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**4**



# Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee Held

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**A**n enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held in late February.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, presided over the meeting.

The meeting discussed in detail the principled issues of thoroughly applying the people-first principle to Party building and activities and constantly strengthening the Party ranks and boosting its fighting efficiency as required by the developing revolution, ways of correctly fulfilling the immediate political, military and economic tasks, and the matters of adopting and strictly enforcing top-class anti-epidemic measures to prevent the viral epidemic that is rapidly spreading across the world.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un clarified the analysis of the issues made by the Party Central Committee and its stand on them and called on all the Party officials and organizations to make steady efforts to train themselves and their units in a revolutionary pattern and bring about a fresh turn in Party work.

The meeting discussed the matters of taking nationwide top-class anti-epidemic steps in a more thoroughgoing way and strictly putting them into practice.

An urgent task at present is to revise, supplement and perfect the law on the state emergency anti-epidemic work and to readjust national crisis management regulations in an orderly way, the Supreme Leader said, emphasizing that the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet and other relevant institutions should build up the country's anti-epidemic force immediately and push ahead with the work for replenishing and perfecting anti-epidemic means, system and laws based on the experiences gained through the preemptive and powerful anti-epidemic measures that have been taken to cope with the serious infectious disease.

Noting that it is important for Party organizations at all levels to have a clear understanding of the intention of the Party Central Committee and translate it into practice, he stressed that the Party should provide strong impetus so that the Cabinet and all the economic institutions could map out economic plans and give guidance in line with the present situation.

The meeting deliberated on the measures for speeding up the construction of dwelling houses in Pyongyang and the provinces in line with the requirements of the Party policy on construction which prioritizes the people's convenience in living.



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un presiding over the enlarged meeting in February 2020



Article: Kim Son Gyong

# Supreme Leader Breaks Ground for the Construction of the Pyongyang General Hospital



A groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the Pyongyang General Hospital took place in Pyongyang on March 17.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un attended the ceremony.

The Pyongyang General Hospital to be erected in an ideal place on the picturesque Taedong River bank in Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, on the occasion of the 75th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea would be another gift of love presented by the Party that is making selfless, devoted efforts for the people.

When the Supreme Leader arrived at the venue of the ceremony, all the builders burst into thunderous cheers of hurrah in honour of him who, with ardent love for the people, has made tireless efforts to open up a broad avenue of fresh advance of Korean-style socialism.

Senior officials of the Party and the state, leading officers and officials, and builders attended the ceremony.

Kim Jong Un delivered a speech.

He said that the Party Central Committee discussed and decided at its fifth

plenary session on the building of a modern general hospital in Pyongyang for the good of people's health, identified the project as a major one to be completed by the 75th anniversary of the Party, the one which should be given priority over other construction projects this year, and made full preparations for finishing the project in the shortest time possible.

Noting that it would be a source of the greatest happiness and encouragement for the Party, when the people including the rising generations should lead a healthy and cultured life by benefiting from the most advanced medical services provided under the socialist public health system, he continued to say:

In recent years, modern ophthalmic, dental and other specialist hospitals, as well as a children's hospital, have been built in Pyongyang. However, we cannot be satisfied with these achievements, as they are merely like grains of sand on a mountain when compared to the lofty ideals and ambitions of our Party.

Now, with the mindset that we are starting everything from scratch, we should take the first step in building our public health service into one that is





people-oriented and advanced.

Then the Supreme Leader noted that the WPK set the strengthening of the public health sector as a political task for defending and adding lustre to the image of socialism of Korean style and as a crucial undertaking to which the state must direct primary efforts, whatever the conditions and circumstances, and continued to say:

The Party's basic aim is to ensure that, in building the Pyongyang General Hospital, the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the people permeates the ongoing all-out frontal offensive to achieve a breakthrough. It also expects the spirit of carrying out the Party's instructions to the end and the construction speed created in the course of building the hospital to be rapidly propagated to all sectors of socialist construction.

It is the Party's lofty intention to develop a socialist public health service that is fully people-oriented and advanced, and that assumes complete responsibility

for protecting the life of all the people and promoting their health. True to this intention, we should turn out as one in the effort to ensure that the project is completed without fail by the Party's 75th founding anniversary.

The conditions are poor and many difficulties lie ahead. However, we are sure to overcome any difficulties we may encounter in the course of construction if we work actively by enlisting all our efforts, based on the understanding that no one else will bring us happiness and create a future for us, and that we must achieve happiness by means of our own efforts and forge our future with our own hands.

We should raise the fierce flames of the speed campaign, demonstrating the same indomitable mental strength as we displayed, under the Party's leadership, when ushering in the great golden age of construction; and we should launch a loyal offensive, a fierce 24-7 struggle and a resolute lightning campaign so that we add brilliance to the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Party with the



completion of this proud, monumental edifice.

The Pyongyang General Hospital, which, despite the manifold difficulties and hardships, will rise high in the centre of the capital, will be a structure that not only demonstrates the true spirit of our country as it advances vigorously towards a better future by frustrating with good humour the cruel sanctions and blockade imposed by hostile forces, but also highlights the constancy of our revolution.

At the end of his speech the Supreme Leader called for all the people to strive hard, by truly devoting their sweat and blood, for the honourable and worthwhile construction project and for the sake of the valuable people, and build on the very spot a wonderful hospital for the people that would be the envy of the world.

When he finished his speech, the whole venue reverberated again with



thunderous cheers. The participants were filled with admiration for the Supreme Leader who continued to add glory in the new century of the Juche era to the sacred history of the people-first principle associated with lifelong devotion of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The Supreme Leader broke ground first to mark the beginning of the construction of the hospital and then pressed the button of the blasting device.

The moment, the stirring sound of explosion resounded, signalling the start of the construction project.

All the builders promptly launched into construction, their hearts burning with the determination to erect the hospital as a monumental structure in the era of the Workers' Party fully embodying its view on the people, on the occasion of the 75th Party founding anniversary.

*Article: Choe Kwang Ho*

# Drills of the KPA Units Inspected



Kim Jong Un inspecting the joint strike drill of the KPA units in February 2020



Kim Jong Un guiding a firepower strike drill of the KPA's long-range artillery sub-units on the front in March 2020

The joint strike drill of units of the Korean People's Army was conducted under the guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on February 28.

The purpose of the drill was to check the mobility and the fire strike capabilities of the defence units on the front line and in the eastern area and to attain proficiency in commanding combined strike by the KPA services.

The Supreme Leader, expressing his admiration for the combat capability of the units of the services of the KPA and the defence units on the front line and in the eastern area keeping themselves fully ready to go into action immediately at any time and at any moment when the order is issued, extended his militant greetings and special thanks in the name of the Supreme Commander to all the service personnel who attended the drill.

He guided the firepower strike drills conducted by the KPA's long-range artillery sub-units on March 2 and 9.

The drills were aimed at inspecting the surprise military counterattack

capability of the long-range artillery units on the front.

Expressing great satisfaction with the result, the Supreme Leader spoke highly of the perfect combat readiness of the long-range artillery sub-units on the front.

He oversaw an artillery fire competition between the artillery units under the 7th and the 9th corps of the KPA on March 12.

Upon his instruction the corps commanders personally commanded the firing at the observation post. The moment they gave orders to open fire, all the artillery pieces roared, engulfing the target islet in flames.

Praising the militant enthusiasm and attitude of the brave artillerymen who participated in the competition which was organized without prior notice, the Supreme Leader reiterated the requirements of the Party to ceaselessly study the forms and methods of artillery drills and conduct drills under the simulated conditions of an actual war.

Kim Jong Un inspected an artillery firing competition between large combined units of the KPA on the western front on March 20.

The artillery units under the 3rd, 4th and 8th corps of the KPA took part in the competition.

The artillery units showed amazing marksmanship they trained in their ordinary drills, fully displaying their fighting efficiency ready to go into action.

The Supreme Leader expressed satisfaction, saying that the firing skill of the artillerymen on the western front, those under the 3rd Corps in particular, was remarkably great. And he spoke highly of them, noting that it was just like

hitting the target with sniper rifles.

Greatly satisfied with the combat readiness of the 3rd Corps, he wrote his congratulatory message, which read, “**I admire the amazing combat capability of the battalion. I am so satisfied and give special thanks to it. Kim Jong Un. March 20, 2020**” on the master gunner certificate to be awarded to an artillery battalion under the 3rd Corps which showed remarkable marksmanship and eye-opening results in the competition.

Article: Ri Mi Ye



Kim Jong Un overseeing an artillery firing competition between large combined units of the KPA in March 2020



The Supreme Leader writing a congratulatory autograph on the master gunner certificate in March 2020

## Demonstration Fire of Tactical Guided Weapon Watched



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the demonstration fire of tactical guided weapon on March 21.

The demonstration fire was aimed at reconfirming and showing to the commanding officers of the Korean People's Army the tactical characters and power of a new weapon system to be delivered to KPA units.

When he gave the order of fire, powerful Juche shells spewed dazzling flashes with roaring sounds to precisely hit a target islet.

The Supreme Leader said the successive birth of the new Korean-style weapon systems serves as a great event in developing and transforming the

armed forces of the State. It is a brilliant success brought about by the Party's correct line on developing the self-supporting national defence industry and its policy of attaching importance to the national defence science and a clear demonstration of the might of the national defence science and industry, he added.

He gave important instructions on the tasks to be carried out by every defence science research field and new orientations for munitions industry.

Article: Kim Phil



# Reflection of Ardent Reverence for Great Person

The Korean people hold in high esteem Kim Il Sung as the eternal President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and founding father of socialist Korea.

Since he embarked on the road of revolution in his teens, President Kim Il Sung led the revolution and construction for 70-odd years and performed immortal exploits.

By authoring the Juche idea, he opened up a new era of historical development, the Juche era, when the masses of the people, once oppressed and exploited, could shape their own destiny independently and creatively.

It was in his 30s when he achieved the liberation of Korea (August 15, 1945) from Japanese imperialism. And in his 40s he led to victory the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953) against the aggression of imperialist forces and thus defended the national security and sovereignty.

He wisely led the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and the socialist revolution, and established a people-centred socialist system.

Throughout his life he made energetic efforts to strengthen friendship and solidarity with the progressive peoples of the world who aspire after independence and love peace, and enjoyed boundless respect and admiration from heads of state and government of many countries and personages from all walks of life.

For his undying exploits performed for the cause of global independence he was awarded more than 370 orders, medals and honorary titles by foreign countries and international organizations.

Even after his demise, political, social and academic circles of many countries continuously conferred on the President orders, medals and honorary titles out of boundless reverence for him.

Article : Kim Son Gyong



Order of Gold Star and Certificate  
(Vietnam)  
April 14, 1987



Umaya Grand Belt Order and Certificate (Syria)  
September 25, 1974



Order of Lenin and Certificate (USSR)  
April 14, 1987



Order of Karl Marx and Certificate (Germany)  
April 15, 1987



Order of Star 1st Class and Certificate (Romania)  
April 9, 1982



National Grand Cross Order of  
One Thousand Hills and Certificate  
(Rwanda)  
June 15, 1978



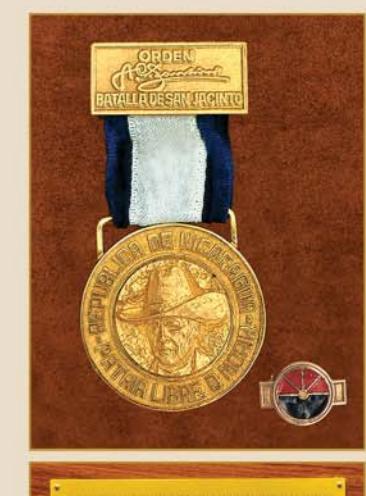
Order of Grand Star of Honour and Certificate (Ethiopia)  
November 10, 1985



Order of Jose Marti and Certificate (Cuba)  
April 13, 1982



National Grand Cross Order and Certificate (Mali)  
May 18, 1976



Order of Augusto Cesar Sandino and Certificate (Nicaragua)  
August 25, 1986



National Medal of Gold Star and Certificate  
(Laos)  
February 3, 1992



100th Birthday of Georgi Dimitrov Commemorative Medal  
and Certificate (Bulgaria)  
January 28, 1983



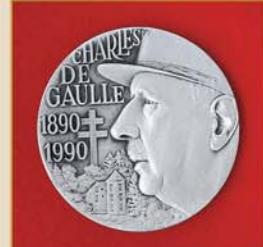
Medallion of Huacho, Huaura, Honorary Citizen  
and Certificate (Peru)  
November 26, 1999



Korean Friendship Association Medal 1st Class  
and Certificate  
April 15, 2012



Certificate of "The Great Humanitarian of the Century"  
(Sri Lanka)  
April 15, 2012



100th Birthday of de  
Gaulle Commemorative  
Medallion (France)  
October 6, 1990



Gold Medallion of  
Padova University  
(Italy)  
July 30, 1987



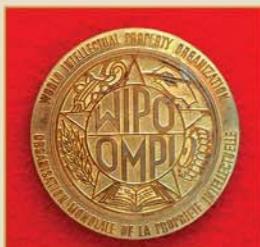
Gold Medallion of  
Madrid Assembly  
(Spain)  
July 28, 1992



Medallion of Congress  
(Venezuela)  
April 17, 1987



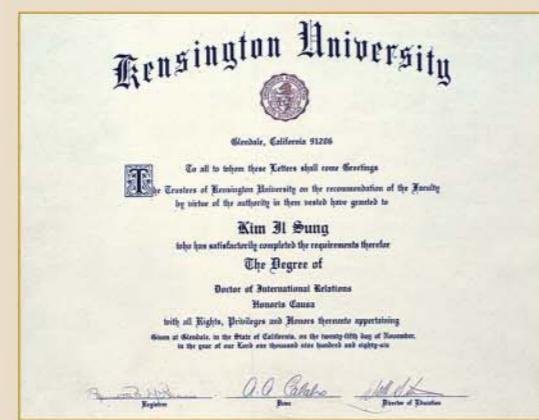
125th Anniversary of  
the ICRC Medallion  
September 17, 1992



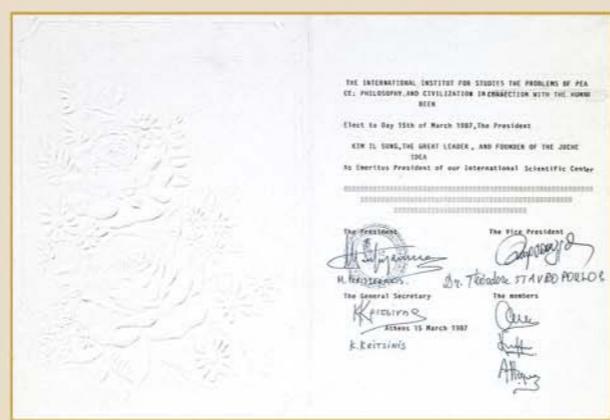
Medallion of WIPO  
April 8, 1982



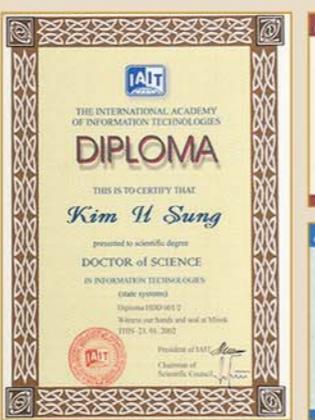
Medallion of the United Nations (UN)  
May 3, 1979



Diploma of Doctor of International Relations  
Honoris Causa  
of Kensington University (USA)  
November 25, 1986



Diploma of Emeritus President of the International  
Scientific Centre (Greece)  
March 15, 1987



Diplomas of Academician and Doctor of Science in Information Technologies  
of the International Academy of Information Technologies (Belarus)  
January 23, 2002



Liedekerke Honorary Citizenship Certificate  
and Belt (Belgium)  
April 23, 1987

# Spring Festival Adorned with Admiration for Great Persons



In April 1982 artistes from many countries of the world got together in Pyongyang, DPRK, and held a friendship concert to celebrate the 70th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung who performed undying exploits for the Korean revolution and the cause of global independence.

The celebration concert that was named the April Spring Friendship Art Festival in 1984, became an annual international event held in Pyongyang to mark the Day of the Sun (April 15) and a biennale after 2007.

The festival involves vocal and instrumental music, dance and acrobatics, and draws famous art troupes and talented artistes including prize-winners at international contests.

The performances are categorized by countries, organizations, genres, and also held collectively and jointly.

The jury comprised of authorities in the relevant realms as well

as the audience judge performances, and excellent organizations and artistes are awarded prizes.

The festival aims at promoting joint development of music and art by strengthening friendship, unity and cultural exchange between the artistes from many countries of the world under the ideal of independence, peace and friendship.

A head of a European art troupe said: The April Spring Friendship Art Festival is different from all other festivals which I have seen so far. The festival is not for deciding ranking. What prevails it is ardent reverence for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, and the feelings of friendship and solidarity displayed by artistes from all across the world.

Article: Kang Su Jong

Photo: By the courtesy of the KCNA







Acrobatic performances

# New Appearance of Samjiyon



There is the city of Samjiyon in Ryanggang Province, where stands Mt Paektu, the ancestral mountain of the Korean nation.

The Samjiyon area was the theatre of the anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by Kim Il Sung in the first half of the last century, and there is also the Paektusan Secret Camp that has Kim Jong Il's birthplace.

Once a secluded mountainous village, the area began to undergo changes since the establishment of a new administrative district, Samjiyon County, in the early 1960s.

And two years ago a gigantic construction project commenced in the then county town, which was planned to abolish nearly 200 old-fashioned buildings and newly erect or reconstruct low- and multi-storeyed dwelling blocks for over 4 000 households and 380 odd public and industrial buildings, occupying an area of several hundred hectares.

This project was aimed at creating a model, exemplary mountainous cultured city by wonderfully combining national identity, modernity and northern alpine features in formation of city divisions and architecture and

also attaining a new phase of ensuring usability, variety and formative and artistic value.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the county town several times to give field guidance to the construction project.

With the completion of the project at the end of last year, local residents became masters of the new city and streets and moved to new dwelling houses free of charge.

The city of Samjiyon is finely laid out: Dwelling houses satisfy

architectural requirements; factories and industrial establishments are divided into production and public service sections; and schools, hospital, library, hall of culture, gym, restaurants and other institutions sustain their unique features.

The whole city is landscaped with more than 900 000 trees, including *Picea koraiensis* and white birch, and over a million square metres of lawns.

The citizens of Samjiyon, a new alpine city, are leading a happy life.

Article: Jong Ki Sang

Photo: Kim Hyok Chol, Song Tae Hyok





Samjiyon citizens lead a happy life at new houses





Wonderful environment and conditions are provided for education

The whole city is overwhelmed by happiness and laughter of its citizens

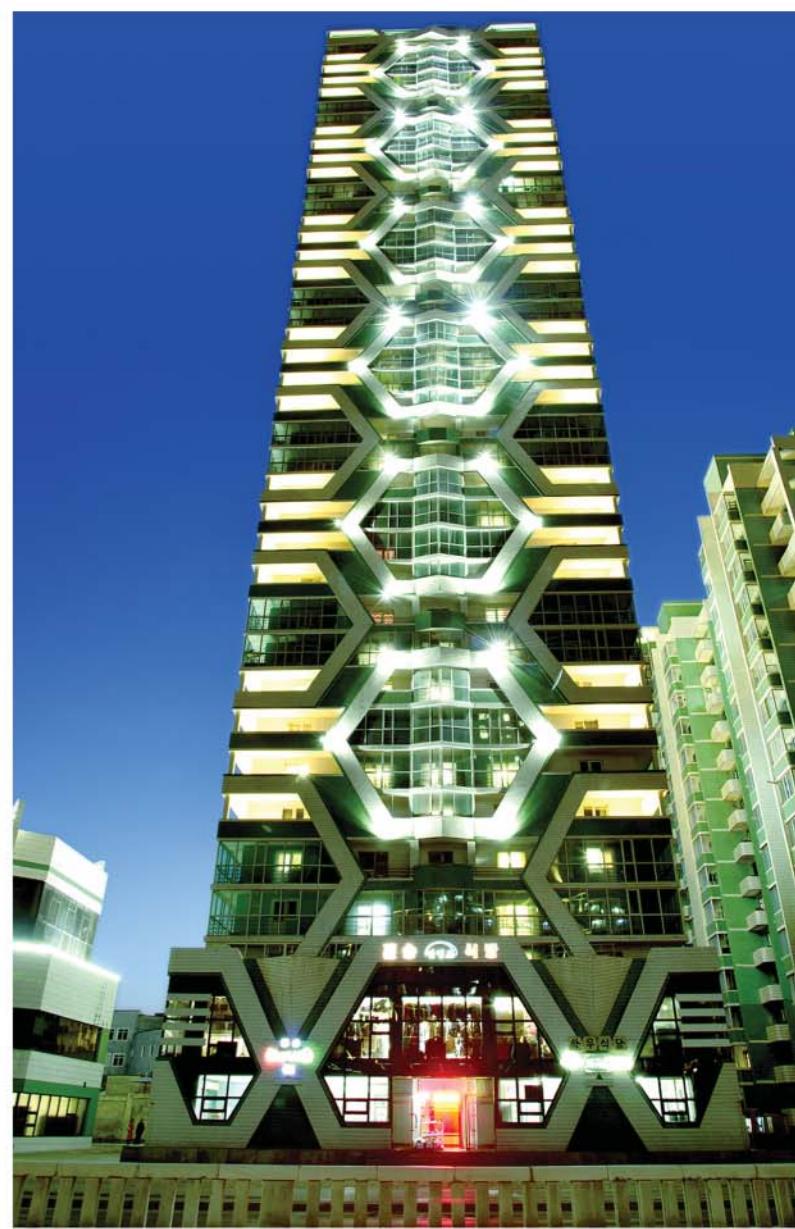


Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory and other local industry factories make a contribution to the improvement of the citizens' living standards

# Nocturnal View of Ryomyong Street

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam, An Chol Won







## TRADITIONAL SPRING COSTUME



When spring comes around, the Korean people prefer to wear traditional costume, and most impressive are women attired in elegant-looking *chima* (long skirt) and *jogori* (coat).

Proportional differences of short *jogori* and long *chima* give no impression of disproportion, but rather, elicit distinctive charm.

Typical kinds of *jogori* include loose-stitched lined,

backstitched, *panhoejang* (ornamental edging of cuffs, collar and strings), and *samhoejang* (colourful strips sewn on the cuffs, collar, strings and armpits). And there are also various kinds of *chima*, including pleated one, *kkorichima* (long skirt hemmed on both sides), and crimson-coloured one.

The costume's colours, such as light pink, yellowish green, light maroon, yellow and other soft and bright ones, blend well

with natural environment, while the patterns featuring flowers, leaves, grass, fruits and others easily found in the country, looking mild, fine and vivid.

Fine and elegant traditional costume of the Korean people add grace to the balmy spring scenery.

*Article: Choe Ui Rim  
Photo: Choe Won Chol*





Preschool children across the country were provided with *Haebatagi*-brand school supplies in February 2020

## "Haebatagi" School Supplies Favoured by Children

Ryongbong School Supplies Factory which was inaugurated in October last year is situated at the foot of Mt Ryongak in Pyongyang.

The factory turns out various kinds of school supplies such as pencils, ball-pens, crayons, watercolours, erasers, rulers, pencil cases and so on.

It is equipped with modern facilities and has established an integrated manufacturing system.

All its officials and employees are making strenuous efforts to produce school supplies that satisfactorily meet users' requirements as well as achieve pedagogical purposes. To do so, they ensure the operation of the machines

at full capacity by encouraging the workers to improve their technical skills and scrupulously manage the facilities.

At the same time, a factory-wide drive is under way to perfect production lines to turn out school supplies in a diversified type and range.

Thanks to energetic endeavours of the factory employees, the *Haebatagi* (sunflower)-brand school supplies are already preferred by all, ranging from kindergarten pupils to university students across the country.

Article: Kim Son Gyoung  
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



# General Fishing Equipment Factory



The General Fishing Equipment Factory in Jonjin-dong, Rangnang District of Pyongyang, is a producer of a wide variety of nets, ropes, floats and other equipment for fishing and shallow-sea culture.

The factory occupies an area of more than 34 000 square metres, and is fully equipped with sophisticated machines and facilities. All the production processes are integrated and automated, so that production and management activities are put on a scientific and optimal basis.

Its employees constantly improve their technical knowledge and skills and strictly observe the technical regulations and standard working rules to ensure the full-capacity operation of machines.

It turns out many types of nets needed for different fishing methods and

fish kinds, floats for gill and seine nets and sea culture, and ropes for various purposes.

Regarding science and technology as a key to increased production, it pushes ahead with the technical innovation campaign in close collaboration with specialized scientific research institutes.

It recently remodelled the finder of broken cord positions and the automatic feeder of raw materials, and introduced technical innovations in conformity

with its actual conditions, thus rendering a great contribution to increasing the production 1.5 times more than that in the days of its inauguration.

It also gives spur to the effort to increase production and improve quality by utilizing domestic materials.

Its products are becoming popular in the country.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun

Photo: Choe Won Chol



# Producer of Delicious Grapes and Wine



You will see a vast stretch of plantations thick with grapevines and girls picking delicious fruits.

A number of vineyards created in the fruit farm and southeastern region of Sariwon are known for their bumper harvest every year.

The region features low hills and mountains, so dry-field farming was the first consideration in the past.

On August 4, 1950, during the Fatherland Liberation War, President Kim Il Sung visited the place on his way back from inspection tour to the front and chose the site for building a fruit farm. Since then, the fruit farming began in the region, which later developed into a leading fruit producer in the country.

Over a thousand hectares of orchards have been built, most of which are vineyards.

Grapes became one of specialties of Sariwon, and a winery was built in the city.

The Sariwon Winery underwent reconstruction in November last year.

It has established an integrated manufacturing system and made all the production



processes germ-free, thus enabling the production growth and quality improvement.

The management and workers of the factory strive hard to ensure the hygienic safety and quality of products and develop new goods by strengthening its own technical personnel.

The factory's products have already earned fame throughout the country.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho  
Photo: An Chol Ryong



# "We Are Grateful for Our Healthcare System"

It was early February when a 12-year-old boy and his mother from Wonsan of Kangwon Province arrived at the Okryu Children's Hospital situated on Munsu Street, Taedonggang District in Pyongyang.

The boy was An Ryong Ju, an ordinary worker's son, who was diagnosed through telemedicine system as having a cardiovascular disease and admitted to this specialist hospital for treatment.

The moment they stepped into the

entrance hall, the boy looked cheerful and brisk as if to throw off his disease right away, but his mother could not shake herself free from anxiety about her son. Such anxiety lingered even after they consulted doctors of the cardiovascular surgical department on the third floor and went to a sickroom.

Only when she saw the inpatients in the room she began to feel relieved. There were a two-year-old child and a five-month-old baby, who were recuperating

after heart surgery.

She learned afterward that the hospital's surgical department staffed with young surgeons ranks as a leading team in the field of infantile cardiosurgery and conducts over 300 operations in one year. And witnessing the department doctors, including its head Ri Chol Jin, and nurses, nay, all other medical staff of the hospital putting all their heart and soul into treatment, she was deeply moved by their sincere devotion to bring back laughter to little children.

After successful operation, Ryong Ju was administered with a variety of health tonics and nourishment.

After nearly a month's treatment, Ryong Ju was fully recovered and left the hospital. Leaving it, his mother said emotionally: "Now I am going home with my son fully recovered. I don't know how much I am charged for his medical treatment, but I am well aware that we owe much to the hospital and its doctors."

Article: Kang Su Jong

Photo: Ri Kwang Song



# Four Typical Dishes of Pyongyang

Pyongyang cold noodles, Pyongyang *onban*, mung-bean pancake and Taedong River mullet soup are four typical dishes of Pyongyang, and they represent traditional food culture in the Pyongyang area.

Pyongyang cold noodles, whose strips are made of buckwheat, are renowned from ancient times as a masterpiece of Korean noodles. Light and slippery noodle strips, tasty stock and garnishing stimulate appetite. Therefore, it has been a must for those visiting Pyongyang to taste Pyongyang cold noodles.

Pyongyang *onban* is a dish of rice in hot chicken broth and garnished

with mung-bean pancake, boiled chicken and mushroom slices. A blend of different foodstuffs adds flavour to the dish.

Mung-bean pancake has distinctive features according to local areas. In the Pyongyang area mung-bean is ground to thin batter, mixed with vegetables and pork fat slices and baked until it becomes yellowish.

Taedong River mullet soup has a long history in the area, too. It has been regarded as courteous to serve honoured guests the soup made of mullet caught in the Taedong River.

Article: Kim Son Gyong  
Photo: Ri Kwang Song



Pyongyang cold noodles



Taedong River mullet soup



Pyongyang onban



Mung-bean pancake

Natural living monument

## Zelkova of Sokdam



An old zelkova stands at Sokdamgugok, a scenic spot in Pyoksong County, South Hwanghae Province. Sokdamgugok means a pool and nine valleys.

Rooted at the bank of the Sokdam Stream meandering through the Unbyong area of outstanding natural beauty and rich historical relics, the tree is known to have grown for over 900 years since around 1100.

It is 27 metres tall, 11.6 metres round at the root neck, and 7.8 metres round at the chest height. It branches out from

the height of some 3 metres upward, forming a crown of over 20 metres in diameter.

The tree's growing force is still fairly good, and it adds much charm to the surrounding scenery.

The zelkova is registered as a natural living monument for its academic significance.

Article: Kim Phil

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam

