



KOREA TODAY

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Happy New Year

GREETING THE NEW YEAR 2019 WE
Korea Today editorial board extend congratulations to all our readers.

All of us are greeting the New Year full of new hopes while looking back with deep emotion upon what we did with our sincere effort last year.

Last year we *Korea Today* staff made efforts to give our readers more and in-depth information of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in keeping with the current trend towards independence, peace and prosperity.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to you for always paying deep attention to our magazine, having a deep understanding of and firm confidence in Korea and expressing strong support and solidarity to the cause of the Korean people in the past unforgettable days.

This year, too, we'll strive to breathe the same air with the world's progressive peoples in the struggle to build a free and peaceful new world, and always inform you of fresh and interesting things.

We sincerely wish you success in your work and happy family life in the New Year. □





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Photo by An Kang Rim

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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspects Samjiyon County in October 2018.

Bywords for Devotion

FROM OF OLD IT IS SAID THAT BYWORDS of a certain country in a period indicate its reality at the time. Today those words of Korea that strongly appeal to the hearts of all Koreans have been all created by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, and their influence is growing stronger day after day. ▶

► President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il's View of the People

It was on December 31, 2011, the year the Korean people unexpectedly suffered the greatest loss of the nation, the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, who was suffering a greater pain of loss than anyone else, sat with officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. Expressing his firm determination and will to devote his all to the people like the Chairman had done he instructed the officials to do everything in such a way as to strengthen the single-hearted unity, a valuable revolutionary heritage left by the Chairman.

Saying that it was his intention to create a wonderful image of officials, servicepersons and people being single-heartedly united around the Party, the Supreme Leader said that by learning President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il's view of the people, all officials should go among the people, sharing good times and bad with them, and make tireless efforts for their good.

The President and the Chairman's view of the people is, in essence, the one by which to regard the people as God and give top and absolute priority to their interests and the spirit of devotedly working for the people.

An official, who worked together with the Chairman in the late 1980s, collected the Chairman's ten views of the people in his own way, and the first of the views was that the "God" he worshipped most ardently was the people.

At every opportunity Kim Jong Un said that only when officials possessed the President and the Chairman's view of the people could they make the single-hearted unity more powerful than nuclear weapons and accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered on Mt Paektu. And he stressed that all officials should keep the people dearly in their mind as the images of the President and the Chairman who had regarded them as their God, and devote their all to the people like they had done to the President and the Chairman.

Thus the term *the President and the Chairman's view of the people* became another byword meaning that the status of the people is the highest in Korea.

Spirit of Selfless Devotion

After providing orphans with comfortable homes, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un heard that the children were living happily in the homes. Then he said that probably he was working cheerfully despite all difficulties so as to taste such happiness that filled him with emotion, and that all officials should redouble their courage and strength to do their work better in the spirit of selfless devotion to the people.

It is a general opinion of all the Korean people that whatever the Supreme Leader says is a golden saying touching their heartstrings.

The word *selfless devotion* means making devoted efforts. The Korean people have witnessed the Supreme Leader's selfless devotion more times than they can count. He unhesitatingly got aboard a small wooden boat to sail the rough sea to go to see soldiers on islets, inspected dangerous construction sites on rainy days and looked round steam-filled indoor fishing ponds.

All the well-being and happiness of the Korean people are associated with the leader's selfless devotion. Thanks to his devotion gigantic epoch-making changes and miracles were brought about on this land one after another along with tremendous changes on the sea and islets, running against time. So the Korean people are keenly feeling that the instructions the Supreme Leader gives with confidence in their better tomorrow during his field guidance are permeated with his love for the people.

Countless are bywords in the era of Kim Jong Un, including "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!" and "Let us ensure that our people enjoy the highest quality and standard of civilization!"

As he only thinks of and works for the people, they entrust their destiny entirely to him. The single-hearted unity, and the harmonious whole of Korea centring on Kim Jong Un will be further consolidated with the passage of time.

Ri Song Chol

For Improvement of People's Living Standards

Daily Necessities to People's Liking

ONE DAY IN SEPTEMBER 2015 A DAILY necessities show sponsored by a sector was held. On display in the show were plastic and metal products, household electrical appliances, toys, hard porcelain dishes, furniture and other daily necessities from different factories and enterprises in the sector.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un looked around the show. He examined in detail the shapes and quality of the exhibits and asked the officials if the people liked them, his face beaming with satisfaction. He said that the officials in the sector should regard the matter of producing more quality daily necessities as the one of implementing the lifetime instructions of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, the one of defending the things of Korean make and the one of giving fuller play to the advantage of the Korean-style socialist system, and that they should consistently push ahead with the undertaking as an important political matter.

A million or ten million products that the people take a dislike to are useless, and that even a single product should be made to the people's liking and satisfaction—from this point of view the Supreme Leader saw the products on display. Noting that they should sensitively understand the people's requirement in order to make daily necessities to their liking he clarified the matters to be adhered to in the production of such goods, for example, the one of improving their quality, the one of packing them well, the one of the officials' having a correct viewpoint on the goods, and the one of ensuring the smooth supply of materials.

To Be Impeccable Even in Distant Future

One day in February 2014 Kim Jong Un

visited the construction site of a fishing station. After acquainting himself with the progress of the project in detail for a long time he said that he felt as if he was just seeing a modern fishing station built up there and that schools of fish seemed to be waiting for them. How worthwhile it is for us to work to provide the beloved people and children with fish, he exclaimed and said that merely the thought of it filled his heart with satisfaction.

It was the Party's firm determination to build the fishing station as a model and standard one in the country, he added. Then he said repeatedly that the soldier-builders should be well aware that they were building a structure to be remembered by the country and posterity for ever, and build the fishing station as a masterpiece of the era of the Workers' Party to be impeccable even in the distant future with the attitude that they would take responsibility for its safety and guarantee its absolute quality for all eternity.

Well Fed, Well Bred

One day in April 2014 Kim Jong Un had a talk with officials to learn about economic problems, especially the food problem for the people. After carefully listening to the officials' words, he said that a thorough measure should be taken to solve economic problems, and that the people's food problem should be solved first, stressing that the old saying goes that "Well fed, well bred."

Then the Supreme Leader emphasized how important it is to solve the food problem for the people and continued to say: We should solve the problem decisively by all means so that the people cheer for the Workers' Party and socialism at their kitchen tables first.

That day he said to the senior officials of the Cabinet as well that efforts should be concentrated on farming before anything else, and that they should do farming well by all means so as to solve the food problem for the people. □



New Production System Works Well

THE KIM CHAEK IRON and Steel Complex, situated in Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province, is increasing iron and steel production through big and bold, proactive operations. It has introduced the method of producing iron and steel by the oxygen-blast heating technology, discarding the old coke-based production system. Now it is producing quality iron and steel products of various sizes.

When we went to see Kim Myong Jong, deputy general manager of the complex, he said, "The new method of iron and steel production depends on domestic fuel and raw materials. We don't need coke any longer." He went on to say that they were now able to push iron and steel production on a normal basis without using coke. Then he told a story.

One day a few years ago, there was a heated discussion on the critical situation of the complex in the general manager's room. They had to decide whether they should keep the production system which depended on importing coke or establish a new production system based on domestic resources.

It was clear that they could not continue normal operation with imported coke, and yet it was not easy to solve technical problems arising in introducing the oxygen-blast heating technology as well as the issues of funds and manpower.

After listening to the opinions silently in his seat, Kim Kwang Nam, general manager of the complex, stood up and said, "Suppose that you prepare your meals with the firewood you buy from your neighbours. If they

► wouldn't give you firewood any longer, then what should you do? You know we couldn't expect any success when we depend on others. We have to set up an oxygen-blast heating furnace by ourselves as far as we work for the sake of our younger generations. This is the only way to save our complex and our own lives."

Everybody agreed to his decision. Soon headquarters for the project and different departments were organized with over 70 able officers and workers for the building of a new type of furnace and the moving of an oxygen plant. Each department drew up their realistic plans and saw to it that all sections and units carried out their plans

without fail by the target dates.

Meanwhile, attention was given to the primary tasks like designing, technical preparation, material supply and construction organization—which were all done in a 3D way. The steel-making designing institute worked day and night, planning the geometrical disposition and designing the form of the furnace, and treating problems in major processes. Through discussions with the technicians of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex who were experienced in this matter they pushed ahead with technical designing. Thus they successfully completed the master design in 40 days instead of the estimated six months, and

on this basis, all the employees of the complex turned out in the construction and finished the grand project in a short period of less than a year.

Thanks to their tireless efforts, an end was put to the coke-fed production of iron and steel, and thus a firm guarantee was laid for the production with domestic fuel and raw materials.

The general manager says, "Now we feel confident of our success. We will keep this high spirit, and increase the iron and steel production. I'm sure we will be able to develop our complex into a modern one as required by the developing reality."

Pak Thae Ho





New Scene of Lake Yonphung

FROM OF OLD THE ANJU area in South Phyongan Province is a granary with vast stretches of fields.

After Korea was liberated from the Japanese military occupation on August 15, 1945, an artificial lake of about 15 square metres was built with the establishment of a regular irrigation system in the area in accordance with the State's plan of grand nature transformation to change all fields of the country into fertile ones irrigated with life-giving water.

This made it possible for the local peasants to realize their

aspiration for water, and they named the lake Lake Yonphung praying for a rich harvest every year.

Thus the lake turned into a “lake of life” for the fields that had been dry from ancient times, and a resort for the people. On the lakeside there was built the Yonphungho Children’s Camp in 1983 and the Yonphung Scientists Holiday Camp wonderfully in 2014.

In July 2018, the Yonphungho Fish Stocking Company, another structure for the people, was built on the lake. It goes well with the natural scenery of the lake.

The company operates an industrial production system mainly for stocking the lake with mandarin fish fry. It has a hatchery, a general control room and outdoor fishing ponds along with a sci-tech learning space for its workers and a laboratory where they can conduct research on mandarin fish stocking.

Besides, the company operates a feed fish production system. Last year it stocked the lake with twenty thousand mandarin fish fry and over a hundred thousand grass-eating fish fry including silver carp, grass carp and *Trachinus draco* as feed for ▶

mandarin fish for the first time.

Kim Chol Jin, manager of the company, says, “Soon there’ll be created a new scene of the lake, the scene of its teeming with mandarin fish to the people’s delight.”

Today the lakeside is full of people’s singing and laughter. Among them are women who sing of rich harvest, schoolchildren who develop into future pillars of the country, and educators, scientists and researchers who enjoy themselves in the resort.

And the laughter of amateur anglers, who are very glad to fish up mandarin fish as big as forearm in succession, and that of young women keepers of the company who make haste with their work picturing a more beautiful future scenery of the lakeside add to the pleasant atmosphere there.

Kim Son Myong



A hatchery.



Conditions of fish are observed.



Impetus to Production

NOT LONG AGO THE Taedonggang Pig Farm made achievements for increased production, drawing the attention of the public.

The achievements ensure the sci-tech guarantee for preserving superior breeding pigs whose productivity is 40 percent higher than that of ordinary ones, which need 40 percent less feed and grow fast and whose meat tastes good, and the foundation for producing lots of superior breeding piglets every year. It is attributable to the painstaking efforts of the farm's research team whose members include its general manager Jo Ryong Chol, Kim Yu Song and Mun Won Gum.

It is several years ago that they started the research to solve problems arising in preserving and propagating such pigs. What was most difficult was to preserve the pigs. Those

they secured for the first time would degenerate merely a few years later. This was a serious problem. They then considered it important to establish a system based on a thorough sci-tech guarantee. So they started the research with the work to develop a superior breeding pig selection program necessary for the establishment of the system. They strove to obtain necessary sci-tech data visiting many institutions day and night. And they carefully analysed the genealogy of such pigs establishing an enormous data base. Meanwhile, they spent sleepless nights accelerating the development of the program.

Things, however, did not go smooth. They developed the program, but it was not proper. Still they undauntedly buckled down to research again. They pooled their wisdom and mind to push ahead with the research, and finally

succeeded in developing a perfect program.

Not content with this they set a goal of applying a latest artificial insemination technology. It was not an easy job. But after sincere efforts they attained the goal. The application makes it possible to impregnate about 40 sows with sperms collected from a single boar. And such sperms are made productive so that they can be used anywhere to produce similar pigs on a large scale.

Later they developed a technology of preserving such pigs by way of tagged molecules, and produced pigs, whose meat tastes best, by means of three-way crossing.

The pig farm is increasing the production of pork by relying on the firm sci-tech foundation, and many others, which grow similar pigs, are making good achievements.

Pak Yong Il

Efforts are made to put the production of choice breeding pigs on a scientific basis.



Resounding Voices of Praise

Korea will make a leap forward toward a brighter future.

ON THE OCCASION OF the 70th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea there took place in different countries ceremonies for publishing and issuing pamphlets of immortal classic works of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The RadioSoft Press of Russia published a pamphlet of Chairman Kim Jong Il's classic work titled *Let Us Hold the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung in High Esteem As the Eternal President of Our Republic*. Addressing the ceremony of the publication on September 1 last year the director of the press said: President Kim Il Sung liberated Korea from the Japanese military occupation and founded the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on September 9, 1948. It is entirely thanks to the great leaders of the DPRK that the country has rid itself of the centuries-old backwardness and poverty and changed into a modern one over the historic period of 70 years. President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are great men who are held in infinite respect by all the people. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un is in the limelight as the most outstanding political leader in the modern times. The humanity is admiring him for the unusual political ability which he is displaying in steering the current of peace in the Korean peninsula and northeast Asia at large. Under his guidance

of the Democratic Republic of Congo said that he was happy to attend the ceremony to issue an immortal classic work of President Kim Il Sung on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the DPRK, and went on: The DPRK, under the wise guidance of the great President Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Kim Jong Il, has developed into a people-centred socialist country shattering the challenges of all kinds from the hostile forces at every step. Now, led by the respected Supreme Leader His Excellency Kim Jong Un, the DPRK has become a powerful nation recognized by the international community.

The Russian newspaper *Krasnoyarski Rabochi* carried the full text of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's immortal classic work *The Great Kim Il Sung Is the Eternal Leader of Our Party and Our People* along with a photo of him.

The Songun Politics Study Centre of Brazil loaded on its homepage President Kim Il Sung's works of *Workers in Culture Should Become Combatants on the Cultural Front, On the Questions of the Period of Transition From Capitalism to Socialism and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat* and *Twenty-Point Platform*; Chairman Kim Jong Il's work *Let Us Live Not Merely for Today But for Tomorrow* and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's work *Let Us Usher in a Golden Age of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth Movement*.

Sim Yong Jin

Profile of DPRK's Supreme Leader in 2018

RECENT YEARS HAVE WITNESSED THE further strengthening of the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the tremendous enhancement of its national strength despite harsh economic sanctions imposed on the country. This is quite a mystery to lots of people around the world, and they pay great attention to Kim Jong Un, Supreme

Leader of the country.

Throughout the year of 2018 the leader, through his positive external activities, opened a new history of the DPRK-US relations that had been hostile, radically changed the inter-Korean relations and raised the DPRK's traditional relations of friendship with China and Cuba up to a new level. This is causing a great sensation drawing the attention of the world.

Firm Will and Resolute Practice

The DPRK and the US had been in sharp confrontation for over 70 years since the end of World War II. Particularly from the 1990s when the Cold War was over, the political and military confrontation between the two countries reached an extreme, and the danger of nuclear war constantly grew worse on the Korean peninsula. In 2017 as well, the US threatened the DPRK by successively conducting war exercises on and around the peninsula mobilizing nuclear-powered aircraft carrier-based strike forces, strategic submarines, strategic nuclear bombers and other nuclear war equipment. The DPRK resolutely coped with the situation by taking military countermeasures such as test fire of intercontinental ballistic missiles. Reporting about this, the Prensa Latina news agency of Cuba commented that the year of 2017 was characterized by the worst danger of nuclear war between the DPRK and the US.

It is the plan and will of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government to put an end to the hostile DPRK-US relations detrimental not only to the interests of both countries but also global peace and security, and to establish a new type of relations beneficial to the two countries and conducive to global peace through dialogue and negotiation.

During his exclusive talks with President Trump in June 2018, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said that although they had once been hostage to the past and had their eyes and ears covered by ingrained prejudice and practices, they braved it out and were now there at the new starting point. His words were manifestation of the aforesaid plan and will.

Thanks to his firm will and resolute practice there were arranged the first summit meeting and talks between the two countries that had been in sharp confrontation for the longest time on the earth. And the summit and talks took place successfully thanks to his peace-loving attitude, irrefutable logic and broad-mindedness.

Regarding the event Trump said: Chairman Kim Jong Un is an outstanding and excellent negotiator of great personality. He is a man who has innumerable talents and loves his country very much.

President Xi Jinping of China, extending sincere congratulations to the DPRK leader, highly appreciated the fact that Chairman Kim Jong Un steered the situation of the Korean peninsula onto the rail of dialogue and negotiation, and of peace and security, by leading the DPRK-US summit and talks successfully.

Noble Compatriotism and Strong Idea of Independent Reunification

In June 2000 and in October 2007 there took place two rounds of inter-Korean summit meetings and talks which led to the advent of an era of independent reunification, peace and prosperity on the Korean peninsula. Later, however, the situation returned to serious fratricidal confrontation when the anti-reunification camp took power in south Korea. And the situation lasted for years.

At present all countries and nations are competitively aspiring to development seeking their own interests. So antagonism and confrontation between fellow countrymen are a disgrace to a nation and a suicidal act which helps foreign forces fish in troubled waters.

It was in 2018 that the abnormal long-standing ▶

- situation of fratricidal confrontation on the Korean peninsula began to change dramatically.

In his New Year Address in 2018 Kim Jong Un said: We will open our doors to anyone from south Korea, including the ruling party and opposition parties, organizations and individual personages of all backgrounds, for dialogue, contact and travel, if they sincerely wish for national concord and unity.

Then the WPK and the DPRK Government took a series of measures for the successful holding of the 23rd Winter Olympics in south Korea.

Accordingly, a sports team, a cheerleading group and even an entertainers' group and a high-level delegation were dispatched to the south, and thus a single north-south team participated in the Olympics. And a performance of the Samjiyon Orchestra, a band concert of the cheerleading group and a demonstration of a Taekwon-Do exhibition group created a strong atmosphere of national concord and unity among the south Korean people.

Thanks to broad-minded and sincere compatriotic measures taken by the WPK and the DPRK Government the previous cold atmosphere of distrust and hostility between the north and the south turned into a warm atmosphere of concord and unity.

President Moon Jae In, too, said that the north side's delegation's visit to south Korea served as a spark for the improvement of the inter-Korean relations and peace of the peninsula.

Thus there took place the third inter-Korean summit meeting and talks followed by the successful fourth and fifth rounds of the kind.

During the fifth round of the summit meeting and talks Kim Jong Un, putting aside diplomatic customs, received in front of the Pyongyang Grand Theatre Moon Jae In who came to see an artistic performance in the theatre, arranged a trip for him to climb Mt Paektu as he requested and climbed the mountain together with him. This deeply impressed him and figures from the south.

The welcome party in Mokran House, the dinner in the Pyongyang Taedonggang Fish Restaurant and the luncheons in the Okryu Restaurant and by Lake Samji, which were all held in an atmosphere of fraternal affection in the presence of Kim Jong Un, reflected the north side's decision and will to make sure that the north and the south dispel mutual distrust and misunderstanding and advance together towards reunification while trusting and showing concern for each other.

It is the consistent attitude of the WPK and the DPRK Government that the nation will be able to achieve common prosperity and independent reuni-

fication only when national unity is brought about with priority given to the fate of the nation irrespective of differences in ideology, social system and political view.

On April 27 last year Kim Jong Un freely crossed the demarcation line of Panmunjom to and fro hand in hand with Moon Jae In. This demonstrated Kim Jong Un's firm will to employ the concerted efforts of the north and the south to reunify without fail the nation divided by foreign forces.

A Singaporean TV station reported that the moment Kim Jong Un met Moon Jae In at the demarcation line drew the attention of the whole world as the most historic moment and that all people sent up cheers at the dramatic scene of the two leaders crossing the demarcation line hand in hand to and from the north side.

The press of the world commented that the noble compatriotism Kim Jong Un displayed during the inter-Korean summit meeting and talks was now spreading through Korea as a whole uniting the Korean nation into one, and that the Korean nation would achieve reunification independently with its own effort in the near future.

For Common Cause

Last year Kim Jong Un raised the DPRK's traditional friendship relations with China and Cuba up to a new level through his positive external activities.

In March he visited China all of a sudden as his first foreign trip followed by his second and third visits to the country. This shows how much importance the WPK and DPRK Government attach to the DPRK-China friendship.

The two countries intimately supported and cooperated with each other in the common struggle for the socialist cause for a long time—even at the cost of lives and blood. Over the years the preceding leaders of the countries maintained deep friendly relations with each other.

Kim Jong Un, through his three visits to China, established special friendly relations with Xi Jinping, intensified the strategic mutual understanding and strategic and tactical cooperation between the two countries and consolidated the unity and cooperation of both sides.

It is a firm stand of the WPK and the DPRK Government to develop up to a new level the DPRK-China friendship that has historical roots and is a strategic option of the two countries.

In September last year Kim Jong Un met with Li Zhanshu, special envoy of General Secretary Xi Jinping, who was on a visit to Pyongyang to par-

Korea Mirrored in Souvenir Photos

PHOTOS REFLECT THINGS AS THEY ARE, so they are characterized by the authenticity and vividness of the images. This is why people are apt to believe what they see in photos.

In Korea there are photos whose meaning is beyond that of ordinary life. They are souvenir photos Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un took with people from all walks of life—ordinary working people, scientists, teachers, soldiers and children. All the Korean people wish for the Supreme Leader's visit to their homes, workplaces or defence posts, and regard it as their greatest honour to have a souvenir photo taken with him.

Great Wish of People

All the people have a unanimous wish they keep even in their dream. When asked what their cherished wish is, they all readily reply that they want to have a photo taken with the Supreme Leader.

Whenever the leader visits a workplace, workers there throw themselves into his arms and

unreservedly entreat him to have a photo taken with them.

Behind their wish are their yearning for him and their pure desire to be always with him.

They regard such photos as great treasure of their family, and hang them on the best wall of their home.

In late September last year the Supreme Leader visited Kim Chaek University of Technology on the occasion of its 70th founding anniversary. He congratulated teachers and researchers of the university, and had a photo session with them. The moment they saw the leader they had wanted to see even in their dream the teachers and researchers greeted him with hearty cheers, shedding tears of joy.

Such a scene is commonplace in the country. Service personnel and their families on a forefront post of an island on a hotspot of the West Sea of Korea welcomed the Supreme Leader raising cheers at the top of their voice and they jumped into the cold seawater to see him off; women workers of a fisher-

► ticipate in the celebrations of the DPRK's 70th birthday. And in November he saw a joint performance given by DPRK artistes and Chinese famous conductors, singers, instrumental players, dancers and film stars.

The DPRK-China friendship, the only one of its kind in the world, is greatly conducive to the happiness of the peoples of the two countries and the safeguarding of the regional peaceful environment and security like a deep-rooted and leafy tree and an everlasting spring.

In November Kim Jong Un met and had talks with Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba deepening intimacy.

He accorded the Cuban President sincere hospitality during his three days and two nights' stay in Pyongyang having talks and a dinner with him without any formality, enjoying together with him a joint performance of major art troupes and a grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance

and accompanying him on a visit to the Mansudae Art Studio.

The Cuban President said that he could never forget his Pyongyang visit during which he was accorded the best privilege and cordial hospitality, adding that he carried with him the warm fraternal fellowship and the feelings of friendship of Kim Jong Un and the Korean people who showed warm and heartfelt welcome with all sincerity.

It is the WPK and DPRK Government's firm will to consolidate and develop the strategic and comradely friendship with Cuba in line with the requirements of the present era.

Now the DPRK and Cuba are making joint efforts in the struggle to safeguard their national sovereignty and dignity and defend the international justice, and expanding and developing cooperation and exchanges in the economy, culture, health care, science and technology and all other fields for the purpose of building socialism to suit their own specific conditions.

Kim Won Sik

ies station, who were working with fish in overalls, greeted the leader with enthusiastic cheers as he showed up in their workplace; young women weavers of Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill were beside themselves with happiness when they were visited by the Supreme Leader, some even clinging to his sleeves; children of Pyongyang Orphanage and Pyongyang Baby Home clung to his sleeves while entreating him to embrace them; and a boy camper in Songdowon International Children's Camp, too, readily asked the leader to have a photo taken with them. These scenes, which cannot be devised, show how strong the Korean people's yearning for their leader is.

The Korean people form a large national family, breathing the same air as their leader, and they trust and support the leader alone, ready to follow him to the end of the world—this is the image of the people mirrored in the souvenir photos.

Shoulder to Shoulder and Arm in Arm

Kim Jong Un always goes to see people, and when he meets them he has a photo taken with them, sometimes with several and sometimes with lots of people or with delegates to a national function. The photos are significant ones that can be seen in newspapers, on TV or in a documentary.

Several years ago, during the function held in celebration of the 66th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Children's Union, the Supreme Leader had a souvenir photo taken with over 20 000 delegates to the function changing his seats as many as 20 times.

He poses for a photo together with people wherever he goes. This is associated with his noble view on the people. Such photos represent his immeasurably noble personality as a popular leader who loves the people most, always mixes himself with them and brings all their wishes into reality regarding them as his own.

One day, while seeing cold stores filled with blocks of frozen fish and salted fish stores, he was very glad to picture in his mind the soldiers having enough fish, and had a photo taken against the fish. And during his inspection of the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory he was pleased to see soya milk and other foodstuffs for children under production in plenty, and had a photo taken there as well.

There is a souvenir photo all the Korean peo-

ple still remember. It is the one in which he stands with officers and soldiers during his first inspection of Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division in 2012 after he was appointed as Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army. He poses standing shoulder to shoulder and arm in arm with the soldiers. The sight illustrated his will to trust soldiers and other people as his comrades forever and brave any ordeals and adversities together with them.

That day led to his continuous on-the-spot guidance and inspection year after year. There are different human relations in the world. The truest and firmest of them is that between comrades who share one and the same will and fate. The Supreme Leader is blessed with a wealth of comrades.

Eternal Image of Korea

Such souvenir photos also demonstrate the image of Korea in which the people yearn for and follow their leader and the leader is always with them making a history of creation and change by dint of their inexhaustible strength.

In Korea there are innumerable photos that show the people with their national leaders. The photos are unforgettable ones to the people from all walks of life though they were taken in different times and places.

Now more and more families have photos taken with the Supreme Leader. Looking at them, those who were honoured to pose with the leader further yearn for him and renew their determination to fulfill the pledges they made inwardly when they posed for the photos by making more achievements in their work. Their family members also take pride in having such photos in their homes. And other people picture in mind themselves posing for such photos and resolve to follow the leader forever. Like this the leader and the people form a harmonious whole whereby the people share their destiny with the leader—this is the image of Korea.

In the country the innumerable photos, which reflect their happiness today and make them expect a bright future, serve as a great tonic for all the people.

Photos make it possible to remember the past though time passes by. With the souvenir photos kept in mind the Korean people are now striving to hasten the advent of the bright future under the guidance of the leader.

Ri Jong Nam

Chollima Flies in the Sky



ON MANSU HILL NEXT TO Moran Hill in Pyongyang there stands the Chollima Statue that depicts a winged horse flying through clouds.

Chollima is a legendary horse (sounding *ma* in Korean) that is said to cover a thousand *ri* (pronounced *cholli* in Korean) in a day. (One thousand *ri* equals 250 miles.) The horse is still seen flying in the sky in the centre of the capital city.

It is meaningful that Korea built its first equestrian statue in the form of the legendary horse. The Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea held in April 1956 put forward the first five-year plan for socialist economic construction. It reflected the people's desire to get free from the difficult situation of the country and their backwardness as soon as possible.

Only with their own strength the Korean people took ten or a hundred steps when others took one—under the banner of "Charge at the speed of Chollima!"

Chollima soared in Kangson first. The Kangson Steelworks (Chollima Steel Complex at present) produced 120 000 tons of steel billets a year using a blooming mill with an annual capacity of 60 000 tons. This kind of enthusiasm swept across the country, shattering conservatism, passivism, mysticism about technology and other hangovers of old ideas that hindered progress.

The workers of the Kumsong Tractor Factory produced the nation's first tractor in 35 days, and named it *Chollima*. This was followed by the nation's own manufacture of trucks, bulldozers, water pumps, excavators, lorry-mounted cranes, an 8-metre turning lathe and electric locomotives. And the socialist system was established through the socialist transformation of the relations of production.

"We do not know the words 99%. One hundred percent shames us. Three hundred percent is usual. Something like five hundred or one thousand percent is good." This reflected the people's enthusiasm for work at that time.

A European writer said: Chollima is a symbol of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's speed of advance towards the most developed modernization like the speed of "Sputnik (an artificial satellite)."

The people at that time were also refined in personality. A 20-year-old girl, a farm worker from Hamju County, rescued seven pupils from an iced river. This kind of thing was commonplace in those days.

It was in the Chollima era that the transformation of people, society and nature was done through collective innovation.

After there came a report that the Chollima Statue representative of the era was to be erected, over 300 designs of the statue were presented for the prize from across the country in about five months.

The design which artists drew on the basis of them was far from the present statue. Studying the design President Kim Il Sung said: If only a person is seated on the horse, our posterity will regard the person as a certain hero representative of the era. Now is the era of the people, so their image should be depicted. The statue should be designed to tell that those who erected this city, that is, the masters of the Chollima, are the people, not an individual hero.

Artists went to meet good workers across the country to search for the model of a worker to be seated on the horse, and stayed at the horse house of the zoo to observe the ecological features of the animal and its way

of running. They also studied all birds to draw the model of the fastest wing giving the feeling that the horse flies at a fantastic speed. And they drew clouds beneath its hooves over which it would seem to be galloping.

Later a model of the statue was erected, and two opinion books were put beneath it. Pyongyang citizens and people from provinces came to see it and wrote their opinions on the books.

In April 1961 the statue was completed thanks to collective wisdom. A male industrial worker and a female farm worker are seated on the horse in order to represent all strata of society. It was made at the speed of Chollima: it was completed in nearly 40 days, instead of previously supposed six months.

In the early 20th century a European writer, back home from a visit to Korea, made a sculptured figure depicting a boy standing in depression with an A-frame on his back, and referred to it as the image of the Koreans. Half a century later the writer revisited Korea and saw the statue. He then said it was the true image of the Koreans.

To the Korean people the statue is not merely a symbol of an era in history. It is a witness to the mettle of the people who want to rise higher and faster at the speed of the legendary horse to achieve national prosperity.

In the past the Korean people rushed forward, compressing ten or a hundred days into one. Now, however, they are riding Mallima making rapid progress day and night.

Regarding self-development as the only way to live they are carrying on the era of creation and change astride Mallima.

Rim Ok



Thickening Register of Sci-tech Achievements



Attention is paid to the development of new products.

THERE IS A BULKY BOOK in the Munsu Ponghwa Clothing Factory. It is a register of scientific and technical achievements that the factory has made recently. It tells a story.

The factory previously ensured the quality of its products, but the productivity was not so high, because of a lack of skilled workers there. And it couldn't satisfy the demand for the goods.

Then officials of the factory

found a solution. It was to improve the technical knowledge and skills of the employees and enhance the productivity by giving priority to science and technology. They often organized a prize contest, and Kim Yong Thae, general manager of the factory, too, participated in the contest.

The first that was selected in the contest was a mould jig, which enables unskilled work-

ers to carry out any difficult and complicated tasks as well as the skilled. Now the device is regarded as simple, but at that time it was a great discovery.

The growth of production by the introduction of the mould jig encouraged technical innovation among the employees. Their interest in science and technology increased day by day, and the sci-tech learning space was briskly operated.

In keeping with their enthusiasm, the factory made the "Register of Sci-tech Achievements." Soon afterwards their technical innovation schemes and inventions began to be registered one after another in the book.

One employee won a certificate of invention by inventing a pressure finger with a guide hole and a method of processing garments by means of the pressure finger, and another one was highly appreciated at the 32nd national sci-tech festival for her paper "Application of Two-needle Sewing Machine Based on Subsidiary Jig."

The technical innovation ▶

gradually entered the stage of mass development. All the workers and technicians, by pooling their wisdom, manufactured lots of jigs by themselves, computerized the cutting process to replace the manual labour and modified an irrational production process to suit the actual conditions.

They also invented and established a general clothing production management system by their own efforts, thus making it possible to conduct the factory management in a scientific way.

In the space of several years, a hundred and several ten achievements were registered in the book.

The number of worker students of the factory has increased. They are enrolled at an online college and a system of part-time study-while-working. It is their cherished opinion that without knowledge one cannot work in the era of advanced science.

The employees of the factory say proudly that the register will grow thicker and thicker by the worker students. The general manager says, "Our factory has developed lots of new products typical of it. This is because we've attached importance to science and technology. Knowledge just means production result, I think."

Now the book is a good record of the fruits of its employees' research and enthusiasm.

Sim Yong Jin



Normal operation is ensured by improving the technical knowledge and skills of the workers.



Development of Astronomical Observation in Koguryo

FROM OLDEN TIMES

the Korean people left a lot of excellent scientific and cultural heritage while undertaking creative activities

to transform nature. Among them is the technology of astronomical observation in Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668). The astronomical observation was carried on regularly by professional observers on the Chomsongdae Observatory (built by Korean ancestors). Documents of Koguryo record that the Chomsongdae Observatory was located in the Walled City of Pyongyang. The country kept official positions for astronomical observation, and people in the occupations observed assiduously movements and changes of heavenly bodies including the sun in different seasons.

Based on the well-organized astronomical observation, Koguryo made a won-

derful astronomical chart—it is a picture of constellations carved on a slate some two metres wide and about 1.2 metres long.

What is noteworthy is the observation of sunspot. *Koguryo in 640*, a chapter of *Samguksagi*, has a record that in September in autumn the sun lost its light but got bright again three days later. It means that a big black spot existed on the sun for three days. And it shows that it was not a daytime phenomenon and that when the sun rose and set there were a lot of black spots on the yellowish brown sun. The record is valuable information on sunspot observation undertaken for the first time in the astronomical history of Korea, and which was ten centuries earlier than that in European countries.

Ri Song Chol

IPTV Service System *Nuri*

RECENTLY THE SCIENTISTS of the Communications Industrial Institute, Cutting-edge Science Research Centre, Kim Il Sung University, developed an IPTV service system *Nuri*. This is the system which enables the users to get an access to a high-definition digital TV broadcasting through an IP network.



Developers of the IPTV service system.

The IP network gives IP addresses to particular terminals and provides information according to the protocol. The protocol is simple and practical compared with other protocols, so its use is a global trend today. An integration of all communications including telephone network, TV network and computer network on the basis of the protocol is just an all IP system.

The technique the above-mentioned researchers developed makes it possible to build a high-definition cable TV network at small expenses using an already-established network—without any additional relay server—and realizes user interaction such as VoD. Developing

this technique is an indispensable course to put the communication network on an all IP basis.

Nuri consists of server, receiving set and IPTV client program. The server is a key element of the system which receives video data from multimedia data source and makes multiple transmission through the network. It can use TV, com-

puter, recorder, all sorts of cameras and microphones, and other means as source of multimedia broadcasting data. The receiving set is the device that enables people to see and hear the multimedia data in broadcasting through the display of ordinary TVs. The audiovisual program provides a condition for people to see and hear video data with any terminal device connected to the network. And the users can see not only video data but also multimedia data they need from the server which sends it on a real-time basis.

The service system developed by the institute can be widely used at those organs which try to establish a high-

definition multimedia service system using a computer network, those regions where people can hardly watch wireless TV as the relay TV signal is so weak, and those units which want to build their own local IPTV network or monitoring system. The cost of building the *Nuri* system is small as compared to the previous analog cable TV network, and enables those units, which run their own private IP network, to do easily cable TV service, monitoring, lecturing, image meeting and requested multimedia service.

As it is built with the IP network, *Nuri* provides high definition and sound quality without any signal fading and noise over distance. And through user authentication and encryption of multimedia data it thoroughly guarantees security. Thus it is favourably commented upon at the Pyongyang Baby Home and the Pyongyang Orphanage, and other organs that have introduced the system. It is easy to build and diversify its data source, and convenient to use means of seeing and hearing. And it has a high probability of expansion and practical use. For this reason, the number of units introducing the *Nuri* system is increasing day after day.

The development team, based on this success, has decided to establish a nationwide IPTV service system, and is accelerating the programming project so as to accept more and more users in keeping with the actual condition of the country.

Ri Song Chol

For Better Education

RECENTLY THE EDUCATIONAL achievements of Information Science and Technology College of Kim Chaek University of Technology are drawing the attention of the public. The programs presented by students of the college have won the special prize and first place at several exhibitions and forums such as a national university students' scientific research forum and a national university students' IT achievement exhibition. Besides, it annually produced a class whose members were all awarded the University Student Scientific Research Prize for the past three years.

Some time ago the college completed the digitization of TV broadcasting, HD-SD transform program, which is the core in non-taping, computer recording screen and video signal output program and other programs—its students played an important

role in those projects. A remotely sensed image analysis system and an image fusion system of high practical value show its students' high ability to process and apply information.

Meanwhile, they are contributing a lot to the establishment of the integrated production system at many industrial establishments across the country. The secret of their success lies in that the college has actively made the education contents practical, thus improving the students' attainments.

One day a year ago while giving a lecture, Kim Su Hyon, teacher of Information Processing Department, noticed that the students failed to understand quickly how the results of information processing were acting. When examining her teaching plans that evening, she realized that her lectures including the aforesaid one had some elements which were

not helpful to the students in improving their cognitive faculty. *Can these educational contents be conducive to training the talents needed by the fast-developing IT era? What shall I do?* she thought and thought.

Then she decided to make her teaching plans contain new multimedia data, simulation programs and practical achievements intensively. Now she began to work on new teaching plans, but there were some bottlenecks. Especially, she did not have enough knowledge of the current scientific and technical achievements. She still had more to learn.

After work, she studied the latest documents in connection with the relevant institutions including the Sci-Tech Complex, and systematized necessary data. She sometimes had discussions with other teachers to understand the knotty problems. Once she spent several days study-

Experience presentation takes place on a regular basis.



By Relying on Technicians and Skilled Workers

THE SARIWON CHICKEN Farm in Songmun-dong, Sariwon, is increasing production and modernizing itself on a higher level. The secret of the success lies in putting efforts in developing science and technology by relying on its technicians and skilled workers while providing proper conditions for their work and treating them preferentially.

Kwon Sun Won, a technician posted to the farm in August last year, completed valuable researches with the active help of its general manager Ri Yong Nam and other managing staff. Kwon had experience in succeeding in a pig feed additive research while learning at Kim Il Sung University. So he was charged with a research task of decreasing the cost of production and ensuring the safety of production. He was provided with necessary materials, reagents and apparatuses sufficiently.

And there was formed a group of technicians led by the chief engineer to help him actively with his research.

As a result, Kwon developed a kind of poultry feed additive that had been purchased, and succeeded in turning the indigenous microorganism-based fermentation process into a new composite bacteria-based one, making it possible to enhance the digestibility of poultry and their productivity.

He also helped the farm decrease the unit feed remarkably by developing a method to process and ferment by-products from corn threshing and leaves of ginkgo, persimmon and cypress trees growing thick in the compound of the farm to be used as poultry feed.

His research findings were rated as excellent at the 23rd national sci-tech festival held from February to March last year, and he was awarded a

certificate of registered sci-tech achievements and a certificate of invention in May in the same year.

Besides, the farm is solving sci-tech problems arising in increasing production by encouraging and helping skilled workers to invent new things. Among the workers are Yom Tu Chol, a worker of the pharmaceutical laboratory, who developed a chicken diarrhoea remedy, and Ri Kwang Nam, a repairman, who completed a research project for disinfecting poultry houses and preventing diarrhoea by means of ozone gas and water from an ozonizer.

The farm managers are of the opinion that the producer masses are resourceful and that nothing is impossible if their creativity is tapped.

The production of meat and eggs is steadily increasing thanks to this business strategy.

Pak Thae Ho

Model Teacher increased among the teachers. The improvement of their teaching ability was followed by that of the students' ability. More and more graduates of the college became competent talents in the IT sector. Ryu Song Chol, one of the graduates, participated in dozens of projects of national importance including the research for a firework display control system, and took first place at a world Internet program contest, causing a sensation in the circle of information science.

Kim Thae Song, head of Infor-

Popular Exclusive Exercise Book

IN RECENT YEARS exclusive exercise books have been introduced in Korea, which is helpful to the mother tongue education of children.

Learning knowledge of nature and society, arts and so on is based on mother tongue education, and the education is accompanied by writing. In Korea children previously learned their mother tongue by drawing on their books the letters written by teachers on the blackboard. Primary school and kindergarten teachers wrote on the blackboard the letters of pen-writing style stipulated by the handwriting standard, and the children drew the letters on their books stroke by stroke, practising their penmanship. This kind of writing exercise was allowed not only at educational institutions but also at homes.

But pen writing requires consistent practice and a high formative and artistic skill. Children, however, draw letters at first before gradually beginning to write them. As a result, children wrote letters of different style from what the teachers expected.

Pak In Chol, researcher of the Education Institution, noticed such a demerit of the mother tongue education. After three years of research he succeeded in inventing handwriting for education of children—pencil handwriting—suited to their mental qualities and intellectual level. Pak wonderfully completed



Children improve their handwriting ability using an exclusive exercise book.

of handwriting and the exercise book are so practical and effective in education that he won first prize at the 15th national invention and new technology exhibition held in July 2017. Now the book is enjoying growing popularity among not only children but also teachers and their parents across the country.

Kim Ok Byol, a teacher of Mirae Primary School in Phyongchon District who has experienced the advantage of the book, says, "After I had my pupils use such books their cognition of our language improved at more than 98%, and their level of writing well at over 93%."

The introduction of the new method of handwriting and the exercise book help children learn their mother tongue more correctly and easily.

Kim Son Myong

A Day of Small Hospital in Mountain Village

EVERY MORNING ALL ARE busy going to work. So are doctors of the Junhyok-ri People's Hospital in Kaechon, South Phyongan Province.

Early in the morning they go directly to the workteams and sub-workteams under their charge across snowy farm fields to acquaint themselves with their actual conditions including the residents' health and sanitary conditions. In the course of this they plan what they are going to do on the day.

At 9 o'clock a.m., they start to treat patients.

Among the doctors is a young woman doctor, Ri Yong Mi by name. She always takes care of the patients like she does her own brothers and sisters, earning the respect and affection of the cases. At the early hour of her work, she had a hard time inoculating Chol I, the second naughty grandson of an elderly man. But she wore a smile at the thought that she had done another good thing for the residents.

The hospital also has a dentist who the residents call *wood-pecker* doctor. His name is Kim Kwang Chol. He treats decayed teeth very well by using various

dental appliances skilfully to the people's admiration.

Today he finished the treatment of Kim Yong Chol and four other residents in Neighbourhood Unit No. 7, Junhyok-ri. And he saw to it that they read the health education cards titled *Protection of Teeth and Health*.

Ri Chol Nam, an osteomyelitis specialist, is the pride of the hospital. With decades of clinical experience, he has treated caput femoris aseptic necrosis and osteomyelitis by Koryo medical therapies. And it was confirmed that the therapies are nearly 100% efficacious without causing relapse.

Among his patients are those from not only Kaechon but also Pyongyang and other parts of the country. O Ryong Dong, a resident in Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province, who had been in a wheelchair for 25 years because of his caput femoris aseptic necrosis, became able to walk again after receiving treatment from Ri.

Kim Jong Hui, a woman living in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, and Kong Jong Hyang, a young woman in Pyokdong County, North Phyongan Province, too, became able to walk again free from osteomyelitis thanks to

Doctors look after patients with utmost sincerity.



With Painstaking Efforts

RECENTLY THE MEDICAL WORKERS of Pyongyang Municipal People's Hospital No. 2 are registering successes in the treatment of incurable diseases by using ozone therapy.

Ri Son Hwa, head of Rehabilitation Department of the hospital, said, "People's interest in the ozone therapy is growing day after day as there are some shortcomings in using antibiotics. Ozone has not only antibiotic effect but also different treating efficacies such as immunity control and alleviation of pain. So it has a wide realm of use."

She mentioned that members of her department including Kim Yong Chol steadily conducted research to use ozone in treatment in keeping with the trend in the development of modern medicine.

One night two decades ago Kim Yong Chol, fresh out of the then Pyongyang College of Surgery, was on duty at the hospital. At midnight a man came to the hospital, pressing his stomach with his hands. His illness was diagnosed as acute pancreatitis. Then Kim cured the patient with an ozone therapy that he had researched from his college days. After a few minutes of treatment the patient, with his eyes opened wide, said to the doctor, "Well, there is no pain anymore. It's really marvellous."

Kim said to the patient in plain words about the efficacy of ozone treatment, and that if he got the treatment several times, he would not suffer from pancreatitis again. Knowing this, other doctors of the hospital came to see Kim, expressing their interest in the ozone therapy. But he was in deep thought because he used the therapy for the first time, and only the single case was not enough.

With this as an opportunity he redoubled his efforts. And other doctors of the hospital spared no time helping him to acquire data needed for his research. At that time there were no enough data on the ozone therapy. It was very difficult



Ozone therapy is applied.

for Kim to carry on the treatment and research simultaneously, but he managed to find out treating methods one by one. The bottleneck in the research was to fix the proper density of ozone in the treatment. With the sincere help of other members of the department he did animal experiments and clinical examinations day and night, solving all knotty problems. At last he further completed the ozone therapy and presented a thesis on it, and thus he was awarded a degree in 2014.

Cha Myong Ae, manager of the Kangdong Koryo Medicine Factory who was cured of her disease by the therapy, says, "I never thought that the ozone therapy could cure me as I had previously received different kinds of treatment. Before the treatment I wished it would work. But the fact that I was cured of the disease really surprised me. Words failed me to know how to express my thanks."

Still today the hospital is actively using the ozone therapy for the treatment of patients while expanding the realm of its application.

Pak Thae Ho

A RESEARCHER'S MIND MIRRORED IN GOLD MEDAL



IT WAS DURING THE WORLD Weightlifting Championship held in the US in 2015.

Rim Jong Sim, a Korean woman weightlifter who had already won first place in some international games, participated in the championship and succeeded in the first and second snatch. In the third snatch, however, she was injured—she had her left thigh dislocated.

The medical staff of the International Weightlifting Federation advised the Korean team to dissuade Rim from participating in the game any more.

Then Kim Yu Mi, a medical researcher in charge of weightlifters who

took part in the championship with the Korean team, gave Rim intensive treatment, and thus she took part in the jerk event. But after succeeding in the first jerk, she fell again. This time, too, the medical researcher skilfully treated her with manual therapy, and the latter succeeded in the second and third jerk as well.

The spectators broke into loud applause congratulating Rim who won the event by willpower and the researcher who helped her win.

In addition, many other weightlifters like Om Yun Chol,

Kim Un Guk and Rim Un Sim could make a new record and win gold medals thanks to the researcher's devoted efforts.

When Om injured his ankle in training, she cured him through both functional training and rehabilitation in a short span of time so that he participated in the weightlifting event of the 30th Olympic Games winning gold medals.

Kim regards it as her duty to not only care for the players but also help them realize their dreams. So she developed and introduced a program for controlling the sportspersons'

physical condition herself training together with them, and invented a method of rehabilitation and that of functional training for traumatic injury and dislocation.

And she often gives them and their coaches lectures on physical and mental preparedness and anti-doping.

She also acts both as a member of the medical section committee of the Asian Weightlifting Federation and as a doctor of the International Weightlifting Federation.

Kim Yong Un



Kim Yu Mi cooperates with weightlifters and coaches in her research into functional training.



Kim applies manual therapy to Rim Jong Sim.



Secret of Victory

LAST YEAR RYOMYONG JUNIOR MIDDLE School in Taesong District, Pyongyang, won first place in the men's table tennis team event of junior middle schools at the 44th Jongilbong Prize National Schoolchildren's Sports Contest.

This surprised many experts and fans because the school participated in such a national contest for the first time. Moreover, the school was newly built together with the construction of Ryomyong Street in 2017.

The team's victory was attributable to the effort of its instructor Han Son Hye, 26, fresh out of college.

She volunteered to work as a table tennis instructor of the school. When she organized the table tennis circle, there were just four members. Recol-

Han teaches her charges the knack of serve.



During a break.



lecting those days the mother of student Jong Song Hyok says, "When I heard the young instructor say she would train my son into a table tennis player, I had misgivings rather than expectation because I worried that she might fail as an instructor of no experience."

Soon afterwards the mother's worry turned into admiration.

Han was mentioned as a promising table tennis player from her childhood, and she achieved excellent results at many competitions in her days at the Korea University of Physical Education.

She planned a scientific training programme and closely combined basic technical and physical training. She invented rhythmic training and made the relevant video. Having a deep understanding of each member's mental qualities, she found out new training methods to complete their special skills. Thanks to her efforts, the students, who had not known how to hold the table-tennis racket, got the knack of sensing trajectory of the ball and other technical skills needed for performing correct movements, and mastered various kinds of serves, drive and cut and other difficult technical movements.

In the course of this, members of the circle increased by a dozen or so. After a year the members of the circle beat a team of a three-game winning streak at a municipal contest and qualified for a national competition. This struck their parents with wonder. Jong Song Hyok, the aforesaid member of the circle, participated in the men's team event and individual event of the 44th Jongilbong Prize National Schoolchildren's Sports Contest, winning two gold medals.

Han Son Hye says, "Gold medals are the same. But the feeling I had when I won a gold medal was different from that when my students did. I was happier when my students won. I came to know that it was a teacher's pride."

Thinking that it is important to win the first gold medal, but retaining the spirit is more important, Han is spurring her charges on to another gold medal.

Rim Ok

Believe in Yourself

(Continued from the last issue)



to the members he walked into the office.

After a while he came out with a ball in his hand, together with an elderly man. He was Kang Ho Song, vice-principal of the school. In his youth he had been active as a footballer of the Kigwancha Sports Club in Pyongyang, and once was in the national team. Everybody knew him in Sinpho.

Om gave the ball to Kyong Hwa, saying, "Let's begin now. Show me all your skills with the ball. Then you shall have to kick the ball to the scoring board."

The girl kicked up the ball with the instep of either foot, received the ball with the shoulders and then with the knees and jumped up with the ball between her feet before throwing it up and letting it fall on her back.

Kyong Chol, Kyong Hwa's father, stepped up to him taking his daughter.

Exchanging greetings the instructor turned his eyes to the girl to observe her as if to estimate if she could become a footballer.

"She is my third daughter," introduced Kyong Chol, "a fourth grader of Sinhung Primary School. Her name is Kim Kyong Hwa. She unusually liked to kick a ball from her kindergarten days. I've brought her here because she wants to do football."

"She's right. Only when she learns football systematically at a sports school will she be able to be a footballer. Alright. Please wait a minute," the instructor said. After giving training tasks

every movement of hers in amazement.

The instructor nodded and told her to go 30 metres away and kick the ball hard toward him exactly.

Kyong Hwa made a slip but her kicking was rather proper as required by the instructor.

"Wonderful! She is good enough," the vice-principal exclaimed. "Let's see her physical preparedness now, Mr. Om."

Om had the girl do 30- and 60-metre dashes, and measured the time with his stopwatch. Now he nodded again in wonder.

"I thought her speed would not reach the standard because of her short height. But she is good," he said with laughter.

After finishing the measurements he wanted, he slowly stepped up to the vice-principal.

"What do you think of her, Mr. Vice-Principal?"

"Very good. She is better than those who have learned here for about two years. A treasure has come into our hands," the vice-principal said. "And what's your opinion?"

"Her kicking motion shows that she has an aptitude for football," replied the instructor.

"That's good enough. I'm sorry she is short, but I presume that if she takes after her father, she'll be alright," the vice-principal said. Then he asked Kyong Chol, "How tall is her mother?"

"She is 1.6 metres tall."

"Then I think the girl may grow tall. She has a good pros-

pect. I have no other opinion," said the vice-principal.

Kyong Hwa delightfully came back home almost at a run.

She got more and more interested in football training at the sports school as the days went by. She felt no tired. She would hurry to the school after her morning work. She polished basic techniques of her own style in addition to the individual training tasks given by the instructor.

The vice-principal occasionally observed her in training with satisfaction. He said, "Mr. Om, Kyong Hwa has a good motor sensation. It's very likely she will succeed as she is quick and powerful in movement."

"You're right. She is so strenuous that she's already become able to perform 12 dribbling techniques as I taught," the instructor responded.

"Let's train her well. Probably she will be able to make her debut in competition one or two years later. Be stricter with her and give a good drill," the vice-principal stressed.

"I see," the instructor agreed.

Kyong Hwa always made strenuous efforts to catch up with her seniors in both group and individual exercises. Soaked with perspiration she practised in dribbling even when others were at rest, without knowing the passage of time.

Whenever she was practising in long shot, Om would observe her instep kick and encourage her, shouting, "Good. Kick the ball speedily, stretching out your thigh."

As required by the instructor she repeated the training—sometimes ten to twenty times—so as to make a proper kick.

At home, too, she would spend her spare time either in the morning or in the evening striving to perfect a technical movement she

had learned, repeating it many times. Sometimes she fell asleep as soon as she came back because she was exhausted at the sports school. But when her grandmother told her that a football match was on TV, she would rise again rubbing her eyes and watch it to the end. She was so enthusiastic about football that her fellows called her *football-crazy girl*.

Sometimes she tried to practise a movement of dribbling she had seen on TV.

"Where did you learn the movement? I've never taught it to you," the instructor asked one day.

Then she replied it was the one she had seen on TV the previous day.

"Is that true? Alright, it's a new movement. Master the movement by repeating it time and again. Your forte is instep kick, so make it more powerful and precise. You should practise in a powerful long shot over 200 times a day. Only then will you be able to score a lot," said the instructor.

"I'll treasure up your words," she replied.

In fact, the mid- and long-distance shot was the instructor's forte. As a footballer he used to score in every match with the forte.

"Instep kick should be done instantaneously and explosively. Like this," the instructor said doing such a movement himself.

From then on her instep kick gradually grew strong, and the rate of hits began to rise.

Once she made a mistake again in a training match—she would keep dribbling the ball by herself without passing it to others. This angered the instructor.

"Stop! Why do you keep dribbling all by yourself, Kyong Hwa? Scoring is important in football. Training match is not fun. If you make such a mistake once again,

I'll not allow you to take the field," the instructor reprimanded.

That evening, back at home, Kyong Hwa told her grandmother about what had happened during the day.

"Grandma, the instructor told me off today. He said he would not allow me to take the field because I played alone."

"He's right. Why do you do football? It's because you want to take part in a match. Football, however, is not for you alone. If you act arbitrarily it will come to nothing instead of scoring. Be very careful this time, and don't repeat the mistake anymore," her grandmother advised.

"I'll not forget your words. I like football very much, Grandma. Football is me, and I am football."

From the next day she was very careful in training paying more attention to passing the ball.

Bearing in mind the instructor's words she trained herself harder, acquiring increasingly better skills. Noticing this, the instructor considered her anew.

She is probably suited for a half-back as she is good at mid-and long-shot. Let me give her a chance, he thought.

One day Om said to Kyong Hwa, "If you make a steady effort like that, you'll be able to take part in the provincial sports schools' women's football competition in August this year. From now on you prepare to take the field as a half-back."

Kyong Hwa shouted for joy replying, "Thank you, sir. I'll try hard."

When the month drew up, the instructor announced the members of his women's football team.

Kyong Hwa was selected as a half-back as he had already promised.

(To be continued)

Oriole Couple

IN KWANHAE-DONG, SINAM District, Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province there is a famous singer couple, dubbed oriole couple. Whenever they begin to sing, all the spectators, young and old, get excited their shoulders moving up and down. They call for the couple to sing another song and yet another giving a big hand. The singers meet their request happily.

The man is Sin Il Nam, a music teacher of Kunhwa Junior Middle School in Chongjin, and his wife Jang Mi Gyong works at the Songphyong District Hall of Culture.

It was during their wedding ceremony in April 2015 that the couple sang before people for the first time. After the participants sang songs of congratulation for their marriage, it was the bride



and bridegroom's turn to sing. The first song they sang was the one calling for all people to support the country with one and the same mind. The bride's sweet and soft voice and the groom's deep and full, emotional voice gripped the hearts of the audience at once.

After the first song they sang another two songs as requested by the audience.

Giving a happy glance at them, the groom's mother said, "My son was fond of singing from his childhood. He would sing pretty well not only what he learned

at the kindergarten but also new songs he heard on TV. Later he continued to learn music at the Chongjin Schoolchildren's Palace and attended the Chongjin Music School as he wished. Now he's a music teacher."

Then the bride's mother said proudly, "My daughter, too, had a taste for music as a child. So she attended an artistic circle in her schooldays learning vocal music and how to play the accordion. Some time ago she won the solo event of office workers at the 13th national working people's singing

Athletes and Winter Kimchi

VITAMIN C IS AN essential nutrient for athletes who are more exposed to spiritual and physical fatigues than ordinary people.

Winter Kimchi, a traditional dish of the Koreans,

contains lots of vitamin C. Kimchi must be eaten as soon as possible after it is taken out of the jar, 50 percent for 12 hours and 70 percent for 24 hours. So, Kimchi should be eaten as soon as possible if you want to prevent the loss of vitamin C.

► contest."

Then those around nodded saying the bride and bridegroom were quite an ensemble. Such an ensemble could be found nowhere else, and the couple would surely win the event of vocal duet at the aforesaid singing contest, they said.

Since then the man and wife had a dream of participating at the singing contest. Thus singing became part of their life. Whenever back home from work, they practised singing in order to improve their performance while teaching each other.

In their workplaces singing encouraged them to work more enthusiastically and pleasantly. Occasionally they went to factories in the area to encourage the workers by singing songs while working together with them. Their home was just the place where they improved their artistic skills, and their performance in the field served as an opportunity to have their level assessed. In the course of this their level further improved.

One day last year they heard that a national singing contest was to be held. Their neighbours came to encourage them, saying that they would win if they participated in the contest.

Soon the whole village was very glad to hear that the couple passed the provincial preliminary to take part in the 16th national working people's singing contest.

Thus the man and wife went on to the national contest and won the family event as their colleagues and villagers expected.

Back home the couple sang again the song, which they had sung in the final of the contest, as requested by the villagers. The song was *Beautiful and Nice to Live in*. While beating the hourglass drum and playing the accordion the couple sang the song. As soon as they finished singing, a great applause burst out calling for an encore.

Now Sin said, "Our happy life has just developed into a song. We'll live as an oriole couple forever." And the couple began to sing another song their happy voices reverberating through the village.

Pak Un Yong

Enjoying Happiness in Advanced Age

WHAT DOES THE LIFE OF AN OLD PERSON aged over one hundred have to tell? We can obtain the answer from Hwang Chang Bong, a 104-year-old woman living in Neighbourhood Unit 49, Kaeson-dong, Moranbong District, Pyongyang.

Still with Good Eyes

Born in 1915 Hwang is still an active woman. She has good analytical judgment of matters and phenomena, and a good memory. When she was over 90, she felt inconvenience in moving her body because of senility, but she got free from it after taking for a long time fermented vinegar based on fruit. Whenever the doctor in charge of her comes to see her once a week, she says, "OK, I'm very well. If you have the time to come to see me, you had better go and see other people."



Hwang Chang Bong and her family members are invited to a TV stage.

► On a fine day she has a walk on Moran Hill near her home.

Some time ago she went to the Munsu Water Park together with her grandchildren.

She is able to read newspapers and thread a needle without wearing glasses, and does kitchen work, cooking rice and cleaning greens.

Once her family was invited to show up on TV, and she was glad to see scores of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, calling their names to the amazement of the audience. It is said that the audience asked if it was really the old woman who had said it.

As the elder in the family of four generations she phones her children to see if they are well or advise them to do their work well.

She has no unbalanced diet, and is especially fond of soybean foods such as bean paste and bean curd.

Thirty-two College Diplomas

Hwang was born in Kimpho, Kyonggi Province. Before liberation of the country from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945 she moved to Wonsan, Kangwon Province with which she was unfamiliar in search of her husband who was a worker at the Wonsan wharf.

Now she has over 50 descendants. Though she learned her mother tongue through a campaign against illiteracy only after liberation, 32 descendants of hers except minors are college graduates. Her

children over the age of pensioner are still working well in their workplaces.

Her eldest daughter, 72, who is a researcher, made success in research significant in agricultural production, and almost lives on the spot for its better development. The second daughter, 69, has been working as a teacher of the Pyongyang Teachers Training College for 47 years since her maidenhood. The third daughter, 62, is working as general manager of a garment factory for over 20 years. What encourages the daughters to be engrossed in their work is their mother's request: "Man can live a worthy life only when he does his work. It is a tradition of my family to work for the country to the death"—this is what Hwang used to say to her children (She also worked with the women's union until she was over 70.).

She lost her mother when she was three, and grew up under the care of her widowed father, and was forced into child labour as she was deprived of her country. Only after Korea's liberation could she live without worry in the new country, bringing up five children. They got college education free of charge. Among them are a hero, a renowned scientist and a doctor.

When celebrating her 100th birthday, she said, "The country is the embrace of mother who gave me the life, hope and presentable children, and the whole of my life."

Every day she sees off her children going to work saying, "You should do your jobs well to become persons of use for the country." □



Maiden Mothers

PYONGYANG PRIMARY School for Orphans has extracurricular educators. They take care of the children who are not yet able to live independently. The educators are all young women, and the children fondly call them mother like they would do their own mothers.

"Mother Has Examined"

Among the children were those who could not get used to the life at the school at first.

O Un Ok, one of the extracurricular educators at the age of 26, had a few in her class. One of them was a boy, Chol Song by name, who would not open his heart. He scrawled words in his diary. He would not show it to others as he himself was ashamed of his hand-

writing. The contents of the diary were only such sentences as "The teacher seemed angry. Perhaps she does not like me. Why do my teacher and classmates dislike my behaviour?"

So Un Ok decided to be very careful about her behaviour and expression when she stood before the children. Whenever Chol Song held out his diary reluctantly during the daily review she took it without any change in her countenance treating him more warmly. Sometimes she wrote her good wishes for him in his diary, and sometimes put in words of encouragement when he had written a good idea. Before they could know the diary became a serviceable means of their silent communication.

Un Ok exerted herself to help the boy fulfil his hope written in his diary even if it was trivial. In the course of this he came to see in her the image of his own moth-

er who would understand his joy, sorrow and hope.

One day the boy came to see her taking his diary though she did not send for him. Then, pointing to the bottom margin of a page of the diary with his proper handwriting, he said, "My mother used to sign here."

Reading his mind in his tearful eyes she gave him a warm hug before signing "Mother has examined."

Anxious Mother

Class 5-A which Thae Jong Yun, 20, is in charge of has no frail child and it always takes first place in the rating of height and weight. This is attributable to Jong Yun's strenuous efforts. Her hands are always wet, her face running with sweat. At a mealtime she watches the children eat to see if any of them has a poor appetite. When a child

► wets the bed at night she washes the bedding before anybody else could notice lest it should feel ashamed. Deep into the night she watches the children in bed to see if there is any child who suffers from a fever or cough. Therefore she seldom has a good night. She takes delight in seeing the children grow up healthily day by day.

And yet her attention is not focused on their physical growth alone. She never lets them get away with their bad manners or wrong ideas. This is not merely out of her sense of duty.

She herself is a graduate of the school. In her college days she would think of her days at the school whenever she fought with fatigue while studying. The first she thought of was the image of her extracurricular educator who would sit up all night tending her even when she had a little fever. Now she was moved to tears at the thought of that motherly efforts she could not understand in her childhood. Out of gratitude to the mother for her efforts she decided to be an extracurricular educator of the school after graduating from the college.

Whenever people say she has more worries than others, she says, "I've still a long way to go. Is there any mother without worries? I only try to discharge my duty."



O Un Ok
In the children's diary she sometimes writes her good wishes and sometimes puts in words of encouragement when they have written a good idea. The diary is a serviceable means of silent communication.

"You Are Already a Good Mother!"

In April 2017 Ju Kyong, 19, was posted to the school as an extracurricular educator after graduating from Pyongyang Teachers Training College with honours.

Entering the wonderful compound of the school Ju Kyong had a bright smile on her face. But when coming to know what she should do as an extracurricular educator she wore a tearful face.

Even in her college days she was still a pampered girl as the only daughter of her family. So it would not be an easy job for her to take care of over 30 innocent children of the class she took charge of.

One day she happened to read the diary of an older fellow educator. It was a review of conscience to the younger educators posted to the school after its renovation. The diary contains such facts as that Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspected the school when he told its staff to help the children grow vigorously and merrily without any worry, that all the staff became parents of the children and that officials of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee and all citizens of Pyongyang gave sincere assistance as if they were grandpar-

ents of the orphans.

She came to know that it was not the school staff alone who took care of the children. And she wished she would settle in the children's mind as a fine educator.

Her job, however, was not easy. She often found herself tearfully anxious. One day the principal of the school happened to see her weeping, and said with a smile, "I see you are almost attached to the children now. Devotion would make it possible to share feelings."

The principal was right. Ju Kyong's charges gradually opened their heart to her as she devoted herself to their care. Learning the children's problems without exception she strived to take proper measures, and they began to follow her respectfully. And she took great pleasure in devoting herself to them.

Now it is a habit with her to reply as follows when alumni of her college phone her to invite her to accompany them to a bathing resort or a fun fair: "No, thanks. The children always wait for me. I am afraid their sparkling eyes may fade without me. I think I cannot do without them even for a moment."

Then her friends say, "You are already a good mother!"

Kim Un Jong



Thae Jong Yun
Deep into the night she watches the children in bed to see if there is any child who suffers from a fever or cough. Therefore, she seldom has good sleep.



Ju Kyong
To help the children grow up to be bright, cheerful and upright citizens—this is Ju's pursuit all the time.

Talents of Practical Ability Produced

O SOK CHOL, HEAD OF THE online college of Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry, says, "The online education is developing day after day, demonstrating its superiority in the reality."

The online college of the university opened in 2015. The first students of the college numbered over 150 including officials and workers of 20-odd industrial establishments across the country. They chose subjects of study as they wished and received lectures from competent teachers of the college via network in their online education rooms.

At first the university paid at-

tention to making teaching plans for the students of the online college, and implementing the curriculum. Later it grasped an important matter in the education. Among the students were both university graduates and those of senior middle schools. Their enthusiasm for study was great, and they wanted to know a lot of things. They were deeply



Problems arising in production sites are solved by accessing online information.

concerned to solve the scientific and technical problems they faced in their work, and delved into the contents of lectures. Most of questions from the students were related to the practical matters arising in the practice.

The college did not remain indifferent to the matters. To meet the mission of the distance education aimed at training talents of practical ability it intensified practical education and invented more effective teaching methods. And it frequently learned through the students about the problems arising in normal production and modernization of factories and enterprises in the sector of light industry, researched for the necessary measures and introduced findings in lectures. When giving a lecture on the method of solving a scientific and technical problem in the sector of the garment industry, it saw to it that not only students of the online college but also chief engineers, managers and employees of the relevant factories took part in the lecture.

Such a lecture was highly effective. Previously the online college gave lectures only to the students, but now it was directly given to their colleagues in their workplaces, thus helping the workers improve their technical knowledge and skills and making it possible to break as early as possible the bottlenecks in pro-

duction. In the course of this, the education and practice have been combined closely, and the students improved their ability remarkably.

Last year the college had its first graduation ceremony. Kim Un Hye, worker of the Taedonggang Foodstuff Factory, graduated with honours, and got a master's degree, and other seven students of the factory were awarded certificates of invention for having solved problems arising in their workplaces in their college days.

Today the college has over 7 000 students who work at more than 2 000 factories in the sector of light industry. And the number of applicants for admission to the college is increasing day by day.

Meanwhile, the college is making a strenuous effort to put the content of education on a practical, comprehensive and modern basis, and introduce new teaching methods by reflecting in its curriculum the global trend in light industry development and the successes it has achieved, and the problems arising in the sector of light industry at home.

It is the intention of teachers of the college to train talents of practical ability and to take a large share in promoting the development of the country's light industry.

Rim Ok



At an online-college lecture.



A Blessed Girl

SIN SON GYONG LIVING IN RYOMYONG Street, Pyongyang, is a girl famous across the country as she has written and composed songs since she was little.

Like her mother O Nam Hui who worked in a field of the arts, she unusually loved music and was good at writing.

One afternoon in the year when she was 7, she was on her way home after school with her classmates and noticed flower plants fallen down on the roadside by the heavy rain that fell in the afternoon. The words of her class teacher flashed across her mind: You must love every tree and every blade of grass.

So she stopped to set up the plants one after another by herself. Consequently, she got home late after dark.

Her grandma Ryang Hong Suk, looking at Son Gyong, said, "As the old saying goes that a child of seven is really mischievous, your parents would be cross with you if you came back late."

When Son Gyong explained why she was late, her grandma was very pleased and said that she had a good heart at the age of 7 unlike other troublesome children of her age. That evening Son Gyong was also praised by her father Sin Myong Gun, teacher of Kim Il Sung University and her mother.

Later, Son Gyong, from the words of her grandma, wrote lyrics titled *I'm 7 Years Old of Affection* and set them to pleasant music. In the first and second verses, she said that her grandma scolded her for getting home late though she was late because she sincerely set up young flower plants fallen down in a rainy wind, and that the grandma reproached her for being late again though she came home after finishing homework with her friends, and in the third verse, she wrote that the grandma was now pleased to know why she was late in the days realizing that though at the age of 7 she was laudable rather than mischievous.

It was unbelievable that Son Gyong wrote and composed such a song at the age of 7. The song was so expressive of children's mind that it was carried in the collection of songs for kindergarten children, *We Sing of Our Happiness* a year later. From then on she wrote and composed a number of songs. Between 2011 and 2012, some of her songs were car-

ried in different collections of songs, including *My Hope Is Flying*, *Marching Forward Following His Footsteps* and *I, Too, Step Briskly Like He Did*.

It was when she was celebrating June 6, the birthday of the Korean Children's Union (KCU) for the first time after she joined the union in February 2012. Unexpectedly, she was appointed a delegate to the Joint National Meeting held in celebration of the 66th founding anniversary of the KCU.

She felt as if she were in a dream. She could not help shedding tears of joy at the fact that she took part in the meeting held in the presence of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un. Before her excitement settled down, she and all other delegates had the honour to have a souvenir photo taken with the Supreme Leader, which she had never imagined in a dream.

During the celebrations, she received all kinds of benefits that she would never forget in her life. She was so grateful to the leader that she made a firm determination to study hard to repay him.



National Intangible Cultural Heritage (26)

Jongol

IN COLD WINTER IT IS NATURAL TO want a hot food which can keep the body warm, and *jongol* (casserole), a traditional Korean food, is particularly appropriate for the purpose. You can eat meat, fish, vegetable and other materials while boiling them in a single casserole dish, adding the soup little by little. It is one of the Korean dishes based on unique cuisine.

The origin of *jongol* has the following story.

In the winter of one year soldiers of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668) waged a fierce battle for several days to repulse foreign invaders. Finally they won the battle and began to prepare their supper. But as the battle was fought in a place far away from the rear, their provisions had run out. Only a few soldiers had some foods they had left half-eaten. The foods, however, were too cold and hard to eat. Still worse, the soldiers had not any vessels to boil the foods in again, for they lost their ovens and other cooking utensils during the battle. Then they decided to boil the foods in a *jonrip* similar to an iron helmet. When the foods began to boil, the soldiers, unable to bear hunger, chose and ate boiled foods with relish. As the foods tasted unusually good, they later prepared meals in such a way. And the dish began to be called *jongol* and developed through generations into a famous national dish of Korea.

Jongol can be served in two ways: one is to give the materials and a casserole dish to the customers to cook it themselves; and the other is to give them the already-boiled dish.

It is divided into beef, chicken or squid *jongol*.

Cuisine of beef *jongol* is as follows:

Keep minced beef spiced with seasonings for about 30 minutes. Slice or rip *Songi* mushrooms lengthwise. Slice an onion and cut spinach and a Welsh onion into proper sizes. Then put a casserole dish on fire to heat it and spread oil in it. Saute minced beef in it and add the mushroom, onion, spinach and Welsh onion in turn along with a bowl of meat soup. Boil it with seasonings and add eggs. When the dish is half done, ladle it into bowls to eat.

Chicken *jongol* is boiled in the same way.

As to squid *jongol*, put spiced squids in the boiling soup to be parboiled. Then take the squids out to dip them in the whisked egg before eating.

From of old it has been commonplace to add *sinsollo* or *jongol* to a feast in Korea.

You will relish *jongol* tasting a harmoniously combined flavour of different kinds of materials.

As the dish digests well and is highly nutritive, it was registered as national intangible cultural heritage.

Kim Chol Hyon

flecting the feeling of KCU members.

*Let's get full marks on our report cards,
And let's grow as patriots,
For our country and for the Marshal.
If we all do so only once,
It will be three million times in total.*

Now Son Gyong is studying to her heart's content in the second grade of the senior course, Composition Faculty, Pyongyang Music School No. 1, Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

Recently she has created the song *Only Once* re-

Sim Chol Yong

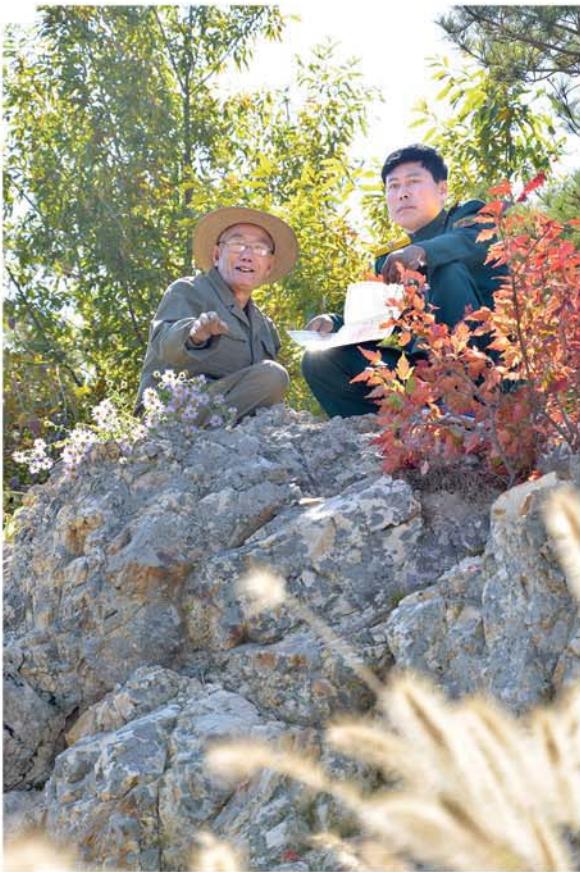
Big and Small Trees

GOOD SPECIES OF TREES SUCH AS pine-nut trees and fir trees cover all mountains in Sambong-ri, Thaethan County, South Hwanghae Province, Korea.

Those who tend the forests are the forest ranger Kim Ju Chol and his family members, who are devotedly looking after the forests.

Jong Yon Ok, manager of the county forest management station, says, "Kim Ju Chol and his family members have been faithfully tending all forests in Sambong-ri for scores of years generation after generation."

Kim Ju Chol (right), together with his father, takes good care of the forests in their charge lest there should be anything wrong.



Ju Chol and his children plant pine-nut trees.

It was over 20 years ago that Kim Ju Chol began to work as a forest ranger following in the steps of his father.

Not long after becoming a forest ranger he looked around the section under his charge, and found that they were very short of saplings. The saplings from the county's tree nursery were not enough to increase forests as soon as possible. They should have their own nursery, he thought and started to lay out a tree nursery.

One day, however, he heard that the sapling beds he had created with great effort were washed away or buried under mud by much rain that fell overnight. He ran a long distance up to the nursery. The sight of the destroyed sapling beds struck him dumb.

What shall I do with it? He thought and looked ▶

▶ back on how he had climbed steep mountains to collect humus soil, and how pleased people living around the nursery had been to see the buds of the saplings come out green and fresh. And he recollects his father who had tended the forests for decades, and his wife.

Then he jerked up his head. *I'll not give up this battle against nature. I must protect the forests which my father had kept.*

With a new determination he braced himself up again and managed to create a fine nursery larger than the former. His effort was worthwhile.

Now the nursery can produce much more saplings to supply to other villages as well. Moreover, he succeeded in the experimental cultivation of Ongjin reed which he started with an intention of reducing dependence on the forests, thus making



it possible to solve the problem of firewood for the local residents and that of farming and building materials.

A few years ago he participated in a national sci-tech paper reading of afforestation field with a thesis titled *The Use and Effect of Reed in Afforestation and Use of Forest* and was highly appreciated.

Today the number of various birds and animals living in the thick forests in Sambong-ri is increasing. Looking down at the thick forests from on the top of a mountain together with his family, Kim said to his children, "The tall trees are the ones that your grandpa planted and cultivated, and the small ones are those that I have planted and cultivated."

Then his eldest daughter Su Rim said, "I'll do so." And her younger brothers also agreed with her. Then they began to plant a young pine-nut tree together with their father.

Pak Un Yong



Ju Chol strives to put the cultivation of saplings and afforestation on a scientific basis.



Mt Myohyang

Pagodas, Stone and Living Monuments in Mt Myohyang

THERE ARE LOTS OF various shapes of pagodas and stone monuments along with old buildings. Most of the monuments record the history of temples and monks. The most typical ones are a 13-storey octagonal pagoda and a 9-storey quadrangular pagoda which show the developed masonry of Korea in the middle ages, and a monument to Pohyon Temple.

A 9-storey quadrangular pagoda of Pohyon Temple in Mt Myohyang.



The 13-storeyed octagonal pagoda was built in the late Koryo dynasty (918-1392). The structure of well-trimmed granite pieces is 8.58 metres high with its 6.58 metres high body. The length of each side of the octagonal pedestal is 1.2 metres. The pagoda retains peculiarities of the late Koryo dynasty in all aspects.

On the top of the pagoda is a bronze ornament. On the tip of the eaves of the octagonal roof stone are hung 104 bells in all. They jingle beautifully even in a breeze, creating a cheerful

(Continued from the last issue)

atmosphere. As a monument to the excellent architectural art and techniques of the Korean ancestors, the pagoda is one of typical attractions for tourists to Mt Myohyang.

In front of Manse Pavilion is a 9-storey quadrangular pagoda. According to the inscription on the back of the first-storey body, the pagoda was built in 1044. The upper and lower bottoms are well decorated with lotus patterns. It tapers off in a peculiar way giving an imposing impression. The ground storey is relatively high and the first floor is dramatically reduced in height and then the body tapers off gradually from the second floor.

The monument to Pohyon Temple, built in 1141, is a typical one that tells the historical origin of the temple. It is 2.45 metres high, 1.12 metres wide and 0.12 metres thick. It is carved with an inscription of over 1 200 small characters. The characters on the front side tell the history of Pohyon Temple and those on the back side are the names of a number of monks related with the temple. The monument is inscribed with a story that a monk who came from Hwangju, North Hwanghae Province, built Ansim Temple in Mt Myohyang in 1028 and his nephew who was also one of his disciples built Pohyon Temple consisting of 243 rooms in 1042. It is also inscribed with the fact that King Munjong of the Koryo dynasty donated some land to Pohyon Temple in 1067.

The monument to Pohyon Temple is important material in studying the middle ages of Korea, in particular, history of the early Koryo dynasty. It also provides vivid data on

- ▶ the calligraphy and styles that prevailed during the Koryo dynasty. The style of the writing in the title is credited to the king at that time, and the style of the text writing to a celebrated hand at the time.

There are lots of living monuments in Mt Myohyang. The Myohyangsan Mulberry besides the Chonwang Gate in Pohyon Temple, the biggest and oldest of its kind in Korea, is over 400 years old. A group of Rhododendron yedoense growing in the yard of Pulyong Hermitage for hundreds years, have red flowers in full bloom between April and May. A Myohyangsan ash tree stands on the bank of the Myohyang Stream in the front of the temple. The Sangwonam Gingko Tree stands in the garden of Sangwon Hermitage. The trunk and bark of the Myohyangsan Pine Tree are typically red. And others are squirrel, Ryongyon Waterfalls



The monument to Pohyon Temple.

in Sangwon Valley and Chonju Rock halfway up Thakki Hill.

Besides, each scenic spot in Mt Myohyang has a relevant legend of ancient times, one depicting the

Korean people's anti-aggression struggle, one describing beautiful natural landscapes and religious ones.

The End

A group of hundreds-of-years-old Rhododendron yedoense in the yard of Pulyong Hermitage.



Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage Gathers Momentum

RECENTLY KOREA HAS registered many successes in preservation of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) amidst the growing public interest in it. Through close connection with the Beijing office of UNESCO and the participation of broad masses from all walks of life, the Korean folk song *Arirang* and kimchi-making practice have been registered on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

On the basis of this experience the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (NAPCH) is conducting the work to recommend other kinds of national ICH, including *ssirum* (Korean wrestling) and the Korean dressing custom, to be registered on the UNESCO

Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and other similar lists.

In 2013 the NAPCH, in a regular activity report of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea presented to UNESCO, made public its mid- and long-term strategy related to registration of heritage. The strategy is aimed at registering every year more than one kind of domestic heritage on the UNESCO list of intangible cultural heritage. To this end it is briskly working on preparation on a nationwide scale for nominating the relevant heritage in close contact with the organs and organizations related to the heritage and many individual persons who practised such heritage in the country.

However, the work to nominate the domestic heritage

A scene from a UNESCO training workshop on preservation of intangible cultural heritage.



► for the relevant lists of UNESCO is a gigantic project that can be done only when it wins the sympathy and support of many people concerned, and it is participated in by them, not merely the one for the experts in the field.

The NAPCH organized three groups with researchers, cameramen and experts and had them travel all over the country to collect the data on each region and written agreements, and video and photograph the relevant things. And in consideration of many people's opinions it prepared necessary nomination files by items according to the relevant list. On the basis of this the NAPCH revised nomination files two times in 2016 in accordance with the opinion of an evaluation organization, and in 2017 it presented the files to UNESCO.

Meanwhile, the NAPCH is widely conducting the introduction and propagation of intangible cultural heritage in a planned way in order to make the people deepen their understanding of such heritage. The kimchi-making practice in Korea can be cited. Officials of the Intangible Heritage Office of the NAPCH paid primary attention to the work of the press

whenever regular kimchi-making practice shows and contests were organized so as to have them take place amid the interest of the whole society.

When the kimchi-making practice was put on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2015, they widely organized and conducted the introduction of the fact in various forms and ways. This made lots of women in the country take great interest in practising such intangible cultural heritage, thus making it possible to put new spurs to the preservation of intangible cultural heritage.

As required by the relevant UNESCO convention the country is further expanding and developing cooperation and exchange in the preservation of intangible cultural heritage with UNESCO and other international organizations, and different countries in the world.

A typical example is that a training workshop for community-based inventorying of intangible cultural heritage list and for elaborating nomination files was given by UNESCO between September and October last year. It gave in-depth explanations about lots of issues arising in inventorying the list

and elaborating nomination files on a higher level. There was also an exchange of the relevant opinions. The participants of the workshop had a deeper understanding of inventorying of ICH list, and it served as a very useful opportunity to develop the ICH preservation in Korea on a higher stage.

Pak Mu Song, vice-head of the Intangible Heritage Office of the NAPCH, said in his address delivered at the workshop, "The process of registering heritage can be said to be the one of preserving it. Through participation in registering and nominating heritage people have a deeper understanding of heritage they are practising, and feel an obligation to carry on and further develop it. We will solve problems arising in the preservation of ICH through close cooperation and exchanges with UNESCO and different countries in the world, and in connection with broad masses from all walks of life in the country. And we will actively implement various practical measures to register our national ICH on the UNESCO lists, thus helping preserve such heritage throughout the society and enrich the diversity of culture of humanity."

Ri Song Chol

Efficacy of Mung Bean Powder

FROM OLDEN TIMES the Koreans used mung bean extensively as diuretic, antipyretic and antidote.

The mung bean powder not only neutralizes poisoning from different kinds of materials like lead, agricultural

chemicals, coal-burning gas and liquor but also alleviates fever. The feature of its detoxification is that it only plays the action of antidote without weakening the effect of other drugs and tonics, so it can be used along with Koryo medicines and tonics. Especially,

Ever-victorious General Choe Yong

THE KOREAN WORD *manho* meant a military officer assigned to work at a point of military importance, and *Choe Manho* stood for General Choe Yong. Whenever Choe showed up in a battlefield, Japanese pirates shivered with fright and took flight.

He was born to an aristocratic family in 1316. In the year when he was 15, his father in his deathbed told him to regard gold as stone. Bearing in mind his father's words Choe adhered to integrity for his immovable creed of life.

As a strapping man he was always out in battlefields distinguishing himself whenever the country was at a crisis owing to foreign invasions. His bravery and commanding ability were fully displayed during the Hongsan battle to rout Japanese pirates in July 1376.

A large unit of Japanese pirates sailed up the sea off Chungchong Province, came up the Kum River and anchored in the Paengma River to invade Koryo.

Knowing this Choe volunteered to go to the front and smash the invaders. He was 60 at the time.

When he reached Hongsan

leading his troops he found the Japanese pirates already in combat readiness on a bluff to which only a single road led.

Choe Yong drew out his sword and rushed on horseback toward the enemy's position followed by his officers and men. The invaders were mowed down in groups.

Unable to check the Koryo troops' attack, the aggressors tried to put up resistance shooting arrows from afar at random.

Then an arrow shot by a Japanese pierced Choe Yong's lip.

Only after killing the enemy with an arrow, did he pull out the arrow from his lip with perfect composure. This encouraged his troops to charge raising a war cry and fight hand to hand with the

pirates.

Now the enemy began to flee.

"Don't let even a single rogue escape," Choe ordered. And his troops chased and annihilated the enemy. Thus the battle ended in victory for the army of Koryo.

"If you fight ready to die you can win. But if you wish to survive the fight from the outset you'll be defeated. You should keep this simple truth in mind," Choe said to his men.

Afterwards, whenever Choe showed up in a battlefield, the Japanese pirates were demoralized even before fighting.

Choe won over 100 battles against aggressors in his lifetime. Thus he was renowned as victorious veteran warrior. □



Six Decades of Friendship and Unity

ON JANUARY 1, 1959 THE Cuban people won victory through their protracted and arduous struggle, and in February that year established a revolutionary government headed by Fidel Castro Ruz. Since then the Cuban people have overcome all kinds of challenge of imperialists and safeguarded the gains of the revolution with honour for six decades, registering great successes in the socialist construction.

The Korean people have always supported them in their struggle. After the establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the DPRK on August 29, 1960 the peoples of the two countries have closely supported and cooperated in their common struggle for the victory of the socialist cause against imperialism.

Fidel Castro Ruz's official goodwill visit to Korea in 1986 demonstrated that the DPRK-Cuba friendship was constantly improving. The Cuban Party, government and people highly appreciated the successes the Korean people gained in the revolutionary struggle and construction, and extended sincere support and encouragement to their struggle for the socialist construction and reunification.

Especially, the Cuban Party and government paid deep attention to the issue of Korea in the international arena, and worked

actively in support of the Korean people's just cause of national reunification. The Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK government and the Korean people, too, are sincerely pleased with the fact that the Cuban people are registering great successes in the socialist construction, and extending support and encouragement to the struggle of the Cuban Party, government and people to safeguard peace and security in the Caribbean region and Central America.

The Cuban people, who have advanced forward dynamically while frustrating the hostile forces' aggressive and subversive moves and sabotage at every step, radically renovated all aspects of the country in a short span of time and made a great progress in all fields of the economy, culture and defence. Around 1990 they turned out as one in the struggle to implement the strategic task of the "special period of peace time" to cope with the vicious challenge of the imperialists and the eastern European countries' policy of "reform" and "reorganization."

In those days the two countries were firmly united though both of them are far away from each other between ocean and continent, and their militant ties of friendship and unity were further consolidated in the course of overcoming trials encountered

and struggling together for the common cause.

Today the relations of friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and Cuba are further developing. The bond of friendship between them is deepening. In September last year the Cuban Party and state delegation headed by Salvador Antonio Valdes Mesa, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, first vice-president of the Council of State and first vice-president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, visited Pyongyang to participate in the functions held in celebration of the DPRK's 70th birthday, sharing joy with the Korean people. In November of the same year Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, visited Pyongyang, thus demonstrating that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries are developing on a high level.

The Korean people, with confidence in their victory and optimism about their future, will advance straightly along the road of socialism while recollecting pleasantly the six decades in which they struggled together with the Cuban people.

Kim Hyon Ju

Great Unity of Nation— Sure Guarantee of Reunification

OVER SEVEN DECADES HAVE PASSED since Korea was divided into two by the foreign forces. However, the nation's zeal for reunification is growing stronger. The Korean nation aspires to achieve its reunification putting an end to the history of division. What is important to the nation is that the north and the south of Korea improve the relations between themselves and take decisive measures for achieving a breakthrough for independent reunification without being obsessed by bygone days.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forth an idea of the great unity of the whole nation, and has made strenuous efforts for its implementation. The essence of the idea is that people of all classes and strata should give priority to the requirement and interests of the nation and be united into one regardless of differences in thought and ideas, political view and religious belief, and property status and social standing in order to safeguard and realize the independence of the nation.

Today the great unity of the Korean nation and its reunification arise as an urgent problem as never before. In view of the situation within and without, the fundamental interest of the nation and the tendency of the current time, now is the time for the entire nation to achieve the great unity to save its destiny and demonstrate the dignity and honour of a reunified one Korea and nation. The longer the division continues the worse the nation's misfortunes and sufferings will become along with the greater danger that the nation will become heterogeneous. The aggravation of mistrust and confrontation between the north and the south might result in a tremendous catastrophe of the nation.

Last year's epoch-making events in the Korean peninsula showed that only reconciliation and unity enable the nation to survive and achieve prosperity. The eye-opening realities that no one had expected were brought about in the Korean peninsula where confrontation and danger of war had run to the extreme until 2017. The north and south summit meetings took place 11 years after the previous one, and the historic Panmunjom Declaration and September Pyongyang Joint Declaration were adopted, making a new atmosphere prevail in the peninsula.

It was not a miracle given by Heaven or an accident of history. It was the fruit of the concerted efforts the north and the south made under the banner

of national independence. Amidst the great interest of within and without the inter-Korean high-level talks were held in the south side of Panmunjom, and the north and the south showed the appearance of being one at the 23rd Winter Olympics. Sportspersons of both sides entered the venue together, with the reunification flag at the head of them. The performance of the Samjiyon Orchestra, the band music performance of the cheerleading group and the performance of the demonstration group of Taekwon-Do from the north softened the severe cold of winter and brought about the warm atmosphere of spring for national reconciliation and unity.

Last year witnessed amazing changes and frictions brought about by sincere efforts made by both sides with the view and stance of pooling mind and intention and respecting and trusting each other. The inter-Korean Red Cross talks for implementation of the Panmunjom Declaration were held, and two rounds of reunion of separated families and relatives in the north and the south were held in Mt Kumgang on the occasion of August 15, the day of Korea's liberation from the Japanese military occupation. And the north-south basketball match for reunification was held in Pyongyang amidst the increasing atmosphere of national reconciliation and unity after the adoption of the historic Panmunjom Declaration. It served as an opportunity to dynamically demonstrate the nation's wisdom and talent, making it possible to hold dear the tender feeling of a homogeneous nation with the north and the south united into one.

Meanwhile, different branches of dialogue and negotiation were held to implement the Panmunjom Declaration including inter-Korean general-level talks, inter-Korean panel for cooperation in forestry, inter-Korean panel for cooperation in road traffic and the inter-Korean panel for cooperation in railway. Besides, the north-south joint liaison office was opened in the Kaesong Industrial Park.

All of the facts showed that the north and the south belong to one nation of the same blood.

It is the firm standpoint and invariable policy of the DPRK that for the great unity of the nation, it is ready to embrace and unite with all people who value and keep the soul of the nation and love the nation, irrespective of ideology and system, and class and social strata.

Kim Il Ryong

Goshawk

GOSHAWK IS THE NATIONAL BIRD OF THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Belonging to the eagle family of the stork and heron order, the goshawk is a non-migratory bird which propagates and winters in Korea. It lays eggs between late April and early May.

The bird is not so big, but it has a sharp beak, strong claws, high agility, clever and decisive character, a well-proportioned form and bright eyes.

From of old the Koreans tamed the goshawk to use it for hunting pheasants, hares and other wild

animals. To tame the bird they brought a young from the nest to their home and fed it while giving it training for hunting. This kind of goshawk was called *sujini*, while the wild one in the mountains was called *sanjini*.

The goshawk propagates in Ryanggang Province including the Mt Paektu area, Jagang Province, Pujon County in South Hamgyong Province and other highland regions, and spreads as far as to south of the central Korea in winter.

Rim Ok



