



ESTABLISHED 1965

Great socialist wealth born of devoted service for people's wellbeing Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un attends commissioning ceremony of Kangdong Greenhouse Complex

KCNA

A world-leading vegetable production complex has been successfully built and inaugurated in the Kangdong area of Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, at a stirring time when a new world of socialist cultural efflorescence and a new era of grandiose changes—the Korean people's long-cherished ideal—are being brought about under the guidance of the great Party Central Committee.

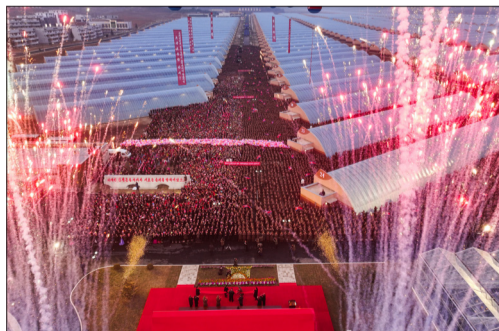
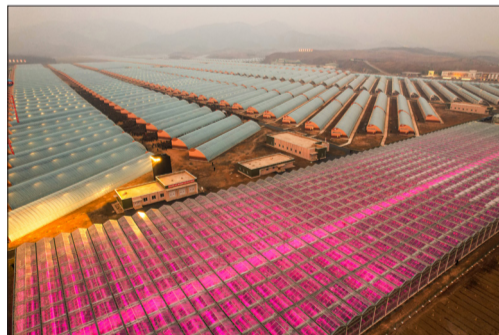
The Kangdong Greenhouse Complex, where vegetable production is put on an advanced intelligent and intensive footing with its modernity,



culture and practicality surely guaranteed, is a monumental edifice born of the political idea of believing in the people as in Heaven and the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people of the Workers' Party of Korea that spares nothing in promoting the rights, interests and wellbeing of the people, regarding it as the most important state affair, and a model entity representing the country's rapid development.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un unveiled a far-reaching plan for building a number of modern greenhouse farms in different parts of the

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country, even made sure that important military bases were dismantled for greenhouse farms, and has put his heart and soul into their construction. He unfolded a blueprint for building a large-scale greenhouse farm in the Kangdong area at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK and energetically guided the whole process of the building project.

The service personnel of the Korean People's Army, who responded with single-minded loyalty to the special order of the Party Central Committee, successfully built a new-generation greenhouse complex whose size and production capacity are much bigger than the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm, public buildings and terraced dwelling houses harmonizing with the surrounding natural landscape in a matter of one year with their strong offensive spirit and mettle of

Korean-style creation, thus presenting a fairyland-like "greenhouse town", "farm town" in a suburb of the capital.

The spectacular complex with modern greenhouses of peculiar styles, including cylindrical greenhouse for vegetable cultivation and dome-shaped glass hydroponic greenhouse, will produce and supply various kinds of vegetables to the citizens of Pyongyang.

A commissioning ceremony of the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex was held with splendor on March 15.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, attended the ceremony together with leading cadres of the Party and the government.

The venue of the event, where the birth of the large-scale greenhouse vegetable production base would be declared to add another brilliant page to the new era of comprehensive national rejuvenation

being dynamically opened up by the WPK, a great motherly party which takes warm care of the people's happiness and destiny, was full of great emotion and joy of the participants.

All the participants were waiting for the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, a great leader and artist of epochal changes who glorifies the country where the people's desire is realized as an ideal one under socialism, as befitting its prestige and status as a power, with his untiring efforts and devotion.

When Kim Jong Un and his beloved daughter arrived at the venue of the ceremony amid the playing of welcome music, all the participants broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!"

All the participants enthusiastically cheered, looking up to Kim Jong Un, the pioneer of great change and the great artist of creation.

Present at the ceremony were Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium

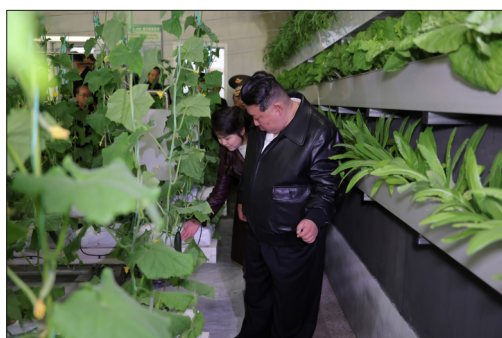
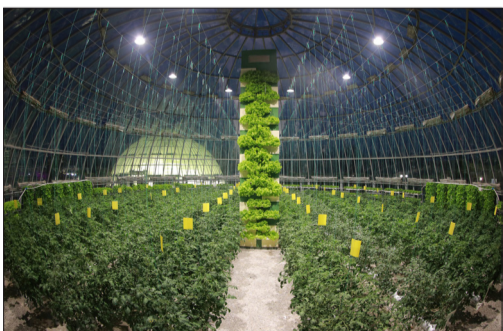
of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, officials of armed forces organs, ministries, national agencies and Pyongyang Municipality, soldier-builders and officials and employees of the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex and Pyongyangites.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Ri Il Hwan, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, made a commissioning speech.

The speaker said the complex, the third proud creation in the history of building modern greenhouse farms in the new era ushered in by the Party, has been successfully built in a matter of one year and its significant inauguration would be declared. He continued that the completion of its building project

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and the start of full-scale vegetable production, which will greatly contribute to bettering the capital citizens' diet, constitute another successful fruition of the gigantic creative struggle which the Party determined to do and has put big efforts to for the good of the people, and an inspiring event that convinces them of bigger and new successes this year when the whole country makes leaps forward for development and change.

He stressed that the commissioning of the complex vividly represents the boundless pride of creating new things in our own way confidently to the envy of others and a substantial change that has reached the people, not by lip service and wishful thinking but as a reality, and at the moment, not in the distant future.

Upon authorization by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, the speaker extended warm thanks and congratulations to the service personnel and all other builders who successfully built the greenhouse complex as a people's asset adding lustre to our era and fully demonstrated the absolute advantages and inexhaustible vitality of Korean-style creation with the steadfast spirit of devotedly implementing the Party's resolutions and through indomitable and strenuous struggle.

He recalled that the General Secretary, who had always cherished and matured the idea of supplying fresh vegetables to the citizens of the capital city all the year round, along with building 50 000 flats in the city, as important plans in his mind, had proposed and energetically led the construction of a greenhouse complex for the citizens of Pyongyang since he opened up a bright prospect for building modern

greenhouse farms in different parts of the country. The Kangdong Greenhouse Complex is a precious socialist asset born of the warm sincerity and wise leadership of the General Secretary, who devotes his all to promoting the people's well-being, he stressed.

He said that the modern, advanced, convenient and unique greenhouses and over one thousand houses at the complex are associated with the devoted efforts made by the soldier-builders who dedicated their pure conscience and efforts to every process and every part of construction displaying the invincible might of the Korean People's Army, rooted in their absolute loyalty to the leader, and by the families of service personnel who added to militant enthusiasm of the officers and men working day and night at the construction site both in the hot summertime and in the cold wintertime.

The speaker referred to the intense loyalty and devoted efforts made by the scientists and technicians who studied and introduced an intelligent integrated production system for creatively controlling the production environment and process and various new technologies in conformity with the actual conditions of our country by continuing tireless inquiries with extraordinary creative spirit, citizens who carried out river improvement and landscaping, and officials and working people of ministries, national agencies and relevant units who provided planned materials and equipment in a responsible manner.

He said that our own way and strength are a fundamental guarantee for building structures, rare to be found in other parts of the world, at will and that when all the people work hard in the high spirit

displayed in this greenhouse complex construction, the day when the whole country prospers and the people enjoy an affluent and civilized life would be brought earlier. He ardently called upon all the people to make firm and courageous advance toward a new great victory in 2024 that will witness another change and progress and toward eternal prosperity of the beloved country.

Kim Jong Un made a speech encouraging the service personnel of the KPA who successfully built the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex to realize another cherished desire of the Party.

The following is the speech:

"Comrades,

"Dear officers and men of the air force units,

"Teaching staff and cadets of military academies at different levels,

"You have taken much trouble indeed.

"As we see today, you have built in a matter of a year this advanced and splendid asset at a miraculous speed. I cannot find enough words to express my gratitude to you and my happiness.

"The traces of your hard-fought struggle in this transformed Kangdong area have already disappeared.

"However, your staunch revolutionary spirit, outstanding wisdom and strenuous efforts buried under this creation will live as a model for the coming generations, I believe.

"Seeing it, everyone will say that something has been created from nothing.

"You have set up a large creation as a present for the people in the place that bears the imprints of your military service and militant feats.

"Whereas all the challenges and difficulties facing the state are our army's primary targets for annihilation,

the accomplishing of the cherished desires of our Party and people is its first goal to attain.

"This is the invariable essential nature of our army.

"Heroic officers and men of our army who are always thoroughgoing and powerful in defending the state and the people and legendary and almighty in creating the wealth of the country and the happiness of the people,

"As it has always been with you, you are just given the priceless honour of leading the effort to effect a world of transformation in the coming years, a world which our ideals and our style of creative struggle will surely lead to.

"Officers and men,

"Let us continue to advance and achieve victory, singing the song of creators under the uplifted banner of defenders.

"Availing myself of this opportunity, I, on behalf of our Party and government, once again extend thanks to our laudable and heroic army.

"Thank you."

When he finished the speech, stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" raised by all the participants resounded across the sky of March.

All the soldier-builders, who received the deepest trust and the highest honor from the great Party Central Committee, were filled with enthusiasm to add lustre to the noble prestige of the ever-victorious heroic army and genuine people's army at the outposts of the sacred struggle for accelerating the comprehensive development of our thriving nation by steadily giving full play to the fighting spirit and creative mettle displayed in the construction of the Kangdong Greenhouse

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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un guides training of KPA paratroopers

He highly praised servicemen for their political and ideological readiness and military, technical and physical preparedness

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided training of air-borne units of the Korean People's Army on March 15.

He was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted on the spot by Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the KPA, a deputy chief of the General Staff of the KPA, the commander of the Air Force of the KPA, the commander of the Eleventh Corps and other leading commanding officers.

The training was aimed at inspecting the paratroopers' readiness to be mobilized for any operational plan in surprise wartime circumstances and judging their real war capabilities adapted to different combat action procedures.

The combatants, who came to see again during their training the great iron-willed brilliant commander directing

the struggle for bolstering up the KPA's combat capabilities through his ceaseless undying journey for developing it into the most powerful, elite combat forces in the world, were filled with high confidence and enthusiasm to fully demonstrate the extraordinary ability and heroic fighting spirit they have cultivated in their efforts to prepare themselves to be brave fighters.

Kim Jong Un received a report on the plan for training and guided the drill at an observation post.

Transport aircraft carrying the airborne troops appeared in the sky above the

training ground and the paratroopers showered down on a simulated enemy position.

The airborne soldiers, who have steadily developed their indomitable combat capability with loyalty and patriotism through their arduous and demanding training, true to the training-first policy of the WPK, put the simulated operation zone under control at once with matchless courage and mettle, fully demonstrating their perfect combat capability to occupy the enemy region at a stroke once an order is issued at the moment.

defence in direct charge of fighting a war, is fully prepared for war in all aspects and firmly maintains perfect combat readiness with a clear outlook on the archenemy, he said that he was very satisfied with this.

He set forth important tasks for the entire army to enhance its militant might in every way by conducting training more intensively with the main emphasis placed on steadily studying and applying realistic and scientific training methods for achieving maximum fighting efficiency

Watching with great satisfaction the combat training of the skilful airborne soldiers, he said that their bravery vividly represents the invincible fighting spirit and valour of the KPA.

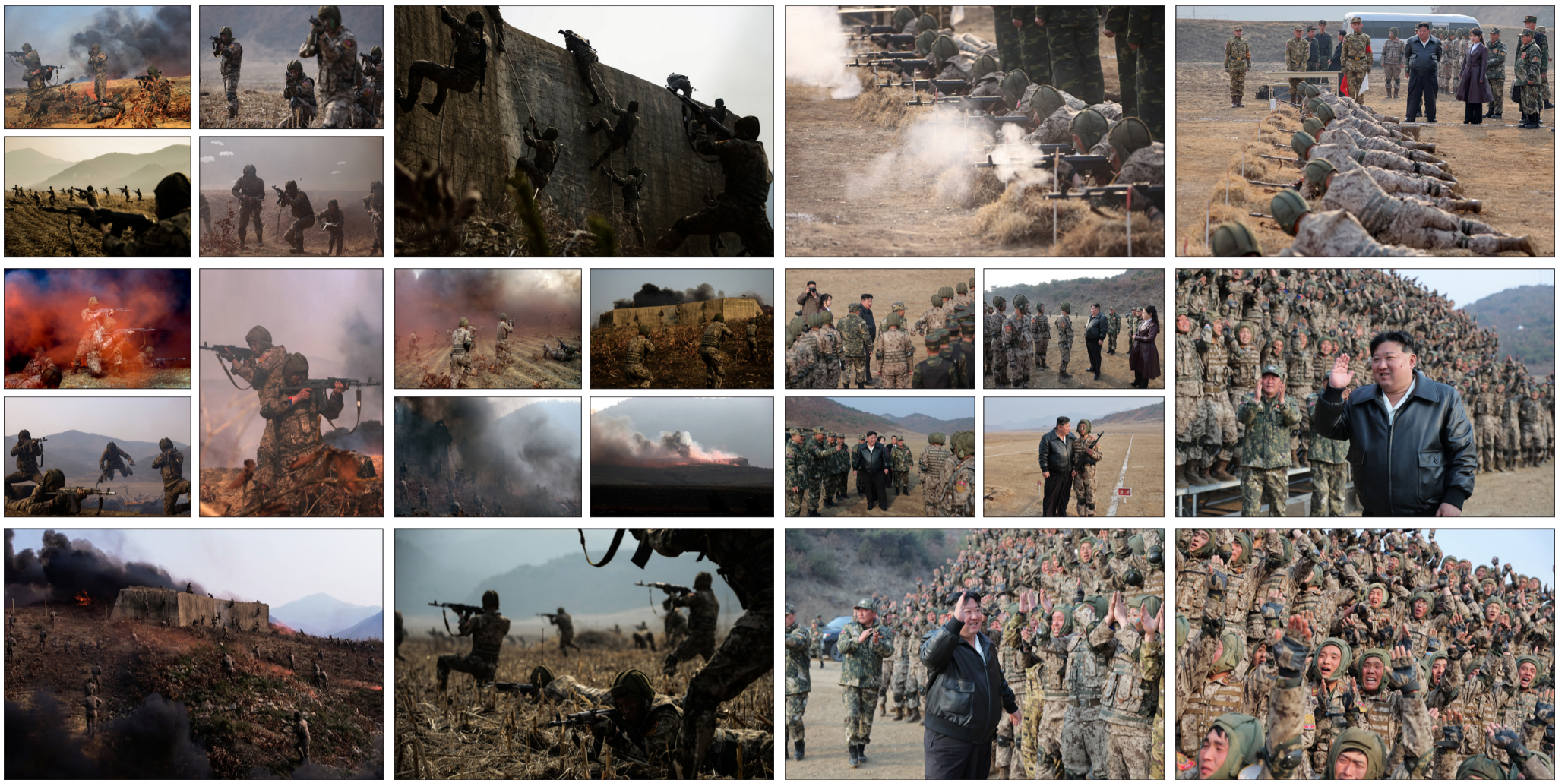
Appreciating their efforts for having firmly cemented their a-match-for-a-hundred combat capability through intensive training for real war out of patriotism and loyalty, he highly praised them for being not only strong in their political and ideological readiness but also well prepared in terms of military techniques and physical strength.

Noting that he could personally confirm through the recent major drills that the KPA, the main force for national



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on actual battlefields as required by modern warfare.

Underlining the need for the KPA to conduct every round of training under the simulated conditions of real war in order to prepare the soldiers to be stalwart fighters capable of fighting and surely winning the life-and-death decisive battles in contingency, he called for organizing in a methodological way scientific combat training to proactively cope with various topographical, meteorological and round-the-clock conditions and intensive exercises to make them get familiar with the action

procedures under the most extreme conditions and unexpected combat circumstances in order to train brave and able future combat heroes on every training ground.

Emphasizing that officers in direct charge of training should fulfill their duty, he said that as their high ability is just a basic factor of guaranteeing the results of effective training, they should steadily enhance their qualifications amid a fierce competition for improving practical ability, continuously explore new and valuable training forms and methods, remain strict in making demands on trainees, and thus contribute to increasing the

combat capability of their units and sub-units by attaining marked results in training.

Stressing once again that it is the primary duty of the KPA to make full preparations for war, he underlined the need for all the service personnel to firmly arm themselves with the strong will to fight the enemy and thoroughgoing outlook on war that they will change the course of history without fail if a war breaks out, and continue to spur war preparations by adding to their current fervent training enthusiasm.

Encouraging the KPA, strong in idea and faith, invincible for self-defence and

ambitious for eternal victory, he had a photo taken with the airborne combatants who successfully carried out their combat training.

Paying the highest tribute to Kim Jong Un who added to their enthusiasm for training and struggle in the entire army with confidence and optimism for sure victory and clearly indicated the ever-victorious fighting strategy, the commanding officers and participants in the training vowed to successfully fulfill their mission and duty as soldiers of the heroic KPA in the sacred struggle to glorify this significant year as a new heyday of intensified war preparations.



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Complex.

Kim Jong Un cut the tape for commissioning of the complex.

Fireworks were set off to the sky above the venue filled with surging excitement as a witness to a touching scene to be recorded in the great journey of devotion for the people.

Kim Jong Un waved back to the soldier-builders and other people.

The great persons of guidance, together with cadres of the Party, the government and the military, went round the complex.

Kim Jong Un visited greenhouses of different types to learn in detail about the advanced technical devices for cultivating

greenhouse vegetables introduced for the first time in the country, their economic efficiency and technical features.

He expressed great satisfaction over the highly intensive, optimized and intelligent production processes to be operated by our own efforts and technology with an eye to the world.

He said that a new sphere and realm of greenhouse vegetable production has been pioneered thanks to the completion of the land- and labour-saving greenhouse complex which guarantees radical increase in productivity in comparison with the conventional cultivation method while providing the growth environment of various kinds of tasty and nutritious vegetables in a scientific and balanced

way. He added that the eye-opening transformation in the Kangdong area is an epitome of the worthwhile struggle of creation of our own style getting intense in the spirit of self-reliance and self-existence.

To expand the proud successes and experience gained in the construction of the greenhouse complex, which will serve as another great engine for improving the people's living standards, is a sacred undertaking for further enriching and beautifully cultivating the new socialist life, he said, giving instructions on accelerating large-scale modern greenhouse farm construction on a nationwide scale and surely turning vegetable production into an innovative

industry.

He looked round the houses built for the working people who would enjoy a worthwhile working life at the complex, and wished them happy future.

The commissioning of the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex constitutes a significant occasion for adding to the confidence in and optimism for a new great victory being brought about by the Workers' Party of Korea, whose unquestioned mission is to achieve the prosperity of the country and promote the people's well-being, and for injecting fresh vitality to the grand advance all the people make in the Korean-style mode of struggle and way of creation for the future of a highly civilized powerful country.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un guides tankmen's training match

Kim Jong Un expresses great satisfaction with overwhelming capacity of Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division and combat capability of new-type main battle tank

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided a training match between the large combined tankmen's units of the Korean People's Army on March 13.

He was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

He was greeted on the spot by Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the KPA, the vice-minister of National Defence in charge of equipment,

the director of the tank department of the KPA General Staff and commanding officers of the large combined tankmen's units of the KPA.

Commanding officers of the tank and mechanized units of the KPA at all levels watched the match.

The training match was aimed at strictly



inspecting tankmen's actual combat capabilities and making them get familiar with combat action methods on different tactical missions.

Tank crews selected from the combined units competed in the match.

The tank crews, who came out to the training ground with the joy and pride of showing their combat actions to

Kim Jong Un, were full of militant confidence to give full play to their wisdom and courage as a-match-for-a-hundred tankmen who have tenaciously prepared themselves as fully-fledged riders of "iron horses" amid the flames of a revolution in training kindled by the Party.

Kim Jong Un mounted the observation

post, where he received a report on the plan for the match.

When the beginning of the match was signalled, the tanks started making dashes reflecting the bravery of tankmen fully armed with the fighting spirit to annihilate the enemy.

Swiftly negotiating the various worst combat circumstances, the heavy tanks hit targets at once with powerful strikes and broke through strong defense lines with high maneuverability.

Watching with satisfaction the fierce advance of the tanks dashing ahead like wind, Kim Jong Un said with pleasure that it was quite spectacular and the grandiose looks of tanks

seemed to mirror the bravery and audacity peculiar to the KPA.

The match fully demonstrated the perfect capability for actual war and matchless fighting spirit of the gallant tankmen who have grown to be strong combat ranks equipped with high

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mobility and striking power and the reliable performance of the tanks, one of the powerful means for fighting war and their full combat preparedness.

The Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division won the match with its overwhelming fighting efficiency.

Congratulating the division on its success, Kim Jong Un said with great satisfaction that the tankmen of the division are really well prepared, adding that he has so far guided the training of units of different services, arms and corps and sub-units of the KPA many times but none of them satisfied him more than the tankmen's preparedness displayed at the match. He repeatedly expressed his great satisfaction, saying that if all the units and sub-units of the entire army are well prepared like the sub-units of the 105th Tank Division which participated in the match, he would never worry about the preparations for war.

Recalling that the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division is a unit with the proud history and tradition of having occupied the enemy capital, he highly praised the brave tankmen of the division, adding that he was really happy to see the

indomitable soul and heroic mettle of the wartime guard tankmen still pulsate in the fighting spirit of the tankmen of the new generation.

He expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the new-type main battle tank successfully demonstrated its very excellent striking power and mobility, displaying its amazing combat capability for the first time in the tankmen's match. He said it is something we can be proud of that the KPA is equipped with the most powerful tanks in the world.

He highly appreciated once again the untiring efforts the officers and men of the combined units have made to gird themselves for war while keeping highly alert, and set forth important tasks for making leaps forward in rounding off the preparations for war by giving fuller play to the elated fighting spirit.

Stressing the importance of the role and duty of tankmen in modern warfare, he underscored the need to organize intensive exercises simulating an actual war and training matches for enhancing combat capability so that they can carry out any combat mission promptly and accurately under various circumstances in contingency, and to take revolutionary measures to dynamically conduct the

movement for becoming versatile tank crew and other mass movements, thoroughly subordinating and orienting the movements to perfecting war preparations.

It is most important to prepare all tankmen of the army to be strongest in mental power like the wartime heroic tankmen who performed proud feats with matchless bravery, he said, calling on the tank units and sub-units at all levels to consistently conduct ideological education among them in combination with their practical activities so that they would fully display the heroic spirit of the preceding generations on battlefields.

He expressed expectation and belief that the brave tankmen of the KPA would always remain loyal to the struggle to prepare themselves to be one-match-for-a-hundred iron fists with a firm will to annihilate the enemy and thus fully demonstrate as ever the valiant spirit of the powerful iron-clad ranks.

He reviewed the tank crews involved in the match and encouraged them.

The tankmen who were greatly encouraged by the great brilliant commander's inspection, an expression of his deep trust, alongside their glorious colors on the training ground, extended

deep gratitude to him.

After reviewing the tank crews, he mounted a new-type main battle tank, took the control lever and drove the tank himself, adding to the high militant spirit of the tankmen and instilling in them thoroughgoing outlooks on the enemy and war.

All the officers and men of the tank units raised stormy cheers of hurrah, looking up to the invincible and iron-willed brilliant commander.

They vowed to more firmly prepare themselves to be stalwart fighters who make a breakthrough in the van of advance with their invincible "iron horses", deeply cherishing the matchless pluck and courage provided by him.

Then Kim Jong Un had a photo session with the tankmen of the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division who won the match.

Commanding officers of the KPA and participants in the match made a pledge to remain always loyal to Kim Jong Un who guided their match on the spot and bestowed great honour and deep trust upon them and added to their militant spirit and courage, and to make selfless, devoted efforts for the country and its people.



DPRK Foreign Ministry delegation visits Mongolia

KCNA

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK Pak Myong Ho, on a visit to Mongolia as head of a delegation of the Foreign Ministry, paid a courtesy call on Mongolian President Ukhma Khurelsukh on March 11.

At the talk the Mongolian president asked the head of the delegation to convey his warm greetings to Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Pak Myong Ho courteously conveyed the warm greetings of Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, to President Ukhma Khurelsukh.

Expressed at the talk were the stands to develop the traditional DPRK-Mongolia friendly relations provided by the preceding leaders in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and to boost friendly exchange and cooperation between the two

countries.

The talk proceeded in a friendly and warm atmosphere.

Present there were the DPRK ambassador to Mongolia, the minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the secretary general of the National Security Council of Mongolia, the councilor of the Mongolian president for national security policy and the Mongolian ambassador to the DPRK.

Pak Myong Ho, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK, on a visit to Mongolia, paid a courtesy call on Batmunkh Battsetseg, minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Mongolia, on March 10, and had talks with Gombosuren Amartuvshin, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Mongolia, on March 11.

At the meeting and talks both sides discussed in depth the issues of developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries as required by the new era and supporting and cooperating with each other in the international arena.

DPRK team advances to final of AFC U-20 Women's Asian Cup

KCNA

The DPRK team beat the puppet ROK team 3-0 in the semi-finals of the AFC U-20 Women's Asian Cup 2024 on March 13.

Therefore, the DPRK team has come to advance to the final.

The final match between the DPRK and Japanese teams will be held on March 16.

Enlarged plenary meetings vow to implement Party's regional development policy

KCNA

GFTUK Central Committee meets for plenum

An enlarged meeting of the 10th Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea (GFTUK) took place on March 13.

Members and alternate members of the Central Committee of the GFTUK attended the meeting and trade union officials from Pyongyang and local areas were present there as observers.

The meeting discussed the issue of thoroughly implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and other issues.

Pak In Chol, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee, made a report.

He noted that the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un declared the solemn start of the regional industrial revolution out of his noble intention to provide the people with the best living conditions in the world.

The regional development policy, hailed by all the people, clearly indicates the ways for definitely guaranteeing the long-term development of cities and counties, including the methods of properly setting the size and production capacity of regional-industry factories, creating raw material

bases and strengthening the technical forces of regional-industry factories, he said.

He stressed the need to make the trade union members have a deep understanding of the greatness and immortal revolutionary exploits of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, who ushered in a new era of comprehensive development, and to conduct an information and motivation campaign in an offensive way at the worksites for implementing the regional development policy.

Then speeches were made at the meeting.

UAWK Central Committee holds enlarged plenary meeting

An enlarged meeting of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Ninth Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea was held on March 13.

Attending it were members and alternate members of the UAWK Central Committee. Union officials in Pyongyang Municipality and provinces were present there as observers.

The meeting discussed the issue of thoroughly implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Han Jong Hyok, chairman of the UAWK Central Committee, made a report

there.

The reporter stressed that the Regional Development 20x10 Policy clarified by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un is a new milestone and militant banner for regional development as it epitomizes the sacred political idea, scientific outlook on development and steadfast spirit of serving the people of the WPK which regards it as its revolutionary climate and immutable mode of existence to believe in the people as in Heaven and to devotedly serve them.

He pointed out the tasks facing the UAWK organizations in the ongoing struggle for confidently opening up the period of comprehensive development for national prosperity by powerfully carrying out the Party's policy on developing regional industry by dint of loyalty and patriotism.

He called upon all the union officials and members to turn out in the drive to usher in a new era in which the regional areas change, a new era of comprehensive development of socialism, true to the leadership of the great Party Central Committee.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

SWUK Central Committee holds enlarged plenary meeting

The Tenth Enlarged Plenary Meeting of the

Seventh Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea was held in Pyongyang on March 13.

Present there were members and alternate members of the SWUK Central Committee and, as observers, union officials from Pyongyang Municipality and provinces.

The meeting discussed the issue of thoroughly implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Kim Jong Sun, chairwoman of the SWUK Central Committee, made a report.

She said that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un set it as a weighty revolutionary task, the fulfilment of which can neither be delayed nor shunned, to tackle the differences between the capital and regional areas and the imbalance between regions, solemnly declared the strategy for developing regional industry as a national policy and indicated the most scientific operation map and wise methodology for its implementation.

She called on all the union officials and members to fully display the strong spiritual strength and patriotic devotion of Korean women in the sacred struggle for implementing the regional industry development policy, true to the noble idea of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

Then speeches were made at the meeting.

DPRK-Russia ties put on new strategic height

By Song Jong Ho PT

March 17 marks the 75th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and Russia.

The DPRK concluded the agreement with the former Soviet Union on March 17 1949. This provided an important legal guarantee for further consolidating and developing the friendly relations between the two countries.

Under this agreement, the two countries have developed economic relations on the principle

of cooperation, equality and mutual interests and deepened the friendly relationship while promoting visits and exchanges in the fields of culture and art over the past decades. This served as an impetus for the steady development the DPRK-Russia ties.

The friendly relations between the DPRK and Russia have a long historical tradition.

The bond of comradeship and friendship between the peoples of the two countries forged amid the common struggle against imperialism developed into the friendly relations between the states and has been constantly

carried forward and enhanced from one century to the next and through generations on the basis of respect for sovereignty, equality and spirit of cooperation despite the trials of history.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il attached importance to the bilateral relations and ensured that the friendly ties developed in conformity with the aspirations of the two peoples. Thanks to the energetic external activities of the great leaders, the bilateral friendly relationship was consolidated and developed despite all sorts of twists and turns and made a great contribution to ensuring regional peace and security and turning the world political trend towards independence and justice.

In recent years, the friendly relations have been consolidated and developed onto a new high level.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who is determined to invariably promote the DPRK-Russia friendship with a long history and tradition, made immortal efforts to further strengthen the strategic

and traditional ties of friendship.

In April 2019, he had the first historic meeting with President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and agreed on the specific orientation and measures for further promoting mutual understanding, trust, friendship and cooperation and spurring the development of the bilateral friendly relations. After four years, he visited the Russian Federation again in September last year which marked the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, developing the friendly relations into the invincible relationship of comrades-in-arms and ever-lasting strategic relationship.

At the talks, the top leaders discussed the issues of further consolidating the friendship and solidarity and cooperative relations and boosting mutual trust by deepening many-sided exchanges and cooperation in various fields including high-level visits between the two countries.

Accordingly, the two countries are actively promoting cooperation

and exchange in various fields including politics, the economy and culture and taking practical actions continuously. In particular, the DPRK is pushing ahead with the work to achieve a common understanding for ushering in a new heyday of the DPRK-Russia friendship by revitalizing the bilateral exchanges and cooperation in all fields this year marking the 75th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation.

To steadily develop the traditional friendly relations is in line with the demands and aspiration of the two peoples and of strategic significance in view of the mutual interests. It also has a positive effect on ensuring regional peace and stability and, furthermore, on the development of international relations.

It is the invariable stand of the DPRK government and people to further develop the friendly relations with Russia while boosting many-sided exchanges and cooperation with the friendly Russian government and people.

Ground-breaking ceremonies for construction of regional-industry factories held in counties

KCNA

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the construction of regional-industry factories took place in Kujang, Unsan, Yonhan, Unchon, Jaeryong, Tongsin, Usi, Kosan, Ichon, Hamju, Kumya, Kim Hyong Jik and Jangphung counties one after another to implement the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Present there were Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for Organizational Affairs of the Central Committee of the

Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Il Hwan, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Jae Ryong, Jon Hyon Chol and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, officials of the Party and power organs in the relevant provinces and counties, members of the non-permanent committees for promoting the Regional Development 20x10 Policy, soldier-builders and working people.

At the ceremonies, speakers noted that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un set the great change for regional development as an epochal undertaking to be surely carried out by the Party and state and unfolded a gigantic

revolutionary strategy for completely renovating the regional-industry factories across the country.

They stressed that the Regional Development 20x10 Policy is the driving force for comprehensive national rejuvenation and growth that boosts the faith and optimism about the strength and future ideal and ambition, and it is another great revolution that can be made only by the WPK which regards it as its political ideal and political philosophy to believe in the people as in Heaven and devote itself to them.

The success in implementing

this policy advanced by the WPK depends on how the project is carried out this year, they said, adding that our people firmly believe in the People's Army dispatched to the construction theatres to realize the long-cherished desire of the Party.

The speakers ardently called for thoroughly implementing the Party's regional-industry development policy by the concerted efforts

of servicepersons and civilians.

Then followed speeches. The speeches expressed the firm will of soldier-

builders to fully display the indomitable mettle of the revolutionary army in the van of the regional industry revolution.



The ground-breaking ceremonies for the construction of regional-industry factories take place in Kim Hyong Jik and other counties to implement the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Young Kim Il Sung makes 1 000-ri journey for learning with ambition for Korean revolution

By Kim Hak Chol PT

In March every year, the Korean people recollect the 1 000-ri (250 miles) journey for learning, which was made by President Kim Il Sung, with deep reverence and yearning for him.

The journey was a historic trek young Kim Il Sung took all alone from Badaogou of Changbai County in China to his birthplace Mangyongdae in Pyongyang between March 16 and 29 in 1923.

Some years before, Kim Il Sung went to Northeast China following his father Kim Hyong Jik and attended a Chinese primary school. One day in early 1923, before finishing the school, he was told by his father that he should know the reality of his country in order to achieve its independence.

That day his father told him in earnest: A man born in Korea must have a good knowledge of Korea. If you get to understand clearly while you are in Korea why she has been ruined, that will be a great achievement. Share the fate of the people in your home town and experience how miserable they are. Then you will see what you should do.

Kim Il Sung decided to study in Korea in accordance with his father's wishes and set out on the 1 000-ri journey for learning on the morning of March 16 1923.

Before departure, he received from his father some money and a notebook marked with the route to Mangyongdae.

The book contained the roads to be followed by him and the names of the places to

rest and send a telegram twice.

As he left Badaogou he crossed the Amnok River, and during the long trip to Mangyongdae, he had to go along rugged paths.

were virtually uninhabited. Even in full daylight beasts of prey prowled about the woods.

In his reminiscences *With the Century*, the President wrote: "I suffered a lot

pass another would appear. It seemed there was no end."

It was on the evening of March 19 that he arrived at Kanggye in Korea after leaving Badaogou.

After staying a night at an inn in Kanggye, he went to the Kanggye Post Office and sent a telegram that he arrived safely to his parents in Badaogou as his father had told him to.

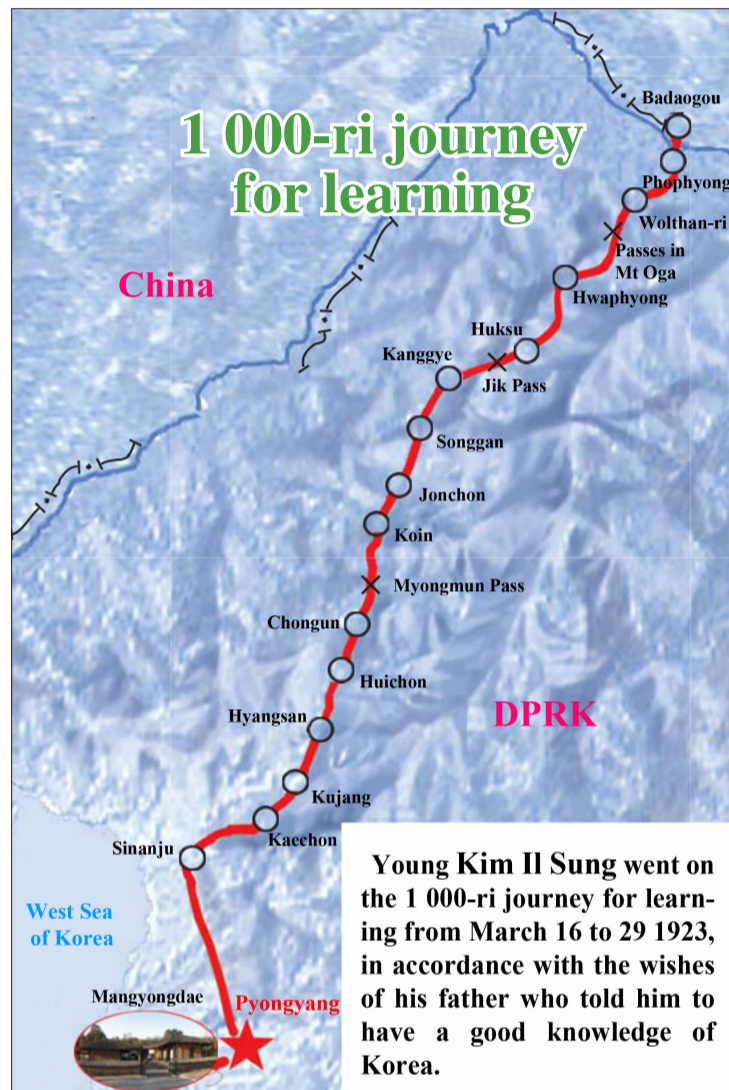
He resumed the journey and arrived in Kaechon through many places. From there to Pyongyang, he travelled by train via Sinanju. On arrival in Pyongyang, he sent the second telegram to his parents and finally entered the courtyard of his old home towards sunset on March 29.

The 1 000-ri journey was a journey of learning about his homeland and his fellow countrymen.

It made him realize that though suffering misfortune and pain as a ruined nation due to the Japanese imperialists, the Korean people who still preserved their traditional fellowship and beautiful customs were truly kind-hearted and morally excellent.

As he carefully scrutinized the reality of his country in distress, he made a solemn vow to defeat the Japanese imperialists who reduced it to a living hell and liberate it at any cost.

True to his pledge, he later went on the 1 000-ri journey for national liberation and waged the great anti-Japanese war to bring the jubilation of national liberation to his fellow countrymen and build an invincible socialist state dignified with independence, self-sustenance and self-reliance in defence on his homeland.



The route map shows the 1 000-ri journey for learning President Kim Il Sung made in March 1923.

It was March, but the weather was still cold in Northeast China and the northern areas of Korea.

For more than half the journey he had to walk over steep, craggy mountains which

during the journey. I really had a hard time of it while crossing the Jik Pass, Kae Pass (Myongmun Pass) and the like. It took me a whole day to cross the passes in Mt Oga. When I had crossed one

Young Kim Il Sung went on the 1 000-ri journey for learning from March 16 to 29 1923, in accordance with the wishes of his father who told him to have a good knowledge of Korea.

Journey for learning carried on

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

The Korean people are carrying on through generations the course of the 1 000-ri (250-mile) journey Kim Il Sung made in March 1923.

In 1973, which marked the 50th anniversary of his 1 000-ri Journey for Learning, schoolchildren in Kanggye City were the first to read the full-length novel "The 1 000-ri Journey for Learning" written in 1971 and march to Pyongyang along the course of the historic journey.

One year later, the first national regular study tour group was formed with 5 000 schoolchildren. The following year, a 10 000-strong study tour group left Phophyong for Mangyongdae.

It marked the beginning of the study tour of the 1 000-ri Journey for Learning in the DPRK.

Over 10 000 schoolchildren on average took part in the study tour every year in the 1980s and 1990s after the 1970s.

Starting from Phophyong, each study tour group marches along the course of the journey. While hearing the relevant explanation and visiting relevant sites, members of the group deeply cherish Kim Il Sung's immortal footprints impressed in the course, his warm love for the country and people and his noble intention of revolution.

They also conduct diverse political and cultural activities including study of President Kim Il Sung's reminiscences *With the Century*, study session of the reminiscences of anti-Japanese guerrillas and poem recital.

Through the 1 000-ri march from Phophyong to Mangyongdae, they take another step in spiritual growth.

Pak Kwang Hyok, a doctor of the Okryu Children's Hospital who took part in last year's study tour as a member of the relevant medical team, said, "Though the students walked up and down rugged passes for the first time away from their parents, they never complained of tiredness and pain. I was deeply impressed by their tenacity and courage."

Ryu Song, a student of Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans, said, "The march on foot from Phophyong to Mangyongdae covered nearly 360 kilometres. Sometimes I felt tired walking 28 or 32 kilometres a day, but I endured all difficulties thinking of the strong spirit displayed by the great Generalissimo Kim Il Sung. I had never felt such pride until that time."

Hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren have taken part in the study tour for more than 50 years since its beginning.

Wangjaesan meeting recorded in history of anti-Japanese national liberation struggle

By Kim In Dok

The Wangjaesan meeting held on March 11 1933 is one of the historic meetings recorded in the history of the anti-Japanese national liberation struggle in Korea.

After their military occupation of Korea (1905-1945), the Japanese imperialists were desperately trying to nip the fledgling Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army and its bases in the bud.

Under the circumstances, to extend the armed struggle into the homeland in the steadfast spirit of national independence was a very important matter related to the destiny of the Korean revolution.

This was because only when the armed struggle was spread to the homeland would it be possible to vigorously arouse the broad masses of people to the anti-Japanese struggle under the influence of the armed struggle and for the Korean people to defeat the Japanese aggressors and achieve the independence of the nation with their own efforts.

To liberate Korea by extending the armed struggle into the homeland was the strategic goal consistently maintained by General Kim Il Sung, the legendary hero of the anti-Japanese war, since he declared the war and an unshakable faith that had never escaped him.

Based on the subjective and

objective conditions and political situation for spreading the armed struggle to the homeland in 1933, the General crossed the Tuman River, which had been under strict guard by the Japanese imperialists, to advance into the homeland leading a unit.

On March 11 that year the General convened the Meeting of Chiefs of Underground Revolutionary Organizations and Political Workers in the Onsong Area on the summit of Mt Wangjae and made a speech "On Spreading and Developing the Armed Struggle into the Homeland".

Mt Wangjae is about four kilometres east of the county town of Onsong in North Hamgyong

Province in the northern tip of the DPRK.

The speech analysed the political situation of Korea at that time and the achievements made after the founding of the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army on April 25 1932, set the strategic line of extending the anti-Japanese armed struggle into the homeland and clarified the ways and tasks to implement the line.

The anti-Japanese guerrillas' advance to the Onsong area under the command of the General and the historic Wangjaesan meeting served as the prelude to the extending of the armed struggle into the homeland, and as a historic watershed in further developing the

overall Korean revolution centring on the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

After the meeting the anti-Japanese armed struggle was fiercely waged across the homeland. This finally led to the accomplishment of the historic cause of national liberation on August 15 1945.

In the 1970s the Korean people built the Wangjaesan Revolutionary Site, including the Wangjaesan Grand Monument along with the statue of President Kim Il Sung, the Wangjaesan Revolutionary Museum and so on, in the Onsong area in order to convey the immortal exploits of the President to posterity forever.

To turn all mountains into 'gold and treasure mountains'

It is the desire of Korean people to turn all mountains of the country into those of good fortune thick with green forests and make the song "We've Planted Skullcap and Crab-Apple Trees on the Mountains" resound far and wide.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

March 14 is Tree-planting Day in the DPRK. The day is a meaningful day when the Korean people harden their love for the country and their mind to devote their pure conscience and sincerity to the mountains and fields of the country.

On the day, all the people plant trees out of their single desire to turn all the mountains of the country into "gold and treasure mountains" covered with thick forests.

The Workers' Party of Korea set tree planting and landscaping as an important undertaking for the prosperity of the country, happiness of the people and prosperity of all generations to come and has made every effort to turn all the mountains of the country into those of good fortune, a people's paradise, thick with green forests.

In the spring of the year after Korea's liberation from the Japanese military rule, General Kim Il Sung went up Moran Hill in Pyongyang to unfold a far-reaching plan for turning the country, which was damaged by the Japanese imperialists, into a people's paradise covered with thick

forests. And he energetically led the work to that end.

Under his wise leadership, the mountains and fields of Korea gradually turned green for five years after liberation, but they were devastated again due to the Korean war unleashed by the US imperialist aggressors.

On March 14 1952, when the war was at its height, Kim Il Sung said in an anxious tone that forests are a precious asset of the country and that before the war mountains had been afforested on a large scale through a movement involving all the masses, but many of them were burnt out due to the heinous bombings of the US imperialists. After we win the war, we will need a great deal of timber to rehabilitate the destroyed national economy, he noted, and pointed to the need to create many forests through a similar movement.

At that time everyone thought of only the victory in the war and unstintingly devoted their all for the victory and all human and material resources of the country were directed only to the endeavour to win the war. He, however, was so worried about the problem of forests in the country and laid out

a grandiose plan for conducting afforestation through an all-people campaign, thus kindling the torch of afforestation as a mass movement.

Miraculously, the Korean people overfulfilled a plan for tree planting every year despite the enemy's heavy bombings during the war to plant trees in nearly 300 000 hectares of mountains and fields. Thus the precious forest resources destroyed by the enemy were restored.

The exploits of President Kim Il Sung who made a history of green forests further shined thanks to the noble patriotic intention of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

One day, while looking round the Kuwolsan Pleasure Ground, the Chairman said that socialist patriotism is not an abstract concept but the concrete thoughts and feelings that stem and grow from the idea of valuing and loving even a blade of grass and a tree of the country and that only those who know well about the beauty of their country and love it can devotedly struggle for the country and the people.

Whenever he visited a factory, he carefully examined the long-term afforestation plan put up there. During his inspection of a unit

of the Korean People's Army, he affectionately called it Persimmon Company looking at fragrant persimmon trees growing there. And at a KPA unit whose soldiers took the lead in tree planting, he highly appreciated them, calling it unit of patriots.

Whenever he saw dense forests and vast stretches of smartly realigned farmland, he quietly called them green mountain and green field with affection. And he was quite grieved to see mountains with few trees on his field inspection tours. So he made great painstaking efforts to turn the whole country into forests and gardens to the last days of his life.

The noble desire of the President and the Chairman to turn the whole country into a people's paradise thick with green foliage is now coming true under the wise guidance of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

One November day, when he visited the Central Tree Nursery, he said that there is no room to step back with bare mountains left as they are, calling on the whole Party and all the people to turn out in the forest restoration campaign, regarding

forest restoration as a war with nature, just as the whole country had turned out for reconstruction on the debris after the war.

The forest restoration was pushed thanks to the wise leadership of the General Secretary who kindled the flames of patriotism in the hearts of the people.

Modern tree nurseries were built as arsenals for forest restoration in different parts of the country and large areas of forests were created across the country.

While doing memorial tree-planting with the participants in the Second Conference of Secretaries of Primary Committees of the Workers' Party of Korea two years ago, he said that tree-planting is not simply a work of planting trees, but an undertaking to plant the Party's policy, ardent patriotism and pure conscience that would remain unchanged forever.

It is the desire of the Korean people to turn the mountains of the country into those of good fortune, a people's paradise, thick with green forests and make the song "We've Planted Skullcap and Crab-Apple Trees on the Mountains" resound far and wide.

Commemorative tree planting takes place across nation

KCNA

There was commemorative tree planting all across the country on Tree-planting Day.

Trees were planted at the arboretum of the Central Botanical Garden by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, and officials of the SPA Standing Committee.

Officials of commissions, ministries and national agencies also planted several good species of trees in different places in the capital city, including the areas around the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the Central Botanical Garden and the Monument to Party Founding.

Soldier-builders and civilian builders took part in tree planting in the Hwasong area and builders of Jonwi Street also planted trees.

Officials and working people in Pyongyang planted trees in keeping with scientific and technological requirements in Hyongjesan, Sosong, Moranbong and other districts.

Officials, working people, youth and students in North Phyongan, North Hwanghae, Jagang and other provinces planted trees with great care around the statues of the peerlessly great persons, revolutionary sites, revolutionary battle sites and cemeteries of fallen soldiers of the Korean People's Army in their localities.

Working people in South Phyongan and South Hwanghae provinces and Nampho City devoted themselves to creating forests of *Evodia daniellii* and for pulp tree to the Party's Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Officials, working people and inhabitants of many areas, such as Kujang, Sonchon, Cholsan, Unnyul, Songhwa, Songwon and Kyongsong counties and Waudu District, took an active part in landscaping with immense enthusiasm to spread out spectacular scenes in rural residential areas with good species of trees, flowering shrubs and ground-cover plants in a way that they preserve their regional characteristics.

Officials and working people of the Central Tree Nursery under the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection and other nurseries across the country produced enough saplings to successfully ensure tree planting.



Working people plant trees across the country on Tree-planting Day. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

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The Sinphyong Valley in North Hwanghae Province is covered in thick mist.

Top ten players and coaches of 2023

An Chang Ok and her coach Kim Chun Phil

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Player proves love for her sport

An Chang Ok, an artistic gymnastics player at the April 25 Sports Team, is one of top 10 players of the DPRK in 2023.

“An is not a special player. Her physical ability is not particularly greater than others, nor was she born of sportspersons’ family with the genes of sportsperson. If she has anything special, it is that she has loved artistic gymnastics very much from her childhood,” said Kim Myong Hwa, artistic gymnastics coach of the April 25 Sports Team.

As all the artistic gymnasts did, Chang Ok had worked hard in the training ground with coaches on holidays and Sundays when others enjoyed themselves from childhood.

She also envied her peers whenever she saw them with their parents as she came out of the training ground and made her way to her house, quite exhausted.

But she knew well that she had to endeavour to do something she loved and she wanted.

Of course, her parents and coaches helped her.

“People often say that

sportspersons live for gold medal, but I think gold medal is only proof. I think gold medal is proof that artistic gymnastics and I have united and that the former has accepted my love. The gold medal is proof with which a sportsperson demonstrates to the country how sincere his or her love and efforts are,” said Chang Ok.

She earned two gold medals in the women’s vaulting horse and uneven bars of artistic gymnastics at the 19th Asian Games held in 2023 with 14.049 and 14.266 points respectively. This year she won gold medals one after another in the FIG Artistic Gymnastics Apparatus World Cup held in Cairo, Egypt, and the FIG Artistic Gymnastics Apparatus World Cup in Germany.

Master coach trains world stars

Kim Chun Phil, an artistic gymnastics coach of the Pyongyang Sports Club, was selected as one of the top 10 coaches of the DPRK in 2023 as she coached An Chang Ok and other young gymnasts to win six medals including two golds at the 19th Asian Games last year as the women’s artistic gymnastics coach of the DPRK team.

She has devoted her all to

training world-class gymnasts for over 30 years since she was a girl in her 20s.

The typical world-class gymnastics stars she trained are Kim Kwang Suk, Kang Yun Mi and Hong Un Jong.

Kim Kwang Suk won a gold medal in the uneven bars of the 26th World Artistic Gymnastics Championships held in the US in 1991, causing a sensation.

Kang Yun Mi finished runner-up in the vaulting horse of the 2003 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships and won the vaulting horse in the 2006 Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championships and the same event of artistic gymnastics in the 2008 Olympic Games.

Hong Un Jong won the 2009 and 2013 Universiads and several other international events and was awarded gold medals at the 6th East Asian Games, 17th Asian Games and 2014 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships.

Kim Chun Phil qualified as an international referee in 2001 and was active at international events. She has been nominated as one of the top 10 coaches of the DPRK in 2023 for the fifth time since she was chosen for the first time in 2008.

Historical site, Inphung Pavilion

By Song Jong Ho PT

Inphung Pavilion is situated in Kanggye City, Jagang Province, in the northwestern part of the DPRK.

Standing imposingly on the cliffs of the banks of the Jangja River, it was built in 1472 in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty as a military command post in the northwestern part of the walled township of Kanggye. Its front yard was used as a military training ground. “Kanggye gunners” trained there fought bravely against foreign invaders.

The present pavilion was rebuilt in 1680.

The gabled pavilion with double eaves is 18.75m at the facade and 8.9m on the flank.

The height of the ridge of its hip-saddled roofs was set in conformity with the length and width of the building and the lines of the eaves, and the curved lines of the roof surface look elegant.

The pavilion looks majestic and cosy as it is painted colourfully to go well with summer and autumn landscapes.

It has been famous as one of the eight scenic spots in the Kwanso area. It is preserved as a valuable historical relic of the Korean nation.



Inphung Pavilion in Kanggye of Jagang Province.

