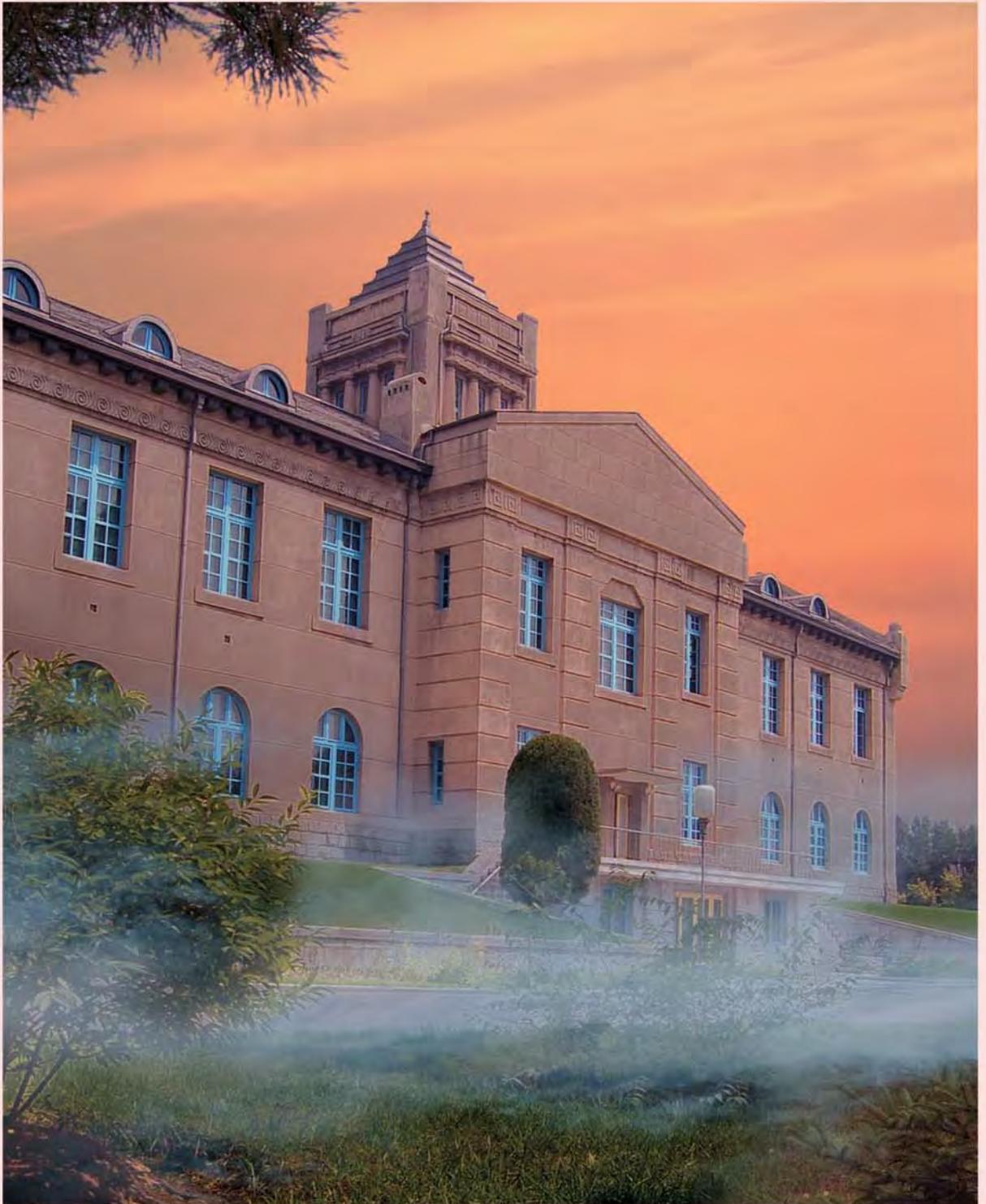




KOREA TODAY

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The Party Founding Museum dedicated to the immortal achievements of President Kim Il Sung who founded the Workers' Party of Korea on October 10, 1945 and gave victorious guidance to the effort to build a new nation.



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Front Cover: The invincible Workers' Party of Korea

Photo by Ra Phyong Ryol



Back Cover: The Sci-Tech Complex

Photo by courtesy of the KCNA

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The Workers' Party of Korea Is Always There in the Minds of the People

IN MAY 1993 PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG met a delegation of the Guinean United Progress Party. In a talk with him, one of the delegates asked the President what was the best way to build a ruling party. The President picked up a peach from the fruit plate on the table and said: The party should be built like this peach. Success can be achieved in the revolution and construction only when the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses is achieved. To speak figuratively comparing the case to this peach, the masses are the flesh, the party is the stone, and the leader is the core of the stone.

The words of the President were a plain simile that the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses was the life of Korea. A long time has passed since then. However, the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses similar to the core, stone and flesh of the peach is now consistently carried forward, consolidated and developed as the eternal life of socialism in Korea. And today that unity is founded on the boundless

love for the people of Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea who is identical to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il—founder and leaders of the WPK.

Still today the Korean people recall the measures taken by Kim Jong Un in the days of state funeral after the unexpected passing of the great Chairman. The demise of the Chairman gave the Korean people a bitter grief of loss. An endless stream of people mounted Mansu Hill to express their condolences with untold yearning for him in the face of biting cold of winter. At that time Kim Jong Un said that the Party organizations and officials at all levels should go out to the mourning sites in turn by day and by hour instead of sitting at their desks worrying about the people in the cold winter nights, and console and share the sorrow with them to pass through the hard time.

Instructing them to remember that the late Chairman would feel sorry if he knew the people were shivering in the cold and to give top priority

The Korean people absolutely trust and follow the Workers' Party of Korea as their mother. (A scene from the military parade and Pyongyang citizens' mass demonstration in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK.)





The schoolchildren and working people enjoy themselves at the Masikryong Ski Resort.



► to their convenience, Kim Jong Un took relevant measures to that end. Everyone was keenly reminded of his noble view of and love for the people. The people he cherished so much were by no means some specified persons or distinguished dignitaries. They were ordinary soldiers, industrial and agricultural workers and intellectuals whom the great leaders had brought up with loving care and prized dearly, regarding them as their teacher and God in all their revolutionary lives. They were precisely the best comrades-in-arms of Kim Jong Un. In his first speech to the people who had remained faithful to the Party in the face of all manner of difficulties, he declared his firm determination to ensure them a good life so that they would not tighten their belts again, but enjoy all benefits of socialism.

In August a few years ago Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un inspected Jangjae and Mu islets situated in the hottest spot on the southwest front. The way to those islets was dangerous, but he said there were his beloved soldiers on the islets and that he was the very person who should go there and see them as Supreme Commander. He sailed to the islets in a small wooden boat. On the islets he encouraged the soldiers and their families by telling them not to feel lonely at all since the places were under the deep care of the Party. When he was leaving the islets, the soldiers and their families gave him a hearty send-

off, nearly all of the soldiers wading through the waves after the boat till the water was too deep, giving him cheers and wishing him earnestly never to visit such dangerous places again.

In his continuous inspection trips to the frontline posts with warm affection for the servicemen, there are many heart-touching anecdotes. High-ranking army officers stood guard at the posts while the soldiers were sent to the capital city of Pyongyang for recreation, and the Supreme Commander had souvenir photos taken with soldiers one by one.

Kim Jong Un has never expressed his mode of politics, but the Korean people are keenly aware that his politics is marked by warm affection and burning love for them. In the past several years a lot of structures have sprung up across the country, showing his love for the people. Among them are Changjon Street, Munsu Water Park, Mirim Riding Club, Songdowon International Children's Camp and Masikryong Ski Resort. Sometimes, he would go up and down the dusty steps of buildings under construction for inspection, dripping with sweat, ►

► and at other times, he studied in the dusty winds the plans of buildings to be erected. For just one construction project, he examined so many plans, and cared about where to place furniture in apartment houses, and even the number of sockets.

In August last year, Rason City in the northern tip of Korea suffered flood damage, so large numbers of people were left homeless. While guiding the campaign to restore the flood-swept city on the site, he received a report that the local population had returned to a stable life thanks to the Party's proper measures taken consecutively for the restoration of the city and the supply of huge amounts of food-stuffs and daily necessities, and that they were deeply moved at the beneficial steps repeatedly taken by the Party for them. At this, he said that it was the bounden duty of the WPK to take the whole responsibility for the people's destiny and warmly look after them whom the great leaders had regarded them as their God all their life, and that officials should never rest content with their work for the people. Under his meticulous care and wise leadership, new dwelling houses were built in a month,

so that a historic event of turning a misfortune into a blessing took place.

Last year the Korean people celebrated the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK in a grand style. In his last year's New Year address Kim Jong Un called on the entire people to display the revolutionary spirit and mettle of Paektu to resolutely thwart the challenge and schemes of the hostile forces and win great victories in the struggle to defend socialism and on all fronts of building a thriving nation. That way, he said, they should celebrate the 70th anniversaries of national liberation and founding of the Party as auspicious revolutionary events.

In response to his ardent patriotic call, all the army and people turned out as one in a grand march towards the October celebration square. Supported by the patriotic ardour of the entire people, many monumental structures and beautiful socialist villages equal to the era of the WPK sprang up in the country, among them the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, Chongchongang Power Station in Tiers, Sci-Tech Complex, Mirae Scientists Street and Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm. True to the ►

The Mirae Scientists Street.





Flood victims dance merrily moving into new houses.

► lifetime instructions of the great leaders, the Korean people took a big stride in developing the metallurgical industry in their own way, built model plants and standard factories befitting the era of the knowledge-based economy in all parts of the country, and put the production processes on a modern and IT footing.

On the other hand, they made their own airplanes and subway trains; they caught fish in plenty and harvested heaps of fruit, filling the country with socialist flavour. Remarkable successes were achieved in sports, including the gold medal at the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015. All these successes were presents of the soldiers and people to the motherly Party prepared in the revolutionary spirit of Paektu through army-people cooperation. So, the Korean people celebrated splendidly the grand festival of October with an all-people general offensive.

In his speech delivered at the military parade and Pyongyang citizens' mass demonstration in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea in October 2015, Kim Jong Un said that the Korean revolution advances not by dint of any mysterious divine power but by force of the great energy of the people including the heroic Kim Il Sung-Kim Jong Il working class who follow and safeguard the Party with a single heart, and that the single-hearted unity of the Party and the people, the Party respecting the people as heaven and regarding them as teacher, and the people boundlessly trusting and following the Party as they

would do their mothers, is precisely the true image of Korea and the great foundation of the Songun revolution.

In October last year the homepage of the Federation of Koreans in the United States said as follows: "Is there any political party in the world with a long history that can confidently boast it is a party of the people? Only in north Korea, First Chairman Kim Jong Un who is held dear in the hearts of the entire people, could proudly declare on the occasion of the 70th founding anniversary of the Party that the Workers' Party of Korea is an invincible party united as one with the masses of the people. Concluding his speech First Chairman Kim Jong Un announced '**Let us all make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the great people!**' and '**Long live the great Korean people, united single-heartedly around the invincible party, the Workers' Party of Korea!**' This is precisely the political philosophy of the supreme leader of north Korea, and herein lies the true source of north Korea's strength that defies any kind of up-to-date weapons including nuclear arms.

"The future of north Korea that lives under the guidance of such a leader is as bright and wide as the blue expanse of the sea. North Korea where the WPK stands upright giving selfless services for the good of the people is proudly going the untrodden path of people-centred socialism along which no country in the world has ever walked or attempted to walk."

Pak Chong Sop

Great Love and Care

Better Socks for the People

IN SPITE OF THE SULTRY WEATHER OF July 2012, the supreme leader Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory. Entering the refurbished men's socks workshop, he saw up-to-date machines lined up in rows that could produce socks of whatever patterns, shapes and colours of one's choice by computer control.

Looking at the running machines producing socks on the assembly line, he came to the finishing site and said the process of packing socks should be improved constantly on the basis of studying the likings of the people and the world fashion, and that the trade marks should also be remodelled continuously according to the desire of the people and the world fashion, instead of using them for 10 - 20 years. At the women's stockings workshop, he said it was necessary to pay deep attention to the improvement of the colours of women's stockings in keeping with the likings of women and fashion. Finding out the production quota fulfilment of the factory, he gave important instructions concerning the procurement of raw materials, manpower supply and automation of producing processes.

Before leaving the factory, he stressed that the management staff and workers should strive to produce high-quality socks and stockings in plenty in the spirit of selfless service to the people.

Fine Service Facilities for the People

In November 2012, Kim Jong Un visited the Ryugyong Health Complex before its inauguration. Entering the lounge, he made a regretful expression and pointed out to the officials that the green carpet, spread on the floor to give a natural feeling of walking on the lawn, was insanitary and that a parquet floor would be better and gave instructions to lay a floor of rosewood parquet. (The rosewood parquet is the best furnishing material for floor.) He then went into the men's public bathroom. Dipping his hand in the water of the pool, he said it was necessary to keep the different temperatures of water in the pools. In the cold bath room, he said its temperature should be kept at five degrees below zero and that there should be no

cold wind blown into the room to keep it cold, because it could make people catch cold. Then, he stepped into the steam bathroom. Checking on its temperature, he said the temperature there should be kept at 42°C, and that if it is raised to 60~70°C, the bathers could get scalded.

He gave instructions meticulously as to the minor affairs of service work and management of the complex. Before leaving, he stood for long gazing at the structure of the complex and saying that the people, the creators and enjoyers of socialist culture, should be provided with a happy and civilized life.

Nice Dwelling Houses for the People

In May 2012 when the building of Changjon Street was in its final stage, Kim Jong Un made a round of inspection on the construction site. Getting off the car with a beaming smile, he looked up at an apartment house neatly faced with tiles and asked how many storeys high it was. An official answered that it was twenty storeys high. At this, he offered to go up to the top floor.

Entering room No. 2 on the 20th floor, he looked carefully around the living room—the ceiling with border decorations, wide windows and the floor covered with high-grade materials. Then he scrupulously inspected many other rooms and toilet room. He went out to the glazed balconies of the living room and the study to see if draughts came whizzing in through some crevices. He did not want to have people live in houses with the wind whistling in. Next he entered the kitchen, where he examined the scullery, opened the cupboard above it and turned on the tap to find out if it worked.

On his way out of the house, he stopped at the shoe box by the door, opened and looked into it, praising it as a nice piece of furniture. Going into room No. 1 on the 17th floor, he opened the upper and lower doors of the shoe box and said it was a well-made stuff. Stepping down the stairs between the 15th and 14th floors, he said the stairs were well made and that the air was fresh. That day he even personally pushed the doorbells of houses to check if they rang well.

Kang Hye Ok

Great Guide of the Cause of Independence, Songun and Socialism

INDEPENDENCE, SONGUN and socialism represent the strategic line invariably followed in the revolution and construction by the Workers' Party of Korea that is responsible for the destiny of the masses of people. Amid the historic struggle to lead the Juche revolutionary cause, the WPK has raised the Korean people into a dignified independent people and a great mainstay of the revolution. It put forward firmly uniting the masses around the Party and the leader by awakening and organizing them as the most important task and concentrated its main efforts on this. In Korea the entire people accept the Juche idea, the WPK's guiding idea, as their invariable creed, rally firmly around the Party in one mind and for the same purpose and selflessly struggle to carry out the Party's line and policy. The Party's plan and decision for the country's prosperity and the people's welfare are regarded by the army and the people as the supreme revolutionary order for them to carry out by all means.

It is the independent line of the WPK to solve all problems arising in the revolution and construction in the context of the country's actual reality and the people's interests according to the conviction of the Party and the people. From the first day of his revolutionary career, President Kim Il Sung, founder of the WPK, infused into the minds of the revolutionaries and people of Korea the national soul and independent spirit and the truth of Juche that the master of the Korean revolution is the Korean people themselves and that an independent sovereign state should be built by their own

efforts. The leadership of the President who armed the people with the strong spirit of independence was the primary factor in building the socialist power that firmly maintains the Juche and national characters against imperialism and dominationism throughout the revolution and construction, and embodies the principles of Juche in ideology, independence in politics, self-reliance in the economy and self-defence in national defence.

The WPK has persistently kept to the course of self-reliance as a valid way of struggle and creation in the revolution and construction. Whenever the revolution was faced with a massive task or manifold trials and difficulties, the Party went among the popular masses and set their hearts afire, rather than turning to other countries for help. Their blazing enthusiasm worked miracles of self-reliance to create things from nothing, making up for deficiencies. Since the founding of the country, the Korean people have lived amidst the imperialists' terrific sanctions and inveterate blockades and the dominationists' obstructive moves. If they had lacked the spirit of self-reliance, the Korean people would have never been able to rebuild their country from scratch even in 100 years as the US imperialists had insisted after the Korean war (1950–1953), and would have fallen a victim to the "integrated economy" pursued by big-power chauvinists. Self-reliance was an all-round key to bring about continuous upswing and innovation in socialist construction. Going the way of independence under the leadership of the Party, the Korean people

learned the creative living mode of self-reliance to rise up valiantly like the phoenix.

Today they live proudly, holding their own, solving for themselves all problems needed for existence and development. Holding to the Songun revolutionary line as its powerful weapon to crush the counterrevolutionary forces in defence of the people's independence, the WPK led them steadily along the road of Songun. In early days of his revolutionary career Kim Il Sung set forth the truth that guns are the guarantees for guarding the destiny of the nation and ensuring the victory of the revolution and steered the course for the Songun revolutionary cause. After national liberation he lost no time in laying the solid military foundation for the victorious advance of the revolution by building the regular armed forces.

The Party has always devoted the greatest attention to building up the armed forces, placing the military affairs at the top of all state affairs. In time of war or peace, it has strengthened the People's Army politically and ideologically, militarily and technically as the core and pillar of the self-defence force. The WPK created the independent defence industry and implemented the line of simultaneously building up the economy and defence, radically boosting the overall national power. And then, at a plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee in March 2013, it set out the strategic line of simultaneously building up the economy and nuclear arms, opening up new prospects for the building of a prosperous nation. As a result of the leadership of the Party that

► has firmly adhered to the principle of attaching importance to arms and giving priority to the military affairs, Korea has now become equipped with nukes and artificial satellites, although in the past it had no more than rifles to fight against formidable imperialist foes armed with atomic bombs.

The Party carved out a new way of strengthening the revolutionary forces with the Songun revolutionary leadership. Kim Jong Il, the permanent General Secretary of the WPK, created a unique Songun political mode to strengthen the driving force of the revolution with the People's Army as the core and push ahead vigorously with the overall socialist construction. Under his wise leadership, the Party was strengthened and developed as powerful headquarters of the Songun revolution, and the revolutionary armed forces became an army true to the leader, the Party and the people. The uniformity in ideology and fighting spirit of the army and the people based on the revolutionary soldier spirit put the single-hearted unity of the Party and the revolutionary ranks on a new stage. Songun politics of the Party brought about a brilliant victory in the Arduous March and the forced march in the 1990s and opened up the Songun era of carrying out the cause of building a prosperous nation in an all-round way.

Another historic achievement of the Party is the building of Juche-oriented socialism which actualizes the popular masses' independent requirements and ideals. It opened up a new road to genuine socialism suited to their ideal and has consistently maintained the revolutionary line and principle of Juche in the whole period of socialist construction. The revolutionary theory on socialist construction was put on a new scientific basis by the princi-

ple of the Juche idea that society should be seen with man as its central factor, not the material conditions, and that the course of social development is not a spontaneous one, but the process of the independent and creative activities of the popular masses, the motive force of the social movement.

The Party has solved all problems arising in socialist construction by itself in keeping with the Korean people's independent wishes and actual conditions of the country. Thanks to the wise leadership of the Party which has worked out and is leading the people-centred socialist cause, an advanced social system has been established in Korea where the popular masses are the master of everything, and everything serves them and develops by their united efforts. In this country the popular masses exercise the rights of master in all fields of state and social life and the policy of respect and love for the people is enforced to regard the people's needs and interests as a matter of the highest priority and an imperative demand. The Korean people embrace socialism as their life and destiny and work hard with all devotion to take better care of the socialist flower garden and build a prosperous socialist nation as soon as possible.

The Party propels the progress of socialism by bringing the advantages of collectivism into full play. Using the people's government as a powerful political weapon for building socialism, it has made efforts to strengthen socialist ownership and seen to it that the intrinsic nature of socialism is faithfully preserved by applying the collectivist principle—one for all and all for one—in all spheres of social life including politics, the economy and culture. The concerted efforts of the whole Party, the entire army and all the people have brought about unprecedented changes

across the country, and all the people rejoice in it. Following the leadership of the Party, the Korean people have become convinced that the road of independence, Songun and socialism is the most scientific way of justice and the way to well-being.

First Secretary Kim Jong Un of the WPK said in his classic work *The Cause of the Great Party of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il Is Ever-victorious* which was made public on the occasion of the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK last year:

“Over the past 70 years the WPK has led the cause of the Juche revolution, the cause of socialism, along a road resplendent with brilliant victory by overcoming manifold, grave trials....

“[Independence, Songun and socialism] are a crystallization of the valuable exploits and traditions and rich experiences the great leaders achieved in the course of nearly a century; and they illuminate the basic principles of our revolution and its path.”

The leader also said: **“The sacred revolutionary cause of the great party of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il is ever-victorious and the final victory of our revolution is sure as long as it is guided by the WPK—this is the conclusion to be drawn from the glorious 70-year history of the WPK.**

“Accomplishing the cause of the Juche revolution under the unfurled banner of the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is a historic mission for the WPK and its unshakable will.”

Firmly united around the First Secretary of the WPK with one mind and will, the Korean people are now vigorously expediting the general offensive for the final victory of the revolution.

Won Chung Guk

May Day Comes Round Every Year

MORE THAN 100 YEARS have passed since the working people rose up in a struggle under the slogan of unity for their class emancipation on May 1, 1890. May Day has been commemorated ever since. However, under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists, the working masses of Korea lived outside history for a long time as objects of exploitation and oppression, not knowing the words May Day. President Kim Il Sung pushed the working people of Korea, who were nothing but slaves of the exploiting classes and talking tools, to the fore as the most precious beings in the world and masters of history, and retrieved the holiday of the working people to them.

Earlier even when he was forcing his way through a bloody, protracted anti-Japanese armed struggle to liberate the country, he saw to it that May Day was celebrated cheerfully as the holiday of the working people of the whole world. Having victoriously concluded the Arduous March which extended from early December 1938 to March 1939, he had the soldiers of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army commemorate May Day on the hill of Xiaodeshui before advancing into the homeland. The forest of the

Xiaodeshui hill rang with the merry sounds of laughter and singing of the soldiers full of confidence and optimism for victory. This was a good prelude to the victorious battle of the Musan area in the homeland.

The President remembered the May Day of 1940 in his reminiscences *With the Century* when they celebrated the workers' gala day with frog dishes. On the evening of that day, he had a meaningful talk with the fighters around the campfire. He said although they were now holding a feast with frog dishes to commemorate May Day, they would defeat the Japanese imperialists and celebrate the liberation of the country in Pyongyang by feasting on the dishes of mullet caught in the Taedong River. With this, he told them ardently to fight stoutly for national liberation full of hope for tomorrow.

In 1946, the first Pyongyang city mass rally was held in celebration of May Day. At the rally, the great leader made a historic speech by the title of *An Appeal to the Fellow Countrymen on the Occasion of May Day*. In the speech, he called upon the working people including the workers and peasants to turn out in the building of a new country.

In 1951 when the Fatherland

Liberation War was at its height, he issued Order No. 310 of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army under the title of *On the Occasion of May Day*, infusing confidence and optimism in victory in the minds of the Korean people. May Days are recorded significantly in the annals of Korea where miracles and innovations have taken place in succession. They are marked as occasions when the unity of the leader and the people was strengthened.

Visiting factories, farms and fishing villages without rest, the President discussed state affairs with ordinary workers and implanted the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance in them and kindled flames of revolution and struggle in their hearts. His love and trust exalted the spirit of Chollima in Korea and marvellous miracles and innovations took place in different fields of the national economy.

Certainly, the revolutionary feats of President Kim Il Sung who spent all his life among the people and built a socialist power of independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defence by giving full play to their inexhaustible strength, will be transmitted for all time. The immortal exploits of the President who led the revolu- ▶

The working people celebrate the May Day significantly each year.





A dinner party for workers of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill in celebration of the May Day.

► tion to victory after victory by relying on the fighting power and creative strength of the working masses in keeping with the requirement of the era of independence were firmly guarded by Chairman Kim Jong Il. Today Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, ensures that they shine ever more brightly. Under the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un who set forth the slogan "Everything for the people and everything by force of the masses of the people!" and is devoting everything for the good of

the people after the noble intentions of the great leaders, the working people's dreams and ideals are coming true in this land.

Though busy going the road of Songun revolutionary leadership, he was deeply concerned about the life of the workers of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill and saw to it that a new dormitory was built for them in May 2014 equal to the high name of socialist civilization, and then took steps to give a grand workers' banquet at the place in celebration of May Day.

In October last year, he visited

the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex which succeeded in manufacturing a subway train and highly praised its workers and engineers for their feat. He gave the most honourable title to the Korean workers by calling them heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

The heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il led by the great Party will win victory and glory in the revolution and construction on the occasion of every May Day.

Sim Chol Yong



Samil Wolgan

THE KOREA TODAY EDITORIAL BOARD introduces President Kim Il Sung's reminiscences "With the Century." The excerpts follow:

We refer to...a publication as an educator, motivator and organizer of the masses.

A revolutionary publication can also be called an excellent means, linking the leader, party and masses by a single tie.

I can truly say that publications exerted a great influence on me along the road of revolution.

A publication is a powerful weapon in the revolutionary struggle. The range of this weapon is infinite.

At the time of founding the [Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland] in Donggang, we also discussed the launching of its organ.

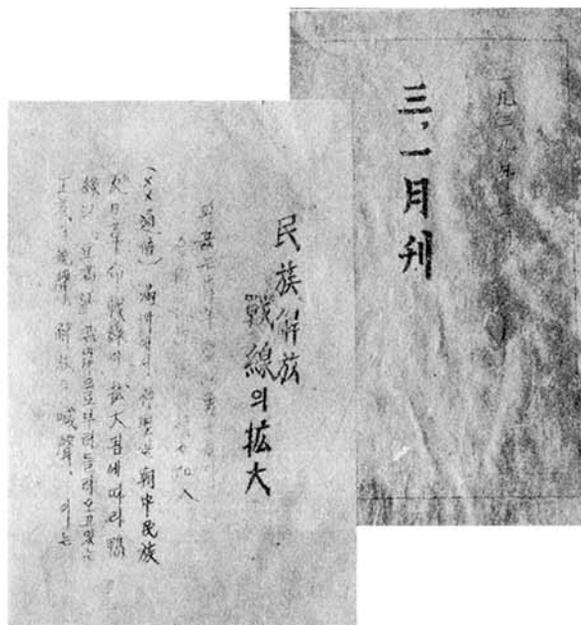
Only once the Paektusan Secret Camp was built and a printing shop was set up there could we start the *Samil Wolgan*, the magazine of the ARF. The *Samil Wolgan* was a popular political and theoretical magazine, aimed at contributing to the ideals of the ARF to win national independence by mobilizing the 20 million compatriots.

After racking our brains to choose a title appropriate to the mission of the ARF, we chose *Samil Wolgan*.

Samil (March 1) referred to the anti-Japanese March First Popular Uprising. The uprising was a momentous independence movement of the Korean people, who offered nationwide resistance against the Japanese aggressors.

Therefore, the title, *Samil Wolgan*, incorporated the will of the nation. It represented our strategic intention to adhere to the Juche line of the Korean revolution and, based on Mt. Paektu, expand and develop the armed struggle throughout Korea, and also signified the launch of an all-out resistance through the general mobilization of the whole nation.

Although *Samil Wolgan* was launched as the publication of the ARF, it also assumed the function of the mouthpiece of the Party Committee of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and at the same time assumed and fulfilled the mission of a popular political magazine, serving the whole country. Therefore, it had to be a pan-national magazine read and loved by the soldiers of the KPRA and the communist revolutionaries, as well as the national bourgeoisie, religious believers and the soldiers of the Independence Army.



The *Samil Wolgan*.

We decided to make the *Samil Wolgan* a popular political and theoretical magazine, imbuing its content with the idea of patriotism and great national unity, and featuring an editorial in each issue. We also decided to establish regular columns for news of the independence movement of our nation, victories from various parts of the anti-Japanese national revolutionary front, questions and answers, major national and international events, literature and art.

The manuscripts would be obtained mainly from the writing staff in the KPRA unit the Secretariat belonged to, and also through other units of the KPRA active in various places and ARF organizations. To collect manuscripts, we appointed special correspondents of the magazine in important places in eastern, southern and northern Manchuria and encouraged contributions from a wide range of subscribers.

The most difficult problem remained even after the last stage of the preparation for the publication of the first issue of *Samil Wolgan*: the acquisition of printing equipment. At that time we had only one old mimeograph. We also lacked ink, roller, stencil and paper. The workers of the printing shop solved the shortages by themselves. When ink was running

▶ short, they burned birch bark under a hood made of tin-plate and scraped the soot gathered on the plate. They left the soot immersed in oil and mixed it with ink manufactured in factories, before using it. When the roller was worn out, they boiled a mixture of glue and resin and poured it into a mould to make a roller; when the stencil pen became dull, they made it with a matting needle.

Their strenuous dedication to the *Samil Wolgan* deserves prominent mention as a prototype of self-reliance and fortitude.

Their efforts bore fruit at long last. The inaugural number of the *Samil Wolgan* was published on December 1, 1936.

The *Samil Wolgan* evoked a splendid response soon after publication.

The popularity of the *Samil Wolgan* exceeded our wildest hopes. In my opinion, the readers were keen on the magazine, because the style of its edition was fresh, but mainly because its content was permeated with the idea of a national united front. In other words, the magazine reflected most keenly and impeccably the historic task facing the nation. It was up to the Korean revolutionaries, first and foremost, to counter the fascist offensive of the Japanese militarists by rallying the people from all walks of life solidly behind the anti-Japanese national united front in preparation for a popular resistance.

The publishing of *Samil Wolgan* occasioned rapid expansion of the ARF network.

The man who rendered the most distinguished service to publishing the magazine was, needless to say, Ri Tong Baek. He had taken much trouble when the ARF had been formed; however, his work here is incomparable to his efforts to start and publish the magazine. He literally lived his remaining days with *Samil Wolgan*.

Ri Tong Baek was one of the most conscientious, revolutionary and well-informed intellectuals I met in the days of the anti-Japanese revolution.

Kim Yong Guk was another literary man in the publishing circle in the KPRA in the days on Mt. Paektu. He joined our unit through the good offices of Pak Tal and Ri Je Sun, after working in a Red peasant union in the homeland.

A passionate writer, Kim Yong Guk would write a poem or a story, whenever he had a spare moment. Several of his works were carried in *Sogwang*, the newspaper we launched in 1937 as the mouthpiece of the KPRA.

Sogwang, a weekly political paper, carried on many occasions materials for political and military study of the guerrillas. *The Tasks of the Korean Communists* I had written was also carried in the

weekly.

Another conspicuous man among the zealous writers for *Sogwang* was Rim Chun Chu. Rim actively helped Kim Yong Guk edit and publish the weekly.

Jongsori (The Bell Tolls—Tr.) was a weekly paper of the KPRA, launched at the beginning of political and military studies in the secret camp at Matang-gou. It mainly carried materials, which would help political and military studies and moral education.

Cholhyol (Iron Blood—Tr.), the mouthpiece of the Anti-Japanese Youth League, was a weekly paper in the form of a field bulletin. It was launched in anticipation of large-unit circling operations at the end of 1939.

Like *Samil Wolgan* and *Sogwang*, *Cholhyol* was dedicated to editing positive materials.

The special issue of *Cholhyol*, published on the occasion of the review of the study, carried articles on the review and news of the institution of a new system of commendation, inciting the interest of its readers.

In this way our revolutionary publications were not only an excellent source for motivator and educator of the reader masses; they also inspired the soldiers to heroic exploits, helped them in the struggle and acted as an intimate companion in their daily routine.

Samil Wolgan and other publications we put out during the anti-Japanese revolution featured the most important characteristic: they were not published under the auspices of a few talented people, but were instead written, edited and printed with the active participation of a broader readership.

As in all other undertakings, we regarded it as an iron rule to enlist the masses and rely on them to launch publications.

Thanks to the active participation of the masses and their support, we were able to publish such publications as *Samil Wolgan*, *Sogwang*, *Jongsori* and *Cholhyol*, in difficult conditions, where we had no source of regular supplies, and we laid a solid foundation for the traditions of revolutionary publications.

Our country today has instituted a system of conferring the *Samil Wolgan* Prize as the highest award on officials in the mass media, who have rendered distinguished service. Had Ri Tong Baek been alive, the No. 1 prize would have been conferred on him.

I want to ask mass media staff not to forget the first generation of the revolutionary publishing circle, who passed away without even being conferred a medal. □



In the Run-up to the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea

With Concerted Efforts



LAST YEAR THE KIM Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, a metallurgical giant of Korea, completed a project of modernizing a dozen processes including the hot rolling along CNC lines. This has strengthened the independence of the nation's metallurgical industry and laid a firm guarantee of production of quality rolled steel.

In March 2010 Chairman Kim Jong Il inspected the hot rolling workshop in the complex, when he set a task of realizing the CNC-based modernization of overall production processes including the hot rolling. The entire enterprise rose as one to carry out the task. It was in no way an easy job to upgrade all the processes of the big steel maker, for most of the equipment had outlived their usefulness and, moreover, the ongoing production could not be stopped in any case. The state organized a powerful team including scientists, technicians and officials at the State Commission of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry and other national organs, and the scientists, teachers and researchers at the State Academy of Sciences, the Kim Chaek University of Technology and the Chongjin University of Mining and Metallurgy, and dispatched them to the complex.

The workers of the complex

solved scientific and technological problems of the modernization project together with the team who were there to implement the instruction of Chairman Kim Jong Il. Different processes got on the modern footing one by one. The electric and automation

shop made a tangible contribution to the hot rolling modernization process project: they remoulded the transformation system of electric motors, introduced hydraulic apparatuses into the general purpose-rolling mill, and made dozens of valuable techni-



► cal innovations. The workers and technicians of the automation apparatuses shop manufactured high-precision accessories by themselves, while the second steel shop successfully carried out the test operation of the continuous ingot mill. The hot rolling shop introduced a new cooling method and then made successes of loaded and unloaded tests at a go. Thus, the elongation indices

electric generator-motor system of the all-purpose rolling mill into the transformer motor system; the hot-rolling maintenance shop recycled more than ten kinds of main parts including the main axis of the all-purpose rolling mill, contributing to the work of making the rolling mill hydraulic.

The team of scientists and technicians completed the assembly of equipment in eight hours

which had been thought to take ten days. They made and assembled a lot of new facilities and installations; they developed a number of computer programs and established a comprehensive observation and control system of the main production processes.

Thanks to the dynamic efforts of the scientists and technicians of the special team, and the officials, workers and technicians of the complex, more than ten objects were put on a modern and CNC basis, a sure prospect was opened to save a large amount of electricity, materials and manpower while producing high-quality rolled steel, main equipment and materials became locally available instead of being imported from foreign countries so as to further consolidate the independent foundation of iron production, and a more civilized working condition was laid for the workers.

Now, the officials, workers and technicians of the complex are engaged in a vigorous struggle to increase the production using the upgraded processes while improving the level of modernization still better in the 70-day campaign aimed at making unprecedented labour achievements to honour the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Sim Hyon Jin



reached the allowable standard with the strength indices improved considerably, and the pass rate of mechanical quality rose to 98 percent.

The power supply branch and the second electric appliances repair shop reconstructed the



People's Favourite Trademark

THE WONSAN LEATHER SHOES Factory is now pushing the effort to raise the quality of products to meet the increasing demand for its Maebongsan-brand shoes. Recently the factory began to produce shoes suited to different shapes of feet by introducing a foot-measuring device. Difficult technical problems were solved by relying on the workers attending courses of the Distance Learning College of the Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry, and other workers.

Using the new device they can calcu- ▶



▶ late the standard values correctly, which they had to get through manual measurement.

Laying and updating the database of the different shapes of feet, the factory is getting the average standard values. Since they introduced the numerical values into shoe designing they became able to produce more comfortable shoes that satisfy the tastes and physical features of people. Choe Song Il, chief engineer of the factory, says, "With pride in working in the model and standard shoes factory, we are all working with high enthusiasm."

Last year, Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, visited the factory twice. Looking at shoes made of vinyl chloride and synthetic leather one by one, he was very glad that they were made of home-produced materials. Then he highly praised the workers of the factory, saying they were successfully implementing the Party's policy of producing diversified, multifarious, multicoloured, light yet strong shoes.

Setting his words as their plan, the managers and workers there buckled down to production of Maebongsan-brand shoes of smart and different styles and lighter weight. This year they have fulfilled their plan by over 110% month after month. They are now working hard to crown the 70-day campaign with brilliant success in the run-up to the 7th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The workers at the shoemaking workshop made

collective innovations to put the shoe production onto a high level. Under a well-organized system of checking and maintaining the production process and by operating all their equipment at full capacity, they are carrying out their daily assignments without fail while ensuring good quality.

Raising the efficiency of the cutting process by introducing advanced working methods, the workers at the uppers workshop are bringing about good production results through a socialist emulation by workteams and machines. With a determination to produce world-famous products and commodities with a competitive edge, the workers at the injection-moulding workteam are mass-producing high-quality and light soles by swapping their good experience and techniques through goods shows. The sandals they produce are very popular with the girls for their light weight and smart styles.

Thanks to the high enthusiasm of the workers to make shoes that comply with tastes and physical features of the customers and the personal needs of people of each age group in different seasonal conditions, the demand for Maebongsan-brand shoes is increasing day by day.

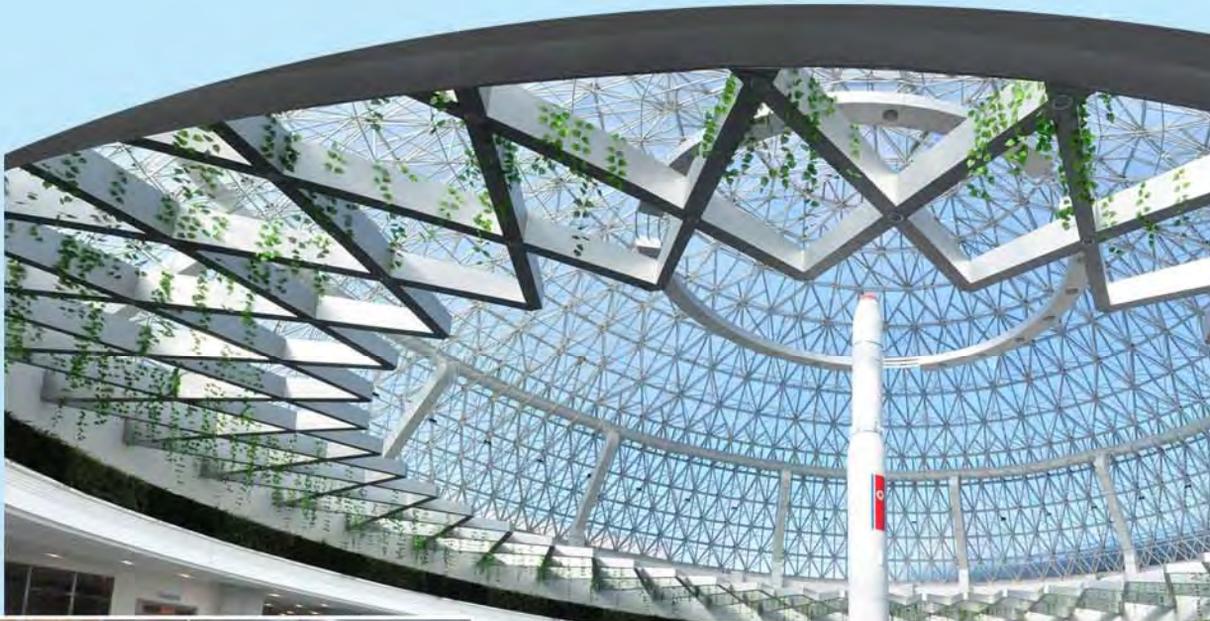
Kim Hyon Ju



The Sci-Tech Complex







A GROWING NUMBER OF people visit the Sci-Tech Complex, a grand house of learning in the new century on the picturesque Ssuk Islet in Pyongyang.

In the tiered lounge hall of

the complex, there can be seen twelve sophisticated models centering on the round LED display shaped like the earth.

The models show an aspect of Korea's scientific development in the past, present and future

times.

One of them is an astronomical instrument invented by Korean ancestors. The most distinctive of them is the one of the carrier rocket Unha-3 that injected the artificial earth satellite ▶





▶ Kwangmyongsong 3-2.

Guide Kim Hye Yong says, "Looking at this grand model which stands up to the third floor, the visitors may feel pride and self-confidence as members of the nation capable of making and

launching satellites, and they make up their mind to break through the cutting edge of science and technology as soon as possible."

The complex largely comprises indoor and outdoor exhibi-

tion divisions and a scientists' lodging house. The reading rooms and exhibition halls on each floor are furnished with a lot of sci-tech data, video materials and models. People can have an easy access to desirable data and exhibits in ▶





▶ various fields for enriching their knowledge.

In particular, the complex has laboratories for simulation. For example, the one on the second floor can help ordinary people as well as experts do virtual experiments. In the lab you see videos that show the virtual-reality technology and its application. Now it is usually visited by a huge number of people per day and the number is increasing.

In the complex are the children's dream hall and a reading room for disabled persons.

The children's dream hall—comprising a science village, a nature exploration section, a spring-of-wisdom room, an intelligence development room, a stage of children's scientific activity and a children's reading room—helps kindergarten and primary school children to nurture their scientific dream in the process of making and examining diverse forms of exhibits by themselves.

The reading room for the disabled is furnished on the principle of providing visitors with full

convenience. Furnished with exceptional reading programs and facilities the room has the guardians' seats. The computers have an exclusive homepage for the disabled persons and a Braille translation program for the blind. The homepage keeps dynamic ▶





► images for the deaf persons.

On different walls are hung plates which are helpful to understand general knowledge and scientific principles, and magazine reading rooms and computer rooms are distributed making effective use of space. Soft drink

stands are also ubiquitous.

Kim Mun Chol, student at the Kim Chaek University of Technology, said, "The developing reality demands that our students should make strenuous efforts. And the Sci-Tech Complex widely opens the door to learning. With a

youthful enthusiasm, I will work hard and become a scientist to glorify our country."

The Sci-Tech Complex, everybody's home of learning, was inaugurated on January 1, 2016.

Rim Hye Gyong



Pioneers of Cutting-edge Technology

AT THE END OF LAST year the researchers of the Bioelectronics Laboratory of the Electronics Faculty of the Kim Chaek University of Technology have developed a spiral brain multi-detector CT.

It is nearly eight years since

bling CTs by importing the components. He declared he'd be darned if the Korean scientists made a CT.

But the Korean researchers shared the same determination. They knew there should be someone to develop it without fail, and

threatening experiments.

Recollecting those days Ri Mu Chol, chief of the laboratory, says, "Home production! This phrase is really meaningful. We have keenly felt how it is hard to realize it through our practical experience. At that time many people shook their head, saying that it was beyond our ability to develop an MDCT. Then we told them: We are sure we can make it when others have done it already. Our national dignity would be hurt if we imitated others' development. We should push back the frontiers of science and technology with our own strength, our own technology and our own brain without fail. In reality we found ourselves in unexpected bottlenecks at every turn. However, we were far from dispirited, and succeeded in developing many programs of our own style. One of them is the one that is regarded as the know-how in the world, and it is used to realize 2D recombination and 3D composition."

Besides, the researchers completed a high-voltage generator by themselves and developed a data measuring system which transmits a large volume of data in real time. In this way they accomplished the project. From designing to programs, control devices and processing of its main body, the machine was all made by the Korean scientists. It opened up the vista of home production of advanced medical appliances.

Researcher Kim Jong Ung says, "In the near future you will see the CTs for surgical operation and industrial usages. We'll be the makers, you know."

Sim Hyon Jin



the laboratory came into existence. Over the years they have rendered great service to the supply of electronic appliances to the public health sector and other fields of the national economy. Typical products are portable electroencephalograph, electrocardiograph and electromyograph.

The researchers of the laboratory began to research into the MDCT five years ago. When they resolved to make it, many people feared their prospect, because the technical know-how of the machine, acme of the cutting-edge science and technology, was still the monopoly of a few countries. Moreover, when the Korean researchers were determined to develop it, a foreign scientist said that his was a developed country but that they were simply assem-

that it should be made with their own efforts and technology. Let's leap forward to the achievement by a single stage when others took several stages, they told themselves.

The project was difficult from the beginning. As they hadn't even a sheet of design for reference knowledge of the relevant science and technology or research experience, they had to start from scratch. Failures repeated, but no one yielded to difficulties and hesitated to make

Developing Distance Learning

PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE DISTANCE Learning College of Kim Il Sung University is rising day by day. The college started over a year ago, but it has an enrollment of thousands of students. An increasing number of workers from large and small factories and enterprises in the capital city of Pyongyang and provinces enter it. The students' enthusiasm for study is running high. Song Hyon Jun, rector of the college, explained the reason, "The reason for the growing enrollment and rising enthusiasm for study is that the teachers of the college have worked hard to improve the conditions and environment of education."

The teachers are exerting themselves to improve the quality of their distance learning lectures to rear talents of practical ability. First of all, they prepare new teaching plans in keeping with the characteristics of their students who are studying while working and improve the quality of their lectures.

According to the newly developed program, teachers' explanation and actions are immediately turned into distance-learning lecture materials. These lectures are suited to the specific qualities of the worker-students and fit in closely with the actual reality. In this course, the four subjects of study increased to 15.

They have directed special efforts to making e-study materials and widely using them in distance



Students receive lecture by tablet computer.

learning. They have compiled the e-study materials in a way easy to understand at lectures, and inserted into them essential study materials, foreign languages and information techniques which greatly help the students. They are actively using various documents, sounds, pictures and dynamic images to raise the students' power of cognition and practical ability. Worthy of special notice in distance learning is lectures by tablet computers. They have put the contents of all study subjects for each term into tablet computer so that students can study in the distance-learning lecture room and at any other places, ▶



New Improvement in Schooling

THE TEACHERS OF THE CHONGNYU Junior Middle School in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, are working with all their wisdom and passion to put the educational work on a scientific basis so as to rear students into pillars of the country. The school has put the effort into educational scientification and improvement of practical ability of the teachers as the universal compulsory 12-year education has been fully enforced in recent years.

First of all, a natural science room, a biological specimen room, an IT study room, a foreign lan-

guage lab, and practice rooms of basic techniques like cooking, sewing and woodwork were well arranged enough to meet the requirement of the era of knowledge-based economy. In the natural science room pupils can learn the natural condition of the country, and in the biological specimen room animals and plants in not only their country but also other countries. To improve the IT level of instruction the school has established a connection with the national network and at the same time laid an intranet so that each class can have an access to the Grand People's Study House and many universities. A foundation has also been laid to join the



► too. The distance learning system *Ryongnamsan* is becoming even more popular among the students because it enables them to study even in breaks at the working places, subway trains and buses. The teachers have also established a wireless network to turn all factories into classrooms, enabling the students to study anywhere in the factories. They give terminal examinations with an automatic system of marking by computer. This is strictly based on a voice-discrimination system, and the grades of the students shown in the computer will clearly tell them their school performances and stimulate them to study hard. The computer shows the students' work, understanding levels, assignment execution and even the executing speed, making it possible to appraise their scholastic abilities correctly.

Among the students receiving distance learning are disabled ex-soldiers. Studying at home while receiving medical treatment, they say distance learning develops their mental faculties and cultural

level. The enrollment in distance learning is increasing everyday among the workers of the Pyongyang Municipality Mushroom Farm, Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm, Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory and Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory. The rector said that among the excellent students are Ri Un Ju, actress of the Korean April 26 Animation Studio, Pak Sim Jong, worker of the Munsu Water Park, and Pang Jin Song, worker of the Tongdaewon District Landscaping Station. He continued, "Teachers including An Kwang Chol, vice head of the basic physics department, Physics Faculty, are now receiving many letters from worker-students. The letters say they have learned a lot from the easy lectures, and that they will study hard and make a contribution to the building of a thriving nation with high qualifications. In the future, too, we will make every effort to improve the quality of our education."

Kim Kwang Myong

▶ distance learning system.

All the classrooms have become versatile. This effort made a turning point for teachers to improve their practical ability. Through the effort teachers developed many teaching aids and new teaching techniques. Their main thrust was to make new teaching aids appropriate to students' mental qualities and intellectual faculties. Natural science subjects include biology, physics, chemistry and astronomy and many of their lessons are on experiment and practice. To be ready for the lessons the teachers initially grasp all the principles of problems and confirm them through many experiments and practices. For example, the students understand the problems of what effect the light has on people, how the light influences the growth of plants, how a valley takes shape and how a triangular field comes into

existence—all through experiments and practices. After each round of experiment or practice they write down the content of their work, and this helps improve their scientific and technical ability.

Teachers also exert themselves to initiate new teaching methods. In this respect the point is to help students fully assimilate what they are taught. When a teacher raises a point in question pupils grasp the main content and discuss together about it. Then they draw their own inference about the point and present their answers to the teacher. Through the process they correctly take the point in question in the lesson. This method improves their ability a lot.

The teachers actively participate in national program exhibitions, national scientific and technical festivals and national educational method presentations and present their achievement and experience. More than half of them are October 8 Model Teachers, and all of them have the certificate of registered new teaching method. Thus, the number of winners of Our Classroom Literary Prize and July 15 Honour Student Prize is increasing among the students. The headmistress of the school says, "This is an era of fast progress. This requires appropriate development of education. Then, our children will get basic knowledge to make the cutting edge of science."

Sim Yong Jin



New Treatment Device of Blood Vessel

NOT LONG AGO I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY to meet doctors of the angiographic department of Kim Man Yu Hospital, who are the developers of the Korean varieties of dilator and coronary stent for treatment of cardiovalvular stenosis and a material for embolization of deformed vessels.

One summer day in 1992 doctor Kim Ok Gyong happened to hear some patients talk whether there was any method of operating on the heart with no injury on the skin or with a little pain at least. They were afraid of the operation they had to have. At the time Kim told them, "There is a method. It's to use a coronary stent. It means inserting the coronary stent into the diseased region of the heart through the blood vessel of the leg. In this case patients can be cured without scalpel. But this is a field still unexplored in our country."

The patients, listening to her attentively, could not but feel sorry. Though it was the story she had read in the Grand People's Study House, she could not get to sleep that night because of their sorry faces.

At her proposal her department set a goal of making a coronary stent with their own efforts. A research team was formed headed by Kim, and the research went ahead to get the standard value of a material. But it was not an easy job. In the period of the Arduous March when the country was in a difficult economic situation, too, all members of the research team pooled their wisdom and efforts to develop a Korean model of coronary stent.

At last in 1999 they accomplished their plan. When a tiny tube was put into the blood vessel of the leg and headed for the heart region and a spiral stent was inserted in it, the skin was little hurt and the treatment turned out very effective in a very short time.

Highly elated, the doctors set a higher goal. In 2007 they began to produce the material for embolization of deformed vessel and the dilator to be used in the cardiovalvular stenosis. Their enthusiasm was further heightened not only by the hospital administrators but also by scientists and technicians of the State Academy of Sciences and several metal facto-

ries. After repeated and painstaking experiments and study, they succeeded in developing the material for embolization and the balloon catheter working on the cardiovalvular stenosis. Their balloon catheter was thinner, more efficacious in treatment and shorter in the treatment period than imported ones which had been broken after treatment of only nine patients. The new material and device enabled the patients of heart disease to recover in time and return to their usual activities more vigorously.

In this course, most of the teammates were awarded the certificate of sci-tech achievement of national importance, the certificate of program development, and patents of invention.

Now the department is good at treatment of not only the heart vessels but also cerebral blood vessels. They often receive letters of thanks from former patients. Whenever they receive such letters, they recollect the day Ok Gyong was appointed chief of the department, when she said, "They say we are now in the van of the vascular treatment. This is an appreciation of our conscience and will. I know we should always remember that when we rely on our own power, we can do whatever we want to do."

Ri Chung Ho



What They Want

IN RECENT YEARS THE Korean acrobatic gymnastics has developed onto a high level. Though it is not long since the Korean acrobatic gymnasts made a debut in the international arena, they have reached high achievements in competitions. Among them are Jong Kum Hwa and Pyon Yun Ae who caught the eye of acrobatic fans and experts by performing elegant rhythms and highly technical movements of beauty to the tune of mild and cheering music at the 9th Asian Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships 2015.

Duty of the Elder

Jong Kum Hwa, the supporting gymnast in two-person modelling, was born the eldest to a worker's family. Since she is of few words and deep comprehension, she is usually praised as "prospective eldest daughter-in-law." She is the oldest of children not only in her family but also in the training ground. She exerts herself to share the same rhythm and mind with Pyon Yun Ae, her partner.

Once they were doing exercises to learn highly difficult technical movements. Pyon repeatedly failed to perform relevant movements because of her lack of experience. Jong felt Pyon was losing courage. At a break of training, she said, "Yun Ae, I know you are tired. But remember that our daily training is promoting yourself to a higher stage on the platform of honour. Work hard, and you will get to success. You'd better take it easy as you are on the ground and try." After a moment of thinking Pyon said she'd have a try. In this way the pair attained high techniques one

after another and became "sisters" to everybody's envy.

Precious Dream

Pyon has two aunts who were once acrobatic gymnasts. Seeing her family rejoiced over their wins at tournaments, Pyon as little girl fostered a precious dream in her mind. *I should be an acrobatic gymnast and make my family happy as my aunts did.* That's how she began to learn heavy gymnastics when she was 8. She knew acrobatic gymnastics is based on heavy gymnastics, and so she was strenuous to acquire techniques. In those days she became known as player good at rhythmic somersault. And she also won honour at national tournaments. For such merits she was admitted in the sports team of the Ministry of Commerce as performer of two-person modelling. Cherishing her precious dream in mind, she engrossed herself in somersault exercise, and tried hard to accomplish world-level technical movements such as the one of landing on the shoulder of the partner after turning a somersault sideways while keeping the body straight. Soon she displayed her skills on the international stage. She is not only a lovely daughter of her family but a player the whole country knows.

Smart Guidance

Kang Kum Hwa, 35, Merited Athlete, is known as capable coach. Since she was attending the Korea University of Physical Education she has written many papers contributable to the development of acrobatic gymnastics and made unusual efforts to realize them.



As the success in acrobatic gymnastics depends on artistic performance of difficult movements, it is essential to improve artistic skills and physical abilities. So, when she was put in charge of Jong and Pyon for a pair, she set a proper training schedule according to their physical builds, abilities and technical levels, and improved their skills on a scientific basis. She conceived difficult movements, and carried out simulations persistently to accomplish the movements herself for the girls to learn. Then she spared no time to help the girls master the performance. Thanks to her exact demand and warm care Jong and Pyon finally became able to carry out the acts perfectly, and thus won a prize at the 9th Asian Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships.

Kang is still busy at her work with players, preparing a unique work of great competitiveness in the international arena.

Pak Un Yong

Special Service Establishment for Scientists

harmony with rose-related decorations, making me feel warm and comfortable.

There I met Pang Jong Chol, chief manager of the house, who said, "With the inauguration of the Mirae Scientists Street in November last year, my facility opened as a general welfare service centre for teachers and scientists. As the signboard reads, rose bath is the main service here." He explained about the bath like this: "You clean yourself in the tub with rose petals floating in the water containing the essence of steamed rose petals. In the past it used to be part of luxurious life enjoyed by the royal family alone. In the bathroom there are some

RECENTLY I VISITED the Mirae Scientists Street. I found it lined with high-rise apartment buildings of different shapes, and a network of communal amenities including shops, restaurants and tailor's. It seemed as if the most favourite shops of the people gathered there, like the Phyeongchon Samilpho Specialty Shop and the Changgwang Shop. Many technical centres and cultural and welfare facilities stand in lines to accord well with the characteristics of the street.

My eye was caught by a building with the unique signboard "Ryugyong Rose House." It was evening, and I could see teachers and scientists entering the building after the day's work. It is a smart two-storey house with a modern aesthetic taste. At the entrance girl servants were welcoming customers with smile on their face. They, standing against a large rose-patterned decoration set on the wall up to the ceiling, looked like fairies in a garden of fresh full-blown roses. Everything in the reception hall was in good



▶ bathtubs such as rose and ultrasonic tubs and several saunas with the application of precious materials including agate.”

Over his words, I heard some voices, overflowing with joy, of scientists chatting over a drink in the rest hall just after bath. “Great. I feel refreshed.” “I was one of the first customers of this house. Now pimples have gone from my face since I began to come here.”

Among the people full of joy, Professor Ri Ok of the Kim Chaek University of Technology talked to me, “We women love beauty by instinct. But many times I was indifferent to fragrant flowers, as I was engrossed in the scientific research. Here we woman scientists are now blooming like flowers.”

Leaving behind their pleasant talks, I went upstairs where sev-

eral exercise places including a fitness room, a squash court, an amusement hall, a beauty salon and a face treatment and massage room are found—all necessary for cultural recreation. I first went to the fitness room where light music was wafting. The customers were mostly grey-haired scientists. After turning rings to the pleasant music Professor Choe Sun Bok of the Kim Chaek University of Technology said, “I come here once a day. Because I feel more enthusiastic and efficient in my work as well as physically stronger. This is a very good place for me.”

Visiting in turn the woman scientists’ favourite haunts like the beauty salon and the face treatment and massage room, and the amusement hall liked by both the young and old, I went to the squash court in which young

scientists were playing in the sweat. “At first I felt it dull to play with the ball against the wall. But as I kept on I realized that this is good for the training of my mind and body. Today young fellows of my university are old customers here,” said Hong Un Chol, researcher of the Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering, with a smile, going downstairs after his training.

When I stepped out of the house together with some scientists who were expressing their thanks to the kind servants, it was already late evening, and the street was beautifully illuminated with decorative lights. The delightful faces seemed additive to the brightness of the street.

Ri Kum Chol



This Is Where I Live in

SOME DAYS AGO WHEN we were staying in Mangumdong, Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province, local officials told us that there is a 100-year-old woman in Neighbourhood Unit No. 12. We decided to go to see her for an interview. On our way we met the elderly woman's daughter-in-law, Son Pok Dok, 77. She welcomed us and told a story about her mother-in-law.

Kim Yong Dok, the centenarian, was born a tenant farmer's third daughter in Taedong-ri, Hwangju County on December 18, 1915. She underwent bitter sorrow of deprivation of the country eking out a hard life of contempt and persecution as nursemaid. She got married and had her children but her face was always gloomy because of poverty and hunger. Although she suffered from postpartum diseases and backache, she could not afford to see a doctor. She toiled and milled in the field from dawn till night. Exhausted as she was, she had to do washing and needlework for pay at night. This was how she could feed her five children.

The liberation of the country (August 15, 1945) brought happiness to her home—her children

became able to go to school and she and her husband, like other people, became legitimate masters of the land as well as the country thanks to the agrarian reform law. She worked assiduously in the field. When she was asked to take care of herself, she said she had never been to hospital before liberation because of lack of money and that tilling her own land given by the government now she felt well as if all her old illnesses had gone off. Thanks to state policies she went to renowned sanatoria for treatment of postpartum diseases and backache. Every condition was provided to help her get treatment without any worry.

Hoping to repay the care shown to her, Kim didn't stop working even after she had retired. She prepared aid materials for workers at major construction projects.

One day not long after her retirement she was unexpectedly visited by some doctors at her home. They said they were there because she had not appeared for regular health checkup. When the old woman said they made a visit in vain as she was healthy, a doctor remarked, "The elderly should have regular health checkup according to the Public



Kim Yong Dok.

Health Law. You have to obey the law." At the words, Kim thought of her five siblings who had died miserably in the deplorable world when the country was under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists.

As she got older, it became a routine to receive her doctor in charge who brought tonics, dong officials her subsidy, and service workers of the district living necessities. In December last year she celebrated her 100th birthday amidst congratulations of so many people. She received a birthday spread from the state.

On arriving at home, we found Kim at needlework without the aid of glasses. She said, "Reporting about me is not bad, but I would like to ask you to write about our world where living a hundred years is celebrated as a national event. This is where I live in."

Kim Un Jong

The Small House Fostering a Great Future

THE MIRAE (FUTURE) Library in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, is housed in a cosy building of a medium size. It was refurbished as the first IT-based library in the city two years ago to serve as a centre for making all people well-versed in science and technology.

In recent years the library has increased its book stock two times and stocked its e-data base with millions of books. Some time ago optical fibre cables were laid on for exclusive use of the library and all conditions were provided for readers to contact the state computer network and the distance-learning networks of all universities and colleges. And it was connected to the sci-tech diffusion room of the recently-erected Sci-Tech Complex so that necessary sci-tech data could be obtained from it at any time. It is visited by people of all units in the district and workers, office staffs, housekeepers,

old people, and students and schoolchildren.

Pak Mi Hyang, nurse of the Mangyongdae District People's Hospital, is attending the distance-learning course of the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University and an active reader of the library. She often comes to the library near her house on her way home from work. She is very inquiring by nature and is fond of spending more of her time in the library. No more than a reading place before, the library has now turned into a school. She says, "Mirae Library. How good the name is. Though it is housed in a small building, whenever I enter it, I often feel like coming into a wide and wonderful world I used to dream of."

Since the library now has a comprehensive lecture room, symposiums are held frequently for the working people to share their knowledge and experience, to say nothing of lectures.

Jang Chol Ho, student of the Distance Learning College of the Kim Chaek University of Technology and worker of the Pyongyang Steel Works, likes to call the library "our crossing" because everyone who wants to fulfil his assignment in the present era of the knowledge-based economy, will come here between his home and workplace. All of such people



The Way to School



Ri Wi Song has recovered his eyesight.

ONE DAY FOUR YEARS ago, a boy was standing in front of the gate to the Kuchon Primary School, Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province. He seemed to be an unyielding child with his somewhat thick lips and raised forehead. Listening attentively to the resonant sounds of reading and singing from the school windows, he sighed unawares. The boy was Ri Wi Song, the only son of an honoured disabled ex-soldier's family in Kuchon-dong No. 4, Sariwon City.

His eyesight was poor since he was born. Yet he grew up cheerfully. Though his vision was 0.02 in the nursery and kindergarten

days, he made friends with other ordinary children without any trouble under the special concern of his nurses and teachers. Naturally clear-headed and having a high spirit of inquiry he had a good memory of what he had heard or seen. When he encountered with difficult problems, he delved into them until he got the solution. So his neighbours' loving care for the boy was exceptional. In particular, Wi Song's kindergarten teacher and officials of the dong office often visited his home probably paying greater attention than his parents. They tried hard to improve his eyesight to enable him to get systematic education, visiting so many hospitals together with his mother. They went to several hospitals in the city and Pyongyang, but they were told it was almost impossible to cure his case as it was hereditary.

Time passed, and Wi Song was admitted to the local primary school. Though his teacher and classmates made efforts to help him work at his studies, he turned depressed day after day. He found it difficult to play with his friends

any longer for his poor eyesight, and his school performance fell gradually. Worse still, his eyesight went from bad to worse. Soon he gave up going to school. But whenever he stood alone in the yard of his house and turned his eyes to the road to the school where the sound of singing came from, he wished to play with his classmates even if he couldn't go to school. Tears ran from his eyes, which he wiped lest his parent could see them.

One day three years ago Wi Song happened to hear the news from TV that the Okryu Children's Hospital had been newly built in Pyongyang. He called his mother, but she was too busy to turn to him. She had to look after his father in sickbed who was in a worse condition at that time. Having discretion earlier for his age Wi Song didn't mention about the hospital any more as he didn't want to hurt his mother.

One of those days officials of the City People's Committee called at his house to acquaint themselves with his family situation. Feeling their caressing kind-

are men of ingenuity and general favourites at their workplaces. Mi Hyang, too, caused a sensation by writing a dissertation on introducing psychotherapy in treatment with her own knowledge acquired at the library. Such examples not only delight all working people who come here but also stimulate their desire to

train themselves into talents and encourage them to open up the road to a bright future by dint of science and technology. And now most of the readers of the library became students of the distance learning colleges. Kim Jin Suk, director of the library, says: "It is an accepted truth that our future depends on science and technol-

ogy and making all people well-versed in science and technology is a shortcut to the building of a thriving nation. In this sense, our library, though small and not long since its foundation, is a large house fostering the future of our country as its name indicates."

Ri Kum Chol

ness for his family, Wi Song made a remark about the Okryu Children's Hospital beside himself. Learning his desire now, the officials took him to the hospital the next day.

When they knew how Wi Song had come there, the hospital administration staff organized a team in charge of his treatment comprising competent medical workers of the Department of Ophthalmology and the Department of Koryo Medicine. Measures were taken to check degeneration of retina caused by congenital disorder, and a suitable diet for his condition was established.

When the boy was struggling to escape from painful injection, the medics became stern and strict on him, while encouraging him to be confident in his success in treatment. Their painstaking treatment and efforts bore fruit. Wi Song's visual acuity rose to one from zero in November last year when it was less than a year after the beginning of treatment. Holding her son by the hand who was in a rapture of delight, Wi Song's mother said, "My son is laughing his fill for the first time in his life. This palace of love has given him the happiness which we could not afford him for many years."

The miracle of recovery was not merely attributable to the medical attainments. One day Wi Song, tilting his head, asked his doctor Kim Hyang Sun, "How is it that you give me three eggs a day when you give one to others?"

"Our socialist system has arranged it because you're short of the normal weight. So, take them all and get this much plump," she

ordered, putting her hands to her cheeks.

Nourishing meal was not all. Wi Song was administered expensive tonics. A good many kindly minds were devoted to the little body. A woman brought him wild honey and other tonics which she had intended to give to her child staying in the hospital, saying that good nutrition was essential for good treatment; and a pupil came to the hospital every day to help Wi Song learn handwriting even after he had left hospital. And managers of different public service facilities including the Munsu Water Park invited him to have a pleasant time after recovery. Wi Song was too young to understand those minds. So when the chairman of the Sariwon City People's Committee came to see him in hospital, he asked how it was that many people took good care of him. "That's what our respected leader Kim Jong Un wants," replied the chairman. All things Wi Song experienced in the hospital were great mental and physical nourishment to him.

When he returned home after leaving the hospital, he found his family had moved to a new house which was provided by the City People's Committee. In the new house he wrote a letter of thanks on a sheet of snow-white paper with his small hand, telling about his delight of recovery from his pent-up anguish, as well as his feelings of boundless gratitude.

"Dear respected leader Kim Jong Un,

"I am Ri Wi Song, a pupil of Class A in the fourth year of the Kuchon Primary School, Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province. I've regained my sight at the Okryu Children's Hospital. I feel as if I were in a dream.

...

"In the past I couldn't recognize my mother an inch ahead, but now I can see her clearly in the distance. Spending a very wonderful time at this excellent palace of children I watched the new parts of the animation *The Boy General* with my bright eyes... Now I can go to school."

Kim Chol Ung

Ri tells about the book he read to his classmates.



Immortal Youth

(Continued from the last issue)

Left-handed Children's Union Sub-branch Chairwoman

WHEN THE MOVEMENT for running sports circles in schools started across the country, Ri Ja Chong had a special interest in it with enthusiasm. With a desire to run the table-tennis circle, he volunteered to become sports teacher of the Namsa Middle School in a mountainous village of Sakju County by the Amnok River after graduating from the Sinuiju Teacher-training College.

First of all, he set out to select players in his own way. From among the third-grade students, he picked out left-handed Children's Union activists. There arose responses of different sorts to his method of selecting players. Some teachers and students raised an objection, but left-handed girls interested in table tennis were eager to join the circle. One of them was Pak Yong Sun, a lovely girl with a round face and sharp eyes. An older girl Yong Ok who was taller and agile-looking came with Yong Sun under the lead of O Yong Suk (the first to be picked by Ri).

Looking Yong Sun up and down, Ri said sullenly, "You're too short." To this Yong Sun muttered her reply, with her big eyes sparkling, "I think there are children who grow taller late."

Ri was struck dumb by her daring retort. He thought *she was right*. Then she went on, "Well, I'm an activist of the Children's Union sub-branch and behind nobody in study in my class." So,



she already knows I'm selecting Children's Union activists and excellent students, Ri thought to himself. "Oh, yes! So, you're Pak Yong Sun who is sub-branch chairwoman and a model student. Good. If your teacher has no objection, I'll accept you." "Thank you, sir."

Now Pak Yong Ok came forward. Actually she was right-handed, but she said she was left-handed.

"Do you mean what you say?" Ri asked.

"Yes. I can use both hands," replied Yong Ok.

"Very good. You two come to the circle from tomorrow."

Pak Yong Sun went to her teacher right way. When her teacher heard that Yong Sun was going to join the table-tennis circle, she was surprised and objected to it, saying sternly, "You know the work of the chairwoman of the Children's Union sub-branch is more important to you, and what's the use of joining a sports circle when you're well up in your lessons?"

"But I want to be good at everything," she insisted.

"That's a flippant idea!"

Yong Sun thought it was no use arguing any more with her teacher.

The next day the vice head of the school called Ri.

"How are things going on in your circle?" the vice head asked.

"Going on well because of the school's backing. But some teachers cause trouble by refusing to give me the students of my choice."

"Who are the students?"

"Pak Yong Sun and other eligible students aren't allowed to join the circle for various reasons. One of them is not permitted to come to us because she is the leader of the Children's Union sub-branch. I think it's unjust."

"Their teachers must have some reasons of their own. All right, I'll see to that. Now, I've heard you only accept left-handed children or members of the Children's Union sub-branch committee. Is that true?"

"Yes, that's true."

"What's the reason? Is there any scientific justification that left-handed persons are better fitted for sport?"

"I once read a book that said most of the left-handed students

► are clever and have better physical ability. That's why I'm admitting such children to the circle."

"You mean you've chosen Yong Sun for that reason."

"No, I haven't picked her out; she came to me by herself. In general, it is true that those who volunteer to do sports are better suited for it."

The vice headmaster advised Ri kindly with a generous smile, "Your motive is good. But the movement for running sports circles is a mass sports activity. It is advisable to accept all students who are eager to play table tennis."

This was how Yong Sun became a member of the table-tennis circle. Ri's concern for Yong Sun was great. When she came to the physical training room for the first time, he asked her, "Yong Sun, take a penholder grip of the racket, and then a shake-hand grip." He taught her how to grip the bat by his own hand movement.

"Listen to me. All of you take grips of the racket in two ways, and choose the convenient one. Yong Sun, how about you?"

"I like this one."

"Then you train with the left-handed penholder grip. And now, Yong Ok, what's your choice?"

"Teacher Ri, I'm actually right-handed, but as I can play with the left hand, I told you I'm left-handed. May I not play with the right hand?" "Why not?" Ri replied with a smile. "As you can play with both hands, you can take the initiative in matches."

"I see. I'll do as you tell me," said Yong Ok with pleasure.

"So, you three including O Yong Suk are all left-handed penholder-grip players. Well, from now, you compete with one another to see who is the best," Ri concluded. He had an exceptional liking for the three girls. He was determined to train them by means of competition. Conse-

quently, the three girls became rivals to each other.

As soon as the morning class was over, they came to the physical training room. With each passing day they made rapid progress in games. Ri made strenuous effort to let them master exact skills of serving, fore-hand stroke and drive as early as possible. He had an urge to train them quickly to make them fit enough to participate in the annual table tennis contests of schools in the county.

Advance through Competition

With an unremitting zeal and fortitude Pak Yong Sun strove hard in training till late at night without noticing the lapse of time. With a determination to overtake her two rivals, she endeavoured to get more personal guidance from Ri, showing great zest in training. Other members of the table-tennis circle looked at Yong Sun amazingly and followed suit, oblivious of break and fatigue. This called forth acute wordless competition between all of them.

Ri Ja Chong saw to giving impartial individual guidance to everyone in consideration of their wishes and mentality. Their enthusiasm and spirits soared day after day, resulting in rapid improvement in their skills. In the New Year the County office gave notice that sports events would be held during the school vacation in August. In preparations for it, Ri organized a league tournament of all students for a test game. Then he formed teams of boys and girls with those winning fifth place and upward in the tournament and gave them hard training by means of competition.

August came. At the sports games sponsored by the county administration office, the table-tennis players of the Namsa Mid-

dle School registered great successes; they won first place in girls' team event and snatched first, second and third prizes in singles. With this, they were qualified for participation in the provincial games slated for the winter vacation in December at the Sinuiju Stadium. But as this was their debut in the provincial games, they took third places in all events. In August the next year, however, the girls of the school participated in the provincial games again as representatives of the county, winning first place by beating off the Sinuiju team in the finals. And Pak Yong Ok, O Yong Suk and Pak Yong Sun won first, second and third places respectively in girls' singles.

The table-tennis coaches from the central sports teams who were there to select reserve players were astonished at the matches played by the students of the Namsa Middle School. Kim Hui Jin of the February 8 Sports Team called on Ri Ja Chong and said that Pak Yong Sun caught his fancy, and that he would come for her in one or two years, asking Ri to train her and perfect her driving skills. Coach Kim Hong Gi of the Amnokgang Sports Team took away Pak Yong Ok and O Yong Suk immediately.

Ri Ja Chong had never expected that his pupils would be taken away to the sports teams so early. He was very pleased and became full of self-confidence. But on the other hand, he was worried if his pupils would meet the expectations of the central sports teams.

Pak Yong Sun spent longer hours than before in training herself. Ri devoted his all to improving her skills of left-handed drive. Driving skill was Ri's forte. So, he trained her with confidence to round off her driving tricks.

(To be continued)

Seventy Years of Humanitarianism



Chief secretary Ri Ho Rim.

SOME TIME AGO A *KOREA Today* reporter interviewed Ri Ho Rim, chief secretary of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Excerpts:

Seventy years have passed since the establishment of the Red Cross Society of the DPRK. It is not a short history, I think.

Right. The Red Cross Society of North Korea was founded on October 18, 1946 soon after the country's liberation (August 15, 1945). The country was still in a difficult condition in the aftermath of the Japanese imperialists' scores-of-year-long military occupation. The healthcare was quite backward.

In order to help improve the

public healthcare, a Red Cross organization was established in April 1946 as health service and relief body. On October 18, 1946 the organization was developed into the Red Cross Society of North Korea by a law of the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea, and in December 1948 after the founding of the DPRK it was renamed the Red Cross Society of the DPRK.

The law on the DPRK Red Cross Society laid a solid legal foundation for its activities. Today our society has a well-regulated organizational system ranging from the central, provincial, city, county and ri echelons down to small village units involving hundreds of thousands of young volunteers. It became a powerful organization able to cope with any kind of emergency promptly.

The society has fully carried out its mission for improvement of the people's health and welfare and for the relief of the sufferers of disasters since its founding.

That's right. Soon after its foundation, the society organized branches in every province, city and county and saw to it that treatment tours were first arranged in areas with no doctors. It

also conducted a mass-involving movement to improve the living conditions in a hygienic and cultured way and put efforts in removing sources of all kinds of infectious diseases and improving health. Years after its foundation it became a public organization with many members. It set up and managed more than 200 treatment establishments and sanitation facilities, and thus contributed to protecting the people's lives and improving their health and welfare.

During the Fatherland Liberation War, the society organized frontline relief teams to cope with the wartime condition. They gave a helping hand in carrying the wounded and treating them in field hospitals. In the postwar days the society arranged an extensive public assistance movement to procure and distribute hundreds of thousands of pieces of clothes, quilts, blankets and thousands of tons of food, and give medical help to war victims through all provincial Red Cross hospitals and scores of thousands of sanitation posts. In addition, it established a Red Cross home for war orphans and rendered assistance to the reunion of the war-

Separated families and relatives in the north and south of Korea meet their kin.



A course on rescuing lives in emergency.



▶ torn families and relatives.

The society has made a great effort to offer relief to the south Korean people and protect the rights and interests of the overseas Koreans, which is a consistent policy of the DPRK government. It held Red Cross talks with its counterpart in south Korea several times to send the DPRK's art troupe and home-visiting group to south Korea via Panmunjom in 1985. When some regions of south Korea suffered flooding it sent 50 000 *soks* (one *sok* is equivalent to about 144 kg) of rice, 100 000 tons of cement, 500 000 metres of cloth and large quantities of medicine as relief goods to the flood victims in September 1984. Thanks to its positive endeavour, over 60 unconverted long-term ex-prisoners including Ri In Mo returned from south Korea to the DPRK. In accordance with the ideal of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, it pushed ahead with humanitarian programmes for separated families and relatives to reunite and exchange correspondence and video messages in the north and south of the peninsula. As many as 100 000 Korean residents in Japan could return to the DPRK as they hoped as a result of the DPRK-Japan Red Cross talks held to repatriate Koreans who had been forcibly taken to Japan

by the Japanese imperialists.

Your society's activity is now going ahead towards a clear-cut strategic goal, I would say.

In November 2012 the conference of the DPRK Red Cross Society adopted a strategic plan ending 2016. According to the plan we have concentrated our efforts on the work of preventing and easing natural calamities. We've made arrangements to cope with natural damages, save people's lives and raise the self-rehabilitation ability. We've pressed on with confirmation of disastrous dangers and completion of the early-warning system in close contact with different local branches and local people's committees. We are conducting the work of volunteers' training and evacuation drills against possible calamities in a wider scale.

In addition, young Red Cross volunteer's activities are making brisk headway, including planting trees in spring and autumn, keeping traffic safety and diffusing health information. Our society has arranged short courses on building and managing comprehensive sanitary facilities and various social and medical service activities. When Rason City suffered flooding last year, we took part in the rehabilitation and reconstruction campaign in possible areas, while carrying out dif-

ferent activities for emergency relief, water sanitation and other services,

Your society must be in close contact with international Red Cross organizations.

Sure. Since its foundation, it has steadily developed its contact and cooperation with the ICRC and national Red Cross organizations of different countries. The society entered the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies on May 11, 1956. We, on the humanitarian principle, have since contributed to the relief activities for victims of natural calamities by sending funds and relief goods to scores of countries in the events of floods, typhoons, tidal waves and earthquakes. In particular, when several regions of our country were badly hit by unprecedented floods, tidal waves and typhoons consecutively for years from 1995, we took all possible measures to stabilize the people's living conditions and reconstruct the damaged facilities in close contact with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

In the future, too, we'll continue to perform our duty faithfully to meet the fundamental principles and humanitarian mission of the international Red Cross movement. □

Publicity activities of young volunteers for Red Cross service.



Efforts are made to aid victims of calamities and provide sanitary conditions.



Mt. Chilbo (4)



Tal Gate in Sea Chilbo.

Sea Chilbo

SEA CHILBO, DIFFERENT from Inner and Outer Chilbos, is a scenic masterpiece on the east coast of Korea made up of sheer cliffs with fantastic-shaped rocks around them, some rising out of the sea, big and small islets near them and blue waves endlessly surging in on the rocks and sending up sprays.

Sea Chilbo is full of beautiful scenic spots—Sol (pine-tree) Islet, Mujigae (rainbow) Rock, Choksok Rocks looking like many candle lights, Unson Cave known for its legend that fairies from heaven playing on Sol Islet would hide in the cave at a sign of humans approaching, picturesque Chaehwa Peak just like a landscape picture, Chilbo Rock resembling a beauty, and Kaksi (bride) Rock. Among them Sol Islet is well-known as a scenic spot for its cliffs, rocks and a

thick pine grove in keeping with the wide sea. Halfway up the tall islet there is Ryong (dragon) Cave formed by sea water erosion and hollow deep down to the sea. Mujigae Rock stands on the coast of Jungphyong. From of old it has been famous together with Sol Islet and Tal (moon) Gate for its scenic beauty. One of its ends is on the hillside and the other in the sea. When the waves send up sprays, the rock appears to stand above clouds. Choesokgum (rock) presents a singular sight, resembling a man bearing a knapsack followed by a woman with a baby on her back and a dog tagging along behind. Since Sea Chilbo is known as a fishing ground from olden times, it has a tale related to *myongthae* (pollack). The tale is about a fisherman, Thae, living in Pochon, Myongchon. He caught a fish never known before in the area, so the fish was named *myongthae* after the first

letter of the county *myong* and the fisherman's surname *thae*.

Sea Chilbo has Put Rock looking like a brush, together with Yonjok (water-bottle) Rock, Mok (ink-stick) Rock and Pyoru (ink-stone) Rock. There is a tale told of these rocks. A painter from heaven came down to Mt. Chilbo and tried to paint Sea Chilbo. But he found himself still immature to paint it, and so he decided to go up to heaven and train himself for ten years before coming back to Sea Chilbo. He returned to heaven leaving his painting tools behind. The names of the rocks came from the tale. There are also scenic spots called Puchae (fan) Rock, Songbyok (wall) Rock, Khokkiri (elephant) Rock, and so forth. When it is seen from afar, Khokkiri Rock related to rock cave is just like an elephant with its trunk in the sea. So the place is called Sangam Cliff. Further, there is a spot of scenic beauty ►

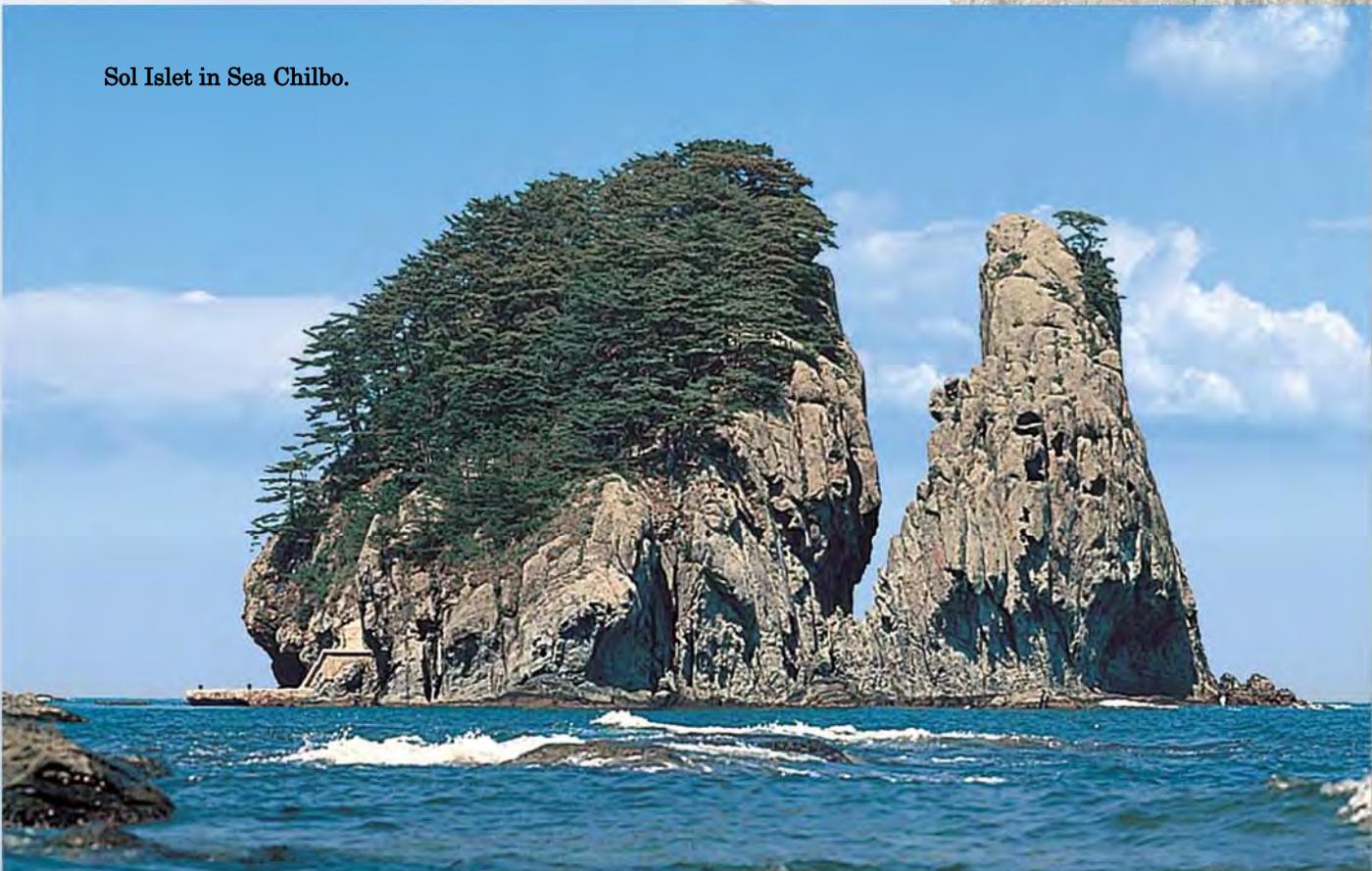
▶ called Tal Gate which looks like the moon in its shape. Tal Gate is an erosion arch of lava with a high cliff at the back and scores of metres deep sea in front. Its one end is stuck to a huge rock hill and the other in the sea. The gate is famous for many traditions. It was widely told about by fishermen who passed through it, and it served as a refuge in a stormy weather. It was said that Tal Gate served as a resting place for the moon to get a good view of the picturesque Sea Chilbo in the daytime. Sea Chilbo has many other scenic spots like Jolsung (superb beauty) Peak, Sonnam (fairy man) Rock, Sonnyo (fairy woman) Rock and Ryangju (couple) Rock.

Pak Un Yong



Sea Chilbo in the morning.

Sol Islet in Sea Chilbo.



Musical Instruments of Korea



A standing drum
(4th-5th century).

IN THEIR 5 000-YEAR-LONG history notable with a brilliant culture, the Korean people have made and used musical instruments of their own, peculiar in tone and shape, which suited to their sentiments and emotions.

In the primitive ages the musical instruments were made of animal bones, horns and hide, and bronze, and so they were bone flutes, horn bugles, bronze bells and gongs, and drums. In ancient times extending from early 3000 BC to the early 3rd century BC when Koguryo, the first feudal state of Korea, was founded, various musical instruments like *tphi* flute and *konghu* were produced. In the period of Three Kingdoms (Koguryo, Paekje and Silla) musicians and ordinary people made many musical instruments. This led to the creation of orchestral music with wind, stringed and percussion instruments and the development of the march music. Besides, there were other kinds of stringed instruments like *ajaeng* and *yanggum*.

At the time, there were over 50 kinds of musical instruments. Their number increased to over 60 in the period of Koryo (918–1392) and nearly 90 during the Feudal Joson Dynasty (1392–1910).

The musical instruments of Korea, however, were barred from developing in a normal way due to the Japanese aggressors' seizure of the country. They followed the barbaric policy of destroying the national culture of Korea. After the country's liberation from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945, the musical instruments revived and developed rapidly. Measures of the state to develop them totally removed their faults, and new instruments were invented. The improved musical instruments came to have greater compass and volume of sound, and their tone colour, clear, soft and elegant, became more beautiful.

Kayagum, the Korean harp which came into being in the early or middle 6th century, was widely used for solo and ensemble. Its

Development of national musical instruments is encouraged.





Kodong, Jade thungso and phyonjong.

▶ original pentatonic scale was developed to a whole-tone scale, its sound volume became richer and its unique tone colour grew more distinctive.

Wind instruments like *thungso*, *jotae* and flute were improved and widely played by people. *Thungso*, a wind instrument widely used since the time of Koryo for its soft and enchant-

ing tone, is played for recital and folk musical performance. At present, it serves as a good instrument to represent people's emotions well, for it has been improved to control the intervals freely and is capable of producing keen and soft sounds.

Drum, gong and *janggo* and other kinds of percussion instruments play a great role in exalting

the musical ambience with lively tunes, and they are used for hard props and people's entertainments.

Many musical instruments have been newly produced and widely used. Typical of them are *oungum* and *okryugum*. Invented in 1962, *oungum* is used to accompany various performances such as recital, ensemble, concert and songs, because it has clear timbre and rich representation. In particular, the mixed orchestra of the strings with *oungum* as the core and the wind and accordion gives a peculiar emotion and mood tenderer than other orchestras. *Okryugum*, made in the early 1970s, has unique tone and large volume. It can be used for recital and also can play an important role in ensemble of national musical instruments. It ensures a national colouring and emotion in the mixed orchestra.

The national musical instruments, pride of the Korean people, are developing further.

Pak Yong Il



Ingenious Strategem

RI SUN SIN (1545–1598) was a famous patriotic naval commander of Korea who frustrated the Japanese invaders' attempt of aggression in the sea during the Imjin Patriotic War in 1592–1598.

One night during the war the soldiers of a Korean fleet under Admiral Ri's command were at ease with the anchors dropped, though they were facing the enemy. Ri himself was lying for sleep, his head on a drum, with his armour on in the command post. After a while of sleep, he clipped his eyes open feeling that the room suddenly became as bright as day. Through the window he could see the cloud clearing away and a full moon shining high in the sky. At the moment there came murmurs from outside, and he sprang up suddenly. He heard a junior commander of his on his round of inspection of sentinels, say, "Oh! Our soldiers can have a good night. As the moon is as bright as day, the enemy could hardly attempt to attack us."

Ri opened the door and ordered him to bring a bowl of wine. After drinking it he told to call in all commanders. When they gathered Ri seriously ordered, "You immediately make your soldiers get aboard your

ships and get ready for battle." He gave orders to every ship and sent out scouts to all directions. The commanders obeyed him reluctantly as it was a military order. They thought it unreasonable to get ready for battle when it was as bright as day and there was no sign of the enemy movement. Soldiers who had been asleep in scout ships awoke and secretly approached the enemy area in all directions. Now Ri was waiting in expectation in the command post.

Around the time when the moon was setting in the west, a scout returned back and reported on the movement of the enemy. The cunning enemy was drawing near through the dark area in the shadow of mountains, instead of the moonlit area.

Ri got aboard and waited for the enemy. He then ordered to fire a gun as signal of a general counter-attack. The ships that had been on stand-by launched an offensive to the right and left of the enemy fleet, showering shells. Surprised to meet the Korean navy unexpectedly the aggressor force fired recklessly. But they were at loss how to fight as they weren't in a battle formation. They were all thrown into confusion to fight in a cramped area in the shadow. Finally many

enemy ships went to the bottom of the sea and few ships could escape from the battle.

When the battle was concluded to victory the Korean officers and soldiers praised that Ri Sun Sin had supernatural foresight. Otherwise he could hardly know that the enemy ships would come to fight when the moon was as bright as day. The next day, Ri was asked by an officer when he was inspecting the fleet. He was just the one who had been on patrol of the sentinels the previous night.

"Admiral Ri, how could you know the enemy would attack us last night?"

"Ah, it's you who hinted me at it. You said the Japanese would not attack us on a moonlit night and told everyone to sleep well."

"That's right, sir. Everyone had the same idea with me."

"Exactly, so did the enemy."

"What? You mean the enemy?"

"Certainly. They also decided we thought they would not attack on a moonlit night."

"Definitely."

"So I thought they would come. I am far from supernatural and our victory is attributable to you."

Ri Song Chol

Matter of Paramount Importance in International Relationship

IT IS A UNANIMOUS WILL of humankind to live in the world free of aggression and war, domination and subjugation. Nevertheless, aggression and war are everyday occurrences around the world, leaving indescribable misfortunes and sufferings with countless people.

In order to build a stable and peaceful world as desired by mankind, it is imperative to establish an order of international relationship based on respect for national sovereignty. Mutual respect for sovereignty between countries is a prerequisite for a fair order in international relations and the groundwork for their development. Because, above all things, this is the time when all the nations live and develop independently as master of their own destiny, and because the independence means their lifeline. The time when the imperialist powers could divide and rule the world at their own will has gone, and we are in the era of independence when all the countries have emerged legitimately in the international arena, developing the international relations to meet their independent requirements and interests.

Every nation has equal rights in international relations, and the bigger and developed countries have no right to violate the sovereignty of the smaller and less developed ones. Infringement of a certain country's sovereignty is just violation of its independent aspiration, interests and dignity, and such international relations inevitably lead to its repulsion, and even a severe crisis like armed conflict. Therefore, all the

countries and nations should form and make further development of the international relations on the basis of recognizing and respecting mutual sovereignty.

The principle of respecting sovereignty is the most important of the main principles to be observed in international relationship. The principle of respecting sovereignty is an internationally approved fundamental principle along with those of territorial integrity, nonaggression, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit. Those principles were recognized and confirmed in the UN Charter, the Ten Principles of Bandung adopted in Indonesia in April 1955 and other international conferences as well as treaties concluded by several countries in the world.

The principle of respecting sovereignty is surely the key principle in international relations. The other principles originated from the one of respecting sovereignty, and their observation relies on the guarantee of sovereignty. So the violation of the key principle in international relations becomes a serious contravention of the international law and a criminal doing.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are developing relations of friendship and cooperation with all the countries that are friendly to the DPRK, while invariably maintaining the principle of respecting sovereignty.

The United States, however, is ruthlessly violating other countries' sovereignty in an attempt to

realize its wild ambition of global supremacy. In particular, it is doggedly pursuing the hostile policy against the DPRK so as to stamp out the nation's sovereignty. Washington is hindering the DPRK's right to space development in every way while describing the nation's launch of artificial earth satellites as "launch of missiles," and egging its vassal forces on to stage a vicious "human rights" racket against the country to overthrow its people-centric socialist system selected by the Korean people. The US has persisted in ignoring the DPRK's just demand for replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace pact to remove the danger of war, ease tension and create a peaceful environment in the Korean peninsula. Instead, it has clung to its hostile policy towards the DPRK, escalating the tension in the peninsula.

The anti-DPRK hostile policy of the US is a leftover from the old time when it had dominated the world by force. The pursuance of the hostile policy is an anachronistic choice taken from an outmoded view and a criminal act of violating outrageously the fundamental principles to be observed in international relations. The world opinion has already predicted that the US's high-handedness and arbitrariness rejecting the requirements of the time and the international law cannot last long, but lead to its downfall.

It is a firm stand of the WPK and the DPRK government to build a new independent world together with the world's progressive people aspiring to independence, justice and peace. □

Impending Doom of the She-devil

THE VICIOUS NORTH POLICY OF THE south Korean authorities has driven the inter-Korean relations into the worst ever catastrophe, leaving the Korean peninsula in the sustained danger of war which might break out at any moment. In March last alone, the south Korean ruler Park Geun Hye, turning a deaf ear to the repeated warnings from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the unanimous disapproval of the whole nation, instigated the south Korean "National Assembly" to railroad the so-called law on human rights in the north and the law on prevention of terrorism, which are both wicked machines to be used in confrontation with their fellow countrymen in the north. Worse still, she conducted the Key Resolve and Foal Eagle 16 joint military rehearsals with the US by inviting a huge American force including an aircraft carrier, strategic nuclear bombers and other nuclear war equipment and even special task units. What should go unnoticed is that those military exercises were conducted under the overt signboard of "removal of the north's summit" and "occupation of Pyongyang," unlike they did in the past claiming they were "annual" and "defensive" routine drills.

Park has been so malignant that she intentionally brought to rupture the dialogue between the north and south authorities which had been arranged with so many difficulties, has resorted to ceaseless provocative moves for nuclear war against the north and has pursued a fratricidal strife instead of improved north-south relations and peaceful reunification of the nation, which is the cherished desire of all the Korean people. Her policy of desperate confrontation against the fellow countrymen and war of aggression against the north means a revelation of her pathetic jealousy and rejection of the rapidly developing DPRK. It is also indicative of her last-ditch effort to divert the wrath of the people for her pushing the south Korean community into a living hell through arrogance and incompetence and save her miserable remnant days from the crisis.

Park's three years in power has been stained with indelible crimes which will never go unpunished before the history and the nation. By resurrecting the despotism of her father Park Chung Hee who was the notorious author of the "Yushin" dictatorship, she has reduced the south Korean society to a tundra which is devoid of even elementary democracy. Thanks to her the overall poverty rate of the south Koreans is the sixth highest in the world, the old-

erly's poverty level is the highest in the world, and all the other economic and livelihood indices have fallen to the lowest level in the world, including the percentage of temporary employees, the unemployment rate, the minimum wage level, the average sleeping hours of the workers, and the birth rate. The economic growth has fallen from four to two percent, the national debt has snowballed to a trillion US dollars, tantamount to 64.5 percent of the GDP, and the total debt of all the households has reached as many as 1.2 trillion US dollars.

Now the south Korean people of all strata have labelled Park as source of disgrace for the nation. They are out in a struggle against the Park regime, claiming that Park should be impeached as soon as possible as she is destroying the hope of humanity and that it is necessary to make this year the year of curbing the mad rush of the Park regime. The antipathy against Park is also vehemently heard in foreign countries as well.

The world's influential media in the United States, Britain, France and other countries sorely denounced Park's dictatorship under the headlines of "Encroachment of the Freedom of Speech in International Spotlight," "Revival of Dictatorship," "Threat to Democracy," and the like. The south Korea-based Foreign Press Club in Seoul, the Borderless Association of Journalists, and the International Journalists Federation also called Park a heinous dictator, noting that the daughter of the dictator has turned out for fascist repression. The French newspaper Figaro, the German trade journal GTAI and many other foreign media withdrew their branches and dispatches from south Korea as a sign of their protest for Park's dictatorship and crack-down on speech. When the anniversary of Park's assumption to office comes round, scores of cities around the world see simultaneous demonstrations for Park's resignation under the banner of "Park Is Not Lawful President," "Park Should Resign" and the like.

At present Park is clinging to the patronage of the US more desperately as the voices of denunciation and protest are growing louder among the Korean people and the international community. She fanned up the Americans' cooking of a UN resolution on sanctions against the DPRK and is now working with a greater frenzy for confrontation against the north. She is attempting to introduce into south Korea THAAD which can cover thousands of km in opera- ►

Surely Wrong Policy

NOW THE TENURE OF THE US PRESIDENT Obama has dwindled to half a year. In his presidential campaign he pledged to visit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea within a year if he took office. No sooner had he become master of White House than he overturned his pledge by announcing the so-called "strategic patience" policy towards the DPRK in 2009.

By the "strategic patience" Obama meant waiting with "patience" for the time when the DPRK would show an actual change, that is, "nuclear abandonment first," while denying dialogue with it, putting pressure and applying sanctions. Obama flew this arrow to Pyongyang. Though he coined the new phrase of "strategic patience" and made public his own policy, it has, in essence, a thread of connection with the policies of his predecessor administrations aimed at isolation and suffocation of the DPRK. Worse still, the hostile acts reached the extreme during his reign.

In 2014 the US Defense Department went so far as to overtly announce to the world that it would prevail over the DPRK by force of arms. The US's persistent application of the strategy of sanctions, blockade and appeasement tells the truth of the announcement. The international community has witnessed for years the dangerous attempts at political isolation, economic suffocation and ideological disintegration.

The US has intensified its moves of suffocation while forcing the "nuclear abandonment first" and isolating the DPRK militarily, economically and diplomatically. The Obama government has been denying the DPRK's legitimate right of space development as a sovereign state. It instigated the UN Security Council to cook up a "resolution on sanctions" and has carried on hostile acts while staging a misleading campaign about the human rights situa-

tion of the country. Flatly ignoring the DPRK's constructive proposals to put an end to the precarious situation in the Korean peninsula and have a consultation on several issues including the denuclearization of the peninsula and the world, the US has persisted in blockade and nuclear blackmail and conducted aggressive nuclear war exercises against the DPRK uninterruptedly.

Last year the US rejected the DPRK's just demand for the US to halt US-south Korea joint military drills in and around south Korea to ease the tension in the Korean peninsula. Instead, it waged joint marine rehearsals in the east and south seas of Korea by mobilizing the nuclear-powered submarine *Olympia* thus escalating the tension in the peninsula. Obsessed with the pathetic inclination to disapproval of the DPRK, the Americans have not given up the scheme of stifling the DPRK with a nuclear preemptive strike of higher qualitative and quantitative degrees. Under the circumstances in which its supreme interests were exposed to violation by the US's nuclear threats the DPRK could not but choose to further strengthen its defence capability, that is, build up its nuclear force to cope with the US's nuclear menace.

Alexandr Zevin, head of the DPRK Research Centre of the Far East Institute under the Russian Academy of Sciences, disclosed that the United States has actually ignored the existence of this country (the DPRK) while refusing to have dialogue with it, and that the DPRK's recent H-bomb test was a natural outcome of the US's hostile attitude towards those countries that pursue foreign policies to the American disadvantage.

After all, Obama's obstinate clinging to the "strategic patience" has boomeranged on his country.

Kim Yong Un

► tional range, despite the strong opposition of Russia and China. All her attempts are aimed at avoiding such a miserable fate as her father met, by soliciting the US's assistance.

For all her desperate efforts, nothing could save the witch forsaken by the international community. Recently some south Korean media reported that it is worth remembering that Park Chung Hee's downfall began with a New York Times report on scathing denunciation of him in 1979. Park Chung Hee was

miserably shot to death some time after foreign media began to denounce him. Likewise, the recent shower of criticism of Park Geun Hye from the foreign media is probably foretelling the doom of the witch in the Blue House. As she inherits the DNA of the "Yushin" dictatorship and has followed in step of her father, her end should be the same as his—this is the unanimous opinion of the Korean and other peoples around the world.

Kim Il Ryong

Wriggling Militarism

JAPAN MUST HAVE forgotten bitter lessons from its defeat in World War II, for it is pursuing the policy of replaying its criminal history of aggression. The policy is now extending under the sea. Last year marked the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat, but the country passed a national security law on the basis of a new "Japan-US defense cooperation guidelines." This means a legal guarantee for possible establishment of a war constitution which would in turn legalize its right of belligerency and its right to participate in a war and carry its aggression and war policy into practice. When the law was passed the government was showered with protests and denunciations at home. And the mass media around the world warned that if Japan chose the road to revival of militarism overwhelmed with an anachronistic ambition of reinvasion, it would end up in dire punishment. Instead of pondering over it, the Japanese government is pursuing joint development of a submarine with Australia as part of its plan to realize its ambition to become the "leader of Asia."

Since the beginning of the current century Japan has openly violated the "three principles of arms export" by conducting joint technological development of the missile defense system with the US. Earlier Japan had pretended to be a "pacifist nation" by making a propaganda of the three principles of banning the export of arms manufactured or developed at home and relevant technology. Behind the curtain of the principles it has done whatever it wanted. And last year Japan re-

placed the nominal "three principles of arms export" by the "three principles of transfer of military hardware" that allow joint development of arms with other nations and their export abroad. By so doing it removed a great obstacle on the road to military power. After all the principle of ban has shifted to the one of possibility.

Now that it is legally allowed to export whole sets of arms instead of their parts, it is clear what Japan is heading for. Japan's militarist forces have come into the open. They are giving spurs to building of a military power seeking reinvasion underhand. An extension of the policy is the move for joint submarine development with Australia. The final purpose of Japan is to realize its ambition of reinvasion of the Asian continent by accomplishing modernization and overseas deployment of arms in the name of joint development of military equipment.

Military hardware and their parts developed by Japanese munitions monopolies are widely used in the sky, on the land and in the sea. Only the undersea realm remains out of Japan's touch. When the insular nation gets control of it, what would become of Japan? The defense budget earmarked by the government for the fiscal year 2016 is quite aggressive. With the budget of ¥5 054.2 billion (US\$42 billion), 1.5% higher than last year's, Japan is going to build up its armed forces for reinvasion.

A greater concern came when the Kyodo news agency reported that the increase in the defense budget is due to the enforcement of the new National Security Law

in March 2016. Since the law endorses exercise of the right to collective defense and expansion of scope of activity of the "Self-Defense Forces" and Japan is empowered to go to war unlike when it was allowed to defend itself alone, it is necessary to raise the defense budget—this is the country's claim. As it is the second biggest military power after the US, it has now become the most dangerous in Asia. The peace and security of Asia are being greatly jeopardized by Japan and the situation is turning more volatile.

According to analysts, when Australia eventually comes into the joint submarine development, the triangular military alliance of the US, Japan and Australia would be further strengthened in Asia. Japan has already been engaged in sealing the bond with the US and Australia for a long time while taking all kinds of joint military drills with them on the ground, in the sea and air. Evidently this bond is keeping the regional situation precarious as it is aimed at provoking a war against peace and security.

Japan is bound to admit its dirty history of invasion and plunder and make serious reflection and reparations for it. It is more than 70 years since its defeat in the war, but its plan to become a military power and plunge into reinvasion is getting ever more aggressive. Japan is strongly advised to remember that its repetition of criminal invasion with its bitter lessons rejected will only lead it into a bottomless pit of destruction. It had better refrain from rash acts.

Choe Kwang Guk

Pobun Temple

THE POBUN TEMPLE IS a Buddhist establishment in Ryongbong-ri, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. Situated in Mt. Ryongak—the name of which originated from the peculiar shape of the summit looking like a “dragon” just about to fly up into the sky—the building went up in the time of Koguryo (277 B.C.–A.D. 668). Later, it was rebuilt during the time of Feudal Joson Dynasty (1392–1910). According to a local epitaph, the temple was built during the Koguryo dynasty. Against the precipitous cliffy backdrop it stands divided in five houses of

the Main Hall, the Rahan House, the Sansin House, the Chilsong House and a Buddhist nunnery. The complex is situated appropriately to suit the terrain. The Main Hall stands on an embankment: the front is 10.27 m wide and the side is 6.2 m long. Inside, it has a board-floored room and a floor-heated room.

The temple belongs to valuable national cultural heritage conveying Korean people’s talent.

Mt. Ryongak is called “Mt. Kumgang in Pyongyang” as it has a skyscraping peak of a fantastic shape, a thickly wooded forest with many kinds of flowers, and

golden foliage in autumn. The natural attraction has been developed into a great public resort. Many people come to look round the Pobun Temple day after day, which was restored to its original state.

A sightseeing path is well laid to the peak of Mt. Ryongak and many facilities are set up for the people to spend an enjoyable time.

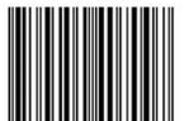
One of the features of the scenic spot is the Mangyongdae Children’s Camp at the foot of the mountain.

Kim Tae Song





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