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5



“Forest restoration is an important political work for implementing the instructions of the President and the General and one of the greatest patriotic undertakings for the development of our country, our nation, and the prosperity of posterity.”

Kim Jong Un



Kim Jong Un, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, plants trees with the pilots of a unit of the KPA Air and Anti-aircraft Force in March Juche 104 (2015)

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Whole Nation Called for Forest Restoration

A nationwide campaign to plant trees was conducted in the DPRK on Tree-Planting Day that falls on March 2.

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army, visited a unit of the KPA Air and Anti-aircraft Force and planted trees together with fighter pilots that day.

He was greeted by enthusiastic cheers of the pilots. Saying that today is a significant tree-planting day when President Kim Il Sung raised the torch of the tree-planting movement decades ago, he added he came to the unit, which gave birth to the heroic, self-sacrificing and self-blasting spirit of the courageous “red hawks” of Songun Korea, to plant trees with the pilots.

Noting that all the mountains of the country should be turned into “treasure mountains,” into “gold mountains,” within the coming ten years, he said that as we can no longer back off from the issue related with the forests, the Party regarded the forest restoration campaign as a battle without firing a single shot and thus proclaimed a war to ameliorate nature. And he pointed to the need for the People’s Army to take the lead also in the forest planting and conservation.

He then set the sites for planting the trees he brought with him,

including *Picea pungenscv. Glauca*, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* and gingko.

While planting trees with a spade in his hands, he taught in detail how to plant trees scientifically and checked the planted trees one by one. Saying that Kim Jong Il’s patriotism is the crystallization of genuine patriotism that holds dear every tree and every blade of grass in the country and requires one to devote one’s heart and soul to looking after them, he called upon the pilots and other soldiers of the unit to conduct the forest restoration campaign more vigorously, cognizant of the fact that they create the wealth of the country and lay the groundwork for the well-being of the future generations.

On the same day the officials and working people all across the country turned out in the campaign so as to greet a heyday in land administration of socialist motherland.

The tree nurseries across the country produced hundreds of millions of tree saplings needed for this year’s tree planting. The Central Tree Nursery produced millions of saplings in 20 kinds including Changsong Korea larch, pine-nut and maple trees and sent them to Pyongyang, South Phyongan, South and North Hwanghae and several other provincial cities and counties.

That day there were meetings of the people of all strata and

youth and students in Pyongyang and other provinces, attended by senior and other officials of the Party and government organs and working people's organizations, to pledge to cover the whole country with fruit and other trees and flowers by thoroughly applying Kim Jong Il's patriotism. Then the tree-planting was launched.

Having made sufficient preparations for afforestation, participants in the meetings worked hard to plant more of trees as required by the technical regulations and on the principles of

planting the right trees in the right soil and in the right season.

Thanks to their patriotic efforts to cover the country with green woods as soon as possible, more than 4.8 million trees and flowering shrubs were reportedly planted across the country on the single day.

A nationwide forest restoration campaign is in full swing without letup.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA





President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il see a relief model of the Changgwang Street in April Juche 69 (1980)



Glorious 70-year History of the WPK

Top Place to Betterment of the People's Living

Glorious 70-year development of the Workers' Party of Korea is associated with its consistent activities to take charge of the destiny of the masses of the people and improve their well-being.

The WPK is a leading political organization, the first of its kind in 5 000-year history of the Korean nation, which champions and represents the demands and interests of the masses of the people. Since its founding, the WPK set it as the supreme principle of its activities to improve the people's standard of living, which is based on the Juche idea and dictum of "The people are my God" created by President Kim Il Sung, founder of the Party. And it has always held fast to the principle and thus administered the politics of love and trust, benevolent politics.

It is a steadfast viewpoint and will of the WPK not to weigh the gravity of affairs related to the people but to appreciate the value and utility of everything, no matter how good it may be, on condition that it serves the people and is beneficial to people's living.

Based on this stand, the WPK worked out all its lines and policies fully representing the aspiration and demand of the people for material life, and built factories and cities giving foremost place to their interests and conveniences. Typical are laws on agrarian reform proclaimed on March 5, 1946 and tax abolition issued on March 21, 1974, respectively, a policy of carrying out socialist transformation of the economic form before the technical transformation of agriculture, and the strategic line of economic construction on giving priority to heavy industry and developing light industry and agriculture in parallel. Along

with them, such state policies as those on free education and medical care are carried out.

The WPK's activities that give absolute priority to the people's living were further improved under the wise leadership of Kim Jong Il, eternal General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Always go among the masses, breathe the same air with them, work hard for them and do everything by relying on them—it is an iron rule the WPK has always kept in its activities that neither must nor can be violated. To this end, it spared nothing for providing its people with all favourable and necessary things.

As a result, in the thick of harsh trials of the 1990s unprecedented in history there sprang up a lot of modern production bases conducive to the improvement of the people's living standards in all parts of the country, gigantic projects of land realignment and gravitational waterway construction were successfully carried out, and urban and rural areas turned into socialist fairyland.

Today the WPK is proceeding with its unremitting efforts to provide affluent material and cultural life for the people under the energetic guidance of Kim Jong Un.

Thanks to his leadership aimed at making his people, who are the best in the world and have remained faithful to the Party in the face of all manner of difficulties, enjoy all the benefits of socialism, a fresh change is being effected in the betterment of the people's life.

Even in the pernicious manoeuvres of the imperialists to isolate





Kim Jong Un looks round the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill in December Juche 103 (2014)

and stifle the DPRK and the ensuing fierce political and military confrontations, the country's light industry and agricultural sectors closely related to people's living made considerable upsurges in production and breakthroughs were made in fishery and livestock, vegetable and mushroom farming. Innumerable cultural establishments that mushroomed across the country for the well-being of the people including apartment buildings for the educationists at Kim Il Sung University and Kim Chaek University of Technology, Changjon and Unha Scientists streets, Wisong Scientists Dwelling District, Ryugyong Dental Hospital, Okryu Children's Hospital, Rungna People's Recreation Ground,

Munsu Water Park, Masikryong Ski Resort, Yonphung Scientists Holiday Camp, and so on.

The reality in the DPRK that makes constant leap forward with youthful vigour testifies clearly to the rich fruition of the WPK's leadership for improving its people's living.

This is why all the Korean service personnel and people regard the Workers' Party of Korea as a motherly one to which they entrust their destiny and future, and follow its leadership in order to build a thriving socialist state.

Article & photo: Jong Ki Sang



Light industry factories are increasing the production of consumer goods (at the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory)



A vast expanse of fruit trees at the large fruit farm presents a spectacular sight



Mushroom farming and seafood processing contribute to enriching people's diet



People enjoy themselves at the Masikryong Ski Resort, Munsu Water Park and other cultural facilities





Great leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il illuminate the road for the movement of Koreans in Japan and Chongryon in September Juche 77 (1988)

Proud Six Decades of Korean Overseas Organization

The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) is a dignified organization that represents the will and champions interests of the citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea living in Japan. The Korean compatriots in Japan are

people who were forcibly drafted by the Japanese imperialists in the period of the Japanese military occupation of Korea, and their descendants.

Korea's liberation on August 15, Juche 34 (1945) freed them from the lot of a ruined nation, but continuous repression

and persecution by the US imperialists and Japanese reactionaries prevented them from being invested with genuine democratic national rights and laid grave obstacles in their movement.

Perceiving the requirements of the developing revolution and analyzing



The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan was formed on May 25 Juche 44 (1955)

the critical situation of the movement of Koreans in Japan, President Kim Il Sung proposed changing their policy. He clarified that the Koreans, though living in Japan, must fight for their homeland and nation and hold fast to the Juche-oriented standpoint and conduct patriotic movement to achieve national reunification and prosperous development of the country while bolstering internationalist relations with

Japanese democratic forces. Guided by this line, Chongryon was founded on May 25, Juche 44 (1955).

Since then, the Koreans in Japan could have their genuine organization that defends their national dignity and rights and lead a patriotic life for the country and nation. Despite difficult conditions in alien land, Chongryon maintained its lawful status, established well-ordered organizational and work systems based

on the democratic centralism from the headquarters down to the branches and chapters, and achieved a unity of idea and purpose, and solidarity in its ranks. By doing so, Chongryon has grown into a powerful organization of the Korean overseas compatriots, which is reliably leading the movement of Koreans in Japan along the road of Juche.

Chairman Kim Jong Il wisely led Chongryon, the patriotic inheritance from



Chapters of Chongryon are established after the formation of its headquarters and branches



Korean Primary School in Kawasaki, Japan, welcomes its new pupils



Korean women in Japan receive the education in national spirit

Proud Six Decades of Korean Overseas Organization

President Kim Il Sung, to strictly adhere to the patriotic cause and add eternal glory to it in whatever rapidly changing situations.

The Korean compatriots in Japan, looking up to their socialist motherland that demonstrated its invincible might under the Songun-based leadership of the Chairman, developed their national education and culture and exalted their

national dignity, fully exercising their national rights.

The respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, who regards Chongryon associated with patriotic devotions of the great leaders as a precious part of socialist Korea, gives sagacious guidance to the efforts of the Chongryon officials and other Korean people in Japan to usher in a new heyday in the movement of Koreans in Japan.

He sent his letter of congratulations to the 23rd Congress of Chongryon last year, in which he made clear its path to follow in the movement of Koreans in Japan, strategic target, fundamental tasks and ways for the implementation. His letter provided the patriotic cause of Chongryon with a radical turning point for victorious advance.

Greeting the 60th anniversary of the founding of Chongryon, all its officials and Koreans are launching a dynamic campaign to celebrate the year with fresh achievements and innovations.

Chongryon's organizations at all levels are working efficiently to enhance their militant functions and roles and expand its mass foundations by rallying broad sections of the Korean people. Along with this, they are putting great efforts to national education of Chongryon, making it the lifeline of the movement, and thus

The first ship carrying the Koreans to return home departs the Niigata Port in Japan in December Juche 48 (1959)



carrying forward the traditions of love for the country and nation.

In this year of celebrating its 60th anniversary together with the 70th anniversaries of national liberation and founding of the Workers' Party of Korea, all the officials of Chongryon and Koreans in Japan are dedicating themselves to developing Chongryon into a pioneer organization that shares same destiny with socialist motherland and into a model one of the Juche-oriented overseas Korean movement.

Article & photo: Kim Chung Bok



National flavour permeates their artistic performance



National education is getting brisk





Grand festival of the Koreans in Japan in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the DPRK



Koreans in Japan turn out in the struggle for legal rights of the overseas Korean citizens and the national reunification



Immortal Flower Wins Top Award



Kimjongilia takes first place at the International Flower Fair held in Mongolia

Women's Day Celebrated

Women in the DPRK on their dynamic march for the building of a thriving socialist nation celebrated March 8 International Women's Day.

A national meeting took place on March 8 at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang to mark the 20th anniversary of the publication of Chairman

Kim Jong Il's work *Women Are a Powerful Force Pushing the Revolution and Construction* and the 105th anniversary of the international event.

That day the National Circus gave a performance at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre in celebration of the event. It was seen by women scientists who have rendered meritorious services to national prosperity, exemplary women of merits, labour innovators and



women's union officials in Pyongyang. Present at the celebration events on invitation were foreign women of Pyongyang-based diplomatic embassies and international organizations and home-visiting overseas Korean women.

That day, sports and amusement games and colourful cultural events were given at institutions, enterprises, factories and cooperative farms across the country.

Article: Kim Son Gyoung

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA

Towards the Venue of the Grand October Festival

To Make Choice Leather Shoes



The Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory in Wonsan of Kangwon Province, which was an ordinary light industry factory visited by Chairman Kim Jong Il in February Juche 98 (2009), has been renovated as a model of footwear industry in the country, attracting the attention of the people.

In July last year the respected Kim Jong Un visited it during his on-site guidance tours to realize the lifetime wish of the Chairman to improve the working and living conditions of the people. Then he set forth a task of renovating the factory and clarified the orientation and ways for its implementation.

Afterwards, in a little over five months the factory underwent tremendous changes in its appearance and production.

Buildings of production and welfare services that were reconstructed or newly built occupy several thousand square metres of floor space, and the factory compound was turned into a park covered with green trees and flowering plants.

Up-to-date injectors and other machines of 19 kinds, numbering over a hundred, were installed, automatic sewing machines controlled by one-chip computers introduced into upper-attaching process, and the business activities administered by applications programs.

Technicians and workers of the factory designed new dies of leather shoes for women suited to their likings and constitutions, and made considerable

achievements in producing light shoes by using nonwoven fibre insoles and reducing the weight of the cutting goods. They also developed scores of patterns of shoes.

Based on these successes, the factory is vigorously pushing ahead with the production of quality shoes to meet the demands and tastes of the people.

Officials, technicians and workers are pooling their creative wisdom and efforts to modernize production lines by applying computer-aided



designs and introducing laser-beam cutting, at the same time as promoting information-based business activities. They are also stepping up the work to produce shoes varying in kind, pattern and colour.

Strenuous efforts of the factory staff will soon pay off with its products with trademark "Maebongsan."

Article & photo: Pae Myong Chol



The feed additives of the factory are made from locally available materials



Towards the Venue of the Grand October Festival

Highly Efficacious Additives

The factory opened in January this year as a producer of animal feed additives.

It produces some ten kinds of additives for breeding pig, chicken and duck with locally-available materials, proving cost-effective and highly efficacious. The production lines of the factory are modern and information-based, ranging from enzyme production to trace salt treatment, dissolution and fermenting, drying and decomposition, and bean and animal- and fish-bone processing, measuring, mixing and packaging.

All the credit goes to the Jagang provincial people.

The additives are the rewards of more than ten years' exertions of Ri Yong Ho, the factory manager, and his wife Kim Sun Hui working as a researcher there, who have tried to develop animal feed additives with locally-available raw materials.

The couple faced a mountain of difficulties in the course of their work; they had to explore raw materials, study technical



Ri Yong Ho and his wife Kim Sun Hui are developers of the additives



data and conduct many experiments, experiencing repeated failures. All those, however, only hardened their mind to develop new additives by relying on raw materials, technology and machines on their own. Burning their heart with a determination to implement the Workers' Party of Korea's policy on improving the people's living standards by developing livestock farming, they made continued researches and finally achieved success.

Inspired by their good result, factories and enterprises in the province manufactured machines and equipment required for additive production while a lot of young and other builders constructing the factory in a short period.

Mirroring the patriotic enthusiasm of the provincial people to create happiness on their own, the factory is called the Jagang Additives Factory and its products Jagang additives.

The factory is now turning out larger amounts of additives, thanks to the workers' effort to boost the production and thus contribute to the local and country's livestock production.

Article & photo: Choe Won Chol



Popular Electronic Medical Appliances



The Pyongyang Electronic Medical Appliances Factory has contributed to people's health promotion and country's medical development for over 40 years by producing most of the medical appliances like electromyograph, abdominal echograph, electroencephalograph, electrocardiograph and high-pressure steam sterilizer which are in nation-wide use at hospitals and clinics.

Keeping up with the developing times, it has pressed on with technical upgrading so as to produce more efficient appliances. Setting it as the target to introduce CNC technology into machines, all its staff, the management, technicians and workers alike, are pooling their ideas and effort to this end.

While visiting other factories and industrial establishments to

learn from their experience in the introduction of CNC technology, they worked out technical problems in close cooperation with scientific research institutes.

They have perfected a system of making an accessory-processing program and transferring it to the machines via the control room. Along with this, they took necessary measures beforehand to operate machines on a regular basis by undertaking a vibration-proof project and installing air conditioners and other kinds of equipment.

As a result, the factory manufactures accessories of the up-to-date medical appliances with high precision which are conducive to the better performance of medical appliances.

It is continuously advancing towards another target of technical upgrading with an eye to contributing to the country's medical development as well as the promotion of the people's health.

Article & photo: Kim Kum Jin



Some of the products



Lake Chon in summer

Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu

Sunrise over Hyangdo Peak

Photos of Mt. Paektu

Mt. Paektu is the ancestral mountain, the sacred mountain of revolution, which enshrines the soul of the Korean nation and the spirit of Songun Korea.

It has been Korea's pride for its majesty and beauty. Rising above the clouds, the mountain, 2 750 m above sea level, is capped with snow all the year round and has Lake Chon at its summit, which is surrounded by the Janggun and other peaks over 2 000 m above sea level. The scenery of the mountain and the peaks is so dazzling that it is regarded as the acme of

mountainscape beauty.

Sunrise over the mountain is unique in beauty. When the peaks of Mt. Paektu are bathed in glorious morning sun, even crystal-clear water of Lake Chon begins to ripple.

Spectacular waterfalls rising from the lake and a wide variety of fauna and flora add to the alpine scenery.

Below are some photos of majestic and beautiful Mt. Paektu.

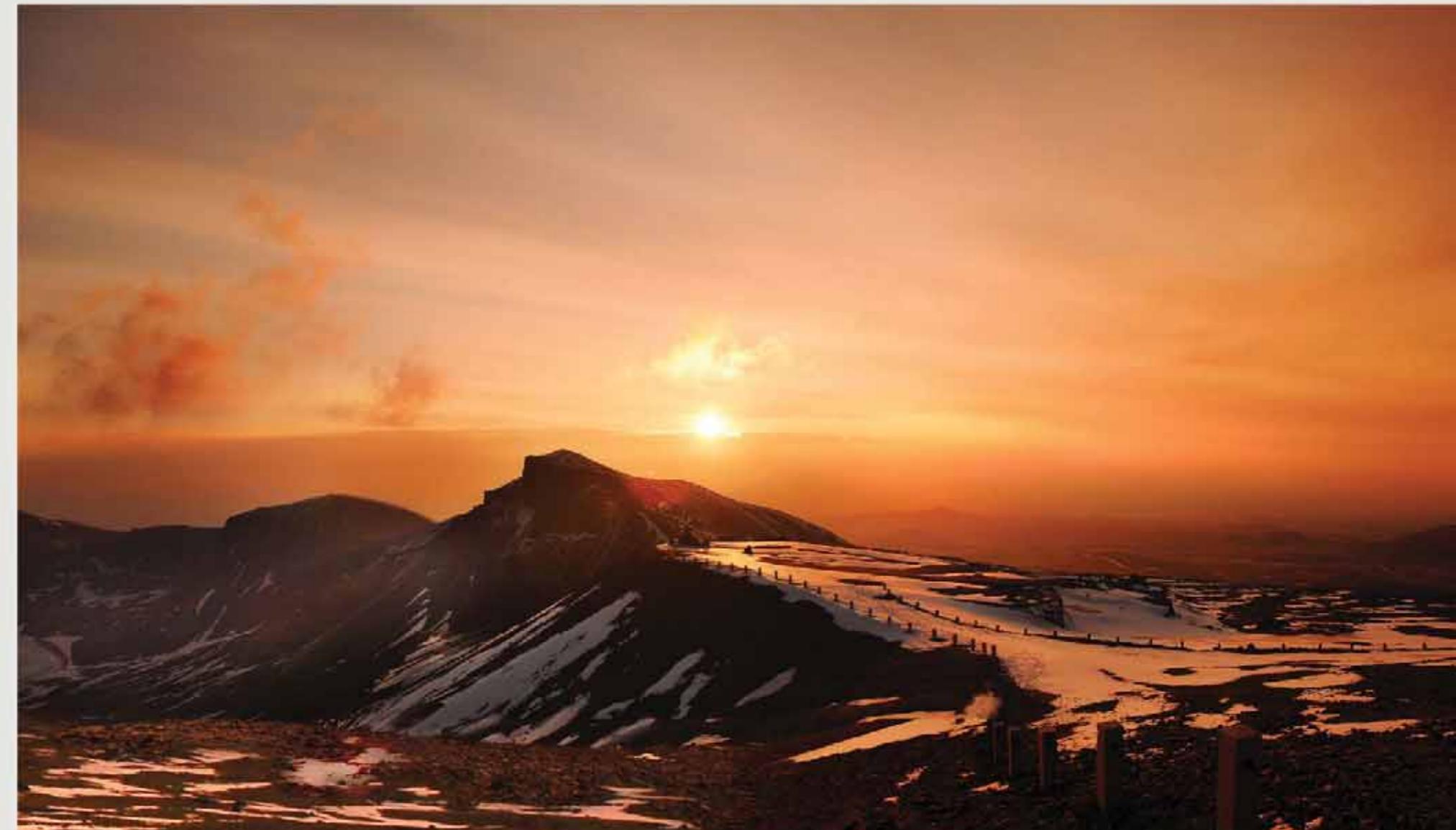
Photo: Choe Kyong Guk, Kim Yong Nam and Hong Hun



Thaw of Lake Chon



Lake Chon in spring





Summertime view of the lakeside



Rocks of mysterious shapes on Mt. Paektu



Rhododendron rufescens



Chonjiensis



Efforts into New Model Development



The Hana Electronics Joint Venture Company Limited, whose name is closely associated with the namesake VCD player, was established some ten years previously.

Though, the company's electronic products are in great favour among the people; they are brilliant outcomes of the patriotic efforts of its officials and employees who, keeping their feet firmly planted on this land and looking out over the world, pooled their intelligence and effort for developing new types of electronic goods as required by ever-growing cultural demand of the people and developing reality.

The company maintains its primary strategy for business operation to accurately identify update cycles of products and forward research and development. To this end, it set up a department of new products development, staffed with young and qualified technicians.

The company's correct business strategy and its technicians' strenuous efforts to develop new products gave boosts in cyclic update of the Hana-brand products while newly developing various models of CD players, amplifiers, microphones and other electronic sound devices.

In recent years such new DVD-related electronics as portable and incorporating TV/DVD players were developed in conformity with the actual conditions of the country and went into mass-production.

The new DVD products that meet the international standards are highly efficient and convenient to use, thus enjoying growing demands.

Article & photo: Ri Myong Guk





Ro Ik Hwa is the winner of Order of Kim Il Sung and Kim Il Sung Prize, Labour Hero, People's Artist and the Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly



Ro In Su, his son

Sculptor Family

Ro Ik Hwa is a famous prolific sculptor in the DPRK, who created a large number of sculptures, including the monumental sculptures based on the education in the revolutionary traditions.

Not only himself but also his family is thrust into the spotlight, for his is sculptor family.

He and his son In Su are sculptors at the Merited Sculpture Production Company of the Mansudae Art Studio, and his grandson Hyon Song is studying at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts.

Ro Ik Hwa was born as the eldest son of a scaffold worker in 1939 in Jisan-ri (at that time) of Nampho. In those days Korea was under the military occupation by Japan.

He was very fond of drawing, but his family was too poor to buy him even a pencil, much less a brush and drawing paper.

Only after his country was liberated on August 15, 1945, he could learn the art of drawing to his heart's content.

He was studying at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, where he happened to see his senior students shaping the clay into birds and figure heads and felt an urge to make clay models by himself. He, majoring in pictorial art, found it quite easy to work with clay. Appreciating his clay models looking fair, the senior students recommended that he take sculpture as his major.

With each passing day his fascination for the art of sculpture in which formative and artistic representation of the reality is realized by means of portrayal of three-dimensional art objects grew stronger. Finally he changed his major and began to study sculpture.

He developed his studies into scientific knowledge of such sculptural materials as wood, stone, plaster and metal and also techniques and methods of sculpture-making.

His tireless efforts enabled him to attain a high status of sculpture already in his university days. The sculpture "The Arduous March" he produced as an undergraduate, based on the anti-Japanese armed struggle led by Kim Il Sung, struck lecturers and colleagues with wonder.

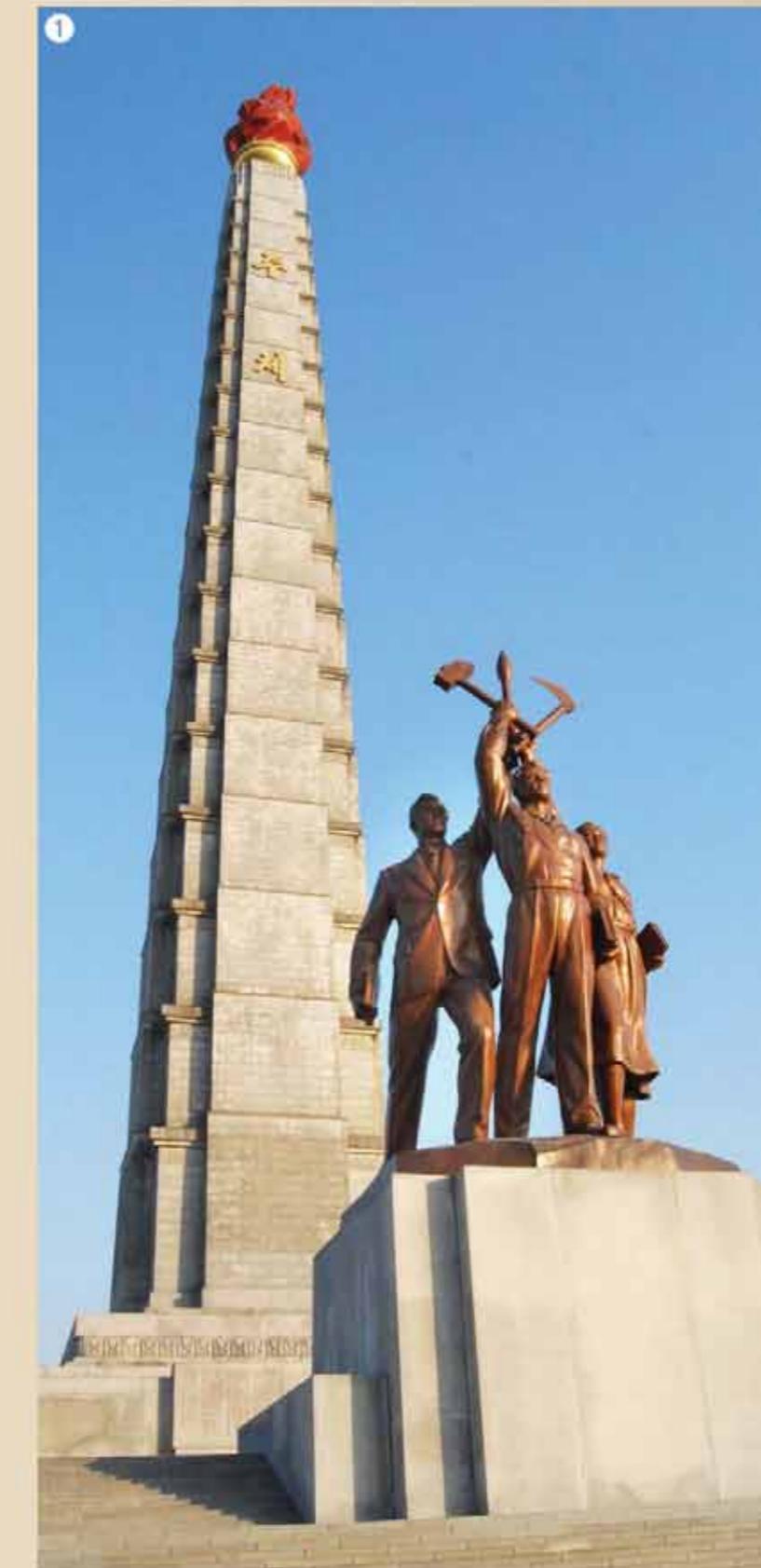
After graduating from the university, he took part in the project of erecting the Monument to the Victorious Battle of Pochonbo (1967), the grand monumental structure based on the revolutionary traditions. Young as he was in his twenties, he ranked with authoritative sculptors in the country in excellently creating the bronze statue of Kim Il Sung.

Afterwards, he created monumental sculptures for the Grand



Ro Hyon Song (right), grandson

Ro Ik Hwa took part in the production of a large number of monumental sculptures



① Tower of the Juche Idea and the group sculpture of three persons
and Monument to the Socialist Revolution and Socialist Construction



Monument on Mansu Hill (1972) and Samjiyon Grand Monument (1979), and others.

Ro was awarded the Order of Kim Il Sung, Kim Il Sung Prize and the titles of Labour Hero of the DPRK and People's Artist for his meritorious contributions and also elected the Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

In succession to the father Ro In Su is devoting his all to creating monumental sculptures dedicated to the revolutionary history of the great leaders and their undying exploits. He created creditably the bronze statue of Kim Jong Il erected in Kim Il Sung University and his

coloured plaster statue in the Munsu Water Park.

Hyon Song, Ro Ik Hwa's grandson, is now studying in the special course at the sculpture department of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, hoping to become a sculptor like his father and grandfather.

Determination of the sculptor family to produce excellent sculptures of lasting significance for the education in the revolutionary traditions is being carried forward through generations.

Study While Working

Distance Education College of Kim Chaek University of Technology went online five years ago and, since then, a new wind of on-line study is sweeping the whole country with the number of its applicants on steady increase.

Kicking off with 40 students, it has now an enrolment of over 5 000. Among them are employees from the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill. In Juche 100 (2011) some ten people were admitted for the first time to the college, including the manager, chief engineer and other managerial officials of the mill.

They were all graduates from Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and other universities, who acquired competent abilities and much experience in practice. But the thought that if they become slack even for a moment in learning they could be laggards of the times, and the determination that they should hasten the development of the mill on the strength of science and technology spurred them to become students again. Following their suit, other employees applied to enter the college regardless of occupation and age.

The advantageous on-line education covering a wide range in contents and giving a free option for lecture time as well as aiding the timely

understandings of sci-tech problems arising in practice fanned their zeal for learning.

According to instructor Kim Yun Hui, 50 employees from the mill have access to the college and many of them are much forward in their schedule. Some students obtained state certificates of invention for their schemes conducive to the updating of a reeling process. Among them are the manager, chief engineer, and Jong Sun Ae, silk reeler of Workshop No. 3 and mother with two children. She entered the college last year.

It is not easy for them to receive lectures after a day's work; but well aware that a boom in production requires proficiency in sci-tech knowledge as demanded by the era of the knowledge economy, they gain access to the college everyday. In line with the rising enthusiasm for study among the employees, the mill is channelling its effort into renovating the room for disseminating sci-tech knowledge and developing its operation.

The distance education college will produce its first graduates among the employees of the mill some months later.

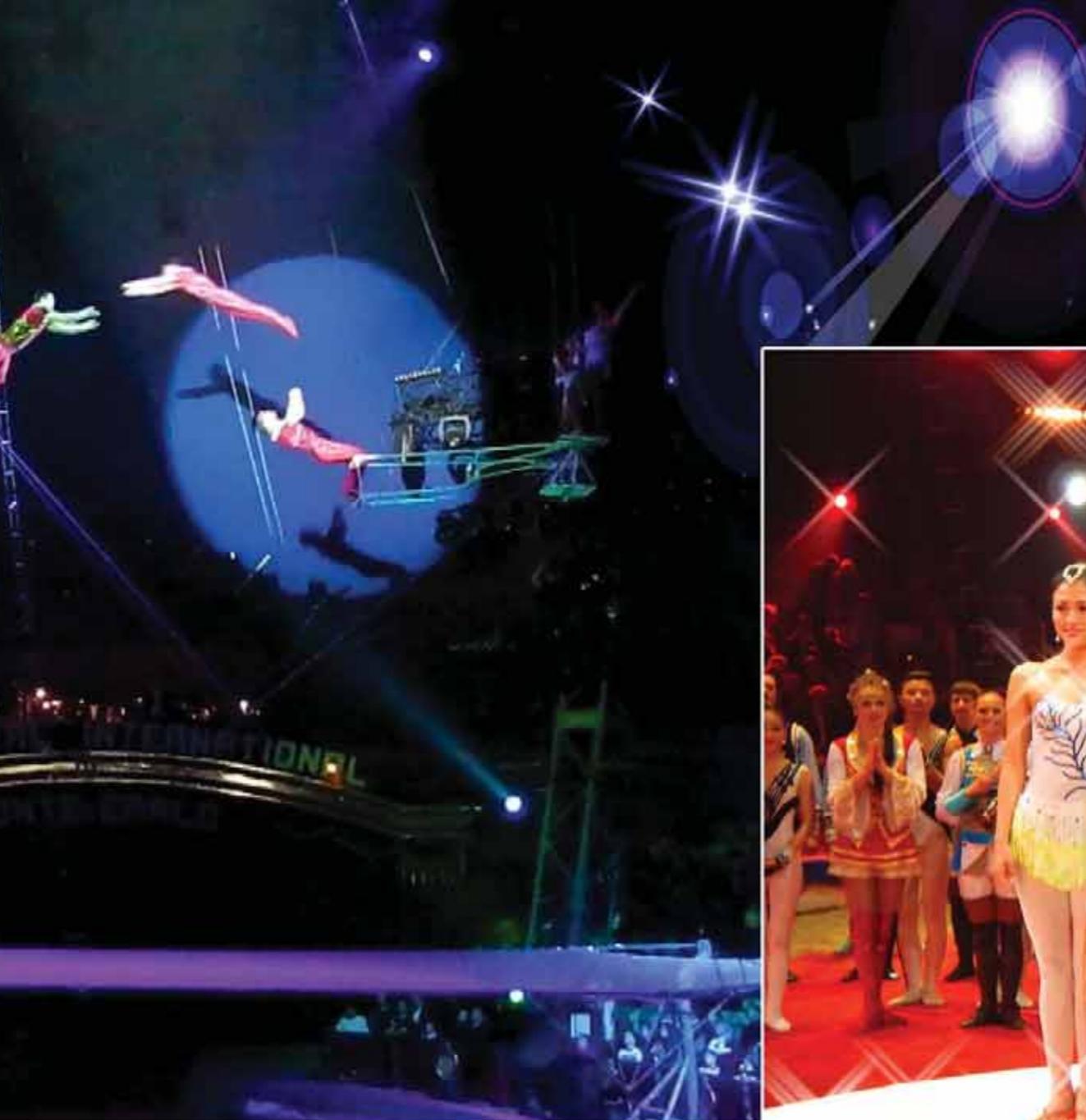
Article: Kim Phil
Photo: Jin Yong Ho



Workers at the mill take on-line college course after work



Gold Prizes Awarded to Korean Acrobats



Korean physical stunts "Flight on the twin swings" and "Balancing etude" win gold prizes at the 39th Monte Carlo International Circus Festival

Winner of Top Prize of the Festival



Korean acrobats win the Gold Elephant Prize at the 4th Figueras International Circus Festival in Spain for physical stunt "Aerial Trapeze"





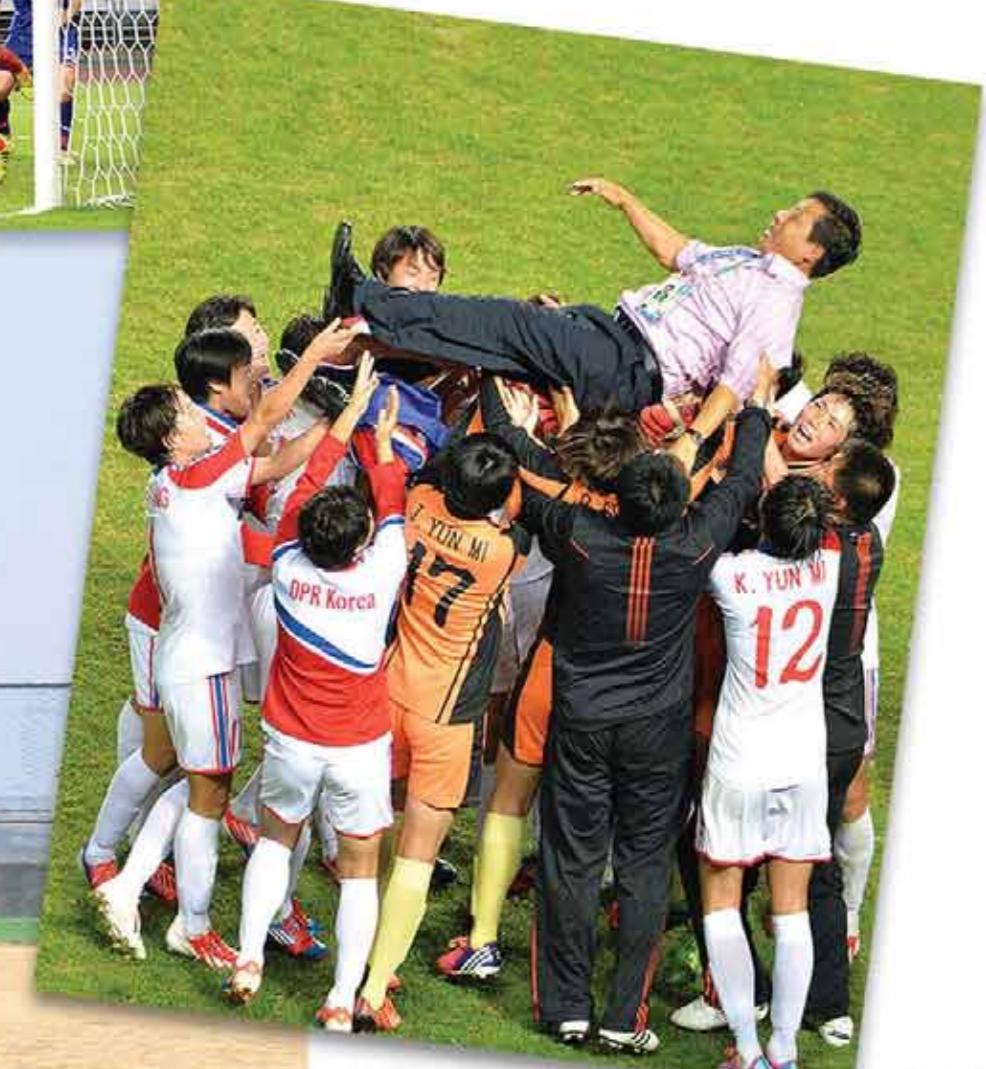
At the 15th Asian Games



At the 2008 AFC Women's Asian Cup final



At the 17th Asian Games



Renowned Football Coach

There are few people among football fans in the DPRK who don't know Kim Kwang Min, coach at the April 25 Sports Team.

He played for the national team as a right quarterback; in those days he played a prominent role both in defence and offence getting on the scoresheet in several matches, earning his fame at home and abroad. He was likened to a "Asian spearhead" by foreign media.

He was born at Tongdaewon District in Pyongyang in Juche 51 (1962) as the eldest child of an athletic couple. Kim had an inborn kinesthetic ability; though, he put more weight on his studies until his early teens, considering future in relation to his sincere attitude to investigation

and clever understanding. So, when he entered the district juvenile sports school at 15 to acquire the rudiments of football techniques, he was behind others about his age. However, that apparently unfavourable condition only sparked his tenacious character to do without fail what he was determined.

He set his goal of overtaking others and engaged in intensive training day and night, regardless of off-days.

His indefatigable endeavour promoted

him to the national team, an ideal common to every sportsperson, and he was awarded the title of People's Athlete for his meritorious service.

From Juche 87 (1998) he coached a women's football team at the April 25

Sports Team, leading it to rank among best football teams in the country. His excellent achievements made him coach the national women's football team since Juche 93 (2004).

As is the same case with all other sports events, football is a more representative brain competition between coaches.

Kim analyzed the developing trends of the world-famous women's teams, worked out new tactical schemes based on technical preparedness of his women players and made stubborn efforts to implement them.

Thanks to his strenuous efforts, the Korean girls won the first place in the 15th Asian Games of 2006 and the 2008 AFC Women's Asian Cup respectively.

Kim became a coach legend again, and was designated as one of top ten coaches of the country for four times from 2006. He received the Coach of the Year award by the Asian Football Confederation in 2008.

In Juche 101 (2012) Kim made a bold decision to change the composition of the national team by involving young teenage players.

His decision proved timely and correct through subsequent matches, the 17th Asian Games in particular, held last year.

The Korean team stormed into the finals to compete with the Japanese team, winner of the Women's World Cup and Asian Cup.

Kim instructed his women to play full



press offence while giving fullest play to their strength and perseverance in the whole course, so that they maintained the initiative.

Their rasping drive and tight defence led them to victory, thrashing the Japanese 3-1.

The whole country was engulfed by delight at the women players' success

which raised them to the top of the Asian football world.

Kim Kwang Min, together with his team captain Ra Un Sim, was awarded the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK, the highest decoration for the DPRK citizen.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: Kim Kum Jin

In the Van of IT Introduction into Education

It is an important undertaking for improving the students' academic ability to make education information-based as required by the developing times.

Ponghak Primary School in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, is making headway toward the goal.

Its every classroom, furnished with a computer, CCTV and CCD camera, LED TV and magnet greenboard, is networked to the relay room.

Headmistress Ri Kyong Ae and other teachers of the school devoted their wisdom and efforts to the IT introduction with a firm determination to serve as a root for bringing up the future generation.

Having set up a target of improving the teaching to accord with primary pupils' mental qualities, they furnished classrooms for multi-functional purposes and set up the computer network in a short span of time with the help of experts concerned. All the teachers prepared themselves to be well qualified for designing and using the education-aided multimedia and other programs.

The educational and administrative affairs are put on an IT basis and the teachers' qualifications substantially improved, so that the pupils' academic ability is also being developed.

Teachers in their classrooms can browse necessary files in the database



through networks and thus employ in teaching various materials, coping with the related subjects and pupils' cognitive faculty.

The network enables the simultaneous inspection of more than 30 classrooms at class. The teachers can evaluate their methods through video playback of the lessons and adopt advantageous ones in practice in time.

Discussions about teaching materials and demonstration lessons that are held

via the network also prove effective.

Teaching aids and tools are devised by the teachers and applied in lessons, being of help to the academic improvement of pupils.

An apparatus *Arithmetic King* is found in every classroom to make a scientific measurement of the speed of mental arithmetic calculations of the pupils and speed up their calculation. It was invented by headmistress Ri's painstaking efforts, and capable of an automatic calculation.

It was highly appreciated at the national experiment apparatuses & teaching aids exhibition held last year.

The teachers of the school are redoubling their efforts to make further progress in introducing IT to education, aware that the undertaking is important to bring up the rising generations into able personnel for the future of the country.

Article: Kwang Su Jong
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



Korean Disabled People in the Spotlight in Britain and France



The Hamhung Pansong, or spread pine, stands in Sonamu-dong, Sapho District, Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province.

A variety of pine tree, it is over 450 years old.

Inclined some 35° southwest, it is 4.16 m high, 2.18 m round at the bottom and 1.19 m round at the height of human chest.

At the height of 2.35 m it stretched out a bough which spread some 8 m southwest and horizontally to the ground, before being bifurcated into two branches, 0.95 and 0.8 m round respectively.

Living Monument

Hamhung Pansong

These two bifurcated branches droop near the ground, spreading another 6 m sideways. They produced many twigs with green leaves, forming a beautiful table-shaped crown. The crown is 13.8 m across.

The bough has also two smaller branches, some 3.5 m long, which also

hang downward.

The Hamhung Pansong is designated as a living monument and is under good preservation for its unique shape, long history, significance in biological study and decorative value.

Article & photo: Pak Pyong Hun



An exchange group of disabled people from Pyongyang gave performances in Britain and France from February 20 to March 2.

Put on the stage were Korean art pieces like Song of Sea, Pyongyang Nalpharam, Arirang, and Dance of Fans, foreign art pieces and world famous music.

The performers, though with visual and hearing impediments and physical disabilities, vividly portrayed through instrumental music, songs and dances how they brought into full bloom their artistic talents thanks to the policy of grateful socialist Korea on protection of the disabled.

The audience was very impressed to see them singing and dancing while playing the accordion and kayagum as good as

professionals.

After the performances were over, they gave bouquets to the Korean disabled performers and lavished praise on them. They were unanimous in their admiration, saying that the performance helped them clearly know about the reality in the DPRK and that their incredible and excellent artistry was a proper showcase of an independent and creative life of the disabled people in the DPRK with the hope for the future.

Article & photo: Han Pyong Ho

Dietary Customs of the Korean Nation



Rice cooking



Steamed rice pounding

The Korean Folklore Museum has also a large collection of materials and data explaining the dietary customs unique to the Korean nation.

At the early stage of human birth primitive men lived on fruits, wild herbs, animals and fish they gathered or hunted, eating meat raw. As they began to control fire, they used it to cook their food. It is shown through the remains on display in the museum unearthed from the sites in the primitive ages. Among them are a spoon made of animal bone dug up in the layers of the Neolithic era at the site of Sophohang in Rason City, millstone, stone pestle and earthen cup and bowl unearthed from sites of the primitive ages.

In ancient times utensils varied so widely that they included bronze steamer, cauldron, spoons, chopsticks, earthen bowls and cups, small porcelain bowls, bottomed plates and so on.

Development in dietary life is well portrayed by mural paintings of a kitchen and well at the time of Koguryo (277 BC – AD 668) drawn in the Tomb of King Kogukwon. The paintings show that people

draw water from the well by using a pulley-affixed scoop in order to cook food in the kitchen.

In the period of Koryo (918 – 1392) traditional dishes diversified into staple and nonstaple foods, desserts and drinks, dishes for holidays and specialities, enriching the dietary life of the people.

The museum exhibits historical books on traditional recipes and their excellence.

People in the feudal Joson dynasty (1392 – 1910) newly cultivated maize, potato, sweet potato, pumpkin, chilli and other crops, thus enriching and uniquely developing traditional dishes.

Traditional dishes are mainly comprised of staple and nonstaple foods, desserts and drinks.

Staple foods of the Korean nation are rice, rice cake, noodles, porridge and pancake.

Korean people often made rice cakes as special food on holidays and days of other celebrations. Rice cakes number over 60 in kind, and those made of glutinous rice are most famous as a health food for their delicious taste and high digestibility.

Koreans in the olden times favoured the glutinous

rice cake, saying that sounds of pounding steamed rice added festive mood to holidays and feast days. The glutinous rice cake is still liked by Korean people.

Korean people also used to entertain guests with noodles on birthdays and ceremonies.

Major nonstaple foods include soya sauce and bean paste, and kimchi that are unique to the Korean nation, and soup, broth, various kinds of salty juicy dishes, sauté, slices of boiled meat, and braised and salted dishes.

Desserts and drinks were also varied.

Conspicuous features in the dietary customs of the Korean nation are table setting and manners.

Mural paintings found in the tombs of the Koguryo period often present scenes of people taking meals at individual tables. It proves the setting of individual tables was a common practice at that time.

Traditional table settings include those prepared for meals, noodles and drinks and also those for one person, two or more persons.



Noodle making



Preparing of soybean paste and sauce



Kimchi making



Table set for taking noodles



Table laid for two persons



Five-bowl set for meal



Some of utensils





The south Korean people are raising their voice in their condemnation of Park Geun Hye regime which is turning its back on the people but idolizing the US as its master and currying favour with the latter.

A rally was held in Seoul to denounce her regime for ruining people's life, destroying democracy and threatening peace. The participants in the rally, more than 5 000 from across south Korea, demanded that the incompetent regime flaming the people off with lies be punished without fail. Describing the rally as the start of the second democratization movement, they called on all the social strata to launch a new nationwide resistance.

Such slogans as "We cannot live. Come together. Park Geun Hye Regime, step down!" and "Park Geun Hye, resign from office!" resounded through the rally.

The leaflet scattering now spreading out across south Korea in denunciation of the traitorous regime is fanning the flames of the struggle.

The scattering, which was found to take place at random in some areas from the end of last year, is now reported everywhere and every day, even near the Blue House.



Carrying caricatures and photos that make fun of Park, leaflets criticized that National Intelligence Service was illegally involved in the presidential campaign in favour of her win, and the doubt about the election rigging was confirmed. They also read: "Their acts are peace-oriented, but those of others north-following and anti-national", "Park needs to come under close scrutiny of the national security law" and "The final citadel of democracy is the power of organized citizens."

As the south Koreans are unanimous in their condemnation, Park's two-year tenure is characterized by pro-Americanism, servility and tyranny reminiscent of the years of Yushin dictatorship. In the two years of her misrule, the people's livelihood had been aggravated, democracy destroyed and peace threatened.

Present Regime Is Urged to Resign

Park Geun Hye cannot escape from her doom for having turned south Korea into a land of brutal killing and sorrow, sufferings and anger.

*Article : Kim Thae Hyon
Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA*





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