



# KOREA TODAY

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# Cheers of Celebration Resound in April

**E**VERY YEAR THE KOREAN PEOPLE grandly celebrate the Day of the Sun (April 15), the birthday of President Kim Il Sung who is the father of socialist Korea. Last April also witnessed relevant celebratory functions held with a large attendance across the country. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month the military parade and Pyongyang citizens' mass demonstration in celebration of the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the President took place at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang in a grand manner.

The participants in the function raised a storm of enthusiastic cheers for Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. The cheers represented the yearning for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who had raised the dignity of the

country and the people up to the highest ever phase and laid sound foundations for the prosperity of all generations to come; they also demonstrated the pride in having successfully marched along the road of independence, Songun and socialism under the guidance of the Supreme Leader.

Over the past five years the Korean people made radical progress in the building of a powerful socialist nation. Despite the imperialists' barbarous sanctions and blockade, they, displaying the spirit of self-reliance and carrying forward the tradition of great leap forward established by the President and the Chairman, have turned the national economy into a knowledge-based one, constantly increased production, and created in quick succession legendary tales of construction across the country by giving priority ▶





**Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un acknowledges participants in the military parade and Pyongyang citizens in a mass demonstration held in celebration of the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung in April 2017.**



▶ to the development of science and technology and upholding the banner of self-development first. An example is the mammoth project of Ryomyong Street completed in honour of the Day of the Sun. It took less than a year to build the street as an energy-saving and green street. This testifies to the Korean people's indomitable spirit and inexhaustible strength.

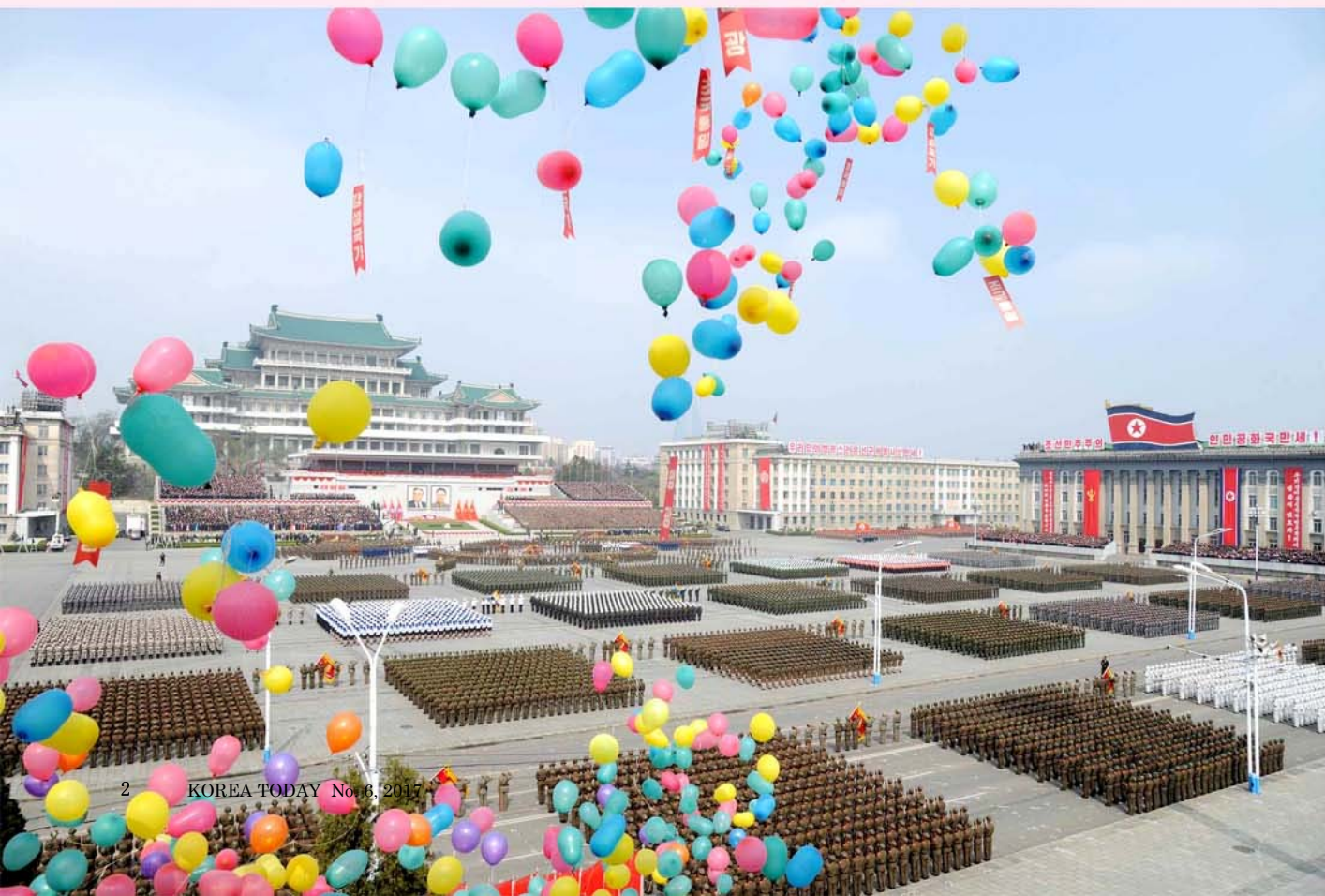
The Korean people's socialist construction has never been done in a peaceful circumstance. The US

and other imperialists have threatened the country in a worst ever manner that goes far beyond their protracted schemes to isolate and stifle it. This made the Korean peninsula remain in a critical situation in which a nuclear war might break out at any moment.

In accordance with the Supreme Leader's line of Songun revolution and the new strategic line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and building up the nuclear forces, the line that was



Scenes from the military parade and the Pyongyang citizens' mass demonstration held in celebration of the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.





► adopted at a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in March 2013, the Korean people have strengthened the revolutionary forces of the country as the most powerful army capable of defeating any formidable enemy, and improved the defence industry into a revolutionary one able to invent and create in succession latest weapons yet unknown to the world.

The aforesaid military parade and mass demonstration fully displayed the country's inexhaustible, great military power and clearly showed that Korea meant it when it declared that it would immediately deal a deadly blow to the US if the latter recklessly provokes it and return all-out war for all-out war, and nuclear attack of its own style for nuclear war.





**Pyongyang citizens warmly welcome the participants in the military parade.**

▶ While blazing a trail of history over the years, the Korean people have kept in their mind the noble sense of moral obligation to ensure the immortality of the President and the Chairman, and cherished the spirit of working devotedly and unflinchingly to translate the leaders' desires into reality. This has been the motive force for Korea's rapid progress. The Party, State and army of Korea have further strengthened and developed with immortal Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the guideline, and the people have worked miracles by making united efforts to implement the lifetime

instructions of the leaders. This has become a national trait inherent to Korea.

The past five years have convinced the Korean people that when advancing under the banner of self-development first, single-heartedly united behind their Supreme Leader, they will never fail to translate into reality the President and the Chairman's patriotic desire for a prosperous, powerful nation. Their conviction was demonstrated when the participants in the aforesaid functions burst into a roar of cheers. □

**Youth and students' evening gala *We Will Glorify the Great Kim Il Sung's Korea Forever* held to celebrate the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.**





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**Front Cover: Schoolchildren cultivate their talent to the full**

*Photo by Ra Ju Hyok*



**Back Cover: The Song-dowon International Children's Camp**

*Photo by Ri Song Ik*

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# Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un and Children



The delegates of the Korean Children's Union applaud the congratulatory speech of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un at the joint national meeting of the KCU in celebration of its 66<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary in June 2012.

**F**ROM OF OLD THEY SAID that the love for the children is the purest and most beautiful feeling that comes from the most devoted, positive and true heart.

## Father

In June 2012 there took place celebrations of the 66<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union (KCU), which was the most splendid in the KCU history.

On June 6, at a joint national meeting of the Korean Children's Union the KCU delegates had the honour of seeing Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, whom they had seen only on TV and in newspapers. Although they came to Pyongyang from all parts of the country by special planes and trains to attend the functions, they had not imagined that the

Supreme Leader would deliver a congratulatory speech at the meeting.

In his address, he said that the dear KCU members are treasures more valuable than billions of tons of gold and represent the hope and future of the nation, and that he would make every effort to bring his beloved KCU members up to be the happiest in the world and excellent pillars of Songun Korea. His words moved all the delegates to tears in a moment.

The Supreme Leader spent a good many hours with them: Together with them he enjoyed a recital of a poem by a congratulatory group of the KCU, an artistic performance and a firework display in the evening. The next day he had a photo session with as many as 20 000 delegates moving his seat twenty times.

One day he visited the Myohy-

angsan Mountaineering Camp for Pyongyang Schoolchildren unceremoniously. Hearing that the children had gone mountaineering, he said that he was going to wait and meet them to have a souvenir photo taken with them though he was busy. Only after having a photo taken with them, which would be the greatest of memories of their camping, did he leave the place.

On a visit to the Kyongsang Kindergarten, the leader asked a little "doctor" to make an "examination" of him, rolling up his sleeve. And when he attended the inauguration ceremony of the Songdowon International Children's Camp, he spent the whole day with the children.

When he was on an inspection of a frontline People's Army unit, he embraced a six-month-old son of an officer, patting him on the



**The Songdown International Children's Camp.**

- ▶ cheek, and had a photo taken with him. Remembering his first birth anniversary the leader went there again bringing a souvenir to the baby.

On the International Children's Day one year, the Supreme Leader visited the Pyongyang Orphanage to spend the holiday with orphans. One year he went to see the orphans as soon as he finished the New Year address on January 1. Saying that the orphans should be brought up well as fine scientists, sportspersons, artists and soldiers and even heroes, he saw to it that new orphanages were built, and took a step to supply fish to orphans, calculating the quantity of fish on his pocketbook himself.

Thanks to his warm care, new buildings for orphans—the Pyongyang Orphanage, the Pyongyang Baby Home, the Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans, the Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans and many others—have been built in the best places, and the best school things and daily necessities are supplied to them.

As they are well aware of it children throw themselves into his arms without reservation whenever they happen to see him,

saying, "Dear leader, we want to have a photo taken with you," and "Dear leader, please give me an embrace." When they've got something to boast, they write a letter to him first of all. Then, the leader reads them and leaves an autograph on the letter in reply like:

**"My dear Ri Hyang, I wish you grow up more brightly and beautifully to be a good daughter of Korea.**

**Kim Jong Un**

**June 27, 2012"**  
**"My dear Su Yon, you're a good calligrapher. That's a hundred marks and ten thousand marks!**

**June 13, 2012**  
**Kim Jong Un"**  
**"My dear Jun Hyok, you've done a good thing. I'm very proud of you. I wish you grow up to be a good man. I offer you five red stars.**

**October 10, 2012**  
**Kim Jong Un" ▶**

**The Mindulle Notebook Factory.**





▶ Sealing kinship relations with all the children across the country, the Supreme Leader always gives best things to them, saying that the sounds of their enjoyment make the country bright and cheerful. For the reason, they all follow the leader calling him *Father*.

### We Are the Happiest in the World

In September 2012 a law on enforcing universal 12-year com-

pulsory education was adopted at the Sixth Session of the 12<sup>th</sup> Supreme People's Assembly held in Pyongyang. Kim Jong Un published an immortal classic work *Let Us Glorify Ours as the Country of Education and a Power of Talents by Bringing about a Revolution in Education in the New Century*, illuminating the way to develop the education work in keeping with the new century.

The Okryu Children's Hospital, which was newly built, has some classrooms where children can have a lesson during their stay in the hospital. Thus they enjoy the benefits from free medical care and free compulsory education at the same time.

The other day the Supreme Leader said that though he was not a poet, he wanted to say that if only he could build his country into a socialist power true to the intentions of the great leaders, he would have nothing more to wish for even though his body would be scattered like a grain of sand on the road for the future of the younger generation.

For the sake of the children, he, in spite of the cold weather in December, visited the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory to see how soya milk was supplied to

children, and inspected the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill to understand the production of cloth for schoolchildren's uniforms. He paid a great attention to the matter of schoolchildren's uniforms and saw lots of designs and samples, saying that though the country was in a difficult situation, it should supply uniforms to the pupils and students true to the noble intention of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, and that it had to be done unconditionally whether they lacked money or not.

Thanks to his warm care, the Mindulle Notebook Factory and the Pyongyang Bag Factory were newly built to supply the children with high-quality notebooks and bags suited to their psychology. With the leader's love and devotion, the children are the happiest in the world.

Kim Jong Un's view on the younger generation is that affairs for the happiness of the younger generation are worth the nation's greatest concern.

That's why in Korea the children are the king of the country and their favourite song is *We Are the Happiest in the World*.

*Rim Ok*

### The Pyongyang Bag Factory.



# Ready Always



**The KCU members are determined to prepare themselves fully as dependable reserves to shoulder the future of their socialist country.**

**J**UNE 6 IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE Korean Children's Union. In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea eight- and nine-aged children join the KCU. On the day of admission they put on a red necktie, and they shout "Ready Always!" in response to the call of "Always be ready for our socialist country!" The reply is a manifestation of their unanimous determination to prepare themselves fully as dependable reserves representing the future of their socialist country. Through the organizational life in the union they understand the value of their parents and brothers and their home and grow up as true and proud persons who will work faithfully for the sake of the country and the people.

## **Emulating the Spirit of the Children's Corps**

The Children's Corps was a children's political organization formed in many rural areas and guerilla bases during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle led by Kim Il Sung in last century. It involved bereaved children of revolutionary martyrs and sons and daughters of workers and peasants aging between 8 and 15 who loved their country, had a strong hatred for the enemy and were determined to fight bravely against the enemy. The members of the Children's Corps waged a devoted struggle for national liberation in support of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, holding high a revolutionary banner of "Let us always be ready for independence of Korea and liberation of the world proletariat!"

Countless heroes were produced among the members of the Children's Corps. Kim Ki Song, a child hero of the anti-Japanese struggle, died a

► heroic death after saving people in a guerrilla zone. In his reminiscences *With the Century* President Kim Il Sung recollected that Kim Kum Sun had died at the age of nine, but that she is immortal. And at the last moment of his life Jon Ki Ok shouted to the enemy just before his execution asking that he be killed not with bullets but with bayonets and that the bullets saved be sent to the guerrilla army. Mok Un Sik kept the secret of the organization by putting his foot in a straw sandal—which contained a secret written message—into a blazing fire.

Emulating the noble spirit, members of the Korean Children's Union sacrificed themselves for the country during the Fatherland Liberation War in the 1950s. So Kang Ryom, Ri Hon Su and Rim Hyong Sam died heroically without succumbing to the enemy's brutal torture and threat with death, and a young girl Jo Pong Ok readily met her end, keeping the badge of the Children's Union in her bosom.

Their spirit is still alive. Yu Hyang Rim, a nine-year-old girl, saved portraits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il at the cost of her life at a crucial moment, and Ri Chang Do and Ri Kum Song died a glorious death while putting out a forest fire. They were of different ages, but they were all young patriots who laid down their lives for the Party and the leader, the country and the people. Etched in the mind of the KCU members, their exploits recorded in the history of the Korean revolution go down generation after generation with the schools called after their names.

## Sunflowers Turning Towards the Sun

On June 6, 1946 Kim Il Sung attended a joint meeting of children's organizations in Pyongyang held to form the Korean Children's Union. At the meeting he wished the children grow up healthily as treasure and master of a new Korea and work hard at their studies to be heroes in establishing a new democratic Korea. He suggested the slogan "Always learn and be ready for a new democratic Korea!" In his congratulatory message addressed to members of the Korean Children's Union on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation on June 6, 1971, he concluded his message by "Always be ready to be reserves of communist builders!"

Chairman Kim Jong Il took a tender care of the children even in the hard time of the Arduous March

and the forced march, true to the intention of the President who had called them king of the country and looked after them warmly. A lot of legendary tales have come, including the anecdotes about soya milk vans and a verse of a song reading *The General to the front and the children to a camp*.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said that to the Workers' Party of Korea and the country, the dear KCU members are treasures more valuable than billions of tons of gold and represent the hope and future of Korea. He takes all necessary measures to bring them up as pillars supporting a prosperous future Korea.

The schoolchildren are growing healthily as genuine KCU members, just as sunflowers turn towards the sun, true to the ideology and intention of the President, the Chairman and the Supreme Leader. At schools, schoolchildren's palaces, camps and other education facilities built up under the scrupulous concern of the leaders, they are learning to their heart's content and training themselves physically and spiritually to become staunch, full masters of the future.

They are working hard with an ambition and zeal to become masters of a sci-tech power. They try hard to be model KCU members who love their organizations, the collective and fellows, respect their teachers and elders, always act politely with beautiful moral qualities, take an active part in sports and socio-political activities, treasure their hometown, every single blade of grass and every single tree in their country, and do good things for the sake of society and the collective, the country and the people.

All the KCU members cherish deep in their heart what Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said:

**"KCU members should always remember the great trust in and care for them shown by the great Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and, just as sunflowers turn towards the sun, make positive efforts to learn from the glorious childhood of the Generalissimos. You should steadfastly carry on the line of the revolution, flying the flags bearing the immortal smiling images of the Generalissimos in front of the KCU flag."**

Under the blessings of the Supreme Leader the schoolchildren are nurturing great dreams.

*An Chol Ho*

# Spare No Expense for Children

## The Point He Re-emphasized

**I**T WAS IN 1956 THAT THE PROJECT OF THE Pyongyang Schoolchildren's Palace started to be designed. At that time, Korea was in a difficult economic situation and had a lot of things to do.

At this juncture, Kim Il Sung, top leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, proposed to build schoolchildren's palaces in Pyongyang and Kaesong. True to his intention, architects drew up designs with the total floor space of 8 200 square metres each.

Examining the designs several times, the leader said that large and wonderful palaces should be built for children and told the architects to design great structures with 50 000 square metres each, which was over five times larger than the original one.

One day in 1961 when the foundation and brickwork of the palace were underway, Kim Il Sung called in some officials concerned to indicate the direction and ways to build a fine palace, saying that as they were working for the good of younger generation, flower buds of the nation, they should erect a good palace for them. Later, visiting the construction site, he advised to coat floors and walls of the entrance and other halls with marble, adding that high-quality marble should be used for none other than children and that they should spare no expense for them.

That day, he emphasized repeatedly that the palace should be built as edifice of eternal value.

## Future of the Country

In July 2008 Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the Kanggye Foodstuff Factory in the downpour of rain. After acquainting himself with production and supply of soya milk on the daily, monthly and yearly basis at the soya milk workshop, he highly praised that the factory was producing and supplying milk to all the nurseries, kindergartens and primary schools in the city by vans every day.

Then, he went up to a biscuit-packing machine and tried a gourd-shaped biscuit from the board. Highly praising that it tasted very good, he understood the mixing proportion of raw materials for cake production.

Entering the material storehouse through the sugar production process, he was very satisfied with piles of beans and then gave an important instruction to ensure normal production in the future.

That day he said earnestly that children represent the future of the country and successors of the revolution, that the future of the country and the revolution depends on how they train the younger generation, and that the best things should be provided to the children in the future, too.

## Meticulous Care

In the playground of the Kyongsang Kindergarten, you can see children play merrily on various amusement facilities like slides and rotary poles and knee-to-knee wrestling on the rubber mats.

Their enjoyment often reminds the kindergarten administrators of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who visited the kindergarten in May 2012. Arriving at the kindergarten the leader shook hands warmly with administrators one by one. He was satisfied that the kindergarten building was marvellous. Presently, however, he became serious looking at the playground and the yard.

The officials didn't know why, and carefully looked at the yard paved with asphalt neatly and the playground with some amusement facilities including swings.

After a while, the leader said in an anxious voice that he was sorry the front yard of the kindergarten was all paved, and that the playground should be covered by sand or grass for the children not to hurt when they fell down from the swing. Then, he told the officials in charge of the kindergarten construction to cover the playground with sand or grass for the safety of children, and added that since there were only a few amusement facilities like slides and swings in the playground, he would provide some small amusement facilities like a swingboat.

Thanks to his warm care, the wide yard of the kindergarten was covered with rubber mats, and the playground with grass, and the yard and indoor hall were furnished with another ten kinds of amusement facilities. Now children can play merrily to their heart's content.

*Kang Hye Ok*

# Child Poet



SOME TIME AGO I HEARD there is a child poet in Jong-baek Kindergarten No. 2 in Rang-nang District, Pyongyang, and I visited it to meet the child. On my way to the kindergarten I wondered how well a small child would write poems. But when I met him, I was surprised; he was Ri Il Ung, 6, but he had written over 200 poems. According to teacher Ri Hye Ryon who is in charge of Il Ung, he usually writes three poems a day. I was absorbed by the teacher's following story.

One day in a class she told children a story and let them recite the story. Then Il Ung recited all the content of the story while seeing the relevant picture. Now she perceived that the child has a good ability of concentration and logical thought. Later he often did unexpected things to the wonder of the teacher. One day, after hearing the teacher's explanation, he stood up and added what he had seen on TV.

His memory is so good, and his ability of expression is so unusual. For a six-year-old he has a lot of common knowledge, can compare and observe natural phenomena and loves to write compositions. Hye Ryon drew up teaching plans suited to the psychology of Il Ung who is full of curiosity and likes to delve into matters, and began to develop his cogitative faculty. She



Ri Il Ung and one of his works.



made efforts to teach him the structural form of poem and help him cultivate an ability of finding out new things from ordinary happenings, and the essence of life. And she let him write a diary every day and put into words what he felt after reading books.

The teacher's sincere efforts bore fruit: the child began to express the feelings he had got from natural phenomena and environment through poems. When he went to the Hall of Children's Dream in the newly built Sci-Tech Complex he shouted for joy, "Wow! It's a house nurturing dreams," and at the Munsu Water Park he recited the improvised poem *Crystal Clear Water Laps*.

The teacher often found him in deep creative thought. Children of Il Ung's age usually feel bored and scatter-brained whenever they do something for a long

while. However, the boy kept a sincere attitude, which showed that he had grown in both mind and talent.

At last, Il Ung's talent bore fruit. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un read the poems written by the child. The child says, "People call me a little poet. I really wanted to show my talent to Marshal Kim Jong Un who loves us children and tell him my will to become a pillar of the country." His mother says, "As there is the socialist educational system which finds out and develops my son's talent that we parents seldom notice, we have no worry about his future. Many talents are growing up in this country where dreams come into reality."

People wish the child poet a bright future.

Rim Ok

# Cradle of Orphans



ONE OF IMPORTANT topics recently is that the Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans was newly built. We decided to show the orphans' life there.

## An Ordinary Day

When the sun rises, waking-up music is played in the whole dormitory. The rooms which were in silence now get animated. Doors open here and there, and the orphans rush out into the playground competitively wearing smiles on their faces. That's the first course of their day.

They do exercises pleasantly to the tune of merry music, and then clean and tidy up—one takes a mop, another holds a dustcloth and yet another makes the bed. Everything touched by the small hands gets clean and tidy. The faces are permeated with happiness.

Their appearances in school uniform look perfect. When they step into the dining hall, they are welcomed by various kinds of foods prepared sincerely by cooks. And when they enter smart classrooms equipped with multi-functional IT facilities, they are welcomed by their teachers.

They attend lessons in the morning—they have a snack of bread and milk in the intervals. After lunch they have a sweet nap. In the afternoon they are under the care of extracurricular instructors. They spend a good time dancing, singing, reading interesting books and doing sports activities as they want—they are oblivious of the passage of time.

After dinner they relax, watching TV or having a recreation party in their cosy bedrooms.

The headmaster of the school says, "Our respected Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un proposed

to build my school. When it was constructed he was the first to visit it. He earnestly asked the managers, teachers and other staff members of the school to take good care of the orphans as he wished. He said we should bring them up as straightforward, spirited and cheerful persons without slightest sadness or worry as the orphans have nobody else than the Party to rely on. The life in my school is associated with the great love and care of our Supreme Leader who spares no expense for the good of children."

## Changing Dream Day after Day

The dream written by Kim Jin Song in his diary is surprising. He is a pupil of Class 2-1. The Supreme Leader inspected the class at a mother tongue lesson. His diary reads: When he looks out of the window and sees a bird



▶ sitting on a branch of a tree, he falls into a dream of becoming a pilot. When he participates in a recreational party he dreams to be a famous singer enjoying applause from the audience. When he plays football in the artificial grass-laid football field he is filled with a hope to become a world-famous football star and have the national flag hoisted high. Sometimes he feels like becoming a scientist who can make anything at any moment or an architect who can build palaces as smart as their school across the country. He has a lot of other dreams and hopes.

What is more interesting is that dreams written by other pupils in their diary books are as

many as his. Dreams of children can be a major index that shows the extent of their happy life. Because children who grow happily without any worry think they can manage to achieve everything they wish.

### Biggest Pride

Children have many things to boast of. It is the same with the orphans at this school. A boy says he was the first to finish a composition in a mother tongue lesson, when another says that he made a model tank by himself in an hour of extracurricular activity. Once they begin boasting vyingly, their competition becomes heated for a bigger pride.

The climax of the competition comes when someone says, “I presented a bouquet to our fatherly leader Kim Jong Un when he was at my orphanage,” and another says, “When our fatherly leader visited our primary school, he was delighted that I was taller.”

Similar stories of pride follow. One boy says the fatherly leader stroked his face; a girl boasts that the leader was pleased to see her doing rope-skipping well; and a child says that the leader saw a *Mindulle*-brand notebook he had written in. The happy stories of the children who enjoy the love of the leader are always interesting.

Kim Un Jong



# June 19 and WPK



**J**UNE 19 IS AN anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il's start of work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK). It is a revolutionary holiday of the WPK along with October 10, the founding anniversary of the WPK.

It was unusually fine on June 20, 1964. Having stayed up all night of his first day at his office, Kim Jong Il took a stroll in a garden together with some officials early in the morning. After a while he stopped walking and looked up at the red Party flag flying over the building of the Party Central Committee.

After giving a long glance at the flag, he said that the history of the Party flag started when President Kim Il Sung had

organized the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU) and held up a red flag of revolution, and that now it was the turn of [the younger generation] to hold it up. Then he continued that they should fight more staunchly to accomplish the cause of the President upholding the red flag of revolution whatever difficulties and trials they might face on the road of revolution.

Like this, he adopted it as his lifelong mission to accomplish the revolutionary cause of the President and wisely led the work to strengthen the Party organizationally and ideologically. He developed the WPK into a powerful body that is ideologically pure and organizationally integrated, an organization that is faithful to

the leader's ideology and leadership and determined to maintain the leader's ideology and leadership generation after generation.

In his early days of leading the Party building, Kim Jong Il advanced the unique idea of modeling the whole society on the President's ideology and saw to it that the Party maintained it as its main task to establish a monolithic ideological system. He published immortal classic works such as *The Workers' Party of Korea Is a Juche-Type Revolutionary Party Which Inherited the Glorious Tradition of the DIU*, *On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building* and *The Workers' Party of Korea Is the Party of the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung* ▶

► and provided a guideline for strengthening and developing the WPK into an eternal glorious Party of Kim Il Sung.

Thanks to his wise leadership the WPK has carried forward the President's idea and cause without an inch of deviation while maintaining the original revolutionary character for over 70 years since its foundation.

Kim Jong Il developed the WPK into an invincible party with a sound mass basis and solid military support. Under his guidance the Party developed into a motherly party with roots deep among the masses, with the result that the Party and the people together formed a harmonious whole united for a purpose and in kinship. Under the slogan "We Serve the People!" the WPK is responsibly looking after the people's political integrity and their material and cultural life, while the people put absolute trust in the Party and cast their lot entirely with it.

The Chairman also trained the People's Army into a revolutionary armed force that firmly safeguards the Party with arms, and thus consolidated the military foundation of the Party. Proceeding from the fundamentals of the Songun revolution that the revolution is pioneered, advanced and completed by force of arms, he properly combined politics with military affairs and acquired the Party's absolute control of the revolutionary armed forces. Therefore, the People's Army has strengthened and developed into forces which are strong in ideology and faith and loyal to the Party's leadership, an invincible revolutionary army.

In addition, the Chairman strengthened and developed the WPK into the general staff that leads the revolution and construc-

tion in the Juche-based mode of leadership. He led the revolution and construction regarding it as iron rule of party building and activities to resolve all problems arising in the revolution and construction by firmly trusting the people, the driving force of the revolution, and relying on them.

Whenever he had to decide on the path ahead during his leadership of the revolution, he went to consult the people first and listened to them carefully to get an unfathomable strength in their true hearts. Thanks to his continuous field guidance to the people all his life, the revolutionary soldier spirit and the Kanggye spirit were created and the torch of Songgang was kindled, and the industrial revolution in the new century was vigorously accelerated, resulting in amazing things achieved in quick succession.

Leading the WPK decade after decade, Kim Jong Il trained the Korean people as an independent people and a powerful driving force of revolution. He put it forward as the most important task in Party work to awaken and organize the popular masses and unite them firmly around the Party, and directed a primary effort to it.

Under his wise leadership the WPK armed the popular masses with the Juche idea and the Songun idea and united them firmly around the Party ideologically, volitionally and organizationally, and effected the great army-people unity by setting up the People's Army as the main force of the revolution and strengthening its role of pacesetter.

By administering politics of attaching importance to young people, Kim Jong Il trained the young people as reliable reserves, point men and wing of the WPK.

In the course of overcoming

severe trials in the revolution under the guidance of their leader, the Korean people prepared themselves as the powerful motive force of the revolution and developed into the Party's faithful supporter, adviser and assistant.

The Chairman also consolidated the country's defence capabilities impregnably under the banner of Songun, and thus provided solid military foundations. He gave precedence to military affairs ahead of all others in state administration in keeping with the requirements of the Songun era, and pushed ahead with the revolution and construction on the strict principle of giving priority to military affairs.

The Chairman's achievements in building a Juche-oriented party are now creditably cherished and promoted by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. The Supreme Leader makes sure that Kim Jong Il is held in the highest esteem as eternal leader of the WPK and that the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is held fast to as eternal guiding ideology of the WPK so as to develop the Party into a Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party true to the name.

As the Korean people have Kim Jong Un as their Supreme Leader, all dreams and ideals of the people are being realized one after another on this land as Kim Jong Il wished, and the new spirit befitting the Mallima era is sweeping the whole country.

Today the WPK, under the great banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, is making an all-out dash to reach the new milestone the Seventh Congress of the WPK set to carry out the cause of the Juche revolution.

*Pak Chol*

# Flames of Pochonbo



Monument to the Victorious Battle of Pochonbo.

**T**HE BATTLE OF POCHONBO, ORGANIZED and commanded by Kim Il Sung, Commander of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, 80 years ago, was of tremendous importance in the Korean people's struggle for national liberation. In a broad sense, the attack on Pochonbo was designed to bring about the revival of the nation; in a narrow sense, it was to open up a decisive stage and make a leap forward in the revolutionary struggle against the Japanese imperialists.

On the eve of the battle the Japanese imperialists' policy of obliteration of the Korean nation which started with their military occupation of Korea (1905–1945) reached the extreme. They mercilessly cracked down on all the progressive and national characters by force of arms on one hand and craftily pursued the appeasement and deception tricks to obliterate the Korean nation on the other. Every possible means ranging from the autocratic organs of the Japanese imperialists to a record of music were employed to obliterate Korea and deprive the Korean nation of their souls. In the spring of 1937, the Government-General ordered all the government and public offices in Korea to begin writing official papers in Japanese. To get rid of a language, an essential characteristic of a nation, was a decisive matter affecting the destiny of the entire nation, and it was as good as annihilating all the Koreans with a single

stroke of the sword.

*Let us advance into the homeland as soon as possible to teach the Japanese a lesson. Let us show them that we Korean people are alive, that we will not abandon our spoken and written language, and that we do not recognize the ideas that "Korea and Japan are one" and that "Japanese and Koreans are of the same descent." Let them see and understand that we Koreans refuse to be "imperial subjects" and that we will carry on an armed resistance till the fall of Japan.* With this faith Kim Il Sung led the main unit of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army across the Amnok River.

At 10 p.m. of June 4, 1937, Commander Kim Il Sung raised his pistol and pulled the trigger, and a loud report shook the night sky over Pochonbo. With the signal a barrage of fire broke out to destroy the enemy's establishments in the town. The police substation, which was the citadel of all sorts of repression and atrocities, was destroyed. The sub-county office, post office, forest conservation office, fire hall and various other enemy's administrative centres were engulfed in flames. The flames over the night sky of Pochonbo clearly showed that though the Japanese were pretending to be the "leader of Asia," they were something that could be smashed and burnt up, like rubbish.

Posters of the *Proclamation* and *The Ten* ►

▶ **point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland** authored by the Commander were posted on the street of Pochonbo. Political operatives of the KPRA scattered several kinds of written appeals and leaflets, conducting dynamic political activities and people gathered on the street from every corner, shouting “Long live General Kim Il Sung!” and “Long live the independence of Korea!” full of delight. Kim Il Sung, standing before the cheering crowds of people, made a speech on fighting staunchly for the liberation of Korea, implanting confidence in victory and appealing for all-people resistance against Japan.

The Battle of Pochonbo was a small one that involved no large guns, aircraft or tanks. It was an ordinary raid, which combined the use of small arms and a speech designed to stir up a public feeling. The raid was so one-sided that it seemed to have fallen short of the expectation of some of the KPRA soldiers. Nonetheless, all the processes of the operations were perfectly arranged—the selection of the target, the timing and method of surprise attack, the combination of brisk publicity and powerful agitation through incendiary action.

Soon after the battle of Pochonbo the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army fought victorious battles of Kouyushan and Jiansanfeng, demonstrating its militant power and invincibility once again and throwing the enemy into sheer terror. The flames burning the ruling establishments of the Japanese imperialists and flaring high over the nocturnal sky of Pochonbo heralded the dawn of hope in the mind of the Korean people, and the spark of struggle spread across the country.

Hearing the news of the battle, Kim Ku, one of the leaders of the nationalist movement, was so excited that he opened the window and shouted over and over again that the Korean nation was alive. This anecdote proved what a great impact the battle had on the Korean people.

The gunfire in Korea made a great impact on the world, too. At the time news agencies and newspapers of different countries reported the triumph of the KPRA under the headline of “Guerrillas’ Advance in Northern Korea,” and “Police Substation Riddled with Bullets.”

The brilliant victory of the battle dealt a severe politico-military blow at the Japanese invaders who had been boasting of their invincibility. It struck confusion into them and shook their colonial rule to its very foundation.

The greatest significance of the battle was that it not only convinced the Korean people, who had thought Korea was almost dead, that their country was still very much alive, but also armed them with the faith that they were fully capable of fighting and achieving national independence and liberation. The conflagration in Pochonbo that brought the hope of revival to the Korean people who had lived under repression of the Japanese imperialists proved the truth that the revolution should be made with arms in hand, and that the dignity of the nation can be maintained and glorified when it relies on the strength of arms.

The truth of revolution and Songun illuminated by the flames in Pochonbo is invariably cherished in the heart of the Korean people.

*Ri Song Chol*

### The police substation.



# In Support of War for Liberation of Northeast China (4)

**A**CCORDING TO EVEN AN incomplete statistical data, Korea transported as much as 210 000 tons of strategic materials in the first seven months of the year 1947, and the Korean territory was used to transport more than 300 900 tons of strategic materials in 1948. Eighteen Chinese units passed the Korean territory in the second half of the year 1946. More than 10 000 people moved to the northeast base of China via the Korean territory over nine months of 1947. Nearly 9 000 people crossed Namyang, Korea, in 1948, and far more people passed other regions of Korea. At the time many of the representatives of the Democratic Party, independent personalities and other Chinese delegates passed the Korean land to go to Haerbin, China to attend a new political consultative conference. Typical of them were Shen Junru, Guo Moruo and other figures numbering scores.

What is worth particular mentioning is the fact that the Korean government suspended passenger transportation to carry strategic materials for the Chinese Communists when they were in a critical condition.

When the main routes of transport in Northeast China fell in the hands of the Nationalist forces Kim Il Sung, top leader of the new Korea, opened all gates of his country to the Chinese Communists for their forces' free manoeuvres into Korea—this was the gateway to the Communist victory in the war for liberation of Northeast China.

Meanwhile, Kim Il Sung let the Chinese Communists use the Korean land as base of war supplies. When Dandong of China fell in the attack by the Nationalist army, a large number of people took refuge in Sinuiju of Korea. (According to a report of the American military, the number of refugees was between 10 000 and 20 000.) At that time Zhou Baozhong sent Wang Yizhi, who had just returned from Korea, back to Korea to ask Kim Il Sung in the name of the Northeast Bureau to allow the Chinese Communists to evacuate their forces and strategic materials from south Manchuria to Korea.

Recalling the event, Kim Il Sung said later:

**“On behalf of Zhou Baozhong, she first thanked me for helping them in various ways in the operations to liberate Northeast China. Then she said, ‘We have to evacuate wounded soldiers, families of soldiers and service personnel numbering over 20,000, as well as strategic materials amounting to 20,000 tons, to a safe place. To this end, we again request passage through Korean territory. We need your help, General Kim.’**

**“I readily complied with her request, and saw that relevant measures were taken immediately. Wang Yi-zhi repeatedly expressed her gratitude, saying, ‘All the people in Northeast China will remember your favour, General Kim.’”**

The Korean leader took a measure to evacuate 85 percent of

the Communist military hardware and more than 20 000 tons of their strategic materials from south Manchuria to Korean mountain villages across the Amnok River, and made sure that the Chinese combatants and the wounded stayed in private houses in Korea for rest and treatment.

The Korean government aided the Chinese Communists by supplying them with a lot of military materials, which had been given up by the Japanese imperialists in their flight after defeat in the war. At Kim Il Sung's instructions, more than 2 000 carloads of materials were supplied to the Communists for free or in the mode of barter for a certain amount. The materials delivered in this way included 300 tons of dynamite, three million detonators, 1.2 million metres of blasting fuses, which were all purchased in 1946 by Ni Zhen as representative of Shandong province. And in the spring of 1947 the province dispatched Huang Younian and successfully obtained 120 tons of dynamite, 200 tons of nitric acid, 100 tons of acetone and 150 000 pairs of shoes. These materials were first transported from Nampho of Korea to Dalian of China and then to Shandong to be used effectively in the operations to liberate Shandong and Huadong.

Zhou Baozhong, recalling the events later, said, “As many as 2 000 carloads of aid materials came from Korea in the period of two years and a half between the summer of 1946 and 1948. That was a huge amount in view of the situation at that time. We Chi- ▶

► nese people will always remember the selfless internationalist support the Korean people gave us in the struggle for liberation of our country under Comrade Kim Il Sung's leadership."

On March 25, 1946 the Korean leader met Jong Tu Hwan who was on a visit to Korea to purchase cloth for uniforms as assigned by the Jidong Branch Military District. Jong conveyed a letter—signed by the commander and the chief of the political department of the Branch Military District—to the Korean leader. Then he said that he had travelled different places in Korea to get the materials for uniforms but failed.

Hearing his report, Kim Il Sung said, **"The places you have visited have had no cloth at all originally. You should have come to see me already. We are short of cloth ourselves, but we are going to supply cloth as much as you want for the war."**

Overwhelmed with gratitude Jong expressed his thanks time and again. At the time Korean textile mills were not in proper operation, so people used to weave cloth themselves at home to make their own clothes.

In order to obtain a lot of cloth for military uniforms and make uniforms immediately the Korean leader issued an order in the capacity of Chairman of the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea to collect cotton textiles from factories, enterprises and individual people.

Recollecting what happened at the time, Tang Tianji, chief of the political department of the Jidong Branch Military District, said later, "In retrospect, hearing the story of the deputy chief of the supply department about the

valuable instructions and concern of the President [Kim Il Sung], we cadres were all overwhelmed with thankfulness for the great man. We knew that the Korean Party was consistently maintaining the Yanbian line and the policy of supporting the Chinese revolution even when they were in indescribably arduous conditions in which hunger and poverty were sweeping the whole of Korea and the reactionary forces were making vicious moves at home and abroad immediately after liberation of the country (August 15, 1945). When Jong finished his report the audience burst into a roar of cheers and thunderous applause."

In the summer of 1947 the Chinese Communist army launched the first-stage offensive to wipe out Chiang Kaishek's huge forces in the northeast. The Northeast Democratic Allied Army, whose strength was 274 000 in the end of 1945, grew to have as many as 360 000 troops by the end of next year and again to 510 000 by the summer of next year. This caused the problem of footwear. For want of shoes some fighters had to trek with bare feet. Hoping to solve the footwear problem Zhou Baozhong sent his wife Wang Yizhi to Korea again in the summer of 1947.

On that occasion, too, Kim Il Sung received her and solved the problem readily. At that time Korea could not keep footwear factories in proper operation for want of raw materials and fuel. So people wore rubber shoes or canvas shoes at best even in urban districts, and many of the children and students were wearing rubber shoes or straw sandals. Despite the situation the Korean leader, concerned about his comrades-in-arms at the front, made

sure that precedence was given to the production of the footwear for the soldiers in Northeast China. He was also so worried about the supply of food for the fighters that he provided the rice produced in Korea's North Phyongan Province to the Northeast China front along with a good deal of medical supplies and other necessities of life—all for free.

In those days special shops were set up along the Amnok and Tuman rivers exclusively for the convenience of personnel of the Northeast Democratic Allied Army and their family members. On April 13, 1947 Kim Il Sung asked the director of the Interior Bureau to take good care of the Chinese comrades, stressing that they should look after the Chinese like their flesh and blood and offer sincere help although the country was in a difficult economic situation.

Although Korea was in short supply of electric power immediately after national liberation as it was in great demand for the building of a new country, the Korean leader made sure that the Suphung Power Station supplied power to China. In this connection he called into his office the electric engineers who were to be dispatched to Northeast China and gave specific instructions for their work on February 15, 1948. Reiterating that to help the Chinese people in their fight was a sacred internationalist duty, he encouraged them to work in a responsible manner in China as they were to go to the Anshan Transformer Substation to convey the Korean people's sense of international obligation. In this way the power from the Suphung Power Station was supplied to Northeast China when Korea itself was suffering from serious power shortage. □

# Following the Tradition of Self-reliance and Self-development

**T**HE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC of Korea has now brought about achievements in the campaign to open a fine prospect for the implementation of the five-year strategy for national economic development and develop the country's overall economy onto a higher level.

The Ryongsong Machine Complex is a powerful large-scale machine-building industrial base. It produces and supplies large machines needed for development of various industrial sectors of the economy including mining, electric power, chemical, metal-

lurgical and building-material industries. During the period of the five-year plan (1957–1961) the workers of the complex succeeded in producing a 510-millimetre rolling mill structure and a 1 125kw reduction gear, and manufactured an 8-metre turning lathe in a span of five months, thus opening a new phase in the development of the complex. The complex based on a solid material and technical foundation created miracles and innovations in every past decade. It produced and supplied a number of important ordered facilities including a 3 000-ton press and a 6 000-ton press in the 1960s, a 20-metre large-sized lathe, an 18-metre turning lathe, a 400-millimetre planer and a 5 000-metre drilling rig in the 1970s, and a 3 000kw high-pressure gas compressor, a 70-metre gantry planer, a 10 000-ton press and first-stage equipment for the Sunchon Chemical Complex in the 1980s. In the 1990s it pro-

**Efforts are made to accelerate the production of ordered equipment.**







► duced six 3 000kw compressors to be supplied to the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex in a span of five months and large-sized and modern facilities to replace the previous ones of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex in a short span of time, thus being called a multifunctional factory.

The complex's tradition of creating any miracle as it wishes is still followed.

Some time ago the complex was tasked with producing ordered equipment largely conducive to electric power production. The hard nut to crack was to process a circling toothed wheel 7.3 metres in diameter. What also worried the managers, technicians and workers of the complex was the fact that it would need much time and effort to complete the necessary jigs even with the use of a 4.3-metre gear hobber of the complex. Whether to produce the ordered equipment which was of significance in electric power production on time or not depended totally on the process of the circling toothed wheel.

The managers and technicians kept brooding day and night. In the course of this the technicians hit upon an idea of using a crossbar boring machine for the process of the toothed wheel. But the idea met with opposition from many people. Some thought that the idea went against ready-made ideas and regarded processing the toothed wheel with the crossbar boring machine as impossible as trying to push an ox into the hole of a needle.

But the technicians never gave up. They conducted the research work to solve the relevant sci-tech problems day and night. They proved the scientific possibility of manufacturing the toothed wheel by means of the crossbar boring machine through computer simulations, and succeeded in manufacturing the wheel by dint of a 155-millimetre boring machine of the large-sized machine tool workshop the complex had made CNC-based by itself a few years before. This made it possible to carry out the task to produce and supply the ordered equipment on time while using less materials and labour and reducing the processing time to one-sixth in comparison with that needed when using the gear hobber.

All the managers and workers of the complex still in the van of the great leap forward march say in unison, "Thousands of miles are nothing but a short distance on the forward march based on the great power of self-reliance and self-development."

*Pak Un Yong*

# Innovators on the Increase

**T**HE PYONGYANG HOSIERY FACTORY HAS lots of innovative workers. The factory treats them preferentially and makes scrupulous arrangements to increase the production through their efforts.

Some innovators are introduced below:

## Operator with “Wings”

Pak Hyon Hui, an operator at the Men’s Socks Workshop, is called an operator with “wings.”

After graduating from the secondary school five years ago, she began to work at the factory. Having finished one-year school for skilled workers, she was put in charge of a sock machine. Everything was strange to her eyes and hands, but she learned from skilled workers assiduously and nurtured a mind of loving her factory.

One day when she had a trouble connecting broken threads, a skilled worker in the same workshop advised her, “Haste makes waste. Don’t be afraid of falling behind others. You should practise connecting broken threads a lot. Don’t strain your hands. There’s a knack about everything, you know, even in connecting threads.”

Now Hyon Hui redoubled her effort to be good at knotting, and soon got a wonderful skill—threads hung around her hands. Soon she took charge of as many as 12 machines alone. When she looks after the machines passing between them swiftly, her colleagues say that she seems to be flying.

She overfulfilled her assignment every year: Last year she accomplished her annual plan before October 10, and this year carried out her task for the first quarter of the year in mid-February. A photograph of

her is always to be seen among the pictures of honourable workers pasted on the noticeboard beside the gate to the factory.

When people address her enviously, she says with a smile, “That’s an ordinary thing that everybody can do with a constant effort.”

## Multi-loom Operator

There is a multi-loom operator at Workteam No. 1 of the Women’s Stocking Workshop. It is Ri Su Yon, 23, who is one of the best workers and an innovator of the factory. When she was in her final year at secondary school, she was very popular at school as she was a good musician. So she was advised to go on to Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

But she changed his mind and found a job at the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory. Just before graduation, she happened to visit the hosiery factory. Looking round the factory, she was very impressed by the girl employees in uniforms who handled their machines singing a song to the tune of buzzing sound of the machines at the modern factory. So she volunteered to work at the factory with a determination to enjoy music in the worthwhile working place.

Now she has grown into a skilled worker and multi-loom operator. Every year she accomplished her assignment without fail. When she overfulfilled her annual plan in 2016, she was honoured to pose for a photograph, which the best workers are eligible for.

She is now working hard with a single mind to fulfil the production plan of this year in the spirit of Mallima era.

*Sim Chol Yong*



# Doctor of Physics

SOME DAYS AGO I GOT an opportunity to see Dr. Im Song Jin, researcher at the physics faculty of Kim Il Sung University who received a February 16 Sci-tech Award which is awarded to best scientists in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The 39-year-old researcher of investigation type looked intelligent at a glance.

He has a simple academic career. He graduated from Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 and was enrolled at the physics faculty of Kim Il Sung University. He finished the graduate school of the university as a master.

But his research achievement was not simple. In the span of a little over a year since 2008 he pioneered a new stage of nonlinear optics in photon crystal fibre and nano-materials attracting the attention of the international academic circles, and in 2010 he clarified the new mechanism of super-continuum generation which is called solar laser, thus surprising the world physics circle.

He came to see that light would be one of the focal targets in future physics while studying the latest data of physics in the graduate school. As he inquired into the data he became attracted to nonlinear optics, and came to be burning with the enthusiasm to pioneer the cutting edge of the field. He buckled down to the research project without hesitation. But it was an untrodden path. His teachers and seniors helped him actively who was trying hard saving every bit of time.

At last he succeeded in the research on decentralized control transmission, the focus of the nonlinear optics circle at that

time, and he presented a doctor's thesis with the research as its theme. But he could not feel content with the achievement. He decided to make headway against higher scientific challenges on the basis of the academic achievement which began to attract the attention of the world optics circle.

In 2008 Im came to step into a new arena—the joint research work with world-famous academics in a research institute in Germany. His task was to clarify theoretically the femtoultraviolet laser generation. He conducted the research work with the new theory that femtoultraviolet can be generated through super-continuum generation in photon crystal fibre of nano-structure. Three months after starting the work he brought about an achievement by writing a treatise entitled *Induction Property and Decentralized Control of Photon Crystal Fibre* which pioneered a new stage of nonlinear optics in photon crystal fibre, breaking the precedent concept that it was difficult to present even a single treatise in the first one year.

A German academic of authority said in great admiration, "I have been engaged in joint research tasks with doctors of Germany and from several other countries across the world for decades. But I have never seen such an excellent talented academic who can acquire good results in such a short span of time. The young Korean doctor is very capable. The DPRK is very high in the level of scientific education."

Im strenuously continued with his research work on the basis of his unique knowledge of physics and ability of interpretation, thus



becoming one of the authors of the book *Progress in Nonlinear Nano-Optics* published by Springer of Germany, and over ten treatises of his were carried in the academic magazines published by American Physical Society and Optical Society of America and IOP of Britain. And he presented research results in a number of international scientific seminars including the CLEO, an international seminar of authority on optics field, held in California, USA in 2010.

The femto super-generation method in an ultraviolet zone with photon crystal fibre in use suggested in his treatise that appeared in *Optics Express* in 2010 was verified later in a laboratory test by academics of a research institute in Germany and was recognized as efficient method for deep ultraviolet zone generation, once a difficult problem, by international academic circles.

Recently he has been concerned with the research on plasmonics. Plasmonics, as a cutting-edge sci-tech field based on properties of surface plasmon which

# Family of Scientists



Choe Kil Yong and his family.

**T**HE FAMILY OF CHOE Kil Yong, assistant director at the Information Science Institute of the State Academy of Sciences, is the one of scientists. His son, daughter and son-in-law are engaged in research work.

Choe, a Merited Scientist and a Doctor, has developed some kinds of valuable control devices since 1987. Since he began scientific research, he has devoted all his wisdom and enthusiasm to it. When chicken farm reconstruction projects were underway in Korea, he developed a new feeding device through deep studies

and tireless efforts, thus making a great contribution to the modernization of the chicken farms. With a constant mind, he is now continuing with his research work with a high aim to be a valuable scientist for the country to lead the world.

His high aim and spirit of tireless inquiry are emulated by his children. His first son Choe Un Gil, who finished the University of Sciences with honour, is an engineer at the Air Koryo Administration. He is now popular there as he has carried out some valuable research projects.

Choe Un Gyong, Choe's daughter who is a researcher at the Automation Institute of the State Academy of Sciences, played a big role in the automation project of the hot-rolling process of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex and the modernization project of the urea workshop of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex. She is now recognized as a promising scientist.

Ryu Kum Song, Un Gyong's husband, is also a researcher at the Information Science Institute of the State Academy of Sciences. He developed an IT product needed for network communications last year, and is now engrossed in the research on PLC control system. He is determined to glorify the family of scientists.

Choe's flat on the fourth floor, Block No. 9 at the Wisong Scientists Residential District is filled with scientific debates in the evening, involving all the family members. This is a great help to Choe Kil Yong though he is already an authority.

The neighbours respect the family who seek happiness and joy of life in research work.

*Sim Chol Yong*

► can control light even in nano-area, is becoming a matter of interest to many academics for it can be widely used—the use of it makes it possible to produce an optical integrated circuit which controls light in nano-area, thus developing optical information processing devices and optical computers of next generation whose information processing capability can surpass the existing, and developing new materials, high-sensitivity sensors, anti-

cancer agents and so on. Im intensified the research and thus proposed a new idea of plasmon phase modulator. His idea of plasmon phase modulator was expected to lead to the realization of phase modulation in nano-area on the basis of a completely new idea, thus being introduced in *Scientific Reports*, an academic magazine, published by Nature Publishing Group in Britain in January 2016.

Now Im's soaring scientific

enthusiasm is expected to bring about surprising research achievements. His ambition to become a competent talent of world optics circle is growing stronger day by day. He says, "I always keep in mind Chairman Kim Jong Il's instruction of 'Keep your feet firmly planted on this land and look out over the world.' The instruction will remain as my invariable scientific motto forever."

*Yom Song Hui*

# First Step

**S**OME TIME AGO WHEN we visited the Phyongwon Agrochemicals Factory, we were attracted to a newly-built small production process. The employees of the factory said the process turns out a kind of seed coating material of FS type and that though small in area it brings about a great deal of profit. There we met the researchers of the Agricultural Chemicalization Institute of the Agricultural Research Centre, who had developed the coating material.

It is a very important matter in agriculture to introduce seed coating materials which can fully support germination of seeds and growth of plants in the early stage while preventing blights and pests. So researches were carried out on seed coating materials from long ago and many kinds of coating materials were developed as a result. Most of seed coating materials which had been in use until two years before belonged to WP and EC types. They had a number of shortcomings—the pulverization of materials in the production process caused air pollution by generating harmful gas and dust, much money was needed as an expensive organic solvent was used for additional material, and the ecological environment was polluted seriously in the course of their production and application.

Some years ago Kim Chi Yong, head of the institute, happened to know a kind of seed coating material of FS type which can help increase agricultural production and protect ecological environment. He proposed to take it as his institute's research project to develop a new kind of seed coating material. Some researchers disagreed arguing they did not have even elementary data. Everybody knew the development of a new seed coating material was a difficult project which needed cutting-edge technology. Chi Yong encouraged the researchers, saying that well begun is half done and that there's always a way out to a willing heart. Now the research-

ers decided to develop a seed coating material of FS type.

But soon after they actually launched the project they came across a number of difficulties. Especially the most difficult problem was to ensure the dispersing capacity which helps individual minute particles stay in suspension. A good dispersing capacity can ensure a high degree of safe suspension, which in turn can ensure convenient use and stable storage. The researchers knew that the smaller the diameter of a particle is and the higher the viscosity is, the higher the stability of suspending material rises. They strenuously conducted the basic research to find and use a proper viscosity-control substance.

Thanks to their efforts, a coating material was developed in only a few months, albeit in the laboratory. But the researchers felt little content with the achievement. To put the production of the new material on an industrial basis was their target. They exerted themselves for the project again. Though it was far from their professional field, a researcher completed a design of the whole streamlined production process, and another researcher developed a new technical mode for the liquid adhesive production

process. Other researchers streamlined entire production process based on automatic control of HMI mode, not the old manual relay mode, and established a PLC control system, thus enabling measurement and process control on an integrated basis.

The trial production proved that the production capacity of the process amounts to one thousand and hundreds of tons a year. As a result a solid prospect was opened to mass-produce the new seed coating material.

Last year the material was introduced for hundreds of thousands of hectares of corn field across the country and contributed a lot to increased production and prevention of damage from blights and pests.

Kim Chi Yong says, "Now agrochemicals are developed one after another in the world, and they are simple to use, effective and favourable to the people's health and environment. In this respect, the recent research we've succeeded in is just the first step. What we are proud of is that we have developed the seed coating material of our own style which is two times effective in coating and costs one fifth of the earlier ones in the very beginning stage."

*Chae Kwang Myong*

**Developers of a new seed coating material.**



# Koryo Songgyungwan University

**T**HE KORYO SONGGYUN-gwan University is a university of light industry, a successor to the Songgyungwan Academy, the highest educational institute of the Koryo dynasty. The Songgyungwan Academy had long remained worthless until it was restored to catch up on its time-honoured history thanks to President Kim Il Sung.

and compiled hundreds of reference books to improve the quality of education constantly. A new kind of glaze was newly developed which is highly resistant to weathering, and a completed theoretical system was established to put insam cultivation on a scientific and industrial basis. The teachers and students have received hundreds and scores of

The Koryo embroidery faculty has raised the scientific level of theories on the traditional craftwork based on the use of feather, paper, bamboo, etc. and created new forms of craftwork such as wooden mosaic relief. Ri Hae Kwang, head of the faculty, says, "I think there are still many problems to solve to make the traditional kinds of artefacts well



**The Koryo Insam Faculty.**



**The handicraft room.**

In 1992 the President visited it and said that it was meaningless to use the academy as the Koryo Museum—it was actually a museum at that time—and tell visiting foreigners and overseas Koreans that it was the building of the highest educational institute of the Koryo dynasty. He advised officials to restore it into a university named Koryo Songgyungwan University and show that Korea has a university which is the successor to Koryo's Songgyungwan Academy. And he said that the university should train experts in Koryo celadon, Koryo insam and Koryo textile—that was an indication of the direction and way to be followed by the university.

Since then the university has conducted the energetic educational and research work to rear a lot of competent technical personnel in light industry, true to the noble intention of the President's love for the country. It has developed a number of new subjects

certificates of invention, certificates of registered new technology and certificates of contrivance over the past decade. All these achievements are inconceivable apart from the fervent zeal of the teachers and students who are always fully aware of their duty and determined to add lustre to the good qualities of the nation.

The faculties of Koryo insam, Koryo embroidery and Koryo ceramics are leaders of the effort to develop new subjects and make a lot of successful researches of practical value. The teachers of the Koryo insam faculty made a new subject on application of cutting-edge biotechnological methods in insam cultivation in view of the global trend, and set up specific courses for practical instruction of the subject. Not long ago they newly developed a compound microorganic material for insam cultivation, which can remarkably raise the yield of insam.



► enough to meet the standards of modern aesthetic sense while retaining its original beauty. We all know that we should make steady effort to train technicians and experts who will exalt the honour of our nation in keeping with the development of the time.”

The faculty has concentrated the instruction and research on the effort to enhance the scientific level of the craftwork onto a higher stage and develop craftwork materials of higher quality

easier to handle from domestic raw materials. As a result, it has recently laid a solid foundation for home production of all kinds of materials needed for the clay work. Student Ri Kuk Chol, who produced his graduation works “A Goshawk of Paektu” and “The National Tree, Flower and Bird of Korea” with newly-developed clay, says, “Whenever I see my university’s signboard *Koryo Songgyungwan* personally written by President Kim Il Sung, my heart is full of emotion. I’m

determined to make everything in our country into the most valuable things in the world after I finish college, by studying hard all my life as I do now in my university days.”

The administrators and students of the university are devoting all their wisdom and zeal to make a new phase of the development of traditional light industry technology in keeping with the developing reality.

*Kim Chol Ung*



**The Koryo Ceramics Faculty.**



**The embroidery room.**



# Thanks to Socialist Health Care

**O**NE DAY IN DECEMBER 2016, a patient was rushed into the South Hamgyong Provincial People's Hospital. His name was Jo Yong Chol in his fifties, living in Neighbourhood Unit No. 38, Segori-dong, Hoesang District, Hamhung City.

Recollecting the day, Ri Song Il, deputy director of the hospital for technical affairs, says, "At that time the condition of the patient was very serious. He was in a coma due to the burn on 33% of his body in an accident, and his left shoulder-joint was dislocated and humerus was broken. At first we were not sure we could save him."

The hospital took an immediate measure to prevent the burnt area from contamination and improve the critical condition of the case. A consultative meeting of the hospital was soon held to rescue the patient and a team including chief surgeon Ryu Chol Ho and doctor Jo Kum Song of the general surgical department was formed to carry out intensive

treatment.

A few days later another meeting of the surgery department was held and decided to perform an operation to graft skin on him. Learning the decision all the members of the department offered their skins and blood.

The day of operation came. Having finished sterilization of the theatre, Ryu sat knee to knee with Jo, the doctor in charge of the case. Ryu said, "Kum Song, I think I'll cut skin grafts and you'll transplant them. What do you think of it?"

"I agree. Don't worry. I'll do my best," replied Jo.

At that time, the door was opened silently and they could see some of the administrators of the hospital including director Jong Tok Yong. "Don't you know who should be the first to join the operation?" Jong said, getting on the operating table. A large number of the hospital staff including doctors and nurses donated their blood and flesh.

Days later another skin graft-

ing was performed on the patient. When Ri and Jo were preparing the operation, Jo Chung Ok, daughter of the patient, suddenly showed up and said in a tearful voice, "Please don't do this. How could you doctors offer your blood and flesh again for my father, an ordinary man? I'd rather offer all my blood and flesh."

At that moment, the managers and workers of the factory to which the patient belonged—the Hamhung Disabled Soldiers' Plastic Daily Necessities Factory—came to the hospital hurriedly. The chief nurse, however, would not let them in. The visitors said earnestly, "The blood of a lot of comrades-in-arms is running now in our bodies, too. We are obliged to give our blood and flesh to our fellow."

That's not all. There were a lot of true hearts working to bring the ordinary worker back to his workplace.

Thanks to their sincerity, the patient got well in 60 days. Jo Yong Chol said in tears, "Thank you, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. I was born again under the socialist health care system of our country centred on the popular masses. I'm sure my country is the best in the world."

His wife Ri Kyong Ae says, "I'd never imagined that such an impressive thing that I'd read and seen in novels and films would happen to my husband. My husband would have been dead if he had lived in a capitalist country where everything depends on money. He could come to life again thanks to the beneficial medical care system of our socialist country."

*Kim Myong Sim*

**Medical workers at a consultative meeting.**





# Rim Jong Sim, One of Players of the Year 2016

**R**IM JONG SIM WON THE gold medal in the women's 75kg class of weightlifting at the 31<sup>st</sup> Olympic Games held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from August 5 to 21 last year. For this she was designated as one of the ten DPRK players of the year 2016.

Jong Sim was born in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. As she was as strong as boys in her childhood, her parents were worried about her future. She often helped her neighbours in their chores and even readily helped passers-by with their heavy burden in the streets. At school, she used to be glad when she defeated boys in the strength contest, and she was fond of exercises like climbing up trees, jumping down and running up a slope.

Seeing her daughter, Rim's father, a worker, felt like bringing her up as a judoist or a wrestler, but his wife refused his opinion, often advising her daughter to go in for calisthenics.

One day Jong Sim saw on TV some DPRK weightlifters winning first place in the world arena and having the national flag hoisted in an alien land. She wanted to have a worthwhile life like them though she was young.

Since she trained herself in weightlifting under guidance of coach Kim Chun Hui, both her strength and spirit developed. "You know you can't make a career easily, Jong Sim. Only when you have a burning enthusiasm and perseverance, will you be able to earn a great power."

One day she trained so hard that she wanted to have a rest the next day. Reading her mind, Chun Hui said, "You've just



**Rim Jong Sim, winner of the 75kg category of the women's weightlifting at the 31<sup>st</sup> Olympic Games.**

reached the limit of patience. Are you going to yield to such difficulties? Stand up!"

Jong Sim sprang up, feeling the motherly love and affection from her coach's strict voice and reproach. She got through the difficulties one after another while lifting an increasingly heavier weight.

As a result, she took third place at a national schoolchildren's weightlifting contest in 2004. Having seen her lift up the barbell with difficulty in the competition, her mother went to the training ground to persuade her to change the event. But there she found Jong Sim trying hard to shake off her defects, learning a lesson from the competition in which she took third place. Seeing her redoubling her effort with a strong will, the mother knew her daughter was determined to win the world championship. Now she offered positive support.

Thanks to tireless efforts, Jong Sim always won first place at national weightlifting contests from 2005.

But when she came second in the First World Junior Weightlifting Championships held in May 2009, she felt embarrassed. *It is because I've been content with my small success*, she criticized herself.

She buckled down in a high spirit and trained herself harder guided by her coach Chun Hui. In the course of this, she pushed the limit of her physical exertion. As a result, she won first place total at the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games held in August 2012.

With an explosive exertion and a perfect combination of swift movements, she lifted 16 kg of more weight than her rival who came second—to the wonder and admiration of the specialists. She replied to reporters, "I always think that the dignity and honour of my country depend on my success in international contests."

Rim Jong Sim, who consecutively won Olympic championships twice, is a Labour Hero and People's Athlete.

*Choe Chol Jin*

# Enjoyment of Riding

**I**F YOU TAKE A BUS IN front of Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 in central Pyongyang and travel along the Pyongyang-Kangdong road for 30 minutes, you will arrive at Hyuam-dong in Sadong District. The place was named Mirim for the beautiful luxuriant woods. Some time ago I visited the Mirim Riding Club in the place.

When I got off the bus, I could see the front gate to the club shaped in the form of a galloping steed. I entered the compound of the club, when buildings of traditional Korean-style log houses with gabled roof caught my eyes. I met Kim Yong Chol in his early 50s, general manager of the club. He looked open-minded and tenacious. He told me that his club has a total area of 65 hectares, seven outdoor and indoor training grounds including a circular basic training ground, three riding courses, a 1 750m-long dirt track, a 1 850m-long grass track, a 600m-long sand track, and a 1 500m-long blue stone road. It also has seven blocks of modern stables which can house over 150 horses, a veterinary hospital, a riding service centre and a leisure house.

Passing the outdoor observatory which commands a bird's-eye view of the riding club, we first headed for the indoor training ground which was full of crowds

doing basic riding training. In the circular training ground covered with silver-white sand I saw a man in his mid-forties practising basic skills such as running and halting, and a girl servant explaining in detail about the basic movements of riding. Hearing that not only Koreans but also a lot of foreigners frequent the club, I read the visitors' book. Some of the notes are:

"It's a very nice place to come to ride—with wonderful horses and great people. Thanks for this enjoyment. I wish everything would be okay with this club in the future. Coralie, Swiss physiotherapy expert of the International Committee of Red Cross."

"A wonderful riding club with a good environment and a large size. I'll remember it. Zhang Congqing of the Linwei Trade Co. Ltd. in Shandong Province, China, January 19, 2017"

Now we stepped into the room for dissemination of riding knowledge, when young members of the riding circle finished their lesson. Kim Jin Su, an instructor, said that their club gives a two-year after-school riding course to schoolchildren of over 12 years, and that he was teaching senior students at the moment. He continued to say that students come to the club in the afternoon to learn the riding knowledge and hone the skill. As if proving his



► words Ri Kum Jin, a first-year student of the Hyuam Senior Middle School, Sadong District, said in a sonorous voice, “I was weak and short when I was a child, so I was an object of sympathy. When I heard an extracurricular circle was organized at the riding club, I enrolled in the circle to improve my fitness and cultivate courage. I finish the course in eight months, and I’m sure I’ll become an excellent rider with a sturdy mind and body.”

We went to the outdoor train-

ing ground, where horse racing was at its height. The riders were galloping forward furiously amidst the fervent cheers—it was really a spectacle. Yun Kwang Hyok, 30, worker at the Mangyongdae Kyonghung Foodstuff Factory under the Kyonghung Guidance Bureau, who had begun to learn horse riding two years before, entered the finish line first. Yun said that he won first place by training hard, that when he was soaked with perspiration after riding, he had a shower bath

at the tent-covered outdoor service centre or drank soft drinks, that sometimes he had showers or massage treatment at the leisure house, which made him feel refreshed, and that the riding club was a great attraction to him.

While I was watching a white horse which won the race, worker Ri Myong Chol said, “My club has 124 race horses of eight species, including Orlove of Russia, Pony and Thoroughbred of Britain and Hannover, Holsteiner and



Trakehner of Germany. That white horse was presented to Chairman Kim Jong Il by Russian President Putin in 2003.”

Han Yong Chol, service manager, said, “I’ve worked here for four years, and I’ve realized my duty to help people enjoy the socialist civilization of the highest quality at the highest level.”

Envisioning a brighter and more beautiful future of the country filled with people’s enjoyment and happiness, I left the riding club.

*Kim Son Myong*

# Sariwon Folk Street

**S**OME TIME AGO I VISITED the Sariwon Folk Street at the foot of Mt. Kyongam in Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province. From afar I found it distinctive from other streets for its tall gate and antique-coloured gabled roof of the Korean style. I met

which resembles that of an ancient royal palace, and headed for the folk game park lured by the faint sound of music. There a wedding ceremony was in due rite. The long and graceful introduction of the master of ceremonies was replete with a unique

street on their wedding day. They have a proper understanding of the good manners and customs peculiar to the nation after putting on the old wedding dress and experiencing the traditional way of holding a wedding ceremony, she said.



**Maps showing the time-honoured history of Korea.**

guide Ri Myong Ok at the entrance gate to the street. She said, “This folk street was built to show various aspects of the cultural heritage of our nation in their original state. There are also service establishments and facilities, a pleasure ground and resting places. The number of people visiting the street is on the increase.”

We passed through the gate

national flavour, and in the appearance of the bride and groom exchanging a toast and bows with each other, I could see the laudable character of the nation. Ri said that after the construction of the street it is not too much to say that almost all wedding ceremonies of the city are held in the street. She continued to say that now it is almost a confirmed practice for young people to visit the

In the ground of folk games in the festive atmosphere with the wedding ceremony I saw a model of the Chomsongdae observatory, the oldest astronomical observatory in the world, and other historical relics and remains which are familiar to me. In particular, a dolmen of the 30<sup>th</sup> century BC which was moved from Songmaeri, Yonthan County, North Hwanghae Province, vividly



**The Korean costume tailor's.**



► shows the time-honoured history of the Korean nation that has lived on the same territory with the same blood. Guide Ri said that the ground, which is usually used for history education, is also the venue of peasant dancing, *yut* games and other kinds of folk games on holidays.

I also dropped in at the Korean costume tailor's. The guide said that many people visit the tailor's as it makes wedding dresses and traditional costumes very well. While I was hearing her words, a couple of pairs came to the store to order their dresses. Ri Nam Hui, worker at the Sariwon Textile Mill, said to me that she was going

to buy her wedding dress at this store though there are many others in the city, and hold her wedding ceremony in the folk street. Hearing her with a smile Kim Sun Nyo, head of the tailor's, added that young people on a visit to the street tend to value and love national things more and more, and that the public praise of their skill is attributable to the folk street and the national character. I could hear such stories when I looked round the glutinous rice-cake

house, pancake house, *makkoli* (unrefined rice wine) pub and other service establishments standing along the main road of the street.

I envisaged a grand garden of the flourishing national culture, hearing the service workers attribute their success to the nationality rather than their effort. The nocturnal scene of the folk street was also enticing to the visitors late at night.

*Kim Un Jong*

**Historical relics (models).**



**Foreigners visit the folk game park.**



# House Full of National Aroma

**P** EOPLE WHO HAVE visited the Kaesong Noodle House remember pleasantly the taste of foods they ate.

“I often come to Kaesong for business and I usually go to the Kaesong Noodle House because I like the foods there.” “There are different kinds of dishes on the menu, and I find those cooked with insam original.” “I’m deeply impressed by the kindly service and quality dishes of the Kaesong

Noodle House.”

An overseas Korean tourist said, “I’ve been impressed with this house full of national aroma.”

Whenever she hears such words from overseas Koreans and foreigners, Kim Yong Sun is often reminded of what happened a dozen years ago when she was appointed as manager of the house.

At the moment she lacked knowledge of and experience in

management activities and the restaurant remained old-fashioned. Kaesong is a great tourist resort of the country and a lot of international functions are held attracting foreign delegations, individual personages from many countries and overseas Koreans. She knew that her job was as important as to glorify the national character and was related to the country’s prestige. She felt enthusiastic. She buckled down to her work determinedly. She stuck to whatever she decided to do. Thanks to her strenuous and enthusiastic efforts the project of refurbishing the restaurant made rapid headway. Thus the restaurant soon shook off its old appearance and began operation with a new face.

**The Kaesong Noodle House.**





**The dining hall.**

▶ As it was visited by gradually increasing number of people, there came voices that they wished to have special dishes of Kaesong as well as noodles in such a well-refurbished restaurant. Kim did not miss even a word from the visitors. She devoted her enthusiasm to the work of increasing kinds of dishes of original flavours. She read all books on dishes and even those on history, medicine and art. As she intensified the study of traditional dishes of Kaesong which date back a long time, she came to have great pride in the national superiority, and became well

aware of her duty in further developing the dishes. But knowledge and consciousness were not all that was needed to develop cuisine—it was easy with eyes but hard with hands. To learn a recipe the manager often stayed a whole night in the kitchen, surprising the people. Thanks to her efforts special dishes including *samgyethang*, *yakbap*, steamed chicken with insam and a set of 12 dishes for a table which was enjoyed by kings in the past, came to be appreciated by people, overseas Koreans and foreigners.

She was not concerned about

dishes alone. She made a strict demand on all the waitresses so that they behave courteously as required by the laudable customs of the nation. The people who have visited the restaurant never spare compliments referring to it in unison as restaurant of interior and exterior beauties, restaurant where all beauties and delicious dishes have gathered.

At present the Kaesong Noodle House is a must-visit place in Kaesong. Its popularity is rising higher as it always ranks among winners at national cooking competitions.

*Ri Kum Chol*

**Noodle garnished with meat.**



***Kyongdan.***



***Sinsollo.***



***Yakbap.***





# Legendary Tale about Chollima Football Team

*(Continued from the last issue)*

**T**HE KOREAN FOOTBALL team was scheduled to compete with the Italian rival as the final of the group preliminaries.

The Italian team had participated in almost all the previous seven rounds of World Cup Football Championship and won the trophy twice. After obtaining the qualification for the finals of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Cup Football Championship they travelled Bulgaria, Austria, Argentina, Denmark and other countries across Europe and South America to have friendly matches which they won by 3 to 0 or 5 to 0 without a single defeat. As such a world-class team it was expected to be the winner of the 8<sup>th</sup> championships by mass media. During the group league matches, the team that belonged to Group D had beaten the Chilean team 2 to 0 and been beaten by the USSR team 0 to 1 before facing the Korean team in the last of the matches on which it depended whether they would proceed to the quarter-finals or not.

A British reporter in charge of football news went to the lodging place of the Italian team to see its senior coach before the match between the two countries. He said, "I want to know about how you understand the tactics of the Korean team." The senior coach replied, "Their tactics is fresh in the world football circle. The individual players' dribbling techniques and fast speed are menacing. Since they attack and defend

on an all-out basis, I'm worried. It is an enigmatic team. We will build up our team with aces for the match. The Italian team is still in good condition and will dash forward towards the victory."

At half past seven pm, July 19, 1966 the DPRK team and the Italian team made their appearances in Middlesbrough Stadium. The Italian team was replenished with tall and strong players as its core. It seemed that they imitated the way whereby the USSR team had acquired a good result by building itself up with physically strong players. At last the match began at the whistle signal of the referee.

From the beginning the Korean team held the initiative and pressed hard upon the defence line of the Italian team by dint of well-organized cooperation and passes between two or three based on fast speed and team spirit.

After undergoing dangerous moments several times owing to active roles of the Koreans, the Italians seemed confused and uneasy at such unexpected misfortune.

About 34 minutes after the start of the first half Pak Sung Jin, a midfielder of the Korean team, skilfully drove the ball toward the opponent's goal but he was interrupted by an Italian midfielder who thrust his leg deep between Pak's legs from behind. At the risky moment Pak managed to jump up, only to lose his balance due to the rough violation

and fell down colliding with the Italian rival. The referee whistled to stop the game to declare the Italian player's behaviour a foul and allow the Korean team to do a direct free kick. The Italian violator got injured in the kneecap and was carried out of the field on a stretcher. Many spectators in the stadium clapped for the Korean player's free kick done at the signal of the referee.

The Italian team had a gap owing to the leaving of its midfielder but there was no change in its defence line. They maintained the five-latch defending and never allowed a chance.

About three minutes before the end of the first half Pak Tu Ik, who had rushed swiftly into the opponent's ultimate defence line, received the ball. His point at the moment was 16 metres away from the goal line in the right side. But his way was blocked by a "broom" defender and another defender ahead of the keeper. In front of him there were no other mates in better positions than him. He decided to cope with the situation alone, dodged the Italian defenders with feints and kicked the ball toward the left corner of the goal which was full in the shooting angle. The ball ran into the corner without giving any time for the rival defenders and keeper to react.

"Goal! Wow!" The stadium turned into a melting pot of pleasure in an instance. Shouts and claps of the spectators seemed unlikely to cease. Every face of the Middlesbrough citizens



▶ who cheered the Korean team looked full of joy and pleasure. They had never ceased cheering the Korean team from the first day of the championship. This day, in particular, tens of thousands of them wore T-shirts printed with the DPRK flag like uniforms—no one knows who was the first to do so—and cheered the Korean team in an organized manner.

The head of a voluntary cheering group among them visited the Korean team in its restroom immediately after the end of the first half, and frankly said, “The Korean football attracts us by its speed, technique, strength, intensity and collective power, and the players also attract us by their spirit, vigour, morale, fortitude, sense of justice and moral traits, and they are all impressive.”

The second half was fiercer. The Italian team who had lost a score turned out in a counter-offensive unyieldingly. The Korean team, which had anticipated such a situation of the second half, never delayed attack even a moment. It was also the Korean team’s tactic to put the opponent on the defensive through continuous attacks by holding the initiative and availing themselves of the favourable condition in which they had already scored a goal. With the standpoint that the strongest attack is reliable defending, they managed the game.

As the second half went on, the Italian team gradually broke the latch defending and turned out in an all-out attack to recover the lost score. The Italian team’s tactic of putting tall strikers in the rear of the opponent’s defence line and attacking from side to the

middle by passing was threatening. It was not easy at all for the Korean defenders to keep the goal by dint of heading against their rivals 15 or 20 cm taller than them.

The captain of the Korean team and its defenders including O Yun Gyong and Rim Jung Son checked the opponent’s attack by judging the track of the ball beforehand and reacting and jumping before the opponent moved.

About 40 minutes after the start of the second half the ball kicked strongly by an Italian striker flied toward the right corner of the opponent’s goal like a bullet. The track of the ball just suggested a goal. Even the Korean players, whose eyes were following the ball flying toward the goalpost, thought it just a goal.

Then keeper Ri Chan Myong who had stood in the middle of the goal jumped sideways stretching out to the corner of the goal and caught the ball with his right hand. The way the keeper jumped at an angle of 45° stretching his arms resembled that of an acrobat on a flying trapeze. He drew a parabola holding the ball and fell down on the goal line 5.5 metres far from the goalpost, which meant that he had jumped over a distance of more than 8 metres to catch the ball. The spectators showered the keeper with stadium-shaking claps.

A foreign football expert expressed his impression, saying, “Keeper Ri Chan Myong’s quick move, flawless air posture, ball catching technique, composed and correct ball dealing technique are good examples. He should be mounted on the top of the ten best keepers of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Cup Football Championship.” Ri

Chan Myong then came to be well-known as *Asian cat* worldwide.

The match continued fiercely amid offence and defence without any hesitation or delay even a moment. Reaching the end of the match the atmosphere of the stadium became serious. Some of Italian spectators even threw stones toward the football field by dint of catapults. The police arrested the rioters and thus relieved the situation but the tension still prevailed in the stadium—nobody knew what would happen. The match between the two teams became fiercer nearing its end and unfolded thrilling scenes successively.

At last the whistle of the referee sounded long to notice the end of the match, and shouts of tens of thousands of spectators shook the stadium. The spectators holding the DPRK flag rushed into the field. The Middlesbrough citizens joined Korean players in singing the immortal revolutionary paean *Song of General Kim Il Sung*, and dancing to the tune of the song.

The mass media of Britain did not spare compliments and admiration for the Korean team under such headlines as *Football Star of Korea Makes His Debut*, *Korean Football Shakes World*, *World Football Circle Attracted by Korean Football*, *Miraculous Cholima Football Team* and *Oriental Lion*. Many British people warmly congratulated the Korean football team for its victory in the stadium, streets and the hotel, saying, “Merely the scenes of your original tactics and dogged fighting spirit in the football match enabled us to know how Korea had defeated the US.”

(To be continued)

## National Intangible Cultural Heritage (7)

# Korean Attire

**T**HE KOREAN CUSTOM OF ATTIRE WAS established and developed from ancient times. It is composed of traditional technology and method of making men and women's garments, children's clothes and shoes, and wearing custom.

The Korean costume, which appeared in ancient times, not only has maintained the features of the national garments with the traditional character up to now, but also has developed more beautifully, changing into different styles age after age.

The main garments for men and women—*pajijogori* (Korean trousers and jacket for men) and *chima* (Korean skirt and jacket for women)—are basically divided into upper and lower pieces. The men's jacket covers the whole of the upper body down to the waist. It uses two straight strings for fastening a little to the right side. Men's *turumagi* (Korean overalls) is similar in style but as long as to cover the whole body. The men's lower garment is trousers with loose crotches. It uses white strings to fasten the waistband and the crotch.

Women's upper garment droops down past the breast. It has collar strips to be used to tie the lapels a little to the left side. Women's *turumagi* is the same as men's but different in the fastening direction. Women's lower garment has no crotch and covers the lower body like a skirt hung from a vest-like piece. It has several kinds in style—wide *chima*, pleated *chima* and long *chima*.

Children's clothes is similar to grownups' in style but different in decoration—it is adorned with rainbow-stripped cloth, a decorative pocket, an ornamental knife and pendent trinkets.

Koreans keep the tradition of clothing their children in pretty Korean garments and giving them a feast on their first birthday. This gives the rising generation an idea of the traditional clothes of the Korean nation, and serves as the first step to develop their spirit of loving and fancying national clothes in their life.

The Korean costume is well alive in Korea, and the technique of making the Korean clothes is developing further.



Children's attire.



Women's attire.



Men's attire.

Rim Ok

# Site of Salt Production Newly Unearthed

**R**ECENTLY THE HISTORY FACULTY OF Kim Il Sung University unearthed a site of salt production dating back to the period of a medieval Korean state which existed between AD 37 and around the late 2<sup>nd</sup> century before being annexed to Koguryo. The research team found out five stone structures related to salt production on mounds in the middle of a field in Onchon County, Nampho City. Through a scrutiny they scientifically proved that one of them belonged to the Korean state.

The facility was discovered 120 centimetres deep under the ground. Made of stones, it is shaped like a ring with a layer of ashes inside it, and the upper part hardened by great heat. It has a trace of fire hole in the south, which indicates that it is a site of an oven which was heated by fire. Some way south-east of the oven site, an oval pool with a thick layer of black ashes underneath was discovered.

Pieces of black, light grey and brown earthenware and iron pieces including pocket-type axes were unearthed around the site. The earthenware pieces are the same as those left by ruined people of Ancient Joseon (early 30<sup>th</sup> century BC–108 BC). Especially, pieces of light grey earthenware pot are typical remains of the Korean state.

Two pocket-type axes found are significant in proving the date of the site. The pocket part of the axes was folded after being hammered. They began to be used around the second century. Therefore, it is reasonable to judge that the newly-unearthed remains date back to the 1<sup>st</sup> century–2<sup>nd</sup> century. At that time the area of Onchon was under the control

of the medieval Korean state. The country was founded in the area of northwest Korea with Pyongyang as its centre.

Earlier, a site of Koguryo's salt production that dates back close to the 4<sup>th</sup> century was discovered for the first time in Korea. With the recent findings it has become possible to know much earlier techniques of salt production.

The research team of Kim Il Sung University intensified their work of unearthing and research even though they were quite short of information related to salt production of ancestors. Finally, in 2014 they discovered a site of salt production that belonged to Koguryo, a site which dates back about 1 700 years. Thus, they proved that the technique of salt production was at a high level at that time, and laid a firm guarantee to solve problems related to salt production in different periods of history. Based on the success, they newly clarified the technique of salt production during the period of the aforementioned Korean state. The technique was rather at a higher level in 1<sup>st</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> century, and it was inherited by Koguryo.

The recent successful unearthing and research into the site of salt production in the Korean state, after the discovery of Koguryo's site of salt production, add to the treasure house of the national heritage.

*Doctor Ri Yong Sik,  
researcher in the History Faculty  
of Kim Il Sung University*

**Old site of salt production.**



**Fragments of broken pottery.**



**Ironware.**



# By Means of a Poem

**U**LJI MUNDOK (LATE 6<sup>TH</sup>-early 7<sup>th</sup> century) was an illustrious military commander of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668). From his childhood he was brave, patient and good at martial arts and compositions. He was in a high position of minister of the Koguryo government.

In 612 the country was invaded by a foreign aggression force both on land and sea. Refusing to learn lessons from their defeat in the earlier aggression war against Koguryo, the enemy mobilized a total of three million troops consisting of 1 133 800-strong combat force and their two-fold-stronger logistics force, and launched the invasion of Koguryo in January. They intended to complete the war speedily by making the most of their numerical superiority.

Ulji Mundok, who was the general commander of the Koguryo army, foresaw the tactics of the enemy. He made sure that the main defence line was built up. Then, by smart command of the warfare, he foiled the enemy offensive by giving them a colossal loss.

Frustrated at their failure to conquer Koguryo by a surprise offensive and at the dragging on of the war, the enemy formed a detachment of 305 000 troops led by several commanders and thrust them deep into the inside of Koguryo. They planned to make their naval force join the land force to attack the North Pyongyang Fort of Koguryo from the sea and the land. The head of the enemy naval unit, however, launched the attack separately, carried away by his fever for fame, only to lose more than 30 000 troops and take a flight.

Ulji Mundok knew the enemy was going to take the North Py-

ongyang Fort by the advance of both the land and naval force, and proposed negotiation to the enemy head to have the inside knowledge of the enemy's situation. Having negotiation single-handedly in the enemy camp, he found out the enemy's weak points and worked out an operations plan to employ the tactics of clean field and decoy and destroy the enemy's scheme of aggression. Caught in the smart and thoroughgoing plot, the enemy force recklessly advanced as far as 12 kilometres up to the North Pyongyang Fort, which was the second capital of Koguryo where the general command was based. There, however, they were confronted with strong defence positions of Koguryo. Already exhausted from the long march and battles, they now had little things to eat, and what further disheartened them was that their naval force had been vanquished to the smithereens. When they were in a cramped condition, Ulji Mundok wrote a satirical poem and sent it to the enemy commander.

Now the enemy commander knew they were caught in the tactics of Koguryo. Learning that they lost the initiative in the war already, they began to take flight in a hurry in terror. When they were halfway in the Salsu (river) to cross it, they suffered a heavy blow from the Koguryo force in ambush in the riverside. The Koguryo soldiers beat drums and gongs and made great shouts while firing a volley of arrows. Terrified and dispirited, the enemy troops fell to death in hordes, some hit by the arrows, some pierced by spears, some buried under the bodies of the dead, and some drowned.

Encouraged by Ulji's exquisite and courageous strategy and tac-



tics, the patriotic soldiers and people mowed down almost all the enemy force. It was really a great victory, considering the fact that only 2 700 out of the 305 000 enemy troops reached the vicinity of the Ryodong Fort after fleeing 160 km away.

Historians call the victorious battle of Koguryo "Salsu Taechop" or "The Sweeping Victory at Salsu."

Having suffered a colossal defeat in the battle, the enemy force began to retreat en masse the following day.

"The Sweeping Victory at Salsu" has been handed down generation after generation as a great battle demonstrating the burning patriotism of the Koguryo soldiers and civilians and the intelligence and wisdom of Ulji Mundok, along with his poem which reads:

*Thy divine tactics have got  
through astronomy  
Thy mystery tactics have  
mastered geography.  
Thou have already performed  
great feats in battles  
So how about return home  
with satisfaction?*

*Pak Yong Il*

# Eight Famous Scenes in the Sobaeksu Valley (1)

**T**HE SOBAEKSU VALLEY is located at the foot of Mt. Paektu, Samjiyon County, Ryanggang Province. From olden times, the Koreans called Mt. Paektu as their ancestral mountain maintaining

that all the mountain ranges in Korea stretch from Mt. Paektu.

In this valley is the birthplace of Chairman Kim Jong Il. Behind the native house stands the majestic Jong Il Peak (1 798

metres above sea level), the main peak in the area.

Recently conspicuous scenes in the valley were named as Eight Famous Scenes in the Sobaeksu Valley, attracting the public attention. ▶



Most Sublime Jong Il Peak.



**Snowscape of the Native House.**

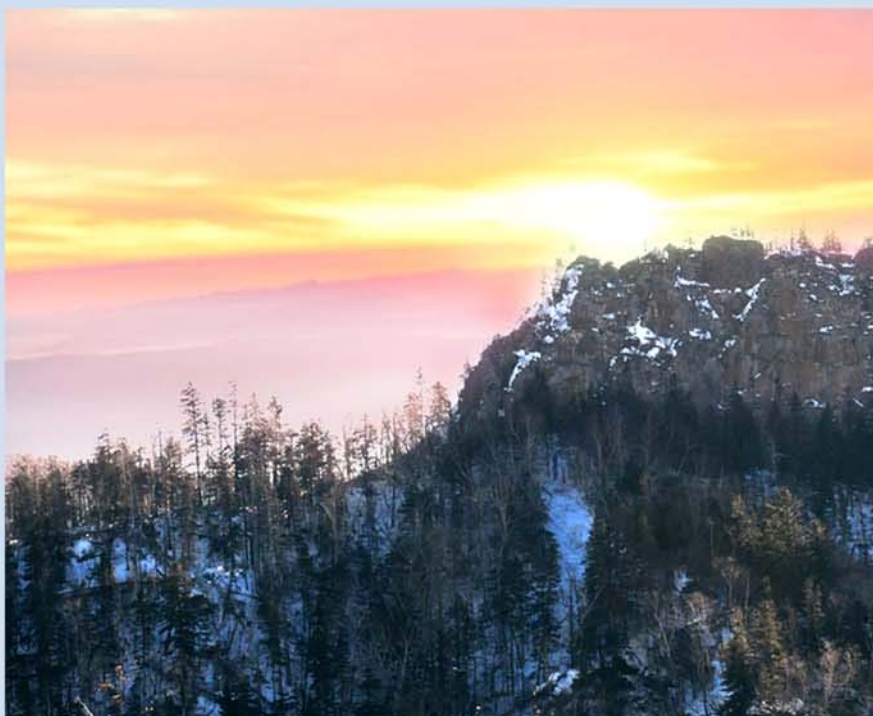
### **Most Sublime Jong Il Peak**

The most distinguished scenery in the Sobaeksu Valley is Jong Il Peak, rising to the sky in a primeval forest.

On top of the peak one can command a view of the vast stretches of snow-capped sea of forests and admirable and mysterious scenery of the fierce snow-storm calming down in an instant against the ridge and cliff.

Jong Il Peak, standing stoutly against any raging wind, reminds people of the image of Kim Jong Il, an illustrious leader who lighted the way of the century for the people while braving any adversity in the spirit of Paektu and keeping the helm of the era and history in his hand.

President Kim Il Sung visited the place in August 1988. Looking up at the peak whose ▶



▶ name was originally Jangsu Peak, he advised that it be renamed Jong Il Peak, meaning it stands at the birthplace of Kim Jong Il.

### **Snowscape of the Native House**

The Snowscape of the Native House presents enchanting scenery in the primeval forest. The small and simple log cabin, where Kim Jong Il was born as the Shinning Star of Mt. Paektu, stands against the backdrop of a soaring, steep cliff of Jong Il Peak. On the historic day when he was born, the snowscape spread out wonderfully to celebrate his birth, and appeared year after year, century after century.

When you immerse yourself in the snowscape of the home, you would feel as if you were hearing hearty cheers of the revolutionary fighters for the birth of another Commander Kim, the lullaby sung by Kim Jong Suk, the anti-Japanese war heroine, who brought up her son [Kim Jong Il] as heir to the revolutionary cause, and sounds of footsteps of Kim Jong Il who grew up stoutly into a son of the guerrilla army

and son of Mt. Paektu for the future of Korea in the flames of the anti-Japanese warfare, not in the warm cradle.

Indeed, the Snowscape of the Native House which declared the birth of the Shining Star of Mt. Paektu and ushered in a new spring of Korea, is one of the Eight Famous Scenes in the Sobaeksu Valley, which is enshrined in the hearts of the Korean people celebrating the significant holiday of February.

### **Sunrise Rock, Winged-Horse Rock and Sword Rock**

The first view to be seen from the top of the singular, magnificent and beautiful Jong Il Peak is the Sunrise Rock in the opposite side, the Winged-Horse Rock and the Sword Rock to the southeast.

If you look round on the top of Jong Il Peak just before dawn, you can see colourful clouds over the Sunrise Rock and the sharp Sword Rock soaring up slowly out of the morning mist. Then you would feel as if you were hearing a winged horse's neigh resounding the whole valley from the Winged-

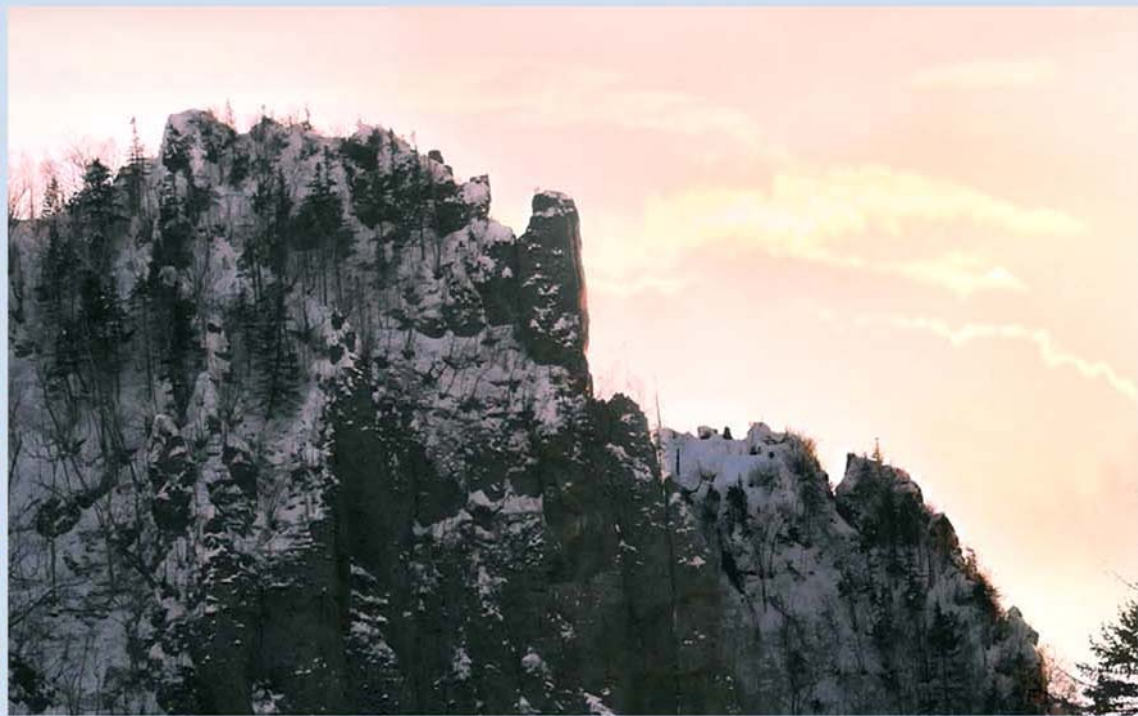
Horse Rock, and see a vast sea of forest swaying like waves.

Scores of years ago a veteran fighter of the anti-Japanese armed struggle told a story in front of the native house in the Paektusan Secret Camp, "Long time ago, nobody could dare to come here overawed by Jong Il Peak. One day the Shinning Star of Mt. Paektu appeared suddenly in the sky over the native home and a young commander emerged from the heaven on a winged horse. He trained himself strong climbing up and down the high peak. Later his winged horse changed into the Winged-Horse Rock and his sword into the Sword Rock. That commander from the heaven is just our dear leader Comrade Kim Jong Il. We anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters carved the significant legend on the tree and told and retold it to people across the country."

Like this, as every scene in Mt. Paektu has a legend about the greatness of Kim Jong Il, the Sobaeksu Valley is cherished as holy place of the Sun.

*Ko Chol Su*

### **Sunrise Rock, Winged-Horse Rock and Sword Rock.**



# Second June 15 Reunification Era Should Be Opened

**I**N FEBRUARY LAST A MEETING OF THE north, south and overseas chairmen of the Joint National Committee for Implementation of the June 15 Joint Declaration was held in Shenyang, China. In the meeting they discussed practical matters to improve north-south relations and open a new phase of the struggle for independent reunification by pooling efforts of the whole nation this year that marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic July 4 North-South Joint Statement and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the October 4 Declaration, and agreed on a number of matters. The Joint National Committee decided to play an active and vanguard role in opening a second June 15 reunification era by holding without fail this year a pan-national assembly for reunification involving all political parties and organizations including the authorities in the north and the south, as well as people from all walks of life at home and abroad.

Seventeen years ago, in June 2000, a north-south summit meeting was held in Pyongyang for the first time in 55 years since the separation of the nation, and the historic June 15 Joint Declaration was made public. The declaration swiftly turned the north-south relations of confrontation, which had lasted for over half a century, into the one of reconciliation and cooperation. North-south minister-level talks took place in which joint agreements were made from the standpoint of prioritizing the desire and interest of the nation. As a result over 60 former unconverted long-term prisoners in south Korea returned to the north across the Panmunjom demarcation line—it was a historic event. Significant things ensued: Joint national functions were held on a large scale including seminars, festivals and meetings for national reunification with the participants from the north, the south and abroad. Contacts and travels of people of all strata took place including a grand forum of north and south workers for reunification, a seminar of north and south scholars, a north-south joint exhibition of historical materials and a national costume exhibition. It is the Korean nation's unanimous desire to open another June 15 era by giving rise to the enthusiasm and jubilation of the era that swept the whole Korean peninsula from Paektu to Halla.

But the present inter-Korean relations are stuck in the state of the worst ruin, and the atmosphere of the Korean peninsula, which is in danger of cold wave of war, is acute. The puppet south Korean authorities are pursuing a confrontation policy stigmatizing good intentions of the north as camouflaged peace propaganda and deceptive dialogue propaganda without any consideration of the north's sincere intentions. The puppet minister of unification

convened a plenary meeting of the policy consultative committee of the ministry to instigate confrontation, asserting that they were at a crucial moment to decide whether to pursue solid and sustainable peace on the basis of the north's changes or remain in an unstable state by giving wrong signals to the north. The acting "president" and the defence minister had telephone conversations with their US masters to beg for stronger alliance and cooperation against the north. The puppet air force created the war atmosphere to attack the north in cooperation with the US Seventh Air Force, and the top brass are mad on anti-north confrontation going around military units to highlight "the need to maintain solid preparedness against the north and mete out swift and decisive punishment." This is none other than a challenge against the nation's desire for peace and security in the Korean peninsula.

The Korean people want not confrontation but dialogue, not war but peace. They are conducting a vigorous struggle to open a new phase of independent reunification this year by all means. They set the period from June 15 to October 4 as the one of commemoration of the publication of the north-south declarations, and are making vigorous efforts to hold joint national functions in the north and the south including Pyongyang and Seoul on occasions of joint national anniversaries like June 15, July 4, August 15 and October 4. They are working hard to hold successful meetings, sports and cultural functions and seminars for reunification by strata, sectors and organizations, including a north-south workers' football match for reunification, a folk culture function of north and south farmers for reunification, a meeting of youth and students from the north, the south and overseas, a meeting of representatives from women's organizations, a meeting of north and south religious believers and a tour to sites related to the anti-Japanese movement for independence.

They have all turned out in unison in the work to bring into reality the agreement adopted at the meeting of the north, south and overseas chairmen of the Joint National Committee for Implementation of the June 15 Joint Declaration to work hard to realize various sports and cultural exchanges on the occasions of the Asian Cup Women's Football Tournament 2018 and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Winter Olympic Games.

As it is impossible to check the natural progress in which dawn comes after a dark night, the national struggle will surely emerge victorious to hasten the day of bright future when national reconciliation and unity will come removing the curtain of confrontation and mistrust.

*Kim Il Ryong*



# The Tragedy of the US

**T**HE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES was defeated in the Korean war, which drew the world's attention after World War II, against people's anticipation made a great sensation in the international community at that time, totally degrading the prestige of the US that had boasted of being "the strongest" in the world. MacArthur, Commander of the US Armed Forces in the Far East and at the same time Commander of the "UN Forces" during the war, lamented that the Korean war was a clear and undoubted failure, and that there had been no time when the prestige of the US fell down worldwide like in the Korean war after its establishment.

When the US unleashed the Korean war on June 25, 1950, it bragged that it would conclude the war at a stroke by dint of a "blitzkrieg." Many people never doubted its bragging. However, contrary to the US's intention, the war lasted for 1 129 days, and at last, the US kneeled before the army and people of the young DPRK, and had to sign the armistice agreement. To the US that boasted of knowing no defeat in over 110 wars of aggression it was the first of its kind to beg its opponent to conclude an armistice agreement.

The Korean war gave the US not only painful defeat but also a serious lesson. Around the time of the war the US had the greatest capital and technical and military capabilities. So, it was incomparably superior to the DPRK in technical and numerical terms in the whole course of the war. But the former was always inferior to the latter in strategic and tactical terms. This made the US's modern weapons and military equipment ineffective, thus rendering its defeat inevitable in all operations and battles. In an attempt to make up for its defeat in the brain war with Korea, the US changed the commander of the "UN forces" from MacArthur to Ridgway and then Clark, and did the commander of the US 8<sup>th</sup> Army five times from Walker to Ridgway and Van Fleet. No matter how hard they had tried the US always lost initiative and suffered tremendous losses due to the DPRK's adroit strategy and tactics and war methods, and outstanding art of command.

The US troops mobilized in the war were also corrupt mentally and morally. Ridgway, once Commander of the US 8<sup>th</sup> Army and then Commander of the "UN forces," recalled that what he had felt during the first fortnight after his arrival at Korea was that all the soldiers of the 8<sup>th</sup> Army were wondering why they had come to Korea and what they were fighting for.

It is natural that soldiers who are out in a battlefield without having a certain intention and ideal

just like GIs cannot fight at the cost of their lives. Afraid of the heroic mettle of the Korean army and people the US soldiers in the Korean war used to escape from battlefield in a group. By the end of 1952, 46 000 soldiers deserted the US Navy, and the US Department of the Army required US\$ 2 000 000 for the expense for arresting those runaways.

The Korean war proved the fact that even a well-equipped army is destined to suffer defeat in a war if it is devoid of strategy and ideological and spiritual preparedness. And unfortunately, the US was and is without any capability to cope with a brain war against the DPRK and without any ideology and institutionalized device to remove the extreme selfishness, mammonism and war-weariness prevailing in its army. So the US's defeat in the Korean war was an inevitable result.

Nevertheless, the US, still advocating the "weapon-is-everything idea," is concentrating the majority of its strategic nuclear forces into the Asia-Pacific region and wages the aggressive DPRK-targeted war drills in south Korea and its vicinity annually. For over 60 years since the end of the Korean war the US has conducted all sorts of war exercises against the DPRK more than 18 000 times, except for those not open to the public. In March last it waged the unprecedentedly large-scale Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises in south Korea, driving the situation in the Korean peninsula to the brink of war.

However, the post-war 60-odd-year-long DPRK-US confrontation in which the latter had to suffer dishonour and defeat, proved once again that America cannot avoid the fate of defeat as it is vulnerable strategically, tactically, ideologically and mentally. And this fact is becoming more evident as the days go by. In particular, the DPRK is now possessed of the military and technical capabilities to strike any targets in and around the Korean peninsula and the US proper, and the capabilities are being strengthened day after day. The more Korea enhances its military and technical capabilities, the deeper the US finds itself in danger.

The DPRK has already declared that if the US goes beyond the utmost limit to violate its supreme dignity and sovereignty, it will ostracize the US mainland from this planet. It is a tragedy to the United States that it fails to draw a lesson from its defeat in the Korean war and is obsessed with expansive delusion, rushing headlong towards another Korean war which will bring ruin upon them.

*Kim Il Bong*

# Dwindling Social Security Funds Versus Soaring Military Expenditure

**N**O OTHER COUNTRY THAN JAPAN IS SO vociferous about talking about “democracy” and “law-governed country” in the international community. Then, how about the reality of Japan?

According to some reports, the Japanese government cut social security funds by 170 billion yen in the budget for the fiscal year 2016. On the contrary it passed the line of 5 000 billion yen for military expenditure by increasing it continuously for four years. The media reported that the Japanese authorities are violating the people’s right to existence through war of relentless plunder and even going so far as to threaten the people’s life and safety by turning the country into a war state at the expense of the taxes.

For what is Japan trying to be a war state when it knows it is becoming an uneasy country?

Before taking office the present Japanese ruler set it as his target to change his country from war criminal state and defeated nation after the Second World War into a “normal state” which has the right to carry out war by breaking away from the postwar system. As soon as he grabbed the power he carried out the “revision of the constitution” which denies its legal responsibility as war criminal state and defeated nation. Japan has laid legal foundations for dispatch of troops overseas by adopting the “law on contingency,” “special law on anti-terrorism” and “law on contingency in neighbouring countries.” It has constantly expanded manoeuvres of reinvasion on the worldwide scale—some typical moves are the advance of aircraft-carrier-based strike forces to oceans, expansion of the operating sphere with the use of up-to-date strategic air force, and dispatch of troops overseas under the pretext of “support of international peace.” The Japanese are missing the time when they had a control of Asia. They are now attempting to realize its ambition to become “leader of Asia” by annexing the Korean peninsula, North-east Asia and other parts of Eurasia.

The avaricious Japan has lost not only reason but also control of itself, for it is behaving ridiculously, finding fault with the DPRK’s test-fire of strategic ballistic rocket Pukguksong-2. It is conducting a drill of intercepting the Korean rocket and introducing new-type military hardware. It stated that it would work out a detailed plan through quick examination of a programme for introduction of new-type hardware for interception and put it in its 2019-2023 midterm defence adjustment plan. According to the decision, the Japanese Ministry of Defence will soon start the examination at a committee which is charged with the task of building up combined mobile defence capabilities. Meanwhile, the naval general staff of the Ministry of Defence

announced that it would conduct a simulation drill aimed at improving the alert posture for fire and interception to cope with the “threat” from the DPRK’s ballistic missiles in cooperation with the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet of the US Navy.

The moves stepped up by Japan after the launch of the DPRK’s test-fire of a strategic ballistic rocket are ridiculed by the international community as a foolish attempt to cover its ambition for overseas invasion under an absurd pretext.

Since its defeat, Japan has remained unchanged in its ambition for overseas invasion. It has systematically increased its military spending under the pretext of acquiring military capabilities commensurate with its economic potential, thus recording the highest speed in the growth of military spending in the world.

At the end of last year the Japanese *Mainichi Shimbun* reported that the government decided to allot five trillion and a hundred billion yen for military spending in the budget for the fiscal year 2017. The scale of military hardware of the Self-Defense Forces is as large as that of the world’s military powers. Japan is capable of manufacturing nuclear weapons at any time when it decides, and has got perfect means for their delivery. There is no geographical limit to the operating sphere of the SDF. According to the revised Japan-US Defence Cooperation Guidelines, the scope of activity for the SDF has expanded worldwide. The SDF has completely turned into offensive-type armed forces for aggression.

The DPRK is its primary target. Japan seeks to take the position of the “leader of Asia” even by offering its whole archipelago to the US as an advance base for invading the continent while zealously following the US hostile policy towards the DPRK. Despite being a defeated nation, Japan hurled its old armed forces and military hardware to the Korean war (June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953) and gave up its territory as US’s base for war supplies, which brought it a huge fortune. Since then, it has become wealthy gradually.

Availing itself of the opportunity in which the world economy is in disorder, Japan is trying to make a similar fortune. To repeat the folly of aggression will surely end up in another defeat. Japan would be able to have no benefit from the policy of clinging to the US—for many underhand purposes—while reducing social security funds and increasing military expenditure. The only way for Japan to get out of its danger of defeat is to make an honest apology for its past crimes, make full reparations and abandon its ambition of re-invasion once and for all.

*Rim Hye Gyong*

# Monument to Kirin Cave

**T**HE MONUMENT TO THE KIRIN CAVE was unearthed in 2012 on Moran Hill in Pyongyang. *Kirin*, or unicorn, is an imaginary animal known from ancient times in Northeast Asia. The name *kirin* is combination of *ki* meaning male and *rin* female. In general, *kirin* denotes a sage or a genius.

The two-tiered monument consists of a stone inscribed with “Kirin Cave” in Chinese characters and a pedestal stone which was made in later years. The monument was found split into two, which is the result of age-old weathering.

The Korean classics, *Chronicles of Koryo* and *Sejong Sillok* (Chronicles of King Sejong), published in the 15<sup>th</sup> century have the records that there had long existed a monument related to the Kirin Cave on Moran Hill in Pyongyang. It is believed that Koguryo people erected monumental structures related to King Tongmyong on Moran Hill when they moved the capital from the Walled City of Pyongyang based in the Taesongsan Fort and the Anhak Palace to Inner Walled City of Pyongyang in 586. They built the new capital in a such way as to

arouse worship and reverence for King Tongmyong and display the might of Koguryo.

Koryo (918–1392), the state succeeding to Koguryo, preserved and handed down those relics through generations.

The discovery of the Kirin Cave showed that Koguryo played a leading role in the development of the Korean history, and that Pyongyang, the capital of Ancient Joseon (early 30<sup>th</sup> century BC–108 BC) and Koguryo, was historically the central base of the birth and development of the Taedonggang culture.

*Pak Yong Il*

