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MESSAGE

Chairman Kim Jong Un sends blessings to Cameroonian President

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, on May 20 sent a message of greetings to Paul Biya, president of the Republic of Cameroon, on the occasion of its national day.

In the message, the Korean leader referred to the fact that

the people of Cameroon have made great successes in their efforts to defend the country's sovereignty and achieve peace, stability and national unity under the leadership of the president. Wishing the Cameroonian president and his people greater progress in

their work for the prosperity of the country, he expressed the belief that good relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would grow stronger in the future.

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DPRK-THAILAND

Internet photo show celebrates anniversary of DPRK-Thailand diplomatic ties

An internet photo exhibition was held in Thailand to mark the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and the Kingdom of Thailand.

A Thai university posted on its website the photos showing President Kim Il Sung meeting

Thai royal court members on their visit to the DPRK and those showing the looks of the DPRK.

After visiting the website, personages of the Thai national assembly, ministry of culture, organization for the study of the Juche idea and Thailand-DPRK friendship association

expressed their impressions about the photo show and their intention to make positive efforts to develop bilateral friendship.

The Thai media also published reports in commemoration of the anniversary.

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POWER

Technical innovation helps increase power output

The Sunchon Thermal Power Station has recently boosted electricity production with the help of technical innovations.

"Our power station is pushing forward with an undertaking for finding out and introducing into production realistic plans conducive to removing deviations revealed in the past production and shoring up production," said Sok Tu Hung, manager of the thermal power station.

The station employed a technique that can increase the generating capacity per generator by introducing the high-temperature air combustion stabilization technology into heating equipment. The introduction of this technique has made it possible for the station to put production on normal track while saving dozens of tons of heavy oil that had been consumed to stabilize combustion.

It also refashioned the blower and ventilation device of generator No. 3 to further boost

its efficiency.

Characteristic of the remodelled devices is that the shape of blades is quite different from the original one and the poles of motor have been changed. In other words, ordinary moving blades have been replaced with scoop-shaped ones and six-polar motor has been installed in place of octupole one.

Accordingly, air preheater was replaced and coarse separator in the undifferentiating system remodelled to promote the efficiency of generating facilities.

As a result, the efficiency of generator No. 3 has improved further to generate much more electricity.

The power station developed and introduced a new control program that facilitates real-time monitoring and automatic control over the power production system and made an effective measurement-protection device, air heating equipment, large transformer,

breaker and other power equipment.

According to the chief staffer at the technical department, the station established a process of producing light insulating fire brick which proves effective in drastically raising heat efficiency while reducing heat loss as compared to the past.

In close collaboration with a professional research group, the station made pumps needed for the fur-preventing equipment in the boiler system and applied a supersonic wave-based instrument for measuring the thickness of pipes in the boiler room in real time.

In addition, it solved technical problems arising in introducing frequency converter into coal feeder and refashioned a feed-water pump, which had impeded production due to its low capacity, in order to increase the output and performance of each generator.

In recent years alone, it brought out dozens of technical innovation plans

LEAD

Big efforts put into chemical industry building

relying on glauberite.

When glauberite is processed, sulphuric acid, caustic soda and sodium carbonate can be obtained without salt. The DPRK has rich deposits of gлауберит.

When the sodium carbonate production process with a total floor space of tens of thousands of square metres which uses gлауберит as starting material is rebuilt at the complex, it will produce sodium carbonate, ammonium sulphate, gypsum and raw materials for glass.

To this end, it is working hard to build a new chemical industry relying on locally available raw materials and resources, and rearrange, reinforce, modernize and reenergize chemical factories.

Primary effort is being directed to establishing the C1 chemical industry.

Today, the countries that have no or less oil deposits are developing the C1 chemical industry in the direction of synthesizing such organic compounds as methanol, synthetic fuel oil, ethyl alcohol, acetic acid and olefins with carbon monoxide and hydrogen that are obtained from coal, natural gas or oil stone.

The Sunchon Chemical Complex is now pushing a project for the completion of the methanol production process, an important task in building the C1 chemical industry.

It works to solve technological problems arising in establishing the C1 chemical industry, including the production of additives capable of converting anthracite, which is used to generate gas, into the state of suspension and that of high-pressure oxygen needed for gas generation.

A project is also carried on in a planned way to modernize the chemical industry and readjust, reinforce and activate chemical factories.

An undertaking is under way at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex to renovate the sodium carbonate production process

including those for raising the efficiency of generators by building up the reactive power production capacity of thermal power generator field system and technically upgrading ventilators and blowers and those for saving heavy oil, thus winning a gold medal at the 15th national exhibition of inventions and new technologies and high appraisals at national sci-tech

festivals on several occasions.

"Technicians of our power station are now working to further improve the high-temperature air combustion stabilization technology by drawing on the successes already made," said Won Il Sok, deputy chief engineer in charge of production.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

CONTRIBUTION

He is the father of our children

When International Children's Day (June 1) draws near every year, the days when Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited our kindergarten come to my mind.

As he satisfactorily looked at the children frolicking at the courtyard during his visit to our kindergarten which sprang up modernly in Changjon Street on May 30 2012 before International Children's Day, the Supreme Leader suddenly said that children might get hurt when they fell down on the courtyard paved with pitch and took a measure on the spot.

Therefore, a large area of the yard was covered with rubber mats, turfs were laid on the playground and some ten amusement facilities were added to the yard and the interior.

On July 14, less than two months since then, the Supreme Leader dropped in at the kindergarten again and looked

round different places.

At the general playing room consisting of sections for playing at housekeeping and doctor and doing jigsaw, that for playing with construction sets and that of rural landscape, he said it was built well to meet the juvenile mind, and even underwent a "medical examination" from a child doctor in a white gown hanging a stethoscope around her neck at the section for playing at being a doctor.

After making the rounds of the kindergarten, he expressed satisfaction, saying all spaces from floor to ceiling turned into an education-oriented environment and it was properly built to develop the children's intelligence to the maximum on the basis of deep research into their psychology.

That day he saw the calligraphy of children and had a photograph taken with those

playing at the room of physical exercise.

Many fathers fail to visit the kindergarten of their children.

However, the Supreme Leader visited the kindergarten two times in 2012 alone and cared about the matters even we teachers and parents had failed to think of, though he was busy working day and night while shouldering the heavy burden of the country alone.

So, we hanged a picture of the Supreme Leader among our children on the wall of the entrance hall of our kindergarten.

I want to declare that the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* sung by our children will reverberate more loudly as they hold him as the leader of the country.

Ri Kang Juk, head of Kyongsang Kindergarten

of rivers on a large scale so as to protect farmland from flood.

North Hwanghae Province concentrated efforts on the reconstruction of roads and the improvement of rivers.

Suan, Sinphyong and Phyongsan counties widened and straightened roads and installed safety posts in a qualitative way.

Kumchon County dredged rivers to remove 1 000 cubic metres of earth, while Hwangju, Singye and Jangphung counties cleared the surrounding of reservoirs and rivers.

Jagang Province finished the reconstruction of some 80 kilometres of roads, the construction and repair of bridges and banks and river dredging in the shortest time possible.

Kangwon Province built dozens of new sewage purifying sites and carried out the construction and repair of many dwelling houses and public buildings to give a facelift to streets and villages.

North Hamgyong Province and Kaesong reconstructed and repaired all roads and river banks while planting trees of good species and painting buildings.

Rice-transplanting starts

Rice-transplanting has begun on farms in the DPRK.

Farmers in South Hwanghae Province overfulfil their daily plans, while ensuring the correct numbers of rice seedlings per *phyong* and per clump and the depth in planting seedlings.

North Phyongan Province transplants rice seedlings in well over a thousand hectares every day after choosing the right places for rice transplanting.

Kangwon Province focuses on increasing the operation rate of tractors and rice-transplanting machines, and North Hwanghae Province concentrates manpower on the areas with lots of rice paddy fields and takes appropriate measures for the supply of water.

Pyongyang, Nampho, South Hamgyong Province and others positively introduce advanced farming methods, while mobilizing all labour force and means available for rice-transplantation.



Tens of thousands of hectares of grassland built across DPRK

Strenuous efforts have been made in all parts of the DPRK to build grassland, with the result that tens of thousands of hectares of new grassland have been created throughout the country in less than a year.

North Phyongan Province has secured over 4 000 hectares of grassland by organizing work carefully to build grassland in a qualitative way after selecting right soil.

Changsong, Unjon and Thaecon counties have provided a large area of

INSPECTION

Premier inspects around South Hamgyong



Premier Kim Jae Ryong (second from left) is briefed on Tanchon Port.

Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected different units in South Hamgyong Province.

As he inspected Tanchon Port, the Tanchon Smeltery, Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and Kowon and Sudong coal mines, he discussed measures to increase production and step up various construction projects such as railway construction and capacity expansion.

At the Ryongsong Machine Complex, February 8 Vinalon Complex and Hungnam Electrode Factory he instructed officials to strictly ensure the quality and quantity of custom-built equipment and products.

He also visited the Hamhung

Branch of the State Academy of Sciences, the Hungnam Pharmaceutical Factory and other units. He stressed the need to continue to direct efforts to scientific research and consolidate the material and technical foundations for the production of pharmaceuticals and gave pep talks to the officials and farmers of the Sangsan Cooperative Farm in Kowon County who are to produce a fine crop of wheat.

The field consultative meetings took steps to steadily boost production and construction, achieve the integration of science and technology with production and ensure relevant units produce and supply coal, equipment and materials in a responsible manner.

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improving the native Korean evodia into a good breed.

In order to improve the native species into a good breed with high productivity, they gathered slips from good breeds and ensured the rooting rate of scions at over 90 percent by an upper bud grafting method.

And since the fruits of the tree grow only at their edges, they trimmed its branches to make more spaces for the tree to get more sunshine.

They conducted research on the rational method of care after grafting and completed the methods of nutrition management and prevention of damage from harmful insects to suit each period.

The Unjong Stockbreeding Cooperative Farm in North Hwanghae Province has spread much organic manure over 400-odd hectares of newly-created grassland.

After building thousands of hectares of grassland with highly-nutritious grass seeds and tree saplings, Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces are manuring and cultivating them in a responsible manner.

Efficient evodia forest creation method established

Researchers of the DPRK have established cultivation and nutrition methods for

Nationwide

Kim Jong Un sends birthday spread to centenarian

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to U In Sun, a centenarian in Chongdam-ri of Tongsin County, Jagang Province, on her 100th birthday.

She was born into a peasant family before Korea's liberation.

After liberation she led a happy life as she worked diligently as an agricultural worker for decades.

She lives in comfort as she receives regular medical service thanks to the benefit of the socialist healthcare system.

General mobilization for land administration in full swing

Notable achievements have been made as the entire population has turned out in the spring general mobilization for land administration.

South Hwanghae Province installed, upgraded and repaired dust cleaners at over 50 units, added a filtering process to industrial waste-water settling ponds for dozens of objects and rearranged sewage reservoirs in order to prevent environmental pollution.

Anak County replaced the purifying process of a foodstuff factory with a three-tier upward-flow precipitation-based purifying process, and Samchon, Unnyul and Ongjin counties pushed ahead with the earth piling and stone covering of banks and the readjustment

of rivers on a large scale so as to protect farmland from flood.

North Hwanghae Province concentrated efforts on the reconstruction of roads and the improvement of rivers.

Suan, Sinphyong and Phyongsan counties widened and straightened roads and installed safety posts in a qualitative way.

Kumchon County dredged rivers to remove 1 000 cubic metres of earth, while Hwangju, Singye and Jangphung counties cleared the surrounding of reservoirs and rivers.

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Pyongyang, Nampho, South Hamgyong Province and others positively introduce advanced farming methods, while mobilizing all labour force and means available for rice-transplantation.

Changsong, Unjon and Thaecon counties have provided a large area of

grassland, while the Sinuiju Youth Goat Farm built 200 hectares of new grassland by planting different feed grasses.

North Hwanghae Province has made it possible to increase production by planting over seven million trees in an area of thousands of hectares and sowing at least ten tons of feed grass seeds.

The Unjong Stockbreeding Cooperative Farm in North Hwanghae Province has spread much organic manure over 400-odd hectares of newly-created grassland.

After building thousands of hectares of grassland with highly-nutritious grass seeds and tree saplings, Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces are manuring and cultivating them in a responsible manner.

The introduction of these methods into Jongju and Unjon County has proved that they can increase the per-hectare fruit yield by over three times while bringing earlier the fruit gathering year to third to fourth years.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

CABLE

Factory turns out various cable products

"Our factory is pressing ahead with the project to diversify connecting lines for electronic appliances in terms of kind, shape and colour," said Kim Song Un, chief engineer of the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326.

The factory analysed and fixed afresh the technical specifications of the connecting lines and resolved technical conditions according to the

variety of products.

This has boosted the tensile strength, elongation percentage and insulation resistance of the materials for lines, according to section chief Jo Song Uk.

The factory made a copper elongating oil as well.

It has a longer lifespan and lower production costs than imported emulsions and does not affect environment.

The factory also established



Workers operate machines at the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326.

SOUVENIR

Variety of melamine resin products on the rise

The Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site Souvenir Factory has increased the variety of products.

It has long been well-known for the production of various kinds of souvenirs for visitors to the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site.

"The Mangyongdae-brand melamine resin products which look like chinaware for their smooth surface are signature products of our factory," said manager Ryo Pyong Ho.

The factory makes rice bowl, soup bowl, dish, calabash, picture frame and other kitchen utensils and ornaments through tertiary moulding of melamine resin.

Recently it introduced various pattern-fixing equipment and new mould-making, modern electrolytic plating and evaporation processes into production to make its products more attractive and stylish.

"Most recently, we have applied new technical innovation plans to production to make products with different colours inside and outside and various patterns emblazoned," said Pak Kyong Nam, a staffer at the factory.

Plastic and metal zips are

mass-produced in various shapes, colours and sizes with home-made rayon yarn and subsidiary materials in the zip production process with PLC machines standing in neat rows.

"We have introduced a high-frequency impact plating impulse rectifier into the metal zip plating process this year," said developer Jon Kyong Ung.

According to him, unlike the previous DC rectifier, the new one boosts the bonding strength and brightness of the products with less electric power as it carries out impact plating

in a short time by generating impulse with AC.

The factory also produces caps, various kinds of toys and clothes with the national flag or Korean map emblazoned on them. Cloth or plastic toys are very popular with the children as they appeal to their tastes and are comic.

The factory now works on the research into recycling by-products of the melamine resin moulding process and the development of new products with melamine resin as a raw material.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



Workers assemble zippers at the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site Souvenir Factory.

GREEN PRODUCT

Air anion generator developed with functional cloth



KIM HYOK CHOL

Researchers measure anion with an air anion generator.

At present the death toll rises worldwide due to harmful chemical substances coming from furniture, ornaments, coating materials and electrical appliances at home or in office.

Therefore, research is actively conducted to widely use air anion in people's everyday life, the treatment of diseases and the relieving of fatigue.

"Air is refreshing and invigorating in deep mountains and by the sea because there are a lot of anions. The air anion is called air vitamin for its marvellous effects on human health," said So Nam Su, researcher at the nonferrous metal institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

What is important here is how to generate anions safely.

The Korean researchers have unveiled a new type of green product combining air-purifying and anion-generating functions by applying the functional features of natural minerals.

This product has been made by applying functional cloth that emits anion, far infrared rays and bioelectric current to a filtering device.

This functional cloth is said to send out several times greater anions.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

FINISHING MATERIAL

Glossy stone turns into fashionable tiles

Black natural stone tiles produced at the Kangdong Slate Mine are winning favour in the finishing materials sector.

"Black stone materials were not widely available as they were limited in deposit and very expensive," said manager Ri Song Ho. "We developed the black natural stone tile by using the natural stones which are abundant in our mine."

According to him, the natural stones in the Hwagang-ri area in Kangdong County are superior

in quality and processing indexes.

"Recently, we buckled down to the development of natural stone finishing materials for decorating the interior and exterior of buildings," said Ri In Chol, a member of the managing staff.

They found out the scientific grounds of the development in that it might be possible to make such finishing materials from

DISASTER CONTROL

Natural disaster control system integrated and upgraded

"The introduction of integrated information system for natural disaster management is of great importance in improving the capacity of collecting information about and preventing, coping with and managing natural disasters on a nationwide scale," said Jo Il Gwang, professor, PhD and director of the global environment information institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

According to information available, the DPRK was one of the ten countries which experienced the worst natural disasters in the world between 1991 and 2005.

The reality demanded the establishment of natural disaster management system, which is more complete and effective, and the institute engages in the work for its implementation, said Jo Il Gwang.

The state integrated information system for natural disaster management carries on the nationwide monitoring and management of natural disasters and takes appropriate measures on the basis of information analysis. The system, to which three-dimensional web technology of geography information system has been applied, helps monitor, detect and forecast disasters in all parts of the country and assess their riskiness, losses caused by them and reconstruction plan, as well as the prompt assessment of disasters for its implementation.

Researchers set up a nationwide natural disaster monitoring and observation network involving ground, aerial and satellite observations, developed methods of

monitoring natural disasters and gathering information based on the latest science and technology, and built the nationwide system for the establishment of contents and data models for the geodatabase and the collection of unified and regular geodata, thereby establishing a natural disaster database management system.

In the meantime, they accumulated scientific and diversified methods to analyse information about natural disasters including the one analysing disaster-related information gained through real-time or approximately real-time monitoring based on the satellite and aerial remote-controlled investigation technology.

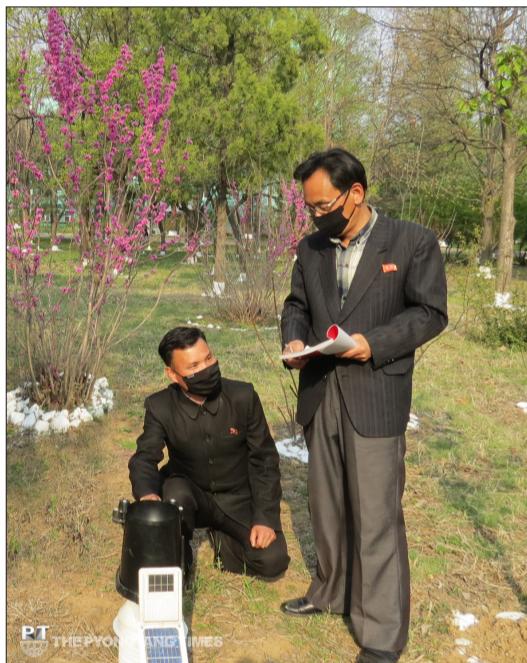
Last year, the national anti-disaster emergency committee introduced the information system, which made it possible for the committee to provide integrated management over the anticipation and monitoring of possible disasters for detailed objects in provinces, cities, counties and districts, the provision of real-time survey data and the detection of methods for taking effective counter-measures and rehabilitation measures.

This year,

the researchers are working on research to put an information system for the management of drought, typhoon and landslide into the state integrated natural disaster management system, after including the flood management information system in the state integrated system.

By drawing on the research successes made by the global environment information institute under the State Academy of Sciences, the national anti-disaster emergency committee has completed and implemented the 2019-2030 national disaster risk reduction strategy which conforms to an international agreement related to natural disaster response.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



Researchers from the global environment information institute of the State Academy of Sciences install an integrated automatic meteorological observation device.



Tyres come in different sizes at the Pyongyang Daesong Tyre Factory.

BIODIVERSITY

'Our solutions are in nature'



BY COURTESY OF THE BIODIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF THE STATE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
A flock of *Limosa lapponica* visiting the Kumsong tideland in Onchon County, Nampho.

May 22 is International Biodiversity Day.

The UN declared May 22 every year as International Biodiversity Day in 2000 in an effort to raise public awareness of and intensify information activities about biodiversity.

The theme for this year's IBD is "Our solutions are in nature".

The theme implies that the prospect of solving the problems arising in preventing climate change, ensuring the security of food and water resources and maintaining normal life is in nature and biodiversity constitutes the basis that sustainably guarantees the future.

In particular, all countries in the world will finish the projects to attain the goals set forth in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and establish new goals this year.

The DPRK government worked out the national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the national environmental protection strategy and directed nationwide efforts to their implementation in the past 10 years.

Every year periods have been set for the general mobilization for land administration, protection of useful animals and marine resources and spring and autumn tree planting.

Activities have been conducted in various ways among the working people, youth and students to inform

them of biodiversity and its benefits, thus encouraging them to take active part in the activities for the protection of biodiversity of the country.

The country's biodiversity priority areas were admitted to the international reserve networks: the Mt Chilbo and Mt Kumgang areas were registered in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves and the Mundok and Rason migratory bird reserves listed as the wetlands of international importance, or Ramsar sites.

The Biodiversity Institute of the State Academy of Sciences and other scientific research and educational institutions have conducted surveys of biosphere reserves, animal sanctuaries, migratory bird and wetland reserves and natural and living monument reserves.

In the course of this, two researchers obtained the Young Scientist Research Award of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme of the UNESCO.

Now we are pushing ahead with the registration of Mt Kumgang on the World Heritage list, that of the Mundok Biosphere Reserve and various other programmes by the international standard.

Yun Chol Nam, associate professor and director of the Biodiversity Institute of the State Academy of Sciences

effect on human body and does not develop cracks or corrode for a very long time.

It has the compression strength of 45-50MPa, the frost resistance of 30 times and the heat resistance of 60 times, which means it is better than others in terms of solidity.

Its production cost is 60 percent lower than normal tiles.

The stone tiles were highly appreciated at the provincial-level building materials exhibition-2019.

Especially, it has no negative

By Yun Kyong Il PT

ART

Pictures highlight Korean painting techniques

Korean painting is a typical form of Korean fine arts.

On show at the Korean National Art Museum are wonderful works of art showcasing the development of Korean painting as the nation's pictorial art.

Korean painting, a form of fine arts peculiar to the Korean nation with general characteristics of the Oriental painting, fully expresses the national sentiment and emotion of the Korean people and vividly portrays reality.

Such characteristics of Korean painting are backed up by its clear, concise and delicate brushwork to integrate the parts into a coherent whole on the principle of implication and concentration.

Rapid progress has been made in the production of Korean painting since the 1970s.

Lots of masterpieces produced at the time are now preserved at the national art museum, adding lustre to the Korean painting world.

Korean painting "Dear leader, the front is just ahead" portrays



"Evening Glow over Kangson", a representative Korean painting created in 1973.

VIRTUE

Graduates volunteer to teach children in remote places

Kim Hyong Jik University of Education is a training base of university lecturers in the DPRK.

"Become a patriot before an educator and become a true man who devotes everything to rising generations"—this is the watchword of the university.

Cherishing it in their minds, lots of graduates of the university voluntarily left Pyongyang to work at schools in remote mountain villages and branch schools on islands, which has been passed on as its proud baton.

Jo Pom Hyang, who graduated from the mathematics faculty of the university in 2013, volunteered to work at a branch school on an island. A brilliant student as she

President Kim Il Sung who embarked on a long journey to meet the soldiers fighting at the front and a woman soldier who was very concerned for his safety, anxiously asking him not to go to the front during the grim Fatherland Liberation War.

"The defining characteristics of this artwork as a Korean painting were fully exhibited by composing it with a strong emphasis on the centre of artistic representation against the open space and giving a lifelike representation of the fatherly look of the President who slightly bends his back to hear the woman soldier and her anxious expression of stamping her feet on the ground with both hands held on the chest with a fine and delicate art of portrayal and stroke of the brush.

"It fully shows the faith of the Korean people who fought bravely full of confidence in victory through the rough path along the height marked by clear traces of the many soldiers climbing up and down it, thick cloud of powder smoke and a tree coming into leaf. The

more we look at it, the deeper impression it leaves on us," said Merited Artist Pak Kwang Rim, a lecturer at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, referring to the artwork.

Korean painting "Evening glow over Kangson" is also a masterpiece which dealt with the theme of socialist construction in the form of landscape painting.

It shows well the reality of the times seething with socialist construction through the scene of the then Kangson Steel Works standing imposingly against the backdrop of the glow of sunset.

Factory buildings, large and small, that stand out against the orange glow cast by the sunset over the sky, chimneys that blow out smoke, the light of the crimson molten iron streaming from the melting furnaces and bright light through the windows and others mirror the looks of the country that turned into a socialist industrial state.

Hong Song Gwang, artist at the Korean painting production unit of the Mansudae Art Studio, said that the colouring which gives a lifelike depiction of the fine changes in colour, the bold composition of the painting, sailing ships and calm water of the Taedong River which were drawn with bold strokes of the brush and others help every element of the painting graphically represent all aspects of the times when the country proudly made enormous strides forward as a socialist industrial state and the revolutionary optimism and deep sentiments of the Korean people.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

was, Jo had many chances to get a job in big-name universities or institutes in the capital city. "I want to dedicate my knowledge and sincerity to students in that island village, who are under a greater care of the country. My determination will be judged in practice in the future," she said in the farewell meeting.

Later in 2016, Ro Yong Il and Ho Chol Man, graduates of the history faculty, volunteered as teachers at schools on islands.

"Whenever my students make laudable decisions, I feel really proud to be their teacher," said their class lecturer Ri Jong Nam.

The praiseworthy deeds of seniors set examples for juniors to follow.

This year, Kim Myong Chol from the history faculty and Han Ryong Ho from the foreign language faculty volunteered to become teachers in Samjiyon at the northern tip of the country.

"Though I lost my parents when I was young, I could finish my university course thanks to the benefits of the socialist free education system and under the loving care of the lecturers and classmates. With the time of graduation drawing near, I felt somehow that the seniors, who had gone to work at difficult places, were calling me. I think to repay the love is a human obligation," said Kim Myong Chol.

"Myong Chol and Ryong Ho were exemplary students in

INTERVIEW

Child healthcare sees steady boost



May 20 is Child Health Day.

The Pyongyang Times reporter Kwon Hyo Song interviewed Paek Hyang Ok (pictured), chief of the healthcare department of the Okryu Children's Hospital, on that occasion.

Would you tell me about the characteristic features of child healthcare in the DPRK?

Our country has a well-organized child healthcare system. An ordered paediatric care system is in operation at all hospitals from the paediatrics departments of ri people's hospitals to the children's hospital in Pyongyang and children's health is under the double and triple care of doctors at nurseries, kindergartens and hygienic and anti-epidemic centres at all levels.

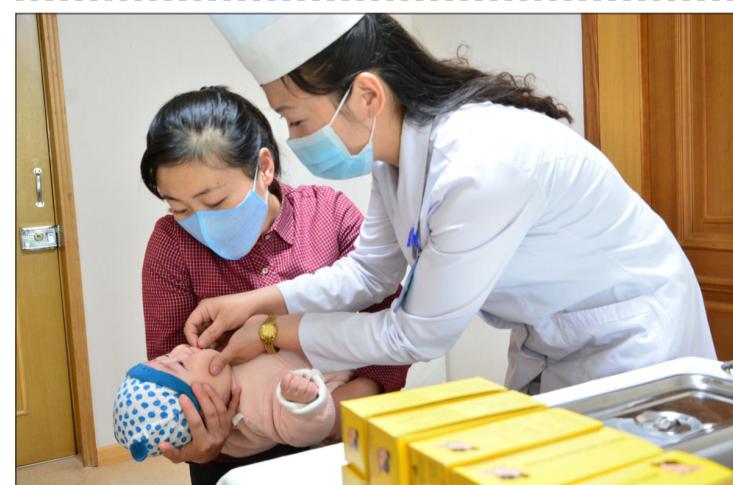
Unborn babies are looked after by obstetricians and children up to 16 years old by paediatricians on a systematic and regular basis.

This is guaranteed by the complete and universal free medical care.

What kind of steps are included in child healthcare?

They mainly include nutrition in the first 1 000 days after birth, preventive measures and curative care.

The first 1 000 days of life



HAM KWANG HYOK
A doctor doses a baby with vitamin A at the Kinmaul Polyclinic in Moranbong District, Pyongyang, on the occasion of Child Health Day.

both study and life. Especially, Han Ryong Ho graduated with straight A's in all subjects and was recommended to the postgraduate course. However, he volunteered to work at the school in the northern mountain

city. I am very proud of them who found their worth of life in devoting themselves to society, rather than glittering career," said lecturer Ri Yong Hui.

By Pang Un Ju PT

NATURE

Museum gives access to exotic fauna and flora

On the outskirts of Pyongyang, there is the Natural History Museum where visitors can comprehensively see animals and plants in various countries over the world.

At the animal ecology hall of the museum visitors acquire interesting knowledge of savannah, especially the abundant ecological system including the fauna and flora in savannahs they have not seen with their own eyes, the characteristics of specific areas and the habitation of typical species of animals and plants.

Jong Yong Thae, head of the academic research office of the Natural History Museum, said that they have divided display sections into those of American, African and Australian continents, created the same environment with each continent and arranged exhibits in such a way as to give a better understanding of food chain of

animals and their coexistent relationship in these regions.

Seen in the section of the African continent with rich fauna are such indigenous species as giraffe, African elephant, white rhinoceros, zebra, black-tailed antelope, African ostrich and peacock, as well as pongo, green monkey and lemur living in tropical forests. American vulture, rhea, grassland deer and llama, a kind of camel, can be seen in the section of the South American continent which is inhabited by many unique animals including marsupial and sloth.

In order to give viewers more detailed information about animals and plants, researchers added cave and marine display sections and put on display a variety of models and stuffed specimens, so as to show fauna in relevant sections in a three-dimensional way.

"The children's study and experience room gives not only

a general idea of characteristics of organisms that have so far existed on the earth and natural environment but also a wealth of knowledge by way of question and answer, observation and experience," said operator Kim Jong Hwa.

There is also a learning site using amusement facilities.

Among them are a facility for guessing the properties of animals and plants including their names, an appliance designed to have a strength contest by measuring the strength of animal and visitor, and a studio called "My animal friend" where one can have a composite photograph taken along with an animal he or she loves.

A variety of study methods have recently been introduced, including "animal hunting" using virtual glasses and amusement facility.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



Part of the animal ecology hall at the Natural History Museum.

EDUCATION

Digital solutions applied to foreign language learning

Lecturers at Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies have developed engaging education support programs.

The English pronunciation study support program informs students of the physiological mechanism of speech organs and accurate positions of the tongue and shapes of the mouth. It

also helps improve their speech through its extensive database containing information about changes of intonation according to situations and sentences which are hard to pronounce correctly.

In the section for the changes of intonation in different situations, for instance, a

student can listen to a certain part of the model recording for several times or record his own pronunciation and compare it with the model one, said Ri Ju Chol, PhD, associate professor and developer of the program.

The English reading assessment program helps improve their skills to read different styles of texts such as news report, speech and novel.

One sentence can be read differently according to their styles, said lecturer Yu Son Hui. This program provides example readings of difficult sentences so that students can understand them correctly and thus grasp the rhythmical structure of English.

The program assesses in a scientific way the reading ability of every student during lectures and the students can compare their results with those of classmates and find out their strength and weakness.

Some other lecturers developed



Lecturers discuss a newly developed teaching support program at Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies.

PROFILE

Woman driver runs distance 25 times round earth

There is a woman driver at the Kallimkil mobile brigade of the Capital City Construction Commission, who has driven heavy-duty lorries for over three decades since her girlhood at the age of 19. She is Ri Yun Hui.

As she loved writing poems in her school days, her teachers said she would become a poet following in her father's footsteps who had worked as a writer. Her classmates thought she would be an excellent embroiderer as she was good at embroidery.

But she became a driver beyond everyone's expectations.

And not a driver of a luxury car, but of 10- and 20-ton heavy-duty trucks.

Her mother Yun Ju Ok is said to have worked as a bus conductor from her girlhood.

Once Yun Hui saw the many red stars, each of which signifies 50 000km accident-free travelling, on the bus in which her mother worked as a conductor and asked her, "Mom, do you earn red stars?" She then told her that she would obtain many red stars when she grew up.

After graduation from middle school, she really entered a truck drivers training school and became a driver.

She first drove a Sungni 58-model lorry.

The girl who drove her lorry to the construction sites no doubt attracted the attention of the people and with the freight she carried apartment houses rose one floor after another in the construction sites.

She drove a Jaju-model heavy-duty lorry three years after.

She felt fatigued and tired after driving all day long, but worked hard till late at night to maintain her vehicle and grasp the state of its engine. And she tried to know more about the

the programs for improving students' interpretational and conversational abilities.

In the early education of English interpretation, the studies in teaching methods focused on giving students a theoretical understanding of interpretational skills, said Cha Ryong Nam. In the recent studies, however, more attention has been paid to enhancing practical abilities.

According to him, the international meeting virtual environment interpretation exercise program simulates various virtual situations such as an international meeting by combining 3D images and sounds in a multifunctional classroom and makes students feel the tension of being in a real situation and practise different interpretational skills on a high level.

road network of the country and acquire driving techniques.

One winter night when there was a severe snowstorm at the end of 1992, her lorry fully loaded with freight needed for a major construction project came to a halt on the road of an out-of-the-way mountain pass as it got out of order all of a sudden.

She prepared necessary parts and tools and began to remove a large tyre. She was not sure whether it was frozen, but the screws were so tightened up that she could not unscrew it.

She was hungry and all her body began to freeze.

She had to collect broken twigs and light a fire alone. Tears welled up and she was not sure whether it was because of the smoke or impatience. But she started repairing the lorry and managed to finish it at daybreak. And she soon left for the construction site.

"After finishing the work, I was too exhausted. But I was happy with confidence that I can do anything by myself," recalled Ri Yun Hui.

In 1997 Chairman Kim Jong Il gave thanks to her for having worked as a heavy-duty lorry driver for decades.

Later, she volunteered to drive a 20-ton truck.

When the construction of Ryomyong Street began in 2016, she carried more freight than other drivers and helped them repair broken trucks by giving her spare parts and tyres unsparingly. And she trained over 20 drivers.

Highly commended as a central meritorious person of socialist patriotism, she is said to have driven her trucks over a long distance which is the equivalent of the trip round the earth 25 times.

By Pang Un Ju PT

After executing the program, the users can select the speaker's nationality between Korean and foreigner according to what type of interpretation they would do as well as the speaker's sex and hair and skin colours and the scale of the meeting. They can also choose among virtual situations, which might help them develop the ability to modify changes in the psychology when they make mistakes while interpreting.

The virtual situation system developed by Kim Jin Hyok provides students with first-hand experience of the psychology of an interpreter, interviewer or interlocutor, so that they can learn how to adapt themselves to different situations in foreign languages and lead the conversation.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

JAPAN

Phobia about Koreans intolerable

Japanese rightist gangsters frantically uttered invective against the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) and Korea University in front of the university on May 10, holding posters and placards reading "Korea University is a murderous university", "Tokyo Metropolis, cancel the approval of incorporation of Korea University" and others.

The riot, which happened at a time when an emergency situation was declared across Japan due to the spread of COVID-19, is another grave challenge to the DPRK and Chongryon and a deliberate and vicious criminal act committed under the open patronage of the Japanese authorities.

In retrospect, Japan has taken every opportunity to discriminate against the Koreans and to suppress them, regarding the Korean nation as a thorn in its flesh.

Having gone on a rampage killing Koreans in all parts of Japan in the wake of the great Kanto earthquake in the past century, the barbarians have resorted to the reckless acts of national exclusionism such as the random shooting at the Central Hall of Chongryon and the act of vandalism at a Korean kindergarten in Tsurumi in the new century, too.

The ceaseless moves against the DPRK and Chongryon in Japan can never be seen merely as individual acts by some gangsters.

It is rather a state-sponsored crime which has been openly committed by the authorities that imbue the whole Japanese society with the exclusionism against Koreans in a systematic way after setting the anti-DPRK hostility as a state policy.

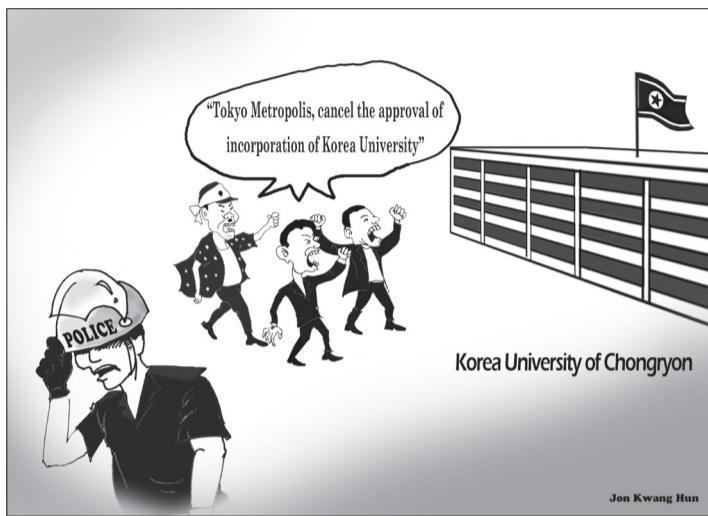
Last year the Abe government excluded the childcare facilities under Korean schools in Japan from the "free infant education

and upbringing" system and, as if to follow the example, the Saitama city authorities stopped the supply of medical masks to the kindergarten of Korean school. As for the recent riot, dozens of policemen who came to the scene to put it down took no measure, so the gruesome atmosphere lasted for two hours. Such facts give a

clear answer to the question of what is the source of all those discriminative acts against the Korean nation.

The Abe authorities, before clamouring for a dialogue, should bear in mind that it is Chongryon that represents the dignity and sovereignty of the DPRK in Japan.

KCNA



CHINA-US

Two countries at loggerheads over different issues

The Sino-US political face-off, which has intensified over the COVID-19 pandemic with the US producing the theories of "China's responsibility" and "conspiracy", is also going on in the field of human rights.

Recently, the US State Department ambassador for international religious freedom in a meeting said that China arrested many religious people on the pretext of their beliefs, while some Republican senators, finding fault

with the human rights situation of Chinese religionists, sent a letter to the UN to oppose the election of the minister of the Geneva-based Chinese mission to the advisory committee of the UN Human Rights Council.

It provoked an immediate and strong reaction from the Chinese side.

A spokesman for the Chinese foreign ministry described the US State Department ambassador's remark as a frame, branding him as an "expert in

making groundless rumours". Referring to the human rights situation in the US, he said that the remarks of individual MPs of the US which already withdrew from the Human Right Council are absurd.

Their conflict in the field of mass media, which was escalated by a Wall Street Journal article insulting China which resulted in the deportation of correspondents, is getting ever fiercer with continuous faultfinding.

The US ruffled China's

feelings by conducting aerial reconnaissance and a missile launching drill in the sensitive waters in February and March, and their feud in the cyber field also continues.

Their clash has been aggravated with the Hong Kong police's recent arrest of some ten suspects who were believed to have spearheaded a violent demonstration without permission.

Analysts are of the opinion that the more the US puts pressure on China which it regards as a strategic rival, the stronger the reaction of China would be and that the Sino-US strategic confrontation and conflict would get more and more serious.

By Min Chol PT

for this year stressed the need for constitutional revision to specify the existence of the Self-Defence Forces and on April 21 presented an offering to the Yasukuni Shrine, the spiritual symbol of militarism, together with high-ranking officials as part of the spring sacrificial rite.

Japan rebuilt the "territory and sovereignty exhibition hall", which stores documents justifying its wild territorial ambition, in a scale seven times that of the previous one and is building up the capacity of the Self-Defence Forces, ruffling the feathers of neighbouring countries.

If the island nation disregards the warning of the international community and persists in evading the settlement of the past crimes and dreaming the pipedream of becoming the "leader" of Asia, it would only meet an irreversible self-destruction.

COMMENT

The world of difference in facing up to the past

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said that memory never fades away and we cannot get rid of our past and that it is not a shame to admit the responsibility but to deny it at a wreath-laying ceremony held in Berlin in commemoration of the end of the Second World War on May 8.

Some 80 years ago, Nazi Germany started World War II plunging about 80 percent of the world population into the ravages of war. During the war, many people lost their lives or became crippled for life. Since then, Germany has made compensation for the damage to the victims of the war in several stages in its efforts

to atone for its wrongdoings as a war criminal state. Such a high-minded behaviour of Germany which admits and apologizes for the evil doings of the past even today arouses sympathy of the international community.

However, in sharp contrast to that, there is one brazen-faced country which does neither compensate nor even apologize for its bloodstained past, but rather praises it and whets the sword for revenge.

It is none other than Japan that had inflicted enormous damage on the Asian peoples, clamouring for the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.

It had spotted Korea as an outpost and supply base for invading the Asian continent

well over a hundred years ago and occupied the country by force of arms in the early 20th century and sucked the blood of the Korean people for over 40 years.

It also occupied a large part of the continent including China and killed lots of innocent people and even committed such a heinous unethical crime of robbing invaluable cultural heritage elements and assets.

It is the height of moral baseness and impudence that Japan persistently denies such heinous crimes, evades the responsibility for liquidating the past and tries to realize its old pipedream.

Japanese Prime Minister Abe in his New Year message

Briefly

Palestine

All deals with Israel, the US declared null and void

Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas declared that his country abrogates all agreements concluded with Israel and the US at an emergency meeting of the Palestinian leadership held in Ramallah on May 19.

Protesting against the Israeli authorities' recent announcement of the plan for annexing part of the Palestinian territory in the West Bank, he stated that Palestine would stop the performance of its duties stipulated in all agreements and documents it had signed with Israel and the US including those on the security issue.

Russia

US' distortion of WWII history under fire

The Russian Foreign Ministry released an official statement to denounce the US for its distortion of history with regard to the result of the Second World War.

Shortly ago, the White House said that it was the US and the UK that defeated fascism, without mentioning a word about the USSR.

Branding it as a base act of history distortion, the statement revealed that such attempts were continuously made in the US during the celebrations of the 75th anniversary of VE-Day.

WHO

World Health Assembly held by way of video conference

The 73rd World Health Assembly took place between May 18 and 19 drawing representatives and heads of state and government of over 190 countries and regions of the world including the DPRK.

At the conference participants called for strengthening international cooperation and unity in the efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The recent meeting was reportedly held by way of video conference for the first time in history in the light of the spread of novel CoV infection.

EU

US blamed for anti-WHO behaviour

A spokesman for the European Commission at a news briefing on May 19 denounced the US for threatening to permanently stop the fund-raising for the World Health Organization and to withdraw from it.

Now is the time for joining efforts rather than pointing an accusing finger at others or weakening multinational cooperation, he said, adding international cooperation and solidarity are the effective and practical methods for winning victory in the fight against the epidemic.

REFeree

Man honoured with elite referee of AFC

"Choe Kwang Hyon is a referee who works hard to raise his qualifications," said O Il Son, staff member of the DPRK Football Association.

Choe is a referee of the DPRK Football Association working at the Naegohyang women's football club. Having served as an AFC elite referee since last year, he is recognized as a fair, enthusiastic and young promising referee by the personnel of the AFC and football fans for his high physical fitness, keen judgment and quick decision-making.

He demonstrated his ability in different international matches



Chief referee Choe Kwang Hyon (third from right) poses before a regional preliminary match at the 2019 AFC U-19 men's championship.

including the preliminaries and qualifiers for the 2019 AFC Cup and the game between Mongolian and Tajik teams belonging to Group F in the second-round Asian regional preliminaries of the 2020 FIFA World Cup.

It is not known whether he was influenced by his footballer father, but he had loved soccer since childhood. He learned the sport at Kaeson Juvenile Sports School and started his career at the then Pyongyang sports club at the age of 17.

He became a referee in 2014 at the recommendation of the DPRK Football Association.

Refereeing was not an easy

job from the beginning. Though he had thought he was well versed in football rules, he faced lots of unexpected problems to solve in the pitch. And then one day, he learned a bitter lesson that made him keenly aware of the importance of refereeing.

In a game at the national premier league in 2015 he misjudged a situation and failed to give a penalty kick, which completely changed the overall game situation, bringing about a result different from forecasts.

This prompted him to try hard by taking it as his three-point principle as a referee to be conversant with the rules, to attain physical fitness as high as players' and to be proficient in foreign languages. As a result, he qualified as an international referee in 2016 and an AFC elite referee in 2018.

"Every referee has their eye on such large-scale international games as World Cup and Olympics. The most important principle the referees should uphold is impartiality which constitutes a main ideal of football. Regarding it as my iron rule, I'll apply myself to improving my ability as referee," said Choe Kwang Hyon.

By Song Jong Ho PT

CERAMICS

Koryo porcelain shines through in medieval craftwork

Among the cultural heritage of the Korean nation is Koryo porcelain which is unique in colour, motif and shape.

In the period of Koryo, the first unified state in Korean history that existed between 918 and 1392, people further developed the ceramic workmanship of their ancestors.

Koryo porcelain is classified into celadon, white, black, brown, crimson and other ceramics according to the ground colours and into embossed, intagliated, pierced, thick-patterned, inlaid, makeup and other ones according to ornamentation.

It occupies a pre-eminent position in the world medieval history of craftwork for the high artistry.

Above all, it is prominent in colour. Out of various colours of Koryo pottery, celadon ranks first. The colour is soft, subtle and graceful and is often likened to the azure of the clear sky or the emerald of the stream flowing through deep



Celadon pieces from the period of Koryo.

mountains.

Describing Koryo celadon, Ri Kyu Bo, an illustrious poet of Koryo, wrote, "When it flickers, it emits jade light, and it is as clear and bright as crystal", while Ri Saek, another literary man of Koryo, wrote, "The shining jade is reflected on the blue sky, and the sight of it seems to make even my eyes bright".

Koryo porcelain is also unique

in motif. Decorative patterns portray various subjects such as figures, animals, plants, nature, symbols and letters.

To create these patterns, such carving was adopted as grooving, relief, openwork and engraving, pictorial art using brushes and applique. The decorative patterns produced by free sketches depicting life and regular designs added artistic value to Koryo porcelain.

The porcelain is diverse and original in shape. It comes in cup, jar, plate, kettle, pot and others according to the variety of container, and articles of the same variety also come in different shapes.

Koryo porcelain was widely exported to foreign countries, having a marked impact on the development of their pottery.

It is said that the people of the Song dynasty of China lavished praise on Koryo celadon, describing it as the "most celebrated thing in the world".

By Choe Yong Nam PT

RELIC

Chilsong Gate showcases ancient architecture in Korea



SONG TAE HYOK

The Chilsong Gate in Moran Hill, Pyongyang.

The Chilsong Gate located in Moran Hill of Pyongyang was the northern gate of the keep of the Walled City of Pyongyang during the Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668).

Koguryo constructed the gate as it built the Walled City of Pyongyang in the mid-6th century and the present gatehouse was rebuilt in 1712.

The name of the gate derived from the meaning of a northern gate in the direction of the Great Bear. The gate consists of the embankment which is the extension of the walls and the gatehouse on it. The walls on its both sides were erected to pass each other at intervals of about 10 metres and the gate was constructed horizontally to connect the walls.

The end of one side of the walls projecting beyond the front of the gate was fortified to serve as bastion. The orderly embankment is built of faced stones and has an archway.

There are battlements and the gatehouse on top of the embankment. The gatehouse is a single-eaves gabled house 7.38 metres long and 4.36 metres wide.

Tapering pillars stand

SCENE

Spot famous for piney forest

There is Songdan where the forest of pine, national tree of the DPRK, is seen growing along the seashore in Songjongsan of Riwon County, South Hamgyong Province.

It is also called Songjongsan in the meaning that pine trees that look like arboreal tree form a thick forest and it is well-known for the scenic beauty.

Though the pine forest now presents a spectacular sight in the area, there was not even a young pine tree till the first half of the 17th century.

