting-edge. The workers of the Ryongsong Machine Complex opened a vista to produce modern air compressors by developing, with their efforts and technology, a V-style air compressor of a new model which is much lighter and of a higher standard in all technical specifications than existing ones. The Taeon Heavy Machine Complex newly manufactured

a multipurpose voltage and current transformer and the Ragwon Machine Complex newly produced a concrete force pump which is badly needed in the construction industry. The Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport built a 320 t-capacity motor ferry with their own efforts and technology and put it into service in the Taedong River, thus making it possible to cut the distance and time of vehicles' operation and save a lot of oil.

Besides, a great many factories and enterprises worked hard to develop new styles of products which can contribute a lot to the State policy of turning production processes Juche-oriented and modern. Typically, the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex built a ferromanganese production process which is fed with low-grade wad; the February 8 Vinalon Complex completed a new caustic soda production system with its own effort and technology; the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex established an energy-saving steam production process which is based on a recycling mode, and began to produce 4G polymeric catalyst; the Hungnam Electrode Factory acquired a technology of manufacturing electrodes for UHP electric arc furnaces using natural graphite.

Remarkable progress was made in the effort to develop all fields rapidly by adhering to science and technology as the lifeline. A good example came from the teachers and researchers of the Pyongyang University of Architecture, who developed a multi-channel automatic system of sensing the heat of hydration in cement by the direct method. The system is of tremendous importance in guaranteeing the stability of buildings and mass-producing high-quality cement by elevating the scientific accuracy of cement and concrete production. It made a great contribution to the construction of the Paektusan ▶



▶ Hero Youth Power Station and other monumental edifices. It was also introduced at the Suncheon Cement Complex to bring about a huge profit in laying a sci-tech foundation for sharp increase of quality cement. Besides, there were a good deal of sci-tech achievements, including the development of an efficient portable plasma cutter, home-production of a digital device for protection of generators, development of biofuel, development and application of a technology for production of heat-resistant cement, home-production of a new kind of vegetable pesticide, manufacture of a new style of unmanned material carrier, home-production of special functional paper products, development of a silver preservative of the

Korean style, and development of ultrasonic washing machines. The 32nd national sci-tech festival, the 15th national invention and new technology exhibition and other events took place with large attendance stimulating the exchange and introduction of sci-tech achievements.

The sanctions applied by the US and other imperialist forces to strangle Korea are going on without interruption, but the Korean people are making big strides forward to attain the final victory of the building of a powerful socialist nation in the invariable spirit of independence, self-reliance and self-development.

Yom Song Hui



Some of the achievements of the Korean people based on their own efforts.



Fruits of Wise Guidance

Kindling the Flames of Enthusiasm

ONE DAY IN JULY 2015, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex.

During his inspection of the complex the Supreme Leader said that its workers should lead all others of the country as a hard-core group of the Juche revolution and Songun revolution and that they should demonstrate the mettle of the heroic working class in railway modernization. The workers of the complex had previously made electric locomotives and carriages, and rail butt welding machines and SR motors, he said and added that so they could possibly make underground electric trains, assigning them to the honorable task of making the trains.

Afterwards the administrators and workers of the complex turned out as one to develop and produce a new kind of underground electric trains. Campaigns were under way to break the existing formulas relating to time in all processes including casting, forging and processing. They thus finished the process of the bogie pedestal braces in four days which had been considered to take more than two months, and successfully manufactured the driver's cab and carriages of the underground train in over 20 days. The scientists and technicians of the complex completed over 5 000 relevant designs in a short span of time, surpassing the ready-made theory and developed a high-speed compressor and a high-speed circuit-breaker by their own efforts and technology.

On October 22 that year Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the complex again. He examined the underground electric train the workers, scientists and technicians of the complex had made with their own efforts and technology, and affectionately praised them for what they had done. Then he said to officials that he had had the complex manufacture the underground electric train of Korean style without fail because he had wanted to prove practically, instead of hundreds and thousands of words, to those infected with the

importation fever the truth that anything made by their own efforts and technology is more precious and laudable.

That day the Supreme Leader stressed that the country should leap forward to the world standard, and that it should do in a year what others had done in a decade, kindling the flames of creating the Mallima Speed in the heart of the officials.

Renamed Factory

In August 2014 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspected the then Taedonggang Tile Factory. (During his previous inspection of the factory in September 2012, the Supreme Leader referred to it as a smart and praiseworthy factory.) Now he congratulated the factory for having sent a lot of tiles to the major construction sites while overfulfilling its annual production plan for two years.

And he said that he decided to rename the factory Chollima Tile Factory to the effect that it is located in Kangson, the birthplace of Chollima, and that the new name reflected the Party's belief that the factory would be in the van of the struggle to bring about a great heyday of construction by fully displaying the spirit of Chollima. Referring to quality of tiles as the key factor in defining the quality of architectural structures and the latter as a criterion for evaluating a country's level of civilization, he said that the factory should set a higher goal for the purpose of raising the quality of its products up to the world level and strive hard to attain the goal.

Looking round adhesive and tile production workshops, a digital colour spray printing room and so on to get familiar in detail with production and development of new products, he gave important instructions the factory would have to adhere to in its activities. He also gave an important instruction on making the factory become the first model of a digital factory.

Yom Song Hui

For the Better Quality of Products



Kim Pyong O.

SOME TIME AGO A KOREA Today reporter had an interview with Kim Pyong O, a bureau director of the Ministry of Light Industry. Excerpts:

Light Industry plays an important role in improving the people's living standards. What was the target for the development of the light industrial sector last year?

The standards of the people's cultural life are improving day by day, and they are requiring better consumer goods. The target of the light industrial sector last year was to vitalize the relevant production with proper management strategies and by relying on domestically available raw and other materials and bring about a turn in diversifying the range and types of the goods and improving their quality.

Nationwide competitions took place between sections such as the knitwear industry management bureau and the footwear industry management bureau, and efforts were made to diversify the range, types and colours of consumer goods and reduce production cost. This led to production of a number of famous goods and commodities.

Last year the development of light industry was badly affected by the US and its vas-

sal states' sanctions against the country, I think. What have you done to overcome the trial?

Owing to the United States and its vassal states' superintensity sanctions against our country, we could not conduct normal trade with other countries or import various materials and equipment necessary for production of consumer goods.

But we did not give up. Instead, we all turned out to further strengthen the foundation of our independent national economy, achieving lots of successes. This can be proved by the fact that modern factories and production processes appeared last year.

For example, the Pyongyang Bag Factory, among new bag factories built across the country, made its facilities Juche-oriented up to 95% and produced school bags of different shapes and colours to be supplied to schoolchildren before the new school year began, using canvas from the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill and zippers from the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site Souvenir Factory.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill established a modern quilt production process to produce a variety of bedding with silk cloth and silk cotton from light industrial factories in our country.

And efforts were made to develop new products. As a result, kinds of popular commodities branded with Korean trademarks increased. The Pyongyang Artificial Silk Factory is now producing by themselves tetron rayon which had to be imported before. The Songyo Knitwear Factory developed elastic knitted underwear and elastic patterned lace, and footwear factories did over 200 kinds of new leather shoes and sports shoes. Totally over 900 kinds of new products were developed in the first half of last year. This shows that the tougher the imperialists' sanctions against

our country become, the further we redouble our efforts in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development.

Meanwhile, much progress was made in improving the quality of products.

The 28th National Consumer Goods Exhibition was held last year. What was its characteristics?

The exhibition opened at the Pyongyang Underground Shop in October last year. On display at the exhibition were more than 80 000 consumer goods of over 2 000 sorts from light industrial factories across the country and daily necessities workshops of factories and enterprises under ministries and national agencies. The exhibition was characterized by the obviously better quality of consumer goods and the fact that their production was made Juche-oriented on a high level. Women's underwear and socks, towels and bags were those good enough to be put on international markets. Bags from the Phyangsong Artificial Leather Factory, made of high-quality synthetic leather and newly-developed pressed vinalon cotton insoles, had been very popular among all the visitors to the 13th Pyongyang Autumn International Trade Fair. The bag factory increased the sorts of the products up to over 30 in a year after July 2016.

The exhibition was crowded every day. Gold and other medals were awarded to the goods that were made with domestic raw materials, popular with the people and of world standards. During the exhibition the exhibitors visited different factories, attended lectures on new technology and had their new products registered on the list of February 2 Products.

This year, too, we will make efforts to develop much more famous goods and commodities using our domestic resources and technology. □



Steel production is on the increase.



By Giving Priority to Science and Technology

LAST YEAR STEEL PRODUCTION increased unprecedentedly at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex amidst the fierce flames of competitive campaign for increased production of iron and steel.

The complex found the key to increased iron and steel production in attaching importance to science and technology and put efforts in expanding the success in the Juche iron and that in steel production simultaneously. The steel workshop put the technical indexes of electrodes on a higher level through the effort to enhance the utility rate of domestic electrodes during the operation of electric furnace.

The complex also finished repair and maintenance of the major systems of a large-size oxygen plant in a few days which had been considered to take over a month, making it possible to produce more and better oxygen and thus increase the Juche iron production from the oxygen-blast furnace.

The officials, technicians and workers of the complex waged a mental war, a technological campaign, so dynamically as to technically renovate the gas generator, putting an end to the established concept that the operation of the generator is impossible at low atmospheric temperature. Meanwhile, the technical staff of the complex introduced a rational method which can further shorten the time of melting as molten Juche iron had to be directly fed into the UHP electric arc furnace. This led to the peak record in per-charge molten iron production.

Last year the complex also established in a short span of time a new foundation for ferromanganese production which is conducive to the iron and steel production, and put it into operation. The establishment of the ferromanganese production process meant a firm guarantee for the complex to operate its steel production system by its own effort and technology and with domestic raw materials, and a great stride in making the alloy steel production Juche-oriented.

The establishment of the ferromanganese production process has the following story.

Earlier, President Kim Il Sung had clarified the ways and means of actively exploiting and using wad abundant in Korea and given an important instruction on establishing a Juche-oriented ferromanganese production process. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, true to the instruction of the President, acquainted himself in detail with the problems arising in arranging the aforesaid process in

▶ the complex, and took relevant measures to solve them.

The managers, technicians and workers of the complex set a workable goal of completing in the shortest time the gigantic project ranging from the development of the workings to the construction of the dressing plant, and mobilized all reserves and potentials. After developing workings in a western area, they, in close connection with the researchers of the State Academy of Sciences and the Central Mining Research Institute, drew the design of the ferromanganese production process as required by their actual condition. On the other hand, the workers of the complex worked day and night, performing a miracle of finishing the processing and assembly of the equipment in a short period of time.

As a result, the whole project was finished in two months which otherwise would have taken half a year, and they put the production of ores for that of ferromanganese on a normal basis. And they decided to use the existing ferroalloy furnace of the ferroalloy workshop for the ferromanganese production, and introduced a rational melting method for the operation of the ferroalloy furnace, remarkably succeeding in producing ferromanganese with wad available in



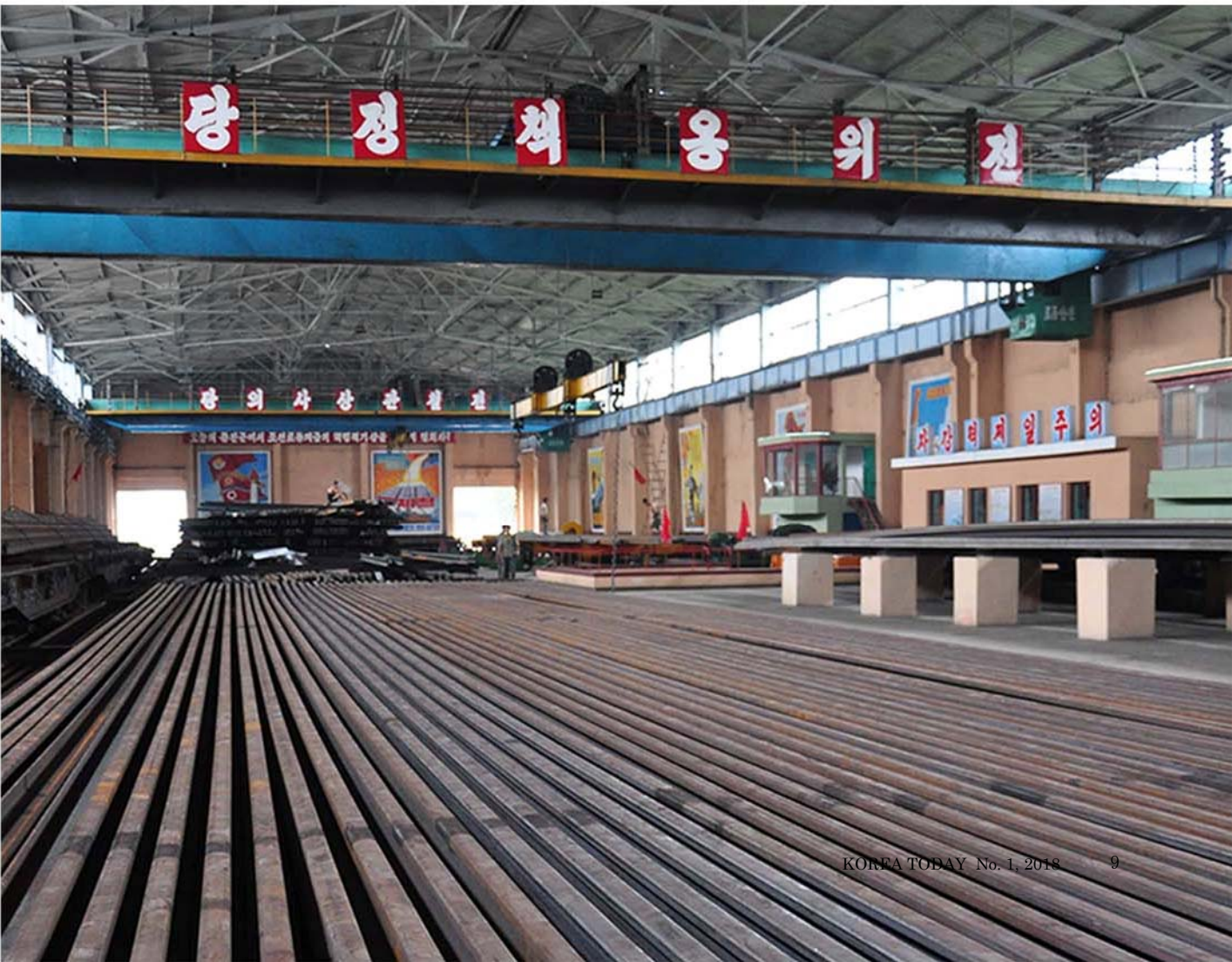
In the sci-tech learning space.

the country.

Now the managers, technicians and workers of the complex have set a high goal of further raising the actual ore concentration rate and improving the quality of ferromanganese and are steadily making further achievements by pooling effort with the relevant researchers.

Sim Yong Jin

Heavy-duty rails are produced.



Best Beer

DRINKS LIKED BY THE Korean people include Taedonggang beer. Foreign visitors to Korea, too, relish it.

“Your beers are as good as any in the world! We hope many Americans get the opportunity to taste your good work.” This is what general director Tom Curly of the AP wrote in the visitor’s book after looking round the Taedonggang Brewery during his visit to Korea in 2011.

The brewery is situated in Sadong District, Pyongyang. At first it produced only a sort of beer. Now it produces different sorts of beer better in quality, and its production capacity has been enhanced.

Beer is divided into top-

fermented beer and bottom-fermented beer according to the methods of fermentation, and Taedonggang beer belongs to the latter. The beer is made using the water from under the bottom of the Taedong River and barley, hop and so on produced at home. The sorts of the beer include that made from only barley, those with 30, 50 and 70 percent material being rice, that made from rice 100 percent and black beer. Last year the brewery developed wheat beer.

The brewery built in 2002 has been renovated on a modern line, its appearance changed for the better and the production processes modernized. Previously the bottling process was not auto-



mated, which caused trouble in production. But the process is now unmanned, and a beer case piling machine of their own design and make has been installed, thus making manual labour completely unnecessary for bottled beer production.

The comprehensive analytical laboratory situated near the production building has been put on a firm foundation, provided with latest analytical equipment and more technical forces. Pak Kum Hui, head of the laboratory, says, “We examine all the production processes from the supply of raw materials and the brewing of beer to bottling and the quality of the beer, check for the presence of microorganisms in the beer and analyse its ingredients. We’re making efforts to improve the properties of the beer—it is mild, thrilling and refreshing.”

The production control room also deserves a comment: an integrated control system has been established on a higher level with the help of researchers from the Kim Chaek University of Technology.

Thus the brewery’s production and business activities have been





Efforts are made to produce quality beer.

▶ made more scientific and IT-based.

Large-sized refrigerator vans marked Taedonggang Beer quickly transport the beer. Lots of beer houses in Pyongyang serve the beer every day, and similar houses in provinces do so.

In 2016 there took place the Pyongyang Taedonggang Beer Festival on the picturesque bank of the Taedong River. The floating restaurant *Taedonggang* and the vicinity of its wharf served as the venues for the festival. The festival included a contest in which the contestants guessed the right between seven sorts of the Taedonggang beer after tasting it. In those days beer fans at home and from abroad turned up the thumbs, admiring the beer as the best and original.

The beer contains vitamins and mineral matters, and helps improve human health by preventing diabetes and obesity and promoting urination. So it is very popular with people.

Workers of the brewery are striving to produce tastier and better beer.

Rim Sang Jun



Taedonggang Beer is highly popular.





Motto of the Supreme Leader of the DPRK

ONCE JIANCARLO ELIA VALORI, CHAIRMAN of the board of directors of the Mediterranean Development Bank and concurrently chairman of the board of directors of the General Investment Group, Italy, wrote in his article that his answer to a raised question is that His Excellency Kim Jong Un is a peerless great man of the Mt. Paektu lineage who is identical to His Excellency President Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Kim Jong Il, whom the world is respecting and admiring as the eternal Sun of Juche, and a great statesman who is always successful perfectly in all aspects.

His Motto

The phrase “The People Are My God” was the motto of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, and it is now the motto of Kim Jong Un, the Supreme Leader of Korea. It is the Supreme Leader’s view of life that he has nothing more to wish for even though his body may be scattered like the grains of sand for the good of the people. He always thinks of the people, and his thoughts and affairs are always for the good of the people.

The Supreme Leader, at an enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Workers’ Party of Korea Central Committee held in February 2015, said that officials should adhere to the Party’s view of the people for their creed and soul, and regard it as their iron rule in their work and life to give top and abso-

lute priority to the people’s interests and convenience and make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people. In his speech delivered at the military parade and public procession of the Pyongyang citizens held in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Workers’ Party of Korea on October 10, 2015 he said that the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is, in essence, the people-first principle and that the mode of existence of the Party is serving the people. And he set forth the slogan “Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!” and led the Party to thoroughly apply the people-first principle in the implementation of all its lines and policies.

Under the Supreme Leader’s benevolent care, the Korean people are leading a happy life despite the US imperialists and reactionaries’ extreme schemes to isolate and stifle the country and the sanctions they imposed against it. In recent several years alone many cultural and emotional life bases and structures where the people can enjoy the modern civilization to their fill sprang up including the People’s Theatre, the Rungna People’s Pleasure Ground, the People’s Open-Air Ice Rink, the Mirim Riding Club, the Munsu Water Park, the Okryu Children’s Hospital, the Masikryong Ski Resort, the Sci-Tech Complex, the Songdowon International Children’s Camp, the Pyongyang Orphanage, the Pyongyang Baby Home and the Ryomyong Street.

In 2015 when the Rason area in the northern part of the country suffered severe damages by a sudden heavy rainfall the Supreme Leader put the rehabili-

► tation of the flood-hit Rason City on the agenda at an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, and inspected the area two times, giving guidance to the rehabilitation campaign. In 2016 when the Musan area in the northern end of the country was damaged again by a heavy rain, he said that his beloved people were left homeless, that there was not a state of emergency more serious than the people's pain, and that there was no revolutionary task more important than relieving the people of misfortune. Then he changed the main thrust of the 200-day campaign to rehabilitation of the flood-afflicted northern area and took an unprecedented measure of crucial importance to organize a headquarters for commanding the rehabilitation.

The Supreme Leader finds pleasure in making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, and the history of his noble affection for the people will last for ever.

His First Affection

Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army Kim Jong Un inspected the KPA Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division on January 1, 2012, with the will to keep advancing along the road of independence, Songun and socialism pioneered and led by the President and the Chairman.

Commenting on this the US's CNN and Japan's Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported that Commander Kim Jong Un, the Supreme Leader of the DPRK, inspected the KPA 105th Tank Division and congratulated the servicepersons on New Year's Day, that the tank division was the first to dash into Seoul in the early days of the Korean war, that in August 1960 Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the division together with President Kim Il Sung and launched

People move into new houses in the flood-affected northern area of North Hamgyong Province.



the guidance based on the Songun idea of giving priority to military affairs, and that Commander Kim Jong Un's inspection of the division seemed aimed at emphasizing his inheritance of the cause of Songun.

Meanwhile, the rest of the world press wondered how the newly-emerging Kim Jong Un's Korea would tide over the great difficulties and whether he, at the helm of the socialist Korea, could distinguish himself as a great man whose name would go down in history like the President and the Chairman had done.

Kim Jong Un depressed the US imperialists and their followers by having the third underground nuclear test done when they were committing vicious provocations finding fault with Korea's successful launch of artificial earth satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2. In August 2015 he neutralized the prevailing hair-trigger situation and thus safeguarded peace and security of the country, and in January 2016 he made the country qualified enough to become one of the nuclear powers by leading its first H-bomb test to success.

In 2017 the KPA, under the guidance of Kim Jong Un, made thorough preparations to rout any invaders at one stroke. The KPA Strategic Force succeeded in the test fire of ICBM Hwasong 14 on the US's Independence Day, and mapped out a plan for an enveloping fire at Guam as the US's aggressive manoeuvres became undisguised.

In September last year the Supreme Leader gave an autographic order to carry out an H-bomb test which was very significant in achieving the target of the final stage in completing the State's nuclear forces. Accordingly, there took place an ICBM-ready H-bomb test which was a complete success.

Taken aback by the ever-growing national power of the DPRK, the US President vociferated in his speech at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly that there was no alternative option except total destruction of north Korea and that they would annihilate the country's population of 25 million. This time Kim Jong Un released a statement in the name of the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, declaring that he would surely and definitely tame the old lunatic of America with fire.

Natalia Belokopitova of the Working Russia movement once said that Marshal Kim Jong Un is leading Korea's struggle to defend socialism to final victory as wisely as President Kim Il Sung who defeated the formidable enemy in the 1950s and Chairman Kim Jong Il who made such an enemy surrender in the decades-long war without gun report by dint of Songun politics.

In the New Year, too, the Korean people will always emerge victorious in the anti-imperialist, anti-US showdown as they have Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

Kim Ye Ryong

Juche Idea, Revolutionary Doctrine of Independence (1)

AT THE BEGINNING OF the 20th century hundreds of millions of oppressed people in the world were still wriggling in agony like in the previous century. The earth was invariably dominated by powerful imperialists and ruling classes. And the Korean nation was also in agony. At this juncture there emerged a new ideology which denied the degradation and termination of man and proved that the strength and wisdom to bring about peace and prosperity of humankind are not beyond both the earth and mankind but in the earth and in the mind of man, that is, the popular masses. The ideology is the Juche idea founded by Kim Il Sung, eternal President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The history of the idea covers the history of the Korean people's carving out their destiny independently, the history of the transformation of society, nature and people, the history of Songun leadership and the history of the building of a powerful socialist nation.

* * *

With the Stream of the Times

It was during his early revolutionary activities that

Kim Il Sung had a deep insight into the requirement of the new era in which the oppressed and humiliated popular masses were emerging as masters of their own destiny. The period from the latter half of the 1920s when he set out on the road of revolution to the early 1930s witnessed the popular masses' unprecedentedly organized violent struggles waged across the land of Korea. The Korean people's anti-Japanese mass struggles at that time were not merely an extension of their previous struggles, but those of new aspect waged in an attempt to overcome the limitation of the former struggles.

The Japanese imperialists advocated a "cultural rule" after the March First Popular Uprising in 1919, but in the following year there appeared a labour mutual-aid association as a workers' organization followed by the successive appearance of a peasants' organization, a young people's organization and a women's organization. And under the guidance of the organizations there took place vigorous mass struggles to defend the proletarian masses' right and interests against the Japanese imperialists' colonial policy. In 1921, with the general strike of the Pusan dockers as a start, there were launched in succession strikes in

Seoul, Pyongyang, Inchon and other industrial cities and many provinces, followed by tenancy disputes of peasants and strikes of students across the country. In the course of this, the Korean Communist Party was organized in April 1925. The formation of the party propelled the development of the mass movements and the national liberation movement.

With the beginning of the latter half of the 1920s the mass struggles turned into organized ones on a nationwide scale, and they reached a markedly high level.

Between the late 1920s and the early 1930s the struggles developed into violent ones on a larger scale.

Newspapers of those days carried articles about strikes, riots and demonstrations of workers, peasants and students almost every day.

Seeing through the revolutionary advance of the people, Kim Il Sung paid special attention to some matters different from those in the previous days. One of them was that the popular masses' struggles for any purpose in any country were waged in a violent and organized manner. The other was that the revolutionary movement was developing in a broad and diversified way on

► a worldwide scale.

Watching attentively varieties of struggles launched in succession at home and abroad Kim Il Sung was confident that the era was coming in which workers, peasants and other working masses who had been groaning under exploitation and oppression were to collectively struggle against aggressors, landlords and capitalists. At that time he was in his teens. But he was already able to grasp the essence of the era with the people as the central factor. This is inconceivable apart from the unusual process of his growth. He was born (April 15, 1912) and grew up in a time of ordeals, of darkness and of starvation when the Korean people were groaning under the Japanese imperialists' bayonet of fascist terrorism. He himself experienced the people's tragic life full of sorrow and resentment of a stateless and hopeless people. He saw the people toiling and moiling and realized that the world was lasting year after year thanks to such working people.

The people were all industrious and kind-hearted, and their heart was burning with anger at oppressors and ruling classes.

The March First Popular Uprising that took place on a nationwide scale in 1919 served as an important opportunity for Kim Il Sung to have a deep understanding of the era with the people as the central factor. The uprising was an explosion of the

pent-up resentment and anger of the Korean people who had been humiliated and ill-treated under the Japanese aggressors' brutal "saber rule." It started with a mass demonstration in Pyongyang. And it led to a nationwide anti-Japanese resistance. Together with adults, Kim Il Sung, too, rushed to the front of the Pothong Gate, shouting, "Long live independence of Korea!" He saw the people protesting in a do-or-die manner, shouting, "Long live independence of Korea!" while falling shot by the Japanese imperialist army and police and bleeding stabbed by the enemy's swords. The popular masses tried to gain their liberty and independence even at the cost of their lives. It was not a temporary and simple request or aspiration but their strong aspiration and desire. This enabled Kim Il Sung to be confident that the right as masters of their own destiny, the independent right, that the popular masses were struggling to obtain was what they fundamentally required and that it was just what the era required and aspired to.

So Kim Il Sung recalled with deep emotion that the March First Popular Uprising marked the first time that he stood in the ranks of the people and that the true image of the Korean nation was implanted in his mind's eye.

Another important factor that enabled Kim Il Sung to have his own views of the new era in which

the popular masses were emerging as masters of the times and history was that his father Kim Hyong Jik, more firmly resolved to achieve the independence of the country by relying on the popular masses, conducted more positive activities to unite the masses.

Kim Il Sung's eye for the stream of the times gradually developed from his childhood's that witnessed the times as only those of a tragic upheaval to that to regard the times as the new ones of the working masses' struggles accompanied by bloody fights. In those days he, unlike others, already felt keenly that the popular masses were the beings with great force and that the awakened people were opening the era whose masters they would become.

Dwelling on his inmost thoughts at that time, Kim Il Sung said in his reminiscences *With the Century*, "**The question had arisen of the policy of struggle and the leadership. I had the firm conviction that we could defeat any enemy, however powerful, if we had a correct policy that suited the trend of the times, and led the struggle properly.**"

Like this, Kim Il Sung described the people's long-cherished fundamental aspiration as independence and put it forward as the basic requirement of the times.

Yom Song Hui

Saenal Yesterday and Today

SOME TIME AGO A KOREA Today reporter had a talk with Pak Pyong Hyon, the editor-in-chief of the newspaper Saenal (New Day—Tr.), on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of its founding. Excerpts:

I think the newspaper Saenal is one of the Korean publications with a long history.

You're right. Saenal was the first revolutionary newspaper that Kim Il Sung founded in Fusong on January 15, 1928, while waging the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. Having a deep understanding of the function and role of publications in the revolutionary struggle, he proposed to found the newspaper to educate members of the Saenal Children's Union (SCU), other children and

the masses in a unified way and devoted his tireless efforts to its foundation. The SCU was Korea's first children's revolutionary organization Kim Il Sung formed on December 15, 1926. It was an organization to fight for the bright new day when Japanese imperialism would be overthrown and national liberation achieved, the day when the old society would be destroyed and a new one built. The newspaper became the SCU's organ at that time.

Then he suggested that the newspaper should be named Saenal after the acronym of the union's name and that its writing and editing should be done to suit the union's character and its members' awareness and sentiments. He himself wrote the inaugural article for the first issue

of the newspaper all night and added correcting touches to the union's activists' manuscripts while checking them one by one.

Under his scrupulous guidance, the activists of the SCU and those of the Paeksan Youth League (a mass anti-Japanese youth organization Kim Il Sung formed with hard-core youngsters in Fusong on December 20, 1927) managed to write 100 copies of the newspapers' first issue for over a week without any mimeograph.

The first and second columns of the first issue carried the inaugural article titled *On Publishing the First Issue of the Newspaper Saenal*.

At that time the newspaper was aimed at rousing all the union members and other children

The content and mode of the newspaper edition improve steadily.



▶ and the broad masses to the sacred struggle for the national liberation by educating them in the spirit of opposing the Japanese imperialists and loving the country and developing them into true revolutionaries.

Later, during his stay in Jilin, he wrote and sent articles for the newspaper so that it fulfilled its mission.

Would you tell me the distribution areas and main contents of the newspaper?

Saenal was distributed to wide areas like Fusong, Wanlihe and Songshuzhen, helping awaken youngsters and other people politically. The paper severely exposed and condemned the Japanese imperialists' invasion of Korea and the aggressors' brutal colonial policy of plunder, and propagated the truth that only when the popular masses, master of the Korean revolution, fought united against the Japanese imperialists could they take back their country. And it positively carried articles titled—*How Did Landlords Come into Being?* and *What Kind of Method Do Landlords Employ to Exploit Peasants?* and those which exposed the fundamental contradiction of the class society and exploitation by landlords and capitalists.

In addition, some columns of the paper were dedicated to articles that explained the advanced Marxist-Leninist ideology, data on scientific knowledge on the history of the development of human societies and that on cultural enlightenment.

The SCU and other anti-Japanese organizations used the paper as a textbook and a means of motivating the masses. Thus, it greatly helped educate the broad sections of youngsters and other people in the anti-Japanese patriotic idea, consolidate their organizations and implant a revolu-



***Saenal* is a close companion of schoolchildren.**

tionary world outlook in the youngsters so as to rouse them to the anti-Japanese patriotic struggle.

With the beginning of the paper's publication, the Juche-oriented revolutionary publications started to take historic root in Korea.

The newspaper is now carrying on with its history and tradition as required by the developing reality, I think.

Right. The paper began to be republished as the organ of the Central Committee of the then League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea on April 1, 1971, greeting a new heyday of its development. It is still carrying youngsters to the new day that will see the accomplishment of the Juche revolutionary cause and the cause of building a socialist power.

It carries lots of articles dedicated to education in Kim Jong Il's patriotism and moral education. In particular, it deals with many articles that help students prepare to develop into

well-rounded builders of socialism who are knowledgeable, moral and healthy and reliable successors to the Juche revolutionary cause.

It also gives wide publicity to the activities, successes and experience of senior middle schools' youth league organizations that rouse all the students to a study-first movement under the slogan "Let Us Learn for Korea!" put forward by Kim Jong Il, and carries lots of articles to introduce good experience of individual students excellent at their study and organizational life.

Besides, it deals with news of schools' sports activities, articles to introduce good experience in socio-political activities and do-good-things movement, sci-tech knowledge, literary knowledge and literary works written by the students.

The newspaper fully serves as the best supporter and companion of schoolchildren who are preparing themselves for the bright future of the thriving nation. □

Benefit from Science



General Manager Ju Myong.

THE SINUIJU CHICKEN Farm in Korea is recognized as a highly profitable farm in the country. Not long ago I happened to know the secret during my coverage.

Main Developer

The office of its general manager Ju Myong is usually empty. According to what its employees said, the general manager spends more time in workshops and a laboratory. He took to that habit soon after being appointed to the position in 1995. He has taken the lead in the farm's sci-tech work always as the originator of a new technique.

He regards the process of giving guidance to production and acquainting himself with work-

shops as an important opportunity to think of and develop a new idea of technique. This may explain how he knows well what is important in enhancing the growth of chickens, the egg-laying rate and the meat production. And though busy with his work he never forgets to meet researchers and technicians to discuss with them about how to solve technical problems arising in production. This leads directly to sci-tech achievements actually conducive to production.

From long ago the farm won numerous special and first prizes at national scientific and technological festivals. It is said that most of the achievements were invented by the general manager.

He says that only when he himself takes the lead in the competition for ability can he make production and business activities become the process of direct application of science and technology.

Multipurpose Farm

In 2009 the farm was faced with a problem of increasing the number of incubators in accordance with the expansion of its production capacity. At that time production began to be activated at the farm, so some proposed

using the increasing profits to import the machines. Then the general manager clearly said that they should make by themselves the incubators which could be referred to as the basis of production at the farm.

So they began to make incubators of a new kind by making the maximum use of their own potentialities. Later the machines made it possible to produce chicks in the incubation buildings without the help of breeders, except a single computer operator. This gave important impetus to the future development of the farm and that of the country's poultry farming as a whole.

Those who visited the farm to learn from its experience said in unison, "This is the first time that I have ever taken a copy of a machine design from a chicken farm."

Unknown Person of Talent

The words *unknown person of talent* can be often heard in conversations between employees of the farm.

In the past any good idea would encounter obstacles caused by immediate production and empiricism. So newcomers of the farm would strive to do something in the early days and then give

The hatching room and the adult chicken house.



Rising to Challenge of Cutting Edge

ONE LATE EVENING IN early 2015 the environmental protection science department of the global environmental science faculty of Kim Il Sung University was in a consultation for hours. They were talking about the research task which they were assigned to for the making of a dust-free process of production, which was the main problem in the project of putting the Pyongyang Children's Food-stuff Factory on a modern basis. Everyone looked tense because they had little experience and, worse still, they had to finish their job in no more than a year.

Presently, a confident voice broke the silence in the room, saying, "I'd like to try it." It sounded quite patient. It was Doctor Jon Yong Il, who was an associate professor. He said, "I know this is a difficult task. But I dare say we'll be able to do anything once we tackle them in a determined way. You know, it is a global practice to ensure a dust-free environment by means of a central air-conditioning system. I found it interesting years ago and have done a research to improve the environment by means of air current. Now I'm sure we can carry out the task with our own efforts."

Thus, a research team was formed with Yong Il as the head, and a full-scale project was launched. Yong Il divided his team into two groups. One of them, led by Doctor and associate



Matters of environmental protection are discussed.

professor Kang Kon Ho, was to make an analysis of the air condition around the factory, learn the effects of wind, temperature and humidity on concentration of pollutants and find out a way to deal with them. Another team was put in the charge of Jon himself, and was to develop a relevant dust-collecting device.

When the project got afoot, some people asserted that the air conditioner, which is the cream of science and technology and the heart of the dust-collecting facility, had to be imported from abroad. But Jon, persuading them that one step backward now would lead to a hundred ones backward in one year or two and that that was a critical matter related with the future of the country, put his heart and soul in the research so as to develop an

air conditioner with their own efforts and techniques.

Thanks to the devoted efforts of the research team an air conditioner of the Korean style was developed in a short period of ten months, and this led to the establishment of a central air-conditioning system.

Recollecting the time, Jon says, "I know there are numerous obstacles in our way to the cutting edge. The recent project has convinced us that when we have a sense of responsibility for the future of our country we'll be able to conquer any fortress of science."

The researchers are putting all their wisdom and enthusiasm in the projects for the prosperity of their country.

Choe Sol Mi

► up. Then the farm eliminated such phenomena, and whenever a valuable idea of technical innovation was proposed it provided enough conditions for the relevant research so that the result could be introduced in production.

Now the words *unknown person of talent* began to pass as the

meaning that whoever makes efforts can become an able scientist or technician.

As a result, the farm produced hens of a new kind whose egg-laying rate is remarkably high. Recently it has developed in succession varieties of microbial fermented composite feed, com-

pletely solving the problem of protein-rich feed badly needed for poultry breeding.

The general manager often asks, "Don't we have an *unknown person of talent* here?" in any workshops he inspects.

Ri Kum Chol

Ultrasonic Developers

ON BEING APPOINTED chief of the acoustic engineering laboratory of the physics faculty, Kim Chaek University of Technology one summer day four years ago, Ri Kyong Ho felt quite a sense of responsibility. For days he thought and thought about what he had to tackle for the beginning. Now he said to his staff members, "I am sure everything depends on us. We ourselves have to plan projects and carry them out. Let's pool our knowledge and resources to develop cutting-edge products."

His enthusiastic speech was a great pep talk. The first research project was to manufacture an ultrasonic washing machine. That kind of washer had already been developed in the country, but they were not in good use. Imported things were overwhelming at that time. Well informed of the situation, Ri decided to develop a new kind of ultrasonic washing machine.

Their painstaking efforts produced a small washer for the beginning. On the basis of the elementary success in the trial stage, different sizes of washers of the kind were developed. Before long, however, a bottleneck cropped up unexpectedly. The introduction of the products into practice turned out quite problematic. One of the crucial matters was to develop an

ultrasonic generator with an automatic control of frequency. Without the solution it would be impossible to correct the problems found in the existing washers.

The researchers buckled down to the task, which was not so easy to do. Scores of circuit diagrams were worked out. It took them as many as two months to succeed in developing an ideal generator by joining their intelligence and efforts. It was fitted into the ultrasonic products, and the trial operation turned out really successful.

Ri says, "When we began to develop the ultrasonic washing machine, we encountered a lot of difficult problems. In the course of dealing with the strange problems we got experience and lessons as well. The machine we developed can effectively clean things with complicated surfaces and deep holes, bends, experimental apparatuses, surgical operation tools, and jewelry. It can make it possible to turn the cleaning job automatic or semiautomatic. You can use the tap water and alkali, acid or organic solvents." The washing time can be set as the user wants, and the function of automatic temperature control can be attached additionally as the user wants. For these advantages the washing machines are favoured, Ri says.

The researchers who developed the machine are all in their 20s or 30s. They have also developed ultrasonic vibration panels of different kinds which can treat existing water tanks and storage tanks with ultrasonic waves without any transformation, an ultrasonic device which can evenly emulsify more than two kinds of liquid with opposing qualities like water and oil, a high-capacity ultrasonic-used vaporizer which can provide a proper content of humidity and get rid of dust in the air, an ultrasonic measuring device which can promptly and correctly get the thickness of large pieces of steel plates and pipes, and a portable ultrasonic detector which can be used to check the position and size of inner defects like a blowhole and crack in different castings and welds.

These things brought them high acknowledgment at the 32nd national sci-tech festival, and the ultrasonic washing machine, in particular, was registered as cutting-edge product in June last year.

The researchers are now redoubling their effort to develop far more cutting-edge products using the Korean materials and employing their own technical knowledge.

Sim Yong Jin



Developers of cutting-edge products like ultrasonic washers.



Respectable Koryo Medicine Researchers



Kim Hye Ryon.

THE ACADEMY OF KORYO Medicine has a lot of capable researchers loved by the people, and Kim Hye Ryon, director of the Koryo Pharmacological Institute, and Kim Suk Yong, researcher of the Acupuncture and Moxibustion Institute, are typical of them.

No Longer Obstinate

Koryo pharmacologist Kim Hye Ryon has a career of over 40 years. She has achieved a lot of successes by intensifying studies on the treatment using medicinal herbs while making clear the composition of Koryo medicines and their efficacy. In particular, she has left indelible traces in making medicines from the extract of herbs.

At first, Hye Ryon buckled down to the work of extracting ginkgo leaves as they were widely planted in hills and streets and the efficacy of the leaves was confirmed constantly. She worked day and night and finished the project in a short span of time. More than that, she developed a relevant injection. The medicine gained public favour. She was awarded the February 16 Scientific and Technological Prize which is given to excellent scientists in the country.

Later, she developed the *Saengmaeksan* extract, *Saengmaek* solution and *Saengmaek* injection from scores of Koryo medicinal materials such as *Schizandra chinensis* and big blue lily turf, and they turned out very

effective in treatment of myocardial infarction and angina pectoris.

She also delved into the old Koryo medical books—*Tonguibogam*, *Uibangryuchwi* and *Hyangyakjipsongbang*—which comprehensively write on Koryo therapies and remedies that had been created and developed in keeping with the Koreans' way of life and physical builds. In the course of this, she proved scientifically that Koryo medicine has good therapeutic value as it can cure disease-affected organisms in an all-round way and treat those diseases that the modern medicine cannot cure, and does not harm the human body as it has little toxicity and side-effects. Gradually, she was confident that she could treat obstinate diseases with Koryo medicinal materials which were used in the prevention and treatment of ordinary diseases in the past, and she started a relevant research project.

The other researchers of the academy helped her, and several years of strenuous effort resulted in an amazing success. She received a doctorate, and now she is putting her heart and soul in another research project, keeping burning enthusiasm in her mind.

Developer of Meridian Chart of Acupuncture and Moxibustion

Professor Kim Suk Yong of the acupoint-based diagnosis department of the aforesaid academy is a People's Scientist and Merited Doctor. In 1992, she completed a meridian chart, which shows 201 motor points corresponding to 14 hard pulses and 361 meridian points, and 31 neural segments plus meridian lines that gather in Taechu and Kyolbun acupoints. For this she was awarded a diploma at an international invention exhibition held in Geneva in 1994.

She devoted 40-odd years to



Kim Suk Yong (middle).

the study. As a nervous disease expert, she was intensifying the study on nerve, when she found out that the meridian system of the Koryo medicine is closely connected with the theory on nervous system of the modern medicine. It meant she had to be well aware of the acupoints to treat nervous diseases. She completed nerves and neural segments relevant to the meridian points. She made deep studies on acupoints and completed a metallic anatomical model of the human body and a colour chart. Meanwhile, she wrote many books including *Meridian and Neurophysiology*, *Modern Medical Foundation and Clinical Practice of Acupuncture and Moxibustion* and *Manual Therapy of Clinical Acupuncture and Moxibustion*. She also made public a number of theses at an international academic society.

Kim has made positive efforts to put the meridian theory on a scientific and modern footing in keeping with the actual condition that acupuncture and moxibustion science has become a sector of the life science in the 21st century. Now a large board of acupoint-nerve chart and an anatomical model of electronic acupuncture and moxibustion are displayed in the Sci-Tech Complex.

She is both a researcher and a doctor. As she has rich experience in curing a large number of patients including the cases of paraplegia, she commands great public respect.

Yom Song Hui

A Day in a Primary School

SOME TIME AGO, I VISITED THE SINUIJU Paeksa Primary School situated in the border city of Sinuiju.

The school boasts a neat, modern four-storeyed building decorated with tiles of different colours. When I admired the school building as a smart one, Kim Myong Sun, headmistress of the school, said



Headmistress Kim Myong Sun, People's Teacher, is held in respect.

proudly, "Our school has classrooms, laboratories and circle rooms, all fully equipped as required by the universal 12-year compulsory education system."

Then she led me to the room of the 1-1 class, where all the pupils were attentively watching a cartoon film *The Hedgehog Defeats the Tiger* on TV, holding their breath. After a while, the teacher asked them, "Why did the tiger mistake the chestnut-burr for the hedgehog?" The pupils answered, "Because he got frightened by the hedgehog" or "Because both the chestnut-burr and the hedgehog have spines on the outside."

"Yes, you're all right," the teacher said. "The natural world has a number of animals and plants that defend themselves with such spines or poison. Now let us call out such animals and plants." She thus let the children think of the wide natural world.

When I praised the teacher for her graphic teaching, the headmistress told me that the teacher

was Jang Ryon Sil, the first of the school's teachers good at inventing heuristic methods of teaching. She added that the school has all the classrooms equipped as multifunctional ones using such visual aids as the abovementioned lessons.

Now we went to the newly built table-tennis circle hall. Kim Won Chol, who was in charge of the circle, said proudly, "Till a year ago, the circle was small in scale with only a few members. Then we boldly decided to expand the existing room for the circle into a large table-tennis hall so that we could admit more children who wanted to learn playing table-tennis. This led to an increase in the number of able reserve players. And some of them developed their own special skills. A team formed with such players ranked among the first three winners at the National Inter-Provincial Sports Games 2017 held last year."

The headmistress said that after school many pupils were practising the ABC of other sports they liked respectively, such as football and basketball.

We also looked round dancing and music circle rooms. I was very impressed by the scene of dancing circle members practising movements hard. And I was struck with admiration for the way little attenders played very skilfully various musical instruments such as violins, accordions and drum sets. ▶

Teachers improve their attainments through shows of teaching aids.



▶ When I said that all the classrooms and circle rooms were absolutely perfect, the headmistress said, “Whether the educational work would be successful or not cannot be decided today, so we all turned out and changed the school for the better like this in less than a year.”

We also dropped in at the 3-6 classroom. The class, I was told, had many pupils of literary ability. All the pupils were engrossed in writing composition on the theme *My Dream*. What first caught my eye was a composition a girl, named Jong Ye Ryong, was



writing. She wrote that her dream was to be a poet as famous as Kim Il Sin, a graduate of the school, who had been well-known as a little impromptu poet during the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students held in Pyongyang. And other pupils, too, expressed in their writings their dreams of becoming a world famous sports person or a renowned musician. Young as they were, all the pupils had high aims.

Then we looked round the nature room that had on display a lot of stuffed specimen and samples, a globe and visual aids showing various natural phe-

nomena, and a computer room. Back out of the last room I heard singing coming from somewhere. Music circle members were singing the song *Ode to Motherland* in their room on the third floor.

*Our national flag will be fluttering in the sky
for ever.
All dreams will come true in this land.*

...

I was unusually moved to hear the song in the border city. Then a tune was coming out from the speaker to signal the end of their daily work. I followed the pupils out to the playground. They began to play football, exercise on horizontal bars, play rope jumping or run to catch up with one another with great animation.

At last, the short winter sun was setting. The schoolchildren with schoolbags on their shoulders were leaving the school for home. As such days went on they would be prepared to become future famous doctors and heroes, I thought. Looking at the lovely children, I seemed to see the bright future of the powerful nation.

Kim Chol Ung





The Songnim City Schoolchildren's Hall.

Brisk Extracurricular Circle Activities

THE SONGNIM CITY Schoolchildren's Hall, which was established in September 1993, is making lots of achievements in training local schoolchildren into persons of varied attainments. The hall is staffed with instructors who received special education. And it is largely divided into artistic and

athletic departments. It usually opens in the afternoon. After school in the morning schoolchildren go there to receive varieties of basic education as they wish.

Pak Hyon U, an instructor of the IT circle, says, "The number of pupils coming to our hall is increasing day by day. Many of

them are now able to make programs as much as they want by themselves. Members of my circle took first and second places in a previous national program contest of schoolchildren's palace and hall circle members. One of them won first place in the individual event of the contest by making an application program for solving

Schoolchildren develop their talent as they wish.



▶ mathematical problems.”

That's not all. Members of the mathematic circle won total first place at a provincial sci-tech contest, and Choe Mi Ryong, one of the members, solved a problem with a novel idea on the basis of her deep understanding of a cone so that she became one of the first three finishers, which made a great contribution to her team's taking the total first place.

These achievements are the outcome of the instructors' improved practical abilities.

When Ju Chol was appointed as a director of the hall two years ago, he understood that its condition was far from that required by the developing reality. So he saw to it that the hall was managed properly as required by the era of knowledge-based economy and that all the instructors created new instructing methods free from the old ones.

As a result, all the instructors began to strive to invent innovative instructing methods. ABC instructors produced in succession teaching aids and devices and reference books for intellectual development.

Vying with them, artistic instructors exerted themselves to

create new and original works. In order to train her charges into dancers of high artistic ability dance instructor Kim Myong Ok created and employed new instructing methods capable of helping them develop their ability of appreciating dances and master the basic knowledge and artistry relating to dancing movements while imparting to them deep knowledge of the Korean dance. Their works like *A Delightful Torchlight Play* ranked among the first three winners at a national schoolchildren's art festival and an individual contest, receiving the top prize for their high artistry.

Sin Kwang Myong, a pictorial art instructor, says, "I put primary efforts in teaching the ABC like sketching, rough drawing and painting. Many of works by members of my circle were highly appreciated at a national dexterity exhibition held in August last year."

Members of the instrumental music circle also ranked among the first three winners at several rounds of an artistic contest, and the speech training circle put oral narration plays and monodramas on the stage at a central contest,

fully expressing their joy of learning and singing to their heart's content as the happiest in the world.

Different circles of the athletic department are bringing about an innovation in their teaching work by retaining their own characteristics. The relevant instructors combined education with practical training in various forms and ways. As a result, members of the Taekwon-Do—traditional Korean martial arts associated with the national spirit and soul—circle and those of basketball, volleyball and wrestling circles ranked among the first three winners in many competitions.

Last year alone, a female member of the Taekwon-Do circle, at the then age of 11, performed main movements and technical factors of the martial arts correctly at a central competition, thus ranking among the first three finishers to be promoted to a higher grade.

The instructors of the hall are now devoting all their wisdom and energy to the work to train their charges into fine future pillars of the country.

Sim Hyon Jin



Mineral Enriched Beverage

THE DIGESTIVE ORGAN laboratory under the Clinical Institute of the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University has conducted pathology on and studies into diagnosis of digestive diseases and relevant preventive and curative measures, greatly contributing to the people's health improvement.

The researchers of the laboratory paid special attention to the development of medicines suited to the constitutional peculiarity of the Koreans. In the course of studying into over ten kinds of wastes from ore dressing they found out substances good to the human body. Through scores of relevant experiments and tests they succeeded in developing "Natural Active Combined Mineral Matter H (for man)" which can be used as a material for mineral enriched beverage.

The researchers made liquid medicine of the material. The

clinical test of the medicine showed that it enhances activity of digestion and protein synthetase, stimulates appetite and accelerates digestion and absorption. They intensified the study and confirmed again that the mineral matter has many advantages as a medicinal material.

The natural active combined mineral matter helps children grow tall, improves physical strength and energy and rapidly relieves fatigue. It also can prevent obesity, retard the aging process and improve complexion by reducing subcutaneous fat, thus being recognized as effective for beauty. And it is conducive to the prevention and treatment of the diseases relating to immune, digestive, circulatory, respiratory, urinary, cerebral nerve, endocrine, sensory and motor systems as it enhances physiological functions as vitamins do. Now the medicine is popular with relevant

patients and all other users.

Besides, the researchers focused on kelp from the East Sea of Korea while intensifying studies into marine products from the West and East seas of Korea. It was already confirmed that kelp contains over 50 sorts of nutritive and medicinal substances. So they established a system of treating gastric and duodenal ulcer using the seaweed. And they developed a dozen kinds of medicines including kelp granule, kelp tablet for ulcer, kelp compound ulcer acid, kelp tea and kelp pill.

Ri Song Hwa, a resident in Neighbourhood Unit 49, Kwanmun-dong No. 1, Rangnang District, Pyongyang, says, "As I suffered from a stomach trouble, I could not go to work regularly for two years. I stayed in the digestive organ laboratory under the Clinical Institute to get treatment for over 20 days. Thus I was completely cured of not only the disease but also liver and pancreas troubles I had not known about."

Director of the laboratory Ri Yong Un says, "Many patients have recovered from their diseases at my laboratory. At first they entered it with anxiety, but they left it with a smile—it makes us feel happy. They send letters of thanks to us."

Now the researchers are engrossed in other research projects in order to perform their responsibility for the people's health.

Sim Chol Yong

Research into digestive disorders intensifies.



Developer of Mineral Koryo Medicine

RECENTLY THERE HAS APPEARED A NEW mineral Koryo medicine capable of improving the treatment of obstinate wounds. Referred to as haemorrhoid ointment the medicine is very popular with the users as it is effective in the treatment of obstinate wounds, carcinoma of rectum, proctopolypos, ulcer of rectum, anal fistula, rectitis, internal haemorrhoid and external haemorrhoid. The developer of the ointment is Chon Chun Chu, a researcher of a unit under the Ministry of Railways.

Pioneer

Seven years ago Chon happened to read a medical science book part of which said that while the 20th century was the one of vitamin, the 21st would be the one of mineral matter. So he studied other similar books, but they had no data on any modern medicines made from mineral matter. And there were only very few mineral Koryo medicines while there were scores of hundreds of kinds of botanical and animal medicines in terms of Koryo pharmacy that widely uses different natural medicinal materials.

It will be better to make medicines directly from natural mineral matters, like Koryo medicine, Chon thought and unhesitatingly started relevant research. First of all, he made painstaking efforts to find out medicinal minerals which could be clinically applied without harmful after-effects. Recalling those days his wife Ri Yong Ran says, "My husband spent day and night to that end, so I once asked him if he was confident of success. Then he said, 'Rome was not built in a day.'"

None of Drugs to Compare

Through strenuous research Chon finally found out five kinds of natural medicinal minerals strong in pharmacological action, and last year he succeeded in developing ointment of strong anti-inflammatory action. After enough clinical experiments the medicine was administered to many cases of wounds. Ri In Chol, one of the cases, says, "I was born with exudative diathesis, so even a small scratch on my skin was not cured well, and it went from bad to worse. Worse still, I suffered severe side-effects from antibiotics including penicillin. So, I was very worried whenever I carelessly hurt myself during work. But now I have no worry. When I used the ointment made by the



researcher, bleeding from the wound stopped instantly to my surprise, and I felt no pain around it. Moreover, the wound was skinned faster."

That is not all. The ointment has brought about a radical improvement in the treatment of haemorrhoid whose attack rate is high worldwide, and whose perfect cure is recognized as impossible without an operation. Kim Jong Ok, a woman resident of Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, says, "It was when we reached the final stage in carrying out the annual plan that I was diagnosed as having anusitis that might cause carcinoma of rectum unless I had an immediate operation. I was disappointed. To find out other solution I visited another hospital, where I luckily met the researcher Chon who was there for examination of clinical practice. Since then I began to use the ointment. Previously it seemed that I had to get hospital treatment for a long time. But now I could go to work every day and finish my plan before others. One month later I was free from pain, and completely cured of the disease which I had had for nine years after the first childbirth."

The ointment was much debated in the academic circle as it was a mineral Koryo medicine with nothing to compare with. But after reading a document relating to development of the medicine, the result of its clinical application and its efficacy, members of the State commission of deliberation nodded in agreement. At the end of the deliberation they said in unison, "Of course there is no medicine similar to this one. However, judging from the fact that the first index to invention is originality, this ointment is a new kind of Koryo medicine with its own character in the true sense of the word. No one else has made such an amazing medicine from natural mineral matters."

They wrote on the relevant blank of the document on the deliberation as follows: "Comparison: It is a medicine to substitute for operation."

Ri Kum Chol





Orphan Grows to Be a Sports Ace

WHEN I WON VICTORY IN A GAME A journalist asked me, “What are your father and mother?” He apparently thought that I had won the game thanks to my parents. I answered, “I was bereaved of my parents when I was young. I was brought up by my motherland.” To be frank, the question made me feel proud rather than sad, for I started my successful career under the benevolent embrace of my motherland.

I was born in Jangyon County, South Hwanghae Province. I met Kim Myong Ho, weightlifting coach of the April 25 Sports Club, in Pyongyang, when I

came to a central hospital for medical treatment of my mother. While I was helping my mother up the stairs of the hospital, I happened to pass by him. Looking at me carefully, he asked me whether I wanted to become a weightlifter, adding that I could be an athlete if I trained hard as I was well qualified physically. Then he grasped my wrist, saying he had found out a wonderful reserve athlete. In this way, I became a weightlifter. After I was bereaved of my mother I relied entirely on the coach. Later I heard that, while going to see my mother frequently, he learned the state of her illness and promised to her that he would take the whole responsibility for bringing me up. He was my father in life, but he was too demanding in training; the level of his demand increased particularly after I achieved success in a competition. ▶

Delicacies and Gold Medals

WHEN PEOPLE TALK ABOUT THE GOOD tastes of corn foods like corn pancakes, corn noodle and corn pasta, they mention the phrase “from Moranbong District Corn Speciality Restaurant” after the food’s names, because its foods are well-known. Especially, corn noodle served at the restaurant is very tasty. Cold noodle, warm noodle, dried vegetable noodle in bean paste, noodle casserole and many other varieties of corn noodle attract people for their peculiar tastes. Those who once have had their meal in the restaurant become its regular visitors, and their number is on the increase every day.

The restaurant began to serve corn foods exclusively five years ago. Pae Chun Hui, chief cook of the restaurant, says, “We wished to make popular foods of corn, which is in plentiful supply and one of the major grain crops in the country.” According to her,

the main factor in promoting the taste of corn noodle is its high quality after its modification: the modified noodle is characterized by yellowish colour, moderate ▶



▶ In 2015 I took third place in the World Weightlifting Championships. All congratulated me for it was a success in my first participation in a world championships for seniors. Rest was scheduled for the next day. However, the coach summoned me to a training room. I failed to concentrate on training. I could not hold myself down when I reached physical and mental limit. “You’re too hard. I thought you would be glad when others congratulated me,” I protested. The coach grew stricter. “Not only did I but the whole club and your motherland have brought you up as a heavy weightlifter. You have to ask yourself whether you are proud of yourself before the motherland before feeling thankful for me.”

In 2009 when I was 16, I was unexpectedly wounded with the first world junior weightlifting championships ahead. When I was under treatment, officials of the club and my friends visited me every day, giving me a pep talk. When I started training after recuperation, I was put under the charge of national-level coaches and a medical group, supported by scientific nutrition. When I won victory in women’s plus 69-kg class of the championships, the

whole country blessed my future, saying that a girl warrior had appeared.

Recollecting those days, I felt I had failed to live up to expectations of the country. Since then I lifted the weight with a dream of becoming a champion, as well as glorifying the honour of my motherland. Everything depends on one’s attitude and efforts. Motivated by the dream, I could achieve continuous successes in competitions including the Asian Weightlifting Championships held in 2016 and the 29th Summer Universiad held in 2016. Every time I achieved a success the motherland awarded me official commendation; I was chosen as one of the top ten players of 2016 and awarded the title of Merited Athlete. The change of career of an orphan—this is not related only to my life; everyone in this country translates their beautiful dreams into reality.

Whenever I grasp the steel bar in an international competition, what I see first in my mind’s eye is not myself standing on the medal-awarding podium but our national flag to be hoisted.

Merited Athlete Kim Kuk Hyang

▶ thickness of strips, their smoothness and chewiness.

Corn noodle gives its original taste when it is served in cabbage kimchi juice with a garnish of fried cabbage, sweet potato runners, mushroom, green pepper and seaweed. It is good to have cold corn noodle served in cold cucumber soup in mid-summer. And warm corn noodle and dried vegetable noodle in

bean paste soup, which gives national flavour, are popular. The restaurant also serves green corn pancakes, corn pasta and corn tea, and other delicious and nutritive corn foods. After having their meal in the restaurant the citizens in Pyongyang and other people, who were in the city on business, were struck with wonder whether the foods were really made of corn, saying that they had tasted the genuine corn foods in the restaurant.

The chief cook of the restaurant won first place each year at different national cooking festivals, and her cooking skill broadcast on TV on those occasions drew the attention of married women.

When I asked Pae, who has already won ten gold medals, if she were confident of winning the 11th medal at the cooking festival to be held in celebration of the Day of the Sun, she replied, “My concern is not the number of medals, but the quality of the dish. When I improve their quality and make the best of their characteristics, to the liking of all people, the number of the medals will increase naturally.”

Kim Un Jong

Chief cook Pae Chun Hui.





Their Dream to Be World Champion

IN JULY LAST YEAR THERE WAS HELD the Asian Cup 2017 of the FAI World Cup Event in Ulan Bator, Mongolia. The players from different countries in the world competed fiercely, flying their gliders in the blue sky over the wide steppe.

Some gliders soared aloft by an ascending air current while others dived down onto the ground before the set time as they failed to escape from a descending air current. The organizers of the contest, umpires and participants, including the DPRK player So Myong Bom and his coach Kim Song Il, a Merited Athlete, of the Kaesong Aero Club, looked up at the gliders flying at different heights. Though So and the coach had rich experience and honed skills at international and domestic competitions several times, they were strained as they had to compete with the foreign players whose countries were said to be the best in the development of the aero technology.

At last, the result of the match was announced. The Korean player So Myong Bom snatched first place at the several rounds of both F1H-class and F1A-class matches. The participants of the contest congratulated So and his coach for their success, saying that Korea was the best and that they had a bright future.

Later So Myong Bom won the individual free glider flying event of the DPRK championships held in October last year. The aforesaid club holds undisputed command in the glider flying event not only at home but also in Asia. It is not long after the club was organized. So it put primary efforts in developing the event which they thought they had a fair chance of winning. Many problems arose in designing and making gliders suited to their characteristics of having to float on air currents, and in mastering the skill of flying them. And only the size of glider wings was fixed internationally regardless of their shape. So they conducted the research to make ideal wings. They studied not only the latest scientific and technological data but also the relevant historical documents of the country.

In the late 16th century the Korean people made and used *Pigo* (a flying vehicle) on a similar principle to making of today's glider. While referring to the scientific and technological successes of the ancestors they tried to make a glider in keeping with the trend in the global development of gliders. It was not an easy job. What mattered especially was to obtain necessary material and introduce a wireless control technique. To solve the problem they frequently vis- ▶

The Kaesong Aero Club won the Asian Cup 2017 of the FAI World Cup Event in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.





The structure and operational principles of the rubber-propelled model plane are taught.

computer simulation tests they finally made a glider of their own type. They improved their skill of flying the glider higher through steady training. Now the club puts efforts in developing other events including the power-driven glider event in which they are inexperienced. Besides, it pushes ahead with the work to arrange a popular aero sports service base.

Jon Ju Bong, head of the club, says, "My club is merely in its initial step. But amidst the expectation and concern of many young and other people who want to have a chance of flying in the blue sky freely, our aero sports is developing day after day. In the future lots of people will enjoy themselves by aero sports at the popular aero sports service base to their heart's content."

Kim Ye Ryong

- ▶ ited many scientific research institutes and the relevant factories and enterprises. When they had an opportunity to take part in an international competition, they would exchange opinions with foreign players.

In the course of this, they secured different kinds of materials by themselves, and invented and employed a new wireless control technique superior to that of other countries. After conducting hundreds of





Couple of Doctors

IN LATE 2015 THERE APPEARED THE Mirae Scientists Street on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River in central Pyongyang. Not long ago we visited a doctor couple's new flat of an apartment house on the street. The man is Kim Sung Guk, and the wife Kim Myong Hui. It was the wife who greeted us. In fact she was not strange to us. We had known her by sight for she had won first place several times at the national invention and new technology exhibition and the national science and technology festival.

She led us towards their study, and we, on the way, saw the couple's private room with a comfortable bed, a kitchen and a dining room fully furnished with modern relevant utensils and a conveniently designed bathroom. The flat was furnished to suit teachers and researchers' psychology and their way of life at the State's expense, she said guiding us into the study. A bookcase filled with sci-tech books and a desk there in the room reminded us of the world of science.

While looking carefully at the books associated with the couple's enthusiasm one by one, we happened to see a faded photograph. Saying it was a picture all the family of the husband had taken on

the day when he became a university student, the wife told us as follows:

Before Korea's liberation from the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule on August 15, 1945 his parents had slaved as hired hands for a landlord through generations without any opportunity to go to school. Only after that liberation he and his brothers could go to school free of charge under a socialist ►



► education system. And after being discharged from the military service he was admitted into the then Pyongyang University of Medicine. Thus his eight brothers and he all became university students.

Her husband held the picture dearest and studied hard at the university, the wife said.

When we asked her what made them married, she avoided answering saying that her husband knew better about it. Then he entered the room, so we decided to speak with him. Sturdy and high in stature, he looked like an athlete rather than a teacher. And he was broad-minded. We told him that his wife refused to answer the question of how they had been married, and he, with a smile, told us the following story.

It was 30 years ago when there was held a national university students' foreign language conversation contest. The final of the contest took place between the man from the aforesaid university of medicine and the woman from Kim Il Sung University. The woman won the exciting match contrary to the spectators' anticipation. Then the man was the first to present a bouquet to the woman. "Today I was very impressed by your ability of foreign language conversation. I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart," he admired her. Later, after graduation from their universities, the man became a teacher and the woman a researcher. From then on they often met to have a sincere debate, motivated by their high ambition and spirit of inquiry, although they were engaged in different studies and researches. In the course of this they fell in love with each other and were married.

After marriage they further accelerated their education and research work while respecting and trusting each other out of warm affection. Of course they often shed tears in agony because of failures in

their work, but they could steadily continue with their work, thinking it was the way to bring up future pillars of the country and repay the benevolent system that had brought them up.

Their tireless efforts led to success, and they both became doctors and associate professors with authority in the academic circles. The man, now a department head of the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University, pioneered the field of pregnancy immunology by inventing the method of treating habitual abortion in early pregnancy through alloimmunization, and wrote *Gynecology*, *Clinical Gynecopathy* and scores of other textbooks and reference books, over 20 multimedia-based teaching plans and hundreds of essays. The wife, now a researcher of Kim Il Sung University, developed scores of kinds of cutting-edge technology-based goods including a polypropylene synthesis catalyst, a thermal oxidation depressor for treble functional greenhouse vinyl sheets, solid alcohol fuel and a systemic organosilicon water repellent. Their achievements are greatly conducive to the prosperity of the country and the promotion of the people's well-being.

So people hold them in respect, calling them doctor couple and theirs family of associate professors.

They feel embarrassed to hear people call them so, he said before adding, "How could we imagine our family's today apart from the benevolent system that took care of us, children of a landlord's hired hands who were maltreated like roadside rubble stones in the past? We'll do much more things for the good of the country and the people. My wife and I will become one on the road forever."

We left the flat hoping that the family would produce more laudable stories.

Kim Son Myong

The doctor couple make a tangible contribution to education of the rising generation and prosperity of the country.



Secret of Successes

SOME TIME AGO I VISITED PYONGYANG Foreign Languages School to meet Hwang Song Hye, a quick-reading instructor and her students who have taken first place seven times consecutively at the annual national quick-reading contest, each time breaking its former record. My curiosity about them quickened my steps.

I met Hwang first. She said, “Quick reading is to read, understand and memorize a bulk of information in the shortest time. The range of application of the quick-reading method is unlimited. Today information is increasing explosively. So learning to read fast is a shortcut to much knowledge to help you become a standard-bearer of the era.”

She herself mastered the quick-reading method and began to teach it to students. She combined in an organic way a breathing exercise to enhance the ability of concentration, an exercise aimed at improving the capability of combining visual sensation with the cerebral nerve, a depiction exercise to develop the right brain and a symbol visualization exercise to improve the effect of memory in order to help students get the knack of quick reading. In the course of this, their ability of quick reading improved remarkably. Her efforts enabled one of the students to win first place at the third national quick-reading contest in which he took part for the first time.

Those students who had thought quick reading mysterious volunteered to learn it as they saw their classmate being placed on the first rank and doing better at school. Hwang mapped out teaching plans in keeping with their preparedness and steadily made painstaking efforts to find out relevant teaching methods suited to their psychology. Hard work is never wasted, and the school won consecutive victories at seven rounds of the national quick-reading contest. Teachers in charge of different subjects said

Hwang Song Hye (*centre*), and her students **Yu Kyong A** (*left*) and **Kim Hyo Jong** (*right*).



that those students who had learned quick reading improved their cogitative, understanding, judgment and memorization, reading and writing abilities—it meant that quick reading is just like killing two birds with one stone.

While I was listening to Hwang’s aforesaid story in the department room, two schoolgirls came in. The instructor told me that they were Kim Hyo Jong and Yu Kyong A who won first place at the ninth national quick-reading contest. Kim had already taken first place at the eighth round of the contest. A girl of steady and tenacious character, she was the best at memorizing figures in abstract patterns and had top scores at the memorization of playing cards and binary numbers at the contest. She has a natural aptitude for mathematics, the teacher said.

When I asked her about her feeling at taking first place two times, she said, “While learning quick reading I came to know there is a point of limit in quick reading like in marathon. So it is called mental sport, I think. I never stopped training in quick reading every day. My teacher said I could master it only when I found out my own way of learning, and encouraged me to find out the knack of quick reading by myself. In the course of this I understood that I would achieve a great success as I solved any problem with my own effort. It is my determination to take another win in the future competition.”

Yu was a girl who would delve into what she once wanted to do without sleep. A broad-minded and imaginative girl she was peculiarly interested in reading, and demonstrated her excellent ability at the relevant event of the contest. She said, “I was eager to learn quick reading. When I took part in the contest, I was worried about my performance as I was told that the level of it was that of the international contest. But I was really happy when I won first place. Mathematics was difficult for me in the past, but now I have confidence in all subjects after learning quick reading. It was not mysterious at all.”

The girls told me that a period of one month was the hardest time for them when they started to learn quick reading. They said that they could overcome mental and physical limitations thanks to the teacher’s encouragement and exact demands on them (their voices were full of gratitude to their teacher). It was their determination to be an all-round person by assimilating much knowledge, true to their teacher’s expectation.

Then I went to the room of the school’s head. Hwang had told me that the head showed great concern for the quick-reading education, that he was the very man who pushed ahead with it as part of the school’s affairs, and that it led to such successes. ▶

New Kind of Saccharide Medicine Developed

RECENTLY THE BIOENGINEERING branch of the State Academy of Sciences has developed a new kind of saccharide medicine, agar oligosaccharide nutritive liquid.

Researchers of the branch came to know that there are many medicines whose main ingredients are protein and enzyme among those prepared through the bioengineering method, but few were containing saccharide, so they set about solving the problem. The research team led by Kim Myong Jo put primary emphasis on finding out a starting material which can be mass-produced and has new efficacy.

In the course of this, they paid attention to agarophyte which grows along the coasts of the country, and intensified relevant studies on it. Through painstaking efforts they established a new method of making low-molecular oligosaccharide with agar, which is high-molecular saccharide and extracted from agarophyte, as the starting material. In this way, they made a breakthrough in making it absorbed faster in human body and overcoming the weak point of polysaccharide medicines which only perform immunoregulation. After repeated experiments and analyses they succeeded in developing agar oligosaccharide nutritive liquid, which is highly capable of antioxidation as well as immunoregulation, by activating different pharmacological functions of oligosaccharide.

The result of clinical examination at several units proved that its treatment efficacy is considerably higher than other medicines. As it is prepared with a natural material and has different functions, the



The researchers who developed agar oligosaccharide nutritive liquid.

nutritive liquid has gained public favour. For its high level of antioxidation and anti-inflammatory actions the medicine prevents cancer and sharply reduces the rate of death from it. And it also improves the regulation of adaptation of organism to the internal and external environment factors and the physical activity, thus retarding the process of aging. Besides, it prevents liver fibrosis and sclerosis through unique action of cleaning, and is very effective in the treatment of digestive diseases, gynecopathy and skin diseases of women.

The medicine is acknowledged to be highly safe in administration and efficacious pharmacologically among similar medicines developed so far, winning recognition at the 15th national invention and new technology exhibition.

Chae Kwang Myong

► He was a kind-hearted man, and when I told him my purpose of visiting the school, he spoke highly of Hwang. From him I came to know that Hwang was an October 8 Model Teacher. She, amidst the flames of creating practical and advantageous teaching methods as required by the universal 12-year compulsory education, invented new education-aid programs and won first place at the 15th and 17th national educational program exhibitions. The programs with teaching contents, exercises and reference books attached are now used for literature lessons at senior middle schools, helping the students improve their cognitive faculty. Not content with this she is producing updated versions of the programs.

“Hwang is a model teacher in the country with regard to professional ability and quick-reading edu-

cation. In a word, she is the apple of the eye. I want to always carry her on my back as she is making strenuous efforts for the students. I hope you’ll give wide publicity to her,” the head said.

Now I could find out the secret of the consecutive wins—it is the teachers’ high sense of responsibility for the education of rising generations. With the sense of duty that they are responsible for the future of the country they redoubled their efforts, helping one another. And I came to have an understanding of quick reading, and know that the clear conscience of the teachers who worked devotedly for the students while assuming a burden themselves and yielding a success to another is kept in the mind of the students as well.

Kim Chol Hyon

Spring

By Ri Myong



(Continued from the last issue)

“WHO SAID SO?” OK asked.

“The provincial police department informed us. He is a core of partisan ‘bandits.’ This time he penetrated here for the purpose of frustrating the Imperial Japanese Army’s secret project on the northern coast and strengthening their underground organization network. There is an emergency order to arrest him without fail at any cost. You shall soon see. I’ll catch him myself, and I’ll also punish him for insulting you,” Sang Gi said grinding his back teeth, his eyes blazing with malice. This struck Ok dumb. Sang Gi was really of Japanese growth.

Ok now lost a shadow of expectation she had tried to harbour on him, believing in his conscience. This made her feel worn-out in the whole body. And she realized that it was of the most urgent necessity for her to dissuade Kwon from going to meet Sang Gi as soon as possible.

She eagerly waited for sunset. As soon as darkness set in, she hurried to the fish soup restaurant. But the cellar was empty. The bedding used by Kwon was put folded up in one corner. Ok became impatient as if she had caught on fire body and mind. When she was just about to leave

the cellar, the old carter showed up at the door. He looked strained and restless for some reason.

“A little while ago I carted Kwon to the Unhasu Teahouse,” said the old man.

“Why there?” Ok asked.

“It’s the place where he promised to meet the detective, the rascal.”

“Why then have you come back leaving him alone there?”

“He was rather more concerned about you. He asked me to tell you not to come here again because the Japs might dog him from now on.”

Listening to the old man like in a dream Ok fell down exhausted on the floor. *So did he refuse to get treatment from me because he was worried about my personal safety?* Suddenly the thought warmed her heart. And she felt tears welling up in her eyes. Still she was anxious about his safety as he had gone to the trap of his own accord.

At that time two men sat across a square table from each other in a corner of the teahouse. They were Kwon Yong Sok in a darkish flat-woven coat with a cotton-fabric muffler around his neck and U Sang Gi with his hat pulled over his eyes.

“Is he really a peasant from Jolla Province? What if I reject the request?” U asked forking a

piece of meat after pouring whisky into his mouth. A scornful smile played about the mouth of Kwon who sat sideways with a walking stick in his hand.

“That’s impossible,” Kwon said.

“Do you know you are like carrying fuel to a fire?”

“I know. The bums wandering there outside seem to be waiting for your signal. But listen, I am here to give an opportunity to you as well. In a word I don’t want you to do such an ugly act as betraying the nation any longer.”

“Nation? Where is our nation? You’re right. The shoeblack outside also belongs to our nation. Ha! Ha! Old fellow, let us exchange our intimate thoughts instead of bickering,” U said, holding up his glass with an awkward smile on his face. Kwon, however, slowly poured the liquor out of his glass down to the floor and stood up relying on the walking stick. He did not want to sit face to face with the absurd being any longer. And U, without any response, drank one glass after another, goggling his sleepy eyes beneath his darkish hat.

5

The following day Ok was told by the old carter that the previous night the wounded man from the

► aforesaid province had passed by cart through the gate of the walled city without difficulty using a pass issued by U. She could hardly believe it as she had thought that U turned Japanese to the bone. *Then dose he have a bit of Korean blood and sympathy?*

Things, however, still went bad. Kwon's wound became serious again perhaps because he had moved too much before the wound healed up. Bloody pus was flowing out of the wick in the wound, and his fever began to rise. Then he was delirious from pain and fever before losing consciousness. Ok heard him repeatedly utter the word *teacher* in delirium. The teacher seemed to be a person he had never forgotten.

Ok administered a strong sedative to him to be fast asleep. Only at dawn he opened his eyes. Beads of sweat broke out on his forehead and temples. For a while he remained absent-minded, and then he looked disappointed and struggled to sit up.

"Oh my! I had lost consciousness... Sorry I gave you only troubles," he said in apology.

"Don't mention it. And you have to lie down still," Ok dissuaded.

"What's the time now?"

"It's dawning."

"So today must be the 5th of the lunar month. It's March 5. Well, Ms Ok, I already had something to ask you... How's Mr Song?"

Ok was at a loss for reply to his abrupt question. She had long forgotten Song, their teacher in their private school days. Back home after graduating from Severance Medical School she visited the teacher's house only once. Later she had no news from him. At the time he could hardly sit up on his bed because of fatigue from the hardships of prison life. Now she knew that the teacher was writing a Korean reader even in his sickbed. She was only struck with admiration at his invariable patriotic devotion.

"I beg your pardon. I have

failed to do my duty as a disciple of the teacher. Oh, that's why you repeated the word *teacher* even in fever in the early evening of yesterday."

"Did I? Indeed, how could I forget him? It was him who implanted the soul of the nation in us. You, too, must remember the scene in which I was thrashed by the teacher. Ho..."

It was in early spring of a northern district. In the daytime green buds rose on the sunny side under the warm and cosy spring sun, and when the sun set, everything was covered with white frost. It was really a wicked season.

The school started tree planting at the proposal of Song. Boys were digging pits around the school. The soil was not good for rooting of trees as it was dry mixed with small stones. So girls were busy fetching water.

When Ok entered the school ground carrying two buckets of water on a yoke she heard screams from where the boys were working. Then she saw Kwon and U turning round while clutching each other. Strong-looking U easily hurled sturdy Kwon to the ground and straddled and struck the latter with his fists. Kwon was wriggling with desperate efforts and then rose abruptly. This time he quickly threw himself, strongly butting U's face with his high forehead. U writhed covering his nose with his hands. Then they seized each other by the collar.

"You stop immediately!" stormed Song who had showed up just at the time. The two boys parted. Kwon was breathing heavily, covering the bruised brow with his hand. U wiped the blood flowing from the nose and gave vent to his anger, "Mr. Song, he pulled out all the trees we planted."

"What?"

Deep lines appeared across the teacher's brows and forehead. He then saw over his spectacles

saplings scattered here and there on the spot. Some of them were wet in the roots, and the others trampled to no shape. Anger gleamed in his eyes.

"Did you really do wrong like this?" the teacher asked.

"..."

Kwon only kept breathing hard, gnawing his lower lip. Unable to control his temper the teacher stamped his feet shouting, "You silly boy, plant them immediately!"

Then Kwon, who had remained silent with his head drooped before him, kicked hard a sapling newly planted a few steps ahead of him. The top of the tree broke and fell away. It was an unimaginable, ill-mannered behaviour. The teacher's complexion instantly turned dark. In a rage he bent hastily, raising his trembling hand and slapped the boy hard across the face.

"You bad boy!"

Kwon staggered at the slap for a moment and straightened himself again. Tears welled up in his eyes that glared at the teacher.

"Mr. Song, why should we plant trees? You told us that this land has no spring and is a land where strangers live," Kwon protested.

"?!"

Kwon's words were as good as a thunderbolt that fell on not only the teacher but also Ok and other classmates. The teacher and all the children stood as still as a rock. For a moment there reigned silence that worried the little minds.

The teacher first took a few trudging steps. Then he turned round and looked up at the sky with tears in his eyes. And he abruptly embraced Kwon closely crying in sobs, "Listen! We should plant our trees because we are deprived of the land. Every one of us has to plant their soul into the land... Then they will have a mind to take back the land."

(To be continued)

Eight Scenic Spots in Kwanso



Ryongwang Pavilion in Pyongyang.

It was the pavilion attached to the Songchon Inn in Songchon Town, Songchon County, South Phyongan Province. It was used as a venue of banquets for officials of the feudal government and foreign envoys staying in the inn. Its layout was characteristic, and the variation in the height of the floors matched well with its architectural and spatial changes. With its front open wide, the pavilion blended well with the crystal-clear Piryu River, and one could enjoy a view of the 12 peaks on Mt. Hulgol across the river. The pavilion and several buildings of the inn were damaged during the Japanese imperialists' military occupation

Paeksang Pavilion in Anju.

PHYONGAN PROVINCE was called the Kwanso area in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910). There are eight scenic spots in the area, namely, Ryongwang Pavilion in Pyongyang, Kangson Pavilion in Songchon, Paeksang Pavilion in Anju, Yaksandongdae in Nyongbyon, Tongnim Falls in Sonchon, Thonggun Pavilion in Uiju, Inphung Pavilion in Kanggye and Segom Pavilion in Manpho.

During the Japanese imperialists' military occupation of Korea (1905–1945) and the Korean war (1950–1953) the old buildings in the scenic spots were severely destroyed. Later, they were reconstructed, and now they are turned into cultural recreation resorts.

Ryongwang Pavilion in Pyongyang

The pavilion stands in Taedongmun-dong, Central District, Pyongyang. It was first built in the mid-6th century in the period of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668). At that time it was used as a com-



mand post in the east of the inner fort of the Walled City of Pyongyang. The pavilion was built again in 1111, and called Sansu Pavilion. It was reconstructed in 1670 in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty, and was renamed Ryongwang Pavilion. From of old the scenery around the pavilion was so beautiful that it was also called *Jeilrudae* (Excellent Pavilion).

Kangson Pavilion in Songchon

of Korea. Though the pavilion was rebuilt for cultural recreation after the country's liberation on August 15, 1945, it was burnt to ashes by the US bombing during the Korean war in December 1951.

Paeksang Pavilion in Anju

The pavilion in Anju, South Phyongan Province, was first built during the Koryo dynasty

► and rebuilt in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty. It was burnt down by the indiscriminate US bombing during the Korean war, and only its cornerstones were left. It was reconstructed in the 1970s. Built as a northern command post of the Anju fort, it commands a fine view. The name of the pavilion means a pavilion that affords a hundred sights.

Yaksandongdae in Nyongbyon

Yaksandongdae is a scenic place in the central part of Nyongbyon County, North Phyongan Province, which rises

ern valley of Thae Peak in the northwest of Kogunyon-ri, Tongnim County, North Phyongan Province. Its another name is Ok Falls as crystal-clear water falls down like a bead. Above the falls there are the Ryong (dragon) Rock and Pyongphung (folding screen) Rock, and a rock looking like a horse saddle is seen below the falls. Pine, oak and maple trees grow around the rocks with their roots struck deep in the crevices of the rocks, adding beauty to the falls all the year round. Though not so large, the falls was widely known not only for its beautiful scenery but also as a good place for douche.

Thonggun Pavilion in Uiju

It is located in Uiju Town, Uiju County, North Phyongan Province. It was built as a northern command post of the Uiju fort. The pavilion was first built in the first half of the Koryo days, and underwent repair several times later. The present one was rebuilt in 1478. The pavilion is associated with the history of struggle of the Korean people who valiantly fought against foreign invaders including Khitan.

Inphung Pavilion in Kanggye

The pavilion is situated in Inphung-dong, Kanggye, Jagang Province. It stands on a cliff along the Jangja River which meanders round the northwestern part of the city. As a command post in the northwest of the wall around the town of Kanggye, the pavilion was widely used for training and inspection of soldiers. It was built in 1472 and rebuilt in 1680. It reflects the outstanding wisdom and artistic skills of Koreans—every building material and painting agree with the characteristics of the pavilion ►

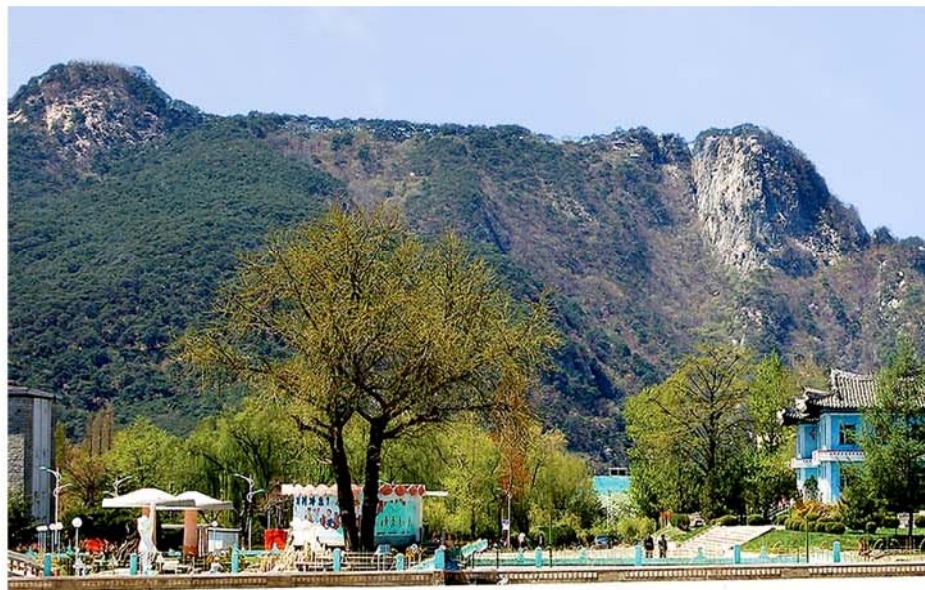


Inphung Pavilion in Kanggye.

near the Kuryong River, two kilometres west of the county seat. *Yaksan* means a mountain abundant in medicinal herbs and mineral water, while *dongdae* represents an observatory in the east when viewed from Muju (the mountain was divided into Muju, Yonju and Wiju in the past). Luxuriant foliage in summer, red tints in autumn and snowscape in winter present beautiful scenery, and more charming is full-blown, light-pink azalea blossoms covering the whole mountain in spring.

Tongnim Falls in Sonchon

The waterfall is in the south-



Yaksandongdae in Nyongbyon.

Hyecho and His Travelogue

HYECHO (704–787) WAS A scholar who trekked the longest ever way in the early 8th century. A professional student of Buddhism, he was eager to visit India, the birthplace of Buddhism. He crossed the sea and travelled a number of Southeast Asian countries and Sri Lanka before he arrived in India.

What he saw first on landing was dozens of people clothed in grass leaves running in haste to catch rhinoceros, a tropical animal, in the woods in a nearly fallen walled area. Months later he, after a strenuous plodding in the sultry weather, got to the temple he had longed to visit. Excited to accomplish his old desire he wrote a poem at the entrance to the temple, which said that he was satisfied to fulfil his wish and that he could see the temple with his own eye that day.

Paying homage, he went round the place where Sakyamuni was said to have guided the world to Buddhism before dying there, and the one where Sakyamuni had cultivated his moral sense to become Buddha. Now he felt satisfied telling himself that he could style himself as Buddhist since he had personally seen the place.

The next leg of his journey was a walled city where the monarch of the central Indian kingdom lived. After sightseeing around the place he returned to his lodging and wrote down what he had

seen all night. Part of it reads: “Many are poor and few are rich in this land. Seldom could I see people—whether they are the king or commoners—using hawks or dogs for hunting. There are a lot of thieves along the road, and they take things and don’t kill people. The people here eat cake made of rice powder and oil made from milk. They have no soy sauce but salt. All that they use for cooking is earthenware. They pay only five sacks of cereals they grow in their field for the sake of the king. The king looks after official affairs, when he sits out to hear of them and gives decisions without showing any sign of anger.”

Later Hyecho toured the five Indian kingdoms (north, south, east, west and central ones) and some neighbouring countries, visited Persia (Iran) and east Roman Empire before setting out on the return home journey. In November 727 he arrived in Changan (Xian at present), capital city of Tang China, but he failed to return home and breathed his last there. There he wrote a travelogue titled *Record of Travel to India* which was a general compilation of the notes he had made about what he had seen and heard and experienced plodding a long distance of 40 000 km for ten years.

For ages Hyecho’s writing remained in oblivion, though,

until a Tang Chinese made a simplified book about three of Hyecho’s travelogue books. The simplified edition was discovered by a Frenchman in 1910 in a cave at Qianfoudong, Mingshashan, Dunhuang County, Gansu Province, Qing China.

The finding was published for its first edition in China as soon as it was discovered. It was also issued in Japan in 1911. At the time of discovery some of the first, middle and last parts of the original were found missing or damaged, so only some of the second and third volumes are now available. The book gives records of meticulous observations of nearly all matters of human life, including each country’s socio-political systems, physiographical conditions, economic situations and cultural activities, morality and customs, religious and superstitious beliefs. Details are given about the governmental organizations, cities, names and geographical environment of all the countries he travelled, natural resources and special products, modes of production and everyday life of the local people.

There are some incorrect descriptions Hyecho made from the religious view, but his travelogue serves as valuable material for studies of India and other Asian countries in the 8th century.

Sim Hyon Jin

► and it blends well with the surrounding natural landscape.

Segom Pavilion in Manpho

The pavilion stood on a cliff

(100 metres above the level of the Amnok River) facing the river in Manpho, Jagang Province. In 1636 Korean soldiers, who had routed foreign aggressors, washed their blood-stained swords there. Afterwards a pavilion was built

on the spot and named Segom. It is said that enjoying a bird’s eye view of the area on the pavilion was marvellous. The pavilion was burnt down by the Japanese imperialists in 1938.

Choe Sol Mi

Trump's Question to Answer

TRUMP IS GOING EXTREMELY CRAZY about his attempt to strangle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Last September, addressing the UN assembly, he made such a reckless statement that he would totally destroy the DPRK and exterminate the Korean people. Then, he issued an executive order aimed at bolstering sanctions against the DPRK and instigated Congress to pass an act that extends the force of the "north Korean human rights act" for another five years.

Moreover, claiming regular deployment of the American strategic nuclear means in the Korean peninsula, he saw that the American military presence was built up massively in and around the Korean peninsula while a joint infiltration drill was conducted to attack the rear of the DPRK. His actions were accompanied by his remarks that the DPRK would cease to exist before long, that the [American] military choice would be terribly destructive and that he would straighten up the issue of the DPRK which had been mangled by his predecessors.

Many people around the world consider Trump's acts reckless, for he could hardly recognize the seriousness of the touch-and-go situation in the Korean peninsula and the possible catastrophic consequence. They know that the DPRK is capable of dealing a military blow to the US mainland, to say nothing of Guam, far from being afraid of a war with the US.

Even American military experts assert: Imagine that the US and south Korea launch a preemptive attack out of a misjudgment—though it might be very rare. Then, the DPRK will, for its primary counterattack, attack the capital city of south Korea with its long-range guns and multiple launch rocket systems deployed near the Military Demarcation Line and fire missiles of 300-500 km ranges. South Korea will be scorched immediately. The GIs and their families in south Korea are unlikely to escape from the sweeping volley. For its second countermeasure the DPRK will devastate the American military bases in Japan and Guam. The next target will be the American mainland. A preemptive attack against the DPRK may come as a desk theory, but not a solution of the nuclear issue of the DPRK. It is surely a self-destructive idea.

Nonetheless, Trump is driving the situation of the Korean peninsula to the brink of war, shutting his eyes to the landscape of confrontation between the DPRK and the US. This is no more than a fit of mental disease that neutralizes the ability to think logically and approach the reality properly, overwhelmed with self-complacency.

Some American medical professors diagnosed him as a case of mental disorders like a delusion of grandeur, hypersensitivity to criticism and deficiency of the ability to make distinction between illusion and reality. A Democratic senator argued

that Trump is mentally abnormal, adding that other Republican MPs agree to his opinion and that Trump is absolutely in need of the assistance from mental medicine.

The international community, to say nothing of different sectors of the US, is ratcheting up denunciation and criticism against Trump who is breaking peace and security in the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world through an extremist DPRK policy. Washington Post and other American mass media denounced Trump for having increased the threat to the American mainland by talking of his intention to exterminate the Korean nation at a UN general assembly. They expressed their hopelessness and disappointment over the fact that the American end is coming at a very high speed because of Trump. Former US high-ranking officials and other personalities concerned with Congress feared that Trump's remark would make the US much more uneasy and entail terrible results, that is, sacrifice of the Americans in the homeland.

Some 60 Democratic representatives asserted that the nuclear bag should not be entrusted to Trump as his recent words might cause the nightmare of nuclear war, and even Republican senators rose up in revolt claiming for cutting Trump's power to use the American forces.

The public criticism and denunciation of Trump have touched off a campaign for his presidential impeachment, which is now sweeping the country. Some 58 500 holders of psychiatric degrees of the US drew up a petition for making Trump resign from presidency as he is in a serious state of psychiatric illness, and had it released in the press. Meanwhile, the American journal Time asserted that it is necessary to remove Trump from presidency without any impeachment procedures using the paragraph of incapability of the Presidency stipulated in Article 25 of the amended American Constitution. Voice has been heard from Congress that it is doubtful whether Trump is fit for presidency as he is mentally abnormal. On October 15 last year Washington Post, Fox News and other media carried the ad that a prize of up to US\$ 10 million is offered for information useful for presidential impeachment.

All this is a due outcome of the reckless war policy of Trump who is destroying global peace and security without hesitation. His madness is also to be found in the public confusion of the US which has been caused by Trump's unpredictable management of the administration, typically his dash-this-way-and-rush-that diplomatic and security policy, arrogant policy of Americanism, and Twitter politics of caprice and anger.

Trump had better cool himself down and review his words and behavior. Is he capable of leading a country? This is the question he has to answer himself. □

Back Street Villain


ON JANUARY 23, 1968 A ship of unknown nationality stealthily infiltrated the DPRK territorial waters 7.6 miles away from Ryo Island on the East Sea of Korea. The ship was marked *GER-2*, but its real name was *Pueblo*. Naval vessels of the Korean People's Army, on a regular patrol duty, instantly captured the ship of over 1 000 tons and its crew of over 80 men. (One of them died on the spot trying to resist.) Then it was revealed that the ship

was an armed spy ship of the US.

The US made a great fuss about the incident, saying that its navy's history had not known its spy ship captured by other countries, and took a measure to launch "military retaliation" against Korea. An aircraft carrier along with a destroyer, an atomic-powered submarine and supply ships was dispatched to the East Sea of Korea, and varieties of fighters fled into south Korea from US air bases in Japan.

It was not because the US lacked warships and fighting equipment in the region that it mobilized such a huge-scale military force to take back the ship and its crew. It is because the "pride" of the extremely arrogant US as the "Great Empire of America" would not allow it to recognize its crime.

But the result was tragic. The US surrendered to the Korean people's firm declaration that they would retaliate for ►



The crew of the American armed spy ship *Pueblo* surrender and the US delegate signs the document of apology.



► “retaliation” and return an all-out war for an all-out war, and signed a letter of apology recognizing the spy ship’s espionage and hostile acts and guaranteeing that any other warship would not intrude into the DPRK territorial waters. Dwelling on the fact *Washington Post* said in a leading article that the *Pueblo* incident that easily made a fool of the US and its government’s apology were very distressing and that it might be a more correct expression to say that their country which had boasted of being the strongest in the world was bleeding at the nose, knocked by the small country of Korea, like a clumsy back street villain.



The *Pueblo* on show at the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.

The British newspaper *Time* reported that the allegedly almighty US, too, was revealing its inability and that through the *Pueblo* incident the US actually surrendered to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in all aspects.

A recent issue of a Bangladeshi newspaper reported that the US’s armed spy ship *Pueblo* is put on display on the Pothong River in Korea, that at the question of how such a small number of soldiers could capture the ship in such a short time the lecturer said it was the very fighting mode of Korea and that the remains of the American planes and tanks on display at the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum clearly prove that the US will never be able to win the confrontation with Korea.

It is well-advised for one to find out his mistake in time.

Historically the US has never won the confrontation with Korea in terms of the mode of battle, war or politico-diplomacy. The US underwent only a bitter defeat in the Korean war (1950–1953), in the *Pueblo* incident and in the nuclear confrontation with Korea.

Because of ignoring the history of the Korea-US confrontation, the present American ruler has earned a title worse than a clumsy back street villain even on the UN arena. At last year’s session of the UN General Assembly,

the most important official diplomatic arena of the world, Trump was so unprecedentedly rude and hysterical as to talk about “total destruction” of Korea beyond a “change of its government” and an “overthrow of its system.” Then the global press and analysts described Trump as a president whose hatred reached an unbelievably dangerous stage and a psychologically retarded president speaking and acting at random instinctively and out of a sudden impulse. Even Congress of the US voiced doubt whether Trump is fit for the post of president as he is mentally abnormal.

A mentally deranged person ought to be sent to a mental hospital, and a mad dog ought to be clubbed.

The US should know that it was a mercy that the *Pueblo* turned into a trophy after daring to infringe on the sovereignty of the DPRK and finally was put on display at the aforesaid museum. Fifty years ago the US could write a letter of apology, bleeding at the nose like a clumsy back street villain, and now the DPRK has become a nuclear power. So the US should know exactly that if it insanely keeps trying to deprive the country of its sovereignty and the right to existence and development, there will remain alive not a single aggressor to write a similar letter.

Kim Ye Ryong



Sanctions Resolutions— Unwarranted



SOME TIME AGO A KOREA Today reporter had an interview with Dr and Associate Prof Hong Chol Hua who is director of the Law Institute under the Academy of Social Sciences.

I know the United Nations is the biggest international governmental organization whose aim is to keep global peace and security.

Established in October 1945 the UN assumes it as its mission to maintain international peace and security, promote economic and cultural relations between peoples of different countries and solve international problems in a peaceful way, and regards respect of sovereignty, inviolability of territory and noninterference in other's internal affairs and faithful implementation of the duties stipulated in its Charter as principles in its activities.

However, the United Nations Security Council, which has historically sided with the United States in its ambition for the aggression on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and for world supremacy, resorts to moves to put sanctions and pressure to bear upon the DPRK, tarnishing the image of the UN.

You're right. The UNSC adopted resolutions 82, 83 and 84 consecutively in coincidence with the US's unleashing of the Korean

war on June 25, 1950, and sanctioned America's armed invasion. After the war it stubbornly connived at and encouraged the US's moves of nuclear war against the country. After the Cold War the UNSC, following Washington's scheme to stamp out the DPRK, the bulwark of socialism, railroaded many sanctions resolutions on the pretext of the country's nuclear test and launches of satellites and ballistic rockets.

Adoption of Resolution 825 in May 1993, which was aimed at suspending the DPRK's decision on withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and forcing it to restore its cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, constituted a watershed in its scheme to isolate and stifle the country. Last year, instigated by the US, it abused the DPRK's self-defensive H-bomb test and the detonation test of a nuclear warhead as a "threat" to international peace and security, and adopted a series of resolutions against these measures. The sanctions resolutions the UNSC, manipulated by the US, passed against the DPRK in the new century number nine.

Those resolutions are totally unwarranted in view of the legal ground, aren't they?

Those resolutions are all based on the view that the DPRK's measures for securing peace are a "threat to global peace and security." In retrospect, the United States has doggedly neglected the DPRK's peace proposals to transform the present armistice agreement into peace treaty and establish a durable peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula; instead, it has enlisted its vassal states as well as its means of nuclear strike including

nuclear-powered carriers, strategic nuclear bombers and nuclear missiles to wage military exercises of all names, trying to force a war on the peninsula.

But so far, the UNSC, instead of remaining faithful to its functions and obligations, has neither picked a quarrel with the US's hostile policy towards the DPRK and moves of war, which threaten peace and security on the Korean peninsula, nor made any effort to restrain or prevent them. These circumstances forced the DPRK to defend peace and security on the Korean peninsula on its own, and the country possessed nuclear weapons and finally ICBM.

The reason why another war has not broken out amidst the continuous moves of war by the US since the Korean war is that the DPRK has invariably maintained peace-loving policies and possessed powerful self-reliant defence capability. Despite this, the UNSC does not squarely interpret the issue of "threat to peace" on the Korean peninsula; rather it handles it one-sidedly, toeing the line of the US, breaker of peace. The UNSC's resolutions, which are falsifying the reckless nuclear blackmail as moves for "safeguarding peace," and the DPRK's corresponding measures for military buildup as "threat to peace," are none other than rampant violation of the UN Charter.

Generally, the absolute majority of threat to and break of peace presupposes violation of international law. So, when the UNSC is to decide on "threat to peace" and "destruction of peace," it has to first judge whether the relevant action of a certain country constitutes an infringement of the obligations to international law or not. If it can not prove a violation, ►

► the UNSC cannot take forcible measures for it.

In 2003, the DPRK, in order to cope with the US's ever-growing nuclear blackmail and thus defend its supreme interest, withdrew from the NPT fairly and squarely, thus declaring that it did not assume any obligation to international law on the issue of manufacture of nuclear weapons and prohibition of their possession. In view of the fact that it had not ratified the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Test in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water of 1963, and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1996, the DPRK has no obligation to international law as to nuclear test. The one that has violated the obligation relating to nuclear weapons is none other than the United States.

The DPRK has assumed no duty of prohibition with regard to the possession of ICBM. At present there is no international treaty or international rule that prohibits the development, possession and launch of ballistic missile. The UN Charter, whose mission is to maintain peace and security, and other international agreements which clarify forbidden weapons do not expressly prohibit the possession and use of ballistic missile. For that reason there is no legal ground which could label the DPRK's test launch of ICBM as a violation of international law. These facts show that its possession of nuclear weapons and launch of ICBM do not constitute a violation of obligation to international law, and that they are not illegal in view of international law.

If the UNSC had a concern, even to a slightest degree, for maintaining peace and security in the Korean peninsula, it ought to have judged the US's threat of nuclear war to be illegal from the viewpoint of international law and applied relevant preemptory

rules to check it. It, however, yielded to the US's high-handedness, and railroaded brigandish sanctions resolutions, branding the DPRK's possession of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles, which it possessed as a measure for lawful self-defence, as a violation of international law. Those resolutions are a violation of paragraph 7 of Article 2 of the UN Charter which stipulates that "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state," and it means the UNSC abused its authority.

The DPRK's nuclear test and launch of ballistic missiles are lawful measures aimed at defending its sovereignty and right to existence in the face of the US's nuclear blackmail which has lasted for over a half century. And they do not run counter to Article 51 of the UN Charter or any international law. The damage the Korean people have suffered owing to the economic sanctions and blockade, product of the US's hostile policy toward the DPRK, spanning 60 years until 2005 totals US\$ 13 729.964 billion, when it is calculated based only on issues that were made public. Now the Sanctions Damage Investigation Committee of the DPRK is investigating the damage the country has suffered since 2005, and the damage and losses inflicted upon the development of the country and its people's life are enormous.

The reality vividly shows that the sanctions resolutions of the UNSC are illegal documents adopted through high-handedness and arbitrariness, devoid of any elementary legal deliberation of violation of international legal obligation and verification of existence of illegality and legitimacy of self-defensive measure.

As these resolutions are

unwarranted, the DPRK representative to the UN has suggested several times holding an international panel discussion to make clear of it. But it has not been realized owing to the moves by the US, hasn't it?

When the United States vociferates that the DPRK is committing new "provocations" and threatening security in the region with nuclear test and missile launch, the UN and other international organizations, without confirming who is the culprit of the current tense situation on the Korean peninsula, accept it at its face value, stir up public opinion, and try to adopt relevant sanctions resolutions without hesitation. So, they railroad resolutions at random as the US instigates them to do, infringing upon the sovereignty, and the rights to existence and development of its member countries, in defiance of the UN Charter and other international conventions.

The international law circles have already concluded that the sanctions resolutions passed at the UNSC are a rampant violation of the legitimate right of a sovereign state and principles of the international relations stipulated in the UN Charter, and they lack any legal ground. As the US and its vassal forces have disowned their previous claims that the economic activities relating to the people's life are exceptions, and are committing criminal acts aimed at mercilessly crushing down the rights to existence and development of a sovereign state, it is natural for the DPRK to take any resolute measure for initiating action of justice on its own terms.

In the future, too, we will make efforts to verify the invalidity of the sanctions resolutions fabricated by the US and its followers and work in close relations with progressive countries, political parties and social organizations in the world. □

Result of Sycophancy and Treachery

LOTS OF PEOPLE ARE NOW SEEING IN THE New Year full of joy and optimism, except the Korean nation that is entering upon the year with the pain of its division.

Last year the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) called for the whole nation's concerted effort to open up a broad avenue to independent reunification in the year which marked the 45th anniversary of the July 4 Joint Statement and the 10th anniversary of the October 4 Declaration. The DPRK also stated that it would take positive measures to improve inter-Korean relations, avoid acute military confrontation and remove the danger of war between north and south.

But the anti-reunification force, hand in glove with the US and its vassal states, ruthlessly ignored the DPRK's sincerity. The present ruler of south Korea, during the "presidential" election, conceitedly said that if he was elected he would go to Pyongyang first and that they should become able to say "No" even to the US. After being actually elected, however, he hastened to Washington first to admire his master as a "benefactor" and so on. And he said that the "great south Korea-US alliance" was his "root" and that the existence of the "root" ensured his today. And he went so far as to say that he would not take any step for improvement of the south-north relations without the US's approval and that they would engage in any dialogue only with the US's approval.

A national joint ceremony that north, south and overseas Koreans planned to hold on the 17th anniversary of the publication of the June 15 2000 Joint Declaration failed owing to the south Korean authorities' undetermined and uncertain attitude. From the outset the south Korean authorities assumed a disagreeable attitude saying that the opening of the ceremony before a south Korea-US summit meeting was burdensome and that they would examine it within the framework of international sanctions. Worse still, they laid artificial obstacles to the opening of the ceremony finding fault with Pyongyang's fair measures to strengthen their self-defence capabilities to cope with the US's ever more undisguised lunatic scheme to start a nuclear war against the country.

In July last year, too, the south Korean authorities revealed their true colors: On the 4th of that month the DPRK succeeded in the first test fire of an ICBM capable of striking the heart of the US. This was a great auspicious event to be hugely celebrated by all the north, south and overseas Koreans. But at the news of the test fire the ruler of south Korea hurriedly called a general meeting of its "national security council" to state that they repeatedly and strongly denounced the north's irresponsible provo-

cation and so on. And mentioning that it was "not a situation to counter only by a statement," he absurdly had a south Korea-US joint ballistic missile launching drill staged. The puppet military of south Korea announced a "statement" and incited war hysterics, daring to pick fault with the supreme dignity of the DPRK and talking viciously about "provocation" and "destruction." Besides, they, in collusion with the US, spent the whole of last year staging anti-DPRK nuclear war exercises in an attempt to plunge fellow countrymen into a crisis of nuclear holocaust: they threw lots of their puppet troops into Key Resolve and Foal Eagle 17, Ulji Freedom Guardian and other military rehearsals; and they made a great fuss, extending the range of missiles to strike the DPRK and importing weapons of American make.

The Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercise is an extremely dangerous nuclear war drill aimed at "neutralizing in the shortest time" the DPRK's military commanding system and its war potentialities, especially, the nuclear and missile bases and "invading" it with ease by dint of high-strength preemptive strikes that rely on all striking means of land, sea and air. The joint military exercise involved the entire human and material resources of south Korea including lots of GIs and puppet troops, the puppet regime and local autonomous entities, thousands of institutions and businesses and hundreds of thousands of civilians. It was also joined by mercenaries from Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, New Zealand, the Netherlands and Britain, all satellites of the United States.

Even the Trump administration, afraid of the DPRK's military counteraction, was reluctant to talk about the scale and movement of strategic nuclear assets to be thrown into the drill. The puppet military of south Korea, however, was engrossed in fanning up war hysterics, spreading such opinions as "There is no reduction of the drill," and "The scale of the US's overseas dispatch of troops has rather increased."

Despite opposition from at home and abroad, the south Korean authorities enforced the deployment of an additional THAAD launching pad by mobilizing thousands of police to use violence.

Their reckless moves toward confrontation did not ease but worsened the inter-Korean relations.

When the whole Korean nation was intending to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the publication of the October 4 2007 Declaration significantly, they ignored it and fanned up war hysterics by starting together with the US a joint maritime military exercise that targeted the DPRK's ICBM. This treacherous act cannot be justified in any way.

Even the south Korean people described the au- ►

► thortities' "north Korea policy" as "wandering policy with no clear goal," "policy to curry favour with the master," "policy with absurd and impudent assertions," and "policy that rejects the nation's aspiration and requirement."

It is the DPRK's constant intention to defend the safety of its fellow countrymen and the peace of the country without fighting against them.

The reality demands that the south Korean authorities do not heedlessly aggravate the situation in league with foreign forces, finding fault with the DPRK's self-defence measures but respond to the latter's earnest efforts to prevent inter-Korean military collisions and defuse the tensions.

The south Korean authorities would be well advised to assume a stand of national independence, join hands with the fellow countrymen and take the road towards improvement of the inter-Korean relations as required by the intention of all fellow countrymen and that reflected by south Koreans' candlelight demonstrations.

They should bear it in mind that Park Geun Hye, who had been only engrossed in dependence on outside forces and confrontation, was impeached punished by the candlelight demonstrators' intention.

Rim Hye Gyong



1. Protesters form a human candlelight protesting against war and claiming elimination of deep-rooted evils.
2. The public urge is rising for thorough investigation into the *Sewol* disaster.
3. South Koreans cry for peace and no war in the Korean peninsula, shouting anti-Trump slogans.



Invariable Wild Ambition

PERHAPS THERE MAY BE no country that matches Japan in greediness. The successive rulers of Japan set it as a goal to invade others to accumulate wealth and occupy the countries. A typical example was Japan's old plan of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere," which it is said had been completed by an institute under the control of the Japanese military. The plan consisted of three phases. The first phase was aimed at establishing a "core sphere" of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" that would cover Korea, Manchuria, north China, the region on the lower Yangtze River and the Maritime Province of Siberia of the former Soviet Union, the second phase at establishing a "small co-prosperity sphere" by adding to the "core sphere" eastern Siberia, the whole territory of China, Indochina Peninsula and islands on southern Pacific and the third phase at establishing a "greater co-prosperity sphere" by linking the "small co-prosperity sphere" with Australia, New Zealand, India and different islands on the Pacific. And the Japanese imperialists had an illusion about using the third sphere as a stepping stone to establish a "greater east Asia commercial expansion sphere" covering the Middle and Near East, Africa and America. They, however, failed to realize the ambition because of their defeat in 1945. Their wild dream of occupying other countries resulted in such a defeat.

Still, Japan has spent last 70-odd years preparing for making up for the past defeat instead of feeling guilty about its history of invasion. Their ingrained wild ambition of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" has

never changed, and they are talking about somebody's "threat" in an attempt to start to realize the ambition with invading Korea. Not long ago the Japanese Minister of Defense overtly said that they were weighing the possibility of developing their ability of attacking overseas missile bases, and the special advisor to the president of the Liberal Democratic Party emphasized that the Self-Defense Forces should be possessed of medium-range ballistic missiles and cruise missiles in order to safeguard Japan's "peace and prosperity."

At present no other country threatens Japan. Rather, peace and security of Asia is seriously jeopardized by the US that seeks to realize the strategy of dominance over the Asia-Pacific region and by Japan that toes the US line. Even a mere child knows that medium-range ballistic missiles and cruise missiles are necessary to attack. What then is the real intention of Japan's extreme-rightist politicians who are talking about a threat and advocating expansion of their military force? It is nothing but a scheme to realize their ambition of militaristic reinvasion.

Their sinister intention is also revealed by Japan's annually increasing war expenditure. In August last year the Japanese Ministry of Defense, talking about a "threat," decided to apply for ¥ 5 255.1 billion as a war expenditure out of the budget for the fiscal year 2018. It is said that it will be the highest record in history. Japan intends to use the tremendous sum of money to develop a ground radar capable of watching anti-missile bases and purchase a new-type ground-based combined anti-missile system Aegis Ashore developed by

the US. It is also planning to begin to mass-produce supersonic air-to-ship missiles this year to be introduced in F-2 fighters of the Air Self-Defense Force and going to deploy three unmanned reconnaissance planes in the Misawa base from the end of the year 2019. And it intends to establish an "amphibious corps" like the US Marine Corps provided with new-type armoured amphibians so as to strengthen the Self-Defense Forces' ability of attack. Besides, it spends days waging powder-reeking war exercises insisting that they should have an early warning satellite and an ability of cyberattack.

The international community is sharply watching the insular country that is gradually coming close to the status of a military power. Even the Western press disclosed that the Japanese defense minister's mention of their weighing the possibility of developing their ability of attacking overseas missile bases meant that they had thrown off even the mask of "defense" they had so far advocated somehow. The BBC reported: Abe knew well that a daily increasing number of people among the Japanese citizens were worrying about militarization of their country; and in that sense magnifying the "threat" from Korea was beneficial to him.

In Japan as well voices are ringing out reproaching the present ruler for causing a terror-charged atmosphere using incorrect information.

History proves that avarice makes a man bereft of reason and results in ruination. If Japan unreasonably keeps seeking to realize the wild ambition it will meet with a greater disaster.

Kim Il Ryoung

Korean Embroidery with Time-honoured Tradition



KOREAN EMBROIDERY, which originated as an artistic form through the aspirations and demands of the Korean women, developed as one of their living customs from olden times.

At the time of origin, it was a kind of handicraft, but later it developed into one performing with cloth, thread and needle.

Korean embroidery can be said to have developed along with the history of silk because it was convenient to embroider on silk cloth with silk thread, producing a highly decorative effect. The first relic embroidery was discovered in the Pyongyang area, the capital city of Ancient Joseon (early 30th century BC–108 BC). This proves that Korean embroidery started with Ancient Joseon as the centre.

It was well known across the

world already in the period of Three Kingdoms. Nobilities of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668) wore embroidered silk clothes and dancers of Silla used embroidered fans as their hand props.

With the unprecedented activation of the domestic industry and foreign trade in the period of Koryo (918–1392), embroidery reached a high level of formative and artistic beauty. In the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910), it developed with typical characteristics of the royal court and commoners.

In the days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, women soldiers of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army created many embroideries, representing their desire for national liberation and people's freedom and liberation. *Three-Thousand-Ri*

Land of Roses of Sharon by the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk is handed down so far.

After national liberation on August 15, 1945, the Central Embroidery Works was established, and the embroidery, which had been confined to feudal households, expanded and developed into a national undertaking. The works developed into the Pyongyang Embroidery Research Institute and became a national hub of not only creating and studying the embroidery but training skilled embroiderers.

The institute has created many excellent works of embroidery like *White Pheasant*, which won a gold medal at an international handicrafts exhibition held in Bulgaria in 1974.

Korean embroidery requires delicate artistic skills and is strong in national characteristics as it is created through various techniques on original drawings. It is divided into manual and mechanical embroidery by which it is done and practical and decorative embroidery by their mission. The techniques of doing it number over 20.

Korean women decorate not only their clothes but bedding like pillow and quilt with embroidery, enjoying their life in a cultured way.

Korean embroidery is developing as required by the practical reality.

Kim Chol Hyon

Some embroidery works.



