

The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

No. 34 (3 122) weekly

<http://www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp> e-mail:flph@star-co.net.kp Sat, August 22, Juche 109(2020)

Chairman Kim Jong Un guides sixth plenum of Seventh WPK Central Committee



The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea has decided to call the Eighth Party Congress at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee.

The decision adopted at the plenum said:

"Today our Party and people are carrying on the historic task set forth at the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea while smashing straight through all the difficulties standing in our advance by organizing and waging an arduous revolutionary struggle."

"Through the indomitable struggle for implementing the decision made at the Seventh Congress of the WPK in the past the dignity and position of our state has been remarkably raised, the single-minded unity of the Party and the people further consolidated and a great revolutionary turn made in the building of the Party and its overall activities."

"On the other hand, the economy has failed to improve in the face of the persistently severe internal and external situations and unexpected manifold challenges, with the result that many of the planned goals for national economic growth have not yet been attained nor the people's living standards improved markedly."

It said that the plenary meeting, after analysing and reviewing the experience and lessons drawn from the work in the past five years for building a powerful socialist country, decided to convene the Eighth Congress of the WPK in January 2021 in order to put forward a correct line of struggle and strategic and tactical policies on the basis of the new requirements of our developing revolution and the prevailing situation.

The agenda items of the Eighth Congress will include the review of the work of the WPK Central Committee, that of the work of the WPK Central Auditing Commission, the revision of the rules of the WPK and the election of the Party's central leadership body, it said.

A delegate with the right to vote to the Congress will be elected from among every 1 300 Party members and one delegate with the right to speak from among every 1 300 probationary Party members, it added.

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FROM PAGE 1

Plenum: Seventh WPK CC meets

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place at the office building of the Central Committee of the WPK on Wednesday.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and also supreme leader of the state and armed forces of the DPRK, guided the plenary meeting.

The plenum was attended by members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee and members of the Party Central Auditing Commission.

Officials of departments of the Party Central Committee were present as observers.

The meeting discussed as the major agenda the issue of convening the Eighth Congress of the WPK in order to set forth a new line of struggle and strategic and tactical policies in keeping with the requirements of the developing Korean revolution and the changed situation and to further strengthen the Party organizationally and ideologically.

Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, Chairman Kim Jong Un presided over the plenum and made a historic speech.

In the speech he analysed the subjective and objective environments this year in which the country faced unexpected and unavoidable challenges in different aspects and the situation in the region surrounding the Korean peninsula, and assessed the achievements and mistakes that have been made in the work of the Party and the state for the past four years since the historic Seventh Party Congress.

The Supreme Leader, based on data, made a detailed report on the goals achieved by different economic sectors in this year, the final year in attaining the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic development set forth at the Seventh Party Congress, in particular, and analysed the results.

He said that the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee suggested convening the Eighth Congress of the WPK in order to conduct a comprehensive, three-dimensional and anatomical analysis and review of the deviations and shortcomings that were revealed in the work for implementing the decisions of the Seventh Congress

of the Party and to discuss and decide on the strategic tasks facing the Party and the government in the new stage of struggle in the crucial period of the Korean revolution.

He referred to the need to convene the Party congress, the supreme guidance organ of the Party, on a regular basis in order to confirm the line and strategic and tactical measures for steering the development of the times and the revolution, and adjust and reinforce the Party leadership body for guaranteeing their execution, and indicated the important guidelines for the running of the congress.

He said that the Eighth Congress would review this year's work and the work of the Party Central Committee in the period under review and set forth a new five-year plan for national economic development including the orientation of work for next year.

Noting that the Eighth Congress should become a congress of struggle, a working congress and a congress making a comprehensive review of Party work, he specified the agenda items to be discussed at the congress and the issues arising in the preparations for it.

He stressed the need to achieve new progress in advancing the revolution and

construction and in strengthening the Party by making sure that all the sectors and units including Party organizations and government and military organs at all levels review their work in time and on a regular basis, positively promote, expand and develop good results, and promptly overcome shortcomings and take corrective measures, so that they would not deviate from the implementation of the Party's basic lines, policies and decisions.

He called on all the participants to greet the Eighth Congress with high political zeal and shining feats of labour by simultaneously pushing the development and strengthening of the internal potentials and the motive force for development as required by the frontal offensive to achieve a breakthrough and the major tasks set forth at Party Political Bureau meetings held this year.

The Supreme Leader read out a draft decision of the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK on convening the Eighth Party Congress.

The plenum decided to convene the Eighth Congress of the WPK in January 2021.

KCNA-THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Participants in Party plenum pay homage to great leaders

The participants in the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on Wednesday evening to pay homage to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Members of the Party's central leadership body laid a basket of flowers in the name of the WPK Central Committee at the statues of

Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and paid high tribute to them.

At the halls of immortality where the President and the Chairman are preserved in their lifetime appearance they made a deep bow to them, pledging themselves to remain faithful to the revolution to the last by defending socialism of Juche, the patriotic legacy bequeathed by the great leaders.

KCNA





Holding fast to the people-first principle

The history of the Workers' Party of Korea is a proud course in which it has taken responsibility for the destiny of the people and led the Korean revolution along the road of victory.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il built the WPK as a revolutionary party which works for the people together with them.

The aggressive forces obsessed with a wild ambition to dominate the world forced a bloody war on the Korean people, increased the danger of a new war when they rehabilitated the country from the war debris with so much effort by tightening their belts and stood in their way by imposing unprecedented sanctions and blockade when they tried to develop the national economy.

In the vortex of the difficulties of history the WPK only trusted and relied on the people and they were its only supporters, advisers and helpers.

During the whole period of

its revolutionary leadership it went among the people first, lent an ear to their simple and honest opinions and gathered inexhaustible courage in their sincere support whenever it faced a grave situation and had to set the course of advance.

For the WPK, it has been its top priority and duty to take full responsibility for their political integrity and look after their material and cultural life, which it has never neglected even a moment.

In the face of the worst adversities, it made painstaking efforts to sow the precious seeds, secure the wealth and invariably enforce the popular policies for the people's well-being.

Today the politics of WPK Chairman Kim Jong Un based on the people-first idea have uplifted the people to the highest position.

On his mind the people are engraved as the noble images of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

From his noble mentality that the people should be

Meanwhile, footwear factories throughout the country established a recycling technology that relies on plastic and rubber waste.

They introduced softener and modifier to produce air-foamed plastic soles, which are light and durable, and recycled a kind of plastic that had been thrown away in the past to turn out more footwear while saving sole materials. They also settled the problem of materials for sole with industrial waste and made insoles and adhesives with locally-available raw materials, thus lowering production costs. They make materials for the production of injection-moulded boots by using cuttings from production and lower the norms for the consumption of materials per unit.

New software for preschoolers available

Hasin Kindergarten in Sosong District of Pyongyang has developed a new education support program, according to KCNA.

This software showing over 50 Korean words along with pictures with the help of the three-dimensional image technology helps children not only get familiar with, read and write Korean words but also observe in detail their shape, appearance and feature while using mouse by themselves.

It is being introduced into kindergartens throughout the country.

held in high esteem like the great leaders the essence of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, the guiding ideology of the Party and state of the DPRK, was formulated as the people-first principle, the idea on applying the President- and Chairman-style view on the people emerged and the slogan "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!" has become the fundamental principle and mode of Party and state activities.

The WPK now solves all problems by relying on the inexhaustible strength of the masses of the people, regarding its faith in them as the most valuable asset.

As it maintains the unique political mode of attaining its ideal by relying more on the people and enlisting their strength when the tasks are uphill and the situations are more serious, it goes among the people first and candidly tell them its innermost thoughts whenever it is faced with difficulties and works out plans

for overcoming them.

All lines and policies of the WPK are directed towards bringing smile and happiness to the people.

The WPK Chairman continues to follow the road of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people with the noble view on life that even if he is spread as grains of sand on the road for the good of the people, he does not wish for anything better and with the firm will never to hesitate to suffer excruciating pain if it were for the good of the people. On the way he went to the front without hesitation staking his life on the dignity of the state and the destiny of the people, rode the tramcar, trolley bus, metro train, chair lift and amusement facilities to be used by the people before anyone else, continued his forced march at night and even under the scorching heat and drove his car along the muddy roads to meet the people in the disaster-stricken areas.

The WPK has made the

frontal offensive for achieving a breakthrough of this year consistent with selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people and taken a series of measures to ensure the safety of the people against the spread of the global epidemic.

The recent 16th Political Bureau meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee discussed and decided on the important issues of repairing the flood damage as early as possible and providing the people with a stable life by concentrating all efforts and of more strictly maintaining the state emergency anti-epidemic system and perfecting the regular anti-epidemic command system in line with the requirements of the world health crisis.

To always mix with the people, see what they think and want, share good and bad with them and grope together with them for the way and lead them to victory and prosperity—this is the WPK's mode of politics.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

INSPECTION

Senior officials visit flood-hit Kangwon and North Hwanghae

Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, toured different flood-stricken areas in Kimhwa, Cholwon and Phyonggang counties in Kangwon Province.

As he familiarized himself with the damage suffered by relevant areas and their reconstruction plans, he urged officials of Party and government organs to fulfil their responsibility and duties in providing the people with a settled life and giving a complete

facelift to the residential districts.

Meeting with the inhabitants of the township of Kimhwa County, he acquainted himself with their living conditions and discussed different matters and took necessary measures.

At the Paengnosan Cooperative Farm in Cholwon County, he underscored the need to put efforts into stabilizing the living of farmers and improving the growth conditions of crops in the afflicted paddy and non-paddy fields.

In Phyonggang County, he referred to the need to reexamine the technical conditions of railway stations

and ensure the steady transport of materials for rehabilitation.

Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspected different counties of North Hwanghae Province to learn about their flood damage and reconstruction.

Touring Taechong-ri in Unpha County, he urged officials to pay primary attention to providing the afflicted people with a better living condition.

He stressed the need for all the service personnel and builders involved in the reconstruction project to strictly abide by the anti-epidemic rules, calling for stepping up the repair of the embankment and the construction of structures.

Acquainting himself with the rehabilitation project in Sohung and Pongsan counties, he urged the designing organs to design the structures in a responsible way. He also discussed and took practical measures to rehabilitate the drainage pumping stations immediately, improve all the waterways as planned and put the cultivation of crops on a scientific and technical basis.



Senior official Pak Pong Ju (second from left), inspects Kimhwa county town, Kangwon Province, to learn about flood relief effort.

REHABILITATION

Nation out to recover from flood damage, stabilize people's livelihood

True to the decision of the 16th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the metal, construction and building-materials, agriculture, land administration, electric power, railway transport and other economic sectors are out in the rehabilitation in flood-stricken areas.

The recent Politburo meeting pointed to the need to concentrate all efforts on the ongoing campaign to clear away the aftermaths of the floods as soon as possible so as to provide the people with stable living conditions.

After the meeting, powerful construction forces were immediately dispatched to the flood-stricken areas.

Accordingly, the headquarters split up the tasks for rehabilitation properly, while concentrating the forces on major targets.

As a result, the reconstruction of dwelling houses and ruined roads, bridges and railways is pushed ahead on a full scale while proactive measures taken for the supply of materials to satisfy the needs at the construction sites.

The Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326 finished the production of hundreds of kilometres of cables of various kinds needed for the rehabilitation.

The Sangwon and Sunchon cement complexes, the Kim Chack and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes and other industrial establishments are working hard to produce cement, iron and steel in time.

Agricultural communities at

all levels are putting great efforts into draining off standing water from waterlogged farmlands and restoring the viability of crops.

The recent torrential rains and floods wreaked havoc on a huge hectarage of farmlands and a large amount of crops in Kangwon and North and South Hwanghae provinces, Kaesong and many other regions.

Service personnel and residents are now joining efforts in the afflicted areas in order to concentrate equipment and manpower on draining water from flooded areas without delay and restoring waterways and embankments.

They are also stepping up the washing of muddy leaves and application of various nutritious solution and germicide to improve nutritive condition of crops, while building levees around buried paddy fields and sowing seeds of other crops.

The restoration of the communications and power

transmission and supply systems is also making progress.

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications carried out the repair of communications facilities in the flood-stricken areas in the eastern and western parts of the country to link Pyongyang with provinces and counties. It has now buckled down to the restoration of communications between counties and ri.

The electric power industry sector presses on with the rehabilitation of power grids.

In particular, the North Hwanghae provincial power distribution station set up power poles which had been toppled by flood, downpour and rainstorm, and placed the power lines.

Coal-mining complexes across the country are working to minimize the flood damage so as to push forward with coal production uninterrupted.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



An excavator loads a truck in the reconstruction project for flood-stricken Taechong-ri, Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province.

APPLIANCE

Innovation gives factory chance to diversify products

The Pyongyang Automation Appliances Factory in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, channels its efforts

into developing new products.

"We aim to develop highly efficient products with low costs," said Kim Chang Won,

manager of the factory.

The factory built a CNC plasma cutter and introduced it into the pipe-making and assembly process. The new cutter can produce various products under the automatic control of programs and improve the processing accuracy and work efficiency.

According to Han Kwang Hyok, a workshop manager of the factory, the introduction of the CNC cutter made it possible to increase productivity and save production cost by 90 percent.

In order to remodel the high-pressure vacuum breaker, the factory made a mould for insulated arc-extinguishing box, the core part of vacuum breaker, by relying on domestic



An employee processes a workpiece at the Pyongyang Automation Appliances Factory.

raw materials.

It also developed a lead twisting device and thus solved the technical problems that arose in manufacturing small and 200A automatic switches.

Besides, the factory is working to improve the performance of household electrical appliances while developing several kinds of alternating current contactor,

HEALTHCARE

Hospital reaches int'l information standards



PAK KWANG HUN
Paediatricians discuss a method of heart surgery online at the heart ultrasonography room of the functional diagnosis department of the Okryu Children's Hospital.

The Okryu Children's Hospital has put medical service on an IT footing on the basis of international health information standards.

"The aim of the informatization of public health is to provide better treatment environment, which means the improvement of quality of medical services," said An Jin Yong, deputy director of the hospital.

According to him, interchangeability needs to be realized to share information produced in the course of treatment activities in order to introduce IT into public health. To this end, it is important to digitize information based on international standards.

Therefore, the hospital established a database containing more than 20 000 clinical terms and a medical image database with high memory capacity on the basis of international health information standards.

In the clinical terminology database, the terms of complaint, disease, operation and control, diagnosis and experimental test and medicine are encoded according to their semantic, hierarchical and multi-dimensional systems, and each synonym corresponds to one code. The hospital designed the database to be an open type so as to make everyone take part in establishing the database. It also added obstetric and odontological terms and is continuing to expand them.

The medical image database contains digitized medical image information resources, which will be used effectively in medical research and

education.

"By using these databases we have set up a hospital information system with EMR and PACS as the backbone," said Ri Kum Chol, department chief of the hospital.

The establishment of the information system has made it possible to build the foundation and infrastructure of national health informatization, formulate the standard of e-clinical chart and open up a prospect for exchanging clinical information data with medical treatment and prevention units at home and abroad and realizing the unified management of the national health information data centring on the Ministry of Public Health.

Thanks to the information system, doctor Pak Il Yong said, the hospital ensures the promptness and correctness of treatment while maintaining the consistency of the diagnosis of outpatients and inpatients and the diagnosis before and after surgical operation by more than 98 percent, shortening the period of hospital treatment by more than 15 percent and saving 20 percent of medicines and supplies.

The system is being introduced into the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital in Pyongyang, the Samjiyon City People's Hospital in Ryanggang Province and many other hospitals, and it is used to analyse disease tendency and predict the consumption of medicines and pharmaceutical plan on a nationwide scale.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

voltage transformer and high-tension current transformer.

"Our factory is planning to bring out a small automatic switch and a new type of AC motor for fans in the near future," said Ryang Song Jun, chief of the technology division of the factory.

By Ju Kyong Jin PT

FORESTATION

Effort focuses on turning mountains into profitable ones

Afforestation makes headway

The DPRK has attained considerable successes since it launched into the second-stage project of the forest restoration campaign.

Good progress has been made in putting sapling production on a scientific, industrial and intensive basis.

This year alone land- and labour-saving tree nurseries have been completed and put into operation in North Hwanghae Province and Rason City, and a provincial tree nursery equipped with modern processes from seed sorting to seeding and production built in South Phyongan Province. Meanwhile, the construction of parent nurseries has been almost completed in cities and counties of Kangwon and North Hwanghae provinces. The Ministry of Land and Environment Protection is stepping up the projects for the reconstruction of the Central Tree Nursery and the construction of the Academy of Forest Science.

Tree planting is pushed ahead on a full scale.

"This year over 50 species of trees for fruit and timber production and landscaping are mainly being planted as they are of high economic value and favourable to improving

ecological environment," said Kim Song Jun, deputy director of the General Forest Bureau of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection, adding these species take up over 90 percent in the overall afforestation.

Among the fruit tree species are such oil-producing trees as pine-nut tree, Korean evodia, wild walnut and toothache tree, such wild fruit trees as chestnut, sand pear tree and wild vine and such medicinal fruit trees as black chokeberry and seabuckthorn. Also, there are many species that are effective as materials for wood pulp and building parts. Evergreen trees including pine tree and "Kumya black pine", Pyongyang maple and clammy locust are widely planted to add beauty to the scenery.

At present, a nationwide effort is going on to further improve the growth rate of trees and the carbon dioxide absorption and water storage capacity of forests by planting mixed forests in a rational way.

Yonthan County in North Hwanghae Province created a chokeberry forest in an area of over 100 hectares according to a yearly plan to yield a large quantity of fruits, which are processed to make extract,

jam, essence and jelly at a local processing plant. Jagang Province produced over 155 000 chokeberry saplings last year and planted them in over 60 hectares this year.

Ryanggang Province in collaboration with the Academy of Forest Science of the General Forest Bureau of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection introduced and cultivated hundreds of thousands of seabuckthorns of a good species in over 70 hectares.

During this year's spring tree-planting season, millions of trees newly took roots in the mountains surrounding the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort in South Phyongan Province.

Besides, different kinds of root protective agents, growth accelerators and nutritive activators were developed to ensure a high rooting rate of newly planted trees. Notable achievements were also made in the research for making tree-planting possible in any season. Primary attentions are paid to thoroughly preventing forest fires and damage by blight and harmful insects and efforts are directed to reducing the dependence on forests in all parts of the country.

By Pak Song Min PT

Ranger follows in his father's footsteps to build forest

At the sunny foot of Mt Taemok in Sonchon County, North Phyongan Province, there stands a small house with its garden serving as a tree nursery.

It is the home of Pak Si Ho who has been working as a forest ranger at the Sonchon County Forestry Management Station for nearly 20 years.

"My father was a forest patrolman and he was the first person who implanted in me an attachment to trees," said Pak.

He often recollects his father who often took him to the mountain in his childhood, fixed a plate bearing his name to a young tree together with him and told him that the tree would grow very tall after ten or twenty years and lots of such trees would form a thick forest. In those days, he developed an affection for each tree they planted, he recalled.

Back home after his demob, he climbed Mt Taemok.

His heart ached at the sight of the mountain with only sparse

shrubs, so he made up his mind to cover the mountain in his home village with forests as his father had done.

Above all, he turned his garden into a sapling field.

He trekked through mountain ranges to familiarize himself with every nook and cranny of the forest area in his charge, acquired knowledge of afforestation and mapped out a plan for it.

"Before anything else, lots of saplings were needed. That's why he decided to build tree nurseries in the forests in addition to that of the forestry management station," said Pak's wife.

To fertilize soil, he went up mountains shouldering a knapsack filled with humus every day with his family and members of a mountain workteam.

He was delighted to see the young trees put out leaves one after another.

One year, all of a sudden, *Acantholyda sp.*, or a pine-nut tree leaf bee, broke out and

inflicted damage on the forests. He developed an efficient insecticide by mixing a new additive with the roots of alder and invented a method of injecting the roots of pine-nut trees with it to exterminate the harmful insect.

He makes hundreds of kilograms of insecticide each year. He introduced a ridge-type sapling raising method to double sapling output as compared to previously.

The saplings he raised thus were transplanted in the mountain to grow healthy and green and the forest area in his charge is getting more verdant with the passage of time.

Every year his forests yield dozens of tons of pine nuts and acorns, various kinds of wild fruits and medicinal herbs, and timbers with different uses as well.

He always finds himself in the mountain to hear the rustle of leaves in the thick forests.

By Jong Chol PT

Pine nut-grafted forest grows thicker



KIM YONG CHAN
Employees of the forestry management station in Riwon County, South Hamgyong Province, discuss how to improve the cultivation of chestnut saplings.

Visitors can see a spectacular view of pine nut forests in Riwon County, South Hamgyong Province.

It owes a great deal to the efforts of the county forestry management station, which turned all mountains in the county into forests of pine nut-grafted trees by grafting pine nut tree onto pine tree.

"Riwon is a seaside county and many pine trees grow here. Especially, there is Songdan, a scenic attraction along the seaside of Riwon Bay with sand dunes stretching as far as the eyes can see and evergreen pine forests," said Yun Su, manager of the station.

According to him, the station began to introduce the pine nut-grafting technology decades ago.

At the time, it set a goal to transform the forests by grafting pine nut tree of economic value

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Oil-bearing plant cultivation encouraged

Recently, many local communities are channelling big efforts into cultivating oil-bearing crops.

Hochon County in South Hamgyong Province produced dozens of tons of edible oil from hundreds of tons of sunflower seeds harvested in recent years, and used over 10 tons of byproducts from the oil pressing process as a raw material for soap and hundreds of tons of sunflower leaves and stalks as animal feeds.

It increased the sowing area to dozens of hectares and cultivated sunflowers in a scientific and technological manner by ensuring a proper number of bunches per phyong and carrying out seed thinning, weeding, manuring and preventing damage from

blight and harmful insects, thus producing a good crop.

Foodstuff factories and chemical necessities factories in the county increased the production of sunflower oil and soap by improving the performance of facilities including oil press and saponifier.

Ryokpho District in Pyongyang is also benefiting from oil-bearing plant cultivation.

"Having solved the problem of edible oil by planting rape, sunflower, flax and perilla last year, our district has planted oil-bearing plants in right soil in dozens of hectares this year," said an official of the district people's committee.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

LITERATURE

Enthusiasts go for literature prize contest

The national mass literary work prize contest is going on with animation in the DPRK.

According to Song Nam Jin, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Writers Union of Korea, the contest takes place on the occasion of national holidays and major anniversaries every year, and the first contest of this year was held to mark the Day of the Shining Star (February 16) and another one is the current competition held to mark the 75th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea (October 10).

The contest is open to all DPRK citizens, including workers, farmers, service personnel and students.

The ongoing prize competition is divided into such literary forms as novel, poetry, juvenile literature,

drama and critique according to its general outline and more than 800 literary works have so far been contributed since last March.

"Some enthusiasts have contributed over 10 works. Contributions have not yet undergone examination, but many of them are splendid enough to surpass the products of professional writers. And among the contributors are many housewives and schoolchildren as well as workers and farmers," said Son Yong Bok, a judge of the mass literature department.

The contributors have described vividly and lively their attachment to their home towns and villages, workplaces and alma maters in different forms of literature, and many of the works are of high ideological and artistic

value, he added.

"Originally, I had thought that only experts could write literature," said Kim Il Ok, silk reeler at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill. "But as I read publications, it hit me that I could write, too. Since then I have written literary works with what happens in everyday life, my workshop and village as material. Although I have not studied literature much, experts appreciated my works as original. I think everyone can become writers and creators if they try hard."

Prize-winning works are carried in such magazines as Korean Literature, Youth Literature and Juvenile Literature and *Munhak Sinmun* newspaper.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

SERVICE

Restaurant provides distinctive service to visitors

The cooking festival hall on Ryomyong Street lures many visitors with its special service.

People usually call it a "place with gourmet cooks and foods".

Probably it is because they can see all the movements of the cooks who make foods they order and eat readily made foods.

"In a word, we can see everything at a look. Everything, from the kitchen to the selection of cooking ingredients and the whole process of cookery, is interesting and it is a pleasure to 'see' them," said Jo Ki Chol, a regular visitor to the restaurant.

Head chef Ri Chun Ho said, "The kitchen is open to all, which demands all of us, cooks, always work as intensely as if we are attending a cooking

festival. In the festival the jury estimates everything from hygiene specifications to the tastes of foods, but here customers are judges at ordinary times. Which means we are competing at the 'cooking festival' every day."

Therefore, cooks in the festival hall always pay special attention to their attire and looks as well as the whole process of cookery and work hard to fully comply with the standard regulations.

The open kitchen also does them a "special favour".

In ordinary restaurants cooks come to know whether the diners like their creations or not through waitresses, but here they can see the visitors' expressions when their ordered foods are served and the whole course of dining with their own eyes.

"It is the greatest pleasure

for me to see that the customers receive their ordered foods with satisfaction and relish them to the last. We work tirelessly to give them as much smile and joy," said Pak Yong A, a cook of the restaurant.

With special environment and distinctive service, it attracts an increasing number of visitors.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

HEALTH

Temperature rise and disease prevention

Sharp rise in temperature by global warming is the main factor causing various infectious diseases and loss of lives.

Typical examples are dengue fever, Lassa fever, malaria and cholera which have been prevalent in different countries in recent years.

Therefore, the DPRK is working hard to prevent infectious and other diseases that might break out in summer.

Pak Tong Chol, chief of the Korea Fund against Tuberculosis and Malaria, said that the issue of environment is very important in eradicating infective diseases including malaria and cholera.

Hygienic information activities are conducted briskly to inform residents of common knowledge of such diseases so that they can thoroughly prevent

CHILDCARE

Nursing environment improved

Namsin Nursery in Songyo District, Pyongyang, is improving the nursing and upbringing of children.

As part of the efforts to spruce up the children's living environment more cozily, it carved on the walls of its building the leading figures from animations and collections of world-famous juvenile stories, starry worlds of night sky and pictures showing their happy life in relief.

Its outdoor playground is furnished with new amusement facilities.

The nursery contrives and makes moving visual aids and ensures that children develop their intelligence and independent thinking and observation faculties through various intelligent games and observation in the nature study room and thus have a correct understanding and general idea of matters.

"Our children foster the mind



Children play with construction toys at Namsin Nursery in Songyo District, Pyongyang.

convulsion and mental disorders like hallucination.

In medical terms, such medical symptoms as sunstroke, heatstroke and heat lipothymia and heat convulsion are called specific syndrome caused by high temperature damage as a whole. Experts say that the syndrome can be easily prevented when people cope with it with a better understanding of common medical knowledge.

In order to prevent the syndrome, all units inform their employees of common knowledge of diseases, especially sunstroke and heatstroke, encourage them to put up umbrellas or put on hats with wide visor in order to avoid direct rays and prohibit working outside for a long time.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



A cook prepares a dish at the cooking festival hall on Ryomyong Street, Pyongyang.

ANNIVERSARY

Long journey etched in history of DPRK-Russia, DPRK-China friendship

Chairman Kim Jong Il toured Russia's Siberian and Far Eastern regions and Northeast China in August 2011.

The historic journey which was made in his last year was of great significance in bolstering up the traditional ties with Russia and China.

As to his visit to the Bureya Hydropower Station, a leading power generation base in the Russian Far East, the August 22 2011 issue of *Rodong Sinmun* reported:

"Chairman Kim Jong Il spoke highly of the brave and talented Russian people for having built the modern and large-scale hydropower plant through the decades of battle to ameliorate nature and expressed the expectation that the workers of the power station would produce electricity on a regular basis to contribute to the economic development and the promotion of the people's

well-being in the Far Eastern region."

As he looked round Lake Baikal, he described the lake as a pride of the Russian people and referred to the need to properly preserve and manage the natural environment of the lake and its environs in order to hand it down to posterity and make sure that it positively contributes to the improvement of the living and well-being of the Russians.

The Chinese people were also moved by the noble personalities of the Chairman who associated everything with the pains taken by working people and the promotion of the people's well-being.

Touring the Tonghua Wine Co. Ltd in Jilin Province, the Chairman familiarized himself with the history and production system of the company and even the storage and taste of its products and wished the

company greater progress in its work for the promotion of the people's well-being.

He appreciated the people's painstaking efforts at the sight of every creation and every scenic attraction and Russian and Chinese peoples were fascinated by his popular traits.

In different places associated with the activities of President Kim Il Sung he reverentially recollected the brilliant career and exploits of the President who had devoted his all to the friendship with the peoples of the countries and the accomplishment of the cause of independence for mankind.

While travelling through many places on his over 8 000-kilometre-long journey from Khasan on the Pacific coast to Amur and Trans-Baikal regions of Russia and from the Inner Mongolian autonomous region to Jilin Province in Northeast

China, he encouraged the peoples of the two countries to fresh successes in economic construction and further strengthened friendship with them.

Victor Isaev, presidential envoy to the Far East Region of Russia, said that everyone who met Chairman Kim Jong Il would become his close friend, attracted by his personality traits and affection.

The world media described his tour of Russia and China as an "event that had a great impact on the political circles and public of the world".

The exploits the Chairman performed for the development of the bonds of friendship with the two countries will be imperishable forever along with the ties that are cemented in line with the requirements of the new era.

By Om Ryong PT

COMMENT

Japan's bid for military resurgence menace to global peace and security

It is 75 years since Japan was defeated in World War II, but its ultra-rightists are hell-bent on the revival of militarism with a wild ambition to reinvoke other countries, far from making an apology for the crimes it committed against humanity in the past.

This year alone the Abe regime allocated a record high of well over 5 trillion yen for building up the defence capacity in the new domains including outer space and cyberspace and buying such

military equipment as the latest stealth fighter jet F-35.

Now Japan, which has steadily expanded the attack capability of the SDF, tries to throw off the nominal shackles by amending the constitution.

And Japanese politicians visit the Yasukuni Shrine in group and offer tributes to it every year in a bid to honour the war dead as "heroes" and imbue Japanese society with a sentiment of praising chauvinism and militarism.

Not content with the denial of its history filled with crimes including the sexual slavery for the Japanese army and forcible drafting, Japan justified it and totally distorted, scaled down or downplayed the history of aggression in most of the middle school textbooks to be used from 2021 to instil militaristic view of history and revanchism into the rising generations.

Emerging as a leading military entity in the world, it is now frantic to make the sound of

gunfire for overseas reinvasion at all costs.

It is scheming to cause armed conflict by arguing for its dominion over others' territories, while driving the regional situation to a crisis with incessant war games allegedly to ensure its "security".

The world has been thrown into great turmoil by COVID-19 this year, but Japan has staged a series of war games on every pretext, arousing serious concern of the international community.

The reckless behaviour of Japan aimed at achieving its wild ambition of overseas reinvasion poses a grave threat to peace and security of the world.

KCNA

the supreme representative of Korea's sovereignty.

In his request made on his deathbed in 1926, the last emperor of the feudal Joson dynasty said that he did not ratify the Korea-Japan annexation treaty but the group of rebellious subjects cooked it up as they liked and that at the time of its fabrication, the Japanese locked him up and blackmailed him.

The historical facts prove that the fabrication of the treaty was an unheard-of act of state-sponsored terrorism.

This is only the tip of so many crimes Japan committed against the Korean people in the past.

Japan, however, is trying to justify all those unethical crimes it committed against the Koreans and mankind in the last century, far from admitting them.

WRONGDOING

Worst ever state-sponsored terrorism

The Japanese imperialists fabricated the Korea-Japan annexation treaty to reduce Korea to their colony 110 years ago.

Having provoked the *Unyogo* incident in 1875 and launched into a full-scale invasion of Korea, Japan fabricated the Ulsa five-point treaty and the Jongmi seven-point treaty respectively in 1905 and 1907 to seize the country's diplomatic right, military command and administrative power and enforced colonial rule by "resident-general".

It examined the Korea-Japan annexation plan in April 1909 and finalized the plan for occupying Korea, asserting that

"to annex Korea as part of the Japanese empire is the most reliable way for establishing our real ability on the peninsula".

In the unequal treaty, Japan specified that Korea's sovereignty should be transferred to it completely and permanently and Korea should be annexed to it.

To cook up the treaty, Japan declared a martial law in the Hansong area, committed large forces of the Japanese army and police there and created a gruesome atmosphere as they encircled the Changdok Palace.

Though it finally invented the annexation treaty on August 22 1910, it proclaimed the treaty on August 29, fearful of the

Koreans' strong opposition.

The royal instruction of Emperor Sunjong (1874-1926) on the proclamation of the treaty bears the royal seal but not his signature. As the Korean emperor rejected the promulgation of the instruction, the Japanese drew it up as they liked, stamped it with the royal seal which the "residency-general" had seized at the time of attacking the Korean state seal office, and proclaimed the instruction devoid of the emperor's signature.

This shows that the document on Korea-Japan annexation was forcibly adopted against the will of Emperor Sunjong who was

Briefly

Kyrgyzstan

President vows to improve quality of farm produce

Kyrgyz President Sooronbay Zheenbekov told a state broadcasting company on August 15 that the country would improve the quality of its agricultural products to boost their exports.

It is an important matter to produce ecologically-friendly farm products and increase their exports at present, he said.

Russia

Japanese media decried for history distortion

Japan's leading mass media reported that the former Soviet Union had committed an act of aggression in Manchuria in perfidious breach of the Soviet-Japan neutrality pact.

Russia brands the media's claim as groundless and demands the Japanese authorities take relevant measures against those who committed such act, said the official report publication department of the Russian Foreign Ministry in an official report on August 12.

Palestine

PLO criticizes Israel for human rights abuses

A member of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization on August 17 said that the Israeli army and settlers are infringing on the Palestinians' rights almost every day, appealing to the international community to take a measure to put an end to such acts.

Referring to the recent incident in which an Israeli policeman kicked and clubbed two arrested Palestinian young people, he called on the United Nations to investigate into the flagrant human rights abuses by Israel immediately.

Iran

Irrigation project finished

A large-scale irrigation project was completed in the western part of Iran with due ceremony on August 13.

The completion of the project has made it possible to supply water to 23 000 hectares of farmland and thus increase agricultural output.

The region reportedly plans to expand the irrigation area by 35 000 hectares until March next year.

China

Agreement inked on cooperation with Qatar

China and Qatar recently concluded an agreement on cooperation in developing water-saving farming.

Accordingly, Qatar will introduce the digital water-saving irrigation technique and facilities developed by China.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

PROFILE



Taekwon-Do star Jang still inspirational

Among DPRK Taekwon-Doists, who have devoted themselves to the development of Korea's traditional martial art, there is Jang Kyong Ok (pictured).

Jang was born and brought up in a mountainous village of Kosong County, Kangwon Province.

She began to learn Taekwon-Do in her childhood and made her international debut at the 7th ITF Taekwon-Do World Championships held in Canada's Montreal in 1990.

In the individual sparring of the championships, she finished runner-up to draw the attention of experts and fans and contributed to her team's win.

Afterwards, she trained harder to hit higher goals and won gold medals in the over 70kg-division sparring and other individual and team events of the 8th championships held in the DPRK in 1992.

In the championships she



distinguished herself as a Taekwon-Do star.

She put on a stellar performance at the 9th championships in Malaysia in 1994.

At that time many experts and stakeholders in the championships lauded her as Taekwon-Do queen, saying her movements were powerful and

perfect and the DPRK exalted the honour as the birthplace of Taekwon-Do.

Jang won the women's top technical prize cup and four gold medals at the championships, to be recognized as the world's Taekwon-Do queen.

Later on, she gave full play to her power as the world's Taekwon-Do ace at many international competitions.

In nearly a decade since her international debut she bagged 26 golds and four top technical prize cups at international competitions including five Taekwon-Do championships.

Jang is the winner of Kim Il Sung Youth Honour Prize and Labour Hero and People's Athlete of the DPRK.

She now works as a staff member of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee.

By Min Chol PT

HERITAGE

Martial art classic *Muyedobothongji*

Muyedobothongji is an illustrated book of martial arts which comprehensively systematized the martial art movements handed down through generations in Korea.

The old book shows the movements of traditional Korean martial arts and different methods derived from them.

Published in 1790 in the period of feudal Joson dynasty, it was compiled by Ri Tok Mu, Pak Je Ga and Paek Tong Su, and its pictures are estimated to have been drawn by Kim Hong Do, renowned artist in those days.

Earlier in the 16th century Han Kyo wrote a book entitled Muyebo dealing with six kinds of martial arts, and in the mid-18th century there was a book introducing 18 kinds of martial arts by adding 12 military arts to the former.

Muyedobothongji was compiled by adding six more

military arts. Consisting of five volumes of thongji and one volume of chongbo, the book explains the arts of handling such main weapons in the feudal age as sword, spear, bow and cudgel on the ground or horseback together with drawings according to their movements.

It was published in the 18th century as part of the effort of the feudal Joson dynasty to compile and publish books and used as a teaching material for practising martial arts in the army. It was reprinted several times.

The book narrowly escaped in the past century when Japan banned all martial art games of the Korean people and viciously tried to obliterate the fine tradition of martial arts of the Korean nation.

Korean feature film Pyongyang Nalpharam, which

was a huge box-office hit among the Koreans and appreciated highly in the Pyongyang International Film Festival, was made on the basis of such historical background.

Once a Russian news agency reported that Japan, which occupied Korea by fabricating the Korea-Japan annexation treaty in the beginning of the last century, prohibited the Koreans from holding traditional, national martial art games in Korea and its troops ruthlessly destroyed or plundered the historical and cultural assets of Korea.

According to the state measures taken after Korea's liberation to collect national and cultural legacies and prevent them from suffering slightest damage during the Fatherland Liberation War, *Muyedobothongji* was discovered in the area of North Phyongan Province in 1952 and donated to the then national central library.

Today, it is preserved in the Grand People's Study House.

The national classic which helps people have a better understanding of the origin and history of Taekwon-Do, the orthodox martial art of the Korean nation, was registered in the Asia and Pacific Regional Committee for the Memory of the World Register of UNESCO in 2016 and the Memory of the World Register of UNESCO in 2017.

By Song Jong Ho PT



Korean martial art classic, *Muyedobothongji*.

TOURIST ATTRACTION

Mt Myohyang area refurbished

The area of Mt Myohyang, one of the six celebrated mountains and one of the eight beauty spots in Korea, has been spruced up.

"Many sections of roads and mountain-climbing routes have newly been paved and relaxation facilities built in several places of scenic beauty," said Kim Chol, director of the Myohyangsan scenic spot management station.

The Hyangsan county population conducted the road paving project without damaging the scenery of the mountain, thus completing the tarmac covering of road between the Hyangsan Hotel and the car park of the Myohyangsan History Museum and the concrete paving of road from the car park to the monument to Piro Peak and other mountain-climbing routes.

Meanwhile, resting places were newly built around the site

of Samgyong (three scenes) and Chonhae, Sochon and Isonnam falls.

"The site of Samgyong makes tourists reluctant to leave, fascinated by the crystal-clear water, rocks of fantastic shape and graceful mountains. In the past mountaineers commanded a bird's-eye view of them on the bridge, but this time we've built a path and stairs so that they can go down the bridge and have photographs taken and take a rest," said Kim In Guk, a department chief of the station.

Resting places furnished with stone stairs and stone benches have been provided near the Chonhae and Isonnam falls, he said, adding lots of flowering shrubs have also been planted to add more beauty to them.

By Yun Ki Song PT

HANDICRAFT

Age-old grasswork

Grasswork-making has long been practised in Korea and has the longest history among folk handicrafts with an overriding position.

It made progress in the periods of the Three Kingdoms and Koryo dynasty and developed into a traditional handicraft reflecting the unique sense of solidity of objects, beauty and national sentiment in the modern age. Moreover, this craft was widely spread among people since there are abundant raw material resources, it does not require special equipment or tool and the craftsworks can be made easily with comparatively less labour. As a result, they got diverse in kind and shape.

The main materials for grasswork included sedge, rush, osier, bush clover, reed, hemp, straw, corn shuck and the barks of linden, cherry plum and elm.

The grasswork came in such matting as mat and cushion, such containers as basket and straw-net and mesh bags, such

fancy articles as traditional top hat and fan and such furniture and covering as chair and blind.

In particular, the flower-patterned mat made of sedge and the basket in beautiful colours were widely known to other countries as Korea's typical famous commodities and specialities.

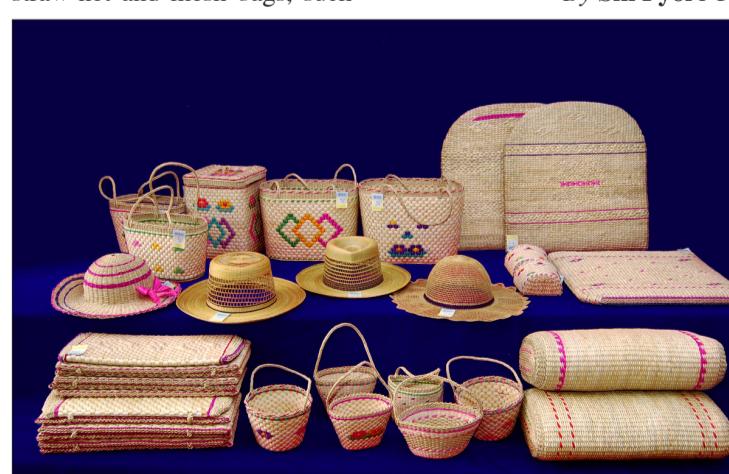
Fan was also outstanding.

In those days, people of a neighbouring country compared the craftsmanship and beauty of the Korean fan to "heavenly skill".

According to a historical record, an envoy from China's Song dynasty was so impressed by a Korean folding fan he recited a poem which goes that "It's more than one foot in extent when unfolded and as small as two fingers when folded".

Today, grasswork in the DPRK sees radical development based on locally-run industry with abundant material resources.

By Sin Pyol PT



Various kinds of grasswork products.

