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Chairman Kim Jong Un meets Russian President Putin in Vladivostok

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, met with Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, on April 25.

The flags of the two countries were standing and the guards of honour of the three services of the armed forces of the Russian Federation lined up in front of the building of Far

Eastern Federal University on Russky Island in Vladivostok, the venue for the historic meeting between the top leaders of the two countries.

Russian President Putin warmly greeted Chairman Kim Jong Un who paid an official goodwill visit to the Russian Federation to boost friendly relations between the DPRK and Russia in line with the requirements of the new era and new situations.

He heartily welcomed the DPRK Supreme Leader's first Russia visit aimed at strengthening and developing the long-standing friendship between



the two countries.

Kim Jong Un expressed deep thanks to Putin for finding time even with busy political schedule to travel a long way to the city of its territory far from the capital and cordially greeting him.

The two leaders posed for a photograph against the background of the flags of the two countries and exchanged greetings with senior officials of the two countries respectively.

They had a pleasant chat as they headed for the place of talks.

They had another photo session

against the backdrop of the flags of the two countries standing at the venue.

There were one-on-one talks between the two leaders.

They had a constructive talk in a friendly and candid atmosphere.

They informed each other of the situations in their countries and agreed on the concrete ways and measures to further promote mutual understanding and trust, friendship and cooperation and propel the progress of the bilateral friendship in the new century. They also had a serious discussion of

issues on immediate cooperation and reached a satisfactory consensus of opinion.

And they told each other successes and experience they have gained in state building and exchanged honest and candid opinions to share each other's views on several issues concerning the situation of the Korean peninsula and international relations and jointly manage the situation.

The two leaders were unanimous that their meeting and talks were a good occasion of great significance in developing more solidly and soundly the friendly relationship between

the two countries with a long history and tradition of friendship and in strategically managing the unstable situation of the Korean peninsula in the wake of the second DPRK-US summit.

The talk lasted for hours with an unreserved and friendly feeling flowing.

Through the historic first meeting, the leaders of the two countries achieved intimacy and deepened the strategic and traditional bilateral ties of friendship.

Compiled from KCNA





Banquet: Putin hosts reception for Kim Jong Un

FROM PAGE 2

and security on the Korean peninsula and in the region and on international issues of mutual concern, he emphasized that it is the steadfast stand and strategic policy of the DPRK government to continuously

cement and develop the strategic and traditional ties onto a new high as required by the new century.

He said he rejoiced that the fraternal Russian people are achieving remarkable success in their efforts to build a powerful and prosperous country by overcoming all challenges at home and abroad as they uphold the energetic leadership and strong and firm will of the President, and

sincerely hoped that Russia would certainly thrive as a powerful, dignified and great country under the vigorous guidance of Putin.

At the reception an art performance was given by artistes from prestigious Russian art organizations well known to the Korean people. The performance ended with song of friendship *Moscow-Pyongyang*.

Kim Jong Un and Putin presented

a flower basket to the performers and thanked them for their wonderful presentation.

Expressing deep gratitude to the Russian friends for their enthusiastic and warm hospitality once again, the Korean leader exchanged fond farewell with the Russian counterpart, promising to meet again.

Compiled from KCNA

Supreme Leader arrives in Russia's Vladivostok, greeted by local officials

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, arrived in Vladivostok of the Russian Federation on April 24.

A warm, welcoming atmosphere pervaded the Russian city.

The honour guard of the three services and the military band of the Russian Federal Armed Forces were standing at attention in the plaza in front of Vladivostok Railway Station.

At 18:00 local time, the private

train of the DPRK Supreme Leader pulled in at the railway station.

He was greeted at the station by Alexandr Kozlov, minister of Development of the Far East and Arctic of Russia, Igor Morgulov, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Oleg Kozhemyako, governor of Maritime Territory, and Alexandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

A ceremony was held to welcome the DPRK leader to the Russian Federation.

Kim Jong Un exchanged greetings with senior officials from Moscow

and local areas before heading for the lodging place.

That morning, he passed Russia's border railway station in Khasan.

He was accorded a cordial reception at Khasan Railway Station by Russian senior officials including Alexandr Kozlov who came to the station from the capital to guide him.

He was also greeted at the station by Kim Hyong Jun, DPRK ambassador to the Russia, and Jo Sok Chol, DPRK consul general in Vladivostok.

He exchanged greetings with the Russian officials from the capital and local areas.

Russian women in gorgeous national costume offered him bread and salt according to a national custom and presented him with a bouquet.

The senior officials warmly welcomed him to Russia, saying that President Putin dispatched them to the border railway station paying particular attention to his current visit.

The DPRK leader expressed thanks for it and had a talk with them in an amicable atmosphere.

Compiled from KCNA



LEADING ARTICLE

Leader enjoys absolute trust and reverence

Today, the Korean people's trust in their leader becomes firmer.

The election of Kim Jong Un as Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK at the First Session of the 14th DPRK Supreme People's Assembly on April 11 is a manifestation of their absolute support for and trust in him.

While leading the DPRK for seven years, he fully displayed his personality as the leader of the people.

People are always placed at the centre of his politics.

Whenever he administers and enforces a policy, he gives top and absolute priority to the people's demands and interests and whenever he gives field guidance at different units, he learns about the working and living conditions of workers before production.

Stylish workers' hostels built at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill and the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, the scientists holiday camp of the State Academy of Sciences in a scenic spot, welfare service amenities at fishery stations and many others came into being under his direct concern.

The Munsu Water Park,

Mirim Riding Club, Masikryong Ski Resort and other cultural recreation centres which were built in a modern style in recent years are associated with the Supreme Leader's noble intention to make the people do cultural and leisure activities to their heart's content.

He focuses economic development on improving the people's livelihood.

There can be no economic progress apart from the improvement of the people's living standards and the economy should contribute to promoting the people's wellbeing—this is the mode of economic development he asserts.

That is why agriculture for easing the strain on food has been set as the major thrust area of socialist economic construction and all efforts are being concentrated on farming. State investment into light industry factories and enterprises including textile and silk mills and footwear, foodstuff and bag factories grew as the days went by, and such modern streets and dwellings as Changjon Street, Unha and Mirae scientists streets and Ryomyong Street

sprang up one after another.

With the Mallima speed, a new legend of construction, being created even in the face of persistent sanctions by hostile forces, model and exemplary factories in the age of knowledge economy were built and industrial establishments were put on modern and scientific basis at a high level.

Such continuous miracles and changes are attributable to the Supreme Leader's warm love for the people and devotion to them.

He continued his field inspection tours for the good of the people rain or shine, during which scrupulous measures were taken for them.

As he dedicated his all to the people, the Koreans' respect and reverence for him got more profound and they were convinced that rosier future will come when they uphold his leadership.

Though hostile forces persist in vicious moves, the socialist cause of the DPRK will advance victoriously as the leader and people are united in one mind, which can never be found in other countries.

By Pak Song Min PT

RALLY

Nation turns out in response to call of Kangwon

Mass rallies took place in Pyongyang, North Phyongan, South Hwanghae, North Hamgyong, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces, Nampho and other provinces and cities to support the appeal of the working people in Kangwon Province for bringing about a great upsurge on all fronts of socialist construction by holding fast to self-reliance as a treasured sword.

They were attended by officials, working people, youth and students of Party and government organs, working people's organizations, institutions, industrial establishments, farms and universities in the provinces and cities.

The appeal was read out at the meetings.

Speakers at the meetings enthusiastically hailed the appeal, expressing full support to and approval of it.

They stressed the need for all the officials, Party members and other working people to cherish the faith that they will surely emerge victorious as they are guided by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un and work hard to make fresh progress in socialist construction, thereby fully demonstrating once again the might of the country which wins victory after victory in the spirit of self-reliance.

All officials and working people, they said, have turned out as one in the general offensive, do-or-die battle in

hearty response to the historic policy speech of the Supreme Leader at the First Session of the 14th DPRK Supreme People's Assembly and the spirit of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

They called on the scientists and technicians to make a contribution to reenergizing the overall economy and developing the hi-tech industries by creatively introducing everything advanced, true to the Party's call to keep their feet firmly planted on their land and looking out over the world.

They said that the people-first principle should be thoroughly applied to overall state activities and every aspect of social life as intended by the Party, so that all the activities of the people's power organs can be directed and subordinated to defending and realizing the people's demands and interests and faithfully serving them.

They called for firmly grasping self-reliance as the treasured sword for prosperity and winning fresh miraculous victories in succession on all fronts of socialist construction, closely rallied around the Supreme Leader.

The meetings were followed by public processions.

The demonstrators marched through plazas and streets, chanting revolutionary and militant slogans.

Compiled from KCNA

MISSION

Chinese army artistes perform in Pyongyang to promote bilateral ties

At a time when the ties between the DPRK and China reached a new level, an art delegation of the People's Liberation Army of China visited the DPRK between April 17 and 22 to give splendid performances in Pyongyang.

Consisting of a talented conductor and instrumentalists of the military band of the PLA, the delegation gave a two-day performance at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre.

Starting with the playing of national anthems of the two countries, the entertainers put on stage army songs of the two

countries played by the brass band, masterpieces of the two countries and world-famous songs.

Revolutionary hymns *Song of General Kim Il Sung* and *Song of General Kim Jong Il* performed in a solemn melody of brass band music touched the heartstrings of the audience.

The audience gave enthusiastic ovations whenever the performers flawlessly represented the ardent patriotism, rich emotion and optimistic lifestyle of the Chinese nation in refined rendition and sang Korean songs in fluent

Korean language.

Brass band music pieces *Let Us Sing the Same Song Together*, *Ode to Motherland* and *Socialism Is Good* jointly played by the military bands of the Korean People's Army and the PLA climaxed the performance.

Baskets of flowers were conveyed to the performers, and the audience presented bouquets to them in congratulation of their successful performance.

The performance was seen by KPA generals and officers, officials concerned and creative and performing artists from art troupes and art educational institutions.

It marked a significant occasion in adorning this year that marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations.

The bilateral relationship has recently reached a new high thanks to deep intimacy between the top leaders of the two countries.

Four rounds of summit meetings and talks were held in a little over a year and bilateral relations developed into special ties of helping and caring for



The audience give a standing ovation to the artistes of the Chinese People's Liberation Army after performance.



Pyongyang citizens gather at Kim Il Sung Square in support of the appeal of the Kangwon provincial people.

each other like a family, drawing the attention of the world.

This year, the two countries have held a variety of events and taken a series of measures to celebrate the anniversary of bilateral diplomatic relations with splendour.

An art delegation of the DPRK visited China in January to open up a prelude to big celebrations, followed by such performances in Pyongyang as the China-DPRK Friendship Spring Concert given by Chinese artistes and a performance by a Chinese cultural and artistic delegation from Jilin Province.

Cultural and artistic exchanges

have been integral to bilateral relations.

During their stay in Pyongyang, the delegation paid homage to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il at the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun and its leading members visited Mangyongdae where the President was born and spent his childhood.

The Chinese artistes laid a wreath at the Friendship Tower and looked round some places in Pyongyang.

They saw a performance given by the Samjiyon Orchestra.

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MACHINE

Custom-built equipment production speeds up

An upswing has been effected in production in the machine-building industry sector.

The Ryongsong, Taean and Ragwon machine complexes and other machine producers across the country are pushing the production of machinery needed for different construction projects and industrial establishments.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex is pushing ahead with the assembly of a generator and guide for Orangchon Power Station Unit 4 as it directs much effort to the production of various sizes of gearwheels and pinions for thermal power

stations.

The Taean Electrical Appliances Factory is pushing the production of several transformers for the renovation of Samjiyon County and the construction of the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area.

The Ryongsong Machine Complex focuses on the production of parts of thermal power generating equipment and facilities for chemical factories along with different custom-built equipment. It is accelerating the production of gearwheels and buffer couplings for thermal power stations. It is also pushing ahead with the

production of a large compressor ordered by the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex.

The Ragwon Machine Complex sent several submersible pumps to major industrial establishments while pressing on with the production of gearwheels for thermal power plants.

The Pyongyang Bearing Factory and the Huichon Precision Machine Factory are speeding up the production of bearings and gear pumps needed by major units.

The Anju Insulator Factory completed the annual silk insulating fabric production plan and the first quarterly assignment for insulating paint ahead of schedule.

The Pyongyang Grindstone Factory finished the first quarterly production plan of grindstone for thermal power stations before the set time, while the Pyongyang Gauge Factory wound up its annual production of air pressure gauges for coal mines.

The Songchongang Electrical Appliances Factory makes innovations in the production of electric motors.



KIM KWANG RIM / RODONG SINMUN

A new type of trolley buses are produced at the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory.

By Kim Ryong Jin PT

PROJECT

Construction projects progress apace

Different projects have been completed amid a dynamic construction drive in the country.

Building No. 4 of Wonsan University of Agriculture has been inaugurated.

The completion of the new building with modern lecture rooms and labs has further consolidated the foundation for training larger numbers of able agro-technicians who will contribute to the country's agricultural development.

The Hwangchoryong Spring Water Factory has been built in South Hamgyong Province.

It carries on production with the spring water of good quality that wells up in large volumes from Kyenam Valley in Midun-ri of Kowon County in all seasons.

The factory has now gone into trial production on the threshold of inauguration.

The Tanchon Power Station project is being pressed ahead.

Soldier-builders completed the concrete covering of the main water tunnel one month ahead of schedule.

To this end they carried out

concrete placing over 1.5 times more than planned every day by maximizing the operation rate of such equipment as mixer and vibrator and introducing advanced working methods. They also conceived and introduced dozens of valuable technical innovation plans into production to speed up the construction project while saving a great deal of manpower and materials.

The Sinuiju Textile Mill is making brisk headway with its modernization project.

It completed internal wall plastering, talc plastering for ceilings and concrete tamping and artificial stone plastering for floors of different workshops in a short time and is now working on external wall plastering and other renovation works. More than 10 buildings have newly been built including a multifunctional gym, and a hostel and health complex are near to completion. Amid a technical innovation drive for modernizing equipment, it made tens of thousands of parts of pneumatic weaving machines to remodel over 160 box looms

into them and refashioned more than 90 transmission gears for elastic staff looms.

Meanwhile, the rail transport sector has made innovations in the freight transport for the Samjiyon County reconstruction project.

As it builds up the dispatcher's unified command system, the Ministry of Railways organizes work scrupulously to preferentially assign locomotives and wagons for freight transport to the Samjiyon area.

The Pyongyang Railway Bureau is fulfilling its daily plan at 120 percent every day by increasing the rate of locomotive operation and shortening the round-trip time of wagons. The Kaechon Railway Bureau has ensured the distribution and formation of trains for centralized transport to meet its specific conditions, thereby transporting more freight than planned. The Chongjin Railway Bureau organizes the unloading of goods wagons in a flexible way.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

FOOD

Tasty processed seafood produced

The processed marine products made by the Songchongang seafood processing company are winning popularity among consumers.

The company, which is located on the shore of Haeon District of Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province, is engaged in the second- and third-stage processing of marine products.

It has several fishing boats including a factory ship, a cold-storage storehouse with thousands of tons of capacity and several processing grounds.

It turns out nearly 30 kinds of food by catching hard-finned sandfish, squid, anchovy, *Chinoecetes opilio* and other fishes.

Frozen shucked clam, processed crab and other super-frozen fishes preserve original

tastes as fresh as living fishes, said a workteam leader of the company.

Pickled anchovy, squid and other products can be eaten at any time without processing.

According to director Kim Son Sil, the company introduced a new processing method that can preserve the nutrition of fish, improve the flavour of spices and prevent decomposition to meet the characteristics of pickled fish.

Especially, the vacuum-packed salted dry hard-finned sandfish has unique taste without fishiness.

Fish spice powder is also popular as it helps strengthen bones and promote the metabolism of children and old people.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



SONG YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Workers process a variety of seafood at the Songchongang seafood processing company.

MOVEMENT

Local industries compete to build up capacity

A competition is now going on between provinces, cities and counties to ensure a rapid and long-term growth of local industries.

The most important point in the current competition is to produce specialties representing certain local areas.

The Songdowon General Foodstuff Factory in Kangwon Province competes with central foodstuff factories as it develops various popular products. It has recently produced over a dozen kinds of new foodstuffs.

The Susongchon and Paeksong general foodstuff factories developed a variety of new products with local raw materials, while the Amnokgang, Jongbansan and other provincial general foodstuff factories are steadily increasing the kinds of processed foodstuffs.

The competitions in other sectors are also growing fiercer including those between

garment and paper factories in cities and counties, which helps increase the number of units with notable strategies and methods of management and business activities.

A show of schoolbags takes place as a quarterly event as part of the efforts to enhance the zeal for competition among provincial bag factories.

The products of the Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Bag Factory in Kangwon Province and the Sinuiju Bag Factory in North Phyongan Province were highly appreciated at the national schoolbag shows held in November last year and February this year respectively.

Projects have been undertaken in provinces to build new spring water and kimchi factories.

Such factories have already been built in North Phyongan Province.

Compiled from KCNA

CEMENT

Cement giant expands production capacity with good supply service

Modernization boosts production

The Sangwon Cement Complex, a leading cement producer, is working to make innovations in production.

"Cement is demanded everywhere in the country, especially at construction sites of Samjiyon County and the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area," said Thae Il Yong, deputy chief engineer of the complex.

According to him, the complex concentrates on increasing its production capacity and upgrading equipment to meet the local demand for cement in terms of quality and quantity.

In order to maintain the normal operation of the cement kiln, the heart of production processes, technicians ensured the domestic production of the formerly imported relative speed measuring device with the help of one-chip computer.

They also turned the fire-brick production process which was dependent on imported heavy oil into that based on anthracite gasification and high-temperature air combustion technology, thereby developing the most efficient fire-brick in ensuring the normal operation of cement clinker kiln, which is recognized worldwide.

The complex, which has exceeded the peak year level in production every year, plans to

double the output by upgrading the extra-large speed reducer of a raw materials crusher.

The products of the complex come in cement for construction and road paving and seawater-resistant and high-quality ones.

It launched the production of seawater-resistant cement last year.

The complex has already supplied tens of thousands of tons of seawater-resistant cement to the project for the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area.

The cement came first at the 16th national inventions exhibition last year.

Good supply service promotes production

The Myongdang Duck Farm of the Sangwon Cement

Complex is a supply service base bringing much benefit to the employees of the complex.

The farm has ten duck blocks, five greenhouses, one pig block, hatching room, mushroom cultivation ground, fish farm and feed processing ground.

"Our farm is widely known not only for the breeding of ducks but also for the production of greenhouse vegetables and mushrooms," said Jon Yong Ae, manageress of the farm.

According to her, the size of their greenhouses differs from each other as compared to the standardized ones of other units.

The greenhouses are built at a high place to make an effective use of a small area and get the rising sun first.

A greenhouse is used both for growing vegetables and breeding fish.

Designed to make the most of geotherm and solar heat, the greenhouse produces fruit vegetables even in midwinter.

Its fish ponds teem with catfish, tilapia and other fishes.

The most important thing in breeding fish is water condition and farmers use the waste water from fish ponds as the water for a boiler installed to sterilize mushroom substrates.

Standouts in greenhouses are lettuce boards installed on the walls.

The surface of walls built to keep solar heat as much as possible is very effective for maintaining warm temperature for a long time.

"We harvested two or three kilograms of lettuce per square metre when we grew it on the ground, but we produce 20 to 30 kilograms now. The effective use of space brings as much benefit as we have another greenhouse," said workshop manager Han Jong Guk.

Farmers grow *Formes japonicas* and *Agaricus subfunereus* at the outdoor mushroom cultivation ground with waste substrates from the indoor cultivation ground.

The waste substrates from the outdoor cultivation ground are used as the feed for pigs and ducks after composite microbiological treatment.

Duck excrement is used as pig feed, mushroom substrate and organic manure.

A sea of chives is unfolded in every open space in summer.

Dozens of tons of fruits are gathered every year from fruit trees in different places of the compound and they are regularly supplied to the workers of the complex.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



Employees monitor the production processes at the Sangwon Cement Complex.



PHOTOS BY PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Myongdang Duck Farm supplies a sufficient amount of meat to the employees of the complex.

GRANITE

Mine raises product quality by applying new tools

The Osoksan Granite Mine increases the output of quality natural building stones by introducing advanced technologies in stone mining and processing.

The conventional method of stone mining caused much damage to rough stones as they broke or cracked.

"Like wood, natural granite has the grain. Therefore, we introduced a new mining method to replace the old one to suit our raw material," said manager Kim Chang Ryong.

To adopt the new method, the mine provided itself with a complete set of equipment including two mobile cutting machines and accessories.

As a result, it more than doubled the rough stone mining efficiency as compared to previously. The cut rocks have no crack, but all six sides of

each rock are even.

According to technical personnel of the mine, it now turns out the quantity of stones, which took five years to hew by the former method, in a year by the new one. The new technique saves a great deal of manpower, materials and explosives, is far more advantageous in terms of labour safety and protection and generates very little broken stones and overburden.

The mine also processes broken stones, which are inevitably generated during the mining of rough stones, into products. The retrieved stones, big or small, are used as such building materials as kerbs and for embankment and fence. Even very small by-products of processing are used as gravel for railway tracks.

It upgraded the processing

process by making several facilities such as a circular column processing machine, grinder, trimmer, unique wall crane and single-pillar crane.

The column processing machine that turns out any size and shape of columns ensures over four times of productivity as compared to previously.

The mine receives a large order from across the country as it exactly meets the specifications of clients such as the thickness, length and width of processed stones and the flatness and gloss of stone surface.

At present, the mine is working on the products to be supplied for the rebuilding of Samjiyon County and the construction of the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

SITE

Kwangmyong draws netizens

Kwangmyong run by the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology is popular with netizens.

The site has a database containing 20 million originals including the data on latest science and technology and news at home and abroad and over ten kinds of foreign sci-tech bulletins.

Many readers visit the site as its database is updated on a constant basis.

In particular, the latest domestic and foreign sci-tech information which is carried on the site promptly through general analysis is the focus of attention of visitors.

A supervisor of the site said that visitors are very pleased to access to the database as it comprehensively systematizes the data on economic situation, trend and development of

different countries, sci-tech information in the field and the news about the basic core technology and cutting-edge scientific fields, as well as practical issues arising in the introduction of them.

As the site provides visitors with an opportunity to exchange and share information with each other, the visitors briskly exchange views on the translation of necessary sci-tech data and the gathering and analysis of information.

The Central Information Agency for Science and Technology plans to establish a new site for the intellectual property products distribution exhibition in the near future to offer consultation services through the site.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

RESERVE

Biosphere reserve in Mt Paektu boasts rich diversity

April 26 this year marked the 30th anniversary of the designation of the Mt Paektu area as a world biosphere reserve.

Mt Paektu rising in the northern tip of the DPRK to a height of 2 750 metres above sea level is the highest mountain of the country.

Koreans had regarded it as their ancestral mountain since olden times, asserting that all mountain ranges of their country stretch out from here. They likened it to the dignity and spirit of the nation, saying it is the source of the soul of the resourceful, brave and pure-hearted nation. The Great Paektu Mountains extend from Mt Paektu to Kujae Peak on the shore of the South Sea of Korea to shape all the main ranges of the country.

The Mt Paektu area is precisely a grand open-air museum which is associated with the revolutionary history of President Kim Il Sung who led the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory to liberate Korea. In the area there is the birthplace of Chairman Kim Jong Il in the Paektusan

Secret Camp with Jongil Peak behind.

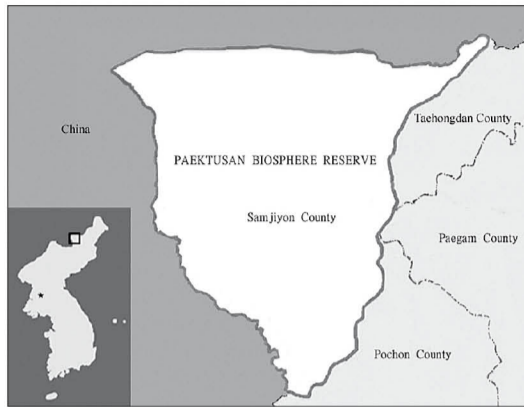
The mountain crowned with snow all the year round soars majestically above clouds. It is beautiful, magnificent and sublime in appearance, diverse and exquisite in scenery and unique in topography, geology, climate and fauna and flora.

The Paektusan Biosphere Reserve embraces the whole area of Samjiyon County in Ryanggang Province centring on the mountain.

The Mt Paektu area was set as a sanctuary already in 1946 soon after Korea's liberation and chosen as a world biosphere reserve in 1989, and thereafter activities to protect its biodiversity have been promoted under worldwide attention.

The reserve is clearly divided into the core and transitional and buffer zones.

Fauna and flora underwent



constant change due to several rounds of volcanic eruptions that occurred during long historical periods. The unique fauna consists of animals that are adapted to harsh climatic and natural conditions in the alpine area.

Such activities as monitoring, research, supervision and protection are conducted in the reserve on a regular basis. At present ambitious projects are going on to create a model of modern mountainous town of the country and ensure sustainable tourism in the transitional zone of the reserve.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

DOG

Local show helps raise public awareness of national dog

The sixth round of Phungsan dog show was held in Sariwon of North Hwanghae Province on April 18.

The show of the national dog of Phungsan that kicked off in 2014 draws growing interest of the local people.

"The aim of the Phungsan show is to survey and register the dogs raised by individual residents, preserve thoroughbreds and increase their number," said chief judge Ok Jin Yong, PhD, chief of the zoology society of the North Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the

General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea and director of the animal husbandry institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science.

On the morning of the day of the show lots of people headed for the venue with their pets in spite of lashing rain.

Rankings were decided by examining the qualitative indexes and such particulars as physique, poise, mobility, alertness and pedigree.

Judges included experts from the zoology society of the North Hwanghae Provincial

Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea, the Phungsan dog lab of Kye Ung Sang Agricultural College of Kim Il Sung University, the animal husbandry institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science and the Sariwon Zoo under the General Pleasure Park Bureau.

Phungsan is clever, tenacious, brave, swift, highly resistant to cold and diseases and very viable and it has been loved by the Koreans since olden times as it resembles their nation in mettle. The indigenous dog of Kim Hyong Gwon County (former Phungsan County) in Ryanggang Province is now found across the country.

Many North Hwanghae provincial people are said to keep the dogs and be competitive in raising them better and more smartly.

At the recent show, "Phungsan" of Ri Ok Yong living in neighbourhood unit No. 1 of Kuchon-dong No. 1, Sariwon, came first among male dogs and "Pangul" of Ryu Ok Hui in neighbourhood unit No. 29 of Munhwa-dong in the same city took first place among



AN CHOL RYONG / PICTORIAL KOREA

The Phungsan dog show is held at the zoo in Sariwon of North Hwanghae Province.

PROFILE

Young teacher volunteers for children on islet

Ryo Islet covers an area of 1.96 square kilometres in the sea off Kangwon Province.

There is a school for a few children on the solitary islet where only the sound of waves is heard.

Three years ago, Ri Jong Hwa, the then teacher at Rungna Primary School in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, volunteered to work as a teacher on this islet.

There is a story telling why the 23-year-old woman volunteered to teach on the out-of-the-way islet. She was greatly moved by the laudable deeds of the participants in the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue, a good topic for conversation among the locals across the country at that time, especially among young people.

She could not fall asleep all night after she was told about the stories about the "girl mother" in Kangson who raised parentless children as a unmarried woman and about maidens who volunteered to teach at islet schools after graduating from universities.

"How can I be called a new generation of educator if I confine myself to being impressed by the laudable deeds of contemporary young men and women and do nothing at all? The appeal of conscience pushed me to volunteer as a teacher on the islet," said Ri Jong Hwa.

She left Pyongyang for the islet and acclimatized herself little by little to the new life.

Unlike Pyongyang, the small classroom for a few children was a completely new environment to her.

Though the number of pupils was small, lessons required redoubled efforts.

Moreover, as her pupils were born and brought up on the islet and had seen nothing else except sea, she could not give them a clear understanding of the contents of teaching materials in lessons. In order to give them a vivid idea of matters and phenomena, she secured animations and other visual aids

females.

Both the dogs are two years old. What is interesting is that they are the offspring of the male runner-up.

Kwak Sung Chol, the owner of the parent dog living in neighbourhood unit No. 62 of Taesong-dong, Sariwon, said happily that both male and female pups of his dog which had two straight wins have won the current show, adding he could feel the affection of many people for the national dog

and specimens of animals and plants and spared no efforts to get necessary data.

She had been recognized as a competent teacher at her former school and she put constant efforts into preparations for teaching and poured her wisdom to improving the scholarly performance of pupils.

In the course of this, she invented efficient teaching methods for Korean language, drawing and handicraft to meet the psychology of primary pupils and won the title of model teacher.

Whenever she received school things and teaching aids and furnishings before anybody else, she pledged herself to fulfil her duty as educator.

One day two years after she came to the school, she was given unexpected honour.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who has paid close attention to the education of rising generations put forward those who had volunteered to teach at branch schools on remote islands and in frontline areas and mountain villages to be known throughout the country and had a photograph taken with them.

At the time, Ri Jong Hwa keenly realized that Ryo Islet is not far away from Pyongyang and cherished again the pride of being an educator.

She has not taught alone at the school for three years.

Rungna Primary School, where she had worked, sent her not only teaching tools but also records of study of teaching materials and multimedia presentations for teaching every year, while the industrial establishments in Taedonggang District provided her with various kinds of daily necessities.

Whenever she was given such things by her fellows and many other well-wishers, the small school seemed to be most sacred to her and she hardened her resolve to stand on the platform all her life.

Recently, she was married to a young man on the islet.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

through the event.

As part of the show there were a presentation of experiences obtained in the course of rearing Phungsan, a technical workshop and an awards ceremony.

At the event a breed registration card is issued for the dogs that enter the rankings.

Phungsan was designated as a living monument on April 9 1956 and as national dog on November 7 2014.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

GAMES

Health workers meet to compete in annual event

The seventh sports contest of the public health sector that started at Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on April 18 is going on amid great public interest.

In the contest central-level hospitals including Pyongyang Medical College Hospital of Kim Il Sung University, Korea General Red Cross Hospital, Academy of Medical Science and Pyongyang Maternity Hospital are competing in such events as Taekwon-Do, volleyball, basketball, table tennis, tug-of-war and amusement games.

Volleyball and tug-of-war matches have so far drawn special interest of spectators.

On April 23, there was a men's volleyball game between the Pyongyang Medical College Hospital and Academy of Medical Science.

Prior to the match, fans believed that the academy would thrash the hospital as it has been the unchallenged champion in the event.

Unexpectedly, however, the hospital made up for the loss and won the second round with two more points. Though it held the initiative in the third round, the academy managed to recover its rhythmic sense at the close of the game and finished the third round 25-23 to win the match. But many spectators

gave the hospital players bigger hand as they unfolded thrilling scenes.

Tug-of-war is always most popular among people in non-professional sporting events.

"Tug-of-war is a game played not only by pullers but also rooters. At the blow of referee's whistle signalling the start of the match, we shout yo-ho together with our players and we feel as if we are also pulling the rope," said Cha Jong Hui, doctor at the Kim Man Yu Hospital.

At present the Pyongyang Medical College Hospital, the Academy of Medical Science and the Kim Man Yu Hospital lead others in the event.

The sports contest of health workers is recognized as a comparatively high-level competition among non-professional sporting events.

"This year's contest has advanced greatly in the level as compared to the last year's. I can clearly see that speed has increased in most of games and playmakers' capacity is amazing. In some aspect, amateurs' games are more appealing than professionals' matches," said a sports enthusiast Kong Jong Chol.

By Jong Tang Song PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Kim Man Yu Hospital team pulls the rope against the Academy of Medical Science in a tug-of-war match at the seventh sports contest of health workers.

STATEMENT

S. Korean authorities warned against their treacherous acts

"Turning a blind eye to the aspirations of the nation and the unanimous expectations of the international community, the south Korean authorities keep clinging to risky gambles which may put inter-Korean relations back to those in the period before the publication of the Panmunjom Declaration, far from getting rid of the ingrained habit of provocation of the past," said a spokesman for the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Country in a statement on April 25.

The statement came after the south Korean military kicked off a fortnight-long combined aerial drill on April 22 in collusion with the US.

The spokesman said that the south Korean military have staged the DPRK-targeted provocative war drill with

the US troops in south Korea against its dialogue partner by mobilizing a large number of warplanes.

He described the drill as an outrageous challenge to the historic April 27 Panmunjom Declaration and the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration reflecting the unanimous desire of the entire nation for peace and prosperity of the Korean peninsula, and an overt violation of the agreement in the military field in which north and south committed themselves to making joint efforts for easing of military tension and removal of hostility.

"The acts of betrayal of the south Korean authorities have greatly disappointed us, as they, far from working to preserve the valuable spark of peace, reconciliation and

cooperation by joining efforts with the DPRK, have gone against the trend towards reconciliation on the peninsula which north and south brought about with their joint efforts for the past one year.

"Though the south Korean authorities insist that Max Thunder was thrown into history and they scaled down the drill by taking into consideration the situation on the peninsula as they stage the large-scale combined aerial drill, they are seriously mistaken if they think that they can give relief to us and divert elsewhere the public criticism at home and abroad with such trite nonsense."

In March, the south Korean authorities held a joint military drill under the codename of Alliance that replaced Key Resolve which was agreed to

JUDO

Judoists successful at Asia-Pacific championships

The 2019 Judo Asia-Pacific Championships were held in the United Arab Emirates, bringing together more than 270 male and female judo aces from 40 countries and regions including the DPRK, China and Kazakhstan.

Kim Jin A (pictured) defeated her Jordanian opponent in the preliminary, another from Chinese Taipei in the quarterfinals, a Chinese player in the semi-finals and a Japanese in the final match, to lift the trophy in the women's 57 kg category.



Rim Song Sim won a bronze medal in the women's 52 kg category.

Compiled from KCNA

FOLK FOOD

Mung-bean jelly



CHOE MI GYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Spring greens salad with mung-bean jelly.

The Korean people have liked jelly since ancient times.

Referring to the mung-bean jelly, also known as green gram jelly meaning clear jelly, *Kosasibijip*, an old record written in the first half of the 18th century, says "the green gram jelly is made of mung bean in the same way as bean curd. It is only different in that it is not put into the sack and pressed, but put in wooden containers to coagulate".

Mung-bean jelly is transparent, greenish, glutinous, smooth and shiny and attractive. It was cut into proper sizes, put on plates and

taken mixed with sauce.

Various ingredients were added to make mung-bean jelly salad. *Rimwonsimryukji*, published in 1825, says that sliced mung-bean jelly

mixed with wild herbs and soy sauce is very tasty. Other old records, such as *Kyongdojapji* published in the late 18th century and *Tongguksesigi* in the first half of the 19th century, wrote that sliced mung-bean jelly mixed with pork and laver and served with vinegared soy sauce is very refreshing and mouth-watering.

As is seen in the old records, mung-bean jelly has long been used in the dietary life of the Korean people as it tastes fine and has high nutritive value and medicinal effect.

Compiled from KCNA

be suspended and now plan to go on with it in the future, the spokesman said, adding such acts of military provocation may aggravate the peninsula situation and turn the north-south relationship back to the past when it was driven to a catastrophic level.

Criticizing the double dealing of the south Korean authorities who talk about "peace" and "dialogue" in the front and still engage in military provocations at the back against the fellow countrymen, he warned that the corresponding counteraction

of the DPRK army will be inevitable, given that the south Korean authorities intensify acts of military provocation against the DPRK together with the US.

He concluded that the authorities will have to behave with discretion, keeping in mind that their undisguised treachery to the DPRK at the crucial moment of whether to preserve the atmosphere for improvement of inter-Korean relations or not may put the overall bilateral ties at irretrievable risk.

