★ Kim Jong Un Makes Historic Policy Speech in Fifth Session of 14th SPA

★ Defence Development Exhibition “Self-Defence 2021” Held
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FRONT COVER: Defence Development Exhibition “Self-Defence 2021”
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Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, made a historic policy speech On the Orientation of Present Struggle for a Fresh Development of Socialist Construction at the second-day sitting of the Fifth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on September 29.

In the speech the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un congratulated the deputies who took part in the session of the Fifth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

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Kim Jong Un said that despite unfavourable environment and difficulties, saying that the construction of Korean-style socialism that has victoriously advanced with the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the guidelines has entered the phase of epochal development of comprehensively embodying the our-state-first principle with the Eighth Congress of the WPK as an occasion, he reviewed and analysed the positive changes that are witnessed in all fields including politics, the economy, culture, national defence and external relations.

He said that despite unfavourable environment and difficulties, the might of single-hearted unity between the Party and the masses of the people, the driving force of socialist construction, has been further augmented thanks to the consistent, in-depth and dynamic struggle of the Party and the state to increase the driving force and internal power.

The spirit of our young people, successors to the revolution, has risen higher and their zeal for volunteering for difficult and labour-consuming sectors has grown remarkably, and this is a very important achievement that has added great vitality to socialist construction, he said, adding that such political achievements promising the sustained victory and bright future of socialist construction constitute a source of inexhaustible strength and great pride for the Party and the state.

In the field of economic construction, big operations have been pushed powerfully and large-scale major construction projects have been carried on dynamically to drastically prop up the metal and chemical industries which form the backbone of the self-supporting economy, and great efforts have been made to bring about an innovative improvement in such sectors as agriculture, land development, city management, science, education and public health, thereby attaining successes that constitute a step forward in supporting the prosperity and development of the country, he stated.

In the field of national defence, he said, a spur has been given to ensuring the stable control of the unstable military situation in the area of the Korean peninsula and to developing a powerful new weapon system capable of thoroughly containing the military manoeuvres of the hostile forces. He affirmed that we can be confident of the might of the Party and the state powerfully opening up the way for the victory of socialism in view of the ultra-modern weapons which are being developed at an extremely fast rate and the militant features of the KPA and paramilitary and public security forces which are growing stronger day by day.

The independent foreign policy of the DPRK representing justice and truth and incorporating the power of perfect execution has crucial impacts on the international political arena, and the DPRK is enjoying ever-growing external prestige, he said.

He asserted that the Korean people can be proud of socialism of a Korean style which is making a dynamic advance along the orbit of its development with new greater vitality by relying on the driving force that is being steadily consolidated.

In the course of thoroughly embodying the people-first principle of the Party as the basic political mode of socialism, the popular nature has been evidently displayed in the state affairs and the work method and style of officials have been remarkably improved and this has resulted in deepening confidence of people in the Party and the state and enhancement of their patriotic enthusiasm and activeness, he praised.

In particular, he noted, the admirable tradition of the army-people unity has been steadily carried forward and consolidated to be an invincible one as the Korean People's Army has remained faithful to its revolutionary duty of defending the people by unsurprisingly shedding sweats of patriotism and rendering disinterested assistance to them under the leadership of the Party.

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Kim Jong Un specified policy tasks facing the government at present.

The most crucial task facing the government as was solemnly declared at the Eighth Party Congress is to prove the new development of Korean-style socialist construction with practical achievements and substantial changes much waited for and welcomed by the people from the first year in implementing the five-year plan, he said, calling for further consolidating the popular nature in all fields of state affairs, and removing all things not revolutionary, not militant and backward and bringing about fresh innovation, bold
Kim Jong Un's Policy Speech  
On the Orientation of Present Struggle for a Fresh Development of Socialist Construction

creation and steady progress on all fronts of socialist construction. An important task which the government should constantly hold fast to is to continue to put great efforts into boosting the political and ideological might of Korean socialism, he stressed.

He described the DPRK’s political and ideological might with the single-hearted unity of the Party and people as the core as force majeure peculiar to Juche Korea and a decisive factor promoting new development of socialist construction, and referred to the need to conduct the work for establishing the people-first principle as the political climate of the state and a national trait in a more substantial and purposeful manner.

He said that when organizing and executing all work, it is important to thoroughly maintain the principle of giving top priority to the interests of ordinary working people and solving problems by relying on the voluntary enthusiasm and active creativity of the masses, to pay primary attention to cultivating popular work style peculiar to the WPK among officials guiding the execution of the policies of the Party and the state and to steadily carry on education, control and uncompromising struggle to prevent any slight unpopular acts. Calling for doing well the work of inculcating the our-state-first principle and comprehensively embodying it throughout society, he clarified matters of further strengthening the political and ideological position of socialism including the provision of proper guidance for all citizens to display nobility and personality as befit the people of a powerful country in all aspects of their everyday work and life.

He indicated policy tasks for powerfully promoting the independent and overall development of the national economy. He pointed to the need for the government to draw up correct national plans for the independent and overall development of the national economy and press ahead with them while creating mature conditions for their implementation on its own initiative and provide proper guidance to the sectors and units lagging behind so that they can set definite long-term goals and make phased plans to put their own fields on a world level and carry them out in a persistent way.

A problem that requires priority settlement in economic work at present is to ensure the sufficient production and supply of raw and other materials, power and equipment, he said, stressing the need to firmly maintain the principle of giving precedence to the development of key industries, which constitute the mainstay of the national economy and expand their production capacities, he stressed the need to press ahead with the planned work for expanding production capacities by concentrating forces on the major projects of great significance in the national economy according to the Party’s strategy of readjustment and reinforcement.

He said that the construction sector should complete the construction of apartment houses in Songui and Songbwa areas within this year and successively begin the construction of 10 000 flats of the next phase, and thus build another modern district and street and mark a new turning point of national capital city construction while positively introducing new architectural styles. He said it is needed to finish the construction of the Komdok area which is being propelled by the KPA in a short span of time and build dwelling houses in provinces, cities and counties on a large scale to make all the people enjoy a civilized life in wonderful houses.

He underscored the need to map out a proper nationwide master plan for land development and conduct land management including forest and water conservation in provinces, cities and counties in a responsible way so as to fundamentally remove the danger of flood damage in the period of the five-year plan, and dramatically improve the ecological environment of the country and propel the mid and long-term greening and growth plans in a substantial way for raising the level of urban landscaping.

Noting that the decisive improvement of guidance and management of the economic work in the present period arises as an urgent task in strengthening the independence of the national economy, he delineated the methodological issues arising for the Cabinet to fulfill its role as the control tower in carrying out the five-year plan for national economic development.

He stressed the need to intensity state guidance over the external economic work to make all trade activities expand and develop in the direction of reducing the dependence on import and strengthening independence in the economic sector, and make an in-depth study and application of the scientific plans for strengthening the executive ability of the state organs for economic guidance in the field of economic management and serving the interests of working people.

Noting that the most important and vital revolutionary task in achieving new development in socialist construction at present is to stabilize and improve the people’s living, he indicated in detail the policy issues for it.

To provide the people with a stabilized and affluent living, a primary effort should be put on agricultural development, he said, expressing the unshakable will and determination of the Party to completely clear up the food problem in the near future by rapidly developing agricultural production.

He pointed to the need to work out a correct agricultural development strategy for achieving the stable and continuous supply of sufficient food in unfavourable weather and climatic conditions and thoroughly implement it, and solve the seed problem with a particular focus put on breeding and improving high-yielding seeds that is highly resistant to disastrous abnormal weather and climatic conditions.

He said that the agricultural sector should positively study and apply new advanced farming techniques and methods including the good and rational control of the distribution of varieties and sowing period as one of measures for minimizing the damage from important diseases and pests, and broadly organize and conduct the work for sharing and disseminating the good successes and experience of advanced units.

He referred to the need to upgrade the meteorological instrumentation for timely coping with disastrous and abnormal climate and to thoroughly ensure the promptness, scientific accuracy and correctness in weather forecast.

He urged the animal husbandry sector to decisively increase goats and cattle and grow rabbit on a large scale as an all-people movement as required by the Party’s policy of obtaining meat from grass and pay attention to lowering feed unit to the utmost and improve the anti-epizootic work.

Especially, the work for implementing the Party’s new childcare policy should be conducted in a substantial way to increase the nationwide milk output more than three times, develop the milk processing for supplying fresh milk to the people, and thoroughly ensure the quality of dairy products, he emphasized.

He said that the production of fruit and vegetables should be made intensive, large-scale vegetable greenhouse farms built in large numbers and the production of industrial crops including oil-bearing and sugar crops shored up to make a tangible contribution to the people’s living.

He indicated in detail the issues of intensifying state support for the agricultural sector, sprucing up food administration stations in cities and counties and updating grain-processing processes and clarified important plans for and ideas of promoting the development of local construction and face-lifting the socialist rural communities by adopting the unconditional supply of cement by the state to cities and counties from next year as a policy and law.

He referred to political tasks for improving the people’s material and cultural life by developing light industry. He said that the light industry sector should adopt domestic production of materials and recycling as an important policy-oriented issue, and carry them out by strictly relying on science and technology. Putting a particular stress on enhancing the spirit of serving the people in producing consumer goods, he set it as an important task for the authorities to immediately resolve urgent sci-tech problems in economic construction and the people’s living, step up research and development to that end and actively introduce their successes into practice in order to gain actual benefits.

Saying that it is a very important task facing the government
to turn the DPRK into a country advanced in education, he called for opening up a new period of development of socialist education, guided by the Party's policy of attaching importance to education and talents.

He also referred to the need to proactively explore and apply new contents, systems and methods into building up teaching forces and further improving the quality of education and to train more development- and creation-oriented and practical talents by taking it as a permanent undertaking to strengthen and develop university education following the global educational development trend, and pointed to important tasks in improving educational conditions and environment and the matter of increasing the scholarships for university students.

Saying that for our socialist state to establish the health system capable of substantially promoting the health of all the people is an important task that should never be neglected even for a moment, he called for taking decisive measures to put the material and technical foundations of the public health sector on a high level and improve the quality of medical service.

He said that the government ought to develop art and literature, mass media and sports as required by the times and reality and the quality of medical service. He said that the government ought to develop art and literature, mass media and sports as required by the times and reality and the quality of medical service.
General Secretary Kim Jong Un Delivers Keynote Speech in Commemorative Lecture

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea, on October 10 made the important speech *Let Us Further Improve Party Work in Line with the Demands of the Period of Fresh Development of Socialist Construction* in a lecture to commemorate the 76th founding anniversary of the WPK.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un in his speech congratulated the participants in the lecture on the 76th founding anniversary of the WPK, and clarified issues of principle arising in enhancing the leadership and fighting efficiency of the Party in all fields of the revolution and construction as required by the developing revolution and the ways to resolve them as well.

He also explained the object of the arrangement of the Party-wide lecture on the occasion of the Party founding anniversary.

First, he referred to the fact that the WPK has written the longest history spanning 76 years as a socialist ruling party and performed great exploits while leading the most arduous and complicated Korean revolution along the road of victory.

Kim Jong Un referred to the brilliant achievements made in the building of the WPK for the last ten years.

Saying that the WPK faces the task of the times of building itself into a sounder and more powerful party to meet the present revolutionary situation, he made an analysis of the subjective and objective environment of the Korean revolution facing unprecedentedly manifold difficulties and of the importance of thoroughly implementing the crucial policy tasks set forth at Party congresses and other major Party and state meetings in bravely overcoming the difficulties.

He set forth important tasks for all the organizations and leading officials of the entire Party in dynamically hauling the new development of socialist construction by further improving the Party work, being well aware of the main fighting line and policies of the Party Central Committee and the DPRK government.

He called for continuing to intensify the work for establishing the unified leadership system of the Party Central Committee, which constitutes the invincible and ever-victorious might of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un pointed to the importance of internal work of the Party in improving and strengthening Party work at the present time.

He stressed that Party organizations and leading Party officials should improve and strengthen ideological work.

Kim Jong Un also referred to improving and strengthening the Party’s guidance over administrative and economic work.

He noted Party organizations and leading Party officials should bear in mind that Party guidance over working people’s organizations constitutes an important part of Party work and do Party guidance over them well.

Kim Jong Un stressed that in order to improve and strengthen Party work, it is needed for all the leading Party officials to maintain revolutionary, militant and healthy working spirit and give full play to it.

He said that the leadership of the Party Central Committee over the revolution and construction is realized through its departments and that the leading role of the Party is decided by how those departments fulfill their duties, before referring to the need for them to increase their role.

He clarified once again the determination and will of the Party to make the period of five-year plan set by the Eighth Party Congress the efficient five years in shoring up the national economy and solving the people’s problems of food, clothing and housing and the five years of bringing about great changes of the country by racing against time and thus build a powerful socialist nation envied by the world by successively carrying out a gigantic operation of the next stage.

Noting that the WPK has the irresistible force of invaluable trust of all the people and great and firm single-hearted unity, he ardently appealed to the participants to dynamically fight on by devoting all their wisdom and passion to achieving rapid progress in socialist construction guided and encouraged by ever-victorious Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and to bringing earlier a great era when the ideal and desire of the people are translated into a reality.
Defence Development Exhibition “Self-Defence 2021” Held
Comrades,

Today we will have an opportunity to see with our own eyes how the defence capability of our glorious motherland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, has developed.

I extend warm congratulations to you, who are participating in the Defence Development Exhibition, an epitome of the advanced, modern and courageous character of our Korea.

The Defence Development Exhibition “Self-Defence 2021” opened today is adding lustre to the celebration of this year’s anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea.

As its name denotes, this exhibition is a grand festival that will demonstrate intensively and visually the far-reaching ambition, leadership ability and practical executive capability of our Party that is bringing about a fresh turn in consolidating the defence potential of our state by invariably holding fast to the invincible line of self-defence, as well as the level of remarkable development of our state’s defence science and munitions industry and their bright future.

Today’s grand-scale exhibition, a crystallization of our Party's revolutionary defence policy and its robust viability, is an epoch-making demonstration of our national strength no less significant than a large-scale military parade.

Comrades,

I still remember vividly the road of do-or-die revolution in the defence industry, an untroubled road, which our Party had to follow over the past five years, shouldering the heavy historic mission of fostering a more powerful and absolute strength with which to reliably defend the security of the country and the eternal dignity, happiness and safety of posterity in line with the demands of the changed objective and subjective conditions and environment of our revolution and the rapidly-changing military balance worldwide.

Every step we have taken on the road of developing our defence capability over the past five years, in which are etched severe trials as well as moments of emotive delight, was a step for quite a glorious and worthwhile revolution and patriotism, a step for a great victory; we can be proud of this in front of our Party, country, people and posterity.

We should not be inadvertent in seeing the military hardware displayed in line array here, which we have managed to develop over the past five years.

The more we stroke them and the more we see them, the more we realize that they are ours; they are ours.

All our people have rendered an unconditional and absolute support to our Party's policy of strengthening the defence capability despite the fact that they had to experience more severe hardships and difficulties caused by the persistent anti-DPRK schemes by the hostile forces, who are desperate not to see us growing stronger. But for their trust and ardent patriotism, we would never ever have developed them.

Every piece of those military hardware tells many unforgettable tales about our defence scientists and technicians and workers in the munitions industry who, following the Party, have braved all manner of difficulties on the road of defence upbuilding; it is also permeated with the blood and sweat of these scientists, technicians and workers, who have worked self-sacrificingly by devoting their enthusiasm and wisdom.

They have always supported unconditionally and absolutely and accepted death-defyingly any of the demands and determinations of our Party, and displayed infinite loyalty and heroism on the road of accomplishing the historic cause of strengthening our defence capability.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I, on behalf of the Party, the government and all the people, extend warm gratitude to the scientists, technicians, persons of merits and all other workers in the munitions industry, who have rendered a contribution to achieving the outstanding, advanced successes that were conducive to building a world-class defence capability, the first of its kind in the history of our Republic, and to realizing our people’s long-cherished desire.

I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the other people. I am convinced that this exhibition will be a victors’ exhibition that will review our great victories, an encouraging exhibition that will instil inchaustiable strength and courage in the defence field and the people across the country and an enterprising exhibition that will promote faster and more vigorous development of construction of our style of socialism.

Comrades,

The core of our Party's defence policy is to defend our country and people by our own efforts, and contain any threat and challenge and reliably and steadfastly safeguard peace by means of steadily-developing, powerful defence capability.

Historically, our nation suffered trials owing to invasion by foreign forces and has had to build socialism under the constant threats by hostile forces from one century into the next.

In view of this lesson of the history of the nation and the demand and special character of the Korean revolution, building up national defence is an indispensable and vital state affair which our Party, government and people must not neglect even a moment.

If a country does not have self-defensive capability of a proper level, it will inevitably be left at the mercy of external military threat and, worse still, cannot safeguard the existence of itself and its people. It has been an immutable law of nature throughout human history.

The rapid development of military techniques and hardware is changing the aspect of military operations and the security environment of states in every region in the present world.

The military danger facing our state due to the military tension prevailing around the Korean peninsula is different from that ten or five, nay, three years ago.

Seeing the contents of various military exercises the United States undertook, we frequently wage on the pretext of coping with what they call threats while talking about peace, cooperation and prosperity in public and south Korea’s attempt to moderate its armaments which has recently become intolerably undisguised, we can easily guess how military environment will change in the region of the Korean peninsula tomorrow.

Recently, south Korea has been trying to upgrade the fighting efficiency of its army under the powerful sponsorship of the United States, bringing in a large number of cutting-edge weapons of various kinds including stealth joint strike fighters and high altitude unmanned reconnaissance aircraft. While explicitly underlining the importance of its own defence technology after the recent revision of its missile guidelines, it focuses on modernizing its strike weapons of various kinds—developing various warheads and extending the ranges of missiles so as to improve its missile capacity, whose objective is clear, and enhancing the combat efficiency of submarines and developing fighters.

South Korea’s such attempt is too dangerous to be left to itself, but what is more dangerous is its justification for modernizing its armaments and its hypocritical and brigandish double-dealing attitude.

While doing everything they want to do, the south Korean authorities, with a view to depriving us of our self-defensive right to develop defence capability, volunteer to lead the anti-DPRK propaganda campaign of the hostile forces headed by the United States, wantonly labelling even our tests of conventional weapons as armed provocations, threats and inappropriate deeds aggravating tensions.
They are now using the words provocation and threat as terminologies exclusive to the north. Trying to put our effort to develop self-defensive capability in exactly the same manner and against the same threat is a hard task. Nonetheless, we are on the path of increasing military expenditure under the so-called righteous excuse of coping with what they have unilaterally defined as a threat.

Their hypocritical attitude and the US tacit support continue to damage the inter-Korean feelings and emotions and their unlimited, dangerous attempts to strengthen military and political threat following the military equilibrium in the region of the Korean peninsula and aggravating the military instability and danger there.

Sure enough, it is not fools alone that live in the world. I sure think that if they continue to infringe upon even our right to self-defence we will never tolerate but respond with powerful action if they do so and the powerful foundation of the munitions industry will be scored even in the face of the United States.

What is clear is that the instable situation in the region of the Korean peninsula cannot be easily removed because of the United States.

In view of this reality, the military balance of the region may grow more perilous as the days go by and our state may face worse security concern and menacing situation if we, satisfied with the successes we have achieved in strengthening our national defence, slacken our pace for a respite on the road of development.

Under the prevailing unstable situation on the Korean peninsula, steadily strengthening our military might to cope with the threats and challenges the status of our revolution and the supreme duty which we have assumed for the revolution and the future.

The reality demands that we refrain from resting on our laurels, marking time, and exert ourselves to possess the capability and means strong enough to control the existing concerns and threats.

The effort to possess strong military capability should be a natural, self-defensive and mandatory right and core policy which a sovereign state should not miss either in a peaceful environment or if any danger exists. It is the basic self-defensive power of the Korean peninsula.

We will confront with a decisive and resolute attitude all kinds of military provocation and action by the hostile forces that are inciting military tension in the region of the Korean peninsula, and will do our best to achieve durable peace in the region by ameliorating and removing one by one the causes that are disturbing the foundation of peaceful environment.

However, any of our external efforts for achieving peace never means the abandonment of our right to self-defence.

The Eighth Congress of the WPK has put forward the detailed tasks for making our superiority in military technology in our hands more irreversible by carrying out the second-stage revolution in the defence industry in the field of defence science and the munitions industry during the five-year plan period.

The main contents are to further strengthen the already-gained war deterrent and war determination and to further accelerate the development and production of strategic and tactical means essential for guaranteeing national security.

What our Party trusts are the indomitable revolutionary spirit, remarkable patriotism and outstandingly brilliant brains and talents of our defence scientists and working class who are steadily strengthening the munitions industry and will do our best to achieve a higher and faster leap forward in the future.

During the days of the first-stage revolution in the defence industry our Party got a full understanding of the loyalty and practical abilities of the defence scientists and technicians and potential of all units and twisted persons, and fostered a firm belief that the goals of cutting-edge defence capability can be hit as long as we have the reliable revolutionary soldiers who are ready to sacrifice their lives for their country and fellow people.

What strengthens this belief and makes us optimistic about the victory in the new stage is that our Party has a huge army of up-and-coming creative young scientists, who always carry out any intentions of the Party without any conditions with an innovative approach.

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We should all bear in mind in the main grand strategy for defence development set forth by the Eighth Congress of our Party and thus contribute to its development with redoubled courage.

Our Party has been frank enough to tell you about the requirements of the revolution and the state of situation as they are and found great encouragement in your steadfast attitude and ardent patriotism.

I stress once again: It is our Party’s invariable priority policy and goal and unwavering will to possess and further strengthen the military capability which no one would dare challenge.

All those present here should critically analyze the situation of their sectors and units in the light of the great successes achieved by our defence industry, decide once again on the tasks these young professionals have to continue to perform and people in the future and make a fresh determination also in the aspect of fully supporting our defence industry for its further development.

Of course, the economic situation in the country is still difficult and other sectors must have important and pressing tasks. All of these sectors, however, should never forget the overriding importance of consolidating the defence capability, but remember that any development and success of our revolution is inco verable separated from the preferential development of the national defence capability.

Without strong self-defence capability we can neither expect successful progress of the internal and external policies of the country, nor can our defence industry deserves the excellent experiences gained so far and take measures for a higher and faster leap forward in the future.

The defence industry sector should, through this exhibition, analyze and appraise its successes and level of development in an accurate and comprehensive way and the large scale planning and design for the rapid development of its every field, share the excellent experiences gained so far and take measures for a higher and faster leap forward in the future.

I once again welcome you for attending this event in which you will witness yourselves our proud military strength.
The defence development exhibition “Self-Defence 2021” was opened in splendour at the Three-Revolution Exhibition House in Pyongyang on October 11 on the occasion of the 76th founding anniversary of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, attended the opening ceremony.

Present at the ceremony were Party and government officials, leading officials of the Cabinet, ministries, working people’s organizations and armed forces organs, and commanders of the combined units of all services of the Korean People’s Army.

Present there at invitation were meritorious officials, scientists and technicians in the national defence industry sector.

Prior to the opening ceremony, there was a distinctive rite of the combined military band.

Then there was a martial art demonstration performed by combatants of the People’s Army.

The combatants, who have cultivated the fighting spirit with which to annihilate the enemy and bravery true to the Party’s training-first policy, creditably performed combat actions and methods to be applauded by the spectators.

A top-notch parachutist showed landing skills, fluttering the red Party flag in the sky.

There was a stunt flight of combat pilots in the sky above the venue.

The spectators kept cheering at the air squadron as the pilots fully demonstrated the art of flying they had cultivated through day-to-day training while skillfully performing various aerial combat flight actions like buzzing, perpendicular zooming and reversal.
Then the opening ceremony began. As General Secretary Kim Jong Un mounted the platform together with the leading officials and meritorious workers in the field of national defence science, thunderous cheers resounded throughout the venue of the exhibition.

Pak Jong Chon, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, made an opening speech. The national anthem of the DPRK was solemnly played as the exhibition was declared open.

Kim Jong Un made a commemorative speech at the exhibition. As he concluded his speech, all the participants broke into thunderous cheers, extending the greatest reverence and deep gratitude to the General Secretary.

At the ceremony, commendations were awarded to those who made distinguished services for the development of the defence capabilities of the country. Kim Jong Un personally conferred Kim Il Sung Prize, Kim Jong Il Prize, the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK, and Order of National Flag 1st Class. Kim Il Sung Order and Kim Jong Il Order, the highest orders in the country, Kim Il Sung Prize, Kim Jong Il Prize, the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK and Gold Medal (Hammer and Sickle) and Order of National Flag 1st Class, and watches bearing the names of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. Kim Jong Un looked round the exhibition hall together with the participants.
The exhibition showed various kinds of weapons and military equipment developed and produced in the country in the recent five years. Looking round with deep emotion the weapons and equipment one by one, the General Secretary once again spoke highly of the WPK’s faithful soldiers in the defence science field who devoted their patriotism and loyalty to the sacred cause to be etched in the history of the nation for consolidating the most powerful self-defence capabilities in the world.

In commemoration of the exhibition which would be specially recorded in the history of the Party and the nation, he had photos taken with the leading officials in the field of defence science and then with the parachutist and combat pilots of the KPA Air and Anti-Aircraft Force who performed stunt flight and landing duties. The exhibition venue was full of warm and intimate feelings between the leader and soldiers sharing weal and woe on the militant journey of building a rich country with a strong army and overflowing with great pride, honour and happiness of the participants with the passage of time.

While recollecting in deep emotion field leadership exploits of General Secretary Kim Jong Un associated with the development of invincible weapons and equipment that manifest the dignity and spirit of the powerful country of Juche, all the participants felt deep reverence for him, who has opened up the era of the most dignified powerful country, our state-first era in the nation’s history spanning 5,000 years, with his steel-strong faith, courage, far-sighted wisdom and outstanding leadership ability.
The Korean people, who are making an onward march in the new century of the Juche era, look back with deep emotion on the last decade when they vigorously advanced along the road of socialism.

During those days they had to face untold challenges and ordeals, which even threatened the existence of the country and the nation. However, they made an uninterrupted advance along the road of socialism without the slightest stagnation and standstill, filled with confidence in victory and optimism, and overcoming all manner of trials and difficulties. It owes much to the outstanding and seasoned leadership of Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea, who has encouraged the Korean people to display inexhaustible strength, passion, wisdom, and mettle by implanting the revolutionary spirit of Paektu in their minds.

It is a serious lesson of the world socialist movement that the revolution is discontinued and the history of a socialist state is brought to finish, if the revolutionary traditions created by the leader are failed to be carried forward through generations.

It presented itself as a more urgent issue in the 2010s when the socialist cause was at a crucial, historic turning point.

To safeguard and carry forward for ever the revolutionary traditions created in Mt Paektu so as to overcome difficulties and open up the way of advance by dint of the indomitable charging spirit based on these great traditions—this is the firm resolve and will of General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

He conducted energetic ideological and theoretical activities to provide the Korean people with the guideline to be adhered to
Decade of great revolutionary leadership resplendent with victory and glory

in carrying forward the revolutionary traditions of Paekdu through generations.

And he continuously visited the battle sites of the anti-Japanese war where the revolutionary traditions had been created, and indicated the directions and ways for ushering in a heyday in carrying forward the revolutionary traditions.

With a deep insight into the historic position of the Mt Paektu area in brilliantly carrying forward the Juche-oriented revolutionary traditions, he paid close attention to improving the area as befits the sacred place of the revolution.

His repeated tours of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area fully convinced the people that the only bloodline to be defended and carried forward for ever on the road of revolution is the revolutionary traditions of Paekdu.

Thanks to his leadership, Samjiyon City in Ryanggang Province was facelifted in December 2019 as a grand open-air museum and a model of mountain city, thus providing a firm guarantee for unfailingly carrying forward the Juche-oriented revolutionary traditions.

The General Secretary also paid visits to revolutionary sites and battle sites to ensure that the younger generations cherish the immortal exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. And he gave important instructions on carrying forward the revolutionary traditions, as he visited the Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site in January 2014, Changgul, Urgbyong and Phyongchon revolutionary sites, and others across the country.

He saw to it that a great emphasis was put on laying out the revolutionary museums well and intensifying the education through them.

Under his meticulous guidance, the statues of the President and the Chairman were erected on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and the Korean Revolution Museum was turned into a grand base for education in the revolutionary traditions.

Amid the zeal for the study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area, an increasing number of officials, working people, service personnel, youth and students toured the area.

The General Secretary’s visit to the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area in December 2019 heightened the zeal of the people for the study tour.

The General Secretary’s visit to the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area in December 2019 heightened the zeal of the people for the study tour.

The song We Will Go to Mt Paektu resounded throughout the country and a constant stream of the people visited the area. The whole country was pervaded with indomitable faith and will of the people to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche.

Nothing can overpower the people who are carrying forward the great tradition.

The wise leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, who ensures that the whole country seethes with the revolutionary spirit of Paekdu and miraculous and innovative successes are made by dint of its might, is, indeed, a powerful motive force for victorious advance of the DPRK toward a powerful socialist country.

Text: Choe Kwang Ho

Kim Jong Un looking round the statue of President Kim Il Sung on the shore of Lake Samji (November 2013)
Decade of great revolutionary leadership resplendent with victory and glory

Kim Jong Un visiting revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area (December 2019)
Decade of great revolutionary leadership resplendent with victory and glory

Kim Jong Un having a photo session on Mt. Paektu with combat pilots of the Korean People’s Army participating in the study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt. Paektu area (April 2015)

Kim Jong Un at the Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site (January 2014)

[Commemoration]
Decade of great revolutionary leadership resplendent with victory and glory

Working people and youth on the study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area cherish firm confidence in victory and indefatigable spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners.
The Fifth Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang from September 28 to 29. Present there were the deputies to the SPA. And attending it as observers were officials of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, the SPA Standing Committee, the Cabinet, armed forces organs, ministries and national agencies and chief secretaries of the WPK committees of cities and counties, chairpersons of their people’s committees and officials of province-level institutions.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, made a historic policy speech On the Orientation of Present Struggle for a Fresh Development of Socialist Construction at the second-day sitting.

The session adopted ordinances and decision of the SPA of the DPRK and discussed the organizational matter.

The Fifth Session of the 14th SPA of the DPRK demonstrated a high sense of duty and great enthusiasm of the participants to fulfill their responsibility and duty as representatives of the people in the sacred struggle for comprehensively developing socialism.
The Academy of Defence Science of the DPRK test-fired a new type of anti-aircraft missile on September 30, with a view to confirming the operational practicality of the launcher, radar and all-purpose battle command vehicle as well as the comprehensive combat performance of the missile.

Test Fire of Hypersonic Missile *Hwasong 8*

**Accomplishment of one of five top-priority tasks for the strategic weapon sector**

The Academy of Defence Science of the DPRK test-fired a newly-developed hypersonic missile *Hwasong 8* in Ryongnim County of Jagang Province on September 28.

Pak Jong Chon, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, watched the test-launch together with leading officials in the sector of defence science.

The development of the hypersonic missile, one of five top-priority tasks facing the strategic weapon sector under the five-year plan for developing defence science and weapon system set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK, has been pushed forward in a sequential, scientific and reliable manner.

In the first test-launch, the defence scientists confirmed the flight manoeuvrability and stability of the missile in the active section and its technical specifications including the guide manoeuvrability and gliding flight characteristics of the detached hypersonic gliding warhead.

They also ascertained the stability of the missile fuel ampoule that has been introduced for the first time and the motor as well.

The test results proved that all the technical specifications met the design requirements.

The DPRK has possessed strategic weapons in order to reinforce war deterrent and defend itself.
The Academy of Defence Science of the DPRK test-fired a new-type submarine-launched ballistic missile on October 19.

The academy said that it succeeded in the test-launch of a new-type SLBM from the ship August 24 Hero from which the first submarine-launched strategic ballistic missile had been successfully launched five years before to demonstrate the military muscle of the DPRK, and thus presented a report of loyalty to the Party Central Committee.

It clarified that the new-type SLBM, into which lots of advanced control guidance technologies including bank mobility and gliding skip mobility are introduced, would greatly contribute to putting the defence technology of the country on a high level and to enhancing the underwater operational capability of the navy.
The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex has set it as an important task to adjust and reinforce production processes and machines and is boosting production by relying on domestic raw and other materials and fuel.

Its officials and workers completed general overhauls of 100-ton-capacity UHP electric arc furnace and oxygen blast furnace by the end of September.

Brisk technological innovation drive waged at the blast furnace workshop is conducive to putting the operational technologies on a new scientific footing and stepping up the pig iron production. They are also ensuring proper technical management of furnaces and supply of raw materials to shorten the tapping time to the minimum.

Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex Boosts Production
The oxygen plant No. 2 is also achieving good results in production by ensuring normal operation of machines in a scientific and technological way.

Workers and technicians at the steel workshop are putting an emphasis on giving fullest play to the increased production capacity, and thus are scrupulously managing equipment and technology. And they have newly installed the electrode cooler and other machines to produce more steel.

The complex is now stepping up the projects to expand production capacity.

Photo: An Chol Ryong
Text: Choe Kwang Ho
Autumn Fields Rolling with Golden Ears of Rice
As autumn, a season of high sky and plump horses, has arrived, the countryside gently undulates, thick with the plump ears of crops and appetizing fruits.

This year’s rich harvest is not a present from nature. It is the brilliant result achieved by the agricultural workers and helpers throughout the country, who turned out as one in farming and worked sincerely all the spring and summer, in spite of unfavourable weather conditions.

Taking great pleasure at the sight of bumper crop, they are hurrying up with harvest.

Farm fields are resounding with roaring buzz of machines and merry sounds of music, and the countryside is pulsating with vigour day and night.

*Photo: Ri Kwang Song, Ri Song Ik*

*Text: Kim Son Myong*
Seventy-five years have passed since Kim Il Sung University, the central base for training national cadres and the highest institute of Juche-based science and education, was founded.

When Korea was liberated from the Japanese military occupation on August 15, 1945, it had only twelve native technicians and specialists.

President Kim Il Sung attached great importance to the role of talents in the state building and social development and set forth a policy of solving the problem of national cadres independently. He ensured that Kim Il Sung University was founded as a parent body of the universities to be established and solved all the arising problems.

On October 1, 1946, the inaugural ceremony of Kim Il Sung University took place in the presence of the President,
Kim Il Sung University was founded on October 1, 1946

Founded with seven faculties and 60 odd lecturers, Kim Il Sung University has developed into a prominent educational institute with 21 faculties and competent educational staff, including hundreds of academicians, professors and doctors.

proclaiming the founding of the first university for the people in the liberated Korea.

In 1948 several faculties of the university evolved into such institutions as Kim Chaek University of Technology, Pyongyang University of Medicine and Wonsan University of Agriculture.

That year a new building of the university was erected on the site the President himself selected, and its first graduates were produced the following year.

Under the meticulous care of President Kim Il Sung, the university followed the proud road of development in a long period from the building of a new Korea to the Fatherland Liberation War, postwar rehabilitation and socialist construction, and turned out a large contingent of national cadres.

September 1, 1960 when Chairman Kim Jong Il entered Kim Il Sung University with an ambition to carry forward the revolutionary cause of Juche, served as an epoch-making occasion in the history of the university.

Since then the education of the university entered a new stage of development and great changes were effected in improving the contents and methods of education.

Recently, the university has developed into a prominent one that prides itself on its scientific and educational qualifications and scale, thanks to the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

When it was founded, the university had seven faculties and 60 odd lecturers. But now it has 21 faculties and competent
Students of Kim Il Sung University are consolidating knowledge in advanced science and technology in their specialist fields so as to prepare themselves as academic and practical talents. Educational staff, including hundreds of academicians, professors and doctors, have been recruited.

And the Ryongnam Hill area in Taesong District of Pyongyang has been transformed into a vast university district, with five buildings, science library, e-library, natural history museum, gymnasium, publishing house, dormitories, welfare service establishments, hospital and others laid out centred on the bronze statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Students selected from across the country study at faculties of their choice and according to their aptitudes and get scholarship from the state. Excellent graduates from the regular courses continue their study at postgraduate courses. Multifunctional classrooms equipped with modern educational facilities and the introduction of new teaching methods are very beneficial to students’ capacity.
The university is making strenuous efforts to integrate education, scientific research and production by steadily improving its educational system and methods and the ranks of scientists and researchers and also building the bases for developing intellectual products introduced with cutting-edge technology.

Its sound material and technical foundations and preeminent research personnel are providing scientific and technological guarantees to the vigorous advance of socialist Korea.

Its scientists and researchers are making persevering efforts to solve several difficult problems that remain as global challenges to various fields including cosmology, materials design and quantum information. They have also produced numerous scientific and technological achievements conducive to the development of the country’s economy and the improvement of the people’s living standards.

Now Kim Il Sung University is the hub leading the educational and research work of other universities across the country and also an academic centre propelling the advance of overall realms including politics, the economy and culture.

Under the consistent concern and care of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK, the university continues to advance vigorously towards a brighter future.

Photo: Ri Myong Guk, Ri Jin Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong
The university organizes international academic seminars and expands exchange and cooperation with universities in other countries, including invitation of professors and exchange of experts.

High-Tech Development Institute of the university has various research centres for IT, communications industry, electronic materials, biological industry, nano-technology, analysis and so on.
County Benefited from Land Administration

-Songchon County, South Phyongan Province-

Songchon County of South Phyongan Province is situated in a relatively low area with many mountains and rivers. It has the Piryu River, the second longest tributary of the Taedong River, and ten odd rivers that join it. Until a decade ago, the county suffered damage from floods in rainy seasons. Many farmland and roads were submerged and the local people felt difficulties in their farming and living.

People in the county keenly felt that they could neither be free from the vicious cycle nor achieve prosperity if they only blamed given conditions and environment and waited for a miracle to occur, and buckled down to land administration.

Technicians conducted a field survey of all the rivers and streams and mountainous areas in the county to get the details of water courses and their passage amounts and worked out a reasonable and practical design of river improvement.

The county set forth the afforestation for erosion control as its long-term task for the regional economic development and the improvement of people’s living, and pressed on with it under the annual plans.

Officials and workers of all the institutions, enterprises and cooperative farms and local residents turned out in the efforts to free their home villages and workplaces from natural disasters. They dug out river-beds, reinforced and erected embankments, and planted trees and turfs every year.

They also carried out a stone covering of tens of thousands of square metres for the both banks of the Piryu River meandering through the county seat and planted good species of trees, thus freeing the township from floods and adding beauty to scenery.
Thanks to their efforts, over 130 hectares of farmland were restored to its original state, nearly 1,200 hectares of cold and humid land improved and several thousand hectares of farmland protected from floods.

More than 20 bridges were newly constructed or reconstructed, the revetment projects carried out, and culverts and water pipes replaced in many parts of the roads in the county.

The county paid a great attention to increasing forest resources and conserving ecological environment based on the detailed investigation of actual conditions of afforestation and soil conditions.

To this end, a modern parent tree nursery was built at the County Forestry Management Station to produce by stage saplings necessary for covering the whole county with fruit and other trees and flowers. A plant-growing activator which was developed by the county itself contributed to increasing the survival rate of the trees.

While pushing forward the land administration and environmental conservation, the county built low-rise apartment buildings and rural dwelling houses for several thousand households in the township and farm villages and laid out parks in the places in which the historical relics and remains are well preserved.

Not content with their laurels, the people in Songchon County strive hard to build theirs into a place more beautiful and better to live in for the coming generations.

Photo: Ri Myong Guk
Text: Pak Pyong Hun
Dear all,

I wanted to present my appreciation on the research work of Professor Kwang Ho Kim from the Institute of Mathematics, State Academy of Sciences, Pyongyang, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and his collaborations.

Professor Kwang Ho Kim is a very high-level scientific researcher. During the previous years, he focused, particularly on trendy and exciting topics devoted to mathematics with applications in the general context of Information Theory. Some of them were considered as wide-open problems and hard conjectures at the international level. With his collaborators, notably Korean scientists, he succeeds in providing elegant and efficient solutions. All the achievements were published in the best high standard and high estimated international journals in his domain and leads the research team at the prestigious Academy of Sciences in Korea holds the world supremacy. Thanks to his crucial scientific achievements full of creativity and originality, his encouragements including guidelines, and his dedication to high scientific quality, the Korean scientists headed by Prof. Kwang Ho Kim, notably, are undoubtedly recognized him as a leading mathematician in the field of solving algebraic equations over finite fields as well as in other branches of the computational algebraic geometry involving speedup of the elliptic curve public-key cryptosystems. Thanks to his excellent performances and determining role within the Academy of Sciences in Korea, and his exceptional inspiration in research, Prof. Kwang Ho Kim will certainly continue being a motor for future advances and scientific investigations at an excellent level. Prof. Kwang Ho Kim has all the merit and the best estimation that a scientific researcher could have! Congratulations to Prof. Kwang Ho Kim!

Best regards,

Sihem Mesnager
Head of Research Group “Algebra, Geometry, Combinatorics, Applications to Cryptography and Coding” of Lab LAGA, University of Paris VIII (Department of Mathematics), France
Kim Kwang Ho is acknowledged worldwide as an excellent scientist in the field of the computational algebraic geometry.

He started his study of the computational algebraic geometry already as a student of University of Sciences and conducted scientific research to blaze the trail in the field of the basic science. At the age of 26 he obtained a doctorate for his research finding on speedup of arithmetic on elliptic curves. Kim set a higher goal and redoubled his efforts.

He provided satisfactory solutions to several problems that had been considered internationally as hard conjectures in the field of computational algebraic geometry.

Research findings made by Kim and his research team were appreciated as the world’s leading achievements, and also quoted and described as “Kim-Kim formula for point doubling,” “Kim and Negre coordinates” and so on in several hundred collections of papers of international scientific journals, research reports, websites and theses.

In the plenary session of CHES (Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems) 2017 workshop held in September 2017 an American cryptographer stated that the technique in the paper presented by the DPRK cryptographers to the workshop surpassed all preceding techniques and offered to apply the technique to the world internet security standard TLS 1.3.

Kim was confirmed as a member of the Program Committee of the Ninth International Workshop on the Arithmetic of Finite Fields to be held in 2022. He is also conducting researches jointly with excellent scientists of the world.

This year he has solved three unsolved problems on the theory of finite fields of computational algebraic geometry and contributed four papers to the SCI-class international journal.

He is now continuing scientific research to push back the frontiers of computational algebraic geometry and cryptography.

Photo: Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Choe Kwang Ho

Kim Kwang Ho is acknowledged worldwide as an excellent scientist in the field of the computational algebraic geometry.

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He provided satisfactory solutions to several problems that had been considered internationally as hard conjectures in the field of computational algebraic geometry.
Tongan Senior Middle School in Central District of Pyongyang has an early vocal music education course that involves some 200 students. It has gained a nationwide reputation for having produced a lot of excellent vocalists in its 38-year history. Many graduates are honoured with the title of People’s Artiste and are also winners of international contests.

The course is comprised of junior and senior classes, and is staffed by ten odd teachers who received professional education and had performing careers. The enrolment of new students is conducted in three stages. Firstly, teachers visit primary schools in the city some months before a new school term to select among pupils in their final year those with artistic talents and good appearance. Secondly, the selected undergo examinations that include sight reading, singing and oral test, and an average of 50 percent of the applicants pass them. In the final stage they take written examinations of Korean native language and

Future Vocalists at "Oriole" School

The early vocal music education course of the school has produced a lot of excellent vocalists in its 38-year history. Many graduates are honoured with the title of People’s Artiste and are also winners of international contests.
mathematics.

Every year about 30-40 pupils are enrolled in the course, 90% of whom are girls.

Students usually take lessons of regular subjects in the morning and those of sight reading, piano learning, rhythmic movements and other music studies in the afternoon.

Those in the junior class take individual lessons primarily, which are aimed at finding out their exact aptitudes and talents. Tutors may be changed according to the findings.

In the senior class students learn advanced vocal techniques, plus other subjects such as music theory, and take lessons in piano and janggo, a traditional percussion instrument of Korea.

The students are well aware through their experience that the students’ talents, though inborn, can be fully displayed in the future only when they are cultivated well.

The students participate in several artistic contests and national artistic performances annually, which serve as good occasions for them to polish their artistic abilities.

Many of the students have become prize-winners in national students’ artistic competitions and other contests, and a growing number of graduates enter Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun Conservatory and other institutions of higher education.
As the sun sets, the streets of Pyongyang get crowded with citizens on their way home from work. Everybody looks optimistic and lively, as they share pleasure of the day’s work and promise a greater success of tomorrow.

Public buildings, skyscrapers and high-rise apartment buildings are gorgeously illuminated and the lights come on at the windows of the flats.
During the evening hours, commercial service centres become more animated.

Famous service bases on the banks of the Taedong River entertain customers with lavish hospitality.

Department stores and shops are full of people buying goods of their choices, and diners at fashionable restaurants enjoy their meals in a cordial atmosphere.
A lot of bases modernly furnished for the cultural and leisure activities of the citizens boast their magnificent appearances. Everyone, including women walking, holding their children by the hand, and young people leisurely strolling along the promenade, wears happy smiles on their faces. Though the night advances, happy laughter of people does not fade away.

Photos: Hong Kwang Nam
Text: Pak Ui Chol
Koryo Insam Active Tablet is an immune activator made with Kaesong Koryo insam and other medicinal herbs that are good for strengthening immunity, and selenium. Their organic combination produces such functions as immune-restoring and anti-oxidation to decompose and neutralize active oxygen, peroxide and toxic substances in the body, thus preventing and treating various diseases.

Koryo insam, a specialty of Korea, is well known worldwide as the king of medicinal plants for its panacean pharmacological actions.

Based on the principle that poor immunity causes all diseases, the tablet is prepared to invigorate the immune system of human body, thus having special effects on treating acute and chronic gastritis, active chronic hepatitis, functional indigestion, chronic diarrhea, pleurisy, bronchial asthma, hypertension, liver and breast cancers, corn, warts, radiation-caused diseases, diabetes, tuberculosis, allergic diseases, ascariasis, toxicosis and so on.
Mt Oga, one of the national treasures in Korea, boasts its biodiversity and long formative period.

The name of Mt Oga was originated from five beautiful peaks that rise over 1,000m high in primeval forests.
In the areas below 700 metres above sea level, needle-leaf trees are hardly seen, but broadleaf trees form dense forests.

Needle-leaf, broadleaf and mixed forests are distributed in the area between 700 and 1000 metres above sea level.

White birch forests distributed in a wide area.
1 100-odd-year-old yew
2 700-year-old linden
3 550-year-old pine-nut tree
The Ogasan Nature Reserve has rich fauna and flora, for it has thick forests and diverse natural and geographical conditions.

Over 130 kinds of animals such as tiger, bear and wild boar are found in the area.

The Ogasan Nature Reserve is situated on the boundary between Hwaphyong County of Jagang Province and Kim Hyong Jik County of Ryanggang Province.

The name of Mt Oga was originated from five peaks that rise over 1,000m high above sea level.

Its ridges and tops are generally flat and wide, but there are towering peaks in some places. The western side of the reserve is steep and its eastern one is rather gentle. Clear water running down valleys all the year round forms the Ryongji River.

The reserve has a continental climate typical of the inland area, and as it is located in the boundary between boreal and temperate plant areas, it boasts diverse flora.

Its forests are thick with such needle-leaf trees as Abies nephrolepis, spruce, fir and pine-nut, as well as broadleaf trees like Mongolian oak, linden, birch, castor aralia, elm and Amur cork.

There are also shrubs, creepers including wild vine, tara vine, and Schizandra chinensis, and mushrooms.

The reserve has a primeval forest of coniferous trees.

On the eastern side of Mt Undong is found a 1,100-odd-year-old yew, and 500-odd-year-old pine-nut trees are found on the plateau of the mountain. And there grows a 350-year-old fir at the foot of Kusan Pass and a 260-year-old Abies nephrolepis in the valley.

The reserve abounds with medicinal herbs and trees, including wild insam, forest asiabells, barrenwort, and Acanthophanax sessiliflorus.

It also serves as an ideal habitat of wild animals, birds and fish.

The Ogasan Nature Reserve covering an area of 6,500 hectares was recently registered as a natural monument of the country.

Photo: Kim Song Chol
Text: Kim Son Myong
**Mt Kumgang** is a celebrated mountain of Korea and also renowned throughout the world for its scenic beauty. 

- **60km long from north to south**
- **40km long from east to west**
- **530km² in area**