Kim Jong Un visits Kumsusan Palace of Sun on Day of Shining Star

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on February 16, the Day of the Shining Star.

Accompanying him were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, members of the alternate Presidium, members of the Central Committee and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members of the Party central leadership body.

A flower basket was laid at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in the name of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un. Also placed there were baskets of flowers in the name of the WPK Central Committee, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People’s Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

The General Secretary together with the participants, paid high tribute to Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il at their statues.

At the hall where Kim Jong Il is preserved in his lifetime appearance, the General Secretary made a bow in the deepest reverence for him who glorified the country as a genuine socialist state centred on the masses of the people and provided firm foundations for prosperity by dint of self-reliance with his outstanding ideas and untiring revolutionary leadership.

KCNA

CELEBRATION

Nation celebrates Kim Jong Il’s birthday

Baskets of flowers and bouquets were placed at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang in the name of Party, government and armed forces organs, public organizations, ministries and national agencies, units of the Korean People’s Army and the Public Security Forces and institutions at all levels, industrial establishments and universities in Pyongyang to mark the Day of the Shining Star.

The chief and members of the Pyongyang mission of the Anti-imperialist National Democratic Front laid a bouquet before the statues.

Flower baskets were also laid at the statues of the great leaders and mosaics depicting their smiling images in different parts of Pyongyang, including Kim Il Sung University, the Ministry of National Defence and the Mansudae Art Studio, in the name of KPA and PSF units, institutions and enterprises.

The visitors made a deep bow to the statues and mosaics.

Working people and service personnel visited the statues of the great leaders and mosaics of their smiling images in provinces, cities and counties to pay homage to them.

All the people of the DPRK significantly celebrated the birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Performances were given at theatres and outdoor stages in Pyongyang and local areas.

Artistles of the Phibada Opera Troupe and the National Folk Art Troupe gave outdoor performances in front of the Pyongyang Grand Theatre and the Three-Revolution Exhibition House.

The revolutionary drama “Mountain Shrine”, an immortal classic, was staged at the National Theatre.

Acrobatic performance given at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre delighted the working people enjoying the holiday.

Colourful performances were given by artistes of artistic motivational squads and members of mobile and women’s union artistic motivational teams and dancing parties of young people took place at the plazas of Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, the Monument to Party Founding and other places, reviving the atmosphere of the February holiday.

Similar performances were also given in South Phyongan, South Hwanghae, Jagang, Kangwon, South Hamgyong and other provinces.

The majestic and colourful illuminations of Changjon, Pyongyang and other streets of Pyongyang and in the provincial capitals added pleasure to the people celebrating the holiday.

By Pang Un Ju PT

The National Symphony Orchestra gives a concert at the Moranbong Theatre in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star.
Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, saw the performance staged in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star, the birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il, together with members of the Party central leadership body on Tuesday.

Officials of the Central Committee of the WPK also watched the performance which was given at the Mansudae Art Theatre.

The performance was staged by artistes of the band of the State Affairs Commission, the State Merited Chorus and major art troupes.

It started with the national anthem Patriotic Song and comprised two parts.

In the first part the performers sang such songs in praise of Kim Jong Il as mixed duet and male chorus Shine, Jong Il Peak.

They sang highly of the undying exploits performed by the peerless patriot who was born as the Shining Star of Mt Paektu.

In the second part that started with song People Are with the Marshal the performers staged the songs the Korean people heartily sing in praise of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is confidently leading Korean-style socialism to a new victory true to the noble ideas of “The people are God”, “single-hearted unity” and “self-reliance” associated with the lifetime intention of the Chairman.

The paean A Dear Name, a beloved song of the people singing of their great honour and happiness of upholding Kim Jong Il, resounded through the theatre again, encored by the General Secretary, making the auditorium brim with passion and delight.

Kim Jong Un expressed great satisfaction over the successful performance.

A basket of flowers was conveyed to the performers in the name of the WPK Central Committee amid enthusiastic applause.

KCNA
**LEAD**

**DPRK gives renewed impetus to self-reliance**

Self-reliance and self-sufficiency are the main seed and the main theme of the five-year plan for national economic development set forth at the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea held in January.

The WPK’s call for holding higher the spirit of self-reliance at present is an expression of its firm will to make epochal advances in exploiting self-reliance and economic growth, irrespective of whether the objective conditions are favourable or unfavourable by radically increasing the country’s own force, internal motive force.

In the past five years for implementing the decisions of the Seventh WPK Congress, the DPRK held fast to self-reliance as the powerful engine for development and overcame a multitude of difficulties and challenges to open a new broad avenue for socialist construction, ushering in a new era of self-existence and self-reliance.

In the course of it, self-reliance has been consolidated as a national trait of the DPRK and the one and only fighting spirit of the Korean revolution.

The general direction of the new five-year plan for national economic development is to build a solid groundwork for activating the overall national economy and improving the people’s living standards by concentrating efforts on the main link of the whole chain for economic growth.

The DPRK sees self-reliance as the key to implementation of the new five-year plan and intends to develop self-reliance in the period of the new long-term plan into a state-sponsored, planned and science-based one.

Which means developing self-reliance into a centralized one of doing any work carefully in a planned manner under the unified guidance and strategic management by the state to meet the characteristic features of the socialist economy, a planned economy.

In the socialist economy in which all sectors are dovetailed only when the right balance is maintained between all units thoroughly implement their national plans, can the overall economy function dynamically without even one link being broken.

When all sectors and units give top priority to the state interests and conduct production and management activities under the unified control and strategic management by the state, the country’s capacity for independent development and internal power will be enhanced immensely.

The DPRK also intends to develop self-reliance into a scientific one aimed at making rapid progress by relying on advanced science and technology.

In the period of the new five-year plan, normal production, upgrading of facilities and equipment and domestic production of raw and other materials will be promoted on the strength of science and technology.

Cherishing it as its own faith that self-reliance provides a short cut to rejuvenation through decades-long first-hand experience, the DPRK is now dynamically advancing the path illuminated by the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

Kim Ung Ho, associate professor and section chief of the Academy of Social Sciences

**INSPECTION**

**Premier visits industrial establishments**

Premier Kim Tok Hun (right) on a visit to the Chollima Steel Complex.

Premier Kim Tok Hun who is also member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea provided field guidance in major economic sectors on the spot.

While making the rounds of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex and the Chollima Steel Complex, he underlined the need to introduce rational working methods while shortening the melting time of electric furnace and to take measures for the supply of raw materials.

At the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, he referred to the need to widely apply advanced science and technology and ensure the maintained and guidance of equipment in a planned way.

The field consultative meetings discussed the issues about reinforcing and expanding the existing production foundation and organizing self-checking system for compressing equipment.

The Premier also learned about the updating of the Kumsong Tractor Factory on the spot.

KCNA

**RALLY**

**Working people vow to work towards innovation, development**

Working people’s organizations held rallies respectively to pledge themselves to thoroughly implement the first year’s tasks of the new five-year plan put forward at the Eighth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Workers and members of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea met at the plaza before the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province, on Friday.

Present at the meeting were Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Cha Pyong Yun, secretary of the South Phyongan Provincial Committee of the WPK, officials of the GFTUK and working people and members of the GFTUK in the province.

The report Kim Jong Un made at the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK is a militant banner which vigorously inspires the working people and members of the GFTUK to brilliantly implement the pro- socialist of struggle set forth at the Party Congress, Pak In Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the GFTUK, said. He ardently called on all workers and members of the GFTUK to carry out the decisions of the plenary meeting most wonderfully and perfectly by waging do-or-die struggle.

The speakers pledged to go all out to implement the new five-year plan, upholding with one mind the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who set another milestone in the history of socialist construction.

That day, similar meeting of the officials and members of the women’s union took place at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph.

Elderly agricultural workers and members of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea met at the plaza before the statue of President Kim Il Sung in Chungsan-ri of Kangso District, Nampho, and a meeting of the young vanguard was held at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park Open-Air Theatre.

Letters of pledge were adopted respectively at the meetings.

By Pang Un Ju PT

**NATIONWIDE**

**Presents sent to children across country**

Kim Jong Un sent gifts to students of revolutionary and primary schools and children across the country on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

Different kinds of presents from him were delivered to students of revolutionary schools including Mangyongdae and Kang Pan Sok revolutionary schools.

Ofﬁcials of merit honoured with top decorations

According to KCNA, Order of Kim Jong Il was conferred on Song Yong Gyu, Hwang In Song and Cha Yong Chol who made a great contribution to socialist construction according to a decree of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People’s Assembly of the DPRK on February 14.

**PIG FARM INAUGURATED**

The Unjong Pig Farm of the State Academy of Sciences was built and inaugurated on Monday.

The farm consists of breeding stock, rearing, fattening and experimental blocks and a general control room, meat processing ground, feed processing ground, protein feed cultivation ground and sewage treatment plant.

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**New posters released**

New posters were issued to encourage the people to implement the first year’s tasks of the new five-year plan.

The poster “All out for the implementation of the decisions made at the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea!” appeals to all the Party members and other working people to turn out as one in a new revolutionary march.

**TIDELAND PROJECT PROCEEDS Apace**

The first-stage construction of networks of facilities in the Honggondo tideland is vigorously pushed ahead in North Phyongan Province.

The buildings finished the earth piling of over 110 000 cubic metres for the construction of embankments of rivers and regulating ponds and collected some 10 000 cubic metres of rubble stones.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES
**COAL**

Complex plays a part in boosting the industry

The Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex takes the lion’s share in coal production of the country.

Organized in September 1977, the complex has developed into a large-scale coal producer with three large-capacity coal mines, two prospecting corps and several supply units including coal-mining machine and equipment parts factories.

Its affiliated coal mines including the February 8 Jiktong, Chonsong and Ryongdae youth coal mines have overfulfilled their production plans every year.

In the past decades, the complex created lots of coalfields and has recently developed over hundreds of thousands of tons of capacity new coal pits in the two coal-mining areas.

It also increased the tunnelling speed by introducing an advanced blasting method as required by rock conditions and positively invented advanced coal-mining methods including the hewing method based on prop bundles and horizontal coal-mining method.

The coal mines propped up over hundreds of thousands of metres of main pits.

All the coal mines introduced conveyor belts for coal transport and laid cableways in the pits where conveyor belts cannot be applied.

General coal production control rooms established an image-based production command and real-time coal output grasp system and computerized the designing of coal-mining process to expand production on a scientific footing.

The complex built a concrete prop factory in the Sunchon area to satisfy the need for concrete props for pits, while the Sunchon Coal-mining Machine Factory and Unsan coal-mining equipment parts factory produce thousands of pieces of equipment and hundreds of thousands of pieces of small tools and parts.

All the coal mines furnished themselves with the bases to repair and maintain such coal-mining equipment as compressor and motor by their own efforts.

And they built livestock farming bases with an annual capacity of hundreds of tons and supply service bases to provide coal miners with rich material and cultural living conditions.

The complex, which produced many winners of official commendations in increasing output, has recently remodelled the automatic temperature control system of the saccharification oven as compared to the previous one.

It has increased a new method of temperature control and installed a corresponding program and HMI so that one worker can monitor and control several processes at the same time.

The February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine of the Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex has introduced a drill bit soldering method based on a new technology to drastically extend its lifespan.

The technicians of the coal mine have applied the carbonitriding technology to nearly double the lifespan of hard alloy drill bit in the past.

They employed the new drill bit soldering method to further increase its working hours.

While conducting research into the new drill bit soldering method, they found out that they cannot prevent elastic strain of drill bit during soldering and increase the soldering intensity by the previous soldering method.

They applied a high frequency induction heating method to make drill bits which condition the number of perforations two to three times, with the reduction of failure rate to 30 percent.

The coal mine has also established a wet water glass production process needed for coal production.

The technical personnel fixed the rational mixing rate of caustic soda, silicic anhydride and water.

There are two ways of producing water glass by wet process. We have designed the reactor to produce water glass by the pressurizing method,” said Ri Sok Chol, chief of the technical development office of the complex.

**OSTRICH**

Farm increases meat and egg output

The Pyongyang Ostrich Farm is located in the suburbs of Pyongyang, covering an area of scores of hectares.

It has more than 110 aviaries, a feed production base, a meat and leather processing base and an ostrich products works.

Meat and egg outputs on rise

“The most important thing in increasing meat and egg production is to improve the survival rate of young birds,” said Manager Mun Chol.

According to him, newly-hatched birds are prone to various diseases as they are deficient in immunity.

To prevent this, the farm makes and uses a probiotic.

The probiotic separated from ostrich excrement contains organic acid-generating, antagonistic and digestive enzyme-generating bacteria and growth substances that are needed for culturing normal enteric microbes for young ostriches.

If the liquid probiotic is sprayed three times at the incubation stage, the hatching rate will go up 1.5 times as compared to previously,” said chief engineer Kim Kwang Jin.

The solid probiotic is added to assorted feed for poults to increase the fattening rate.

“Ostrich is of high utility value. Its eggs and bones are fit for making craftworks, leather for shoes and bags and feathers for duster and fan,” said Pak Kwang Chol, a worker team leader at the Taeyang ostrich products works.

He added that pipes, rings and necklaces made from ostrich bones are in great demand.

As ostrich bones contain antibiotics 18 percent more than those of other creatures, they are especially efficacious for the treatment of arthritis and neuralgia.

**FORMULA**

Factory upgrades formula production line

The Pyongyang Children’s Foodstuff Factory.

It has recently remodelled the automatic temperature control system of the saccharification process of baby formula production. With the installation of an upper temperature sensor, the system got to have a dual sensing ability which further improved the stirring capacity of the saccharification oven as compared to the previous one.

It has introduced a new method of temperature control and installed a corresponding program and HMI so that one worker can monitor and control several processes at the same time.

As a result, the normal temperature was ensured to substantially improve the quality of saccharified products.

Also, it automated the emulsification measurement process of formula production so that the amount of concentrate is automatically measured and mixed with an appropriate amount of emulsion calculated according to the weight of concentrate.

According to senior engineer An Jong Chol, the automated emulsification process guarantees an accurate mixing ratio, and thus improved the quality of products.

The factory invented a new type of sealing device based on rotation contact and introduced it into several mixers, thereby doubling the lifespan of bearing shafts and preventing contamination of products.

“We have introduced a new device into conveyors in different processes to reduce the loss of materials during conveyance and save repair materials,” said engineer Kim Sung Gi.

**New technologies applied to make parts**

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

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**EDUCATION**

**Competition heats up in general education sector**

Teachers discuss how to help students better their English at Sinwon Junior Middle School in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang.

General education units in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, are pushing the work for creating new teaching methods, putting teaching management on a scientific base and others.

Segori Senior Middle School in Pothonggang District, which received the high matriculation rate of graduates, created new teaching methods for mathematics, physics, native language, IT, English and natural science to set an example of the capital city.

Other junior and senior middle and primary schools and kindergartens worked out self-study tasks which would contribute to cultivating the schoolchildren’s independent study faculties and creative application and practical abilities, and make sure that teachers ensure the priority, principled and popular teaching in mapping out plans for guide lectures.

Meanwhile, teaching methods have been adopted so that substances and articles often seen in normal life can be used as substitute reagents and experimental apparatus to make students practise the content of experimental lessons at home.

Foreign language study halls have been established so that all the middle and primary schools can apply foreign language skilfully.

Last year, the district won high appraisal at the national exhibition of sports science achievements in the education sector by presenting a practical teaching program and well over a hundred teaching apparatuses, and sports teachers took the first place at the national sports educational competition last year.

Teachers of the district emerged victorious at the national social and natural science teaching competitions in the fields of kindergarten and primary and middle schools, which were held in the form of video-conference.

In addition, schools dynamically conducted a program development campaign to realize the informatization of education. The developments include e-school register, multifunctional education support system, test exercise program based on voice recognition technology and test recting evaluation program.

“A sense of duty to make education the one to which our future can be entrusted inspires all the teachers in the district,” said Kim Chol Min, chief of the in-service training centre of the district.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

**GARMENT**

**Prize contest tailored to consumer needs**

A prize contest run at the Pyongyang Children’s Knitwear Factory in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, is creating a buzz.

“We have adopted a new method of prize contest in order to produce better and more stylish knitwear using the same materials,” said manageress Mun Yong Hui.

According to her, unlike the previous method by which some technical personnel were entrusted with the appraisal of presented garment designs or new products, the new method is to select best products out of trial products by analysing the opinions of customers at commercial service units.

In the course of this, the factory completed a new design of baby’s wear made by using by-products and various kinds of convenient children’s underwear and winter clothes quite different from previous products in style.

It added studs on the triangular collar of men’s underwear and did partial printing accordingly and put decorative triple stitches on different parts of women’s underwear to enhance its refinement.

According to Ri Jong Sun, head of the technical department, lots of products of the factory are much sought-after, including different kinds of undershirts printed with the national flag and various patterns.

Employees have conceived knitwear products fresh in form and shape by changing neck, sleeve and waist parts in an organic way in line with people’s tastes and sentiments differentiated by seasons and ages, and designed garments accordingly.

The factory rearranged technical processes ranging from pattern making to cutting, dyeing and processing and began mass-producing new products. It has developed more than 800 pieces of products in some 20 kinds so far.

By Kim Il Jin PT

**PROFILE**

**Woman in her 80s dedicated to obstetrics and gynaecology**

Choe Jong Sim (pictured), lecturer at the obstetrical and gynaecological department of P'yongyang Continuous Medical Education College, is called a midwife heroine.

During her decades-long career, she has helped more than 80 000 pregnant women at childbirth and saved hundreds of serious cases from the jaws of death by donating thousands of grams of her blood.

How could she dedicate her whole life to assisting expectant and nursing mothers, as well as to caring for newborn babies? She dreamed of being an obstetrician of an age of 6.

Born in a remote mountainous village in Hoeyang County of Kangwon Province before Korea’s liberation from Japanese military rule, she happened to see her friend’s mother dying while giving birth to twin babies. She had no access to hospital service. While consoling the weeping friend, she determined to be a medical worker when she was grown-up.

After the country’s liberation, she finished her middle school course and graduated from a midwife training school and started her career as a midwife at the Hoeyang County People’s Hospital at 19.

“I was busy with midwifery at that time as I was summoned here and there. But I was relieved of my fatigue as I saw newborn babies I delivered,” Choe recollected.

However, her job was not all smooth sailing. Some elderly women didn’t even send a child to hospital about their daughters-in-law and daughters who were near their time of parturition, claiming that they had no paths without the help of midwives in days gone by. Some of them belittled her, saying such an inexperienced maiden could never deliver a baby properly.

Nevertheless, she patiently explained the health policy of the state to expectant and nursing mothers at their homes under her charge irrespective of time and even donated her blood to the serious cases on the brink of death.

She also trained 80-odd assistant midwives, thus making it possible to assist all the pregnant women in the county at childbirth three years later.

For these feats, she was awarded the title of Labour Hero of the country last 22.

Later, she graduated from the Obstetrical and Gynaecological department of the Academy of Medical Sciences Hospital for newborn babies?

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Even though I dedicate my whole life, it will be insufficient to repay the favour bestowed by the country. I think I’ll devote my remaining days to women and children.”

Choe Jong Sim, lecturer at Pyongyang Continuous Medical Education College from Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences and married to an army officer. Following her husband who was dispatched to Jagang Province, Choe went there to work as head of the obstetrical and gynaecological department at the Kanggye College of Medical Sciences Hospital for more than 10 years. Afterward, when the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital was completed, she worked there as an obstetrical department chief over ten years longer than her pension age.

She subsequently became a lecturer at the then Pyongyang continuous medical education school and taught incumbent doctors her rich clinical experience.

She has written 14 books on clinical technologies and more than 80 essays until now. Her book "Clinical studies of abnormal obstetrics" with enlarged version is now regarded as the essential reference for obstetricians and such books as “Pregnancy and health” and “How to bring up clever children” are much sought-after.

In 2016, she was awarded a doctorate by completing her study on the method of painless delivery.

“Even though I dedicate my whole life, it will be insufficient to repay the favour bestowed by the country which brought up this ordinary woman as a heroine. I think I’ll devote my remaining days to women and children,” said Choe Jong Sim.
SAMARITAN

Old man adopts a disabled soldier to move many

The family of Ho Song Guk in neighbourhood and No. 48 of Kyungsong-dong in Central District, Pyongyang, seems to be a common household, but there is something unusual about it. Ho has an adopted son, who is a disabled soldier and whose name is Kim Jong Thaek. This is an extraordinary aspect of life in the old man’s family.

Ho had been living in Sosong District with his wife, but he moved into his daughter’s house some years ago as his wife died.

“Though we brought my widowed father to our home and did our best for him, he seemed to be still gloomy. We first thought it was due to the loss of my mother, but I realized later it wasn’t the only reason,” recalled his daughter Ho Kyong Ae.

One day, she happened to hear her father laughing delightedly through the half-open door of his room. She strained her ears to catch the phone conversation of her father with someone. And she could occasionally hear the name of Kim Jong Thaek.

Only then did she remember the disabled soldier who was living in Sosong District.

Her parents had looked after the young man with parental care for several years. Kyong Ae reproached herself for failing to understand the feeling of her father who had a deep affection for Kim.

After discussing with her husband, she took Jong Thaek to her home some days later. This gave Ho’s family a new lease of life.

According to the daily schedule made by Ho, Kim underwent a rehabilitation process amid the close concern of the whole family.

One day during a walking exercise in the promenade along the Taedong River, Kim fell down throwing his stick due to a twinge at the joint between his amputated part and artificial leg.

“It was hard to overcome pain during treatment and what was more unbearable was that I became the burden for the whole family. So I told father I would stop treatment as I was all right as I was,” said Jong Thaek.

But at his words Ho burst into a fit of anger which Kim saw for the first time, he recalled.

He who had worked as a university lecturer for decades earnestly said that it was not merely out of sympathy that he took care of Kim, but in the expectation that Jong Thaek who had unhesitatingly dedicated himself at a post of national defence would be an excellent man as much as his children by blood were.

Like this, Kim Jong Thaek became a true member of Ho’s family.

Now he has made much progress towards health under the warm care of his father, sister, brother-in-law and lovely nephew and he is confident that he will be able to work like others.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

BOOK

Garment books draw attention of experts for fashion designs

“Types and designs of men’s clothes” (11) and “Types and designs of women’s clothes” (11); books published by the garment institute under the Academy of Light Industry, have recently drawn the attention of garment experts.

The publication of a collection of people to diversify their clothes according to the modern sense of beauty grows more as the days go by,” said Yu Chol Jin, director of the institute.

According to him, the institute has annually brought out the books since 2009 and developed new types of dress designs every year.

This year’s books have been compiled to show diverse types of bright-coloured designs to meet the aesthetic sense of males and females and as required by national sentiments.

The books show the bright-coloured designs, from T-shirts and caps with the national flag pattern to suits, shirts, dresses, coats, overcoats and padded clothes, and new types of diverse designs demonstrate 171 kinds of men’s clothes and 187 sorts of women’s clothes.

A book also offers detailed introduction of designs of original types of clothes in order to facilitate the understanding of them and the commonsense data that should be remembered in garment designs in a concise

and plain manner and in combination with excellent designs created by dressmakers across the country.

“The books of the garment institute are greatly helpful for garment experts who design and make garments. The shape, colour and quality of materials of clothes are of great importance for garment experts, and the books contain many new things,” said Kim Hye Sun, cutter of the Kaeson Tailor Shop.

What drew her attention in the books are long padded clothes and overcoats for spring and autumn made with different materials and in different colours, she said, adding her tailor shop would make clothes by further developing new things.

The books are said to be sought-after in different bookstores of Pyongyang as they enjoy the favour of not only garment experts but men and women who want to wear dignified, noble, beautiful clothes.

“Customers choose the type of clothes according to their ages, skin colours and tastes rather than fashion. The books help all the people garb themselves accordingly,” said Pak Yong Song, section chief of the institute.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

DEVOTION

From telephone operator to heroine

“Our post office produced the first operator heroine in the country,” said Yun Song Ho, director of the Sosong County Post Office in South Phyongan Province.

She is Kim Song Hwa (pictured) who was awarded the title of Labour Hero at the age of 24.

Kim was assigned to the county post office as a telephone operator after finishing her technical school course in 1965.

In 1967, the DPRK was hit by an unprecedentedly devastating flood. Songchon County also suffered much damage as the Piryu River was in spate. At that time, Kim Song Hwa was responsible for ensuring communication with Pyongyang, but it was cut off. To add to the problem, she threw herself into the flooded river and succeeded in tracing the cable that had been cut apart. But as she failed to connect the cut lines, she grasped both ends.

Thanks to her self-sacrificing effort, the communication with Pyongyang was resumed, the situation of the afflicted county was informed to the capital and necessary rehabilitation measures were taken immediately, Yun recalled.

Kim was awarded the title of Labour Hero in 1972.

She is now working as the director of the Taedonggang District Post Office in Pyongyang despite her advanced age of 75.

“I came to understand what kind of person a hero is, while working with her.”

Kim Sun Yong, an employee at the Taedonggang District Post Office in Pyongyang

HEALTHCARE

Boy owes much to healthcare system

Kim Ung Ik who attends Songyo Primary School in Songyo District, Pyongyang, is known to everyone at the school and neighbourhood. One day in April two years ago, he broke an arm while playing at soldiers.

Holding him in their arms, his parents rushed to the Okryu Children’s Hospital, where he was diagnosed with fracture of left forearm.

Surgeons of the extremital orthopaedic department paid much attention to the operation on the then six-year-old boy so as to minimize the burden on the patient and shorten the period of postoperative recovery.

Thanks to the care of doctors and nurses, Kim recovered health in about 40 days. But unfortunately, he was hospitalized again as he broke his right arm one year later. This time, several parts of the arm was completely dislocated and fractured.

“We came to realize with our hearts how advantageous the system of free medical care is. Thanks you very much,” said Kim’s parents with tears in their eyes to doctors and nurses as he left the hospital.

Shortly afterwards, the eight-year-old sent a letter to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

In his letter, he wrote that he recovered his broken arms at the Okryu Children’s Hospital which was built under the warm care of the respected Marshal and visited by him and that he would become a fine man who would do lots of good things with his two arms.

Kim Jong Un read his letter in October last year.

By Ri Sung Ik PT
Liars have short wings

As the “Girl’s Statue of Peace” depicting a girl wearing Korean chima (skirt) and jogori (jacket) and sitting silently with a load of pent-up humiliation in her mind were being exposed to the public, they are badly needed for it.

The handbook of a former Japanese politician who visited south Korea in 2015 carried a layout of a naval airport in Nara Prefecture of Japan. It was about the “comfort station” during World War II. He testified that more than 3,000 Chinese women were forcibly drafted to the construction site of the airport and 20-odd women were taken as sex slaves and they were supplied with meagre meal.

The aforesaid evidence is the tip of the iceberg.

Some facts about sex slavery

Here is some evidence revealing the sexual slavery crime of the imperial Japanese army.

According to a collection of materials on sexual slavery, the Japanese army stationed in China during the Sino-Japanese War in 1940 sent a woman to the manager of the “comfort station” belonging to the unit, which ordered him to “take comfort women to the unit in China as they are badly needed for it.”

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The aforesaid evidence is the tip of the iceberg.
Taekwon-Do is the orthodox martial art of the Korean nation associated with its spirit and soul, which is regarded as a great pride of the nation.

Having mapped out a teaching and training programme for this year aimed at preserving the honour as the birthplace of Taekwon-Do, we are sparing no efforts and taking every measure for the implementation of it.

Dozens of Taekwon-Doists are attending a systematic and scientific training course according to a plan for training accomplished players and those with special techniques. A great deal of effort is concentrated on the plan centreing on basic training. We test the players’ skills regularly and organize sparring matches frequently to estimate and improve their physical and technical abilities. Meanwhile, we pay much attention to laying a firm foundation for defending our reputation as a powerful team.

We are going to actively introduce latest sci-tech hits into training and competition. This year, we are planning to adopt several technological achievements such as a rhythmic movement control program for keeping perfect conditions and dozens of new training methods including a combined training method for professional physical development.

We also designed a plan for training excellent coaches and international and national referees, and are now going ahead with the preparations.

We will exert ourselves to help the players and coaches achieve fresh successes and exalt the honour of the country by dint of continuous innovation and creation.

Won Se Chang, head of the Taekwon-Do team of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, vows to maintain the country’s status as home of Taekwon-Do.

Medicine

Koreans use medicinal herbs since ancient times

“The Korean people began to use medicinal herbs in ancient times. It is evidenced by the tale about the foundation of Ancient Joson (early 30th century BC-108 BC) by Tangu, the founding father of Korea. The story also refers to wormwood and garlic,” said Ri Kuk Song, researcher at the Folklore Research Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Wormwood and garlic are still widely used for dietary health and the treatment of diseases.

In this respect, it is clear to everyone that the Koreans have had a correct understanding of medicinal herbs and widely collected and used them for the improvement of health and treatment of diseases since ancient times.

In the period of Ancient Joson, such botanical medicinal materials as seed of the honey locust tree, medicinal herbal materials as mulberry, swallowfish and snakehead were widely used for the treatment of diseases.

In the period of Three Kingdoms—Koguryo, Paekje and Silla—between the 3rd century BC and 7th century AD, medicinal herbal materials not only increased in kind but also improved in quality. They included insam (ginseng), wildlilies, large centepede and bezoar.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Folk Food

Boiled rice with assorted mixtures

Boiled rice with assorted mixtures is a kind of staple food of the Koreans.

It is made by putting various kinds of vegetables, meat and garnish on boiled rice to mix them. It makes dietary life convenient while having people take in different nutritive substances. It has been widely prepared in Phyongan, Hwanghae and Kyongsang provinces and is famous for the savoury taste from olden times.

With the development of food culture, it has evolved into different kinds in terms of materials and recipes according to regions and seasons.

Pyongyang boiled rice with assorted mixtures is a most famous one.

Here is the recipe for one person.

Boil rice rather hard and panbroil or season mug bean sprouts, bracken, spinach, platycodon, parsley and other vegetables. Mince or thinly slice meat and season it with spices before broiling. Beat the egg, salt and fry it and shred the fried egg. Put oil lightly on the laver, sprinkle salt on it, toast it and break it into pieces. Fill a bowl with boiled rice and put prepared vegetables and meat on it before garnishing it with sliced egg and hot pepper.

The food is served along with processed hot pepper paste, meat soup and watery kimchi made of sliced radish. Pour broth over it, flavour it with hot pepper paste and mix the contents before taking.

Different fresh vegetables and edible herbs are also used according to seasons, such as eggplant, pumpkin, cucumber, crown daisy, bracken, mushroom, platycodon, potato and radish. It is widely made at not only restaurants but in families in the country at present.

By Pang Un Ju PT

Martial Art

We will keep honour of home of Taekwon-Do

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The Ryongmun Cavern has been rebuilt more wonderfully as one of underground scenic attractions.

The cavern, a large cave among limestone caves unfolding myriads of shapes of wonders, was built as a scenic spot 20-odd years ago and has been visited by millions of people so far.

According to Ri Pun Ok, director of the Ryongmun Cavern management station, the strange looks of beauty spots have recently been brought into relief while preserving the noted places of the cavern as they were and the beauty has been added to surrounding scenery.

The building at the entrance has been surrounded by granite to enhance its refinement and the ceiling of the building decorated with stalactites in relief to promote the relish of the natural cave from its entrance.

The ceiling to the corridor of the hundreds-of-metre-long cavern underwent waterproof plastering and sound absorption repainting and photos showing the orthodox plan of the cavern were put on display on the left and right sides. Indirect lighting was given on both sides of the ceiling to make visitors bodily sense the mystery and rapture of the cavern as they enter.

Rainbow trout fishponds using the water of falls were newly built in the Jimyo Cave, one of the famous scenic spots, and Chonsang Ragwon Valley and illumination equipment was installed to bring into relief the beauty and wonderfulness of the scenic sights.

Safe handrails were installed at different scenic sights.

Soft-drink and souvenir stands and outdoor dining and resting places were arranged at Ryongmun Cave to go well with surrounding scenery, while good species of trees were planted in large numbers to enhance the beauty of scenery.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT