Seventh WPK Central Committee Met for Sixth Plenum

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea took place at the office building of the Central Committee of the WPK on August 19, 2020.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers’ Party of Korea, guided the plenary meeting. The plenum was attended by members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee and members of the Party Central Auditing Commission. Officials of departments of the Party Central Committee were present as observers. Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the Party Central
Committee, Chairman Kim Jong Un presided over the plenum and made a historic speech.

In the speech he analysed the subjective and objective environments this year in which the country faced unexpected and unavoidable challenges in different aspects and the situation in the region surrounding the Korean peninsula, and assessed the achievements and mistakes that have been made in the work of the Party and the state for the past four years since the historic Seventh Party Congress.

The Supreme Leader, based on data, made a detailed report on the goals achieved by different economic sectors in this year, the final year in attaining the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic development set forth at the Seventh Party Congress, in particular, and analysed the results.

He said that the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee suggested convening the Eighth Congress of the WPK in order to conduct a comprehensive, three-dimensional and anatomical analysis and review of the deviations and shortcomings that were revealed in the work for implementing the decisions of the Seventh Congress of the Party and to discuss and decide on the strategic tasks facing the Party and the government in the new stage of struggle in the crucial period of the Korean revolution.

He referred to the need to convene the Party congress, the supreme guidance organ of the Party, on a regular basis in order to confirm the line and strategic and tactical measures for steering the development of the times and the revolution, and adjust and reinforce the Party leadership body for guaranteeing their execution, and indicated the important guidelines for the running of the congress.

He said that the Eighth Congress would review this year’s work and the work of the Party Central Committee in the period under review and set forth a new five-year plan for national economic development including the orientation of work for next year.

Noting that the Eighth Congress should become a congress of struggle, a working congress and a congress making a comprehensive review of Party work, he specified the agenda items to be discussed at the congress and the issues arising in the preparations for it.

He called on all the participants to greet the Eighth Congress with high political zeal and shining feats of labour by simultaneously pushing the development and strengthening of the internal potentials and the motive force for development as required by the frontal offensive to achieve a breakthrough and the major tasks set forth at Party Political Bureau meetings held this year.

The Supreme Leader read out a draft decision of the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK on convening the Eighth Party Congress.

The plenum decided to convene the Eighth Congress of the WPK in January 2021.
The Fourth Meeting of the Executive Policy Council of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK was held at the office building of the Party Central Committee on August 5.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting.

The meeting was attended by vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee and also members of its Executive Policy Council, and officials of major departments of the WPK Central Committee.

It examined and deliberated over the issue of organizing a new department in the Party Central Committee and studied and discussed the ways to radically improve the personnel affairs system of the Party.

It also appraised the work of leading officials of major offices of the government and agreed on relevant measures.

The meeting studied a report on the anti-epidemic work and situation in the city of Kaesong that has completely been sealed off under the top-grade national emergency system, discussed and decided on the Party Central Committee’s special provision of food and financial aid for stabilizing the living of the citizens and instructed the relevant sector to take urgent measures to this end.

In addition, the Executive Policy Council discussed the practical matters relating to the internal work of the Party and approved their execution.

As he stated his conclusions on the matters discussed at the meeting, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un called upon the members of the council to decisively improve the work of the sectors in their charge by displaying a high sense of responsibility and devotion, and organize and do every work in a revolutionary manner true to the ideas and as required by the policies of the Party Central Committee by maintaining the correct orientation of and pivot in their work for faithfully implementing the decision of the Party Central Committee and making detailed arrangements for that.

The Political Bureau of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea held its 16th meeting at the office building of the Party Central Committee on August 13.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers’ Party of Korea, attended the meeting. It was also attended by members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Politburo.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting upon the authorization of the Politburo.

The meeting discussed and decided issues of concentrating all efforts on repairing damages from flood and stabilizing the living of the residents, of maintaining more strictly a nationwide anti-epidemic system to cope with the world health crisis and perfecting a regular anti-epidemic work system, of lifting the lock-down of frontline areas including Kaesong, and of setting up a new department in the Party Central Committee. It also checked issues arising in the preparations for national functions to be held in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the WPK and took due measures.

There was a briefing on the damage caused by the calamitous downpours and floods in early August.

The Supreme Leader noted that the flood-stricken people must be suffering great pain as they are living in temporary dwelling places after losing their houses and other properties. At such a crucial time as now, he earnestly said, it is none other than our Party that should take full responsibility for them and go closer to them to share their hardship with them and relieve them of it.

He stated that our state faces two challenges: the anti-epidemic campaign to thoroughly cope with the world health crisis and the unexpected natural disaster, and referred to the need for the Party and the government to indicate a correct policy direction for overcoming these two crises at the same time and display a seasoned leadership art in the three-dimensional and offensive struggle.

Saying that the flood victims cannot be left homeless when we greet the 75th anniversary of Party founding, he specified tasks and ways for different sectors to repair the damage from the flood as soon as possible and stabilize the people’s living.

He suggested issuing a decision of the Politburo of the Party Central Committee and a joint order of the Party Central Committee, the Party Central Military Commission and the State Affairs Commission reflecting the immediate fighting tasks for finishing the most part of the rehabilitation and
stabilizing the people’s living by October 10 by dint of the great unity between the army and people loyal to the leadership of the Party and through their joint operation.

The meeting agreed on an issue of machinery for the establishment of a nationwide regular anti-epidemic work system, now that the emergency anti-epidemic campaign is protracted, and pointed to the need for the new organization to correctly exercise the authority it has been granted and enhance its responsibility and role.

It also decided to lift the lock-down of frontline areas including Kaesong, which has been enforced since July 24 due to the emergency incident that occurred in the forefront area, according to the scientific verification and guarantee by a professional anti-epidemic organ.

And it heard a report on the preparations for national functions to be held in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the WPK according to the decision of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee, checked the issues arising in the preparation of every event and took due measures.

At the meeting, a matter of setting up a new department in the Party Central Committee was deliberated on and decided, before its functions and role were defined, and an organizational matter was dealt with.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un sent a wreath to the Liberation Tower in Pyongyang on August 15, the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Korea.

The honour guard of the Korean People’s Army lined up at the Liberation Tower.

Upon authorization, Ri Il Hwan, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, laid the wreath sent by the Supreme Leader at the Liberation Tower.

Written on the ribbon of the wreath were letters reading, “We will remember forever.”

Present there were the chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People’s Committee, the vice foreign minister and officials concerned.

The participants observed a moment’s silence in memory of the brave officers and men of the Red Army, sons and daughters of the Russian people, who dedicated their precious lives to the sacred war for the liberation of Korea.
Hwang Sun Hui was a revolutionary fighter who participated in the anti-Japanese war. She was born on May 3, 1919, into a poor peasant’s family, who left their dear home for an alien land to eke out a living under the military rule of Japanese imperialism. She joined the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army at the age of 16, in order to revenge against the enemy who killed her family members. She insisted on being admitted to the KPRA, even clinging to the sleeves of guerrillas.

There were few women guerrillas in the KPRA as small and fragile as Hwang, and she was a burden to others in her early days. Kim Il Sung met her for the first time at a guerrilla camp early spring in 1936, and encouraged her to become an excellent guerrilla fighter. Inspired by his great trust, Hwang made strenuous efforts and soon became a flower of the revolutionary army, favoured by all. She was tempered into a staunch fighter, persistent in all undertakings and strong in the principle. She was also warm-hearted person with a high sense of obligation.

In the summer of 1945, on the eve of Korea’s liberation, Hwang got married to Ryu Kyong Su under the parental care of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Suk, the anti-Japanese war heroine. After liberation, she worked as chairwoman of the women’s union in the then Hyesan County, South Hamgyong Province, inspiring women to turn out as one in nation building.

President Kim Il Sung gave her strength and encouragement to continuously bring the flower of the revolution into full bloom. He ensured that she studied at a Party school and worked after graduation as a leading official of the Korean Revolution Museum from February 1965. He also personally verified historical materials to make Hwang become an authority without rival in the field of discovering and proving historical materials related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Hwang continued her brilliant career under the care of Chairman Kim Jong II. The Chairman highly respected Hwang, who was infinitely faithful to the President and was a close comrade of Kim Jong Suk. Always paying close attention to her work and life, he elucidated the direction and the ways of her work and took meticulous care of her health and the future of her children.

Saying that anti-Japanese veteran fighters were firmly safeguarding the outpost of the revolutionary tradition, the continuity of the Korean revolution was reliably guaranteed, the Supreme Leader took benevolent care of her health, life and family affairs and even sent an autographed reply to her letter.

After she died on January 17, 2020, her remains were buried in the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong.

**Glorious Life of Woman Revolutionary Fighter**

Hwang devoted her whole life to glorifying the traditions of the anti-Japanese revolution and educating the younger generations so that they would steadfastly carry on the revolution from generation to generation.
For the residents in Taechong-ri, Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province, last August was not quite as ordinary as the other months of the year used to be.

Due to consecutive days of torrential rain and rainstorm caused by the seasonal rainy front early August, the waterway levee gave way in the area of Taechong-ri, leaving more than 730 single-floor houses and 600-odd hectares of paddy fields inundated and 179 blocks of dwelling houses collapsed.

After hearing the report on the situation in Unpha County that lots of dwelling houses were submerged, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un paid an unexpected visit to the village on August 6, laying aside all other affairs, and took measures to stabilize their living as soon as possible. Not feeling assured for all that, he visited the village again early next morning.

Afterwards, the villagers witnessed successive moving events. The next day service personnel of the Korean People’s Army arrived for rehabilitation, and the convoy of trucks loaded with food and aid materials entered the village the following day and on the 10th of August.

When they received medical supplies sent by the Supreme Leader on the 15th, not only women but even taciturn men burst into tears, greatly impressed by benevolent affections of the Supreme Leader.

It was the outburst of boundless gratitude and a great pride that they are the very citizens of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA
Article: Jong Ki Sang
Ryomyong Street in Pyongyang is erected splendidly as an energy-saving and green-architecture street with the introduction of green architectural technology to all its apartment and public buildings.

Every building is equipped with heating and cooling systems based on the storage of solar and geothermal energy as well as solar panels for lighting. Innovative technologies are also applied to roof greening, thereby ensuring environmental protection as well as raising the room temperature by 2.5°C in winter and lowering by 4.5°C in summer.

The high-rise apartment buildings in the street have green spaces on their stylobates, featured by cypress, juniper and other evergreen trees and various flowering shrubs like azaleas. Their fresh green leaves and beautiful blossoms offer a spectacular view in spring.

The hydroponic vegetable greenhouses are built on the roofs of kindergartens, nurseries and several public buildings. Besides, wall greening, rainwater catchment and recycling, and other green architectural technologies are making contribution to the high standards of cultural attainment and economic effectiveness of the street.
Dwelling houses and public buildings on Ryomyong Street are equipped with solar panels and water heaters, and their roofs and walls applied with greening technology.
Mt Myohyang in Summer

Mt Myohyang that encompasses a vast area of Hyangsan and Kujang counties in North Phyongan Province, Nyongwon County in South Phyongan Province and Huichon in Jagang Province has been regarded as one of famous mountains in Korea.

It is noted for imposing and queer peaks, enormous rocks, deep valleys, steep cliffs, crystal-clear streams, numerous falls, densely-wooded forests, sweet fragrance of flowers, murmuring creeks and chirping birds.

The name Myohyang came from the fantastic and magnificent appearance and fragrance of the mountain.

Many historical remains and relics, such as ancient buildings and printing materials showing creative talents of the Korean people, are preserved in the International Friendship Exhibition House, Hyangsan Hotel and Myohyangsan History Museum.
The best scenery is found in the New Hyangsan area, where there are chains of peaks and rocks with mysterious formations with the Myohyang Stream in between, the beautiful ravines of Sangwondong, Manphokdong, Chonthaedong and Chilsongdong, and numerous waterfalls. What adds more fame to the area is the International Friendship Exhibition House which houses gifts presented to President Kim II Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un by state and party leaders and figures from all walks of life in the world.

Recently this area was given a facelift to provide more convenience to sightseers. The roads from the Hyangsan Hotel to the parking lot of the Myohyangsan History Museum and mountaineering courses to the Hyangbiro Peak signpost were renovated. And resting places were newly laid out near the Chonthae and Isonnam falls, several spillway dams erected along the streams and bridges reconstructed.

Photo: An Chol Ryong
Article: Yu Chung Il
New Tramcars in Pyongyang

Photo: Son Hui Yon
The Pyongyang Old People’s Home standing alongside the Pyongyang Baby Home and Orphanage on the picturesque bank of the Taedong River in the capital city of Pyongyang, was inaugurated in August 2015.

The two-storied building is crowned with Korean-style gabled roof and surrounded by stone fences depicting white cranes symbolic of good health and longevity flying in a row. It covers a total building area of 7,900 square metres.

It consists of over 50 bedrooms with and without under-floor heating system, dining hall, reading room, exercise room, and other facilities for welfare and medical service, all adequately furnished to suit the physical and mental features of elderly residents. Outside the building is also laid out a courtyard, greenhouse and kitchen garden.

The caretakers of the institution respect the elderly people who have devoted their all to the rising generations as revolutionary forerunners and take utmost care of them.

They ensure that the residents enjoy good health and a merry life in a family atmosphere and spend considerable time doing various recreational games and exercises for physical training.

Daily necessaries, including foods, seasonal clothes, cosmetics, and other goods for cultural use, are provided by the state.

Amid growing social concern for the elderly, the old people’s home is frequented by officials of the district and city and young people and students, and they sing in concert, We Are the Happiest in the World.

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam
Article: Kim Son Gyong
The Pyongyang Vegetable Science Institute, under the Academy of Agricultural Science, based in Ryongsong District, Pyongyang, is devoted to studies for breeding highly-nutritive vegetable varieties and increasing productivity in PVC-sheet and hydroponic greenhouses.

The research institute has directed much effort to studying vegetable seeds of high nutritive value and productivity and achieved successes in breeding various species of tomatoes, peppers, and other functional vegetables.

A new variety of tomato bears clusters of apricot-size fruits with a higher content of antioxidant substances by 1.4 times than ordinary tomatoes. And the greenhouse hot pepper No.1 that is 7 - 8 times as pungent as ordinary varieties used in kimchi-making, promotes digestion and blood circulation and is highly efficacious in preventing and curing cancer and diabetes and strengthening the functions of heart and lung.

The institute made a big stride in placing vegetable production on a scientific and intensive footing. It introduced advanced research results and cultivation technologies and methods, such as the method of nutritive liquid supply and environmental management, early diagnosis technology of nutrition by means of computer images, and nutritive liquid irrigation technology according to sunshine intensity. It also organizes annually sci-tech seminars for greenhouse management units across the country to disseminate and generalize advanced technology and experience of greenhouse vegetable cultivation.

Photo: Ri Jin Hyok
Article: Pak Pyong Hun
To Supply a Larger Amount of Fish to the People
-At the Pyongyang Catfish Farm-

The Pyongyang Catfish Farm is making a tangible contribution to the dietary life of the Pyongyang citizens with its rich harvest of catfish.

Situated in Jonjin-dong, Rangnang District, Pyongyang, the farm underwent reconstruction on a modern basis several years ago. Since then it has steadily increased catfish production by making effective use of modern production foundations and introducing latest fish farming technology.

Officials and employees of the farm have worked out the method for raising a catfish species that grows quickly with relatively low feed consumption. They also pay close attention to ensuring appropriate water temperature and quality so as to produce fry in larger numbers.

They work strenuously in close collaboration with the experts to shorten the cycle of fish farming and develop additives for feed at every growing stage of catfish. As a result, per-head level of feed consumption has been markedly reduced and fattening rate increased.

The farm employs solar heater and other various renewable energy sources and efficient water recycling system, and continuously improves the performance of the machines and facilities for harvesting and sorting catfish, thus cutting the fish production costs.

Thanks to the efforts of the farm employees, catfish are harvested in large amounts regardless of seasons.

Photo: Ri Myong Guk
Article: Pak Yong Jo
With Proper Strategies for Business Operation and Management

The Chollima Tile Factory in Chollima District, Nampho, is achieving successes in business activities by dint of science and technology.

It is pushing ahead with the work of introducing sci-tech achievements into raising the proportion of domestically-produced raw and other materials and upgrading the machinery. Technicians of the industrial experimental station, who set a high goal of developing frits, the most important element in ensuring domestic production of glazes, by their own efforts, buckled down to the research work.

After painstaking efforts, they succeeded in producing frits of good quality from local materials in large amounts and polished glaze porcelain tiles incomparably superior to normal marble tiles in terms of brilliance and quality by developing several additives for glaze making. They also manufactured freeze-resistant tiles for exterior walls relying on domestic materials.

Those in charge of machinery and power supply developed a program for controlling modern equipment, thus ensuring curves and transparency of tiles at a high level.

The factory is self-sufficient in fuel, which makes a profit in business activities, and is stepping up the project for increasing production capacity and manufacture of machinery and equipment for new production lines simultaneously, all on the strength of its own technical force.

Amid the factory-wide emulation drive to be well-versed in science and technology and make new designs and inventions, the number of inventors and holders of academic degrees and titles is on the increase.

Tiles of different colours and shapes are produced, based on the local raw materials.
The Tanchon Smeltery is achieving remarkable successes in its efforts to develop the nonferrous metal industry and increase production.

In recent years it made strenuous efforts to modernize existing production lines and set up new ones to recycle valuable metals from waste and produce additives and laid firm foundations for increased production.

In this course it reinforced its technical personnel and implanted deep in its officials and employees a steadfast stand of solving all the problems by giving full play to the spirit of self-development.

As a result, technicians and skilled workers proposed many technical innovation plans to raise the extraction rate in smelting process and manufacture by the smeltery itself necessary machines and accessories.

All the processes including those for zinc, valuable metals and zinc oxide production are now operating at full capacity.

The smeltery is strengthening coordination and cooperation between production units and taking thoroughgoing measures to increase production through the advanced command system.
When Kyonghung Unhasu Beverage Factory was erected in Chukjong-dong No. 1, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, and launched its production in September 2017, it turned out only five kinds of beverages.

Officials and technical personnel of the factory found the way of activating business management and production in quality improvement and new products development. They focused their particular efforts on developing health-promoting products. To this end, they made analysis of various kinds of natural resources and, based on them, intensified the study of sustaining their tastes and aromas as well as nutritive properties.

And they pushed forward the work of developing new functional drinks enriched with collagen, peptides, vitamins and other nutrients. They have made it a rule to conduct market research for their products as a part of efforts to constantly improve their quality.

Thanks to their endeavours, the factory products number more than 120 in six kinds, all of which are favourably accepted by customers.

The factory has now become a renowned beverage producer in the country.

The Kwangpho Duck Farm is one of the country’s leading poultry farming bases. Located in Jongphyong County, South Hamgyong Province, Lagoon Kwang is abundant in feed grass and plankton, so is suitable for poultry farming.

Officials and employees of the farm made strenuous efforts to step up the duck production and increase the poultry varieties and succeeded in acclimatizing black swans.

In close cooperation with scientists and researchers from relevant sectors, they solved technical problems for raising black swans. They also created a habitat for black swans by building an artificial islet near the lagoon and digging a pool at the foot of the mountain thick with pine trees.

Black swans build their nests on the ground and lay 6-8 eggs at one birth. They look like swans and have black plumage for the most part of their bodies except their tails mixed with white feathers. Their bills are red. They are sociable usually, but become tense and cautious in breeding seasons.

Thanks to the painstaking efforts of the rearers, black swans settled in the farm and began to lay eggs since this summer.

The increasing number of black swans adds a special charm to Lagoon Kwang and its surrounding area.
New Pride of Yonthan County

Yonthan County in North Hwanghae Province is mostly comprised of mountains, so it was said that it had nothing but stones to be proud of. However, that is a thing of the past now, because the county is turning into a place good to live in, as its residents are making effective use of its mountains and creating a lot of wealth.

There is a mountain some six kilometres from the county town, and in the past it was considered useless for its shallow soil and being liable to be washed away by rain.

Over ten years before the county’s resources mobilization station began to create a forest of *Aronia melanocarpa* with a high economic utility.

Officials and workers of the station removed the stones and carpeted the soil with humus, and planted *Aronia melanocarpa* trees. At first they felt impatient as the trees did not thrive, but they never gave up and made close contacts with specialized research institute to solve technical problems arising in growing and tending trees.

Their persevering efforts paid off: *Aronia melanocarpa* trees struck their roots on the mountain, grew up healthily and formed a thick forest. Several years later they became heavily laden with fruits.

The station turns out processed *Aronia melanocarpa* fruits, including extracts, teas, jams and syrups.

*Aronia melanocarpa* fruits contain in rich amount materials for lowering cholesterol content in blood, acting against autoxidation and strengthening capillaries, so they are widely used in treating cardiac vascular diseases.

Factories and enterprises, cooperative farms and dwelling houses in the county plant *Aronia melanocarpa* trees, which are a great help to the improvement of the living of the county residents.

At present Yonthan County is famous across the country for its *Aronia melanocarpa* trees.

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam
Article: Pak Yong Jo
When she began football, Ra Un Sim did not know she would become one of top football players in the country. Born in Kyongsong County, North Hamgyong Province, Ra moved to Chongjin in her childhood, where she took up football.

She displayed her football talent in annual national games of juvenile sports schools and was promoted to a women’s football team under the Amnokgang Sports Club.

She strove hard to acquire and perfect abilities and skills as befitting a centre forward. Her brisk activities in the national tournaments of top women’s football teams drew the attention of experts, which promoted her to the national team as a centre forward.

She made her first international debut in 2006 at the third AFC U-19 Women’s Championship. Although she was smaller in stature than her opponents, she fully demonstrated her abilities, particularly her special technique of running freely on the pitch and making long-distance shots. She scored four goals in the championship.

In the AFC U-19 Women’s Championship the following year, she won the awards of leading goal scorer and most valuable player. That year she also became the AFC Youth Player of the Year.

Acting as the captain of the national team since the EAFF Women’s East Asian Cup 2013, she presented thrilling scoring scenes and provided favourable opportunities for scoring. She encouraged the players with little experience to play their best in the games and displayed a high sense of match and leadership.

She won the top goal scorer award in the EAFF Women’s East Asian Cup 2015.

She participated in 112 international games including Women’s World Cup, Asian Games and Universiad, and won fame as an excellent scorer.

Football experts, fans and spectators gave her name of endearment, “wild horse,” for her tireless activities in the field.

In recognition of her contribution to developing women’s football and adding glory to the country with gold medals, the state conferred on her the titles of Labour Hero and People’s Athlete.

After retirement from her playing career she studied at the Korea University of Physical Education.

She is now devoting herself to training excellent footballers as a women’s football coach of the Amnokgang Sports Club.

Women’s Football Coach Ra Un Sim

Several awards won at international games

Ra made contributions to gaining victory in the EAFF Women’s East Asian Cup 2015 and several other international competitions

Photo: An Chol Ryong
Article: Pak Pyong Hun

Ra Un Sim

Several awards won at international games
Art Exchange Association of Korea

Today lots of art troupes and artistes that are interested in artistic development of the DPRK wish exchange with their counterparts.

The Art Exchange Association of Korea based in Pyongyang International House of Culture in Central District of Pyongyang was established on August 30, 1980, to promote cultural and artistic exchange.

Its pivotal role is manifested in organizing the April Spring Friendship Art Festival in Pyongyang.

The April Spring Friendship Art Festival is an international festival of performing arts including music, dance and acrobatics that took place 31 times since the early 1980s. More than 1 100 art troupes from over 100 countries and numerous international and national art contest winners took part in the festival, and this is unthinkable apart from the active efforts of the association.

The association directs much effort to realize national art troupes’ performances and participation in art festivals and exhibitions in foreign countries and inviting foreign art troupes and individuals to the DPRK.

The activities of the association are aimed at valuing the cultural assets common to humankind and promoting its development and conform to the principled stand of the Republic which hopes to continuously consolidate and develop the relations with all countries and peoples who aspire after the peace and friendship.

The association greeted its 40th anniversary last August.

Photo: Ri Jin Hyok
Article: Kim Phil
King Tongmyong is the founder of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), the first feudal state of Korea, and his mausoleum is located in Ryongsan-ri, Ryo kinase, Pyongyang. The original tomb was located in Jolbon, which was the first capital of Koguryo, and relocated in 427, when Koguryo moved its capital to Pyongyang, according to an old custom.

In his childhood, King Tongmyong was called Jumong, meaning a master archer. Jumong established Koguryo at the age of 22 and ruled it for 19 years. Tongmyong the Sacred is his posthumous name.

The present mausoleum of King Tongmyong was reconstructed in May 1993. The mausoleum, 11.5m high, is a stone tomb facing south, and one side of its stereobate is 34m long. Its inside consists of coffin chamber, front chamber and gateway, which are built with trimmed stones in various sizes.

About 120m south of the mausoleum is Jongnung Temple, a Buddhist temple of Koguryo period erected to pray for the soul of King Tongmyong. The Mausoleum of King Tongmyong, associated with a time-honoured history and culture of the Korean nation, is under good preservation and a lot of people visit it every year.