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LEAD

Talents and science dynamic of economic growth

The DPRK has set the development of a self-supporting economy as a strategic policy in socialist economic construction.

"The main force that propels a self-supporting economy is the talented personnel and science and technology," said Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un in his policy speech at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in April.

The DPRK has already built a solid groundwork of an independent economy.

On the basis of it, it has set a goal to develop the economy onto a new stage of growth and views talents and science and technology as the motive force.

It is based on the fact that they have the powerful strength to press ahead with economic construction in the present time.

Knowledge, the most important part of resources for economic growth, is increased and utilized effectively by talents. Whether to take the initiative in the increased production and technological upgrading or not totally hinges on how talents are trained and how much their creative abilities are enhanced. It is

the reality that talents play the key role in developing science and technology and promoting economic growth, which shows that the level of national power and economic development of each country are decided by the number of talents and their qualifications and abilities.

Talents are the hard core that makes it possible to successfully solve all problems arising in the building of a self-reliant economy.

That is why the DPRK government puts forward the establishment of an atmosphere of attaching importance to talents and science and technology as a national trait and ensures that all sectors and units find out talents and appoint them to the right positions so that they can lead production and technological development.

A variety of programmes are under way to train a large number of technical personnel.

All units run their sci-tech learning spaces in a planned manner to train their employees to become intelligent workers and the wind of learning while working is blowing across the country.

State investment in the science and technology sector also increases year after year.

The government concentrates technical staff and funds on major scientific and technological research projects that are strategic, pivotal, cost-effective and of great economic significance.

Scientific research institutions have set themselves ambitious goals of research and are now working hard towards them and institutional measures have been taken to boost production and technological development and enhance intellectual creativity in close cooperation with industrial establishments.

Many units are now working hard to make what they need with their own efforts and technology. They increase production and establish new production processes by giving precedence to science and technology to jump over the development stages others had covered and achieve rapid growth.

The more desperate the hostile forces are for economic sanctions against the DPRK, the greater efforts the Korean people will make to build up its self-supporting economy and make greater progress by dint of science and technology.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

IMPRESSION

Eternal country for the sake of people

Ri Jae Chol, vice-chairman of the Central Audit Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon), visited the socialist homeland leading a congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan to celebrate the 71st founding anniversary of the DPRK and told about his impressions of Pyongyang tour. He said:

Our country has been called a silk-embroidered land of three thousand ri since olden times and the Korean people have lived on their territory generation after generation creating a time-honoured history and culture.

But they were compelled to leave their beautiful native places and live in alien land as they lost their country to the Japanese imperialists and were subjected to the destiny of colonial slavery.

A ruined people, as the Korean saying goes, is more miserable than a dog in a house of grief. In the past, the Korean people were taken to an alien land with the sorrow of a ruined nation, suffering every kind of national insult and humiliation.

They could enjoy a worthwhile life as President Kim Il Sung won back their country and founded the DPRK.

The President, who provided

the Koreans with independent dignity and happy life, is the benevolent father of national rebirth and the founding father of our country.

The DPRK, which was founded by the President, could further exalt its honour as the land of the people as it held Chairman Kim Jong Il, another peerlessly great man, in high esteem.

The venerable images of the great leaders who devoted their all to national prosperity and people's well-being are deeply cherished in the hearts of all the fellow countrymen as the eternal Sun.

As they hold up Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un as the father of a large family, the history of love for the people goes on on this land.

Every part of the country is closely associated with the inspection tour of the Supreme Leader who develops our country into a socialist flower garden overflowing with people's happiness.

During my stay, I could hear the people's happy laughter throughout the country.

Indeed, our homeland is an eternal country of the people under the blessings of the Sun.

Compiled from KCNA



A poster of the 17th Pyongyang International Film Festival that bears a dove symbolic of peace against the background of the world map, as well as the top prize of the festival and its ideas. The festival opened on Friday in Pyongyang and is scheduled to last through next Friday. The eight-day festival features films, documentaries, short films and animations presented by the DPRK and many other countries. It will also include special screening, information exchange and film exchange.

STATEMENTS

FM official refers to upcoming DPRK-US negotiations

The department director for US Affairs of the DPRK Foreign Ministry on September 16 released the following statement:

It is fortunate that the US has repeatedly expressed its stand to tackle problems through dialogue and negotiations.

I hope that the working negotiations expected to be held in a few weeks would be a good meeting between the DPRK and the US.

The proposal that the US will put forward at the negotiations may improve bilateral relations or, on the contrary, foster enmity between them.

In other words, the DPRK-US dialogue suggests two options—crisis and chance.

In this sense, the upcoming working negotiations will be an occasion for

deciding the future road of the DPRK-US dialogue.

The DPRK's stand is clear and invariable.

The discussion of denuclearization may be possible only when threats and hurdles endangering our system security and obstructing our development are clearly removed beyond doubt.

Whether the DPRK-US negotiations will be a window of opportunity or an occasion for precipitating crisis is entirely up to the US.

In another development, the FM spokesman told KCNA on Tuesday that the expulsion of the Japanese ships from the DPRK's exclusive economic zone is a just and righteous exercise of its sovereign rights.

Compiled from KCNA

REMEMBRANCE

Anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk lives on in the hearts of people

September 22 is the 70th anniversary of the death of anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk.

Marking the day, many Korean people visit her statues in the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong and other places to pay homage to her.

Kim Jong Suk was an outstanding woman revolutionary who embarked on the road of revolution at an early age and devoted her all to the liberation of the country and happiness of the people.

Her enlistment in the Korean People's Revolutionary Army organized and led by President Kim Il Sung marked something of a turning point in her life. She fought the anti-Japanese revolutionary war with arms in her hands, displaying her peerless valour in the thick of numerous battles including the operations for advance into the homeland, large-unit circling operations, small-unit activities and operation to liberate the country.

During the battle of Fusong, she called on guerrilla fighters to fight a do-or-die battle and safeguard the headquarters

and shot down enemy troops with Mausers in both hands. In the battle of Hongqihe, she defended the safety of the headquarters with her life by luring and putting down enemy troops with her marksmanship worthy of a crack shot.

She slipped through strict cordons of Japanese forces and conducted energetic underground activities in many places along the shores of the Amnok and Tuman rivers and deep in the homeland, contributed greatly to laying the foundations of all-people resistance for national liberation.

During the days of the anti-Japanese war, she always thought of her revolutionary comrades, not herself, though she had to experience all kinds of hardships. She mended the uniforms of her comrades at the campfire during breaks between fierce battles and arduous marches and even carried a hot cauldron with boiling porridge on her head through a hail of bullets to provide comrades with a meal. Such images of her are vividly engraved upon the hearts of the people.



The statue of anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk at the foot of Osan Hill in Hoeryong, North Hamgyong Province, DPRK.

The President once recalled that it was Kim Jong Suk's view of life to choose death willingly and with no regret if it were for saving comrades at the cost of her life.

After the country's liberation, she put her heart and soul into

implementing the President's line of building the country and assisted him wholeheartedly.

And it should be particularly noted that she brought up Kim Jong Il as the successor of the Korean revolution, which constitutes the greatest exploit

she performed for the future of the country, revolution and nation.

Though her life was short, her feats live on in the hearts of the Korean people.

By Pang Un Ju PT

SONG

Popular melody reveals public reverence for the leader

Song *World of Humanity* is widely sung by the Korean people.

The song truthfully represents the warm humanity and noble moral obligation of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

It reflects the Korean people's fascination with his meticulous care and warm love and their mind that they cannot live even for a moment apart from his embrace.

All his thoughts are dedicated to the good of the people as he always shares joy and sorrow with them.

One January day he saw photos of people smiling happily.

He was so pleased to see the picture he saw them for a long while. We work hard overcoming difficulties cheerfully to relish such delight and to be carried away by the happiness that fills our hearts in a moment, he said. He called on officials to set themselves the goal of bringing earlier the day when the people would lead such an affluent, happy life every day and make redoubled efforts in

the spirit of devotedly serving them.

He grieves more than any others over the loss of his soldiers and the suffering of the people.

He saw to it that his name was engraved on the tombstone of service personnel, who sacrificed themselves for the defence of the country, as its owner. When Rason City in the northern tip of the country was heavily hit by an unexpected flood, he convened an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea to discuss the rehabilitation of the city and issued an order to the Korean People's Army to complete the recovery before winter.

He travelled to the dust-covered stricken area by land, air and sea and said he came there as he felt he would be relieved when he looked round the rehabilitation site. Not only Rason citizens but also all other people across the country were deeply moved to hear that.

One day in 2012, after the residents' moving to new houses in Changjon Street, he visited

the homes of a worker couple and lecturers living in Mansudong without a prior notice.

He congratulated them on the happy event of moving into new homes before their parents, sat down on the floor without ceremony and said that today he brought souvenirs and a match for them as it is a long-standing custom to visit those who moved into new homes with a match and presented them with a TV set, dish set and books for children.

On his visit to Kyongsang Kindergarten, he stretched out an arm towards a girl who was playing at being a doctor to ask her to examine him. During his field guidance to a factory, he dropped in at the barber's and promised to come again and have his hair cut next time. As he was so open-hearted, a boy ran to him after a football match to ask him to have a photo taken with him. The people of all ages and both sexes throughout the country including the parentless children at baby homes and orphanages throw themselves in his bosom calling him "father" without restraint.

VISIT

Japanese friendship delegation visits DPRK

The Yamanashi prefectural delegation for Japan-DPRK friendship led by Shingo Kanemaru visited the DPRK.

Ryu Myong Son, chairman of the DPRK-Japan Friendship Association, met with the leading members of the delegation.

The Japanese delegation visited the birthplace of President Kim Il Sung at Mangyongdae.

At the old home of the

President, the guests looked round historic relics, being told that the President grew up to be a revolutionary, nurturing his patriotic will in his early years.

The delegation also visited the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, Pyongyang University of Education and the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital.

Compiled from KCNA



A Japan-DPRK friendship delegation from Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan, on a visit to Pyongyang University of Education.

Song *World of Humanity* is very popular with locals as it fully reflects their strong

attraction for his personality.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

COAL

Industry gears up to feed more coal to other economic sectors

Innovation drive flares up

Coal-mining complexes throughout the country are making collective innovations by generalizing the experience gained in practice.

Effective hewing methods have been created and introduced to meet the conditions of different coalfields.

The Kujang Area Coal-mining Complex generalized the broad-spectrum caving method which was invented and introduced by the Ryongdung Coal Mine to affiliated coal mines. This method, which widens the breaking area of coal and raises the effect of deflation, helps shorten working time and reduce material consumption while raising the mining rate of coal.

The Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex increases coal output by introducing the multi-deflation hewing method, which proved effective at the Jenam Coal Mine, into all mines.

Good successes have been made in the efforts to increase the proportion of mining work done by machines.

The Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex organized a demonstration of multi-functional conveyor belt whose superiority was proved in practice and ensured that it was applied to dozens of coal-mining units so as to contribute to the mechanization of mining.

The Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex generalizes to all coal-mining units the experience of pit No.

3 of the Hoenan Youth Coal Mine, which increased the proportion of mechanization of mining work by making effective use of flexible shaft heading and multifunctional loading and transporting equipment.

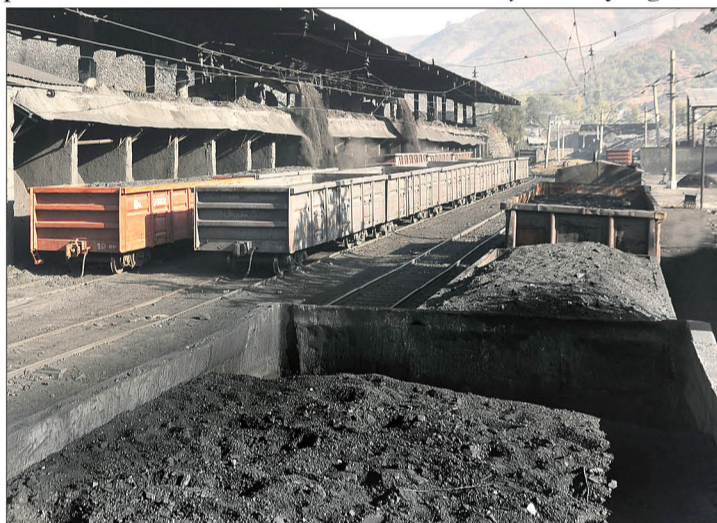
The Kaechon and Hamnam area coal-mining complexes also introduce effective machines and equipment into all coal mines.

An undertaking for mechanizing and diversifying transport is making a good headway.

The Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex pushes the construction of belt pits in the Sochang Youth Coal Mine and Tokchon Coal Mine to increase production in the future.

The Sochang Youth Coal Mine concentrated efforts on the tunnelling of an inclined shaft to link breakage pit with belt pit while pushing ahead with the work of perpetuating the belt pit, thus exceeding the 70-percent level of the total workload. The Tokchon Coal Mine carried out well over a hundred metres of heading excavation in a little over a month. The complex makes sure that the Tokchon Coal-mining Machine Factory concentrates efforts on the making of various parts so that it can launch into equipment installation soon after the completion of the belt pit construction.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



PHOTOS BY RI MYONG GUK / PICTORIAL KOREA

Wagons loaded with coal leaves the Inpho Youth Coal Mine for a thermal power station.

Mines concentrate on developing new coalfields

Coal mines across the country concentrate efforts on developing new coalfields.

The February 8 Jiktong and Chonsong youth coal mines of

the Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex set it as one of their priority tasks for this year to develop new coalfields with an annual capacity of

hundreds of thousands of tons and are making innovations in tunnelling.

After tunnelling hundreds of metres of two inclined shafts, the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine got down to extension and heading excavation.

Heading workers in charge of extension excavation are directing primary efforts to removing muck. Those in charge of heading excavation are actively applying advanced working methods conducive to increasing tunnelling speed.

Several heading units of the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine are tunnelling in different directions in a pit in a three-dimensional way to create new coalfields.

Coal miners finished tunnelling for the building of a



The general control room of the Inpho Youth Coal Mine of the Pukchang Area Coal-mining Complex.

Key to increased production

The Kaechon Coal Mine under the Kaechon Area Coal-mining Complex has carried out its increased production plan every year in the period of implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development.

“The secret of success,” said Kim Kwang Chon, manager of the coal mine, “is the energetic competition for increased production between pits.”

Unlike other coal mines, it has set it as an important standard of evaluation in the competition to reduce the production cost without leaning towards production results alone.

“Coal is deposited relatively deeper in our coal mine than other coal mines, meaning we need much more materials and spare parts. So we saw it as a crucial factor in increased coal production to reduce the amount of them,” said Pak Chol Ryong, chief engineer of the coal mine.

At the monthly review of the competition the mine gives more points to the units which increased production by reducing the consumption of materials per ton of coal and metre of tunnelling including props, explosives, drilling bit and drill.

“In the past, we were used to being supplied with materials or parts of machines from the coal mine. But as the competition began, we’ve returned our attention to advanced technology and rational working methods,” said Kim Song Chol, manager of the Ryudong Pit.

Dozens of technical innovation plans have been introduced into production in the coal mine in recent years.

It introduced pneumatic loader, power saw for cutting props based on flexible shaft and others to raise the proportion of mechanization in pit work and employed an efficient blasting method and extended the lifetime of hard alloy to speed up tunnelling. Among them, the technology of lengthening the lifetime of drilling bit 2.5 times more than before by newly applying a hard alloy heat treatment process was highly

appreciated at the national sci-tech festival.

“We have doubled the life of coal pit by reducing dependence on wood props and raising the utilization of iron ones. We have also introduced a prop recovery plant based on two-stage pulley to increase the rate of prop recovery to over 60 percent. As a result, we have saved lots of props. In the past we used 12 cubic metres of props to produce 1 000 tons of coal, but now we ensure full production by using only seven cubic metres,” said Ri Yong Sik, a workshop manager.

The repairs and maintenance workshop plays an important role in supporting the competition.

According to workshop manager Ri Jong Gyun, a technology was introduced into the regeneration process of bearings of coal wagons to keep pit from dampness and reduce mechanical breakdown, with the result that the amount of them used in a month has been reduced from several hundred to dozens. Pumps, compressors and parts of electric cars and coal wagons are heat-treated in the medium frequency induction furnace to lengthen their lifetime several times more than before, he said.

An efficient cylindrical grading machine and 100-ton weighbridge have been installed to improve the quality of coal and ensure correct measuring, said Pak Kum Sil, an employee in charge of measurement.

Saving means increased production. The coal mine produces tens of thousands of tons of more coal than four years before with the production cost dropping by 30 percent. The economy of materials and component parts means much increased spending on improved working conditions and livelihood of coal miners.

Now coal miners say that they all take an active part in the increased production drive to reduce production costs.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

water pit and pumping station.

The Kangdong Coal Mine directs primary efforts to prospecting so as to find out coalfields with rich deposits and favourable working conditions.

It ensures that heading excavation and preliminary tunnelling are pushed on the basis of scientific prospecting data to secure new coalfields.

The Hoenan Youth Coal Mine under the Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex generalized drill distributing and blasting methods of advanced units, while the Songnam Youth Coal Mine secured a number of coal pits by rehabilitating submerged pits.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

FACTORY

Knitwear producer focuses on upgrading capacity

The Pyongyang Children's Knitwear Factory has recently refurbished its production system based on its own efforts and technology.

In the past, it only produced ordered goods with raw materials given.

But it set an ambitious goal to convert its small-scale production system into a large-scale garment production one and briskly conducted a technical innovation drive, thus producing a variety of knitwear at present.

Such a success could be achieved as the factory put main stress on the training of skilled workers.

The factory established a large database involving advanced technology related to the knitting industry at its sci-tech learning space so that employees could get access to modern technical information, and ensures that each workshop and workteam study advanced technology every week on a regular basis.

As a result, all employees raised their technical qualifications a level higher on average and, in the course of this, they presented a lot of technical innovation plans conducive to boosting productivity.

"There is no insoluble problems when we solve all the problems arising in the

production on the basis of experience and science and technology," said Ri Yun Song, a repairman of the processing workshop.

The factory actively introduced various technical findings into production and applied various jigs to the finishing process, thereby improving the quality of goods and markedly raising productivity.

It also remodeled an electric boiler into a coal-fired one, realized wet dyeing by using a cold atmospheric dyeing machine in the dyeing process of knitwear, which had been regarded impossible in the past, and newly installed a latch needle plain fabric circular knitting machine at the weaving process to set up a knitwear production line for long underwear.

Now the factory's productivity increased 20 percent more than last year, and it overfulfills its production plan for each month and quarter.

"Our factory will make a tangible contribution to the improvement of the people's livelihood by further pressing on with the upgrading of equipment in the near future and mass-producing garments," said Kim Yong Su, chief engineer of the factory.

By Kim Il Jin PT

BREEDING

Original ideas help terrapin farm thrive



AN YONG CHOL / KOREA TODAY

Terrapins are bred both in outdoor ponds and greenhouses at the Nampho Terrapin Farm.

The specialties restaurant in the port city of Nampho is noted for terrapin dishes.

Terrapins served there are purchased from the Nampho Terrapin Farm in Waudo District, Nampho.

"Our farm is located in a place favourable for terrapin farming," said Kim Kyong Chol, manager of the farm. "It has rich water resources as it is near the Jindo Stream linked with the famous Sindok spring water and suits the character of terrapin that loves quiet places as it is far from the city."

It has five indoor breeding blocks, each with an area of 1 000 square metres, outdoor ponds, a spawning ground and cage net fish breeding ground.

Over 20 000 terrapins are

growing in two of the indoor breeding blocks and the outdoor ponds.

It is noticeable that unlike those in other terrapin farms there are solar-heated vinyl sheet greenhouses.

"To ensure the right temperature is the most important thing in terrapin farming and we mainly rely on solar energy to solve the

problem," said breeder Ri Kyong Mi.

According to her, it is the common practice of terrapin farming to build breeding grounds inside the buildings and breed them in the dark.

However, the farm decided to build them in greenhouses in consideration of terrapin's physiological liking for basking in the sunshine.

As they had enough sunshine in the natural conditions, terrapins hardly had illnesses. And the sunshine was effectively used in winter for maintaining indoor temperature without using electricity while saving much coal.

The farm has a rather short history, but its successful terrapin farming made it a model unit and it hosted a national exhibition for officials in the fish farming sector last year.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

SHOW

Exhibition highlights growing trend to functionalism

Sports training equipment has become ever more functional these days.

The trend was evidenced by the Pyongyang municipal exhibition of achievements in sports science and technology, which was held in late July.

Most attractive at the exhibition were the mobile body balancing training equipment, chain shaft, apparatus for developing physical strength of the upper part of the body and multipurpose balance weight training apparatus.

The mobile body balancing training equipment is simple in structure and light, so it can be used in any place. It helps athletes train body balancing and improve body stretching and flexibility.

The apparatus for developing physical strength of the upper part of the body is very effective for artistic gymnasts as it helps develop muscles in all parts of the body harmoniously.

The multipurpose balance weight training apparatus also helps weightlifters develop muscles of waist, legs and hands.

Other draws included ice hockey driving and shooting slide, apparatus for training figure skating turns in simulated conditions, curving tilt angle measuring device for short track speed skating, and short track speed skating angle-change curving slope pedal.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



With Unhasu-brand cosmetics certified by the Eurasian Economic Union enjoying growing popularity, the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory endeavours to develop new products based on locally-available raw materials. This year, it has brought out dozens of kinds of curative, foundational, impersonative and cleansing cosmetics by combining traditional and scientific methods. Such products as age-retarding lotion, mosquito-repellent cream and hand cream are sought-after as they are natural, less stimulative, safe and truly effective.

EDUCATION

Improvements made in education system

Good successes are made in the education sector amid the flames of a revolution in education for training more and better scientific and technical talents needed for a powerful socialist country building.

Marked successes are made in improving the education system.

The system is being upgraded to train enough talents for different sectors and regions.

Sectoral and regional universities were set up several years ago, and this year Pyongyang University of Railways was renamed Pyongyang University of Transport and Samjiyon Agricultural College (evening college) and Pyongyang College of Medical Technology were promoted to Samjiyon Technical College and Pyongyang Municipal Technical College of Medicine.

Information security, nano-materials engineering, robotics and 82 other courses were newly created at 37 universities and colleges across the country, including those for medical equipment at Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering and Hamhung Pharmacological College, and they started implementing

curricula last April.

In the general education sector, 11 information technology senior middle schools were newly established this year and preparations are underway in every city and county to run a technical senior middle school.

The online education system is also making progress as the one for all-people study.

Kim Chaek University of Technology has made a big stride in putting online education on a scientific and practical footing by further developing the intelligent teaching management system and introducing an online practice management program and others. Amid a relentless quest for methods conducive to improving online education at universities and colleges, the online education system program based on image recognition and the tablet PC-aided study support program were introduced.

Practice grounds were built at over 20 units, especially the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex and Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, to ensure field practice of major and basic subjects.

As a result, the number of

students enrolled on online courses was increased by thousands as compared to last year.

A decisive change should be brought about in the work for completing the education system in order to improve education in a Korean way and develop it onto a new higher stage, said Pak Sun Dok, vice-chairwoman of the Education Commission, adding the education system will be improved on a constant basis in the future.

According to her, the secondary general education system will be improved and completed so that students can fully possess secondary general knowledge and build up their practical ability for application and the higher education system will be upgraded to train many competent academic- and practice-oriented personnel.

The colleges involved in the study-while-you-work system will also be enlarged with their educational level being raised, and the online education system of major universities will be further developed to contribute to making all people well versed in science and technology, she said.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

VIRTUE

Girl adopts child to win hearts of many

There is no such word as "girl mother" in the dictionary because "girl" can hardly collocate with "mother".

However, Song Yun Hui, doctor at the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Hospital, is called thus with pure affection for her selfless devotion by many locals.

"At first, I felt awkward

when others addressed my daughter as 'girl mother' and worried that she might not get married," said Song's mother. "But now it sounds ordinary and familiar."

Yun Hui has been fostering a parentless child for years.

When she came home with the one-year-old baby in her arms years ago, she wondered

whether the suckling baby would be properly fed and looked after. Her friends dissuaded her, saying a girl like her could not bring up a child. And her parents tried to persuade her to send it to a baby home, arguing no one would like to marry a girl with a child.

But Yun Hui could not abandon the baby creeping into her bosom.

She named him Song Kil Bok and raised him with great care.

She would attend to him all night when he was ill and often take him to museums and the zoo to broaden his horizons when he went to school.

It was not easy for her to look after him after a busy day at hospital, but in the course of it she became a strong mother who takes great pains for the happiness of her child.

As her sincerity is engraved on the heart of Kil Bok as that of his biological mother, he follows her unreservedly calling her "mother".

Her villagers and hospital



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Song Yun Hui (right) strolls with her adopted son.

PADUK

Couple promote traditional board game



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Ri Yong Sa (centre) and his family members have a discussion on paduk (go) moves.

Ri Yong Sa and his wife Kim To Suk living in neighbourhood unit No. 44 of Namjung-dong, Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province, are paduk (go) enthusiasts.

When Ri retired as head of the technical office of the Sonchon County People's Committee five years ago, his 36-year-old second son Ri Song Jae, paduk head coach of the North Phyongan provincial Taekwon-Do team, advised him to play paduk in his leisure hours.

So, he and his wife started to learn the sport from their son when they were at leisure.

His wife, aged 65, got the knack of the game without difficulty as she had learnt it a little from her father, who liked to play the game, when she was young.

Although they began to learn how to play the game relatively late, they honed their skills one by one without being aware of the passage of time.

They built up their capacity with strenuous efforts and have participated in the national amateur paduk competition since last year.

Kim To Suk won the first-division women's singles for those above 60 for the second time this year after last year.

What is more surprising is that the couple also won the mixed doubles by defeating

at the final match the rivals from Jagang Province who had been known as odds-on favourite.

At the finals with those from Jagang Province who reacted unyieldingly from the start, they correctly grasped the weak points of the opponents and launched an assault as they remained composed to the last, thereby turning the tables in favour of them at one go.

The couple left deep impression on the jury and amateurs as they played by making singular moves and displaying strong perseverance in one mind.

"Paduk is an intelligent game. Since I started to play the game, it has improved my eyesight to remove my glasses, as well as my hearing ability and memory. And I'm very happy as I came first in the competition, too," said Ri Yong Sa.

Ri's wife said that the game, which revives cerebral nerves, arouses more interest and is absorbing as she plays the game, adding she would show better skills next year.

The couple have been teaching many children and schoolchildren, who want to learn paduk, the techniques they have grasped for several years.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

colleagues lavish praise on her laudable deed, saying in unison that it is the manifestation of her tender heart which regards other's pain as her own.

She is often called as "mother" by her patients at the hospital.

She offers her own blood and flesh for the patients and prepares nourishing foods for their recovery.

"She is still young, but her noble humanity and boundless devotion provide a positive role model for us, medical workers," said Song Yong

Thae, head of a department at the hospital.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un met her and highly praised her deed as she took part in the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue in 2015.

The winner of Kim Jong Il Youth Honour Prize, the top honour for the Korean youth, has been elected as a deputy to the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Assembly for the second term.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

GOOD JOB

Samaritans take good care of war veterans

Kim Kyong Ae, a war veteran and disabled soldier, and her husband live in neighbourhood unit No. 10 of Ryusong-dong in Central District, Pyongyang.

The nearly 90-year-olds have dozens of "children" as well as their three children.

Among them is Kim Kwang II, an official at the Ministry of External Economic Relations, who has taken care of them for over 30 years.

"She is mother of my friend in the middle school days. Since I came to know that she is a disabled soldier, who was wounded on a combat mission during the Fatherland Liberation War, I wanted to respect and look after her as my mother," he said.

He pays particular attention to improving her health like her son and often visits her home with necessities.

"During my university years I was told about her wartime exploits by a classmate. I was so impressed by her noble mentality that I decided to become her 'son'," said Kim Song Nyon who works at the Pyongyang Municipal Foreign Trade Administration. Since then, he has taken care of her life and often visits her to see if she is ill with tonics and appetizing foods.

He is usually accompanied by his wife and the war veteran feels the affection of her own children.

Ho Hong Ryon who works at an affiliate of the Moran trade

bureau and her son also formed a connection with her after meeting her who came out for a stroll on a three-wheeler a few years ago.

Since then, Ho has often visited her with many souvenirs, tonics and daily necessities together with her son, a primary school pupil.

"Our happy life today is unthinkable apart from the spirit of national defence of the war veterans who dedicated their life and youth to the country during the Fatherland Liberation War. It is too natural that young people highly respect and look after them and it is also good for the education of my son, I think," said Ho.

Her "other children" also include employees of the Pyongyang Informatics

Centre, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Pothonggang Hotel and students of the Electrical Engineering Faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology, and the number increases with the passage of time.

"All DPRK citizens, including me, fought against the enemy at the cost of their lives to defend the country and people, the Workers' Party of Korea and leader during the war. As many young people highly value our lives and take care of us with all sincerity, I am proud to be a war veteran and I think that ours is really a good society overflowing with noble morality and affection," said the 88-year-old war veteran.

By Pang Un Ju PT



War veteran Kim Kyong Ae (centre foreground) celebrates her birthday with her "children".

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

SCHOOL

Patriotism grows with tree

"Our school has several hectares of forest including education forest, tree nursery and Chongnyon (youth) forest cultivated by students and teachers. Students are cultivating love for their own school, native villages and nature by planting and growing trees every year,"

said Pak Yong Chol, a teacher at Chollima Technical Senior Middle School in Chollima District, Nampho City.

Chollima District is well known to the country as it has the Chollima Steel Complex where the great Chollima movement began.



Students tend saplings of economic value at Chollima Technical Senior Middle School in Nampho, the DPRK.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

In the middle of the last century the workers of the then Kangson Steel Works performed a miracle of producing 120 000 tons of rolled steel with the 60 000 ton-capacity blooming mill in the spirit of Chollima, a legendary horse running hundreds of kilometres a day, by demonstrating the mettle of heroic Korea which won victory in the Fatherland Liberation War. Their heroic feat was a spark which kindled the flames of the Chollima movement across the country.

The proud history and tradition established by the old generations give the students of the school a great pride in their native place and encourage them to love everything of the school and plant more trees there.

Thanks to their careful cultivation, tens of thousands of trees in well over a hundred species including pine, thuja, *Evodia daniellii* and pipal grow in the forest section of the school.

The school assigned the education forest to first-year students, tree nursery to the sophomores and youth forest to students in the final year.

PROFILE

Student wins top prize at cooking festival

Ro Jong Mi (pictured), a fourth-year student at the public catering department of Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce, won the top prize in the category of university students at the 24th cooking festival.

An annual event held in April in celebration of the Day of the Sun (April 15), the festival is the biggest one in the cooking sector drawing cooks from across the country.

In the festival Jong Mi prepared an appetizing and decent-looking fried pork dish as the compulsory food while making it earlier than other competitors.

Jury members commented that her food processing technique is as refined and nimble as that of professional cooks, saying temperature control is very important in cooking fried dishes and she is sensitive to temperature.

An official of the festival organizing committee said that fried dishes require a practised hand in processing though they seem to be easy to cook. So they designated them as the compulsory food as they demand cooks give full play to their basic knowledge and processing techniques, he noted.

A fried dish is generally made by cutting a food material into pieces and then seasoned with spices before frying by coating them with wheat flour and egg.

Jon Hyong Jin, lecturer at Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce, said that the method of slicing, spice making and the time of preserving in spices change according to the material used in cooking fried dishes. And the rapid covering of the material with wheat flour and egg demands a deep understanding and skill, he noted.

Jong Mi, the only daughter of a family, used to prepare meals in place of her busy parents and in the course of this



she was interested in cooking. She deepened her study and acquired cooking techniques as she studied gastrology at the university.

That is why she would always cut a brilliant figure both in theory and practice among fellow students and present original foods in the cooking group run by the university to the surprise of all lecturers and students.

She made steady preparations for the festival as she was to compete on behalf of the university.

She dedicated much time to acquiring the threpsological features and processing techniques of pork and building up her practical capacity.

"Through practice, I came to know that it is good to cut fibres in order to properly spice pork and that it is better to press the juice from spices and use it so as to prepare seasonings. I learnt the knack of adjusting heat temperature," said Jong Mi.

She decorated pork pieces with red pepper and green spring onion leaves to represent a lily and fried them till they became a beautiful brown to win the sweeping popularity at the festival.

"At the festival I keenly realized once again that cooking is science and art," said Jong Mi. "I will make redoubling efforts to become a good cook."

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Students are cultivating trees competitively by grades and classes.

Some of them come to school to water trees on Sundays and holidays, some others prepare vinyl sheet and humus with the help of their parents to grow tree saplings healthily. And still others bring good species of trees from other places during vacation when they go camping or visit their relatives to plant at the school.

"More care is needed to grow tree seedlings in the nursery. But students are very eager. They have prepared diaries for each group and made it their daily routine to tend tree saplings in the morning and

evening. This summer drought was severe, but not a single tree seedling was affected by it thanks to the efforts of our students," said Mun Jong Myong, a teacher in charge of a class.

The nursery produced more trees including *Evodia daniellii*, chestnut, ginkgo and Changsong larch from 2017 to turn youth forest into a forest of economic value. Thousands of those tree saplings were transplanted to youth forest.

Healthy trees with name tags of students in charge look as if they tell the loving care delivered by the students.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

COMMENT

The other side of increasing military expenditure

Japan's military spending is increasing at a fast rate.

It plans to disburse over \$245 billion for military spending in a few years.

Military expenditure was openly appropriated in Japan in 1958 and has been announced as a technical measure to back up the "defence programme" on the same day with it since 2004. It was approved for the 13th time in December last year.

Last year the Abe authorities expanded the framework of military budget to 1.3 percent of GDP on the pretext of the US demand for increased military expenditure, opaque Chinese military expansion and standard of NATO's defence budget.

With military spending crossing over the one-percent-of-GDP threshold of its "pacifist constitution", Japan has been emboldened in its pursuit of military revival.

Such funds will be directed mostly to the modernization of military hardware of the Self-Defence Forces including the possession of aircraft carrier and purchase of new-type fighter jets.

The Japanese SDF has already built its capacity enough to fight a war.

The Maritime SDF, for example, is larger in size than the naval forces of France and the UK put together.

It has already been decided to introduce 42 F-35 fighters and 105 others are planned to be added in future.

Why, then, is Japan hell-bent on arms buildup?

The Japanese authorities explain that the security situation has changed, pointing the finger at China, Russia and other neighbouring countries. And they argue that their arms beef-up assumes only defensive character to ensure national security and global peace.

There is no one in the world that poses threat to Japan. And it has already been branded as a war criminal state with the end of WWII and divested of the qualifications to talk about global peace.

It is a country devoid of morality which has not yet made an apology for its past sins, to say nothing of reparations.

Now it implants wrong historical view in the minds of young generations while playing down and embellishing its crime-ridden past. It describes its aggressive wars against Asian nations as

"those to liberate them" from big powers and war criminals as "heroes" and "patriots" and incites revenge, saying it lost the war because it was weak.

It also makes full legal preparations for overseas reinvansion. The "pacifist constitution" has already been reduced to an empty sheet of paper and the scope of the SDF's military operations expanded to the whole world going far beyond national defence.

As seen above, Japan has systematically built legal and institutional framework bit by bit to fight war, hoodwinking the world and local public.

It, however, knows well that it is beyond its power to vie with such military powers as China and Russia. Therefore, it beefs up the SDF qualitatively and quantitatively by radically increasing military expenditure.

Japan's headlong rush towards a military power reminds everyone of militaristic Japan which inflicted untold misfortune and sufferings on the Asian and world peoples to realize the wild dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere".

By Choe Yong Nam PT

VIEW

Israel aggravates Lebanese situation

The situation of Lebanon is deteriorating sharply with the intrusion of two drones of the Israeli army into the Lebanese airspace last month as a momentum.

According to information released by the Lebanese side at the time, one of the drones crashed in the sky above the southern suburb of Beirut and another one was exploded, destroying the media centre of Hezbollah, a Lebanese organization of patriotic forces.

In retaliation, Hezbollah attacked an Israeli military vehicle at a small city in the northern part of Israel near the Lebanese border, thereby killing or injuring Israeli soldiers in it.

The Israeli army immediately rained more than 100 shells upon a Hezbollah unit and even mobilized assault helicopters. The Israeli prime minister announced that they are ready to mount another attack on Hezbollah.

In connection with the ever worsening situation, the Lebanese prime minister called on the international community to intervene in the case.

The Israeli military planes invade the territorial airspace of Lebanon every day. According to a report submitted to the UN Security Council by the UN secretary general in March this year, the Israeli warplanes violated the Lebanese airspace 96.5 times on a monthly average

between November 2018 and February this year.

The recent incident is giving rise serious concern among experts as it happened at a time when US policy hostile towards Iran reached a new height.

Israel aims to weaken Lebanon's Hezbollah, which is deemed to be supported by Iran, and make it shunned by political circles of Lebanon.

A new government was formed in Lebanon early this year.

Members of Hezbollah are involved in the government, in which some of them were appointed to such important ministries as the Ministry of Public Health.

If the situation goes from bad to worse, the new government will encounter difficulties in achieving political unity, which will remarkably decline the influence of Hezbollah. Moreover, it may make a breach in the flank of Iran. Experts are of the opinion that the US and Israel try hard to dub Hezbollah of Lebanon a wrecker of peace and stability so as to realize their purposes.

Extending support to Lebanon which is fighting against Israel's acts of aggression, the League of Arab States, Russia and other countries express concern over the situation.

By Om Ryong PT

POLLUTION

Plastic waste to rebound on humans

Today, plastic waste causes environmental pollution and destroys ecosystems, thereby posing a great menace to the existence and development of human beings.

Marine pollution by plastic waste, in particular, is a global challenge that necessitates urgent solution.

According to information available, some ten million tons of plastic waste flow into the sea through various courses every year around the world.

For instance, about 80 000 tons of plastic waste are floating in the "Pacific great waste zone" between California and Hawaii of the US, turning it into a gigantic dump in the sea.

Pollution by minute plastic particles is also a serious issue.

According to research data, about 1.5 million tons of minute plastic particles annually flow into the ocean.

Recently, a foreign research team warned that if minute plastic particles causing

serious marine pollution continue to be produced, their content per cubic metre of seawater in the North Pacific will be doubled by 2030 and quadrupled by 2060.

It is just a common example showing the seriousness of marine pollution by plastic waste in the world, and humans still do not know exactly how much plastic waste floats in the sea at the moment.

The problem is that the plastic waste provides habitats for poisonous bacteria and not only whales but also many sea creatures like lobster, shellfish and fish mistake plastic particles for food and eat them.

Singaporean researchers analysed 275 minute plastic particles collected from a seaside and found over 400 species of bacteria on them. Some of them were confirmed to decolorize corals and do harm to humans.

In mid-March this year, an enfeebled whale died soon after it was pushed out onto the seashore on Mindanao Island

of the Philippines. When the whale was dissected, about 40 kilograms of plastic waste including a rice sack was found in its stomach.

Meanwhile, a European research group discovered minute plastic particles near the Pyrenees in France.

Most of the minute plastic particles were found in the sea so far and their effect on the ocean ecosystem was mostly feared as hazardous substances can easily stick to them.

However, the research team collected and analysed minute dust in the air near the Pyrenees for five months and found 365 plastic particles per square metre of filter on daily average.

Though the poisonous character of minute plastic particles was not yet completely verified, researchers warned that it would be dangerous if they accumulate in the environment and any kind of creature.

By Song Jong Ho PT

FOOD CRISIS

Extreme weather exacerbates food crisis

Natural disasters have frequently occurred worldwide due to abnormal weather, giving rise to serious concern of the international community.

According to information available, the average temperature last year raised by nearly 1°C as compared to the period before the industrial revolution.

Last July, the World Meteorological Organization said that the world's temperature raised due to the hot wave which hit Europe, India and elsewhere in June this year to be recorded as the hottest June in the history of weather observation.

It warned that hotter waves would be generated in succession as global warming brings temperature rise worldwide.

Abnormal weather causes severe drought and land devastation in different parts of the world. It also brings unusual torrential rain, flood and typhoon to have negative effects on human life.

What is more serious is that it is threatening human existence by

triggering a food crisis.

The UN inter-governmental committee on climate change issued a report typifying the effect of global warming on land.

According to the report, the rise in frequency, intensity and period of such abnormal weather as heat wave in most part of the world is highly attributable to the effect of global warming.

Due to ever-increasing effect of abnormal weather, more and more land is being devastated and the harvest of such cereals as maize and wheat decreases.

The report said that the price of cereals would see a 23-percent rise to the maximum in 2050, which would increase the shortage of foods and the danger of famine.

According to recent data published by the World Food Programme, nearly 3.5 million Zimbabweans suffer from severe food scarcity.

This year, some 49 000 Somalis left their homes due to food shortage.

By Min Chol PT

ANNIVERSARY

IMGC celebrates 20th anniversary with colourful events

Event reviews IMGC's 20-year course

A meeting took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on September 17 to commemorate the 20th founding anniversary of the International Martial Art Games Committee.

It was attended by Vice-Premier Im Chol Ung, Ri Yong Son, president of the IMGC and president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, members of the Executive Board Meeting and members of the IMGC and delegates of martial arts from different countries.

Im Chol Ung in his congratulatory speech congratulated martial artists on the 20th IMGC founding anniversary on behalf of the DPRK government, saying that

since its foundation the IMGC has written a proud chapter in the history of the world's martial arts for the building of a new peaceful world under the ideal of friendship, cooperation and development.

The DPRK government will extend full support and encouragement to the efforts of the IMGC, he said, expressing the belief that the event would be an important occasion for bolstering up relations of friendship and cooperation between martial artists of different countries and developing the committee.

President Ri Yong Son said that the IMGC has advanced along the road of its development

according to its mission as an international organization dealing with martial arts since it declared the founding to the world 20 years back and made remarkable achievements in the course of it.

Referring to the tasks and ways to develop the committee into the powerful international organization that controls martial arts on the basis of the achievements and experience, he hoped that all members of the committee would fulfil their mission and duty they assume on behalf of the times in building a just and peaceful world as martial artists who value justice at any time and in any place.

He was followed by Vice-President Leong Wai Meng, Rajendran Balan, president of the Indian National Martial Art Games Federation, and Jonathan Makiling, president of the International Jendo Federation. The speakers expressed their resolve to work harder to further develop the committee into an organization spearheading the world martial arts movement.

At the meeting certifications were conferred on representatives of Greece and the UK, which newly joined the IMGC as national martial art organizations.



A meeting is held at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the International Martial Art Games Committee.

Martial arts demonstration takes place

A martial arts demonstration took place at the Taekwon-Do Palace on September 18 to mark the 20th founding anniversary of the IMGC.

It was given by the demonstration groups of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, the Vietnamese traditional martial art and the Finnish Jiu-Jitsu Confederation.

Among the spectators were Ri Yong Son, president of the IMGC and president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, members of the Executive Board Meeting of the IMGC, members of the IMGC, foreign martial arts delegates, resident diplomatic envoys and representatives of international organizations and their staff members and youth and students in Pyongyang.

The performers showed well the individuality of national martial arts of the relevant countries through diverse techniques that combined attack and defence and high physical capabilities.

That day, a reception was given in honour of the participants in the celebrations of the IMGC's 20th founding anniversary.

A friendly get-together took place at the Pyongyang golf driving range on September 19.



A scene from the martial arts demonstration given at the Taekwon-Do Palace in Pyongyang on Wednesday.

Founding president honoured

Wreaths were laid at the grave of Choi Hong Hui, former president of the International Martial Art Games Committee on September 18.

Attending the wreath-laying ceremony were participants in the celebrations of the IMGC's

20th anniversary, officials concerned and bereaved family members.

Wreaths and bouquets were laid at the grave in the name of the IMGC, the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, the Committee for Aiding Overseas

Compatriots of Korea and the Overseas Koreans' Affairs Administration.

The participants paid a silent tribute to the memory of Choi Hong Hui.

By Jong Tang Song PT



Floral tributes are paid to Choi Hong Hui, the founding president of the IMGC, in an event on Wednesday.



A ceremony to light the flame of the 8th International Martial Arts Games takes place in the Sports Village on Chongchun Street, Pyongyang.



International Martial Art Games Committee

The International Martial Art Games Committee is a non-governmental and non-profit international martial art organization which contributes to the education, scientific research and technical development of martial arts through international and regional martial art events. Its official abbreviation is IMGC.

At the initiative of Choi Hong Hui, founding president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, IMGC was founded in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on September 2 1999. Twenty three representatives from 19 countries, especially the DPRK, Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Ireland, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Paraguay, Russia, Scotland, Spain, held its inaugural meeting, in which the Declaration and Statutes of IMGC were adopted and Choi Hong Hui was elected its president.

IMGC provides all martial arts organizations over the world with an opportunity to demonstrate their martial art skills and values through

international and regional martial arts games and endeavours to preserve and develop martial art sports as a common asset of humanity along with social progress, irrespective of political view, religion, sex, nationality and martial art styles.

After its foundation, IMGC has continuously expanded its membership and biennially organized the international martial arts games for seven times since 2004 in different parts of the world. The main ideal of martial art is friendship, solidarity and cooperation. IMGC celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2009.

"Martial arts aim to cultivate moral culture to win oneself, rather than beating the opponent, and promote physical fitness to stop any fight with righteous strength. ... It is a great pleasure to organize together with you, the martial artists, the International Martial Art Games Committee for the benefit of not only the people in this era but future generations," said Choi Hong Hui at the inaugural meeting.

