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Order of “Flaming Heart”



Chairman Kim Jong Il received the order from the International Union of Charitable Organizations “The World of Kindness” in February 2011.





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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un seals a kinship-like relation with all children in the country and takes infinite care of them.



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Front Cover: Makers of a new model of trolley buses

Photo by Ri Song Ik



Back Cover: Pagyon Falls in summer

Photo by An Kang Rim

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Children Grow Happily

THEY SAY THAT DEVOTION of parents to their children is so pure that it cannot be made forcibly or forged. In Korea there is great care superior to parental one. Fathers and mothers of the country say unanimously, "Our Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un loves the children more than anyone else in the world."

In fact he keeps kinship feelings towards all children. On June 1, 2014 he visited the Pyongyang Orphanage and congratulated the children on International Children's Day. When he stepped into the amusement room first the orphans rushed up to him, calling, "Father." There were some children running with their arms stretched and others falling down as they were in haste. They were too young to present their feelings and ideas about the surrounding world, but they knew well who loved them most. So they threw themselves into his arms without hesitation. Afraid that they might

fall in their haste, the leader went to help them, and kindly asked them what they had played and if they had eaten something delicious, while patting their cheeks. Seeing them count their boasts on their fingers, he said he was pleased to see the children happy. Noting that the children's happiness alone leads to the sunny smile of the entire nation and that it is the Workers' Party of Korea's decision to help them grow without any want, he stressed that the children should be put under parental care if they are to grow without sorrow from being orphaned.

On New Year's Day in 2012 Kim Jong Un visited Mangyongdae Revolutionary School. Saying that a weep would make a poor image, he stroked the children's cheeks while posing for a souvenir photograph.

He is so kind that when he goes to see kindergarten children he takes world-famous fairy tale

books to them. He loves the children so much that he once received a "medical examination" from a child playing at doctors. He is so passionate about the children that when he received a letter from a child who had done a lot of good things he drew five red stars on the letter in reply. He is so thoughtful that he takes kind-hearted measures for orphans every winter. He calculated on his notebook how much fish was needed annually if all the orphans were to be supplied with 300 grams every day, and he, as the Supreme Commander, gave an order to the Korean People's Army to establish a fishing station exclusively for daily supply of fish to orphans.

His orders for the sake of children come often, touching the heartstrings of their parents. Children are instantly attached to the leader who shows them warm care incomparable to that of their parents. Numerous children

The Wonsan Orphanage is filled with warm care for the orphaned children.





The Songdowon International Children's Camp.

had souvenir photographs taken with him; among them are a son of a worker's family who moved into a new apartment in Changjon Street, Hang Myong who is a child in a village of an islet located in the hottest spot, pupils who went camping in Mt. Myohyang, and a little child who was in the People's Open-Air Ice Rink. They were all attracted to him the moment he stroked their cheeks, asking them how they were and how old they were. They readily threw themselves into his arms, asking, "Please hug me." One day they took a seat side by side with him on the platform of a celebration meeting, like members of his family, and saw a dazzling firework display together with him. When they win top honour at school or are praised for their good deeds schoolchildren write him first to tell their happy news.

Thanks to the leader's love, a lot of edifices went up for the children. Typical of them are

the Pyongyang Children's Department Store, Munsu Water Park, Okryu Children's Hospital, Kyongsang Kindergarten, Pyongyang Baby Home, Pyongyang Orphanage, Wonsan Baby Home and Wonsan Orphanage. They are far from the result of any prosperous economy. It's not a loss when the State has done something for the people and children; the Party feels happy when the State expenses increase for the children; the more "loss" it suffers for the children, the more satisfied the State feels—this is the consistent stand of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In April 2014 Kim Jong Un inspected the Songdowon International Children's Camp with its completion just ahead. Seeing the slogan *We Are the Happiest in the World* in the compound, he said that the slogan was really good, and that it was just an echo of thanks of children to President Kim Il Sung,

Yun Hyo Jong

For the Future of the Country

Bud and Flower

ONE DAY IN OCTOBER 1968 CHAIRMAN Kim Jong Il, who was on a tour of field guidance in the then Anju County, South Phyongan Province, visited a nursery attached to a workteam of the Ryonghung Cooperative Farm. The nursery was silent as children were having a nap. Officials hurried to usher him in. Checking them gently, he cast a pleasant look at the children through the open window. A benevolent smile settled in his face. Now the officials knew that he was keeping silence lest he should wake the children. They stepped back from the window quietly.

Looking carefully around the nursery, he said that since the nursery was situated by the road, it might be dusty and the children might wake due to the noise of automobiles and even get injured. He stressed that they should avoid building nurseries and kindergartens on the roadside.

Then Kim Jong Il asked how many toys the nursery had. Hearing that there were not enough toys he was so sorry. He said that there should be varieties of toys for development of children's growth and intelligence. He said he could not understand why they did not prepare toys when they were easy to make. It was because officials lacked a proper attitude towards the nurseries and kindergartens, he noted. He continued to say that they should take good care of intellectual development of the children, that nurseries should establish a teaching room to tell the children about the revolutionary family and childhood of President Kim Il Sung, and that they had better set up in nurseries and kindergartens a relief map of the President's birthplace at Mangyongdae.

It was high time for lunch. But the leader was reluctant to leave the nursery, concerned about the nursing and upbringing of the children. After a while of strolling in the yard he looked carefully at the lovely children in good sleep. At the moment a plump, pretty child wore a smile showing a dimple on his cheek—perhaps he was having a dream. The leader smiled as if he let himself fall into the children's world. After a good while of watching the happy children he said to the officials that they should rear the children well who were the revolutionary reserve, and that just as a big bud makes a big and

beautiful flower, the bright future depends on how the children are brought up from the time of nursery.

Special Party for "Kings"

On the morning of June 2, 2014 senior officials of the Workers' Party of Korea and the State were standing in the front of the Pyongyang Orphanage waiting for the staff to come to work. Now they told the following story.

Toward the evening of June 1 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the orphanage in celebration of International Children's Day. Smiling broadly, he said that he was there to see the orphans, and that he knew he had to go nowhere but the orphanage on the children's holiday. He enjoyed himself among the innocent children for a while, when some officials told him it was time to leave. He then asked the headmaster of the orphanage when the children were going to have dinner. Hearing they were to have dinner at seven, he then headed for the dining room saying he wanted to see the children have dinner even though it would take some time. He saw the menu for the June 1 holiday and taught how to make foods to the children's liking. Then he said that he would send some cooks to the orphanage the next day to make pheasant meatballs for the children. Leaving the orphanage, he said to the headmaster that he hoped the orphanage staff would perform their duty faithfully and thus support from generation to generation politics of love for the children and love for the future administered by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who had treated the children as king of the country and looked after them well throughout their life.

That evening and the next morning he made detailed arrangements to give the orphans a special party, and asked the senior Party and State officials to visit the orphanage and make the children happy. That was how a special party was given in the orphanage on June 2. There were pheasant meatballs, honeyed glutinous rice cake and fried rainbow trout, etc. on the table. Seated together with the children at table, the officials poured soda and juice for the children and put chopsticks in their hands. The children were excited while the officials were smiling at their happiness.

Kim Ye Ryong

For the Good of Children



Wi Jin Hyang (right).

SOME TIME AGO A KOREA TODAY REPORTER had an interview with Wi Jin Hyang, a bureau director of the Education Commission on the occasion of International Children's Day.

International Children's Day is an important holiday in Korea on June 1.

Surely. My country celebrates the day in a big way under the concern of the Workers' Party of Korea and the State. On the day colourful sports and amusement games suited to the children's age and mental qualities are held at all nurseries, kindergartens and cultural recreation grounds across the country. Thinking of the day it seems that I hear merry laughter and singing of children.

I think children's bright smile just reflects their life.

Right. Our children are growing up healthily and pleasantly as the treasure of the country in the cradle of happiness, without envying others elsewhere in the world. This is attributable to the WPK's love for younger generation and future. The Party regards and values children as queens and kings and budding flowers of the country. The WPK and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regard the nursing and upbringing of children as a patriotic work for the everlasting prosperity of the country and nation, and don't spare any valuables for them.

In the summer of 2016 when the northern part of the country was affected by a gale and fierce flood, the first of their kinds after its liberation (August 1945), with the local people left homeless, the State did not

spare its assets and money for building nurseries and kindergartens first along with dwelling houses.

Saying that the laughter and singing of children reflect the vigour of the advancing socialism Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the Kyongsang Nursery and the Kyongsang Kindergarten first while looking around the newly-built Changjon Street. And regarding himself as orphans' own father the Supreme Leader saw to it that baby homes and orphanages were built as nicely as a palace across the country including those on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River and in the port city of Wonsan. And mentioning very gladly that he was blessed with many children he went to congratulate orphans on the New Year's day just after finishing his New Year address.

Thanks to the Supreme Leader who works with all devotion for the good of children, all parts of our country are always echoing with their happy laughter, and the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* is resounding ceaselessly as the eternal song of Korea.

In the country, I think, nationwide and public efforts are made to improve the educational conditions and environment of nurseries and kindergartens on a preferential basis.

You're right. Like last year this year, too, is designated as a year of science and education. So it is our aim to facelift all educational facilities and environment of nurseries and kindergartens on a world level. And thanks to the nationwide and public efforts, kindergartens' educational conditions and environment have been improved.

First of all, corridors and all other spaces in kindergartens have become able to serve as means of education closely connected with children's living environment. The eyes of children are just like a lens. Taking into consideration the age and psychological qualities of children who are fond of picture books we have made all spaces of kindergartens help teach children about life, morality and traffic rules by using pictures reflecting their juvenile mind.

And we have turned the environment of all education rooms into the one that makes children feel as if they were in their home.

We also pay attention to their teachers' activities. So to speak, we make sure that each teacher behaves not merely as teacher but treats children as well as their own parents should do them, thus making it possible for the teachers' all countenances and gestures to educate children. In case the looks of some children are gloomy for an unavoidable reason we ▶

▶ have the teachers affectionately treat them as their own parents would do so as to divert them from such moods to always lead a merry life. As a result, the children become attached to their kindergartens, and the kindergartens always resound with their happy laughter.

Now many delegations and foreigners from across the world have been deeply impressed by the bright looks of the children while looking around the nurseries and kindergartens, I think.

Certainly. Lots of foreign delegations and figures have so far visited many kindergartens such as the Kyongsang Kindergarten and the Changgwang Kindergarten, and they told a lot about the children's unanimous brightness. Two years ago a Mexican delegation, on a visit to our country, looked around nurseries and kindergartens in Pyongyang. At that time, it is said, the members of the delegation were deeply

impressed by the children's constant cheerfulness.

A member of a Russian newspaper delegation said: I was always glad to see children. And seeing children here grow up happily with bright looks, I felt that their parents would work free from care for the prosperity of the State and that the future of the country is bright.

The chairman of the British association for friendship with Korea, after looking around the Changgwang Kindergarten, said that if they witnessed the feelings of respect and love between teachers and children, the children's manner of speech and behaviour and the beautiful smiles of the children and teachers, even the people of a wealthiest capitalist country would bow their heads. He continued to say that he was deeply impressed indeed, and that he wanted to be born again as a child to attend a kindergarten in the DPRK. □

Colourful sports and amusement games are held every year to suit the children's liking on the June 1 International Children's Day.





Children enter the nursery under the care of a nurse.

Tender Care for Children

SOME TIME AGO I VISITED Kim Jong Suk Nursery in the Puksae area. The nursery is situated in a convenient place with good scenery and fresh air as it is near Moran Hill, which is known as a scenic spot.

I was received by Merited Nurse Ri Chun Hwa who has been working at the nursery for 30 years since it was newly built on the place. According to Ri, the weekly nursery takes care of children at the age of 30 months to four years at state expense, and three nurses take charge of one child.

It was Monday morning, and mothers were bringing their children along to the nursery taking the latter by the hand. Among the mothers was Mun Kang Sun, hero weaver of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile

Mill. (Mun became Labour Hero as a young woman because she had annually overfulfilled her quota for the national economic plan.) Now she is mother of two children, but her manner of work is unchanged. She said, "My son gets better and becomes healthy while living in this nursery, so I can work free from worry. I have now met my first half-yearly quota ahead of schedule."

I also met Kim Chung Gum, journalist of the newspaper *Minju Joson*. She said that she leaves her daughter in the care of the nursery and takes official trips without worrying about her, and that when she was on a several week-long official tour, it took care of her daughter for the whole period. This enabled her to write many articles which were favourably commented upon by

the readers, she said.

Leaving their children in the nursery the mothers hurried to their workplaces. Some of the children saw off their mothers, waving their little hands.

Now Ri led me to the room of Class 12, where children were enthusiastically telling their nurses about how they had enjoyed themselves at their homes on Sunday. This reminded me of a homely atmosphere in which children were frolicking before their mothers. Meanwhile some of the children took off their clothes and folded them neatly by themselves and others went into the bathroom to wash their hands.

According to the nurses, few children can eat rice using their own hands when they start living in the nursery, but they learn how to wash their hands, ▶

brush their teeth, put clothes on and off and arrange the clothes, thus cultivating independence. Needless to say, their mothers are satisfied with the way they grow.

When I asked a nurse how they could teach the children such habits easily, she said that it was because everyday life in the nursery was accompanied by songs in keeping with the age and mental qualities of children. Having a talk on the proverb "What is learned in the cradle is carried to the tomb" Ri and I dropped in at the room of Class 5. The nurses covered the children with quilts which were kicked off by them, and looked down tenderly at them sitting by their bedside. And when the kids woke up, the nurses would comb their hair or adjust their clothes just like their own mothers should do them.

Three-year-old Kim Sin Ui easily read fairy-tale books and was able to count four-digit numbers. Some other children could play the xylophone, organ or percussion instrument. The nurses said: At first it was hard to find out bud of talent of the children which their own parents did not know and teach them how to play musical instruments. But when seeing them play the musical instruments and sing songs fairly well, we shed tears of joy.

I was told that Han Il Yong, who won the special prize at the 6th Rakhmaninov International Musical Concours, learned from the aforesaid nurse Ri Chun Hwa how to press piano keys. Ri told me that when she said to Han's parents that he could hear seven composite sounds as well as triad, and that he might become a musical talent, his parents were doubtful. "When I see such children grow up into world-

famous musicians, I take pride in my job," Ri said.

As if to appreciate their nurses' devoted efforts the children call them *mum*. There in the nursery I saw the appearance of two kinds of mothers. One was the children's own mothers who were making innovations at their workplaces

while their children were staying at the nursery, and the other was the nurses who were taking devoted care of the children. All the mothers are working enthusiastically for the brighter future of the children.

Kim Chol Hyon



Little Hopefuls

IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un read collections of songs created by Pak Jin Un and Jon Kuk Chol, children of Jongbaek Kindergarten No. 2 in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, and spoke highly of their talent.

Future Mirrored by Diary

Jin Un's swelling hope is to be seen in the diary of his mother Om Hye Yong.

April 3, 2017

As computer experts my husband and I want to make a scientist of our son. Gradually, however, we find him develop in a way far from our expectation.

His teacher says that in the kindergarten he is more enthusiastic about learning songs than counting or drawing.

This evening he came back home late. I asked him why, when he replied he had watched his seniors of a higher class practise in singing.



Collections of songs and Pak Jin Un (right) and Jon Kuk Chol.



April 7, 2017

Today his teacher phoned me to say that she had Jin Un try to read scores, sing at sight and hear sound as the child eagerly asked her to allow him to do so. He did very well, she said. He has an aptitude for music, she added and said she would teach him music.

October 15, 2017

Today Jin Un performed a pi-

ano solo at his kindergarten's variety performance. It was his first presentation. Tears welled up in my eyes as I saw him successfully play the song *Our Country Is the Best*.

December 20, 2017

Today is the happiest day to not only Jin Un but also our whole family because our respected Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un read his collection of songs and wished him a happy future.

Jin Un says, "I will become a fine musician."

Future in Dream

Jon Kuk Chol likes his father very much who is an officer of the Korean People's Army (KPA). This is not merely because his father often brings him toy pistols and other toys when he comes back from work.

Whenever the neighbours held up their thumbs saying, "Your father is the best as he defends the country with arms in

hand," Kuk Chol felt very proud of his father. The little boy soon came to regard his father in military uniform as the strongest and best person in the world. So he started having a dream of becoming a soldier of the KPA like his father, and that a pilot.

A boy of a sentimental nature he used to express his feelings by means of songs after he began to learn music.

Lots of his songs, including *Playing at Physician Is Enjoyable*, *Ballgame Is Fun and More and More Fishing Boats*, vividly reflect his dream and hope. Many of the works mirror his dream and his love for his father.

The following is a verse of *Paper Plane I Made*, one of his songs.

*Paper plane I made,
Please fly in the blue sky.
Carrying my desire to become
a future pilot,
Fly and fly in the blue sky
of my country.*

Kim Son Myong

Profile of Motherly Party

JUNE 19, 1964 IS THE DAY WHEN Chairman Kim Jong Il started working at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. When the anniversary comes in June the Korean people, recollecting the historic day, praise his glorious achievements for the development of the motherly Party.

We Should Be Able to See through People's Mind

One January day in 1965 Kim Jong Il, talking to some officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, spoke of the need for the Party to change its work into the one with people in all cases. He said that they should always think twice and make a proper decision when they treat people's problems as most of them are connected with their political integrity, and that it was important to know their mind. He went on: It is by no means easy to see through their inmost heart. This is how the proverb came that you can see through a ten fathoms deep water but not a fathom deep mind of a man. However difficult it may be to grasp people's mind the Party workers should have an insight into it. They should be able to know the fathom deep mind of the people even though they cannot see into ten fathoms deep water.

After a pause he stressed: Taking full responsibility for people's destiny is an important quality the Party workers should have. Befitting the workers of the motherly Party they should cherish burning love of the Party for the people and truly value and look after the officials, Party members and other working people. They ought to take full responsibility for their political integ-

rity and take warm care of them to the last.

WPK's Calculation

One day before the Sixth Congress of the WPK a consultative meeting took place in the presence of Kim Jong Il. The item on the agenda was how to build a yeast factory badly needed for the foodstuff industry. At the time there were a lot of projects under way to glorify the 6th Party Congress, requiring manpower, materials and funds. Taking the situation into consideration, an official, reporting the Chairman about the strained financial supplies of the country, gave his opinion to postpone the construction of the new factory.

Then Kim Jong Il said: Of course we have to make calculation before building a factory. But you must not always keep calculation ahead of others. If doing so, we can never do anything for the people. All of you, think of your mothers. When they had no cloth, they cut even their one and only piece of clothes to make clothes for their children, and when there was no food, they sold even their own braids of hair to obtain food for their children. Only when we keep such a motherly heart without calculation, can we do even one more thing for the people. They usually say not to do a losing business. But we have to do it by readily devoting all funds of the country if it is helpful for the happy life of the people. Never put calculation ahead of others when it is related to the good of the people. It is my arithmetic and the Party's method of calculation.

Thus, the factory was built in a short period, and quality foodstuffs began to be produced, bringing pleasure to the people and children.

Anecdotes of June 15 Era

EIGHTEEN YEARS HAVE passed since the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration was made public. The inter-Korean summit meeting in June 2000 enveloped the entire Korean nation with zeal for reunification and produced lots of anecdotes. The Korean people still recall those days that greatly excited the nation.

Unexpected Impact

One June day in 2000 Chairman Kim Jong Il went to the airport to meet south Korean President Kim Dae Jung on a visit to Pyongyang.

Officials of the south side, who had been in Pyongyang in advance, were struck with wonder, exclaiming, "There's Chairman Kim Jong Il of the National Defence Commission!" They had thought that the reception would be on a ministerial level.

As to the impact of that day a south Korean MP said later: I felt just as if I were struck by a high-voltage current at the moment. Suddenly the inside of my head seemed to be washed white. *Ah! Chairman Kim Jong Il of the National Defence Commission!* I doubted my eyes.

Kim Dae Jung stepped down from his plane. Smiling all over his face, Chairman Kim Jong Il warmly shook hands with the south Korean president, admiring him for his bravely making the difficult and fearful journey. And Kim Dae Jung thanked the Chairman for his coming to the airport.

At the same time the event at the then Pyongyang Airport began to be televised live on a screen in a press centre arranged on the first floor of the Lotte Hotel in Seoul. The south Korean announcer,

thinking that the President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would come out, said, "Now at the airport President Kim Yong Nam of the Presidium..." before opening his eyes widely with wonder. Then he hastily gripped the mike exclaiming, "Ah! There's Chairman Kim Jong Il of the National Defence Commission coming." He was too excited to go on.

Journalists clapped in unison to see the Chairman majestically walking along with a bright smile on his face, and some even shed tears.

Really One Family

It was on the day when Chairman Kim Jong Il gave a farewell luncheon in honour of Kim Dae Jung and his entourage.

The previous evening the Chairman told the south Korean president that since the south Korean side had given a party to his side, he was going to give a luncheon to the south side in return. *In the south you're advocating mutual benefit, and we are going to adopt it*, he joked.

Hearing the Chairman's humorous words the south Koreans felt their hearts jump in laughter.

When the Chairman came out in the venue for the luncheon Kim Dae Jung sincerely thanked him for his treating them hospitably to the last. And in the middle of the party Kim Dae Jung abruptly and unreservedly asked the Chairman where his family name originated. With a smile the Chairman said it originated from the Kims of Jonju.

Kim Dae Jung was very sorry that his family name was the same phonetically as the Chairman's but they were different in family origin. Kim Dae Jung's wife

Ri Hui Ho, who had been silently listening to their conversation, clapped and said that her family name, too, originated from the Ris of Jonju. She was beside herself with delight at the fact that the Chairman's and her families originated from the same place.

The Chairman laughed a hearty laugh, saying, "So you and I are really of one family. At last we've reunited."

His humorous words were very meaningful. His humour just reflected his brotherly love based on his boundless desire for the day when all the fellow countrymen would be able to live harmoniously like a family.

Mutual Assistance for the Sake of the Nation

During the luncheon the south Koreans were completely fascinated by the Chairman and reluctant to be distant from him. He told them that it was necessary to desist from mutual slander and calumny and all activities offending each other in order to promote trust and unity between the north and the south. Ten days later it would be June 25 (anniversary of the Korean war), he said and stressed that what was important for the south as well was to hold no relevant functions hostile to the north and dissuade people there from having a hostile feeling.

Then he told the ministers of the south side that they were just in a position to preserve their president's and his dignity. He said that if they failed to do so, he would have them all resign and that he would go to Seoul to be a concurrent minister.

All around the Chairman burst into laughter. And the ministers seemed to be touched on the raw, and bowed to him, pledging to make every effort to implement

► the Joint Declaration faithfully. Kim Dae Jung repeatedly told him not to worry too much.

As the luncheon drew to the close the ministers were quite sorry to part from the Chairman. Looking around them, he said: This time President Kim and politicians from the south have done a great thing. Let's use today's event to make former politicians of the south lament and regret. We are charged with the task of national importance to implement the North-South Joint Declaration. We should avoid being hasty or impatient and do things carefully one by one. We should always give preference to national problems. We are not thoughtlessly opposed to the south authorities' cooperation with other countries. What matters is that cooperation with other countries should be done provided that our nation realizes reconciliation and unity. International cooperation against one's nation is the last thing to be

desired. We should do cooperation for the sake of our nation.

Earnest Request

The day he got on his way home Kim Dae Jung was deeply impressed by Chairman Kim Jong Il's sharing the same car with him to see him off as kind-heartedly as he had done when he had arrived in Pyongyang.

In the running car the Chairman said to Kim Dae Jung: This time we've met and made public the North-South Joint Declaration, taking a stride towards reunification of the country. A former opposition figure you, as President today, have done a great thing that any of your predecessors dared not do. You must be very happy. In this sense and in terms of a man's life yours can be said to be a successful career.

Kim Dae Jung then said: It is the best fortune in my life that

this time I myself have met you, and I have no more to wish for.

Previously, after signing the Joint Declaration, Kim Dae Jung called all of his entourage together in his lodgings and frankly expressed his great excitement, saying: Chairman Kim Jong Il of the National Defence Commission is really a great man, a wonderful man and a reliable man I want to work together with. He is great already, and his prospect is brighter. Having met such a passionate and spirited man I am convinced of not only the bright future of the north but also that of our nation.

Before saying good-bye to Kim Jong Il Kim Dae Jung said that all future things depended entirely on the Chairman and that he wished the Chairman would look after all things properly taking into consideration the destiny of the fellow countrymen.

Sim Chol Yong

The Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification calls on all Koreans to work hard for great national unity.



Juche Idea, Revolutionary Doctrine of Independence (6)

Maintaining Independent and Creative Stands

PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG PUT FORWARD the need to establish Juche firmly in the revolution and construction as an important principle to be held fast to in the struggle to hew out the destiny of the masses of the people.

In his talk to delegates from different countries to an international seminar on the Juche idea on September 14, 1977, he, answering their questions, said: “**You asked me when I keenly felt the need to establish the Juche orientation, and I can say it was in the early days of my engagement in the revolution.**”

When Kim Il Sung set out on the road of revolutionary struggle, the Korean revolution was in a difficult and complicated situation. As it was a revolution for national liberation in Korea, a colonial country, which was the first of its kind and strange to everyone, the Korean people had to solve all problems by themselves and devise fighting policies and ways out of their head. As the Korean revolution went through indescribable ordeals and difficulties, Kim Il Sung gained invaluable experience and learned lessons, which were not to be bartered for anything. They were the truth that the humble and ordinary working people can exert immeasurable power and carry out the revolution surely by their own efforts even in any difficult and disadvantageous conditions once they are awakened to the revolution.

The leader was firmly convinced that the people should solve all problems on their own relying on their own strength with the consciousness that they are responsible for the revolution and with the approach that those problems should be dealt with in the interest of their own nation to suit the actual condition of their country. This is the very stand and attitude they should adopt in the revolution and construction, he believed.

With regard to the essential content of the establishment of Juche, Kim Il Sung noted:

“Establishing the Juche orientation means having the attitude of masters towards the revolution and construction. In other words, it means discarding the idea of dependence on others and displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance. This enables one to maintain at all times the independent standpoint of tackling one’s own problems on one’s own responsibility, and to adhere to the creative standpoint of solving all the problems that arise in the revolution and construction in line with the interests of one’s people and the actual conditions of one’s country.”

One of the important points in establishing Juche

is to hold fast to the independent stand with which to take responsibility for the revolution of one’s own country and carry it out with one’s own efforts in any case. The stand is indispensable to the masses’ effort to defend their right as masters of the revolution and construction and fulfil their responsibility as such. An important aspect of the independent stand is to achieve complete independence which enables one to decide all lines and policies in the interest of one’s own nation and revolution all the time; another one is to have the ardent spirit of self-reliance with which to take responsibility of all matters arising in the revolution and construction and settle them with one’s own efforts.

Another important point in establishing Juche is to hold fast to the creative stand with which to rely on the strength of the masses of the people and mobilize them to solve all problems arising in the revolution and construction in the interest of one’s own people in conformity with the condition of one’s own country. Important to the content of the creative stand is the principle of believing in the effort of the masses and solving all problems by pooling their strength and wisdom all the time. Also important is the principle of solving all problems to suit the actual condition of one’s country, that is, to suit the ever-changing situation of the time and the specific condition of one’s own country.

The independent stand pertains to the problem of how the masses of the people defend their right as masters and fulfil their responsibility as such, when the creative one relates to the matter of how to enhance the role of the people in transforming nature and society. The process of maintaining the stands is just that of the people’s struggle to carve out their destiny by implementing the Juche idea.

The idea of keeping the stands—initiated by President Kim Il Sung—boils down to the principle of believing in the strength of one’s own people and carrying on the revolution in one’s way. To rely on one’s own effort and make revolution in one’s own way means independence and creation which serve as weapon to hew out the destiny.

Whenever an opportunity presented itself, Kim Il Sung said that the masses of the people are entitled to deal with all problems arising in the revolution and construction in their interest as they want and that they are charged with the sacred duty to push ahead with the revolution and construction with full responsibility for them. All his life he made the revolution by relying on the people with his feet firmly planted in the realities of the Korean revolution. His revolutionary faith is evident in the idea of maintaining the independent and creative stands.

Ri Jong Nam

Socialist Korea Enters New Stage of Development

THE SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION IN THE Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is entering a new stage of development to attain the higher goal put forward by the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK) ahead of schedule.

The Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee held in April last declared the victory of the strategic line of pushing forward the economic construction and the upbuilding of nuclear forces simultaneously, and put forward a new strategic line of concentrating all efforts on the economic construction.

The March 2013 Plenary Meeting of the WPK Central Committee adopted the strategic line as required by the prevailing situation and the developing revolution. The Korean people waged an unyielding struggle against the challenges of unprecedented trials and difficulties, and carried out the whole processes of developing nuclear weapons in a scientific way and in regular order, and also developed proper means of delivery and strike, thus perfectly accomplishing the great historic cause of building the nuclear forces of the nation. The all-Party, all-nation and all-people struggle has opened a prospect for fully displaying the might of the independent economy, and the overall economy is on an uptrend.

The April 2018 Plenary Meeting of the WPK Central Committee solemnly stated: The work of nuclear weapons development has been reliably realized, and the DPRK will discontinue nuclear test and ICBM test-fire from April 21, 2018. The northern nuclear test ground of the DPRK will be dismantled. And the country will join the international desire and efforts for the total halt to nuclear tests. It will never use nuclear weapons unless it is faced with nuclear threat and nuclear provocation, and it will not transfer nuclear weapons or nuclear technology under any circumstances.

The meeting also declared that the country will create international environment favourable for the socialist economic construction and facilitate close contact and active dialogue with neighbouring countries and the international community in order to defend peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world.

Thanks to the DPRK’s proactive action and efforts after the declaration of its completion of the national nuclear forces last year, a fresh climate of détente and peace is taking shape in and around the Korean peninsula, and dramatic changes are coming in the international political landscape. The decision of the recent plenary meeting in this situation clearly re-

flects the peace-loving intention of the WPK to make an active contribution to the building of a world free from nuclear weapons in conformity with the common desire and aspiration of mankind now that the country has become able to ensure the security of the State and the safety of the people.

The plenary meeting also set it as a strategic line of the Party to concentrate all efforts of the whole Party and country on the socialist economic construction, put forward immediate and long-term goals and especially stressed the need for all fields and units to build up the self-developing capacity steadily and effect an upsurge in production by relying on science and technology thoroughly under the unfurled banner of self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

The DPRK has the masses of people, including scientists and technicians, with inexhaustible creative power as well as a solid foundation of the independent economy that is developing steadily in any international upheavals.

The cream of the spirit of self-development consists of the strong spirit of rejecting dependence on others in securing one’s own livelihood, and the sci-tech potentials enough to work a miracle in any unfavourable condition and environment. The DPRK has strengthened its potentials and carved out its destiny by relying on its own strength, technology and resources. And it is thanks to its spirit of self-development that the country is developing its national economy steadily despite the hostile forces’ harsh economic sanctions.

It is the WPK’s firm will to open an avenue towards prosperity and shape a bright future in the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude as it has done. The plenary meeting put forward the strategic slogan “Let us make a leap forward by dint of science and guarantee the future by dint of education!” and suggested specific tasks and ways to put spurs to the building of a sci-tech power and a talent power. The fact that the meeting, the kind of which is usually to put forward a new strategic line, discussed the issue of sci-tech and education work first shows how much importance and preference the WPK gives to the fields.

Just as it has emerged as a nuclear power and risen up to the centre of the global political landscape in a short span of five years thanks to the united efforts of the Party and the people, the DPRK will undoubtedly achieve another image before long as a nation with a modern socialist economy and knowledge-based economy.

Won Chung Guk

Bright Future

NEW-TYPE TROLLEY buses can be seen running along streets of Pyongyang, the capital city of Korea. The buses markedly improved in performance and shape not only afford traffic convenience but also inspire the citizens with confidence in their good future and pride in their own things. Some time ago we visited the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory, the birthplace of

cranes of the factory. And it made economic profits in no small measure by modernizing the electroplating process and the electric power supply system, and drastically lowered overall consumption of electricity by installing an electricity-saving induction furnace and introducing a far-infrared heating apparatus into the painting process. Meanwhile, the factory was ensuring promptness in

of the facilities in the factory are the fruit of its own effort and technology. The concerted efforts of its officers, workers and technicians led to the manufacture of over 800 facilities of 38 kinds for producing bodies and electric motors. Especially seven kinds of facilities including a traction speed test stand, a machine for moulding side walls of the body and a chassis aperture machining



those trolley buses.

Labour- and Electricity-saving Factory

All production processes of the factory are labour- and electricity-saving ones. The trolley bus assembly workshop has a modern and streamlined process. The officer guiding us said that they saved more labour than before by realizing remote control on the workshop for assembly of mobile carriage and all overhead

direction of production on a high level by establishing a system of directing production based on a wireless network it formed by its own effort. This made it possible to save 30 percent of labour and electricity and double the production capacity, compared with before.

Manufacturer: Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory

All processes of the factory have something in common—most



► centre have superior technical characteristics. What is noteworthy is that some old facilities were made CNC-based to be very high in processing function and accuracy. Thanks to the facilities, the factory produces varieties of accessories including automatic breaker, which was previously impossible for the factory to do.

Workers of the electric motor shop newly produced electric motors of good control characteristic capable of increasing by 1.2 times the pulling force of the trolley buses.

The words *Manufacturer: Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory* inscribed on its every facility reflect its workers' high spirit and its bright future.

Ri Kum Chol

Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory



The integrated control office.

NOT LONG AGO I HEARD that the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory had established by its own effort and technology a GMP-based integrated production system, the first of its kind in the pharmaceutical industry in Korea. So I visited the factory.

Hundreds of persimmon trees, other good species of tall trees and varieties of flowering trees grew around the compound of the factory. In the compound Chief Engineer Pyon Chang Ju welcomed me. As I congratulated him for the establishment of the aforesaid production system, Pyon, with an awkward smile, said they still had a lot of things to do, and led me to the integrated control office.

Screens on a wall of the office ▶

The pharmaceutical production is on the increase.



▶ showed the condition of all production processes. Introducing two processes displayed on two of the screens as those for production of tablets and Koryo medicines, the chief engineer said that the processes had earned GMP certificates of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

When I asked him what he had found most difficult in establishing the integrated production system, he said, "There were technical problems, and what was more serious was our weak technical force. My factory had no experience in manufacturing modern

lot of help from scientists and researchers of the State Academy of Sciences, he said and explained about several machines, including a high-speed mixer, an airtight sugar-coating machine and a tablet counter, which he said they had made by pooling efforts with the scientists and researchers.

Pointing to the high-speed mixer Pyon said remorsefully, "It was quite tough to make the machine. The first trial operation of the machine was not successful. Because of the rotating speed of the high-speed rotation axis and

ing mill by ourselves. Totally over 180 machines of over 100 kinds were manufactured and installed. This helped improve the quality of the products. Now I think we can manufacture any machine."

I also looked round a sample room and a sci-tech learning space.

On display in the room were over 1 200 items of over 60 kinds including aspirin, tetracycline, *indan*, Saponin and *Omija* (fruit of *Schizandra chinensis*) syrup. The guide of the room proudly said that the demand for the medicines for general uses had grown higher



Tablet shaping.



The extraction and incapsulation area.

equipment. You see, desire is not all that is needed to make a breakthrough in modern science and technology."

Now he showed me round modern medicine production processes. According to him, all the processes for raw material feeding, pulverizing, sieving, mixing, drying, tablet-shaping, moulding, sugar-coating and so on underwent technical renovation. This made it possible to produce more and better medicines than before, he mentioned and told about details of how they had installed high-capacity air conditioners in order to make the workshops free from germs and dust. They got a

the ensuing vacillation the mixing blades got out of balance making the machine abnormal. So we disassembled the machine time and again to find out the cause. We were so worried that we had an absurd idea of importing a similar machine."

Now Pyon guided me to the Koryo medicine production process. It had also been a difficult job to complete the process, he said. "But in the course of learning one thing after another from the scientists and researchers we gradually came to know the ropes and thus had confidence. We manufactured and installed the herb-sorter, the washer, the dryer and the crush-

after the factory established the GMP-based integrated production system.

In the sci-tech learning space there were workers and technicians studying modern science and technology after work. When I was photographing them Pyon said, "It is only our first step. GMP requires us to attain a higher goal. While establishing the GMP-based integrated production system we keenly felt that we should learn much more in order to take a higher and faster leap."

I left the factory picturing in my mind its better future.

Kim Ye Ryong

For Clean Environment



Kim Yong Chol (left).

SOME TIME AGO A KOREA Today reporter had an interview with Kim Yong Chol, director of the Environment Protection Bureau, Ministry of Land and Environment Protection. Excerpts:

Korea has been pushing the environment protection as an all-people, nationwide programme. I'd like to hear about it.

Our country has paid close attention to environmental protection regarding it as a nationwide, all-people task. When the country was liberated from the Japanese military occupation on August 15, 1945, it put forward a pollution-preventive plan as the primary task for environmental protection to be tackled ahead of production and construction.

After national liberation President Kim Il Sung saw to it that a crude electric furnace at the then Songjin Steelworks was blown up completely, declaring that the lives of the workers could not be bartered for steel however valuable it might be. When he visited Mt. Myohyang in October 1949, he put forward concrete tasks and ways to preserve and manage the scenic beauty of the mountain and local national cultural heritage well. And he knew that if the local gold mine operat-

ed by the Japanese imperialists before national liberation was put in operation again, it would spoil the beautiful scenery of the mountain and the clear river water. At that time senior officials in the economic field asked him to let them continue the operation of the gold mine

while preventing the pollution of the river, and the President gave an instruction that the gold mine should be closed without fail, saying that the beautiful scenery of Mt. Myohyang was a thing more valuable than a mountain of dollars and that they should not harm the celebrated mountain of the country.

Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the then Hwanghae Iron Works in May 1966. Seeing the smelters working in front of Blast Furnace No. 6, he told the officials to install a dust collector and have the smelters put on goggles while working. Then he continued to say that although steel was precious, the health of the smelters was even more precious, and that they should consider the smelters first, before taking molten iron into account.

During their inspections of factories, the leaders were always anxious about the people's health ahead of production and gave instructions to enact a law in the interest of the people.

The DPRK Law on the Protection of the Environment amended and supplemented on October 22, 2014 stipulates the principles concerning the effort to establish a strict system and order in the conservation and development of

the natural environment and the prevention of environmental pollution, which are aimed at making the country more beautiful, improving the people's health and providing them with better environment for cultural and hygienic life and better working conditions.

In addition, the country adopted and is executing laws including the DPRK Law on Prevention of Air Pollution, the DPRK Law on Prevention of Marine Pollution and the DPRK Law on Appraisal of Effects on Environment and rules for implementation of the four principles of prevention of pollution.

What kind of measures has the State taken for the environment protection?

To protect nature and environment, non-permanent committees for environment protection were organized and are in operation under the control of the Cabinet and provincial people's committees. And a national environment watching system was also established thoroughly to investigate pollution in seas, streams, lakes, swamps, reservoirs, and air on a regular basis, and yearly plans were made and are implemented one after another.

State planning organs and related organs set proper economic targets of the environmental sector and dovetail them with the national economic plan so as to execute them as planned, and all bodies, enterprises and organizations join this campaign.

For example, in recent years, the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex introduced the method of producing iron and steel by the oxygen blast heating technology, and thus became a pollution-free enterprise. The number of such units is now increasing day by day.

In addition, the State sees to it that the organs of land and envi-

ronment protection and relevant units are provided with necessary data and working conditions, labour, equipment, materials and funds in time for observing and measuring the environment. Through educational institutions and mass media, scientific and common knowledge for conservation and protection of nature and environment are actively disseminated in various forms and ways, and the successes achieved in its field are introduced widely.

The work with international organizations is also under way. In June 2017 the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection joined the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in the name of the government, and two areas in Kaechon, South Phyongan Province got rid of the flood damage in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program between 2015 and 2017. Last year our country joined the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, and two of our migratory bird reserves in Mundok and Rason were registered on the Ramsar swamp list.

What is your prospective plan?

We will establish a national environment monitoring network involving all sectors of the national economy by 2030 in a phased way while installing environment observing and measuring instruments at more than 100 watchposts across the country so as to take measures in real time to check pollutions in air, water and soil, and avoid noise- and waste-caused pollution. As required by the developing reality, we will intensify the work to create a clean environment by introducing new equipment while conducting relevant publicity in a vigorous way.

We'll do our best to further strengthen the environment protection work and make sure that our country remains a pollution-free and beautiful land for ever. □

Multifunctional 3-phase Power Protector Developed

RECENTLY A MULTIFUNCTIONAL 3-PHASE POWER protector of the highest standard was developed in Korea. It makes it possible to watch and protect those equipment that use the 3-phase power. With a wide range of input voltage and frequency for operation, the device has an integrated function of avoiding excess and low voltages, single-phase current and alternating phases while ensuring stable frequency. The protective function can be set up easily as the user wants.

Different sorts of abnormal phenomena in the supply of 3-phase power may cause unpredicted damages in management and operation of equipment. In order to prevent them different sorts of things have been developed and used around the world for prevention of excess and low voltages, single-phase current and alternating phases. Now 3-phase power protectors are developed and used which can provide multifunctional and intelligent services for all the purposes.

The researchers of the physics faculty of Kim Il Sung University set a target of developing a multifunctional 3-phase power protector to suit the actual condition of Korea and carried out the project so that the economic and technical effects could reach the maximum. In the course of this they developed a new technology which makes it possible to get the voltage of the 3-phase power line and its phase simultaneously so as to ensure general protective functions for various purposes. On this basis they found out a method to make a precise decision of normal and abnormal states of voltage in the 3-phase power supply and get automatic protection. In this way they finally developed a multifunctional 3-phase power protector which can provide visual display, simple operation and stable performance.

Sim Hyon Jin

Polyvinyl Chloride-based Thermoplastic Elastomer Developed

RECENTLY SCIENTISTS OF THE STATE ACADEMY OF Sciences developed polyvinyl chloride-based thermoplastic elastomer, which can substitute for other kinds of thermoplastic elastomer including natural rubber, and introduced it to industrial production. They have exerted themselves to develop a thermoplastic elastomer based on gel-containing polyvinyl chloride, which is known as superior material among polyvinyl chloride-based thermoplastic elastomers. It took several months to make a new type of elastomer with a low rate of deformation along with good physico-mechanical quality. It has better resistance to bending and abrasion than natural rubber. Especially, it helps save lots of energy while increasing the production speed. The new elastomer can be recycled.

Rim Ok

For Afforestation

A DYNAMIC CAMPAIGN TO TURN ALL mountains into green forests is in full swing in Korea. And the Central Tree Nursery of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection produces good species of saplings and sends them to all parts of the country. When I met Pak Tong Rim, chief engineer of the tree nursery, he said, "My tree nursery has a solid foundation for scientific, industrial and intensive production, and annually produces tens of millions of saplings of over 60 species including maple and *Quercus rubra*." Then he told me the following story.

One day several years ago officials of the ministry and the tree nursery had a consultative meeting for the purpose of producing and supplying enough saplings as required by the brisk campaign. At the meeting they drew up a bold plan to turn the tree nursery into the one placed on a scientific, industrial and intensive footing. Though the task was enormous, officials of the ministry and workers of the tree nursery turned out as one. The workers of the nursery managed to excavate tens of thousands of cubic metres of earth for the foundation, readjust the relevant area, construct a more than one kilometre-long road, set up over one thousand pillars for shades, lay out a several thousand metre-long water pipe, build a pumping station and a water tank and assemble different sorts of equipment, thus laying a firm material and technical foundation for sapling production.

Meanwhile, the tree nursery newly built an outdoor cultivation ground with its own design, materials, equipment and technique, opening up a sure prospect for scientific sapling production. It also arranged all facilities needed for sapling production, including that for shade production and a sapling storehouse, according to the requirement of the technical regulations. By establishing well-organized power supply systems including that based on natural energy it can guarantee the normal operation of all the

The open-air cultivation area and the hydroponic cultivation area.



facilities in the tree nursery in any circumstances.

The nursery also raised the sapling production and the rate of rooting by employing scientific and technical methods. First of all, it arranged well a scientific laboratory as required by the era of science and technology, and furnished it with books on forestry, computers and different kinds of modern experimental apparatuses. Based on analyses of data on the growth of saplings the workers of the tree nursery intensified the study into sapling production technique. On the other hand they established a sci-tech dissemination network and set up an integrated control system on the whole sapling production process in cooperation with the State Academy of Sciences, thus putting the business management on a scientific footing and making great progress in sapling production.

The nursery planted different good species of saplings such as spruce on the outdoor cultivation ground and in greenhouses and fertilized and tended the soil as required by science and technology. It deepened the research to spread widely *Pinus strobes L*, which is strong in resistance to cold and quick in growth, thus establishing the relevant method of producing saplings of the tree, the one suited to its biological character. And it completed the research for acclimatizing select species of trees of high economic value to the climatic and soil conditions of Korea and achieved a lot of successes in the endeavour to spread good species of trees widely.

The tree nursery is striving to produce more and stronger saplings of good species, and those saplings sent to all parts of the country are covering the local mountains.

Pak Yong Il

For the Sake of the Country

socialist system.

After he graduated from the university he became a scientist of the abovementioned institute. He first chose the task of developing a temperature sensing unit for the electric generator. At the time power plants were using the sensing units made from platinum, and most of them were imported.

He set a target to make the temperature sensing unit using copper, which is richly available in Korea, instead of the expensive material of platinum, and then accelerated his research. However, it was not easy to carry it out. To use copper to make a thick-film resistive element of a hybrid integrated circuit it was necessary to create a new demagnetization structure and newly calculate geometric values of correction and fixed resistance, main element of the thick-film temperature sensor in terms of μm . It was really a task of advanced science.

Repeated failures made him dispirited sometimes. But, remembering the care of the country that had brought him, who was a son of a poor farm hand, up to be a scientist, he exerted himself. After eight years of painstaking work he finally developed a Korean type of temperature sensing unit of power generator, titled T 283, to replace Pt 100 imported from abroad. Since T 283 uses copper instead of the expensive material of platinum, it costs much less and is highly efficient. For the merits it was highly evaluated at a national sci-tech festival and a national exhibition of inventions and new technology.

Additionally, he has made a lot of inventions including a meteorological sensing unit, and developed some programs including *Risang*, which is used to determine the integer for the temperature sensing unit. His books like *Semiconductor Material Engineering* and *Electronic Material Analysis* are popular with university students and scientists of younger generations.

Now he is exerting himself with the belief that science has no border but the Korean scientists have their socialist country and that the scientists should derive true happiness and pride from the research for their country.

Kim So Yong



Pak (left) discusses how to optimise the design of a structure of a temperature sensing unit.

TODAY A LOT OF SCIENTISTS OF KOREA are exerting themselves to solve sci-tech problems arising in the effort to achieve prosperity of their country and improve the living standards of the people under the slogan of making the national economy Juche-oriented. Among them is Dr. Pak Son Guk who is a laboratory head of the Semiconductor Institute, Kim Chaek University of Technology.

"Make a research for the sake of the country and people!"—this is the motto the scientist has consistently maintained all his life dedicated to scientific research. He was born the last of the five children of an ordinary worker's family. The country saw to it that the children of a poor couple who had suffered all kinds of humiliation and insult before national liberation (August 15, 1945) while working as a farm hand and a house maid, studied to their heart's content free of charge. They grew to be doctors, athletes and teachers, thanks to the socialist education system. Pak wanted to repay the care of the country for not only himself but also all his family. He chose the career of scientist. His dream came true when he entered the abovementioned university. Now he dashed forward to the high peak of science supported by the scholarship from the State. At the time he felt again the loving care of the country and the benefits of the

New Appearance of School

SOME TIME AGO I VISITED Okryu Primary School in Tae-donggang District, Pyongyang.

When I arrived at the school, pupils in sportswear were engrossed in kicking balls on the playground covered with artificial turf.

The sight of a study site and a school grove arranged round the playground helped me understand how hard the school staff were striving to provide the pupils with better condition and environment for learning.

Headmaster Pak Pong Hui showed me around the school.

What caught my eye first in the ground-floor corridor were varieties of common knowledge and fairy-tale pictures painted on the walls. More striking was a picture—on the right wall—of a pupil reading a book. A large question mark was painted above the head of the pupil, and beneath the book was written the question of “Why is that?”

I could hardly take my eyes off the picture, when the headmas-

ter said: Primary school children have lots of things to ask, and the pictures on the walls are like an encyclopaedia that presents many questions to pupils passing the corridor and gives answers to them. Such pictures can be seen in the corridor of every floor, and they help pupils learn a lot of things.

Now the headmaster led me to a newly arranged room for drawing and handicraft lessons. According to her, such lessons are what the pupils always wait for. In ▶

closets of the room were on display small boards pasted with coloured paper-made patterns that could help pupils understand different things such as mountain, house, star and aeroplane and varieties of handicrafts in clay including whale, turtle, goat, dragonfly and basket of flowers. A class was in a lesson in the room, and its teacher Choe Chun Yong told me that the handicrafts were a lot of help to primary school children who lack a correct idea of forms and features of things. I saw a girl drawing a building on a white paper using crayons. With a close look at the drawing I recognized it as the three-storey building of their

wild animals and sea fishes were gathered there. Mentioning that pupils are reminded of what they learn in class passing through the corridor, the headmaster said that they have such a study site outside as well. She led me out to an educational ground where there was also a school grove of cryptomeria and other good species of trees. On the trees were fixed stuffed specimens of goshawk, the national bird of Korea, and other beautiful birds such as oriole and Korean magpie. Under the trees stood sculptures of Phungsan, the national dog of Korea, and roe deer, rabbit, duck and so on.

Now the school bell rang tell-

The playground also has varieties of sports facilities and a nice swimming pool. Indeed, all the places of the school were marvellous enough to attract the teachers and pupils. Such good educational condition and environment led to great success in the school's education work. Last year, for example, many of the teachers won the title of October 8 Model Teacher, and more and more pupils became honour pupils thanks to the daily improving quality of teaching.

The headmaster said, “Our pupils are growing in mind and dream, and I keenly realize that our respected Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un was right when



school. After finishing the drawing she wrote *New Appearance of My School* beneath the building. Then she said she loved the newly changed school and that she would learn a lot at the school so as to develop into a fine scientist without fail. And I felt that her determination would be surely translated into reality.

Now we went up to the first floor whose corridor had on display stuffed specimens of tiger, roe deer, bear, wild boar and so on and those of fish. It seemed that all

ing the time for a break, and many pupils entered the school grove. I heard a boy say to a girl, “Yu Jong, you know goshawk is the national bird of our country, don’t you? The bird is not so large but has a sharp bill and strong talons. It is very quick and brave.” Then the girl said, “I know, and the bird over there is an oriole famous for its beautiful chirping.”

Listening to their conversation I could understand the teachers' efforts to implant patriotism in the pupils using the small grove.

he said that when education is similar to soil, the educational condition and environment are to fertilizer. Not content with our achievement, we'll exert ourselves to better the educational condition and environment and make education IT-based on a higher level.”

The images of the teachers of the ordinary primary school working conscientiously and devotedly were enough to convince me of the bright future of the pupils.

Sim Yong Jin

Department of Competent Surgeons

THE ABDOMINAL SURGICAL department of Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University is intensifying research to solve the theoretical and practical problems in education and surgical practice as required by the developing reality.

Recently the department has developed methods of performing operations on incurable diseases like gastric, pancreatic and hepatic portal cancers. As the cases of gastric cancers hold an overwhelming proportion, the department intensified research in developing a new method of operation, thus setting up the size of jejunal bursa as suited to the physical constitution of the people and developing the shape from J to inverted W shape for better treatment.

Not satisfied with the success, they made a success in pioneer-

ing an operation of forming an artificial stomach and placing it between the gullet and the duodenum.

In the past, stomachs were removed from the patients with advanced stomach cancer.

However, a serious dumping syndrome was witnessed as food quickly passed to the intestine. And there often occurred a serious reflux esophagitis of the intestinal secretion flowing back to the gullet as the stomach, together with the pylorus and cardia, was removed. As a result, the danger from the stomach cancer could be decreased to a certain degree and the patients could maintain their life, but they became invalid.

To settle the problem, the department intensified research from 2000. They set the points on how to treat patients suffering from the disease and decrease the

pain during operation.

They oriented their research to finding out scientific methods of making the wounded part small during operation, ensuring early recovery, and developing appliances for the treatment. While conducting research himself, the head of the department led the other members of the department to choose valuable and practical research tasks and helped them in their research. Collectivism became a trait of the department: More competent ones helped less competent ones and the latter tried their best to overtake the former; holders of academic degrees and titles gave sincere help to those who graduated fresh from university by passing their own findings for research and helping them in translating reference books.

In the course of this, all members became holders of academic degrees and titles. Thanks to their strenuous efforts, a 67-year-old patient, living in Taesong District, Pyongyang, and diagnosed to be suffering from stomach cancer, recovered his health 20 days after he received the operation.

Rim Sung Il, deputy head of the department, says, "Our success is no more than a beginning when it is compared with the developing reality. In the future, too, we will conduct education and scientific research in an innovative basis on the strength of concerted efforts."

Pak Thae Ho



Popular Medicine

ONE DAY IN FEBRUARY LAST I WAS going to Ponghwa Station of the Pyongyang Metro, when someone called me. It was an alumnus of my university. Having a talk with her in joy, I asked her where she was going. She said that she was going home after buying a cold remedy for her daughter from a pharmacy and then showed me the medicine. It was antiviral liquid medicine made from burdock. I asked her if the liquid medicine could cure a cold, and she replied that she, too, had doubted at first. But she had recovered from a cold a day after taking the medicine, she said and added that the medicine was favourably commented upon by a lot of people, and referred to its developer as a real master. Out of curiosity, I visited Namsin Polyclinic in Songyo District, Pyongyang, where she said the master was working.

The master was Jang Mi Ran, a doctor of the polyclinic. She said that she had an unforgettable story to explain what made her develop the medicine, though she was not a scientist or researcher.

Jang, who had worked in a local hospital, was transferred to the abovementioned polyclinic. In winter soon after she began to work at the polyclinic there suddenly appeared influenza patients among the residents she was in charge of. At first she was at a loss to know what to do, for influenza is a viral disease which might easily affect a lot of people through the air if it is not stamped out in a short time. Then she took necessary measures together with her colleagues, and she took it upon herself to treat a serious case. Tending the patient overnight, she thought if there was any other treatment for the disease. She then decided to try and use Koryo therapy in treating the disease without relying on modern medicine. She thus started the research to develop the relevant viricide based on Koryo medicine. Some people doubted whether Koryo medicine could cure such a viral disease as other countries which were said to be advanced in medical science had failed to develop such a viricide. However, she kept pushing ahead with the research believing in what she had learnt about Koryo medicine while thinking that Koryo therapy created by the Korean ancestors was still displaying its amazing efficacy. She strove to pioneer the unknown world while repeating experiments on the basis of her study into and analysis of many



reference books and folk remedies. Whenever she faced a difficult problem she went to see and ask for help from medical scholars of Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University and the Academy of Koryo Medicine.

After her painstaking efforts, she finally succeeded in developing a new antiviral liquid medicine. Now she requested an institution concerned to analyse the medicine in terms of its antiviral action. The result of the analysis showed that the medicine is strong in virostatic action and has very good clinical efficacy. And clinical comparison of the medicine with other world new-type influenza medicines showed that its effective ratio was 98%, and that it is amazingly more effective than imported medicines.

She herself was struck with wonder at the success of her research. The medicine can cure measles, bird flu, new-type flu, chickenpox, herpes zoster, hand-foot-and-mouth syndrome and other viral diseases that now spread suddenly across the world. This earned her a DPRK certificate of registered sci-tech achievement, that of introduced similar achievement and a national standard, and PCT formally recognized the medicine as new one for infectious disease.

She is further intensifying her similar research with the belief that it will make it possible to treat any viral infection and open up a scientific road to practical contribution to improvement of people's health.

Pak Yong Il

Young Women Taekwon-Do Practitioners

THE TEN BEST TAEKWON-DO practitioners of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea 2017 include young women in their twenties.

They spend the prime of youth sweating in repeated training and competing in matches, unlike women artistes of the same age performing on splendid stages. What do they seek?

Pak Mi Hyang, Number One

Pak Mi Hyang was ranked number one on the list of the ten best Taekwon-Do practitioners of the DPRK 2017. She is the only daughter of an ordinary worker's family.

Since she was born a decade after their parents got married, her mother's love was quite unusual not only in her childhood but also after she entered the Taekwon-Do world. Whenever Mi Hyang was tired from training her mother encouraged her, telling her about Pak Yong Sun, Kye Sun Hui and other famous women athletes. And whenever she was to leave for an international competition her mother embroidered her handkerchief with a pattern of the national flag. Her mother's deep care enabled Mi Hyang to make an amazing success in every competition.

It was at the 17th Taekwon-Do World Championships that Mi Hyang began to distinguish herself. By the time of the 20th Taekwon-Do World Championships held in September last year she had won 27 medals, 23 of which are gold medals from international competitions.

Whenever receiving a gold medal on the honour platform Mi Hyang says, "I want to present this medal to my mother."



Kim Il Hwa, Eldest Daughter of Taekwon-Do Experts' Family



A tall, slender and modest woman of few words with expressive eyes Kim Il Hwa looks like a dancer rather than a sportswoman at the first glance.

People refer to Il Hwa's as Taekwon-Do family. Her father works as official of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee and mother as Taekwon-Do instructor of an organ. They used to be veteran Taekwon-Do practitioners as members of the national team. Il Hwa's younger sister Jong Hwa is a member of the Taekwon-Do circle of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace. The family regards Taekwon-Do as worth of their life and as their unbreakable family tradition.

Il Hwa won three gold medals at the 20th Taekwon-Do World Championships just as she had done at the previous championships.

As the elder daughter of the Taekwon-Do family Il Hwa thinks she should duly display the stamina of her nation and the honour of her country.



Koreans win the women's team pattern and women's team sparring at the 20th Taekwon-Do World Championships in September 2017.



Ri Un Jong, Twice Champion

Ri Un Jong's father is a paraplegic who became disabled during his military service. The State provides him with lots of tonics and precious medicines, and keeps a doctor in charge of him. And it regularly supplies foodstuffs and daily necessities to his family. Meanwhile, it noticed Un Jong's aptitude for Taekwon-Do and developed her into a fine Taekwon-Do practitioner. So she always feels grateful to the State along with a determination to repay it.

She gained two consecutive victories by winning the event of women's 45kg-category individual sparring at the 20th Taekwon-Do World Championships. After the end of the championships she said, "This is only the beginning of my endeavour to repay the State. I want to repay the benevolent socialist system by winning more and more victories."

Un Jong is People's Athlete as Taekwon-Do practitioner of the second grade.



Ham Su Gyong, Promising Practitioner

It is merely 5 years since Ham Su Gyong began to learn Taekwon-Do. She, however, won two gold medals in women's team pattern and sparring events and a silver medal in women's 69kg-category individual sparring at the 20th Taekwon-Do World Championships.

Su Gyong is rather inexperienced and has a short career. But she is of solid build, good at balancing herself and strong in endurance. This impresses relevant experts as a promising practitioner. She is training hard to attain a higher goal.

A Day in Kangdong County

SOME TIME AGO I VISITED Kangdong County which is seething with enthusiasm for sports activities. When I met Kim Won Sam, chief secretary of the Kangdong County Sports Guidance Committee, he said that his county had accelerated the work to make sports mass-based and part of everyday life, and that many people were performing their duty in good health full of hope and optimism about the future. Then he led me to the Kangdong Youth Indoor Gymnasium.

In the domed gym officials of county-level organs were doing mass rhythmic exercise and health-promoting Taekwon-Do to the tune of rhythmic music. Their faces shone with self-confidence and confidence in the future. Then a volleyball match took place between *Unsu* and *Phibok* teams. According to the chief secretary *Unsu*'s players were from the Kangdong Motor Station and their rivals from the Kangdong Garment Factory, and the two teams were the strongest in the county. Amidst a seesaw battle *Unsu* won the first round of the match by a score of 25 to 22.

During the break Kim told me about the successes his county

had achieved in sports activities. The county held sports competitions in a big way on the occasions of the Day of the Sun (President Kim Il Sung's birthday), the Day of the Shining Star (Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthday), the founding anniversaries of the DPRK and the Workers' Party of Korea, the International Women's Day and May Day, and on the sports day of every month, and of officials, working people, youths and schoolchildren in the county took part in them, he said and added that his county produced People's Athletes Ri Pyong Uk and Ri Jong Hui, three Merited Athletes and six Masters of Sports.

Such sports activities recently kept taking place, Kim went on to say and referred to it as proof that officials and working people of the county have a great interest in the activities. And he added that volleyball and basketball courts and table tennis rooms are well arranged at any institutions, industrial establishments and coop farms in the county, and that those participating in the sports activities are on the rapid increase regardless of sex and age.

During my talk with Kim the second round of the match had

started, and it was growing more exciting. When the *Unsu* players hit the balls powerfully with correct passes, those of *Phibok* team blocked or beat them back, reminding me of professional players. This time the *Phibok* team won by a score of 25 to 23, which led to the third round of the match. During the break, I met Kim Kum Su, general manager of the Kangdong Motor Station and captain of the *Unsu* team.

When I said that his station's enthusiasm for sports seemed very strong as he himself took part in the match, the general manager agreed and said: All of my workers are fond of volleyball, basketball and table tennis, and now any of them can readily take part in a match. And their great interest in sports heightens their zeal for work. This enables us to overfulfil our task of transporting goods by 20% every year.

I also met Pak Myong Son, general manager of the Kangdong Garment Factory who was there to cheer her team. She said that most of her workers were women, except a few men, including the members of their team who were all mechanics. But they took part in the match staking the honour ▶



Ten Means to Retard Aging

1. Do exercises regularly, ideally, for 20 or 30 minutes every day.
2. Eat a rational diet. Avoid overeating, drinking too much and having an unbalanced diet. Eat fruits and vegetables a lot and pay attention to ingestion of calcium and vitamin C.
3. Pay attention to changes in your body. Don't be careless with your diseases or endure pains. Get examined and treated in time.
4. Take to good ways of life. Quit smoking. Have enough rest and avoid too much fatigue.
5. Have a good relation with other people. Maintain a good relation with not only your family members but also your friends while having active contacts with them.
6. Develop one or two hobbies besides your own work.
7. Help other people a lot. Helping others is important in making yourself pleasant.
8. Broaden your view.
9. Keep a good appearance.
10. Direct attention to protecting your skin. Skin is the first to age. Take care of your skin before it ages noticeably.

Choe Sol Mi

► of their factory, she mentioned and continued to say that she expected that they would return the expectation of the whole workers by winning the competition demonstrating their skills they had honed and that if their team won the match it would further increase the production results of the following day.

At last the match ended in victory of her factory at the score of 2:1 as she expected.

Now I met Choe Kyong Ho, an elderly resident in the Rimgyong Workers' District, who was playing table tennis. When I asked

Choe how old he was, he said he was 64. "I have never seen my county seething with enthusiasm for sports activities like in recent years. I previously frequented this table tennis room as I am fond of it. But seeing the gymnasium crowded with many people like this I feel as if I had become young again," Choe said. "And it is my hope to live long in this wonderful socialist society, which is becoming more civilized, by improving my physical fitness."

Wishing him a long life I left the gymnasium following the chief secretary, who then said:

My county seat has several sports parks including the Rimgyong Sports Park, and similar parks are under construction in every district of the county along with the endeavour to secure sporting apparatuses. My county will soon win the title of Model Sports County without fail.

A single day in the county enabled me to know the extent of its people's enthusiasm for sports activities, and I left it, convinced that the county people would soon become able to lead a civilized socialist life.

Ri Sun Nyo

Note of Visit to Meari Shooting Gallery

ONE OF THESE DAYS I VISITED THE MEARI Shooting Gallery in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. When I arrived there the first thing that came into my sight was a two-storeyed building with original architectural beauty. It was an indoor shooting ground of the gallery.

Inside the central hall of the building, I found the front wall decorated with a mark shaped in the form of the Korean letters of Meari (echo in English) depicting a target. The ceiling and the marble floor of the hall were also decorated with patterns of targets.

There I was greeted by Paek Nam Hwa, service worker of the gallery. Paek said, "Many working people and youths and schoolchildren come to my gallery. Full of joy and optimism, they enjoy themselves shooting at targets." He would not give me particular explanation, he mentioned and advised me to look around the gallery myself, trying and shooting and doing archery.

I went to the ray gun hall first. On the electric screen of the hall were seen moving animals including tiger, bear, hare and deer, and bushes flanking

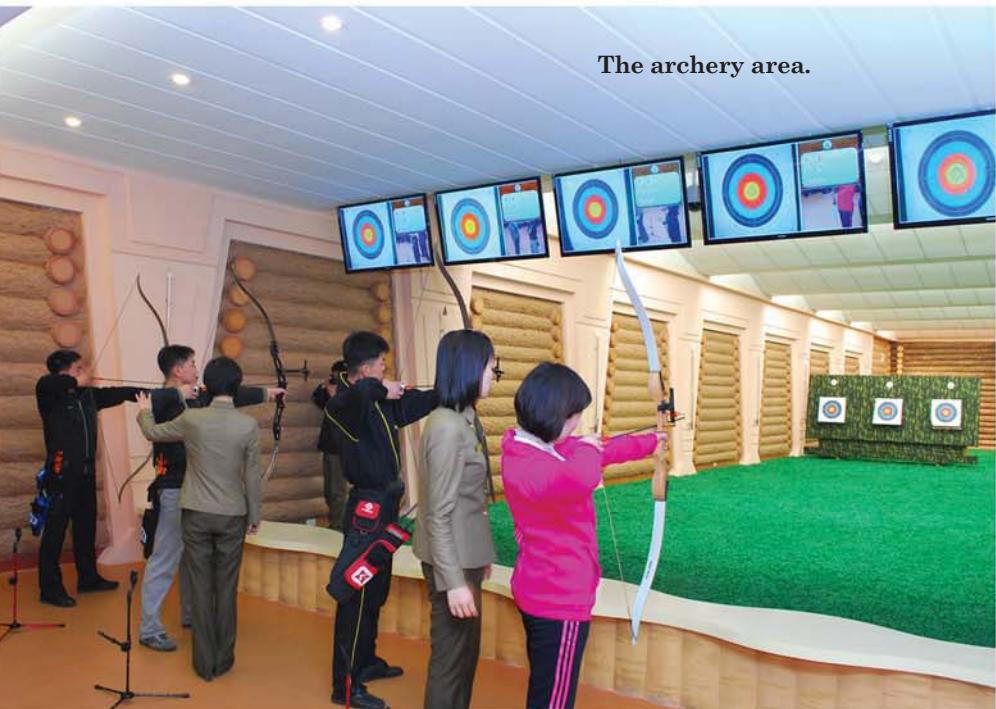
the screen made me feel as if I were in a wood. There were many people shooting; a man was at a loss what to shoot at as the animal targets were moving to and fro and right and left steadily, their sizes increasing and decreasing. Meanwhile a schoolboy raised hurrahs for his getting 900 points by shooting a tiger in the head and another man skillfully hit emerging targets.

When I introduced myself, a guide gave me a ray pistol to try and shoot. The guide corrected my posture, telling me that the time for a round of shooting was six minutes and that a scorer of high points would get a prize. I felt nervous as I held the pistol. I pulled the trigger a few times at first only to miss the target. Spectators behind me each advised me to adjust the aiming point well, not to shake my hand, or shoot at this or that. In bewilderment I could hardly aim correctly. Both the shooters and the spectators were filled with pleasure.

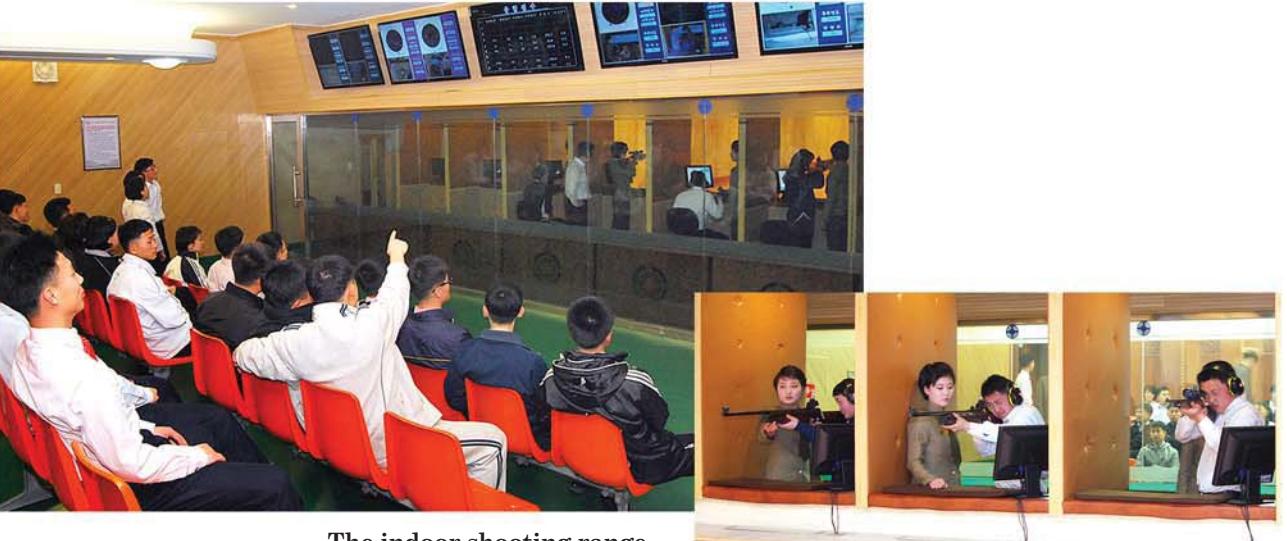
The next leg of my visit was the 50m rifle range. The people who were taking aim at their targets from eight positions just looked like those competing in a



The ray gun hall.



The archery area.



The indoor shooting range.

► shooting tournament. In the stand behind the positions were spectators watching the targets on the display. The shooters could also know their points from the screen set on one side. They looked quite strained and the spectators were also watching the former with sweating hands.

Feeling nervous myself, I left the place and headed for the archery area on the first floor. The grass-patterned floor and the timber-like walls made me feel as if I were shooting arrows on real grassland, so my nervousness of a while before disappeared all at

once. There I met a 16-year-old boy who introduced himself as Mun Il Jin, a resident of Phyongchon District, Pyongyang. He said he came there after seeing a TV programme about the shooting gallery and that he and his friends decided to have an archery match there. All of the boys held up the bows very confidently, but none of them knew what to do with it. A guide explained how to pose themselves, how to load arrows and how to pull the bowstring. Helped by the guide Mun was pulling the string, and then missed it halfway, so the arrow got stuck into the floor less than halfway towards the target. Spectators around burst into laughter, and Mun himself could not help laughing.

Leaving behind the merry laughter, I came out and walked to the electronic pistol section where you can practise in assuming a proper posture with a pistol in your hand and aiming at the target. It is said that the section is frequented by women and children.

Next to the electronic pistol section was the 25m pistol range. Those, who had learned the knack of shooting through exercises, were engrossed in aiming their pistols at the targets. Passing the shooting education hall dedicated to introduction of the shooting gallery and shooting rules I stepped

► into the dining hall where over 60 people can have a meal at a time.

Many people, including those who had just finished shooting, were relishing foods while talking about shooting.

When I was going out to see the open-air shooting ground I heard a sudden roaring sound coming from somewhere around. Out of curiosity I hurried in that direction. It was an electronic game hall where a lot of children and adults were enjoying themselves at electronic game devices. The children were vying to get higher marks than others while their parents beside them were cheering them enthusiastically, even stamping their feet. The appearance of the adults behaving like children looked quite funny. Now I was going out again with pleasure when I saw a schoolboy coming out of a place bringing along a bike for children. I went up to the place, and it was a shop awarding prizes to those who have got high marks at shooting. And it was selling relevant goods.

On my way to the open-air shooting ground I saw people playing volleyball, tennis, badminton and other games. The open-air shooting ground was located behind the indoor shooting ground. Both rifles and pistols are to be used there to shoot at different kinds of targets such as bobbing, fixed, moving and score-showing targets. The most interesting event was that of shooting at animals. There I met Pak Myong Il, 33, who was leaving the ground with pheasants and chickens he had shot. He said, "The nervousness at the moment of pulling the trigger changed instantly into a rush of pleasure when animals fell at my shots. Other people must feel the same. Indeed I am reluctant to leave this place."

The shooting gallery has been visited by a large number of foreigners as well. Before leaving the place they wrote their impressions in the visitor's book. Ali Reza, director of the PT Republik Defensindo, Turkey, wrote, "I've had a good time shooting bullets and arrows. The Korean people are very lucky to have such a beautiful place. I really appreciate the efforts of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who initiated and led the construction of this facility."

Members of the Young Pioneer Tours, Ireland (the third round), also expressed themselves, writing that their group have had such a good time and that they cannot wait to come back soon.

When I left there I was convinced the place would be a haunt of more and more people.

Pak Thae Ho

TEN YEARS IS AN EPOCH, BUT THERE are some people who have been in the same job for decades. Here are stories about those who have been in welfare service all their life.

Laudable

Kim Tong Chol has worked as cobbler for over 30 years at the Jungsong Shoes Repair Shop of the Central District Welfare Service Company. He heard his father had used to be a cobbler in south Korea, when he had led a hand-to-mouth existence. Nevertheless, after he had moved to the north he had devoted all his life to repairing shoes without seeking any glory. The people had elected him a deputy to the People's Assembly. Recollecting his life spent under two different societies, his father had often said, "In our society those people who work devotedly for others are held in high esteem."

His statement developed into a firm principle of Tong Chol's, who now often speaks of it to his children. While I was covering him for my article I saw a lot of people including those from afar visit him to have shoes repaired. They said in admiration, "We

Invariable Position

► come here as you repair shoes like new ones. Your hands are really skilful." One day a professional writer left a poem at the repair shop, which reads: "Never praise beautiful flowers alone. A lot of wild flowers in this land have their own beauties."

Young Woman

Jo Myong Ok, hairdresser of Bathhouse No. 1, is a woman of humour and frankness. She looks young for her age—perhaps because she is light-hearted. When I visited her workshop, I met Ho Kun Yong there, who used to be a famous artist of the Film Music Studio. While having a talk with her, I came to know that Ho had been an old customer of Jo's. She was fascinated by her workmanship, and has had her hair trimmed only at Jo's hands since she was young. After the hairdressing Ho said, "You are still good at your work as usual along with your youthful face." Then Jo replied pleasantly, "I should not get old, for I am a hairdresser to make you young." She has got her own opinion while working for 35 years—hairdresser's pure heart gives customers a nice hairstyle.

Tailor's Happiness

Kim Su Gyong, a cutter at the Pothonggang District Tailor's Shop, is rather introverted. She answered my question pointedly, like she would choose a proper colour, texture and line before deciding where to cut the fabric. She told me of her experience and success simply, but became excited when I turned to the topic about her customers. She reeled off stories about the customers as follows: Kim Kyu Gwon, Merited Artist, who is famous for his creation of music and sand picture *Hungbu* and *Nolbu*, set Su Gyong to laughing by saying that he looked like *Hungbu* but wanted to have his clothes made to help him look like rich *Nolbu*; Kim Un Guk, People's Athlete, famous for his strong arm, asked to make his clothes so that he might look slim. While having a talk, she was smiling happily like a mother making her children new clothes. Her smile was revealing the secret of her laudable—and successful—life dedicated to the service for the people and the source of her happy life.

Chae Kwang Myong



Kim Tong Chol (right).



Jo Myong Ok.



Kim Su Gyong (centre).

Memorial Service for Tangun

YOU HAVE GOT AN IDEA OF TANGUN, haven't you? Hyon Myong Ho, Doctor of History at Kim Il Sung University, explains, "Tangun is the founding father of the Korean nation. Our ancestors worshipped the God of Heaven and they regarded themselves as offspring of the sun. They named their tribe Puru, Pul, Pal or Pak, all of which mean light and brightness. Later they called their area or a mountain in their area Pakdal or Paedal, the last syllable of which means mountain. In the early 30th century BC, the patriarch of the Pakdal tribe set the capital in Pyongyang and established the country named Joson. The founder was also called King Pakdal after the name of the tribe, and the name changed into Tangun later when it was transcribed into old Korean characters. With this my country bid farewell to the primitive era and entered the era of state and civilization for the first time in the East. Now the Korean nation became able to develop into a homogeneous nation with a single bloodline. As Tangun performed great feats in the development

of the nation, my nation had memorial services for Tangun for thousands of years."

The memorial services took place on October 3—which marked the anniversary of the founding of the country by Tangun as well as his birthday—at the Mausoleum of King Tangun, Tangun shrines and other places associated with his life.

Hoping to have a detailed knowledge of the memorial services for Tangun I went to see Wi Mi Suk, a researcher at the Mausoleum of King Tangun Management Station.

According to her Tangun was born in Pyongyang and set up his country centring on Pyongyang before expanding the territory and being buried in Pyongyang after his death. Still, the memorial services for him took place not only as state and social functions but also at individual families.

When I told Wi that I knew the fact that Solgo who was a famous painter of the Later Silla painted as many as 1 000 portraits of Tangun for many families to hang them in their own houses for memorial

► services, she told the following story.

Memorial services for Tangun have been held traditionally since the time of Ancient Joson. (It existed between the early 30th century BC and 108 BC, and the name was derived from the need to distinguish it from the feudal Joson dynasty—Ed.) All memorial functions held in Ancient Joson, Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668), Paekje (the end of the first century BC–660), and Silla (the early mid-first century–935) were related with the worship of Tangun. During the time of Koryo (918–1392) and the feudal Joson dynasty (1392–1910) memorial services for Tangun were held annually at the Sungnyong Hall in Pyongyang, the Samsong Temple in Mt. Kuol and other shrines for Tangun in different places across the country.

During their military occupation of Korea from 1905 to 1945 the Japanese imperialists, in an attempt to stamp out the Korean nation, dug up the tomb of Tangun by stealth and took away what was inside it. They also burned off materials and data on Tangun while banning memorial services for Tangun and lessons about him.

Nevertheless, the Taejonggyo (Tangungyo at that time), a faith that holds Tangun as God, was founded on January 15, 1909 on the lunar calendar and an

association was formed to defend his tomb while a foundation came into existence for maintenance of the tomb and arrangement of memorial services for him. At the Samsong Temple in Mt. Kuol, too, believers in Taejonggyo including the leaders of the faith held memorial services for him year after year.

In 1993 Korea discovered Tangun's remains and relevant things in the tomb of Tangun and scientifically proved by the EPR dating method that Tangun had been born some 5 000 years before. Later the tomb of Tangun was rebuilt into a magnificent structure at an excellent place at the foot of Mt. Taebak in Munhung-ri, Kangdong County, Pyongyang. Now it is the venue of the annual commemoration of the National Foundation Day and a memorial service for Tangun. The National Foundation Day was jointly



A memorial service for Tangun takes place every year as part of the commemoration of the National Foundation Day.



commemorated at the mausoleum by the north, south and overseas Koreans in 2002, 2003 and 2014.

The altar of the memorial service consists of boiled white rice, seaweed soup, five kinds of cereals, glutinous rice cake, fancy rice cake, steamed white rice, bread, *kangjong* (a kind of fried glutinous rice cake), Korean sausage, green bean pancake, pig ribs, carp, apples, pears, jujubes, chestnuts, pine nuts, persimmons, bracken, flowers, candles and Tangun wine. A minute of silence is observed in front of the altar in memory of Tangun, the wise and virtuous king, before wine is poured to be offered to the spirit of Tangun. Three Korean bows are made and another minute of silence is made in memory of Tangun.

Koreans usually say they belong to the Paedal nation wherever they live, because they regard themselves as descendants of Tangun, the founder king of their nation.

The memorial service for him in 2016 was registered as an item of national intangible cultural heritage.

Rim Ok

Mt. Paektu (2)

Hydrometeorological Features

M^{T.} PAEKTU IS AN AREA of serious climatic changes for it has typical alpine climate. A sudden storm arises on a calm lake bringing a rain cloud or letting stones fly, and rain

suddenly changes into a shower of fist-size hailstones. When hailing stops, flowers wet with rain bloom in sunlight on one side and snowflakes fly on the other as if it were winter. Such climatic phenomena have long been referred to as exercise of supernatural power or wonder of

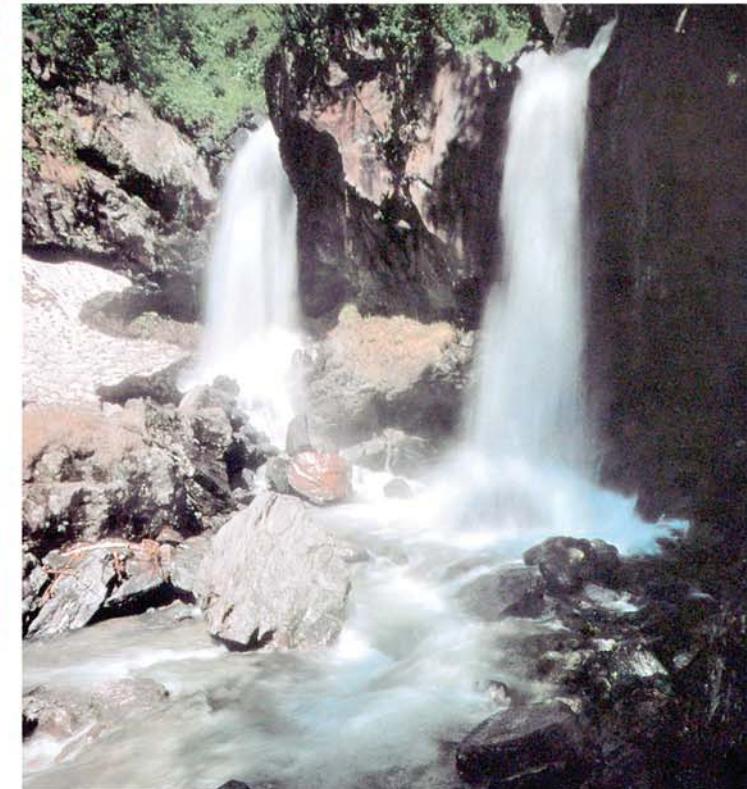
nature.

The area is a high and flat basaltic plateau, so its weather is very windy and changeable as compared with other areas. It is affected mostly by northwesterly and southwesterly winds. The average annual wind speed in the area is seven to ten metres ▶

Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu in spring.



Paektu Falls.



Hyongje Falls.

- ▶ per second, and the maximum instantaneous wind speed on Janggun Peak is 60 metres per second.

Whirlwinds often arise in the vicinity of Lake Chon. When a whirlwind rises up around the shore of the lake, big stones fly high up to the sky and a huge column of water soars to the height of tens or hundreds of metres and moves covering a distance of 200 or 300 metres. At the time a big whirlpool appears on the water surface, and a wet fog wraps the water column.

The area is frequently covered with fog as the warm air from the south meets with the cold from the land, mainly in the morning and evening, and 80 percent of the fogs is accompanied by rain. Meanwhile, the area is frequently

cloudy producing relevant natural phenomena.

Thunderbolts on the mountain are characterized by accompanying rain and snow unlike those on flatland. The number of thunders happening there is about 40 a year, and most of them occur between June and July.

The area has a lot of large and small lakes and springs including Lake Chon on the top of the mountain. Lake Chon is a volcanic lake, and it is 384 metres in the deepest part. There are over 50

springs around Mt. Paektu. Many of them rise from the lake, and their water flows into the Amnok River and the Tuman River. The area also has a lot of hot springs, including Paektu Spring, Paegam Spring, Jangbaek Spring and

Jeun Spring, which add beauty to its scenery.

The area has a lot of waterfalls as well. A good example is Paektu Falls that rises from Lake Chon. The falls looks like an unfolded roll of silk, and icicles hang from rocks around the waterfall in both spring and autumn. Spectacular is also Sagimun Falls where the thawing snow falls down a wonderful cliff sending up a spray of silvery droplets while bending three times at certain intervals. This waterfall is characteristic of alpine landscape.

Other waterfalls including Hyongje (two brothers) Falls—two waterfalls cascade down a rocky cliff—and Paektumilyong Falls add to the scenery of the area.

Yun Sin Yong

Teacher and Disciple

SOME TIME AGO I MET Kim Tong Il, dean of the life science faculty of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education. The dean, who had majored in bioengineering at the university, succeeded in realizing chemosynthesis of genes for the first time in Korea and became an authority on bioengineering. He told me the following story.

After beginning to work as teacher Kim strove to improve his own ability keeping in mind that the ability of a teacher is that of the students and put in his teaching plans the practical contents he had confirmed scientifically in practice. In his scientific and theoretical research activities he always put emphasis on giving the students the knowledge they can use for the development of the country's science. As he wrote a lot of research papers, textbooks and reference books which not only were of national economic significance but also were badly needed for teaching practice, he was awarded patents, certificates of registered program and certifi-

cates of registered new technology.

Whenever his students looked respectfully at him, he told them, "Don't be disciples as good as me but be those who outdo me."

One of the students imprinted the teacher's words in his mind and exerted himself. He was Ri Song Ryong who hails from Ryanggang Province. According to Kim's recall, Ri was always the first to draw his attention. Not

so tall, Ri was a quiet and calm man, so he seemed ordinary at a glance. But his eyes glittered with enthusiasm. In class he asked the most questions, and Kim noticed his unusual thirst for learning. Ri was able to grasp the essence of the lecture and understand two things from one he learned. To give correct answers to his questions Kim often visited the Grand People's Study House and relevant institutes after class. Kim's effort bore fruit.

In 2006 Song Ryong decided the size of scorpion's genome for the first time in the world and made a scorpion's genome library. Besides, he registered some suc-

cesses in completing the technique of selecting wanted genes from the genome library. At that time his research result was introduced in many institutes in other countries, and was carried by the international scientific journals Genes Gene. Syst and Marine Biotechnology.

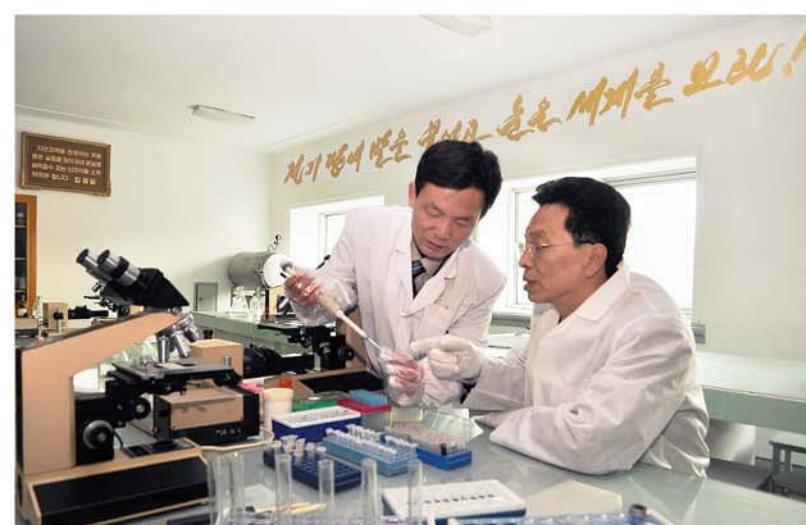
He further intensified the genome research and received a DPRK doctorate in bioengineering.

Tong Il volunteered to assist Song Ryong with the latter's efforts to attain a higher goal. With their concerted efforts they established a new technique of selecting wanted genes including protein gene of scorpion venom from the scorpion's genome library.

Scorpion venom has long been used for Koryo treatment of infantile convulsion, tetanus, facial paralysis, epilepsy and hemiplegia, and the range of its use is widening, including treatment of cancer and development of biopesticide. So it has a very bright prospect.

The aforesaid technique is an advanced one which makes it possible to select useful genes such as growth hormone gene and disease resistant gene to be used on the basis of the gene transfer technique for breeding choice species, fast in growth, high in productivity and strong in resistance to disease. Thus their research success was registered as a State sci-tech achievement. In the course of this, Song Ryong became a department chief. Mentioning that though the disciple now went ahead of him, he would never be far behind the former, Tong Il says, "Overtake your teacher." This is the request reflecting my hope that the younger generation will further develop the country's science and technology. And now Song Ryong asks his students to do so."

Rim Ok

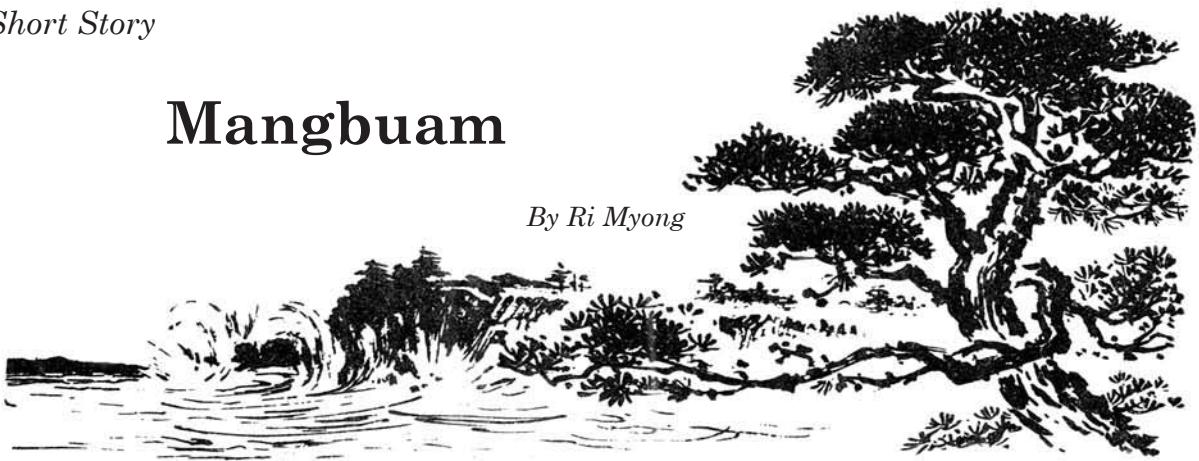


40 KOREA TODAY No. 6, 2018

Short Story

Mangbuam

By Ri Myong



(Continued from the last issue)

"WHY DON'T WE DROP in at the place called Mangbuam?" Ye Rim suggested.

"Well, you've fallen in love with him, haven't you?" the driver joked cheerfully, and Choe Il feignedly claimed, "Don't you know love makes you travel thousands of miles overnight?" Then others in the coach burst into laughter, and Ye Rim was at a loss to know what to do, her face reddening.

After a while, amidst loud laughter and lively singing, the coach reached the Mangbuam seashore. The sea, however, could not be seen. Ye Rim and her colleagues had wanted to see the East Sea while helping the young man plant saplings. But now they had to work their way through an old reed marsh and a swamp overgrown with wormwood bushes. The swamp stretched a good distance to the foot of faraway, sharp mountains. All covered with dreary moors, the swamp showed no human traces. But when they reached the seashore past the muddy and sandy area dotted by crooked pines, they found the landscape completely different.

Before them appeared a deep bay of wet lowland. The blue sea rippled glittering shyly before the strangers, and white pebbles and shells could be seen through the surface on which plicate kelp leaves were swaying and

jellyfish were floating leisurely. Meanwhile, sea gulls with swollen crops were arrogantly strolling on pebbles ruffling up their feathers in the chilly wind blowing from the swamp. As if they were masters of the area, the birds would not move away even when Ye Rim and her colleagues were approaching. Taking off his hat politely Choe Il humorously addressed the birds, saying, "How do you do, masters?" Then a titter of laughter broke from the girls, and the birds jumped and flew away in flocks. Spring clouds were curling up like steam, and the blue air was shimmering. Looking up full of joy at the birds flying in the air, Ye Rim was struck with admiration at the scenery of the unknown solitary seashore of the country.

"What a beautiful seashore it is!" exclaimed Ye Rim.

"It is not only the scenery that looks fine," the young man said, stepping up to her from behind, carrying saplings. "Under the sea there are all kinds of rare products. It is teeming with octopuses and flatfish, specialties of the East Sea, and trepangs, fresh abalones, sea urchins, oysters and mussels. But you can't catch them all the year round."

"Why?" asked Ye Rim.

"Look over there at the geographical features of the mountains surrounding the lowland," the young man began to explain. "Strangely all the valleys

of the mountains face this coast. A strong wind blowing from the continent passes through the valleys to the shore. Because the coast is open in all directions. And the wind blows all through winter, and sometimes in summer, too. The local people once built a fishing port here as they knew they could have lots of marine products here. But the raging wind destroyed all their boats and piers. Perhaps that's why they called this place Mangbuam."

"What does it mean?" asked Ye Rim.

"Once upon a time," the young man went on. "A fisherman went out fishing in this sea and could not return because his boat was capsized in the gale. Every day his wife went out to the shore, expecting him to come back. She did it rain or snow year after year. Then, it is said, she turned into a rock. Hence the name Mangbuam which means waiting for husband."

"Do you come from this place?" Ye Rim asked.

"No," replied the young man. And after a moment he continued saying.

"Several years ago when I was here I heard that this scenic spot has such a tragic legend. It dwelled in my mind for a long time. After graduation from university I began to work at the Academy of Sciences. And for two years I conducted experiments to breed trees to form a windbreak,

► that is, those suited to the soil and climate of this place. I chose subspecies of the Korean poplar, and I wanted to raise them by myself. So I have been here since last year. If the vast stretch of lowland as good as barren land is put under cultivation with the help of a windbreak forest, a fishing port will appear at the seashore, I believe. Then people will permanently forget the Mangbuam that stands as symbol of separation," the young man concluded with sad laughter before turning to the sea. Deeply impressed by his story Ye Rim followed him to look about the coast but failed to spot the rock associated with the legend.

"Which is the rock?" asked Ye Rim.

"That one over there," the young man replied pointing to a rock in the water over 100 metres away from the shore. The rock was very spectacular. It rose sheer from the water, supported by layers of singular rocks as if it were boasting about its miraculous appearance to broad and flat rocks flanking the coast. The lower part of the rock had turned deep gray washed by waves, and the upper part from the middle was covered with moss and grass. On the top of the rock there stood old dwarf pine trees with lovely twigs tangled on one side. The drooping bed of the rock looked like a skirt fluttering in a wind, and the twigs of the pines resembled undone hair of a woman. The head of the rock was hollowed a little on one side, looking like eyes gazing vacantly to the sea. Billowing waves came and broke against the neck. Ye Rim could hardly take her eyes off the miraculous rock created by nature for thousands of years.

"What are the white dots scattered on the top of the rock?" asked Ye Rim.

"They are flowers called snow lily. They are bulbous plants and are resistant to wet and cold. And they are in bloom only on the rock from early spring through summer," the young man explained.

Ye Rim took pity on the flowers that seemed to reflect the pure mind of a woman, and wanted to have a close look at them.

"Snow lily? I wonder what they look like. Are they very beautiful?" asked Ye Rim.

"Well, I would say..." the young man murmured confusedly. Pretending to fail to notice her curiosity, he was only looking over at the rock for a good while. Then he quietly disappeared behind a broad and flat rock. In a moment Ye Rim heard a splash. Her lips turned pale as it was something unexpected. Feeling awkward at the thought that her careless curiosity made the young man jump into the water, she was only trembling in a cold wind at a loss to know what to do.

Some time later he swam back to the shore with a white flower in his lips. Reaching the shore he light-footedly jumped up on the broad and flat rock. Having turned brass yellow in the cold water his body was steaming and dripping with water, and the drops of water glittered like golden beads in the light of the sun that rose above the horizon.

It seemed as if he were enveloped by a halo. Now the healthy and passionate man, with an innocent look, approached Ye Rim. Then, with a gentle smile, he held out the flower to the girl.

"Keep and give this to your dear," said the man.

"Oh, my! Sorry I said carelessly like a child," she said shyly, her face flushing red, while receiving the flower. And she covered her somehow blushed face with the flower.

After planting saplings they had an entertainment on the beach. Ye Rim returned the young man's favour by singing the song *My Country*.

The young man was U Jin, and it was the first time for Ye Rim to sing the song for her husband who was not sparing himself to turn the unknown seashore of the country into a fertile land. The song had since been one of the favourite songs to the couple.

He was so much youthful and passionate, and the song I sang wishing him success is still alive in my memory of the past. He, however, is still in the Mangbuam area. Anxiety was going to gnaw at Ye Rim and soon faded. Suddenly she found herself thinking that all those things belonged to the past. Their future life was more precious to her than the dreamlike memory. She stayed awake all the night full of confidence that greater happiness was waiting for them.

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Toward noon of the next day Ye Rim arrived at the Chongjin Railway Station. On the platform officials and her colleagues of the art troupe were waiting for her. Having already known about her successful performance, they showered her with congratulations as soon as she got off the staircase. And they advised her to go home and spend the day taking a full rest.

After exchanging warm greetings and endearments with her colleagues, Ye Rim hastily headed for her home. It was a month after she left it, and she wanted to see her son rather than relieving her fatigue of the journey. She knew her neighbours were taking good care of him, and yet she was afraid her little boy might feel lonely as U Jin was on holiday.

In Pyongyang Ye Rim had wished U Jin would take the son with him to the holiday camp. But now, just close to the home, she worried that the child might not be at home.

Her concern turned out futile. Approaching the porch of the home Ye Rim heard the kid's clear voice coming from inside. With great pleasure she hurriedly opened the door and stepped inside. Picturing the lovely face of her son who would be beside himself with pleasure, she tiptoed up to the door of the room.

(To be continued)

Who Started the Korean War?

WHO STARTED THE Korean war (June 1950–July 1953)? How? This has long been a controversial topic. With the passage of time concealed historical facts have surfaced, making it possible to discriminate between falsity and truth and disclose who started the war.

The January 5, 1985 issue of the south Korean *Chosun Ilbo* newspaper carried an article which reads in part: There are a lot of points in question in the US government's official order which mentioned that the Korean war had started with the north's southward invasion under the manipulation of the Soviet Union. So the relevant data was investigated, and the findings confirmed that MacArthur unleashed the war in conspiracy with Dulles, Syngman Rhee and Chiang Kai-shek for the purpose of realizing his political ambition.

At the time of the outbreak of the war the Koreans' desire to reunify peacefully the nation divided into north and south by foreign forces, rapidly heightened with maturing conditions for reunification.

In June 1949 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed to make GIs withdraw from south Korea immediately, dissolve the illegal "UN Commission on Korea," establish an all-Korea supreme legislative body and a central government through a general election in north and south Korea. And in June 1950 it put forward a proposal of reunifying the nation by combining its Supreme People's Assembly and the south Korean "National Assembly" into a single all-Korea legislative body. The proposals were fully supported by people of all strata in both sides, and their enthusiasm for reunification grew stronger.

In the May 1950 election for the south Korean "National Assembly" the forces, which supported the north-south negotiation and opposed the Syngman Rhee government fabricated by Washington, got the majority of seats, thus creating a condition good for realizing Pyongyang's proposal for peaceful reunification in the south as well. At that time the 1st Chuncheon Battalion and the 2nd Hongchon Battalion of the south Korean puppet army came over to the north, followed by other soldiers in groups. Some of them came in a military plane and others in a naval vessel. This shows that the then situation was turning favourable for implementing the DPRK's proposals and that Syngman Rhee and the US who were inciting a war against the DPRK were being driven into a corner.

On January 21, 1949 Syngman Rhee, during a talk with journalists, said that his army was hoping to make an inroad into the north. On February 7 of the same year he raved at a session of the "National Assembly" that if they failed to annex north Korea with the help of the "UN Commission on Korea," his army had to advance into the north.

Wedemeyer, concluding his report on his visit to south Korea as a US presidential envoy in July 1947, said that reunification and independence of Korea would seriously endanger the general interest of the US and should never be tolerated and that the range of military occupation, too, had to be expanded all over Korea.

On November 13, 1945 the US set up the "National Defence Headquarters" in south Korea through the "Military Government Ordinance" No. 28. And it accelerated the formation and training

of the south Korean puppet army, thus organizing a 100 000-strong standing army, a 200 000-strong reserve army and a 100 000-strong police force in a short period of time, 400 000 in total just before the outbreak of the Korean war.

Between 1948 and 1950 the US put a spur to the war preparation while handing out US\$ 2 627.6 million in military aid to south Korea.

Kim Hyo Sok, the then Minister of the Interior of south Korea, testified that the US Secretary of Army and the foreign affairs bureau director of MacArthur's Headquarters, on a visit to Seoul in January 1950, assured Syngman Rhee that he did not need to worry about navy and planes because US warships and planes in Japan would join the south's side if south Korea attacked the north.

To the US the Korean war was not merely aimed at rescuing the Syngman Rhee regime on the verge of collapse and establishing its domination over Korea as a whole. In the late 1940s the US was suffering from a serious economic crisis. With the end of the Second World War the US war industry monopolies were in a critical condition. So they proposed that Washington prepare a new, gigantic needle to inject new life into their economy. The British newspaper *Economist* reported that the US needed an opportunity to overcome the crisis, and that it was just the Korean war. Van Fleet, who was the Commander of the US 8th Army successively during the war, referred to the war as a blessing.

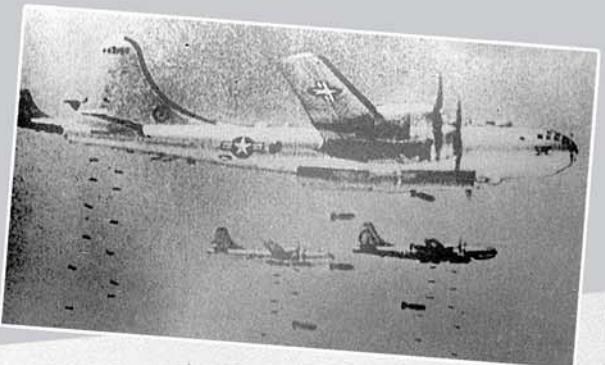
In the final analysis the Korean war was the only choice left for the US that was working hard to save its Korea strategy from failure.

Jong Jin Chol

US Imperialists' Crimes in Korean War

AT 4 A.M. ON JUNE 25, 1950, THE SOUTH Korean puppet army, under the command of the American military advisers, launched a sudden armed invasion against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea all along the 38th parallel. The US ran amok to occupy the DPRK even using the name of the UN illegally. It, however, could not reduce the army and people of the country to submission.

US troops' tragic defeat in Osan led to successive defeats in their operations and offensives of all sorts.



The US imperialists destroyed the whole of the northern half of the Korean peninsula through indiscriminate bombing and random use of germ and chemical weapons.



Instead of drawing lessons from their repeated defeats in the war, the US aggressors issued a statement to the effect that the use of any type of weapons including A-bombs in Korea was under consideration, and bombed all parts of the DPRK indiscriminately. They unhesitatingly went so far as to use bacterial and chemical weapons.

Clark, the Commander of the "UN Forces" in the last days of the war, launched strangulation operations by which to destroy and burn everything and kill everyone with a view to "leaving nothing to be swept in north Korea." He said that 78 cities of north Korea would be wiped off the map. The US



American beasts pose for a "souvenir photograph" to remember their murder of innocent people.

- ▶ dropped in Pyongyang 428 000 bombs that surpassed the number of its population, reducing the city to ruins without even a single building left intact.

The report of an international investigation commission on a visit to Korea at that time says: At present (in May 1951) the extent of destruction



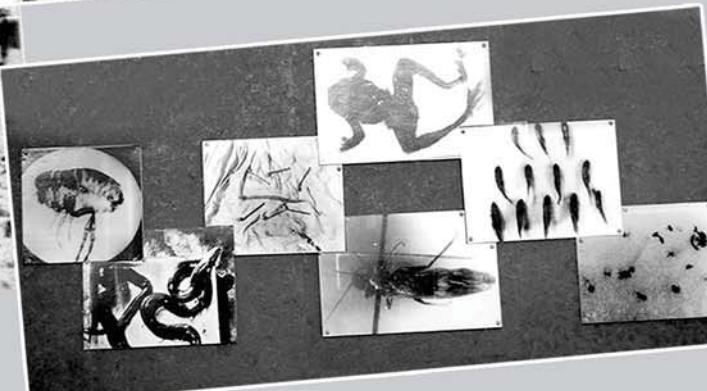
is really 100 percent, and Pyongyang destroyed with nothing left is still under barbarous bombing.

During the whole period of the war the US imperialists made over 250 000 sorties for dropping in the northern half of Korea nearly 600 000 tons of bombs, 3.7 times as many as those dropped in Japan proper during the Pacific war. This means that an average of 18 bombs was dropped per 1 square kilometres.

On September 21, 1951 the US Joint Chiefs of Staff issued an order to start a large-scale field test to judge the effect of special pathogens to be used for germ warfare during operations, thus waging germ warfare against the northern half of Korea as a whole. Between early January and March in 1952 the US imperialists mobilized hundreds of planes to drop varieties of germ bombs in 169 regions in the northern half of the peninsula—804 times in total. The bombs that contained insects, shellfish and feathers infected by bacteria of anthrax, typhoid bacilli and plague bacilli caused terrific calamities to innocent people in the regions.

The US aggressors, from February 1951 to July 1953, used chemical weapons—which were forbidden by international conventions—in different regions of the north and in frontline areas, and in May 1951 dropped a large number of poisonous gas bombs in Nampho while bombing the city indiscriminately. They also dropped foodstuffs such as sweets, biscuits, taffies, crackers, canned food, shellfish and so on mixed with poison.

The chemical weapons were used not against limited targets but against all regions and objects on



- the front and in the rear at any time, taking a great number of lives.

And the US aggressor troops' murderous acts were beyond imagination. "The Koreans are different from Americans. So, there should be no sympathy for them. Be merciless and merciless!" This was a special order MacArthur, Commander of the US Far East Forces, issued to the US aggressor troops who landed in Inchon in September 1950. Walker, Commander of the US 8th Army, said: Don't let your hands tremble even when those who appear before you are children or old people. Kill them! In doing so, you will be saving yourselves from catastrophe and fulfilling your duty as the soldiers of the UN Forces.

Acting upon this order the GIs unhesitatingly committed horrible, brutal atrocities in Sinchon County alone: Not content with killing people by shooting, beating, hanging and burying alive, they went to the extreme of killing people after dragging them with their noses and ears run through with wire, scooping out their eyeballs and cutting off breasts, skinning off their heads and bodies, cutting their bodies to pieces with saws, boiling them in hot water and crucifying them. They shamelessly committed these most atrocious cruelties which might make even beasts turn away from the sight. Similar massacres of innocent people also happened in Susan-ri, Koje Island, Jeju Island, Taejon, Rogun-ri and other places the aggressors stepped in.

During the whole period of the war over 1.23 million innocent people were murdered in cold blood in the northern half of Korea. Indeed, the US imperialists' atrocities in the war were the height of murder and crime which cannot be fully presented even by the words *indiscriminate bombing* and *genocide*.

During the three-year-long war the US imperialists carried out acts of genocide and mass destruction by mobilizing even the armies of their satellites and by resorting to all sorts of ways and means. They, however, were defeated by the heroic army and people of the DPRK.

In Korea at present cities are filled with buildings of original styles, and rural areas have turned into ideal villages. But traces and wounds of the war still remain in the Korean people's life and mind though decades have elapsed since the end of the war.

Kim Chol Ung



Bodies of patriots burnt to death in the air raid shelter of the Sinchon County Party Committee during the Korean war.



Remains and relics of the people unearthed in Sinchon County, and the enemy's list of names of the patriots to be executed.

Never Imagine It Even in Wildest Dreams

JAPAN IS DOGGEDLY ASSERTING THAT Tok Islet belongs to its territory when they know that it is part of the sacred territory of Korea. Recently they set up in Hibiya Park in Tokyo an exhibition hall which is dedicated to the assertion that the islet belongs to Japan. At the opening ceremony of the hall on January 25 this year the Japanese Minister in Charge of Okinawa and Northern Territorial Affairs made an absurd remark that the islet belongs to Japan and that it has been "squatted" for over 60 years.

It is known that ultraconservative organizations in local self-governing regions including Shimane Prefecture have resorted to such acts as scattering leaflets for the claim to Tok Islet, but it is an unheard-of story that something like the exhibition hall was opened in central Tokyo, which is a haunt of a huge number of people, under the sponsorship of the government. This is an eloquent fact that shows how crooked Japan has gone.

Tok Islet is evidently part of the Korean land in terms of both historical geography and international law.

Recently a number of geography textbooks and old maps of Japan were opened to the public in succession, which all show that Japan did not see the islet as its territory in the latter half of the 19th century. An Asian map in a geography textbook compiled around the year 1886 marked the borders of Japan in red, which did not include Ullung and Tok islets. Made open to the public in 2016, a whole map of the Japanese empire and a map for secondary school education—both of them were published by the geological survey centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Trade of Japan in 1888 and 1892—put Tok Islet outside the Japanese borders. The whole map of the Japanese empire gives marks of mountains even on smaller Japanese islets than the Tok, when the Ullung and Tok have no signs of mountain. This hints at the story that the two islets were excluded from the geographical survey as they were far from Japanese possession.

An Asian map, included in a textbook written by Yamagami, who was a celebrated geologist and writer of geography textbooks in Japan, also has the Tok outside the boundaries of Japan. As a textbook approved by the Japanese Ministry of Education, it is another piece of evidence that Japan did not recognize the Tok as its territory.

Recently Professor Valeri Glushikov, an expert in Asian geography at Moscow Technical College of

Physics, declared that the Tok belongs to Korea. In his recent writing titled *Ullung and Tok Islets in the East Sea* he said that as far as the treaties and agreements concluded by the former Soviet Union, USA, UK and some other countries between 1943 and 1951 are concerned, they all describe the Tok as an inseparable part of Korea. He also noted that the "Sea of Japan" should be changed into the East Sea of Korea.

Nevertheless, Japan designated February 22, 2005 as "Day of Takeshima" and has since commemorated the day by making a loud propaganda about its dominium over Tok Islet while stuffing the Japanese with the idea that the islet belongs to Japan. Early this year Japan officially declared that a government official would attend a function on the anniversary.

Meanwhile, the Japanese Ministry of Education and Science recently made up a revised edition of programme for study guidance, which makes it a duty to give lessons on the "Japanese dominium over Tok Islet" at high schools, as it had already done for primary and middle schools. The Japanese have planted diplomatic blue papers, defence white papers and other state documents with the statement of "Tok belonging to Japan," while giving Japanese names to a dozen spots of the Tok arbitrarily and unhesitatingly cooking history textbooks of primary and middle schools.

A considerable number of Japanese have moved their domicile to Tok Islet and the authorities are collecting a tax for mining in and around the islet. This is quite a farce.

It is inherent to the invaders to try to find a pretext for aggression war by claiming other nations' land as theirs. Japan's persistent argument for their claim to Tok Islet is also aimed at launching another invasion of Korea. In the past century Japan militarily occupied Korea first under the cloak of "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" and enforced colonial policies in the country arguing that "Japan and Korea are one" and "Japanese and Koreans are of the same roots." Instead of learning a lesson from its lost war, it has persistently pursued overseas expansion and territorial seizure with an ambition to re-live the old time. A part of the extension of the policy is the claim to Tok Islet.

Everybody knows that the Japanese are good at employing devious and sly stratagems. Japan is advised not to imagine the seizure of Tok Islet even in the wildest dreams.

Kim Ye Ryong

What's Different?

NOW THOSE COUNTRIES which committed crimes in the past are recognizing and repenting sincerely of the crimes and taking the relevant measures for reparation and so on.

Germany, once a war criminal, is taking legal sanctions against those who deny its war crimes, and is persistently pursuing and punishing Nazi war criminals without applying prescription to any of them. Through exhibitions the country is informing the new generation of the crimes committed by the former generation, and demonstrating within and without its will not to repeat the predecessors' crimes. Once in the country a photo show was held on the subject of the fate of Jews who had lived under maltreatment and distress in the period of the Nazi rule. To a journalist's question of why Germany is still revealing to the public its historical blots since the end of the war until today, an official of the host organization of the show answered that they had responsibility for doing so, and that only when they repented of the crimes against humanity committed in the name of Germany could they prevent such a holocaust from happening again without forgetting the history.

Meanwhile, the Canadian Prime Minister recently made a speech in front of hundreds of aboriginal people, saying that he would like to make a belated apology to them and that all the people should recognize the past and go ahead for the future. Needless to say, his speech, which officially acknowledged and apologized for the fact that the past assimilation policy such as enforcement of language education had afflicted the aboriginal people seriously, relieved them of pains in their heart.

While witnessing the reality the international community is considering the Japanese authorities' contrary manner.

During their 40-odd-year-long colonial fascist rule over Korea in the last century the Japanese imperialists murdered over one million innocent Koreans and forcibly took away and forced into slave labour over 8.4 million young and middle-aged people. The Japanese militarists took 200 000 Korean women as sexual slaves for their aggression army, exposing them to cruel violation of chastity, and destroyed and plundered countless cultural assets of the Korean nation.

Nevertheless, the ruling circle of Japan does not recognize such crimes far from making apology and reparation. And it goes so far as to state that there are no data proving the forcible drafting of comfort women for the imperial Japanese army and that it was voluntary service for making money, insulting the victims of the sexual slavery. And advocating the "agreement" on the issue of sexual slaves for the imperial Japanese army which it fabricated by offering some money to south Korea in 2015, Japan impudently asserts that it is "final and irreversible."

Such anti-human manner of the Japanese ruling circle is incurring a curse and denunciation of the international community. The international community is demanding that the Japanese authorities make apology and reparation for the crime of sexual slavery, exclaiming: The Japanese army's atrocities make us shudder; it's horrible; we cannot repress our wrath; Japan should see the history right and make apology; and we will conduct positive activities to inform the entire

world of Japan's atrocities.

In March 2017, on the occasion of the International Women's Day, a statue of a girl sexual slave was erected in a park in southern Germany, the first of its kind in Europe. Later a similar statue was erected in Georgia, the United States, and another in Manhattan, New York, the fourth of its kind in the country. And two similar statues symbolizing sexual slaves appeared near the Japanese consulate in Hong Kong, China. Such statues are now appearing across the world, revealing the Japanese imperialists' extra-villainous inhumane crime. It is a due punishment to the Japanese authorities who are denying and embellishing their past crimes.

Still, Japan is resorting to trickery and some money in order to hide its crimes. The manner of the Japanese politicians is too much contrary to those of the aforementioned countries.

Those who deny their crime are likely to repeat it anytime. It is just the intention of the Abe regime to realize the failed ambition of dominating Asia by denying the criminal history and repeating the past history of aggression and crime. And it intensely reflects their sinister attempt to repeat that history by infusing not only the new generation but also the whole Japanese people with revanchism and militarism.

Japan should know that if it continues to try to avoid making apology and reparation for its extra-villainous inhumane crime while dreaming of the rebirth of the imperial era it will not be able to free itself from its ill fame as criminal and defeated country and will only add fuel to the Korean people's will to finish the showdown with it.

Kim Hyon Ju

Jongnung Temple

THE JONGNUNG TEMPLE, SITUATED IN Ryongsan-ri, Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, dates back to the time of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668).

It was erected at the beginning of the 5th century when the tomb of King Tongmyong (Ko Ju Mong), the founder of Koguryo, was moved to this place so as to pray for the repose of his soul. Visible on a hill just behind the temple is a thick grove of pine trees which are hundreds of years old, and located in the wood is the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong.

Originally, the Jongnung Temple ranged 132.8 metres from north to south and 223 metres from east to west, covering an area of about 30 000 square metres. In the temple there were 18 houses, an octagonal well and so on in a good order with an octagonal wooden pagoda at the centre. In addition, the temple was surrounded by a corridor on all sides. An inner gate, a pagoda, *Kumdang* (a shrine housing Buddhist images), *Kangdang* (a hall for giving lectures for preaching Buddhism and holding ceremonies), etc., were set up on the central axis from north to south and the Ryonghwa Hall, Kungnak Hall and other buildings made for people to live in were erected symmetrically on either side of the pagoda. This type of layout is the same as the Kumgang Temple, which is Koguryo's inherent mode of one pagoda and three *Kumdang* halls. A dwelling that was in existence at the foot of the mountain farthest from behind the central district was 16 metres from east to west and 11.8 metres from north to south. Accordingly, it was not so big. And it was surrounded by a corridor—supported by two lines of pillars—which was connected with the house by a brick-paved passage. The foundation stones of the pillars were trimmed square or round. The house was provided with one-way *ondol* (a kind of Korean underfloor heating system). It was connected with the king's tomb via the western garden by a stone bridge across a ditch between it and a hill behind it. This shows that when the successive kings of Koguryo visited the tomb of Koguryo's founder to hold memorial services, they stayed at the temple for several days.

The temple was closed up after the time of Koguryo. After Korea's liberation from the Japanese military occupation (August 15, 1945) it was unearthed and put to rights thanks to the cultural remains preservation policy of the country. The temple was named so after the characters *Jong* and *Nungsa* [sa means temple] found written on roof tiles discovered during the excavation of the temple site.

From 1992 to 1993 the temple was restored to the original state along with the reconstruction of the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong.

The present temple consists of main buildings such as an inner gate, an octagonal pagoda, the Pogwang Hall, the Ryonghwa Hall, the Kungnak Hall and the corridor that surrounds them. Thus the temple adds to the majestic appearance of the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong.

The reconstructed Pogwang Hall is a building with a double-gabled roof, and is 15.05 metres long, 11.9 metres wide and 15 metres high.

The octagonal pagoda consists of the seven-storey body above the platform and the top, and is 12.5 metres high in total. The body, top and platform are 9.97, 2.53 and 1.5 metres high respectively. The bottom of the pagoda is 4.9 metres wide.

The Ryonghwa Hall is a building with a single-gabled roof, 15.75 metres in length and 7.7 metres in width. The Kungnak Hall, a similar building, is 16.1 metres in length and 7.7 metres in width. The inner gate is the same type, which is 14.72 metres in length and 7.7 metres in width. The corridor is 3.15 metres wide, 80 metres from east to west and 105 metres from north to south.

The buildings of the temple associated with the national spirit and excellent skills of Koguryo's architects and people show how much the architectural technology developed at that time. And they serve as precious materials for study into architectural remains of Koguryo, and tell that Koguryo had a great influence on Japan's architectural development and civilization.

Ri Chol Ung



