



KOREA TODAY

1
Juche 102
(2013)

Artificial Earth Satellite
Kwangmyongsong 3-2
Successfully Launched



Ushering in the Heyday of National Prosperity

THE WEATHER IN KOREA IN DECEMBER last year was unusually frightful. It snowed as heavily as it had ever been, and cold wind blew, bringing a severe cold.

Just in such a condition our Kwangmyongsong 3-2 soared into outer space successfully on the 12th. They say the launching of an artificial earth satellite is usually quite susceptible to influences of the weather. Our satellite was launched in winter of all seasons, and that in the period of time when the weather was changing minute after minute. How high our nation's science and technology has developed!

What is spectacular is the fact that the first artificial earth satellite of ten odd years ago and the recent one that was launched in mid-winter last December were both manufactured without any outside assistance or help, and that they were developed by talented scientists who were all taught by

our socialist education system. The fact convincingly tells us that the spring of final victory is just around the corner.

How ever ferocious winter may be, it cannot check the advent of spring. I am convinced that since our country has now entered the stage of building a thriving socialist nation on the strength of science and technology it will meet a great heyday of prosperity in the near future.



Kang Myong Ok, general manageress of Pyongyang Department Store No. 1

We Have a Bright Future

IT WAS OUR GREAT LEADER KIM JONG IL'S ideal and desire to make our people live as well as anyone else in the world. Seeing in the year of 2012 in bitter tears at the loss of the great leader, we were determined to glorify the year as a year of proud

victory, a year when an era of prosperity would be unfolding, true to the instructions of the great leader, and we brought about a revolutionary upsurge in all sectors of the national



economy all the year round.

The successful launch of an application satellite, as the great leader had instructed in his lifetime, at a time when the whole country was full of yearning and reverence for him, was attributable to the guidance of our supreme leader Kim Jong Un, and it means greater significance to our people. The fact that the satellite made with our own efforts and technology was successfully launched is encouraging us to push ahead with the building of a thriving nation faster and more vigorously. Full of confidence and optimism, our people have turned out with one and the same purpose in the forward march of this year for the final victory. The future of our country is bright as we are building a thriving nation under the guidance of our national leader Kim Jong Un who regards it as his mission to implement the great leader's instructions.

Kim Hong Sik, workteam leader of the Pyongyang Rayon Yarn Mill

The Dogs Bark, But the Caravan Passes on

IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR OUR COUNTRY successfully launched Kwangmyongsong 3-2 into orbit, giving great joy and courage to our people who were about to greet the New Year. But, I was told, some forces hostile to our country are finding fault

with the launching of the application satellite done in accordance with a plan for space development.

They would find fault with our country whenever it launched satellites. It is something prejudiced and unreasonable.



Many other countries in the world now launch satellites for peaceful purposes, and space exploration is the trend of the times. In keeping with the situation our country launched Kwangmyongsong 3-2 in order to explore outer space, the common treasure of mankind. It is our people's determination to develop space and use it to develop the country and improve living standards, and our country has the ability to do so. The recent successful launch of the application satellite proves the level of our country's scientific and technological development. Satellite launching is a matter related to our people's independent right nobody could violate, and it is an undeniable fact that our country is a satellite state. The dogs bark, but the caravan passes on.

Kim Kyong Su, general manager of Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex

Great Victory of Independent Nation

LAST YEAR THE KOREAN PEOPLE WAGED a strenuous struggle to build a powerful and prosperous socialist country under the wise guidance of their leader Kim Jong Un. A stunning event was that on December 12 Korean scientists and technicians launched exactly into orbit Kwangmyongsong 3-2 by delivery rocket *Unha 3*. The successful project brought an ecstasy of joy and pleasure to all the Korean people, and the world's progressive people gave them heartfelt congratulations. On December 13 Russian newspaper *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* reported "The Juche idea has reached outer space." With the recent success the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has attained not only the position of a nation that is capable of manufacturing and launching artificial earth satellites but also that of a nation that is possessed of such a satellite. This can be referred to as a great victory of the Korean people who chose and have invariably followed the road of independence.

Spirit of independence, precious heritage

In the early 1930s the founder of socialist Korea Kim Il Sung, while hewing out the path of Korean revolution, formed the Juche idea that maintains a profound principle of rejecting flunkeyism and dogmatism and attaining whatever one wants to by self-confidence and by one's own effort. The idea was a victorious banner of the Korean people in their successful struggle to achieve national liberation, and a powerful weapon in making chronicles of victory throughout the period of revolution and construction.

When the Korean people set about rehabilitation and construction in the spirit in which they had won the Fatherland Liberation War (1950–1953) against the US imperialists' armed invasion, Kim Il Sung put forward the basic line of economic construction on giving priority to the development of heavy industry and simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture in order to build an independent national economy as soon as possible. At the time great-power chauvinists tried to force the country to join the Warsaw Pact and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Kim Il Sung, however, gave thought to the future of the country and nation first and made sure that the foundation for the machine-building industry was laid though he knew better than anybody else about the people's life which had deteriorated during the war. This is how the country laid the solid foundation of an independent national economy which now enables it to make anything it decides to.

Artificial earth satellites, fruit of self-reliance

In 1957 artificial earth satellite Sputnik 1, the first of its kind in the world, was launched into orbit. At the time the DPRK was not in a situation to think of harnessing outer space as it had just managed to

take the first step towards its industrialization.

Yet Kim Jong Il did not think it impossible for the country, or anything of a distant future. A few years later a research group was formed whose mission was to develop space. The leader then made sure that the state provided necessary funds and equipment for the research and led the researchers to rely on the nation's own resources and efforts in designing, manufacturing and launching a satellite. The guarantee was the firmly laid foundation of the independent national economy and the native technical talent the country had managed to train.

A veteran scientist, who took part in the manufacture and launch of an artificial earth satellite in the country over ten years ago, said, "Many of our staff are young—in their twenties or thirties—and very promising. None of them, however, studied abroad. They have all developed into scientists or technicians while studying under the education system of our country. The satellite is 100 percent Korean make."

The satellite is going round in its orbit

Space development in the DPRK has never been in a peaceful atmosphere. Whenever the country launched a satellite the US and other imperialists made a great fuss about it, arguing absurdly that it was "launch of a ballistic missile" and "menace" and "provocation" against somebody. This time they also tried to label the launch of Kwangmyongsong 3-2 as "violation of a resolution" of the UN Security Council and as a factor in rendering the situation strained.

Despite all denunciations, Kwangmyongsong 3-2 is flying in its course as an earth observation satellite. The vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Iranian armed forces said that history shows that when independent countries make strenuous efforts refusing to be affected by others they will be able to rapidly advance with confidence along the road of progress and self-sustenance in the fields of science and technology.

Jo Il Min, representative of the Pyongyang-based branch of the Anti-Imperialist National Democratic Front, said in an interview with a reporter of the Korean Central News Agency, "Satellite launch is a legitimate, independent right of the DPRK, and the exercise of its sovereignty that accords with the Outer Space Treaty which specifies peaceful use of outer space as a right of all countries. The continuous rising of DPRK satellites will show the world how the righteous struggle to defend sovereignty will emerge victorious."

Scientists and technicians of the DPRK will continue with scientific research projects to develop and make use of application satellites indispensable to the development of its science and technology and economy.

An Song Duk

KOREA TODAY

Monthly Journal (679)

Printed in English, Russian
and Chinese



A Happy New Year!

DEAR READERS, the *Korea Today* editorial staff wish you a Happy New Year greeting in 2013.

In retrospect, 2012 was a year recorded as the one of victory and glory for the Korean people in their history. The Korean people had the honour to acclaim Kim Jong Un, another great man just identical to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in ideology, virtues and personality, as the supreme leader of the Party, the state and the army.

With a firm determination to successfully carry on the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered and led by his predecessors, Kim Jong Un made sure that Chairman Kim Jong Il was held in high esteem as the eternal general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and that the anniversaries of

Kim Il Sung's 100th birthday and Kim Jong Il's 70th birthday were celebrated as most auspicious events in the national history.

The functions to celebrate the 66th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union held at the proposal of Kim Jong Un who has a noble outlook on posterity and other political functions demonstrated the might of the single-hearted unity whereby the Korean people are firmly rallied round the Party and the leader.

Kim Jong Un continued his journey of on-site guidance all the year round for the purpose of materializing the instructions of Kim Jong Il who devoted all his life to the building of a prosperous socialist country whose national power is enormous and where everything thrives and the people live as happily as anyone else in the world. Thanks

to Kim Jong Un's politics of love for the people there were built Changjon Street, the Rungna People's Pleasure Ground, the Mansugyo Meat and Fish Shop and the like to meet the requirement of the new century, helping improve the people's living standards.

Meanwhile, the country further improved the relations of friendship and cooperation with the world's progressive peoples, who are aspiring for justice and progress, under the ideal of independence, peace and friendship.

The Korean people are now determined to push ahead with the building of a prosperous socialist country under the guidance of Kim Jong Un this year, too. And they will continue to keep step with the world's progressive peoples in the endeavour to build a free and peaceful new world. □



Front Cover: The Kwangmyongsong 3-2 development team is enraptured



Back Cover: Moran Hill in winter

Photo by Kim Jin

13502 7-282264

CONTENTS

The People's Happiness	5
More and Better Socks for the People	8
The Supreme Leader's First Concerns	9
Kim Jong Il's Patriotism Is a Powerful Motive Force in Building a Thriving Nation	10
Forward Towards Final Victory!	12
Inheriting the Tradition of Upsurge	14
Promising Taedonggang Tile Factory	16
<i>The Devoted Life of the Peerless Patriot</i>	
If It Is the Wish of the People, I Should Grow Flowers Even on a Rock	18
Ever-victorious Banner	21
Pioneers	23
Pyongyang Floriculture Institute	24
A Visit to University of Fine Arts	26
Teachers Behind Talent	28
Koryo Medicine Marches Across the World	29
Old Doctor of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital	31
Weightlifting Aces Grow up	32
Rungna Dolphinarium	33
Bear Breeder's Joy	35
Devoted Teacher	36
The Banner of National Reunification	37
The Life and Soul of a Nation	38
The Urgent Demand of Our Times	40
Evasive Japan	41
Woljong Temple	43
Pyongyang Folk Park (1)	44
Armoured Cavalry of Koguryo	46
<i>Short Novel</i>	
Ambition	47

The People's Happiness



DPRK supreme leader Kim Jong Un visits a family in its new home in Changjon Street in September 2012.

THE YEAR OF 2012 WAS THE ONE THAT marked the 100th birthday of President Kim Il Sung, father of socialist Korea, and the 70th birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il. Over the previous years the Korean people had endeavoured to bring about a new revolutionary upsurge for the purpose of making the significant year a decisive year in the building of a powerful socialist nation. It was all the Korean people's aspiration and goal to celebrate 2012 as the most auspicious year in the history of their country by effecting a turning point in the building of a prosperous nation that Kim Il Sung had desired and Kim Jong Il energetically led.

But in December 2011 when a radical phase was about to be created in the building of a thriving nation the Korean people unexpectedly suffered the greatest loss of the nation: Chairman Kim Jong Il passed away on a train on his way of field guidance. It was like a bolt from the blue, and the people writhed in despair as if the sky had caved in at the loss of the father of the nation. It was the greatest loss of the Korean people. He was a brilliant, iron-willed commander who firmly defended the socialist country, a great leader who led the building of a prosperous nation along the road of victory and a benevolent father who took warm care of the people.

The Korean people, however, met the year of 2012 ►



Newly built and renovated people's pleasure grounds.

▶ not only in bitter tears. They rang in the year with a determination to surely materialize the President and the ▶



► Chairman's ideal and desire, and wrought miracles and made innovations in succession all the year round. It was Kim Jong Un, supreme leader of the Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK and the Korean People's Army, who inspired the Korean people with strength, courage and hope. He implanted in the minds of the people who were in agonies at the greatest loss the feeling that the President and the Chairman will always be with them, and provided ideological and theoretical guidelines for promoting the building of a prosperous nation as intended by the leaders.

Understanding the people's yearning for Kim Jong Il, Kim Jong Un saw to it that statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il were erected on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and many other places of the country, that the Kumsusan Memorial Palace in which the late leaders lie in state was renamed Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, and that Kim Jong Il was held in high esteem as the eternal general secretary of the WPK. He made public his classic works such as *The Great Kim Il Sung Is the Eternal Leader of Our Party and Our People* and *Let Us Brilliantly Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Juche, Holding the Great Comrade Kim Jong Il in High Esteem as the Eternal General Secretary of Our Party* so as to clarify the ways and means to revere the leaders forever and advance straight along the road of independence, Songun and socialism. This led to the splendid materialization of the Korean people's desire for the immortality of the Chairman and enabled the people to vigorously push ahead with the building of a thriving nation as desired by the leaders.

The days after the demise of the Chairman were those in which the Korean people experienced Kim Jong Un's noble world of love for the people.

During the national mourning he took measures to serve on a preferential and absolute basis the convenience of the people who visited the mourning places lest they should be cold in the winter days. On the occasion of the lunar New Year's Day of 2012 he visited the Mangyongdae Revolutionary School to get acquainted with the details of the schoolchildren's life and have a photo taken with them.

During the construction of Changjon Street he meticulously made sure that the apartment houses to be built on the street were designed in such a way

as to fully serve the convenience of their future users in their life. One September day last year he visited three families who had moved into new flats of an apartment house on the street to congratulate them on their move and have a talk with them over their family affairs. One of the families is that of teachers, another of workers, and the last of a newly married couple—the wife is a Labour Hero as a weaver.

The people, who had the honour of being visited by the national leader at their flats, say: "Both of us are math teachers who deal only with numbers and formulae, so we cannot know how to express such dream-like emotions as this. He was so humble, kind-hearted and tender that his image still rises often in our minds, moving us to tears."

"He was very fond of children. Warmly holding our son Hun on his lap, he patted the mischievous child on the cheeks, listened to his reading of the mother tongue and taught him how to draw pictures on his drawing pad. I was tearful with gratitude for his affection for my son. He looked after my son far better than me, his mother."

"I grew up always missing my mother. Our respected leader Kim Jong Un visited our flat, congratulated us for our new home and kindly promised us that he would drop in at our home when we have our baby. That night I was choked with tears for his motherly care, and I kept calling mother."

Similar anecdotes can be heard at all the places Kim Jong Un visited, and they are spreading like legends by the people he met.

Last year the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets resorted to war manoeuvres more frantically to stifle socialist Korea, causing a state of acute inter-Korean confrontation, and the Korean peninsula was in a hair-trigger situation.

On the first day of last year Kim Jong Un inspected the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division and has since continued the journey of Songun revolutionary leadership without letup. Sometimes aboard a wooden ship of 27 HP and sometimes in a pouring rain he visited front-line posts and army units to inspire the soldiers with the resolute spirit of defending the country by dint of his outstanding military stratagem and iron will, thus preparing the People's Army into the one equipped with Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il's strategy and tactics, bold modes of attack and perfect fighting capacity. It is his opinion that peace is precious but ►

More and Better Socks for the People

ONE JULY DAY LAST year DPRK supreme leader Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory.

Picking up Socks

Making a round of the newly furnished men's socks workshop, Kim Jong Un stopped in front of a machine producing colourful children's socks. He picked up one of the socks piled up before the machine and carefully examined it, extending the part from toe to ankle and surveying whether the rubber hem would not slip down. Coming to a machine producing men's summer socks, he asked again if measures were taken to prevent the part covering the calf from slipping down and expressed his satisfaction after acquainting him-

self with the quality. The attendants felt warm inside at his deep care for the people's convenience even in wearing socks.

Consideration for Trademarks

Kim Jong Un entered the sample room where hundreds of kinds of hosiery produced at the factory were on display.

Fingering one by one the socks of excellent patterns for each season, the leader said with pleasure that the socks were all well made and would surely gratify the people. Then, moving to the display stand of children's socks, the leader told the attendants that the socks should have attractive pictorial trademarks to the liking of children. And he pointed out the need to design pretty trade-

marks suited to the developing trend of the times and the customers' tastes.

Earnest Instructions

Inspecting the factory, Kim Jong Un referred over and over again to the need of stepping up production on a normal basis. Running his eyes over the fine, pretty-patterned socks produced by modern machines with the latest techniques, he inquired about the supply of raw materials and earnestly asked the management staff and workers of the factory to steadily keep up enlarged reproduction and, bearing deep in mind the great leader Kim Jong Il's devotion to the people's living standards, increase production to supply the people with more and better socks. □

► the national dignity and sovereignty are more so, and it is his will to start an immediate deadly counterstroke if the enemy fires even a single shell into the sacred territory or territorial waters of the country and lead all the army to rise up as one to accomplish the great cause of national reunification.

In August last year, when the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets were frantically

conducting the large-scale Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercises to invade the DPRK, Kim Jong Un, in his speech delivered at the banquet held in celebration of August 25, the 52nd anniversary of Kim Jong Il's start of Songun revolutionary leadership, solemnly announced, "Counter provocations with an immediate counteroffensive, an aggressive war with a war of justice for the country's reunifica-

tion!—this is our principled stand and unshakeable will."

The Korean people have keenly realized that it is the greatest happiness that they have Kim Jong Un as the supreme leader of the Party, the state and the army. They are now determined to add to the happiness by winning the final victory without fail under the guidance of the national leader.

An Nam Hui

The Supreme Leader's First Concerns

The First Document

WHEN ALL THE KOREAN people were writhing in great sorrow at the bitter news of their national leader Kim Jong Il's unexpected demise on December 17, 2011, some officials received a document from Kim Jong Un, the new supreme leader of the DPRK. They were surprised to read the document. Its content was the same as that of a document they had received two days before. At 21:13, December 16, 2011 Chairman Kim Jong Il examined and ratified a document on supplying fish to the Pyongyang citizens on the occasion of the New Year's Day of 2012. It was the last document the Chairman ratified in his lifetime.

After all, it became the last document from Kim Jong Il and the first from Kim Jong Un. Though pressed with lots of things to do and lots of documents to examine in greater pain than anyone else at the demise of the Chairman, Kim Jong Un addressed the matter of fish supply to the people first. He was just identical to the Chairman who had regarded the idea of "The people are my God" as a motto of his life.

His First Inspection of the Military

After Kim Jong Un was appointed as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army on December 30, 2011, the whole world was attentively observing his official activities. In such an environment he inspected the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division of the KPA on the

first day of 2012. While looking round the division, he assessed the temperature in the barracks, examined the quality of seasonings in the mess hall and posed together with the soldiers there for a souvenir photo, standing arm in arm and shoulder to shoulder with them. This news created a great sensation around the world. The tank division is the one Kim Jong Il inspected announcing the beginning of his Songun revolutionary leadership. Kim Jong Un's inspection of the very division of all army units was the demonstration of his iron will to exactly continue with and lead to victory Songun politics administered by the Chairman. Later, while the US imperialists and their stooges were straining the situation of the Korean peninsula by staging a frantic nuclear war exercise, Kim Jong Un inspected in succession the KPA Strategic Rocket Command, Panmunjom, the Ryo Island defence unit, the Jangjae Islet defence unit and the Mu Islet defence unit—all front-line posts. The *Asia Times*, a newspaper based in Hong Kong, China, wrote in an article about Kim Jong Un's military inspection that supreme leader Kim Jong Un would be surely recorded in the 5 000-year-long history of Korea as one of the greatest national heroes and patriots and win fame as a peerless statesman and military master, and that he would achieve the reunification of Korea, the land of morning calm, by taming the US and firmly taking the initiative.

His First Public Address

On April 15, 2012, Kim Jong Un delivered his first

public address at the military parade held to celebrate the 100th birthday of President Kim Il Sung. Over 12 000 mass media of the world quickly reported the news as an important one, and hundreds of millions of people in the Five Continents saw the scene of his making a speech on TVs. The public opinion referred to his first public speech as the start of Kim Jong Un's era. CNN reported that his speech was of the same significance as the one Kim Il Sung had made on his triumphal return home. The Koreans and other peoples around the world were at once charmed by Kim Jong Un's speech in which in a resonant tone and with brisk gestures, he clarified the bright road ahead for the Korean people who stood at the watershed of history marking the start of a new century of the Juche era. He put it forward as the permanent strategy of the DPRK to go straight along the road of independence, the road of Songun, the road of socialism, under the banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, and stated the classical proposition that single-hearted unity and invincible military might plus the industrial revolution in the new century together make a thriving socialist country. And he expressed his firm determination to ensure that the people do not have to tighten their belts again but enjoy all the benefits of socialism.

All the aforesaid events enabled the Korean people to envision the bright future of their country, and the national leader's determination is now being translated into reality.

Jang So Jong

Kim Jong Il's Patriotism Is a Powerful Motive Force in Building a Thriving Nation

LAST YEAR KIM JONG UN, THE supreme leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people, published an immortal classic work, titled *Let Us Step up the Building of a Thriving Country by Applying Kim Jong Il's Patriotism*, which serves as an important guideline in building a thriving country and a textbook for the Korean people to apply in their life and struggle while keeping it always in their heart.

Kim Jong Il's patriotism is the most fervent and the warmest love for his socialist country and nation and the most earnest and self-sacrificing devotion to the prosperity of the country and the well-being of the people.

In his work, Kim Jong Un noted that Chairman Kim Jong Il, a peerless patriot, loved his country and fellow people more ardently than anybody else and devoted his whole life to achieving the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people, thus performing imperishable exploits that are etched in the history of the country.

Always cherished in the depth of his heart were his dear country and people. When he saw a forest thickly wooded or a vast field realigned in a sweeping manner, he would say to himself, "Green mountain" and "Green field," picturing in his mind the future of a thriving country and the happiness the people would enjoy down through generations. When he was on visits to foreign countries, he would say with deep emotion, "My country, my nation," missing his country and people back in his country.

When he saw a poorly-wooded mountain on his field guidance trip, he would feel painful and say that the country had been called a three-thousand-*ri* land of golden tapestry from time immemorial, adding that they should turn it into a land of golden tapestry of the era of the Workers' Party and hand it down to the coming generations.

When he saw that service personnel of the People's Army had planted many trees on the moun-

tains around their barracks and tended them well, he would speak highly of their patriotism and call theirs units of patriots. And when he saw a village and the barracks of an army unit which were well laid out and covered with apricot and persimmon trees, he called them an apricot-tree village and a persimmon-tree company respectively, adding national fragrance to their names. He cherished the noble sense of duty and mission that he was responsible for the destiny of the country and people President Kim Il Sung had entrusted to him. Out of this sense he set out on the long march of Songun-based leadership.

As there was a Songun road of his patriotic devotion to the country and people—he worked burning his heart with ardent love and affection for them all his life—the country is now prestigious as a country with great army-people unity, a world-class military power and a nuclear nation. Keeping the sense of his mission of defending the country in his mind, Kim Jong Il visited military units on the front line with a strong will and superhuman energy and trained soldiers into a-match-for-a-hundred combatants while looking after them with all care. Chol Pass and Mt. Osong he climbed braving howling snowstorms, Cho Islet he visited across a rough sea, and other frontline posts will remain witnesses to the patriotic devotion he displayed on the road of Songun-based leadership to defend the country.

Under his energetic leadership the land all over the country was realigned as befits a socialist country, gravitational waterways built in many regions and rural villages turned into socialist ideal land to live in. Fruit farms appeared in all parts of the country and fish farms became prosperous whose ponds are filled with half water and half fish. What is more, modern heavy- and light-industry factories were built in large numbers, existing factories renovated to meet the demands of the new century and monumental structures built in an excellent way in ►

► various parts of the country. The introduction of CNC technology that effected an industrial revolution of the Korean style in the new century shows the high level of his patriotism. During the period when the country was undergoing difficulties he had precious funds—it must have been what little reserve left in the nation's safe—allocated for the introduction of CNC technology for the prosperous future of the country although he was haunted by the thoughts of the people who were suffering from food shortage. That was a courageous decision and the best choice born of his patriotic will to raise the international profile of his country, his motherland, by fostering its might, not by importing others' showy machines.

The epochal changes effected in the country and the proud realities unfolded in the prospering Songun Korea are all valuable fruits born of his lofty patriotism.

Clearly illuminating in his work that Kim Jong Il's patriotic devotion originated from the love for his socialist country and people, the absolute trust in his people and the unbreakable confidence in the justness of the socialist system and the victory of the socialist cause, Kim Jong Un concluded that in the light of its essential content and great vitality, the patriotism he cherished and applied in his practical activities is the most ennobling patriotism which can be associated only with his name.

He continued that Kim Jong Il's patriotism is based on the laudable view of the motherland. Kim Jong Il wrote in *The Embrace of My Motherland*, a classic song he created in his early years, that the embrace of the country whose land glows under the radiant sun is the embrace of Kim Il Sung, thus presenting a profound idea that to the Korean people the motherland is immediately their leader and that the embrace of their motherland is his embrace. One's motherland is not simply a place where one was born and grew up; it must be a place which guarantees genuine life for the people and eternal happiness for posterity, which in turn is assured by the leader. Hence, devotion to the country is precisely faithfulness to the leader, and faithfulness to the leader is a display of patriotism, the highest expression of patriotism.

Kim Jong Un also noted in his work that Kim Jong Il's patriotism is based on the noble outlook on the people by which to believe in them as in heaven. "The people are my God" was Kim Jong Il's motto throughout his life. He said that if there is an omnipotent entity in this world, it is the masses, not the God; it was his creed of patriotism that the country exists as there exist the people. His patriotic mind was always filled with the word *people*. *If it is the wish of the people, I should pluck a star out of the heavens or grow flowers even on a rock*—it was the noble meaning of his affection for people and his will. When he visited factories, he said that the products should be made to meet demands and interests of the people; when he went to shops, he first asked if the people liked the goods on sale. So, the people are singing that the sum of his lifelong exploits, as wide as the sea and as high as the sky, is that only for the people.

Kim Jong Un also mentioned in his work that for the Chairman's noble view of the younger generation Kim Jong Il's patriotism stokes the people's feelings further. The slogan "Let us live not merely for today but for tomorrow!" is the intensification of his view of the younger generation. *Whatever we do, we must do it most creditably and perfectly so that the coming generation can enjoy benefit from it even in the distant future although we may not enjoy it in our lifetime*—this was his lofty intention and an earnest request he always made.

Kim Jong Il's patriotism is, indeed, a precious spiritual legacy he left for the people and an example to follow in practice. It is a valuable ideological and spiritual sustenance indispensable to all who love their country and fellow people; it also provides those struggling for the sake of their country and fellow people with a powerful motive force that infuses into them courage and vigour.

Today, the Korean people, greatly motivated by Kim Jong Il's patriotism as spark, are working with all their patriotic enthusiasm to make a new turning point in building a prosperous socialist country under the leadership of Kim Jong Un.

Chae Mi Gyong

Forward Towards Final Victory!

IN APRIL LAST, Kim Jong Un, supreme leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people, delivered a speech at the military parade held in celebration of the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung. He said in his speech:

"The flags bearing the smiling images of President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il will flutter forever in the vanguard of our revolutionary ranks that achieve only victory and glory, always inspiring us to fresh victories.

"Forward towards final victory!"

His deep voice echoed in the wide square, and the place was swept with a great jubilation and joy, and the cheers raised by the people shook the whole country.

Forward towards final victory!—the words *final victory* mean the building of a great, prosperous and powerful socialist nation.

Kim Jong Il suggested the idea of the building of a prosperous and powerful socialist nation

whose national power is enormous and where everything thrives and the people live as happily as anybody else in the world. Under his Songun revolutionary leadership Korea has already taken the proud position of not only political and ideological but also military power, and now it is accelerating the building of a socialist economic power vigorously.

Kim Jong Un, who is carrying forward Kim Jong Il's cause and idea of building a prosperous socialist nation, put forward the proposition that single-hearted unity and invincible military might plus the industrial revolution in the new century together make a thriving socialist country while noting that it is a firm determination of the Workers' Party of Korea to ensure that the Korean people, who are the best in the world and who had remained faithful to the Party in the face of all manner of difficulties, do not have to tighten their belts again but enjoy all the benefits of socialism.

To carry out his determination, he visited the Rungna Peo-

ple's Pleasure Ground and Dolphinarium under construction in spite of the sizzling midsummer temperatures and the sandy and dusty wind over the riverside, the People's Theatre, the Ryugyong Health Complex and the People's Open-air Ice Rink, etc. several times, and gave instructions to build them as cultural and emotional education centres and recreation places that are embodied with principle of giving top-priority to the people and regarding them as absolute masters.

Encouraged by his superb leadership, the Korean people accelerated the building of a prosperous socialist nation vigorously last year keeping step with his rapid and strong tempo.

Scientists and technicians successfully launched another artificial earth satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 with their own efforts and technology. In cooperation with scientists and researchers of Kim Il Sung University, the managers, workers and technicians of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex developed a nozzle for continuous ingotting ▶

Heavy-duty rails are produced at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex.



► by using excellent fireproof materials, which is of critical importance in production of steel for heavy-duty rails. With the success a new vista was opened in production of high-quality alloys by the method of continuous ingotting.

The management, workers and technicians of the Munphyong Smeltery built a new production process capable of reusing leftovers from the production of nonferrous metals. With it, they are producing more nonferrous metals needed at several sectors of the national economy. The new process is also conducive to protecting the environment.

Having laid a material and technical foundation capable of producing varieties of large-sized high-quality building materials by domestic resources and techniques, the Taedonggang Tile Factory has nearly doubled production.

In addition, the Musan Mining Complex set up not only large-sized cone-shaped spaller No. 2 but also a new concentration process in Concentration Plant No. 2



The Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

by its own efforts and technology.

Moreover, new changes took place in the material and cultural conditions of life of the people. The modern Changjon Street was built in the centre of Pyongyang and hundreds of multi-storyed apartments for hundreds of households were built at the same time in the Tudan area, Rangnang District, Pyongyang, so that many people moved in.

Many buildings—the People’s Theatre, the Rungna People’s Pleasure Ground, the Ryugyong



Thongilgori Fitness Centre.

Health Complex and the People’s Open-air Ice Rink—were newly completed and the Haemaji Restaurant and other modern public catering establishments were also built in different places.

Further, the Pyongyang Folk Park which is not only an open-air history museum but also a cultural recreation area and a centre of patriotic education, and the Thongilgori Fitness Centre which contributes to improvement of the people’s health and their living standards, were also erected to a great wonder.

Many successes were achieved in the sports field. Sportspeople won four golds at the London Olympic Games last year. The world

mass media widely reported that the DPRK sportspeople were creating mythology in spite of the tenacious economic blockade of the Western bloc including the US. The ITAR TASS reported, “The main slogan of the DPRK participants in the London Olympic Games is ‘Forward towards final victory!’ as is the case with all other sportspersons in the country. The Korean contenders will continue to uphold the slogan to win victory.”

Forward towards final victory!—this is the slogan of life, optimism and destiny of the Korean people. Under the slogan they will change their land better and better with their serious efforts day by day.

Sim Hyon Jin



Inheriting the Tradition of Upsurge

THE CHOLLIMA STEEL Complex is one of the leading metallurgical bases in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il visited it dozens of times.

The mid-1950s was unforgettable days when the Korean people were working miracles and making innovations in socialist construction, thus creating the speed of Chollima. Although they won the Korean war (June 1950–July 1953) started by the US imperialists their economic situation was very difficult. There was not a single sound brick, everything was reduced to ashes and the people's living condition was unspeakably poor.

To heal the war wounds the Korean people turned out as one for postwar rehabilitation. But everything—equipment, materials, labour and funds, etc.—was in short supply everywhere. In particular, steel was the most critical demand.

To break through the difficult situation, Kim Il Sung convened a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in December 1956, and then, after the meeting, visited the then Kangson Steel Works.

Having understood the actual conditions while looking around the plant, the President sat together with the workers and explained to them in detail about the economic situation of the country. Saying that if they produced additional 10 000 tons of

structural steel it would tide the country over, he appealed to the workers to make a new leap in the steel production in the flames of Chollima upsurge. "I believe in you, you believe in me, and we'll get through this difficult situation," he declared emphatically.

His appeal encouraged the workers of the plant to brace themselves up to increase the steel production. Making collective innovations while smashing passivism, conservatism and mysticism about technique, they produced miraculous 120 000 tons of steel billets with a blooming mill whose nominal yearly capacity was no more than 60 000 tons. The miracle sparked the flame of Chollima Movement, which soon spread across the whole country. Later the Chollima Steel Complex was called the birthplace of Chollima by President Kim Il Sung, and has been glorifying its honour in the new century.

The complex is a modern steel producer which stands on a secure, independent footing and is equipped with up-to-date science and technology. Inheriting its tradition of 50-odd years ago, the workers recently successfully completed the electric furnace modernization project and thus encouraged the people who are hastening the building of an economic power.

Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the Chollima Steel Complex in December 2008. He expressed his satisfaction at the fact that they had built a UHP electric arc

furnace, which can be said to be the cream of the steel industry, with their own efforts and technology only in a few months, and highly appreciated their success. Saying that the flame of innovation kindled at the complex when a turning point was being made in the building of a prosperous nation, would be the seed of a new general advance exciting the whole country, he called upon them to kindle the torch of a new revolutionary upsurge.

Now the complex is vigorously accelerating the anthracite gasification project for introducing the high-temperature air combustion technique. If the project is completed, the complex will be able to not only increase the iron production by making use of coal as fuel Korea is rich in but also get a great economic benefit from it.

Based on their study of the global trend in the development of the high-temperature air combustion technique and the relevant data the workers and technicians of the complex completed in a short period the plan for building the anthracite gasification process to suit their actual circumstances and conditions, and accelerated the project vigorously.

At last, the huge project has been almost completed so that a reliable foundation for making the rolled steel production Juche-orientated and modern was laid in the steel production base which had already completed the method of making steel by means

► of Juche iron. The production capacity of the anthracite gasification process is very large. The gaseous fuel from the process is enough to be used in operating at full capacity the heating furnaces for the production of different sizes and qualities of rolled steel. In addition, the alternate supply of the fuel to the heating furnaces of the complex makes it possible to dispense with a large quantity of previously used imported fuel and to further increase the production of steel necessary for the economic construction and the people's life.



An innovation is brought about in steel production.

Inheriting the tradition of their predecessors who were the first to flame the torch of the great

Chollima advance in the postwar days, the workers of the complex are now bringing about a great increase in the production of steel.

*Article by Song Yong Sok
Photos by Ri Chung Ryol*



Promising Taedonggang Tile Factory



The central control room.



FOUR YEARS AGO A modernly-equipped tile factory was brought to completion on the Taedong riverside where marshy ground had been overgrown with reeds for a long period of time and went into operation on a solid foundation. Since then the Taedonggang Tile Factory put out millions of square metres of tiles every year, including outer wall tiles, inner wall tiles, floor tiles, marble tiles, decorative tiles, belt-shaped tiles, porcelain roof tiles, etc.

With the completion of the project for the expansion of the production capacity a building for the production of large-sized building materials sprang up anew. Consequently, the factory has been converted into a comprehensive building materials production base. The building for large building materials production is conveniently laid for work and rest by using space in a rational way. Accordingly, the general view of the building makes its beholder feel a sense of modernity and intimacy. The ceiling of the building is so made as to hold off pollution naturally, thus provid- ▶





The grinding process.

workers are all zealous in their work and their manner of work is enterprising and they themselves have done any work in a big way regarding science and technology as important.

They have exerted themselves to acquire high technology as quickly as possible. In the course of this they succeeded in solving more than 180 scientific and technological problems and hundreds of employees have been awarded the February 16 scientific and technological prize, the certificate of technical innovations and new concepts, patents and invention rights. Some became Labour Heroes. Leading officials of the factory are inventors, including the general manager and the chief engineer.

Taedonggang tiles have won international approvals of qual- ▶

▶ ing more cultural and much cleaner working environment. Centring on the control room processes of producing large-sized building materials of superior quality and comprehensive grinding processes are laid. The processes from the feeding of raw materials to the completion of products are all on a flow line and various facilities including the cutter of high-pressure articles are put on a perfectly secure CNC basis. Computers in the control room carry out automatic observations of, give protection to and take care of all-round information, such as the power condition of the factory, the total stock of raw materials, the process of production, the state of ordering and sale, etc.

The factory provided tiles to many construction and reconstruction projects such as Changjon and Mansudae streets flanked by high-rise blocks of flats, the Rungna Dolphinarium, the People's Theatre, the Mansugyo Meat and Fish Shop, the Taedonggang General Fruit Processing Factory, the Majon Hotel, the Okryu Restaurant, the electronic library and the swimming pool of Kim Il Sung University, the Folklore Street in the city of Sariwon, the State Theatre, the Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun Conservatory.

The factory was set up not long ago. However, it has made much progress so far. This is because its leading officials and

Various types of tiles produced at the factory.



If It Is the Wish of the People, I Should Grow Flowers Even on a Rock

CHAIRMAN KIM JONG IL'S revolutionary life was a great one of love consistent with his intention to grow flowers even on a rock if it was the wish of the people. A born servant of the people endowed with a warm heart for the people, he dedicated all his life to the effort to develop his country into a true land of the people and for the people.

In retrospect, he was born at the Paektusan Secret Camp amidst the gun reports of the anti-Japanese warfare for Korea's liberation. Possessed with the Mangyongdae family's tradition of living a humble and kind-hearted life generation after generation, he was naturally attached to the people.

In the mid-1990s when the country was making an Arduous March and a forced march Kim Jong Il made a march of the Songun-based revolutionary leadership in order to shatter the imperialists' policy against socialism and safeguard the socialist system centred on the popular masses.

His Songun-based revolutionary leadership was not simply aimed at the security of the nation. It was a march of his patriotic devotion to the cause of making the socialist country, the heritage of President Kim Il Sung, richer and stronger and helping the people live the richest life in the world. He made a famous proposition that revolution is aimed at bringing human love



Different goods are produced at the Samilpho Specialities Factory.

into full display and was faithful to the Workers' Party of Korea's supreme principle of activity—which is to improve the people's standard of living. Well aware of his mission that he was responsible for the people's destiny and living, he was always on the road of field guidance.

One July day in 2000, while on his way to the front in midsummer heat, he said that hard-porcelain vessels seldom break even if they fall on the ground, that it would be wonderful when the people had a set of such vessels on the table, and that he decided to build a hard porcelain plant for the sake of the people. He made a calculation of the total number of households in the country, the number of vessels to

be given to each family in a few years and that to each person in another several years. He looked just like a mother with many children who works heart and soul to provide all her children with good things. In August that year he stressed that they should make even a vessel immaculately and qualitatively for the people instead of simply chanting the slogan of "Serve the people!" On the last day of the same year and on the first morning of 2001 he gave a caring instruction that they should make over a dozen varieties of hard-porcelain vessels, not restricting the variety to one or two. Towards the end of 2004 when a glassware plant began trial production, he visited the plant and glowed at the sight ▶

▶ ity, for they are multifarious in size, shape, colour and design and are provided with waterproof and heat-resisting functions and for they are high in plane and right-angled permissible numerical value, contraction rate, inten-

sity and resistance to cold.

Raw materials of the Taedonggang tiles are extremely abundant stones and earth in Korea.

The factory is now in the bloom of youth. Blueprints for its future are being mapped out in

succession and they are being translated into reality one by one. The prospects of the factory are very splendid.

*Article by Rim Ok
Photos by Ri Song Ik*

▶ of hard-porcelain vessels that were turned out in a flow line.

Kim Jong Il's warm care for the people is also to be seen at the Samilpho Specialities Factory. Saying that they should make best-quality things with domestic materials to the liking of the Korean people, he studied a sample of the buckwheat noodle of the factory for himself when it was produced by a new method. When they produced scores of kinds of stuffs from wild vegetables, he examined each of them and taught how to correct demerits. He examined over 60 kinds of products from the factory on a dozen occasions a year, giving special guidance to the foodstuff makers. Hearing that the factory was producing as many as 350 kinds of specialities, he said happily that his happiness and pleasure lay in the people's happiness and pleasure and made arrangements for the factory's model to be followed across the country.

When he was inspecting a

mineral water plant and a fruit farm he personally tasted the water and fruits and told that the Korean people who are the best in the world should be provided with a happier life. And visiting the Pyongyang Vegetable Research Institute and the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute he gave an earnest instruction to offer the people fresh vegetables all the year round and fragrant flowers by setting flower stalls at many places in the city.

Once while going round a syringe factory, he said he would first have an injection with a syringe from the factory on a trial basis as the products were to be used by the people and tell them if it caused pain or not. He then took a syringe with him and used it actually and gave an advice to make better syringes so that the people

might have less pain.

When he was told that a factory had been built for the people and even a minor power plant had been erected which was badly needed for the life of the people he was more pleased than anybody else and went to see them putting aside all affairs he had to address. His devotion to the people's well-being is to be felt wherever you go in the country—at ubiquitous light industry factories like modern foodstuff plants, new service establishments, stockbreeding farms, a wading pool and a house of culture in a mountain county in the northern region.

As the people's happy life was ▶

Hana Music Information Centre, a comprehensive art information base.



► his single-minded pursuit, his daily routine was so tight that he had to have no more than a spell of sleep from work to relieve his fatigue and a small rice ball for a meal. He always wore a field outfit, had his hair cut in the field, rode a field van and had meals in the field, counting every minute and every second of his time.

His long forced march in the midsummer of 2008 is embossed in the people's memory. That summer was scorchingly hot and humid. Even in the shade sweat flowed down in stream and even the sea water was 28 degrees Celsius. Despite such a weather Kim Jong Il travelled more than 4 000 km for over 20 days, from the northernmost tip of the country to the west coast region, and then from the west coast region to the east coast region, giving on-the-spot guidance and encouraging the people to work more daringly for greater projects. Going round important enterprises that are part of the backbone of the national economy, he helped people spread their wing; on his way of field guidance he met people of all strata, from officials to a couple of demobbed soldiers, to nour-

ish great ambitions in them.

In June 2009 when a famous poetic phrase was born that "our satellites fly in the sky and our sturgeons go out to the sea," Kim Jong Il made a meaningful remark: "Now that we have reached the watershed in the effort to build a thriving country through innumerable difficulties, I feel quite proud looking back on the past years when we experienced ordeals and vicissitudes of all hues. I think this is just the pleasure in making a revolution. And I find myself renew my determination to do much more nice things for the benefit of the people. To do all I can for the sake of the people is the basic principle of my activities and the aim of my life."

Since he kept the people alone in his mind, he looked round the amusement ground of the Kaeson Youth Park on a cold Sunday in December 2011, the last month of his life, and days later went round the Hana Music Information Centre and the Kwangbok Area Supermarket despite his bad condition, giving important advices to improve the people's standard of living, and then took a special

measure to supply fishes to Pyongyang citizens.

He worked all his life just for the people's happy life. His devoted efforts laid a solid material and technical foundation for the building of a prosperous and powerful socialist country whose national power is enormous and where everything thrives and the people live as happily as anyone else in the world.

Last year the country's appearance improved considerably thanks to the patriotic enthusiasm of the Korean people who worked hard to implement Kim Jong Il's lifetime instructions. A lot of edifices like the People's Theatre and the Rungna People's Pleasure Ground appeared while a dynamic endeavour was going ahead to provide the people with better living conditions.

Today, seeing the great image of their eternal leader Kim Jong Il in Kim Jong Un, another father of theirs, the Korean people are working hard for the building of a prosperous and powerful socialist country, which was the lifelong desire of Kim Jong Il. □

Pyongyang Vegetable Research Institute combines the research and production of vegetables.



Ever-victorious Banner

JANUARY 29 THIS YEAR FALLS ON THE 10TH anniversary of the publication of Chairman Kim Jong Il's immortal classic work titled *The Songun-based Revolutionary Line Is a Great Revolutionary Line of Our Era and an Ever-victorious Banner of Our Revolution*. On the occasion a *Korea Today* reporter had an interview with Deputy President Jo Chol of Kim Il Sung University.

I would like to hear how Chairman Kim Jong Il led the revolutionary cause of Juche along the glorious road of victory by developing and enriching the Songun idea of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Our great leader Kim Jong Il developed President Kim Il Sung's idea of attaching importance to arms into the Songun revolutionary idea or the theory of Songun politics. Much earlier, he formulated the immortal Juche idea founded by Kim Il Sung into an integrated system of Juche thinking, Juche theory and Juche methodology by building on his genius intelligence, unusual quest and energetic ideo-theoretical activities. Now, by accomplishing the historic cause of formally systematizing the Songun idea, he provided a great guideline for the building of a great, prosperous and powerful socialist country. He established the Songun idea by consummating President Kim Il Sung's idea of attaching importance to arms, that is, the policy of giving importance to military affairs. He elucidated the philosophy of arms as the basis of the idea and the original principle of the Songun revolution that the army means the Party, State and people, and comprehensively delineated the principles of giving precedence to military affairs and the principle of giving priority to the army over the working class, the basic principle to be observed in pushing ahead with the revolution and construction. With the scientific establishment of the principles and guideline of the Songun revolution with the revolutionary armed forces at the core, a sure guarantee came into existence for the cause of carrying forward the ideo-theoretical achievements of President Kim Il Sung, who is the founder of the Songun idea, from generation to generation.

Considering new practical requirements of our revolution Kim Jong Il defined Songun politics as the basic socialist mode of politics, expounded the essence and position of Songun politics and the revolutionary character of Songun politics and gave scientific solutions to important theoretical and practical problems in administering Songun politics. Thus he made an all-round systematization of the theories on Songun politics of our Party. There had never been such expression as Songun or precedence to military affairs in preceding socialist doctrines.



Songun politics is a socialist mode of politics Chairman Kim Jong Il newly established by developing the idea of attaching importance to arms or military affairs that had been consistently maintained by President Kim Il Sung.

The whole historic course of our revolution that has advanced guided by the Songun-based idea founded by Kim Il Sung and developed by Kim Jong Il, stands a clear proof that the policy of Songun is the greatest idea that defends the destiny of the country and the nation and an immortal banner that illumines brightly the road of building a powerful socialist nation.

The history of revolutionary activities of Chairman Kim Jong Il is the one of his Songun-based revolutionary leadership, I should say.

Absolutely. The annals of Kim Jong Il's guidance of our country and revolution are brilliant years when a heroic epic was written about the Songun-based revolutionary leadership. Kim Jong Il inherited the gun from President Kim Il Sung as the baton of the revolution, when he made up his mind iron-firmly to use the gun to complete the Korean revolution that had been started with the gun. On August 25, 1960 he made the first step of his Songun-based revolutionary leadership with a historic personal inspection of the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division of the Korean People's Army. From the end of the 1960s he directed his main effort into administration of military affairs as well as affairs of the Workers' Party of Korea, and laid a strong foundation on which to develop the Party's Songun-based revolutionary leadership onto a new high stage. In the 1990s he, by dint of his insight and unusual political and military views, grasped the requirements of the situation and administered the Songun-based revolutionary leadership, or Songun politics, in an all-round way. This was a historic ►

► event that is of critical importance in the building up of the revolutionary armed forces and the carrying forward of the Songun revolutionary cause. Defying the biting cold and the swelteringly hot days, he went wherever there were soldiers—typically Mt. Osong, Mt. Taedok, Height 1211, Height 351, Cho Island, and Panmunjom—giving them matchless courage and wits and encouraging them to exalt their life with arms in hand. He acquainted himself with their political and ideological instruction and combat training, and their economic conditions and cultural recreation and entertainment. He took parental care of their living condition. Putting forward the People's Army as the main driving force of the revolution, he sparked the campaign of winning the title of O Jung Hup-led Seventh Regiment in the whole army so that all the officers and men were equipped with the spirit of defending the leadership of the revolution at the cost of their lives and acquired an invincible fighting capacity. As a result the army has grown as an ideologically and volitionally strong army and a powerful revolutionary army of Mt. Paektu equipped with self-defensive nuclear deterrent and modern offensive and defensive weapons.

Kim Jong Il made an unimaginably bold and daring decision and built up a self-supporting and sophisticated defence industry. He established the public habit of giving importance to military affairs and put the effort to arming the entire nation and turning the whole country into a fortress onto a higher level, thus converting the whole land into an impregnable fortress.

Our army and people have won victory after victory in the decades of political and military and diplomatic confrontations against the US-led imperialist allied forces, for example, in the *Pueblo* incident in the 1960s and the DPRK-US nuclear duel that began in the 1990s. Thus, we have wrought a miracle of history and defended our country and socialism in the rise-or-fall situation. This is surely a brilliant victory of the Songun-based revolutionary leadership or Songun-based politics administered by Kim Jong Il who concentrated his efforts on the strengthening of the People's Army regarding military affairs as the most important of national affairs invariably.

I think Kim Jong Il's Songun-based revolutionary leadership has brought about a new turning point in the cause of building a thriving socialist nation as well.

To make a great, prosperous and powerful nation of ours and place it in the most prominent position in the world—this was the lifelong mission of our leader Kim Jong Il. He drew a clear image of a rich and strong socialist country our nation is going to build, and successfully accelerated the effort to implement the scheme by means of Songun-based revolutionary leadership. Though he was more than busy inspecting military units, he continued his forced march of on-site guidance without any rest for the prosperity

of the country and the well-being of the people, fanning the flames of revolutionary upsurge in production and construction all across the country. He went to the construction site of the Huichon Power Station several times a year, initiated the soldier builders into creating another Chollima speed or the Huichon speed of Songun Korea; he visited factories and farms, teaching superior directions and ways for increased production. His guidance was the motive force in the endeavour for building a thriving nation. Under his indefatigable and energetic guidance our People's Army made breakthroughs in all the difficult and important sectors of the socialist construction through heroic struggles and all the people, learning from the revolutionary soldier spirit of the army, created the Kanggye spirit and made innovations in production following the Torch of Songgang, the Torch of Ranam and the Flames of Hamnam. The project of making the national economy Juche-oriented, modern and scientifically-based reached a higher level; strong bases were laid to produce iron, fibre and fertilizer with domestic materials; farmland was rezoned to standard sizes befitting a prosperous and powerful nation; a strong foundation was laid to make a radical improvement in the people's living condition with the appearance of modern farms for stockbreeding, fish farming and fruit growing, service establishments, and cultural recreation and entertainment centres. A new heyday was brought about in the development of socialist culture.

It is an epochal event made under the Songun-based revolutionary leadership of Kim Jong Il that the not so large country of ours defended socialism firmly and made leaps and bounds to be a strong nation with a knowledge-based economy of its own style while demonstrating its prestige and dignity as a political and military power, even in the difficult situation in which all imperialist and reactionary forces were intensifying their moves to stifle it as never before. As seen above, the successful Songun-based revolutionary leadership of Kim Jong Il is an eternal wealth of our revolution and a great driving force that propels Kim Il Sung's nation or Kim Jong Il's Korea to a bright future.

Now our revolution is under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, another illustrious commander of the Paektusan type, who, endowed with all qualities and personalities of a modern statesman and man of military arts on the highest possible level, used to lead our revolution together with our great leader Kim Jong Il along the road of Songun politics all the time.

Our soldiers and people are firmly determined to honour Kim Jong Il's annals of Songun revolution and achievements century after century by following the road of independence, Songun politics and socialism invariably under the guidance of our respected leader Kim Jong Un. □

Pioneers

THE TEXTILE RESEARCH Institute in Pyongyang has done lots of things to solve the problem of clothing for the people. Researchers of the institute went out to relevant production bases such as Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill and Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill to solve practical problems arising in production there and help them produce quality cloth. Recently, they have succeeded in increasing the operation rate of hydraulic looms so as to make it possible to produce more and better terylene rayon cloth. While carefully observing the looms in operation, they found out the way to avoid the interruption of their operation. And they confirmed the width of the reed of the loom and that of complete cloth so as to raise the actual cutting rate of cloth at clothing factories. As a result, the operation rate of the looms has increased remarkably, and the quality of the cloth from the looms has further

improved.

Meanwhile, they succeeded in the research project to produce rayon cloth of pleasing appearance by means of processed yarn and make the cloth glossy and soft to the touch.

They also succeeded in developing a functional fibre capable of controlling temperature.

Members of the dyeing research section are intensifying the research to process vinalon cloth well. Made from stone available in Korea, vinalon is the main component of Korean fibres. Vinalon cloth is characterized by good moisture absorption and air-permeability. When there was an auspicious event marking the resumption of vinalon production that had been interrupted for 16 years since the Arduous March and the forced march, the researchers concerned set about and completed a new research project, thus making it possible to produce blended vinalon fabric of good quality to meet the contem-

porary aesthetic taste.

They solved the problem of dyeing as well. They developed and introduced the method of high-temperature and high-pressure mercerization with vat dye, thereby making it possible to produce bright and endothermic cloth. Besides, they rationalized the control of heating valves of the dyeing machines to suit the valves' peculiarities so as to increase the productivity of the machines.

The quality cloths produced on the basis of the aforesaid research successes were supplied to the Korean people on the occasion of President Kim Il Sung's 100th birthday, and those who wear clothes made of the material are favourably commenting upon the cloth.

The institute is now engrossed in the research projects to produce medical textile—to be used in making artificial blood vessel, artificial sinews and pressure bandage—to meet the medical requirement.

O Man Chol, director of the institute, says, "Priority should be given to the development of the textile industry in developing light industry. Science and technology are the main determinant of success in the undertaking. With a high sense of our responsibility as pioneers in developing the textile industry of our country, we will more vigorously conduct scientific research activities."

Rim Ok



Pyongyang Floriculture Institute

THE PYONGYANG FLORICULTURE Institute is situated at the foot of the picturesque Mt. Taesong. Since its inauguration in July 2000, the institute has now developed into a flower research and production centre through several stages under the care of the state.

It consists mainly of a bioengineering laboratory and the relevant greenhouse, and a flower wholesale store and one hundred and scores of greenhouses and large areas of outdoor flower beds aimed at supplying flowers to the store. The bioengineering laboratory specializes in genetic modification and tissue culture of flowers. Its members develop and mass-produce flowers which are pleasant to the eye and resistant to dry weather and diseases, and preserve their progenitors. In the relevant greenhouse they acclimatize young flowers from the bioengineering laboratory and

crossbreed new species.

The flower wholesale store sells various kinds of flowers as desired by the buyers or sells them to flower shops across the city.

In the exhibition hall of the store there are on display not only domestic flowers such as perpetual chrysanthemum and perpetual balsam but also beautiful flowers from across the world

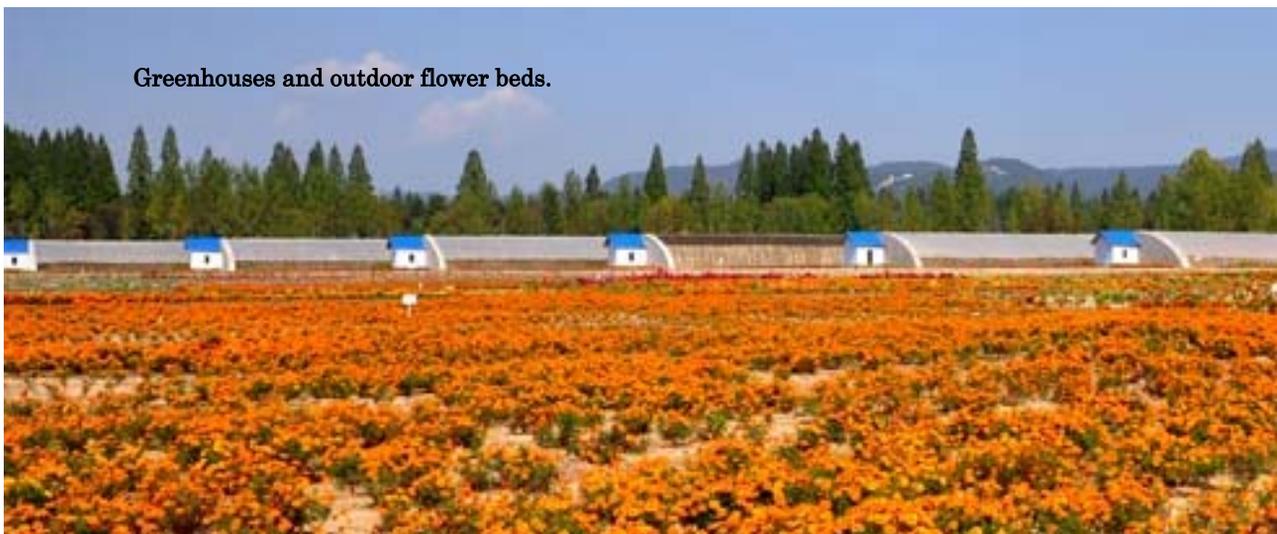
such as *Phalaenopsis aphrodite*, carnation, gerbera, calla and *Guzmania pluneria obtuse*.

According to Jang Pok Hwa, manageress of the store, the store was newly built in September last year, and even all the employees—who number over ten—of the store are not enough to sell flowers as desired by the buyers as the demand for flowers is

The flower exhibition hall.



Greenhouses and outdoor flower beds.



► increasing steadily. The store also makes bouquets and baskets of flowers on order. Meanwhile, it runs a sci-tech dissemination room where people can learn how to make flowers bloom more beautifully and how to solve the problems arising in cultivating them. In one hundred and tens of blocks of greenhouses arranged in rows around the store there are cultivated scores of kinds of flowers, which can be seen in the exhibition hall of the store.

Ryang Hak Sun, director of the institute, says, “The status of flowers in people’s life now keeps being improved. Provided with one hundred and tens of greenhouses, we researchers find our duty more important.”

Last year alone, the scientists of the institute gathered and studied flower gene resources of over 840 kinds of one hundred and scores of species and registered tens of new species including *manbokhwa* and new species of tulip and dahlia as national species. And they brought about good results in scientific study and introduction, including the



Bioengineers strive to develop flowers and preserve their progenitors.

supply of over one million flower pots of more than 20 species to nearly 20 sites such as the road in front of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, Changjon Street and the Pyongyang Folk Park.

But the researchers do not rest on their laurels because they constantly experience the daily improving aesthetic tastes of the people.

It happened when they were trying to breed cockscomb 4 last year. At the time all flowers planted in flower beds in streets and villages wilted in the severe drought. People strove to save the

flowers by watering them every morning and evening, but many of the flowers kept wilting, and the flower beds became unsightly. Still, people’s desire to turn their streets and villages into places bright with all sorts of flowers and live in more cultured circumstances deeply impressed the members of breeding section No. 2 of the institute. The researchers also realized that they could not be content with acclimatizing imported world-famous flowers. So they planned to use cockscomb planted much in flowerbeds across the world to develop a new species resistant to dry weather and long in bloom. It was not an easy job. After hundreds of breeding experiments, they succeeded in developing the species they desired.

Kong Yong Sim, chief of the section, says, “There are many principles of bioengineering to be observed in breeding a new species of flower. Yet there is only one principle we keep always: it is just our desire to make popular flowers bloom more beautifully for a longer time.”

Kim Un Jong



A Visit to University of Fine Arts

NOT LONG AGO I VISITED the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts for my first news coverage of this year.

Giving me a warm welcome, Kang Tae Su, a university official, conducted me to the hall of fine arts. He said that his university had taken an initial step as the Pyongyang Special School of Fine Arts with four faculties more than 60 years before and developed into a base for training artistic talent, provided with many departments and faculties. In the hall of fine arts thousands of works of art created by teachers and students of the university are preserved and hundreds of them are put on display. Out of them Korean painting *Grapes* (by Jo Won Nam), Korean painting *An Eagle* (by Ri Jong Sim), oil painting *Waves* (by Jong Ryong Su), and the like left a deep impression on me.

Unable to suppress an impulse to meet the painters of the aforesaid pictures, I went to the Korean painting department.

Teacher Jo Won Nam, the painter of the picture *Grapes*, was giving basic education on the art of painting to students in the room for the art of Korean painting. Under his guidance the students were exquisitely and vividly representing characteristic features of a Korean tiger with Ko-



They learn the ABC of painting.

rean-style strokes.

“Characteristic features peculiar to Korean pictures,” Jo explained, “are guaranteed by basic features of the art that is clear-cut, concise and delicate. Basic to this art is the principle of implication and concentration. This principle splendidly shows the artistic features of our nation’s pictures. That is why whenever we see a Korean painting we are given to speculation and get a neat, proper and elegant sense.” Lending my ears to his words, I felt again the national features incorporated in Korean pictures.

Dean Jong Chol of the Korean painting department told me

boastfully that lots of famous artists good at painting in Korean style had been produced in his department and that their pictures were widely known at home and abroad. Among those whose names he counted were many artists who had painted works that were registered as national treasures. They include Jong Yong Man who made the Korean picture *The Glow over Kangson*, Kim Song Min who made the Korean picture *Smelters of Bygone Days* and Kim Song Gun who made the Korean picture *Waves of Songgang*.

Jong Chol told me that they were trained by such teachers of dignity as Jong Chang Mo, Ri Ryul Son and Ri Chang who taught at the department first. At present the Korean painting department is staffed with a group of the youngest teachers in this university. They, I was told, were making enterprising and passionate efforts to constantly develop the multifarious techniques of Korean painting and make students well versed in these techniques. I could ascertain it through the fact that art objects created by teachers and students belonging to this department were highly praised at national art exhibitions and central art shows, to say nothing of the art and studies shows held at the university. ▶

They create works on the spot.



► Then I went over to the industrial design department. I knew the department was registering tremendous successes recently. Before anything else, teachers were raising their qualifications in the course of creating industrial designs. They were thinking deeply and practising unceasingly with a view to creating new designs needed for making convenient and serviceable goods and for making our living environment beautiful. They created lots of designs of signboards for Changjon Street, Rungna People's Pleasure Ground, Ryugyong Health Complex, clothes for keepers of the Rungna Dolphinarium, university uniforms, various kinds of marks, badges, trade marks, etc.

In particular, industrial design teacher Ri Un Hyang made unique designs many of which won first place at the national industrial design exhibition held in celebration of the centenary of the birth

combination of practical and aesthetic aspects.”

Dean of the department O Yong Nam told me that his department was putting a great deal of effort into developing the practical ability of the teachers and the students, adding that today when the building of a great, prosperous and powerful state is full steam ahead the industrial design is regarded as more important.

In this department there were many awardees of the October 8 Model Teacher title including Prof., Dr. and Merited Artist Ri Yu Mi and lots of efforts were going into education related to rough sketching and colouring in order to improve practical abilities of the students concerning the ABC of industrial art. Besides, attention was paid to enabling the students to consolidate the theoretical basis of the subject in their major study.

able to reflect the aesthetic feeling of the people and the requirement of our age.”

Chief Kim Hwi Ung of the scientific research section I met there told me that his section fixed the assignment for scientific research properly, drew up a plan for scientific research correctly and grasped and guided the carrying out of all assignments. At the same time his section, I was told, pushed ahead with the work of raising the qualifications of the teachers and researchers in contact with the instructional administrative section. In addition he told me that his section mapped out a long-term plan for the training of educational and scientific reserves and was put-

Teachers and students of the industrial design department are making new designs.



of President Kim Il Sung. She was a competent teacher who was held in affection by teachers and students, though only a year had passed since her graduation from the university.

When she met me, she said: “Industrial design discharges the mission of a scout party giving an impetus to the economic development of the country. Basic to the creation of designs is the organic

I dropped in at the electronic lecture hall as well. Seen there were students intent on conceiving a design based on the three and four dimensions by making use of computers. Student Kim Jong Nam said: “Before long I will graduate from the university. The realities demand men of ability possessed of a rich fantasy and practical ability. Now I study hard to become a creator who is

ting it into effect.

Then he added that this year, too, his section would compile the contents of the teaching programme in keeping with the trend in scientific and technological development and organize various kinds of training courses, scientific symposia, symposia for reading papers on scientific study, and meetings for public presentation of the information pertaining to the trend in scientific and technological development at the university and by each department, research institute, academic chair and research room.

Going round various places I was convinced that the university was giving education to the students on the basis of a novel methodology in conformity with our developing era.

Hoping that the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts would register greater successes in creation and educational work, I left the campus.

Rim Ok

Teachers Behind Talent

THERE ARE ALWAYS good teachers behind talent. Hong Chung Song won gold medals at two international mathematics Olympiads—in 2011 and 2012—and Choe Kwang, too, won a gold medal at the 2012 contest. They then said, “The gold medals we’ve won are for our teachers.” “Our teachers” they mentioned are Ham Yong Chol, Ri Kwang Il, Yom Ryong Gol and Han Yong Ran, teachers of Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1.

Unforgettable Teacher

There are many anecdotes about Ham Yong Chol, 36.

One of the anecdotes: One day Ham was told on the phone by his daughter’s kindergarten that he should bring her home because his wife would be late. Then he asked which kindergarten he should go to. This is neither because he was indifferent to his family life nor because he was too much attached to his job.

Ham spent his childhood in a coastal village of Sinpho. He had a head for mathematics. So his secondary school math teacher favoured him. The teacher had a son of Ham’s age. At an examination of the school to select pupils to be admitted into Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 Ham and the math teacher’s son’s marks reached the standard. The pupils to be picked, however, were limited in number. Then the math teacher recommended Ham, saying that the boy was superior to his son in IQ and mathematical creativity and that the country needed genuine talents. It was

only later that Ham came to know about the fact.

Ham says, “The image of the teacher that day still rises often in my mind. It seems to tell that the mainstay of the country is more important than the breadwinner of a family.”

A Forward Becomes a Back

Ri Kwang Il, 35, once a fellow student of Ham’s at the mathematics faculty of Kim Il Sung University, is brisk in speech and action. More like a sportsman than a teacher, Ri is said to have been unusually competitive in his university days. Actually he is fond of sports. He acts only as a forward in a football or basketball match. Perhaps this is why pupils of the school feel unusual affinities with him.

Unusually interested in the world of mathematics in his days

as a pupil of East Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1, he had a dream of becoming a famous mathematician.

But after graduation from university he became a teacher. So to speak, he became a back who supports a forward.

Asked if he was sorry for the fact, he said, “I did not only understand the profound principle of mathematics in my university days. You should be able to find your place as desired by the country that brought you up—this is what I say to the pupils who leave to take part in the international mathematics Olympiad, that is, you should become gold medal winners without fail.”

I Believe in My Pupils

Yom Ryong Gol, 41, is a man of few words, and a specialist in the elementary theory of numbers. The elementary theory of numbers requires pupils to solve prob- ▶

Yom Ryong Gol, Han Yong Ran, Ri Kwang Il and Ham Yong Chol
(from left), teachers of Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1



Koryo Medicine Marches Across the World

KOREA'S TRADITIONAL medicine, called Koryo medicine, has a long history. It was thousands of years ago that the medicine began to be employed in clinical practice. Acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping and finger-pressure therapy, in particular, now show daily increasing efficacy in enhancing the functions and immunity of all organs of the body, curing

various diseases and lengthening the life of people. The efficacy of Koryo medicine is creating a great sensation not only at home but also abroad.

In Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, is found the Academy of Koryo Medicine that is professionally engaged in studying and spreading Koryo medicine. Able physicians of the academy began to give Koryo

medical service in different countries beyond the bounds of their country in the 1990s.

The Korean Koryo Medicine Centre was inaugurated in Moscow in 1992. Every morning patients in wheelchairs or with a stick in hand waited in a row to see Professor Jo Pyong Su and other competent physicians of the centre. Most of the patients were those who had had no sign of

► lems in a singular way with limited knowledge and mathematical tools. Yom always tells his pupils to hold fast to the principle in study and life. What he wants the pupils to do is finding out a clever method of solving problems quickly through deep thought and with few words.

While guiding the pupils in solving problems, he does not add his explanation or notes. To hint at a link alone so as to develop a pupil's own creativity to the maximum so that the pupil could have confidence in his or her ability—this is the teacher's main emphasis in guiding the pupils in their study.

Yom says, "I believe in my pupils. I have no doubt that when they become confident that there are no problems they cannot solve with their brains they will surely win gold medals at the international mathematics Olympiad."

After graduating from the basics faculty (the faculty of applied mathematics at present) newly formed at Kim Chaek University of Technology, Yom

worked as an instructor of the mathematics circle at Changdok School. He says that the principle of education he grasped in practice has changed even his character.

Short Cut

Han Yong Ran is often seen carried away when solving mathematical problems in her spare time during her guidance to pupils in their study. Pupils ask her why she solves problems again and again. They wonder why the teacher, who they think knows everything in mathematics, keeps solving problems.

One day, when checking examination papers, Han discovered that one of the pupils solved a problem by means of a very simple and clever method. She then felt satisfied with the fast development of the pupils. At the same time she remembered a pupil saying he was sorry that he had failed to write the perfect solution to a problem within the limited time because of its long proce-

dures at a mathematics contest.

From then on the teacher devoted all her energies to defining the best method to shorten the procedures while grasping the essence of them. She spent several nights avidly reading foreign reference books, and frequently had a heated discussion with pupils while skipping her meals to lead them to develop a clever method of solving problems for themselves. In checking examination papers she gave half marks to those pupils whose solving procedures were complicated although their answers were correct.

Han's strenuous efforts led to the enhancement of the pupils' ability.

Hong Chung Song, one of the aforesaid gold medal winners, says, "It is an elementary formula that the best short cut from one point to another is a straight course. Han Yong Ran taught us the short cut for us to make rapid progress to reach the world-class level."

Chae Kwang Myong



Doctors of the Korean Koryo Medicine Centre are sincere in the treatment of patients.



► improvement in the previous treatment of their diseases or been diagnosed as having no hope of recovery. The Korean physicians began to treat the patients one by one by means of traditional Koryo treatments. They were very sincere and kind-hearted in treating the patients. At last their efforts began to bear fruit.

Their treatment covered different diseases such as nervous tic, deafness and dumbness, mental disorders, speech disorders, vertebral arachnitis, and hemiplegia caused by cerebral haemorrhage or cerebral thrombosis.

Amazing effect was brought about in the treatment of infantile cerebral paralysis, in particular. After getting the treatment, children, once unable to sit up, stand or recognize their parents, became able to sing and do counting. Hundreds of local children enjoyed such benefits from the treatments.

Children from other countries came to see the Korean physicians. Among them was a grandson of a former general secretary of the Communist Party of Colombia. The six-year-old was un-

able to walk even a few steps and speak properly and quite underdeveloped in intelligence. After getting six courses of the relevant treatment, the child recovered from the disease.

The boy's father said: "I travelled Brasilia, Mexico, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, London and all other parts of Western Europe visiting renowned hospitals and seeing famous professors and doctors in an effort to cure my son of his disease, but in vain. He has now become able to play about like other normal children after getting treatment here in the Moscow centre. He began to improve in speech during the second course of the treatment. He is now able to sing. Progress has been made in the development of his intelligence. He began to go to school this year. Korea in the East has saved our family and aroused a bright hope in my son and my family. The name of the country is inconceivable apart from the august names of President Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Kim Jong Il. I express my heartfelt gratitude to President Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Kim Jong Il for

their having sent a famous professor to Moscow so as to save my son."

Besides, scores of thousands of other patients recovered from their diseases after getting treatment at the centre. Among them were a man who had suffered from bronchitic asthma for 18 years, a woman who had been in agony because of her failure to have a child for six years since marriage, a woman who had suffered pains in the knees and then gonarthromeningitis and the chief of staff of the former Soviet armed forces who had failed to recover from his disease even after getting treatment at three military hospitals.

Professor Jo, who worked at the centre for a long time, says, "Of course, high expertise is important. But sincerity is no less important. We worked hard to make a contribution to the DPRK-Russia friendship by curing lots of patients of their diseases with sincerity."

Similar words can be heard in other countries including China, Poland, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru and Uzbekistan.

An Mu Gwang

Old Doctor of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital

CANDIDATE ACADEMICIAN, Dr. and Professor An Jong Hwa of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, 74, has worked for the development of obstetrics and gynaecology, first as a teacher at his alma mater for over 30 years and then as a therapist at the hospital. After graduating from Pyongyang Medical College in the early 1960s, he devoted his all to teaching students. While teaching at the college, he was promoted from a common teacher to department head, vice-dean, rector of the postgraduate school, and chief of the scientific research laboratory.

There was a reason why he stepped into medical science. Before national liberation (August 1945), when he was three years old, his father died of a disease, and he and his mother, a midwife, had picked up a scanty living. Now, in 1944, he lost even his mother due to an infectious disease. After liberation, the state sent him, an orphan, to primary and secondary schools in turn. He

thought of his parents who had died of diseases and made up his mind to become a doctor. So, he entered Pyongyang Medical College.

In return for the benevolence of the state that had given him free education, he devoted all his energies to teaching at the college after graduation. He gave over 14 000 lectures to train experts of obstetrics and gynaecology. Then, he was transferred to the post of vice-director of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital for technical affair, concurrently serving as a teacher of the Pyongyang Doctors' Refresher Training School. He worked with zeal at the new post, delivering lectures on obstetrics and gynaecology at the school and giving mobile lectures to doctors of every provincial maternity hospital and teachers of the obstetrics and gynaecology departments of local medical colleges for scores of times every year.

What grieved him most deeply as an obstetrician was the death

of women in labour from excessive bleeding before relevant measures were taken. He got down to the study of blood coagulation trouble to prevent excessive obstetrical bleeding. In case of coagulation inside blood vessels during delivery, excessive bleeding will surely occur, and then the blood will not clot. Even if clotted, it will melt and liquefy in a moment. It was then an urgent task in the obstetrical realm to prevent this fatal intravascular coagulation, and this required an early diagnosis of its syndrome to take correct measures to evade the catastrophic effect. So, he pursued the study of this hard problem for over 30 years and wrote six special books and over 50 study theses on the subject, laying the sci-tech basis for the prevention of excessive bleeding caused by intravascular blood coagulation. In addition, he wrote many textbooks on obstetrics and gynaecology and other subjects for medical students and tens of reference books such as the book *Blood Coagulation Trouble in Obstetrics and Clinical Demonstration*.

Deeply concerned about fostering able obstetricians and gynaecologists, he trained scores of his disciples into ones with academic degrees or titles including three Doctors of Medicine.

He has so far made public more than 130 articles and theses including *Prevention of Bleeding After Delivery Caused by Blood Coagulation Trouble* at national medical science forums or in publications, greatly conducting to the development of obstetrics and gynaecology.

Sim Hyon Jin

Candidate Academician, Dr. and Professor An Jong Hwa (second right).



Weightlifting Aces Grow up

RECENTLY A *KOREA Today* reporter talked to Kim Kwang Dok, secretary of the DPRK Weightlifting Association.

DPRK competitors snatched three gold medals in weightlifting events at the 30th Olympics in London. This is a great pleasure to the entire nation, I should say.

Sure. This is the first time our country produced several gold medalists at a time in the weightlifting events alone of the Olympic Games. The recent weightlifting contest was a large-scale game. It took place in two groups because there were more participants there than earlier contests. Om Yun Chol on our team, for example, was little known to the world of weightlifting. He contended in the 56kg category. Weightlifting experts thought that the winner in the category would be a Chinese who was a twice world champion in the group. When Om made a new Olympic record by lifting 168 kg in the jerk and a total of 293 kg in the event, the experts were greatly excited, praising it as a miracle and extolling our country's great development. Kim Un Guk's achievement was more surprising to the world of weightlifting. In the men's 62 kg division, he lifted 153 kg in the snatch and a total of 327 kg, thus making Olympic and world records. The American AP news agency highly appraised his achievement under the title of "DPRK stuns China in men's weightlifting; Kim Un Guk wins the second gold medal for his country in weightlifting." Other

mass media also featured the exciting news. The great admiration from weightlifting experts and enthusiasts came when Rim Jong Sim bagged a gold medal by a total of 261 kg in the women's 69 kg category. China's Xinhua news agency and other mass media of the world gave wide publicity to her win, saying that the DPRK had made a leap in weightlifting development and that our country brought a glory to the London Olympics.

The secret of their win must be a curiosity to the public.

I understand, for three of the four gold medals my country won at the Olympics came from the weightlifting events. The secret lies, in a nutshell, in that the state has paid much attention to the weightlifting development while a lot of efforts have been made for training reserves and improving their abilities. For the purpose of rearing reserve sports-persons, my country makes sure that sports schools are in operation in all provinces, cities, counties and districts while athletic clubs are run at primary and secondary schools. At the same time there is a well-regulated system at work to select young sports talent and give systematic instruction. Training conditions are also well laid. Reserve players are picked after scientific analysis of their physical constitutions on an yearly basis, and then are trained as future seeds by competent instructors. The achievements we gained in weightlifting at Olympics, world championships, Asian



Kim Kwang Dok, secretary of the DPRK Weightlifting Association.

championships and other international competitions are all thanks to the functional system. Kim Myong Nam, a twice world weightlifting champion, Pak Hyon Suk, our country's first woman to win at Olympics, and other weightlifting aces were all trained systematically at reserves training centres under the state concern.

As mass media reported worldwide, the successful performances of our players are the result of their faithful exertion to make a report of victory to their national leaders, their unremitting spirit, strenuous efforts and high skills. To make it simple, our achievements were born of our own principles and methods of competition. My association of weightlifting is going to continue a successful record by training marvellous aces in greater number using the reserve-rearing system effectively, and thus bring honour to our country. □

Rungna Dolphinarium

ON RUNGNA ISLET ON the Taedong River which flows across the centre of Pyongyang you can see a conspicuous building that appeared last year. Shaped like a large dolphin lying on the islet, it is the Rungna Dolphinarium belonging to the Rungna People's Pleasure Ground.

Not long ago we visited the place. Even at a distance we were deeply impressed by the formative influence of the building. At close range it was just similar to a dolphin.

In the ground floor hall our eyes were caught by a large-sized exhibition aquarium first. Varieties of fishes were playing about in the tank filled with 180 cubic metres of seawater.

Jong Ung, director of the dolphinarium who met us in front of the aquarium, said, "People burst into admiration, feeling as if they were in the sea the moment they stepped into the building. This, however, is only the entrance to the 'sea'."

All walls, floors and ceilings of the hall and the channels up to the first floor were designed in such a way as to remind the visitors of rippling waves so that they are under an illusion that



The ground floor hall of the dolphinarium.

there was a sea wind. Patterns of water drops decorating the ceilings and blue illumination growing stronger deep into the building make visitors pleasantly feel as if they went deeper and deeper into the sea.

The first floor has a wide exhibition hall and the entrance to a peculiar "coral-reef grotto." The exhibition hall was just like a sea, with stuffed specimens of leatherback turtle, loggerhead turtle, sea dog, sea calf, penguin standing against an iceberg, etc., on display in it.

In front of an electronic display giving information about dolphins and other marine ani-

mals, guide Kim Hyang Suk said, "There are four kinds of dolphins in the world, including a bottle-nosed dolphin and a speckled dolphin, that are capable of performing tricks. The dolphins in my dolphinarium are speckled ones. The visitors to the dolphinarium call them Pyongyang dolphins."

The guide then showed us into the coral-reef grotto that imitated an underwater cavern 150m deep in the sea. As a base for the spread of relevant scientific knowledge, the grotto has lifelike models of over 700 sea creatures such as a big octopus, a starfish, a pufferfish and varie-



Working people widen their knowledge of marine life at the sci-tech knowledge dissemination room.

► ties of coral reefs. Large LCD TV sets in the grotto showed in succession common knowledge about sea fishes, carrying away the beholders deep into the mysterious world of the sea.

Rim Un Ran, a worker from Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, who stood fixedly before one of the TVs, said, "I am reluctant to leave here because I feel as if I were a person in a myth while seeing what I would see on TV just here in the place like a cave deep in the sea."

Now we made for the auditorium. As we were passing by a dolphin-shaped direction sign, the director said, "The peculiar direction sign as well as all other details of the dolphinarium similar to the sea environment was designed as instructed by our

respected leader Kim Jong Un. He saw that the dolphinarium was designed in such a way as to give the people a vivid idea of the sea, and even took a step to solve the problem of feed for the dolphins so that their performance could give great delight to the people."

In the auditorium we felt as if we were standing just on the open beach. Blue waves of the scenery seemed to be ready to surge upon us, and the floor where the dolphin trainers were standing looked just like a sandy beach.

The audience was once carried away by the way dolphin trainer Ri Kyong A made dolphins move like she did while swimming in the water. Ri said, "People often ask me how I make

dolphins follow me well. What I've realized in my experience is that the more familiar I get with dolphins the better they come to follow me. Sometimes, I fancy they know how their pool came into being."

The dolphins performed well such tricks as shaking hands with people, turning a loop by the snout, dancing a revolving dance and moving backward. When they performed the trick of jumping and touching a ball hung from the ceiling, the audience burst into great admiration beside themselves with joy.

Leaving the dolphinarium, we still remembered a child saying in amazement, "Mum, we have a sea in Pyongyang."

*Article by Ri Kum Chol
Photos by Ra Phyong Ryol*





Bear Breeder's Joy

AT THE CENTRAL ZOO situated in Taesong District, Pyongyang, there are not a few keepers who have been dedicating all their lives to animal breeding. Among them is Myong Su Gil, 55, who has been taking care of bears for 30 consecutive years.

There is a certain reason why Su Gil has been a bear breeder. Having returned to his native town after serving in the army, he was fully determined to work hard at a socialist construction site, devoting his strength and energy entirely to the country as in those days when he had been standing at his post of national defence.

It happened one day when he visited the tiger house in the Central Zoo. Grown-ups and children were delighted at tigers that were proud of their dignified appearance. Looking at them, he thought, "The person who takes care of those dreadful wild tigers must perhaps be a man of Herculean strength."

But contrary to his expectation, the keeper of the tiger house was a woman. On top of that, he was told that she had spent more than ten years with tigers since she was a girl with bobbed hair having completed the secondary school course.

Promoted by curiosity inwardly, he asked that woman: "Tigers are the most ferocious of the ferocious beasts. Are you not afraid of them as a woman?"

Looking at spectators with a smile, she said: "At first I got a start whenever I heard roars of tigers. These animals I am taking care of are rare and precious ones from various countries the world over. They are gifts to President Kim Il Sung who is working

hard devotedly only for the sake of the people. At this thought I have come to have an uncommon sense of pride. In addition, lots of people are taking delight standing riveted in front of our fierce animal house. This makes us feel pride in our occupation."

When he got into bed that night, he was haunted with what the tiger breeder had said to him. And she looked much better as she sought her own happiness in the joy of the people.

Even if I do not remain clearly in the memory of the people, I will also dedicate my whole life to the breeding of animals as an animal keeper who will give joy to them. This is how Su Gil joined a fierce animal house of the Central Zoo of his own accord and got to manage bears.

However, managing the beasts was not an easy task as was said. Bears were big in frame and were irresponsible no matter how severely he reviled them. From the outset they concealed their hearts and acted frighteningly. Moreover, the work of taking care of the bear pit was of various kinds and required much labour. And so some of the breeders moved to other animal houses. But Su Gil did not waver in the least nor did he feel a sense of futility with regard to his own occupation. While doing the work assigned to him with a sense of responsibility, he delved deep into the ecological distinctive features of bears and took pains to train them to be such animals as delighting the people. In the daytime he worked together with his seniors. At night he observed the way of life of bears together with the breeders who were giving artificial suck to their cubs or read various sorts of reference books on animals until the new morning dawned.

The knowledge he had accumulated with much effort found clear expression in taking care of bears. From early autumn every

year he became able to correctly sort out mother bears being with young and put their caloric intake and health administration on a more scientific basis. In addition, if mother bears gave birth to cubs in spring, he divided the stage of giving artificial suck into two stages and took care of the nutrition of the young in accord with these stages responsibly, thus bringing them up in perfect condition.

The number of bears he has brought up by giving artificial suck now exceeds well over one hundred. Some of them live on in the Central Zoo, others display their talent on the stages of acrobatic theatres and still others have moved to other zoos.

At present many people visit the Central Zoo to see the quick-witted "special skill" of the bears he has bred. Among them are a pupil who provided an artistic representation of the role of a bear impeccably on the stages of schoolchildren's national art performances after seeing the facial expression and characteristic movements of bears at the Central Zoo and artists who made vivid sculptures of bears in playgrounds or pleasure resorts.

Now he is known to everybody in the Central Zoo as "Mr. Kom (bear)" rather than Myong Su Gil, his real name. So much he has poured his aspiration and zeal entirely on the bear pit and bear breeding. Supreme national leader Kim Jong Un visited the Central Zoo in May last year, took the trouble to meet him and spoke highly of him, saying that he was taking good care of bears rain or snow with an attachment to his occupation.

Keeping that dreamlike moment in mind all the time, Su Gil is exerting himself to breed and tend bears more properly, true to Kim Jong Un's intention to enable the people to enjoy a much better cultural and emotional life.

Song Yong Sok

Devoted Teacher

IN AUGUST LAST YEAR A teacher's good deed was made public in Korea through the mass media. She had volunteered to take care of a crippled little girl and helped her go to school by carrying her on her back and then walk by her own feet as she pleased. She is Ham Ok Suk who works at a small rural primary school in suburban Pyongyang.

One day four years ago Ham went to the Jesan village to make a list of children of school age there, when she happened to see a gang of children at the fence of a house. She approached there to find a six- or seven-year-old girl surrounded by children. They called the girl U In. When asked how old she was, she unfolded seven of her fingers.

"Do you want to go to school?" Ham asked.

U In dropped her head without replying.

"She cannot walk," another child said for her.

That evening Ham could not get to sleep at the thought of U In.

The following day she visited U In's home. The girl's parents and the girl herself, who moved on hands to the door, looked surprised not knowing what she was there for.

The teacher announced she wanted to become the girl's teacher. Startled, the parents said, "How can she go to school together with other children as she is unable to walk and utter proper words because of cerebral palsy?"

"No, U In ought to go to school without fail," Ham insisted stubbornly. Now the girl's parents could not help but consent.

When Ham appeared at the school with U In on her back she got surrounded by other teachers who darted glances of surprise and worry.

Smiling at the head teacher, Ham said quietly, "I'll take charge of this child."

From then on the path from the Jesan village to the primary

school was always imprinted with the footmarks of the teacher who carried the crippled girl to and from the school every day, rain or snow.

Ham taught the girl how to hold a pencil, how to read the mother tongue and how to count. She regarded even a single tree or a single clump of grain as a teaching aid for the child.

One day, on the way to school, she asked U In, "What do you want to do when you grow up?"

"It is my greatest desire to walk to school hand in hand with my friends. Will it be possible, teacher?" said the child. Then the teacher reproached herself for her being content only with teaching the girl the mother tongue and counting.

From then on Ham spent busier days. She always carried in her hand medical books as well as a teaching plan she prepared specifically for the child. And she took the girl to a number of hospitals carrying her on her back.

After school the teacher often seated the girl beside her and gave massage to her on her fingers to relieve the paralytic stiffness and helped her develop her intelligence.

Observing carefully the state of the child's physical growth and the development of her brain, Ham learned how to teach and treat her and gave her mental and physical training. Besides, she obtained and gave medicines necessary for promoting her growth. The girl's condition changed for the better day by day, and gradually she began to mix herself with other pupils. She, who had been devoid of laughter, would laugh and recite the multiplication table from her memory, on her way to



school on her teacher's back. Then all her school and village began to offer help.

Ham's sincerity bore fruit. There was a gradual change in the child's legs. In April last year, on the day that school started, she went to school on her own feet.

A few days later she showed up before Ham, bringing with her a bouquet she had made with the flowers she had picked up in the hill behind the school.

"What's it for?" Ham asked. The girl said with a smile, "For you, teacher."

Afterwards, the girl's father Pak Kuk Chol wrote to the *Korea Today* editorial board a letter which reads in part, "When we ourselves gave up treatment of our daughter's disease, Ham Ok Suk, a teacher of the Jesan Primary School in Hyongjesan District, Pyongyang, volunteered to help her in the treatment of her disease. She was determined to develop even a single child into a future pillar of the country. Her deed has made us realize what teachers in our era are like."

Sim Yong Jin

The Banner of National Reunification

THE NORTH-SOUTH JOINT DECLARATIONS adopted in June 2000 and October 2007 illuminate a broad way to solving all problems of national reunification by the nation's own efforts in accordance with the common desire and interests of the nation.

The June 15 Joint Declaration clearly shows the principles and methods to solve independently the problem of national reunification through the nation's great union. Its fundamental spirit is "by our nation itself." It represents the consciousness that the driving force of national reunification is the Korean people themselves; the strong will to fulfil the responsibility and duty as the driving force of reunification; and the idea that all the people should cooperate and unite firmly as a homogeneous nation, rising above the difference in thoughts, social systems, religious beliefs and political views. The October 4 Declaration is the guideline for action and the practical programme that show comprehensively the methods to bring about progress in the inter-Korean relations, peace in the Korean peninsula, the nation's common prosperity and the reunification of the country along the lines of the fundamental spirit of the June 15 Joint Declaration. The October 4 Declaration throws broad lights on the problems of independent reunification and peace and prosperity including the issues of definitely turning north-south relations into relations of mutual respect and trust; putting an end to the hostile military relations between the north and the south to ensure easing of tension and permanent peace in the Korean peninsula; extending and developing economic cooperation for proportionate development of the national economy and common prosperity on the principles of mutual benefit and prosperity and filling of each other's needs; and promoting exchange and cooperation in the field of social culture.

Clarifying the ideological basis, fundamental principles and practical methods of the nation's reconciliation and union, reunification and prosperity, the historic June 15 Joint Declaration and October 4 Declaration provide the foundation for the development of inter-Korean relations and represent the guiding banner of national reunification.

The correctness and vitality of both declarations have already been proved in practice. The historic June 15 Joint Declaration opened up new vistas for national reconciliation, amity and reunification in

the Korean peninsula which had been overspread with grey clouds of national division.

Amidst the cheers of "by our nation itself" for reunification resounding through the whole land of the country, multiple dialogues and contacts between the north and the south and grand joint national functions for reunification took place, vividly demonstrating the Korean people's will for independent reunification at home and abroad. Actions were taken to cut down wire entanglements along the military demarcation line, to open up air, sea and overland routes for currents of reunification through national cooperation to flow between the north and the south, and to reconnect the railways and roads on the east and west coasts of the peninsula, which heightened national enthusiasm for independent reunification. North-south cooperation and exchanges in many fields got brisk to promote national reconciliation and concord. The adoption of the October 4 Declaration, a practical programme for fully implementing the June 15 Joint Declaration, gave a great impetus to opening new vistas for peace in the Korean peninsula, common prosperity of the nation, and national reunification.

The stance and attitude towards the historic north-south declarations are the touchstone to distinguish between patriotism and betrayal of the country, between reunification and division. If one earnestly wants the country's reunification and prosperity, one must champion the declarations and work faithfully for their implementation. In the implementation of the north-south declarations lies the road to saving the tottering north-south relations and bringing about peace in the Korean peninsula and the nation's reunification and prosperity. The declarations are the unchangeable banner of reunification to stand to always, regardless of the change of the situation or political power. No matter how desperately the divisionist forces in and out may try to reverse the strong current of the June 15 age, no force can break the Korean people's will to achieve independent reunification, peace and prosperity. By struggling resolutely to implement the north-south joint declarations, the Korean people in the north, the south and abroad should get over the barriers to independent reunification by all means at an early date.

Kim Ja Yong

The Life and Soul of a Nation

IT CAN BE SAID THAT sovereignty is the right of every country or nation to carve out their own destiny independently free from all manner of subjugation. If a nation loses sovereignty, it will deny them the normal social and economic development of their own and finally bring them to extinction. That is why sovereignty, which legally makes it possible for a country to determine all lines and policies in the interests of its people and to suit its actual conditions and solve all problems by relying on the strength of the people, becomes the life and soul that is the last thing to barter.

Today, long after the end of the cold war, the political arena of the world still witnesses ceaseless abnormal incidents in which sovereignty of independent states

is disregarded and violated. The alleged “war on terror” of the US is the worst of its kind; it violates the sovereignty of many countries it has labelled as its enemies because they refuse to follow its line. Typical examples are its military invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan. Owing to the arbitrary actions of the US that ignores the international law, national dignity and sovereignty are mercilessly trampled upon and innocent people lose their lives in different countries across the world.

These facts clearly show that sovereignty is the life and soul of every country and nation and justify the need that they never tolerate foreign forces’ interference in their internal affairs and

their manoeuvres to invade them. Only when any country and nation defend and exercise their sovereignty fair and square can they achieve their independence and prosperity.

To ensure and exercise national sovereignty it is necessary to hold fast to and thoroughly embody the principle of Juche in ideology, independence in politics, self-sufficiency in the economy and self-reliance in national defence.

A typical application of the principle is to be seen in socialist Korea. President Kim Il Sung, father of socialist Korea, re-



The US armed spy ship *Pueblo* and its crew captured by the Korean People's Army navy in January 1968.

garded sovereignty as the life and soul of a country and nation and never tolerated foreign forces’ interference in the country’s internal affairs and their manoeuvres of invasion against it. In the 1960s, in an attempt to re- ▶

► venge itself on the DPRK for its defeat in the Korean war, the US gathered huge armed forces of aggression in and around south Korea and ceaselessly perpetrated espionage acts against the DPRK in the air and at sea. In January 1968 the US outrageously violated the sovereignty of the DPRK by making its armed spy ship *Pueblo* intrude into the territorial waters of the DPRK for espionage. When the ship was captured by the DPRK red-handed, the US tried to force the DPRK to give in by menacing militarily while stubbornly insisting that the *Pueblo* had been captured in the open sea and that the ship had not committed espionage acts. At a meeting of the National Security Council the US decided to take a “military retaliatory measure,” and accordingly it concentrated large-scale land, sea and air forces of aggression in and around the East Sea of Korea to threaten the DPRK. President Kim Il Sung then said that the Korean people wanted no war, but were not afraid of war and stated the revolutionary position that the Korean people and the Korean People’s Army would retaliate for the US imperialists’ “retaliation,” and return all-out war for all-out war.

The KPA soldiers and the Korean people prepared themselves to turn out in a righteous war with a determination to repulse the aggressors at a stroke.

Alarmed by the DPRK’s firm stand and might, the US government had no alternative but to

admit and apologize for its ship’s espionage and hostile acts and sign a document in which it pledged itself to make sure that its warships would not intrude into the territorial waters of socialist Korea. The *Pueblo* incident served as an opportunity for the Korean people to demonstrate their strong mettle and will to tolerate no provocation that infringes upon their national dignity and sovereignty, and the US to learn a severe lesson that if it makes any attack against the DPRK, thinking nothing of the nation as it is small in territory and population, they will have to pay dearly to the Korean people.

The revolutionary mettle of the Korean people who regard sovereignty as their life and soul was carried on under the leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il. In the 1990s the US frantically manoeuvred to start an all-out war against the DPRK while forcing it to accept “nuclear inspection.” In order to defend the national dignity and sovereignty, the DPRK issued a statement announcing the proclamation of a semi-war state and the decision on its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Flurried at this development, the US had to sign the DPRK-USA Agreed Framework and send a presidential letter of assurance to the DPRK.

At present the DPRK supreme leader Kim Jong Un is resolutely opposed against any attempt to infringe upon the sovereignty of the country. Last year

the US and the south Korean puppets staged the anti-DPRK military exercise “Ulji Freedom Guardian” by mobilizing huge armed forces more than enough to wage a war, creating a hair-trigger situation. At this juncture, Marshal Kim Jong Un inspected the KPA units on Jangjae and Mu islets at the front. He said in a resolute tone that if the enemy drops even a single shell in the sacred territorial waters the KPA units should never tolerate it but start a merciless counterstroke at once and lead it to a sacred war for national reunification. At his order all KPA soldiers determined to turn the strongholds of the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets into seas of flames by fully mobilizing the great military power they had long built up and accomplish the historic cause of national reunification without fail.

Led by Kim Jong Un who values national sovereignty most, the DPRK is exalting its national dignity and honour to the world and is turning into a powerful socialist country, a people’s paradise.

Regarding the sovereignty of their country as their life and soul, the Korean people will never tolerate any foreign forces’ attempt to deprive them of their national dignity and sovereign rights but defend their sovereignty in a responsible manner.

Ho Kwang Sop,
philosophy professor at
Kim Il Sung University

The Urgent Demand of Our Times

TO CONCLUDE A PEACE treaty is essential for ensuring stable peace and security in the Korean peninsula and building up mutual trust between the DPRK and the US. In the past the DPRK put forward practical and reasonable proposals repeatedly to establish a solid system of peace in the Korean peninsula and made sincere efforts to implement them. One of them was the proposal for the signatories to the Armistice Agreement to have talks as soon as possible to change the Armistice Agreement into a peace treaty by 2010, the 60th year of the outbreak of the Korean war. For its justice, this proposal caused a great sensation on the international arena.

In retrospect, the Korean peninsula has never been in peace owing to the ceaseless manoeuvres of the US to unleash another war since the signing of the Armistice Agreement in the 1950s. No part of the world other than the Korean peninsula is in a continuously unstable state of armistice for as long as over half a century. At present the Korean peninsula is an acute hot spot where nobody can tell when war sparks will flare up once again. This is due more than anything else to the Armistice Agreement having become a mere scrap of paper. As a signatory to the agreement, the United States is responsible for peace in the Korean peninsula. However, it has concluded an aggressive military treaty with south Korea totally negating the Armistice Agreement and unilaterally scrapped the terms of armistice regarding them as obstacles to preparing for a new war. This exempted them from all legal and institu-

tional restrictions in reinforcing their aggressive forces in south Korea in a big way and even shipping in nukes, so that the peninsula has turned into a huge arsenal and the biggest nuclear advanced base in the Far East.

The armistice supervisory organization with a mission to supervise the implementation of the Armistice Agreement has been completely hamstrung by the United States. Now the agreement is incompetent to obviate the danger of any accidental military conflict. The sinking of the naval ship *Cheonan* of south Korea and the Yonphyong Islet artillery firing in recent years prove that the armistice setup has been completely paralyzed in the Korean peninsula. The DPRK-US relations are now heading for a danger spot every day. In order to save such a situation, a peace treaty is indispensable. Changing the Armistice Agreement into a peace treaty is the best option to build a lasting peace system in the Korean peninsula, end the present unstable state of armistice and achieve complete peace. Replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace treaty as soon as possible is vital to turning the acute belligerent relations into relations of peace and trust. This is also vital because the Korean peninsula is now an acute scene of military showdown and a dangerous hotbed for war. The United States is reducing their military forces in other regions of the world. Nevertheless, it is systematically reinforcing armed forces in the Asia-Pacific region around the Korean peninsula, intent on unleashing another war. US nuclear aircraft carriers and modern task forces

of the US are concentrated in south Korea, Japan and other areas around the Korean peninsula and US-led war exercises are frequently carried out against the DPRK. The deployment of US forces in the forward areas around the Korean peninsula and their reckless war exercises taking place according to the hostile strategy against the DPRK are driving the tense situation in the peninsula to a verge of war. The armistice in the Korean peninsula for over half a century, unprecedented in the war history of the world, is now no less than a smouldering time bomb that constantly threatens security in Northeast Asia and, further, the Asia-Pacific region.

The most urgent task for preventing the outbreak of another war and guaranteeing lasting peace in the Korean peninsula at present is to change the Armistice Agreement to a peace treaty at an early date. This is a precondition for removing military confrontation and danger of war and ensuring permanent peace in the Korean peninsula. This is also necessary for creating peaceful circumstances in Korea and the Asia-Pacific region.

Further, the acute need of a peace treaty stems from the main trend of the present times, too. More than 20 years have passed since the end of the cold war and positive changes are coming about on the international arena.

Ours is an age of peace and development. Not war and confrontation but reconciliation, cooperation and development are becoming the main trend of our times. Following the current of the times, many countries work for reconciliation and cooperation ►

Evasive Japan

AT PRESENT IT IS A trend for those countries which committed faults in the past to honestly reflect on and atone for the wrongs.

In December 2011 the government of Germany decided to pay pensions to the Jews alive who had suffered persecution under the past Nazi regime. The international community is welcoming the measure as it means that the German government honestly reflects on the past crimes of the country.

How about Japan's attitude? Instead of considering its mean past acts with the sense of sin, Japan is denying them relentlessly. Furthermore it is beautifying and justifying its past crimes absurdly in an attempt to avoid liquidating its past. Grumbling that there is no international law

to define its past acts as crimes and that its past problems have already been settled, Japan is making absurd arguments that it "liberated" Asian countries from European powers and the United States and that Asian peoples should not forget the "favour." In March 2007 Abe, the then prime minister of Japan, maintained that there had been no taking by force of "comfort women" for the Japanese army, and the US House of Representatives adopted a resolution to refute the allegation.

In December 2011, over 40 places of nine countries witnessed solidarity demonstrations regarding the issue of "comfort women" for the Japanese army. The demonstrations called for strengthening international solidarity to make the Japanese gov-

ernment officially apologize for the issue of "comfort women" for the Japanese army.

New York saw a meeting between those who had narrowly survived the genocide of Jews committed by fascist Germany during the Second World War and the living former "comfort women" for the Japanese army. Sharing their painful experiences the participants denounced Japan's improper attitude towards liquidating its past and earnestly called upon the international community to take notice of the Japanese imperialists' war crimes. This meant a warning that liquidating Japan's past is the order of the day, a problem which warrants urgent solution.

Japan is attempting to repeat its past instead of eliminating it. This cannot be tolerated. As a ▶

▶ and expedite common prosperity and development, emerging from conflicts and confrontation. This tendency of the present age makes it incumbent on the United States to change its hostile policy against the DPRK.

The American newspaper *International Herald Tribune* reported in 2009 that American experts on Korea jointly wrote for the paper an article under the title of *Peace Before Everything Else*. In the article the experts asserted that the US administration should go in first of all for the conclusion of a permanent peace treaty with the DPRK for denuclearization in the Korean peninsula. In the same year, *The New York Times* stressed the pressing necessity of a peace treaty between the US and the DPRK. Nothing can stop the cur-

rent of the times for peace. The trend of our times and the demand of the situation make the changing of the Armistice Agreement into a peace treaty an urgent task that brooks no further delay.

If the United States correctly assesses the changed situation and the current of historical development and has a political will to daringly change its hostile policy against the DPRK in line with its own national interests and the desire of the world's peace-loving people, the issue of the peace treaty will be easily settled.

The US has stated more than once that "it has no intention to attack the DPRK" and expressed its readiness to build a peace system in the Korean peninsula. If a peace treaty is concluded, that will mean a radical turnabout in

the situation in the Korean peninsula and in the DPRK-US relations. This will prove helpful not only to the development of the Asian and global situation but also to the United States itself. The attitude and viewpoint towards the problem of concluding a peace treaty are the touchstone to distinguish who wants a durable peace in the Asia-Pacific region including the Korean peninsula.

The United States ought to take a resolute step as soon as possible to fulfil its responsibility for the conclusion of a peace treaty. It is an invariable stance of the DPRK to build a solid peace setup and realize denuclearization in the Korean peninsula through dialogue and negotiation.

Kim Jong Sun

▶ matter of principle, Japan should have started to liquidate its past soon after the end of WWII. It, however, has avoided doing so for over half a century because it has a lingering attachment to the past in which as an empire it made frantic efforts to invade Asian countries for the purpose of realizing the dream of the “Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.”

It is a legal and moral obligation for Japan to liquidate its past. Its past crimes are unprecedented ones beyond expression. The Japanese imperialists forcibly kept the Korean people in colonial slavery for over 40 years. The aggressors took, kidnapped and abducted more than 8.4 million young and middle-aged Korean men for mediaeval slave labour, brutally slaughtered over 1 million Koreans and even committed such an unprintable, extra-villainous inhuman crime as taking by force and kidnapping as many as 200 000 Korean women to be used as sexual slaves for the “Imperial Japanese Army.” Regardless of this Japan is talking about “favour” and “liberation.” This is an unbearable insult to the Korean and other Asian peoples.

As to the issue of “comfort women” for the Japanese army, the Japanese Prime Minister Noda and other high-ranking figures of the Japanese political circles last year said that there was no evidence about the Japanese imperialists’ forcible mobilization of women as “comfort women” for their army. The chairman of the Japanese Public Security Commission went so far as to say that the 1993 Kono Statement, the one related to apology for the issue of “comfort women” for the Japanese army, should be revised.

Japan knows the fact that in

2008 there was published the large album *Clamour of the World—Records of 67 Existing Former Comfort Women*. The survivors of sexual slavery say in unison that they were ruined for life by Japs.

Lots of women who had been forced into sexual slavery died tragically. According to a document kept by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Japanese army set up and operated at least 73 “comfort houses” in Shanghai, Hangzhou and other parts of China between 1938 and 1939. A secret document recently discovered in the archives of the Japanese Ministry of Defense reveals the fact that 20 more sexual slaves were to be sent to a field “comfort house” to make up for the shortage of those there.

The international community has recognized the using of “comfort women” for the Japanese army as an extra-villainous inhuman crime, and unanimously demands that the Japanese government honestly admit, apologize for and take measures to make reparation for the crime.

The acting spokesman of the US State Department said that what “comfort women” suffered during WWII seemed to have been piteous and that the US government’s official attitude towards the forced mobilization of “comfort women” was that it was a severe violation of human rights.

The New Zealand’s and the UK’s organizations of victims who had been ill-treated by the Japanese imperialists during WWII strongly demanded that the Japanese government admit its responsibility for the country’s past war crimes.

A Democrat who once chaired the Foreign Affairs Committee of the US House of Representatives said that some Japanese’s at-

tempt to distort and deny the history and shift the blame on to the victims made people sick. Like this, the US, the alleged senior ally of Japan, too, does not deny the island country’s crime of sexual slavery. The demand for disclosure and condemnation of Japan’s past crimes and for its apology and reparation for the crimes has become more vocal at the UN General Assembly and other international and regional conferences.

Despite the aforementioned clear-cut facts, Japan is doggedly impervious to reason. This shows well that the Japanese concerned are morally base fellows.

Heinous is Japan’s cunning attempt to hush up its past crime of sexual slavery. According to data, the facts related to sexual slavery were described in Japan’s seven kinds of textbooks after the publication of Kono Statement which admitted and apologized for the matter of sexual slavery. In 2007, however, Japan saw to it that the story was vaguely described only in three kinds of textbooks and that the fact was all deleted from the other textbooks. At present, putting Kono Statement in question, Japan is even trying to revise it.

The demand for Japan’s liquidation of its past reflects the contemporary sentiments. Japan is going against the demand and trying to repeat its sinful past. It aims at realizing at any cost the old dream of the “Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere” it failed to in the past.

It is advisable for Japan to honestly decide to liquidate its past. It will be good both for the improvement of relations between the DPRK and Japan and for the future of the Japanese nation.

Choe Kwang Guk

Woljong Temple

ONE OF THE OLD TEMPLES OF KOREA IS the Woljong Temple built more than 1 000 years ago. Seen against a beautiful range of hills and mountains that descends slowly to the east of Asa Peak in Mt. Kuwol, a celebrated mountain of Korea, stands the temple at a delta where two brooks join.

According to old records, the temple was reconstructed and repaired on several occasions after it was erected for the first time. Considering the style of architecture and structure, the present temple seems to have been rebuilt in the early years of feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910).

Visible farthest behind is the Kungnakbo Pavilion and nearly 20 metres ahead of it is the Manse Pavilion. And with the central axis lying north-south linking up those two buildings, the Myongbu Hall in the east and the Suwol Pavilion in the west were set up to face each other. Well preserved in the Kungnakbo Pavilion, the main building of the temple, is the style of architecture that was in vogue in the closing years of the period of Koryo (918–1392) and in the early years of feudal Joseon dynasty. In *tanchong* designs and *tanchong* pictures inside buildings there still remains the technical skill used in the period of Koryo.

The Kungnakbo Pavilion is well balanced and nicely framed. In addition, its detailed structure is characteristic and the decoration of the building, too, displays a high level of artistic dexterity.

The beautiful and cosy Myongbu Hall was formed in the usual style of temple building in the years of feudal Joseon dynasty. Lotus flower buds and pomegranate flowers carved on the brackets placed on the pillars of the hall look charming as if the former were swollen to bursting and the latter came into bloom a little while ago.

Visible in the Suwol Pavilion is a phoenix carved on the top of brackets in the upper part of the two pillars in the middle of the façade. Also to be seen there are yellow and blue dragons—carved on the top of two corner brackets—playing with beads. They seem to be in motion alive and show well refined sculptural art.

The Manse Pavilion is a tall building with a garret-shaped room. It was erected in such a way as to fix 1.2-metre-high stone pillars in the ground and board the floor over them and then set up wooden pillars on it. The spacious wooden floor is enclosed with a rail.

On the floor you can enjoy sounds of the brooks flowing along both sides of the temple and twittering of the birds full of emotion inexpressible by words, and through the back of the temple that is open to the public one can overlook the natural scenery around the temple. It is now well preserved and taken good care of as important historical cultural relics.

Article and photos by Ri Song Chol



Kungnakbo Pavilion.

***Tanchong* of Manse Pavilion.**



Pyongyang Folk Park (1)



THE PYONGYANG FOLK Park is situated at the foot of picturesque Mt. Taesong in Pyongyang. In Mt. Taesong there can be seen a lot of historic sites and relics that date back to Koguryo Dynasty such as the site

lots of legends woven around the mountain.

In the historical place there was laid an expansive folk park as an open-air history museum not long ago. Recently I began to visit the park.

Representation of a 5 000-year-long History

“A large area of 200 odd hectares, lots of life-size models of relics, not partial but general and comprehensive representation of ▶



The general history introduction area.

of Anhak Palace (the royal palace in which a king of Koguryo lived from 427 to 586), the relics of the 9 000 odd-m-long wall of the Taesongsan Fort built between the third century and the fifth century, the sites of over 20 gates to the fort, those of ponds and small reservoirs, that of a granary, group tombs, a hundreds-of-m-long section of the wall on Somun Peak, a pavilion on Jangsu Peak, Nam Gate, and Kwangbop Temple. And there are



▶ folk tradition and so on can be said to be the characteristics and pride of the Pyongyang Folk Park.” This is what my guide Ri Hyon A told me when she met me in front of the magnificent Korean-style gate to the park.

The first leg of my visit was the district for the general introduction of history that covers an area of 1.5 hectares. What first caught my eyes were nine mosaic murals that represent intensively the 5 000-year-long history of the Korean nation and the customs of Pyongyang, the centre of Taedonggang culture as one of the world’s five major civilizations. The murals are titled “Our Country Is One of the Cradles of Humankind,” “Ancient Joseon, First State of Our Nation,” “Koguryo, Oriental Power That Existed for 1 000 Years,” “Palhae, Prosperous Country of the East That Succeeded to Koguryo,” “Koryo, First Unified State in Korea,” “Modern History of Defending the Sovereignty of the Nation,” “Pyongyang with a Long History,” “Folk Customs of Pyongyang,” and the like.

We stopped before the mural with the title “Our Country Is One of the Cradles of Human-kind.” It tells that people came into being and began to live in the Pyongyang area from time immemorial, that is, at the dawn of human history and that human culture began to develop there.

In the 1960s Korean archaeologists unearthed and ascertained the Komunmoru Site in Hugu-ri, Sangwon County. The site in a cave was left by apemen, the earliest men, over one million years ago. It clearly shows that the Taedong River basin with Pyongyang as its centre was one of the cradles of mankind.

After passing the mural titled “Ancient Joseon, First State of Our Nation” showing the fact that the Korean nation was the first to establish a state named

Ancient Joseon (the early 30th century B.C.–108 B.C.) in the world, we got to the mural titled “Koguryo, Oriental Power That Existed for 1 000 Years.” Koguryo (277 B.C.–A.D. 668), the first feudal state in Korea, was founded by the descendents of the ancient Korean tribes. Covering a vast expanse of area, it had advanced economy and culture. As to the area covered by Koguryo between the late 5th century and the early 6th century, it was over ten times wider than those of Paekje (the late 1st century–B.C. 660), Silla (the early mid-1st century–A.D. 935) and Kaya (the mid-1st century–the mid-6th century)—the major feudal states of Korea in the period of the Three States (Koguryo, Paekje and Silla)—put together. The area Koguryo was in possession of at the time amounted to more than nine tenths of those occupied by the Korean nation. Putting forward the unification of the Three States as a policy, Koguryo made prolonged efforts to the end, thus occupying not only the old land of Ancient Joseon but also a vast expanse of territory in northeast Asia and winning most of the Korean people over to its side. The guide explained that Koguryo could become a powerful country thanks to its people’s strong patriotism and their attachment to martial arts which was a way of their life based on the spirit.

We now reached the mural titled “Koryo, First Unified State in Korea” after passing by the mural titled “Palhae, Prosperous Country of the East That Succeeded to Koguryo.” The mural tells that Koryo (918–1392) was a successor to Koguryo after the end of the existence of Palhae (698–926) and the first unified state that brought about territorial integrity by inheriting the mightiness and unification policy of Koguryo, and introduces social features at the time in fragments.

The murals are really like a complete book of history giving a visual systematized panorama of the Korean nation’s long history and customs. The beholders burst into admiration at the fact that only several murals were used to intensively introduce the founders of the states that existed in Korea from time immemorial to modern ages, their territories in their heyday, reputed patriotic generals including Ulji Mun Dok (the late 6th century—the early 7th century), Kang Kam Chan (948–1031) and Ri Sun Sin (1545–1598), renowned figures of those days, struggles against foreign invaders in certain periods, scientific and cultural activities of those days, and characteristic folk customs.

After listening to the guide’s explanation before the murals, an overseas Korean said, “Here at the entrance to the folk park I’ve already grasped the features of the ages of the states that existed in Korea. This is not merely a park but a university of history.”

Then, going along the main road of the park, we looked round models of typical historical sites and remains characterizing the 5 000-year-long history of Korea by age.

The first section of the park has on display models of a lute-shaped dagger and a narrow bronze dagger, the symbols of Tangun Joseon, the first ancient state in the history of Korea; the Tombstone of King Kwanggaetho (In his youth Kwanggaetho took power, extended the territory of his country towards the north and his influence towards the south, thus laying a firm foundation for the unification of the Three States while repulsing the Japanese invaders) that conveys the might of Koguryo, the most powerful state in the history of Korea; sculptures of armour-clad cavalry representative of Koguryo’s strong military power and developed culture; a stone lantern from the site of the sec- ▶

Armoured Cavalry of Koguryo



KOGURYO (277 B.C.–A.D. 668) was a military power in the East that repulsed continuous invasions of foreign forces and defended its sovereignty and dignity during the whole period of its existence. It

won many wars against the invaders, and this was attributable to its superior military equipment. Its armoured cavalry is a good example that shows the high standard of Koguryo's military equipment. Not only the cavalymen but their horses were completely clad in armour. Armour-clad cavalry of Koguryo was distinct from the cavalries of other countries in form and superior in fighting efficiency.

The Koguryo cavalry was characterized by its

horses clad in armour—headpiece, coat of mails and trappings. The headpiece of the horse was made by patterning it in the shape of its head with sheet iron. The part of nostrils was left open or furrowed for

breathing, and there were round holes for eyes to see. And cheeks were protected with bulging sheet iron. The coat of mails was made of iron in most parts. It hung down long covering the horse's neck, body and legs except the hooves. The back of the horse which was vulnerable to the blows of sword and spear was covered with double armour. As the coat of mails was not a single sheet but consisted of many pieces joined together, each covering the neck, chest, back, rump and others, it was convenient to move about easily and quickly in battle.

In the medieval ages the heavily armoured cavalry of Koguryo with its men and horses iron-clad from head to foot was a dreadful adversary fearful and threatening to the enemy in battle which was fought with swords, bows and spears. □

► ond temple of Ryongchonbu in Sanggyong, the ten-storey pagoda of the Kyongchon Temple and the octagonal 13-storey pagoda of the Pohyon Temple that testify to the developed culture of Palhae and Koryo, both successors to Koguryo; Chokhwabi (the anti-reconciliation monument) and the Monument to the Great Victory in Pukgwon symbolic of the fighting spirit of the Korean people against foreign forces in the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty; and monuments to loyalty to the feudal state. The visitors were deeply impressed by the models enabling them to know by intuition the features of the old Korean states and reluctant to leave

there soon.

In front of the model of the Monument to the Great Victory in Pukgwon just similar to the original which has been cracked with its engraved letters blurred with the passage of time, the guide said, "The monument is the one to the great victory the volunteer army led by Jong Mun Bu (1565–1624) won in a fight against Japanese invaders in the region of Hamgyong Province during the Imjin Patriotic War (1592–1598). In a sinister attempt to cloak their gangster-like act of aggression and ignominious defeat and eliminate the valuable historical remain of the Korean nation, the Japanese imperialists

stole the monument and left it in one corner of the Yasukuni Shrine symbolic of Japanese militarism for a long time. The monument now standing again on its original spot in Rimmyong-ri, Kim Chaek City, North Hamgyong Province, makes us realize once again that if a nation is deprived of the country, even their old monuments to war victory may get into disgrace and they may lose their history and cannot think of the development of the nation."

We now made for the section with historical sites on display.

*Article by Chae Kwang Myong
Photos by Ri Chung Guk*

Ambition

By Pang Thae Il

(Continued from the last issue)

“CONNECT ME TO THE SURGERY department of the municipal hospital,” Yu Min shouted. “Right away!”

He couldn’t tell if he was connected or not, or if he failed to catch the voice from the other end of the line. There was a dull noise alone from the receiver, held in Yu Min’s hand moist with perspiration.

“Do you hear me, Dr. Ro? Mun Chol needs his grandfather now—your care, I mean. Hurry and come. It isn’t too late yet.”

Yu Min was about to resume his shouting when there was a sound of coughing from the receiver. Then there came a voice, “I...believe in you. I’d like to put Mun Chol in your care.”

Then there came the sound of the receiver being hung up. He felt his pulse beating faster and a thrill gripping his whole body. It seemed like a heavy plumb was weighing down his shoulders. He felt it impossible to avoid the weight. Now, there was no other alternative but to go ahead, he thought.

An emergency consultation was called. Many doctors argued for cutting the broken leg for the life of the patient. Otherwise, they said, it would prove fatal. Although it was not a comminuted fracture, it was likely to cause purulent inflammation as he had been heavily bruised in the femur and, worse still, the first aid had been delayed. It was necessary to restore the bone by joining the broken bits and reconnect the severed blood vessels meticulously. Such a surgical operation was a kind of adventure. If not carefully dealt with, the result would be irreparable.

Yu Min buried his head in his hands. But the next moment, he sat straight, and one of his perspiring hands tightly held something... It was Mun Chol’s model power plant. Yu Min pressed its protruding button, but it did not light up. It must have been broken in the accident. Yu Min put it deep in his inner pocket. Then his hand felt something else. It was an old fountain pen, its gilt worn off and the gloss gone. His ears were buzzing. He felt like falling under an illusion. From the shore of his dim memo-

ries came surging waves of visions like a mist. “Please use prudence, Doctor! If it is not appendicitis, then my son might...”

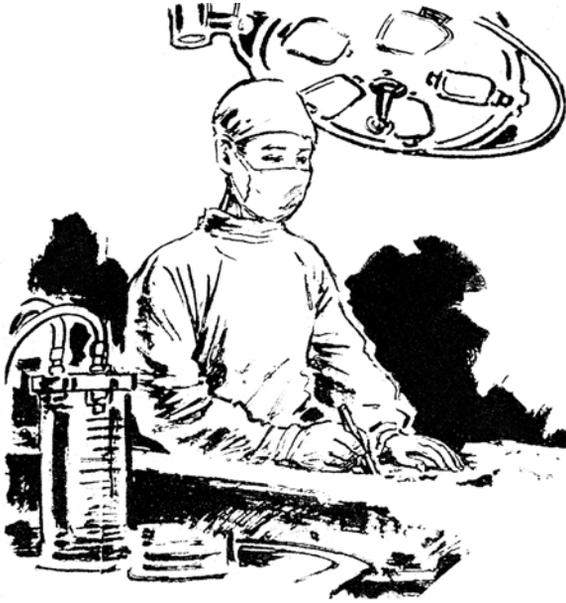
“I give you my word for it at the risk of my own life, not your son’s.” Suddenly a shower started outside with noises of heavy surf. Above the noises came the voice of Chief Surgeon Ro, “I hope you will move forward farther on, far ahead of us.”

Oh, yes! That’s it! A sequence of days he had spent with the veteran surgeon passed before his eyes like a kaleidoscope. Yes, his words “I believe in you!” were surely an epitome of all the untold hopes he had laid upon me, Yu Min told himself. Confidence in the junior generation is more or less a trait of the senior generation. *Then, what should I do when I am a senior to Mun Chol?* Abruptly Yu Min returned to himself and rose up pressing the table with his hands. “Get ready for an operation,” he ordered. “I’m not going to amputate his leg. I’ll bear the responsibility for it.”

The astral lamp was lit. An anaesthetic was applied to the patient. The computer, which was connected to the municipal hospital, was also switched on. Now the operation began. Yu Min made a sign with his eye to the attending nurse for a hemostat. The patient gave a groan, knitting his brows, very likely in pain. “But Mun Chol, you’ll surely be all right,” Yu Min said to himself.

Yu Min had never imagined that the advice the chief surgeon had given him unexpectedly in the information room before would be of such great help to him. It seemed the old doctor had foreseen today’s occurrence. *Sure, that’s just like Dr. Ro the chief surgeon!*

“Sweat!” an assistant shouted, putting a kerchief to Yu Min’s forehead. Moment after moment, time passed so slowly as every minute seemed like a thousand years. Outside, the cold late-autumn rain was spattering down on tree leaves, and here in the operation theatre, a battle was going on for a life in heavy silence, a battle for the life of a hopeful young man who belonged to the new generation that was far more progressive than the older generation. The operation lasted for three hours. Yu Min removed the ▶



► sweat-soaked mask in exhaustion. His strained nerves relaxed all at once and he was ready to fall when the nurse took hold of him by the hand. Supported by the nurse, he went across to a sofa and plumped down on it. It seemed as if he were drunken and floating in the air. His eyes closed before he knew it. He lapsed into a state of dream that seemed now hazy and now distinct. The chief surgeon was approaching him with a bouquet, with a smile play-

ing about his thick lips. It was a familiar image. It was just like the image of the man who had saved him, a young boy, a dozen years ago by performing an operation on him. Yu Min called out, "I'm right, eh? You're the very surgeon who did it then, aren't you?" It was a vague question quite out of context, but the old doctor seemed to have understood, for he faintly smiled and nodded. However, the chief surgeon denied the fact, "You're wrong, Dr. Yu Min, it was not me. There are many, many doctors like the surgeon in our country. And there are many young doctors like you. Isn't it more gratifying?" He placed his high-pulsating hand on Yu Min's shoulder. At this moment, Yu Min awoke from his doze and reverie. The clock said it was evening. The heavy rain had already stopped. The western sky was aglow with the setting sun, looking like a red flag. Yu Min left quietly before Mun Chol recovered consciousness. Before leaving, he mended the power plant model and placed it at Mun Chol's bedside. When he returned, Department Chief Ro greeted him, but not with a bunch of flowers like in the dream. He asked, "Are you still given to a fanciful thought?"

"What?" Yu Min asked back, surprised.

"Go on with your dream," the chief surgeon said with a silent smile. "It's a good thing to have a dream."

(The end)

Popwang Peak

MT. MYOHYANG IS SITUATED IN THE northwestern region of Korea. With a mixture of fantastic and magnificent features, a large number of famous peaks called "84 000 peaks" can be found there. The mountain is counted among most celebrated mountains boasting of their superb scenic beauty from olden times.

Among these peaks is Popwang Peak that is 1 388m high and is made up of granite-gneiss. When casting a glance at Popwang Peak from the Nungin Hermitage that is located in the highest place in Mt. Myohyang, one feels as if watching a screen set up all around. Rocks look like a giant who is standing firm with his iron fist raising aloft or a hideous creature setting its eyes on its prey.

Also, they look like a running deer or a flying crane. Indeed, the shapes of rocks on Popwang Peak are multifarious. That is why Popwang Peak is regarded as the "Peak of Ten Thousand Forms in Mt. Myohyang."

Visible on the southern slope of Popwang Peak is a ravine called Sangwondong or Sangwongol. Seen there are fantastic rocks including Inho Rock and noted waterfalls in Mt. Myohyang, including the Chonsin, Ryongyon and Sanju waterfalls.

From the summit of Popwang Peak with a fine lookout, you can see the River Kuryong curving around Yaksandongdae of Nyongbyon known as a place of scenic beauty from olden times. Also to be seen below towards the west is Hyangsan County town built cosily in the national form.

At present Popwang Peak is a famous sight-seeing spot in Mt. Myohyang.

Song Yong



Thongilgori Fitness Centre

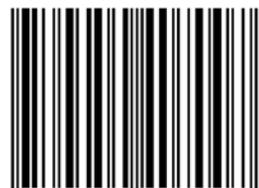
A S A MODERN PUBLIC WELFARE centre equipped with various kinds of sporting and medical treatment apparatuses,

the centre helps working people to make themselves more fit physically and improve their health. □





ISSN 0454-4072



9 770454 407007 >