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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un pays homage to Kim Jong Il to mark Day of Shining Star



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to mark the 78th anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the DPRK State

Affairs Commission and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee.

Also present there were Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and member of the DPRK

State Affairs Commission, and other members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

A basket of flowers offered by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un was placed before the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Flower baskets were also laid there in the name of the WPK Central Committee and the State Affairs Commission, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the

Cabinet of the DPRK.

The Supreme Leader, together with members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, paid utmost respect at the statues of the great leaders.

In the hall of immortality where Chairman Kim Jong Il is preserved in his lifetime appearance, Kim Jong Un made a deep bow to the Chairman.

KCNA

CELEBRATION

Nation celebrates Day of Shining Star

All the people across the country celebrated the Day of the Shining Star, birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il, with splendour.

Lots of people visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun

where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance and paid tribute to them at the portraits of the smiling President and Chairman.

Working people, service

personnel, youth and students visited the statues of the great leaders and mosaics of their smiling images on Mansu Hill and in different parts of the country to pay floral tribute to them.

A flower basket sent by

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un was seen standing before the statues of the great leaders on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang.

Flower baskets were laid at the statues in the name of Party, government and military organs,

social organizations, ministries, national agencies, units of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Internal Security Forces and institutions and industrial establishments at all levels in Pyongyang.

A flower basket was laid in the name of the Pyongyang Mission of the Anti-imperialist

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Celebration: Koreans celebrate Kim Jong Il's birth anniversary

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National Democratic Front.

The visitors paid tribute to the great leaders at the statues.

Flower baskets were also placed in the name of institutions, enterprises and units of the KPA and the KPISF at the statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and mosaics depicting the smiling images of the great leaders in various places of Pyongyang including Kim Il Sung University, the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces and the Mansudae Art Studio.

Working people, service personnel, youth and students across the country visited the statues of the great leaders and mosaics portraying the smiling images of the great leaders in their residential areas to pay tribute to them.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, received congratulatory messages from the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, the General Association of Koreans in China and the Central Committee of the Anti-imperialist National Democratic Front on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star, the birth anniversary of Chairman

Kim Jong Il.

The messages wished Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un good health for the victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche and national prosperity.

The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) and the General Association of Koreans in China held celebratory meetings respectively on the occasion of the 78th birth anniversary of Kim Jong Il.

On the same day, there were an art performance given by the artistes of the Kumgangsan Opera Troupe and the students of Korea University and a central photo exhibition at the Korean Hall of Culture in Tokyo.

On display at the exhibition were photos showing the revolutionary career and immortal exploits of Chairman Kim Jong Il and those reflecting the revolutionary activities of Kim Jong Un.

Art performances were given at industrial establishments and on farms across the country.

Songs in praise of the Chairman were put on stage at the ministries and national agencies including the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports and the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport, and at scientific and educational institutions including the State Academy of Sciences, Kim Chaek University of Technology and Kim Chol Ju University of



People from all walks of life visit the plaza of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to mark the Day of the Shining Star (February 16).

Education.

Art performances were also given at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex, the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex, the Sunchon Thermal Power Plant, the Chongsan Cooperative Farm in Kangso District, Nampho, and others.

Sports games took place at units at all levels in Pyongyang and other places, adding to the festive mood.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



People have a good time on holiday enjoying Pirate at the Kaeson Youth Amusement Park in Pyongyang.

of different countries praised the Chairman as an outstanding leader who had a thoroughgoing outlook on leader and principled and unshakable political faith, and a genius of ideology and theory deeply revered by all the people.

On the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star and the anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army, the British Association for the Study of Songun Policy, the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, the Korean Friendship Association UK and the British solidarity committee for peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula posted special articles on the internet, which said that Chairman Kim Jong Il led the Korean revolution along the road of victory for decades, strengthened the KPA to be an invincible revolutionary army, thereby safeguarding national sovereignty and Juche-oriented socialism with honour, and made a great contribution to preventing war on the Korean peninsula and defending global peace through his energetic Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

The Chairman carried out a comprehensive analysis and review of the 100-year history of ideology of the working class in his early years and concluded that the previous working-class theory could not give correct answers to the theoretical and practical questions raised by the present times, it added.

A Peruvian newspaper said that thanks to Chairman Kim Jong Il, the revolutionary idea of President Kim Il Sung was formulated as the integrated Juche system of idea, theory and method and its originality and validity were confirmed by practice.

Prominent figures and writers



The People's Open-air Ice Rink in Pyongyang bustles with skaters.

ANECDOSE

Stories tell leader's love for people

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the Pyongyang Bag Factory some years ago.

At the sewing workshop, he saw women workers operating sewing machines for a while and referred to the need to make each strap devotedly with maternal affection.

He requested an official of the factory to produce bags properly by reflecting the warm hearts of mothers of the country, telling him it has been said since olden times that 50 000 days' work is required to bring up a child, but we have millions of children to look after.

For the first field inspection tour in 2014, Kim Jong Un

visited a fish freezing facility built by the Korean People's Army.

He came there to discuss the possibility of supplying fish for baby homes, orphanages, primary and middle schools for orphans and old people's homes across the country, he said, adding he was going to assume responsibility for the children and elderly people there.

He issued an order in his capacity as the Supreme Commander to the KPA to organize a fishery station that exclusively supplies fish for those facilities.

By Pang Un Ju PT

RESPONSE

Chairman Kim Jong Il hailed by international community

The first vice-chairman of the Czech Group for the Study and Materialization of the Juche Idea posted an article on the internet, which said that even when socialism was frustrated in the countries that failed to correctly solve the question of successor to the leader and the imperialists were trumpeting about the "complete end of socialism" by availing themselves of that opportunity, the banner of socialism invariably fluttered in the DPRK alone as it successfully resolved the issue of carrying forward the revolutionary cause.

The joint statement released by the British Association for the Study of Songun Policy and the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea said that a great turn was brought about in the development of the Korean revolution and the ideological work of the Workers' Party of Korea after Chairman Kim Jong Il issued work **On Some Immediate Tasks to Be Tackled in the Party's Ideological Work for Modelling the Whole Society on Kimilsungism** on February 19 1974. It added that in the course of the struggle for modelling the whole society

on Kimilsungism the might of socialism centred on the masses of the people was boosted remarkably and the single-minded unity of the DPRK was consolidated as solid as a rock.

The Nigerian National Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, in an article posted on the internet, said that the Juche idea, which is widely acknowledged as the guiding ideology for the cause of independence for humankind, is unthinkable apart from Chairman Kim Jong Il as well as President Kim Il Sung.

The Chairman carried out a comprehensive analysis and review of the 100-year history of ideology of the working class in his early years and concluded that the previous working-class theory could not give correct answers to the theoretical and practical questions raised by the present times, it added.

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Prominent figures and writers

EDITORIAL

It is needed to keep prevention and control posture

Many days have passed since COVID-19 broke out, but infected cases have increased and the epidemic has spread widely day after day, thereby stirring up growing unrest and concern of the international community.

A state of emergency was declared in many countries to launch a fierce anti-epidemic campaign.

The DPRK, in which great importance is attached to preventive medicine, set the national emergency anti-epidemic system in motion as soon as COVID-19 broke out in neighbouring countries and has taken a series of strong anti-epidemic measures.

All the border, sea and air routes through which the epidemic would infiltrate have completely been blocked, and the examination of diseases and medical checkup and the inspection and quarantine work have been intensified at border areas and border-crossing

points.

Disinfection work is being conducted more strictly in such public places as railway stations and parks, commercial and public catering networks and hospitals, and medical observation and examination are getting more intense.

Hygienic information activities are conducted briskly in parallel with hygienic and anti-epidemic work.

A campaign has been launched throughout society to raise public awareness of the symptoms of the epidemic and the importance of preventing its spread and to take strict measures for its prevention.

News about novel coronavirus infection damage is reported every day through TV, newspapers and radios, and double and treble explanations about the detailed ways for its prevention are given in every region and organization.

Permanent and non-permanent anti-epidemic units

and organizations at all levels take practical measures to keep the virus from spreading by making all the population wear masks in their daily life and observe the rules of health including handwashing.

Given that a proper treatment measure has not yet been taken for COVID-19 worldwide, chronic approach to anti-epidemic work might bring huge loss not only to individual countries but also to the international community.

However, any kinds of malignant viruses cannot destroy mankind.

Humans won the great war against such contagious diseases as Ebola and SARS.

When the international community works together to completely block the route of spread of the epidemic and take thoroughgoing treatment measures, they will be able to minimize its damage and surely emerge victorious in the ongoing anti-epidemic campaign.

held classified by execution units in the surrounding areas and farms of the city brought together more than 500 trucks and heavy machines, over 480 180 apparatuses and tools in some 560 kinds and 480 innovation plans.

The finishing materials on display were those made domestically by effectively using locally available materials.

Thousands of tons of organic fertilizer produced

The Yokphyong Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Huichon, Jagang Province, has produced thousands of tons of organic fertilizer and carried it to fields. Unlike previously, the farm built structures with vinyl sheets and dug the floor about one metre deep to produce more *hukposan* fertilizer while ensuring appropriate temperature even in winter conditions.

First quarterly plan overfulfilled by 20 percent

The Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory in Kangwon Province has made and installed new types of efficient primary and secondary washing machines to carry out its plan for the first quarter of the year at 120 percent while saving 70 percent of manpower.

It contrived and produced sought-after artificial turf, plastic pipes of all sizes and efficient jigs and equipment.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

PREVENTION

Preventive measures taken to combat COVID-19



Personnel from the prevention centre spray the seats of a passenger bus with disinfectant.

The campaign to prevent COVID-19 is being stepped up all across the DPRK.

South Phyongan Province is conducting intense information activities to make people aware that though there has been no infected case in the country, laxity might lead to disastrous consequences, lest they should relax vigilance.

Sterilization procedures are followed more strictly in such public places as railway stations, parking lots, bus stops and commercial and public catering facilities and special attention is being paid to child healthcare in cities.

Sunchon City and Unsan County, in particular, are intensifying prevention work as they carry on close medical observation and check-up of those who returned from foreign trips and other residents.

North Phyongan Province bordering China is concentrating on the anti-epidemic work.

In Sinuiju scrupulous steps are being taken to provide necessary medical supplies including individual protective devices, medicines, disinfectants and reagents for examination.

In South Hwanghae Province medical check-ups of residents and disinfection of public places are being conducted on a regular basis.

In Anak, Ongjin, Jaeryong and Unnyul counties all the locals are requested to wear disinfected masks, while thoroughgoing measures have been taken to enable those who show symptoms of cold including fever and cough to receive prompt specialist treatment.

Researchers of the Sports Medical Science Institute under the Academy of Sports Science are concentrating efforts on completely preventing COVID-19.

They rapidly sent to relevant units hygienic propaganda information and presentations introducing the details of outbreak, spread and prevention of the epidemic so that they could conduct information activities in an effective way.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Nationwide

Salt produced by freezing

The Wonsan Salt Works has turned out the first salt of this year.

Having introduced a saline water production method based on freezing at the end of last year, it produced the first salt of the year as the nation marked the Day of the Shining Star (February 16).

Power station project makes progress

Marked progress has been made in the construction of Orangchon Power Station Unit 4 in North Hamgyong Province, the DPRK.

As of right now, the construction of Changpho Dam, houses for station employees, public buildings, a waterway tunnel extending for thousands of metres and a generator room has been completed. And the installation of pressure iron pipe conduit and preparations for the test run of the generator have been finished.

Food factory ups portfolio from 30 to 500

The UnhaDaesong Foodstuff Factory in Pyongyang has increased the kinds of its products from 30 to over 500 in a few years since its inauguration.

And some 30 kinds of them received certificates of February 2 Products and a dozen of them won national quality certifications.



At the site of the third stage of Samjiyon City reconstruction there were a parade of transport means and an exhibition of apparatuses, tools and finishing materials.

The shows which were

Having put main focus on further intensifying the medical observation, check-up and prevention of players and coaches, they administer such traditional prophylactic treatments as the inhalation of garlic juice to improve their immunizing power.

They provide clean environment for sportspeople by disinfecting training aids and fixtures in all training and other rooms in a responsible manner while frequently ventilating them.

They also make increasingly exact demands on players and coaches so that they can thoroughly observe the rules of health including the wearing of masks and frequent handwashing.

They pay special attention to the strict observance of established orders in safekeeping, managing and supplying foodstuffs and the disinfection of equipment, kitchen utensils and fixtures in mess halls so as not to hinder the sportspeople from doing training.

Scientific research for preventing the epidemic also goes full steam ahead. Researchers at Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences are concentrating all efforts on developing medicines that can kill viruses which are prone to cause respiratory diseases.

They have developed a PIDOLIC acid cold gel which has special efficacy for the prevention and initial treatment of cold.

It is said that the gel helps prevent flu, bird flu, coronavirus and other diseases.

A project is also underway to produce materials for interferon injection, an anti-viral medicine.

The virus research institute has entered the basic experiment of the anti-viral medicine developed by the Academy of Medical Sciences, while pushing ahead with research to thoroughly prevent novel CoV infection.

ENERGY

Diverse energy resources tapped nationwide

Efforts are being made throughout the country to tap renewable energy resources.

"Last year alone, over a hundred thousand kW of renewable energy generating capacity was created across the country," said an official of the State Commission of Science and Technology.

More specifically, solar power generating capacity accounts for more than 86 percent, with the generation based on biomass and coal gasification amounting to over 7.7 and 4.7 percent respectively. A research is underway in several units to lower the cost of wind-driven power generation system and increase generation efficiency.

The power generation systems based on diverse energy resources are almost independent ones, and dozens of units adopt the system parallel one.

In Pyongyang, the system parallel solar power generation system was established in the Sci-Tech Complex, Mokran Kwangmyong Company, Ryuwon Footwear Factory and many other units, while the independent system was introduced into over 2 000 units.

Some families in Taesong District, Pyongyang, make effective use of electricity under the organic integration with the national power grid by applying

the system parallel inversion technology to the solar power generation system.

"At present, it can be said that the inversion technology is near to completion in our country. The home-made inverters are cost-effective and not inferior to foreign ones in terms of their efficiency," said a technician of the Ministry of Electric Power Industry.

A method is being sought to link the independent systems based on various energy resources with the national power grid.

Rason City has put power generation on normal footing, irrespective of weather conditions, by establishing the decentralized power

generation system based on solar and hydroelectric power resources.

Unchon County of South Hwanghae Province built hundreds of kW of generating capacity with the help of more than 500 wind turbines, while Unnyul County installed over 300 wind-driven turbines in different institutions and dwelling houses.

The North Phyongan provincial power distribution station installed dozens of wind turbines and thousands of solar panels in the places where sunlight and wind can be effectively afforded to increase generating efficiency.

By Yun Kyong II PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Rooftop solar panels at the Ryuwon Footwear Factory in Pyongyang.

SERVICE

Integrated control system contributes to improved service

The Changgwang Health Complex has recently established a new operating equipment control system in order to ensure profitability in business activities.

"We have set up an integrated control system embracing all facilities needed for service so as to optimize the operation and management of equipment," said engineer Kim Jin Hyok.

The complex enhanced automatic control functions according to the components of the operation equipment control system.

Based on PLC, it established the automatic water temperature regulation system and ensured the real-time measurement of flux and water volume. It set the time for the staggering of electric motors in the water purifying process so as to automatically control them by measuring water temperature and pressure.

It also installed temperature

sensors to ensure the standard sauna temperature by measuring the temperatures of more than 100 saunas and controlling electric heaters, and realized the setup for the protection of air conditioner voltage.

And it established a system to measure and monitor in real time the data about voltage, current and electric power in the 1 000 KVA and 6 300 KVA transformers of the panel board with the intelligent three-phase wattmeter and power measuring device, and the system to automatically record the database of water control process log classified by time, with the result that the complex has become able to repair dozens of valves and motors in a planned way.

The higher modernization level of equipment has enabled the complex to save a great deal of electricity and manpower, provide service on a more scientific basis and realize the

automatic and comprehensive control of equipment in real time classified by hour and the day of the week.

The Changgwang Health Complex was selected as one of top ten informatization model units last year.

By Kim Il Jin PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Engineers monitor the real-time equipment automatic control system at the Changgwang Health Complex in Pyongyang.

BIOMASS

Biomass-based power system applied

The Heat Engineering Faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology have found out and introduced power generation methods based on rice chaff gasification and methane gas.

The faculty researchers developed a power generation system based on rice chaff gasification and introduced it into the Kumbok Cooperative Farm in Unnyul County of South Hwanghae Province.

Having established a gas fuel production system which relies on sawdust, they designed a highly effective gas generator using waste substrate from mushroom farms and a filtering and refining system to develop it into a power generation system.

"The momentary power output of the power generation system based on rice chaff gasification is 35kW, its specific consumption of rice chaff is two kilograms per 1kW/h and the gas output is 105m³/h," said Jon Yong Nam, a section chief of the faculty.

Two gas generators continuously generate gas which contains a very little amount of tar to ensure the normal operation of the motor and control the output of produced electric power.

They also introduced a power generation system based on methane gas into the Muchang

Livestock Farm of the Sungni Motor Complex.

The livestock farm now provides electricity, fuel and heating needed for its management by relying on animal faeces and sewage discharged from the running of the farm.

O Hyon Chol, a faculty researcher, said at least hundreds of cubic metres of methane gas was required every day to satisfy the power needs of the reconstructed farm, but the animal faeces and sewage were not enough.

The researchers found out a method of producing methane gas by mixing animal faeces and sewage with straw and fermenting them. And they invented a unique design of fermentation tank and optimized the values of technical specifications for the design of the hundreds-of-cubic-metre tank.

They also raised the temperature needed for fermentation by using waste heat from the operation of the power generation system.

Their power generation and heating system was highly appreciated at the 34th national science and technology festival last year.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

SOLAR

Institute makes the most of solar power

The railway design institute of the Ministry of Railways is making an effective use of its solar power generation system.

According to Han Kang Gyu, director of the institute, though the capacity of the system is not so large, they are making an optimum use of its output.

All the offices are equipped with a dual power switches. One is linked to the power

distribution line from the solar power generation system, while the other is from the national power grid.

The institute has introduced a scientific electricity using practice based on real-time monitoring of the power consumption situation.

Consequently, it ensures safe power supply to computers while the interior lighting completely relies on solar energy.

"Our institute has efficiently operated the solar power system for several years, providing enough electricity for work and saving tens of thousands of kilowatt-hours from the national power network," said researcher Kim Chol Su.

The institute has produced many designs so far including those for electric engines, metro cars, railway stations and rails.

"We are planning to expand the capacity of the solar power generation system and introduce a geothermal heating system as well," said director Han.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

ALTRUISM

Society brims with virtue and affection

Stories about laudable deeds are told one after another all the year round in the DPRK, in which it has become a social habit to live in good harmony, helping and leading one another forward.

Choe Jong Sun, postwoman of the South Sinuiju Post Office in North Phyongan Province, lost her husband due to an unexpected accident that occurred last January.

She said that at first she worried how she could raise her three children by herself.

However, fellow workers showed warm affection to her family.

They frequently dropped in at her home with school supplies, clothes, shoes and non-staple foodstuffs.

When her twin sons joined the army, they gave them various

gifts, asking them to undergo military service well like their elder brother. They often visited her home on holidays lest she feel lonely after her three sons joined the army and undertook all hard household chores.

Therefore, Choe regards them as her own family members who share joy and sorrow with her.

Kim Un Gyong, worker at the Songyo Disabled Soldiers' Ironware Factory in Pyongyang, is enjoying working life under the close concern and warm care of many well-wishers.

She was crippled in an accident when she was young. Though she was disabled, she wanted to take part in social life like other ordinary people.

After being reported about her wish, a leading official of the district people's committee visited her home to learn about

her health and living and took her to a hospital.

Thanks to the deep concern of the official and the sincerity of medical workers of the hospital, she recovered her health and could work as she had desired.

Medical workers of the Okryu Children's Hospital in Pyongyang brought a baby, who was in the jaws of death, to life through a 20-odd-day intensive treatment and a growing number of young men and women get married to disabled soldiers and become real sons and daughters of old people with no supporters. As the society is blessed with many such caring people, warm and amicable feeling runs over it.

By Yun Ki Song PT

VIRTUES

Putting their heart and soul into disabled soldiers

Like family members

Kim Un Yong, worker of the direct sales store under the South Hamgyong provincial local industry management bureau, has been taking care of a disabled soldier living in Hamhung City.

A few years ago, the disabled soldier dropped in at her store. She had had many customers to serve every day, but the image of the disabled soldier was deeply kept in her mind.

With a determination to become an elder sister of him, who had sacrificed himself to the defence of the country, she would often visit his home.

When he got married and had his baby, she showed them all sincerity taking them as her own family members.

Ri Pok Hui, section chief of the Wonsan Chemical Factory, and her family members have long devoted their sincerity to a disabled soldier in the same city.

Once Ri happened to hear about him as she had a chat with her son-in-law and suggested her family members look after him, saying that it is a civic duty to take good care of disabled soldiers concerned by the state.

They frequently visited the disabled soldier's house.

When he was hospitalized, Ri discussed treatment measures with doctors of the hospital and brought him valuable tonics and nutritious foods. The disabled soldier said that she is really overcautious like his own family member.

'Paternal affection'

Last May, there was a wedding ceremony of Ri Il Hyok, a special-class disabled soldier, in a house of Hyongjesan District, Pyongyang.

Il Hyok was overwhelmed with gratitude to many well-wishers who spared no efforts for his wedding.

What was the most deplorable for him at that time was that he could not see bride Kim Song Hui, who decided to get married to him, and others who had taken good care of him like his own family members and prepared his wedding table.

A few years ago, he lost his eyes in the line of duty.

Many people including neighbours and strangers came to him almost every day, giving him strength and courage lest he should lose strength on bed.

Among the regular visitors, there are Ju Hak Chol and his wife Kim Yong Mi living in Ryonmot-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang. They visited him whenever they had some special food materials and travelled different parts of the country to seek medicinal materials good for his health recovery.

When a young woman was resolved to tie the knot with Il Hyok, Ju volunteered to take charge of all the preparations for his wedding, which reminded the disabled soldier of his father who had died at his post.

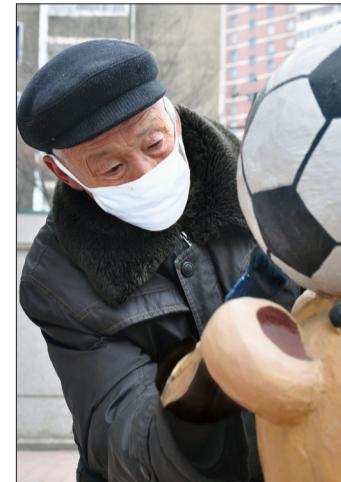
That is why Il Hyok offered a cup of wine first to Ju on his wedding day by reflecting the mind of himself and his wife

and said, "Thank you very much, father".

By Pang Un Ju PT

PROFILE

Big Daddy dedicates himself to community



Therefore, he took an active part in the work for sprucing up the village.

Sometimes, he prepared lots of materials with his children and worked hard for the community while displaying plastering skills he had acquired during his military service.

He also planted and tended hundreds of trees around the village and parks and distributed apricots he had picked to children and aged people in his village, nurseries and kindergartens.

"Once, I asked my father why he should do hard work despite advanced age. At that time, he answered that he wanted to contribute something to the country as much as he could, though he was old," his daughter Ri Jong Ok recalled.

He gave a big helping hand to the construction of volleyball court, park and playgrounds in Munsu-dong No. 1, to say nothing of the work of his neighbourhood unit.

The

76-year-old thought deeply after he was discharged from military service as an honoured disabled officer some 20 years ago.

He wanted to do something good for the grateful people and socialist system that had bestowed special favour on him.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

gelatin including appropriate temperature, filtering time and optimum mixing ratio of various chemical substances, thereby paving the way for producing a new paint for leather.

According to An, the application of the paint shows that it is better than imported ones in terms of qualitative indexes of leather products such as brilliance, flex resistance and bond strength.

Active vegetable fertilizer in limelight

Developed by the Academy of Agricultural Science, the high-concentration active liquid fertilizer is now the focus of attention in the DPRK.

Active vegetable fertilizer Kaengsaeng No. 1 is made by combining macro- and micro-elements, different rare-earth elements and substances stimulating the growth of plants with such main ingredients as various amino acids, enzyme and fulvic acid on a rational basis. It promotes the absorption and locomotion of nutritive substances.

The fertilizer helps increase crop yield nearly twice when applied to rice, maize, bean, vegetable and other industrial crop farming, especially to the farming in low-yield fields including withering paddies.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Sci-tech achievements

New-type wet dust cleaner developed

Lecturers and researchers at the land and environmental science faculty of Pyongyang University of Architecture have brought out a new type of wet dust cleaner.

"We conducted research to develop a new technology conducive to fully removing fine substances in waste gas," said lead developer Jang Kyong Ju.

On the basis of an in-depth analysis of the operation of wet dust cleaners which were in general use, the developers found out that the one based on circular rod filling layer had high efficiency in the removal of fine substances and conceived a new structure for the cleaner.

After fixing the rational designing factors for improving the efficiency of dust collection, they carried out simulations to get the optimum technical indexes of the cleaner.

They went to a pre-fab factory and solved technical problems arising in its assembly and processing and finally succeeded in the manufacture and introduction of the new dust cleaner on an industrial basis.

The application of the cleaner to the waste gas purifying system

Leather paints turned out

The Pyongyang Tachung Hair and Skin Processing and Exchanging Company has realized the domestic production of paints for leather.

In the past, the company imported casein for making paints.

"After repeated quest for a way to make functional materials for paints domestically we were interested in leather scraps that are produced during processing," said key developer An Ok Sim.

The developers buckled down to research into making gelatin, a kind of protein that can substitute for casein, with the by-product of leather processing.

In the course of experiments they found out a rational method of extracting protein from leather scraps and solved scientific and technological problems arising in the manufacture of

OBITUARY

Legendary Choe leaves indelible legacy as he stars in 100 films

Film star Choe Chang Su (pictured), who was called the “living image of the Korean screen world”, died of an acute convulsion of the intestines at home on Feb 10.

Though film stars are mostly called by the names of the characters they play, Choe, a veteran of the Korean film world, is remembered by many both by the names of the characters and his real name.

“It is a single expression of stardom to which he was elevated as a film actor,” said An Chang Sun, who played his wife in *Rim Kkok Jong*.

His brilliant acting, which moved viewers to laughter or tears or excited them with films, was not inborn.

Born in Yonho-dong, Kim Chaek City of North Hamgyong Province, in May 1942, he had 10 brothers and sisters.

But eight of them died of illnesses before Korea’s liberation from Japanese military rule. He lost the two remaining younger brothers and his mother during a US bombing in the 1950-53 Fatherland Liberation War. He was left alone.

But his life was not lonely and solitary.

After graduating from a middle school, he worked at a ceramics factory and geological survey group. And finally he finished the actors training course of the Korean Film Studio and became a film actor.

He showed off his talent in the first movie *The Family of Choe Hak Sin* produced in



1966 and another movie *Yong Su and Yong Ok Visiting Their Socialist Homeland* in 1969, which shows a brother and sister who returned to their socialist homeland live a new happy and worthwhile life.

“Choe played such a big yet fine role as Ri Thae Un in *Wolmi Island*, Rim Kkok Jong in the namesake feature and Choe Hyon Dok in multi-part film *The Nation and Destiny*. It was his charm,” said Kim Jong Hwa, lecturer at the department of acting of Pyongyang University of Dramatic and Cinematic Arts.

He became a Merited Actor in 1980, People’s Actor three years later and Labour Hero in 1992 for his superb acting in many films.

He gave full play to his forte in history movie *Rim Kkok Jong*.

In the five-part film he gave so true and lifelike a representation of the life of its hero, a good-natured, simple and honest butcher who ekes out a living with the tanning of animal hides, and the activities of the

Rim Kkok Jong-led peasants’ armed group recorded in history that he became a “living Rim Kkok Jong”.

His acting career climaxed with multi-part film *The Nation and Destiny* (Parts of Choe Hyon Dok).

He left an indelible impression on the audience by giving a lifelike portrayal of the switch in the direction of life’s journey of Choe Tok Sin, who had taken important posts in the south Korean military and politics all his life, only to be called “Choe Hyon Dok” this time.

He is said to have directed acting well.

Whenever he offered vivid character portrayal with his fine and experienced acting, he told the greenhorns, “Don’t envy others, but work hard. Honour goes to those who work hard.”

“For us film actors and actresses, Choe was a textbook,” said Ri Hyok, an actor at the Korean Film Studio.

Father of five daughters, Choe was sentimental, careful and very honest in character representation. He died at the age of 78, ending his over five-decade acting career.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un sent a wreath in his name in memory of the deceased on Feb 10.

He was interred at the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery dedicated to those who contributed to the country’s prosperity and development.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

HEALTHCARE

Health sector builds material and technical foundations

The DPRK has put spurs to building up material and technical foundations of the public health sector.

“The Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea emphasized once again that public health is a major criterion of the image of socialism through which the people directly enjoy the advantages of the DPRK system,” said an official of the Ministry of Public Health. “We have taken measures to strengthen the material and technical foundations of the public health sector by dint of self-reliance.”

Primary efforts are being channelled into updating pharmaceutical and medical appliances industries.

The Myohyangsan Medical Appliances Factory is being spruced up into the model of the

country’s medical appliances industry. Its production environment has been built in line with international standards and all production processes have been automated and put on lines to ensure the production of small quantities of products in large variety.

The upgrading of the Pyongyang Electronic Medical Appliances Factory, Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory and Hungnam Pharmaceutical Factory is being pushed at the final stage.

Meanwhile, new modern general hospitals and medical supplies factories are under construction and Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories in cities and counties are under renovation.

Primary importance is being attached to making every

process reach GMP standards while optimizing the utilization of space in modernizing pharmaceutical factories.

Activities for building up the smallest medical service institutions are conducted on a large scale.

Precedence is given to sprucing up hospitals and clinics in the places with high population or which are far away from big hospitals, especially industrial cities or mountainous counties, and providing them with good treatment equipment.

The best way to produce practical effects in a short span of times is to set up the telemedicine service system since it takes a certain period of time to raise the level of medical technology of local hospitals to that of central hospitals.

To this end, an undertaking

EDUCATION

Centre integrates education, research and production

The Mirae science and technology centre of Kim Chaek University of Technology plays a crucial role in integrating education, scientific research and production.

There at the centre, development groups comprising not only lecturers and researchers but also postgraduates and undergraduates of the university conceive novel ideas, while practical training that takes a large share of the engineering course is given in an effective way.

In less than one year after its inauguration, the centre developed more than ten technical products including an application technology for coal gasification, a technology for designing and manufacturing various analysers, a technology for prospecting useful minerals based on geophysical exploration, a natural energy utilization technology and telecommunications technology.

“We are now working on a dozen technical projects including the development and production of rare metal reference materials, an

analytical and flow-type cell separator, technical products needed for setting up a flexible alternating current transmission system, comprehensive software products, laser machining equipment, telecommunications products, electronic sensors, nano-separating screens and cloud computing system,” said director Choe Yong Nam, PhD.

According to staffer Ri Chol Jun, practical training dealing with high-tech relied on multimedia in the past, but at present undergraduates and postgraduates undergo practical training as they take part in the development and production of high-tech products at the centre, which goes a long way towards educational progress.

The centre is a smart building in which all management indices are monitored and controlled in real time and has a total floor space of 14,400 square metres with 64 development rooms, 32 laboratories, three inspection rooms, an exhibition hall and a hall for international symposium.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Researchers check the precision of newly developed measuring instruments.

RAIL

Point of contact-free railway extends

According to Jang Won Sang, an official of the Ministry of Railways, thousands of kilometres of railways have

been replaced with non-point of contact rails on a nationwide scale since the completion of the non-point of contact railway construction project between Yomju and Naejung stations, the first of its kind in the country.

One powerful impetus for the achievement was the technical upgrading of the stationary and mobile rail welders and the step-up of the project to change sleepers into concrete ones, he said.

The ministry plans to lay point of contact-free rails in six sections this year.

KCNA

MIDEAST

Peace initiative or war scenario

The US recently opened to public the political part of the "Mideast peace initiative" it has hyped as a "deal of the century", announcing it recognizes al-Quds as the "undivided capital" of Israel.

The initiative which legalizes the illegal Jewish settlement, confiscation of land and annexation of the Palestinian territory has given Israel a green light to annex more parts of the Palestinian territory and revealed that the US intends to keep taking the initiative in the Mideast issue.

Since it was made public, the plan has drawn stiff opposition

from the international community.

The department director of the Arab centre for policy studies said that the US initiative is aimed at supporting Israel instead of bringing peace. A Palestinian political analyst also decried the US initiative, asserting it contravenes international lawfulness and grants the Palestinians no rights.

The Xinhua News Agency reported that pundits share the same view that the US plan represents Israel's interests alone.

Even a journalist of Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* said it

is as clear as day that the international community would reject such a plan that violates all the international agreements, adding that if Israel attempts to annex the Palestinian territory by force of arms, a violent fight would break out, thereby worsening the security situation. Experts see that such a fight might lead to a showdown between the international community supporting Palestine on one side and Israel and the US on the other.

The Turkish President, in a letter sent to the recent international forum on the al-Quds issue, described the US

"deal of the century" declaring al-Quds as the capital of Israel as nothing but a pipe-dream for threatening the regional peace, stating that his country would never allow such a pipe-dream to come true.

Palestine, which might be the direct victim of the initiative, remains vehemently opposed to it, branding it as a scheme of Israel and the US for eliminating the Palestinian issue itself and undermining all the bases of the peace process.

It is a unanimous opinion of analysts that the US "peace initiative", which has been unveiled in such a difficult and complicated situation in the Middle East where upheavals and conflicts persist, is a "Mideast war plan".

By Choe Yong Nam PT

up to be eaten by sea animals and plants. The phenomenon is recognized as a contributory factor to a rapid decrease of planktons which constitute the base of the marine food chain.

In the present century, global warming has accelerated the spread of the stale zones in the oceans, posing a grave threat to the earth.

With their living space shrinking due to the marine desertification, many marine creatures have left their habitats in deep seas to other water areas with more oxygen. This might give rise to fierce battles between marine organisms for occupying the living space.

If such a situation persists, the sea which should serve mankind might become a threat someday.

By Song Jong Ho PT

oxygen is soluble in 1kg of seawater with a temperature of 0°C, but when the temperature rises to 25°C, the soluble amount reduces to 4ml. Consequently, the lack of oxygen in the seawater creates a hell for fishes and sea plants.

Over the past 50 years, such stale areas have continued to extend in the Atlantic and the Pacific near the equator.

The sea temperature rise intensifies the "curtain" phenomenon in different layers, thereby keeping the nutrients in the deep layers from going

and the US marines in Okinawa Prefecture.

These bellicose moves seriously threatening the regional situation show that Japan's intention to become a military power and realize the wild ambition of overseas reinvasion has become ever more undisguised.

By so doing, Japan seeks to increase the actual war capability of the SDF and complete the preparations for overseas reinvasion by taking advantage of the US policy of hegemony.

Recently, Japanese politicians including the prime minister, defence minister and chief Cabinet secretary trumpeted Japan-US alliance as a "firm pillar" playing the "role of cornerstone" while calling for strengthening it and railroaded

the relocation of the US forces' Futenma Airport to Henoko to meet the demand of the US. All these are a revelation of their evil intention.

It is no accident that military experts say the US is trying to use Japan as a shield in containing China in the Asia-Pacific region and Japan is getting wilder in its ambition to improve the combat capability of the SDF through the offensive drills and become a normal state capable of waging war.

If Japan continues to follow the road to military resurgence and overseas reinvasion, obsessed with the old dream of "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere", the island country will get nowhere but complete ruin.

KCNA

its constitution and laws within the framework of international law and opposes unilateral sanctions.

His remarks constitute an official response to the US demand that China and some other countries do not import oil from Venezuela.

Briefly

Russia

Russia condemns EU for lack of independence

Constantin Kosachev, chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the Russian Federation Council, in an article he recently posted on his website, asserted that so long as the EU is under the influence of the US, the former's strength will be used to serve the interests of the latter, not those of Europe, and will be unable to be independent power.

Although the US has already imposed two rounds of sanctions on its European colleagues, the EU continues to obediently follow such a "big brother", he said, adding that the EU does not lack strength, but independence.

Cuba

Cuba will never yield to US sanctions, Bermudez tweets

Cuban President Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez in his Twitter post on Feb 12 denounced the US' sanctions as a hysterical act against the Cuban people who are standing up to imperialism, adding Cuba will never give in to the threat, pressure and sanctions of the US.

Syria

Syrian force seizes strategic highway from rebels

The Syrian government forces, after a weeks-long battle in the country area of Idlib and Aleppo, seized the control over the Damascus-Aleppo highway which is of strategic importance and, on the basis of this, intensified the offensive against the rebel forces.

On Feb 16 alone, the Syrian army recaptured 13 towns and villages in the northwestern part of Aleppo.

US

US slaps additional tariffs on EU planes

The US decided to raise the rate of additional tariffs on airplanes to be imported from the EU from 10 to 15 percent.

The US Office of the Trade Representative said on Feb 14 the measure would come into effect from Mar 18.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe rejects USD to promote national currency

The Zimbabwean reserve bank on Feb 17 said that the current good prospect of economic growth, low inflation and maintenance of financial and monetary orders display a positive sign that would help the country abolish the use of the US dollar in the next five years.

Having slapped a ban on the use of foreign currencies last June, the Zimbabwean government is taking proactive measures to encourage the circulation of the national currency and drive out the US dollar.

JAPAN

What do Japan-US military drills aim?

Japan has frequently staged provocative military drills together with the US recently.

A few days ago, dozens of fighters belonging to its Air Self-Defence Force conducted a joint aerial drill around Japan with fighters of the US Air Force including two B-52 nuclear strategic bombers.

Mainichi Shimbun reported that the largest ever military drill so far published seems to be designed to contain the DPRK and China.

This year has witnessed a

succession of US-Japan joint military exercises on the ground and in the air and sea, including the joint parachuting drill of the Ground SDF and the US troops in Chiba Prefecture, the large-scale combined military exercise of the Ground SDF and the US marines in Hokkaido and other areas, the joint aerial drill involving the transport planes of the US forces' Futenma Airport in Kumamoto Prefecture and the first landing drill of the amphibious corps of the Ground SDF, the Japanese version of the marine corps,

international tension.

The report is an official response to another round of increasing US' sanctions pressure against Russian companies.

Geng Shuang, a spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, at a news conference on the Internet said China holds that the Venezuelan issue is settled peacefully according to

REACTION

Russia, China reject US sanctions

The Russian Foreign Ministry in an official report published on Feb 18 criticized the US for its sanctions policy, saying it destroys freedom of world trade and escalates

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THE PYONGYANG TIMES

FOLKTALE

Legends tell more about Mt Kumgang

Fantastic scenery cures incurable diseases

Once upon a time, three crippled men who were unable to see, hear and walk were living near the Singye Temple in Mt Kumgang.

One day, they resolutely decided to make a sightseeing tour of Mt Kumgang.

The deaf man carried the man with crippled legs on his back and the latter led the blind man holding his hand.

It was a beautiful spring day. Valleys were full of stream murmurs in ravines and birdcalls in forests and every peak was alive with all sorts of flowering plants, so the blind man with hearing ability admired the sound of flowing water and twittering, while the deaf man was delighted to see flowers in full bloom.

The man with crippled legs, who was on the back of the deaf, explained in detail the spectacles that could not be seen by the blind.

It was when they crossed over a pass to the Singye Temple.

The scenery which was unfolded in front of them was really a spectacle.

All surrounding mountains glittered in the colour of diamond and a waterfall rent heaven and earth as if it fell to the ground from the sky, and a bright rainbow formed due to fine sprays of cascading waterfall. Full-blown azalea, royal azalea and lily blossoms



Jipson Peak shrouded in clouds.

swayed by a spring breeze.

At that moment, the deaf man, captivated by this breathtaking beauty, raised a shout of joy as he unconsciously shut his ears with his hands, which made the man with crippled legs who was carried on the back of the deaf man fall to the ground.

The blind man was so impatient that he took a step forward, saying "Let me see too". He saw something like flash before his eyes and his eyes opened.

As he saw the two crippled villagers, who hugged each other for joy that they could now see and hear, the man who could not walk suddenly stood up while asking "Is it true?" which made his crippled legs stretch out straight.

Fairy and young woodman

Ages ago, a young man went to Manmulsang valley to gather firewood. He looked up at a cliff as he took a short rest sitting beside a rock.

A pretty fairy was seen on the

cliff.

Fascinated by her beauty, the woodman made up his mind to mount the cliff at once and declare his love to the fairy.

However, the cliff was so steep that he could never get to the rock where the fairy was sitting.

Much upset by it, he pulled out an axe fixed on his A-frame and began to cut the bottom of the rock.

The axe had only been used to cut down trees, but when the woodman cut the rock with all his energy, the rock started to be broken into pieces while sending out sparks.

Attracted by his manly temperament, the fairy looked at him for a while and then came down to the valley, where the woodman was waiting, wearing her celestial raiment.

"I will not ascend to heaven. I want to live in this beautiful Mt Kumgang with you," the fairy told the young man.

So, it is said that they got married and lived happily for a long time.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

the king who owed the crow his life issued a royal command to cook *yakpap* at the palace and all the houses in the country and feed it to crows.

Since then, *yakpap* became a dish for the folk holiday.

A old history book records the recipe for *yakpap* as follows: "Steamed glutinous rice is mixed with sesame oil, honey and aged soy sauce and then with sliced dates and peeled chestnuts."

Nowadays, it is made in the following way: Steam glutinous rice which was swollen in water for about three hours, season it with sugar and soy sauce, mix it with chestnuts, dates, sesame oil and honey, put the mixture into a pot, put the pot in an oven filled with water to boil it for half an hour and then steam it for 8-24 hours while adjusting fire intensity, place the content of the pot in a bowl and sprinkle it with pine nuts and powdered cinnamon before serving.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

committed adultery with a man and plotted with him to murder the king and usurp the throne.

She hid the man in the *komungo* (a kind of stringed instrument) chest in a separate room and waited for a chance to shoot an arrow at the king. But a crow informed the king of their plot so that he could escape death and execute the queen and her paramour for treason.

That day was *Jongwoldaeborum* or the First Full Moon Day and



CHAE MYONG RIM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Yakpap (sweet rice dish), a national food.

DISH

An oldie but a goodie

Yakpap is one of the traditional dishes of Korea.

Honey, one of the first foods man obtained from nature, has long been used as a medicinal substance for its pharmacological effects, according to Kim Ji Won, section chief at the Folklore Research Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Jong Yak Yong (1762-1836), a representative scholar of the Silhak school, wrote in a book entitled *Aongakpi*: "As honey is a medicine, the liquor brewed with it is called *yakju*, rice boiled with it *yakpap* and cake made with it *yakkwa*."

The history book *Samgukyusa* (History of the Three Kingdoms) traces the origin of *yakpap* in the following story.

During the reign of King Soji of the Silla Kingdom, the queen

TREE

Styphnolobium japonicum on Chongnyu cliff

A *Styphnolobium japonicum* grows on Chongnyu cliff standing beside the Taedong River which flows across Pyongyang.

Standing impossibly surrounded by clear water, the cliff is well known for its scenic beauty and attracts particular attention of people for *Styphnolobium japonicum* which took its roots in a soilless precipice.

This rare tree is stretching its crown towards the river like the ribs of a fan as it takes its roots in a pit of the cliff in the shape of a wedge which is hard to distinguish trunk from root.

According to a keeper, its roots and trunk are entangled with each other to the height of five metres before spreading out several thick branches, and yellowish white flowers burst into blossom from every branch between July and August.

At present, the tree is over ten metres high and about 200 years old.

Chongnyu *Styphnolobium japonicum* with great ornamental value was designated as national living monument No. 3 and is under good protection.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

RELICS

Tomb sheds new light on links between ancient states

The tomb of Hyejong, second king of Koryo dynasty (918-1392) who reigned from May 943 to September 945, was unearthed in Kaesong in October 2019.

It is divided into three sections. The upper section consists of the mound which is 13 metres in diameter and 3 metres high, protective facilities and a monument inscribed with letters "Koryo royal tomb". The middle section is devoted to two sculptures of civil officials each standing on both sides and there is the site of a memorial service hall in the lower section.

The tomb chamber is 4 metres long, 3.4 metres wide and 2.2 metres high, or the largest among those of the Koryo royal tombs that have been found so far.

"The structure of the chamber shows that the recently unearthed tomb is a royal mausoleum. There are a single-tier parallel moulding round the wall just below the ceiling and a monolithic bier in the middle of the chamber flanked by stands for relics. Such a style was adopted only in building royal tombs," said Ryu Chung Song, leader of the archaeological excavation team of the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency.

Excavators unearthed a tombstone inscribed with letters "Koryo royal tomb", celadon cup holder with carvings, antefix tiles with the design of flower petals, fragments of dragon-shaped sculptural ornament at both ends of the roof ridge and other celadon pieces from the early period of Koryo, which were all used in the royal court.

Researchers corroborated that it was the tomb of King Hyejong also by dint of data.



The site of Mausoleum of Hyejong, the second king of Koryo

Historical records tell that the tomb of the king is located outside the Thanhyon Gate of the outer wall of the walled city of Kaesong. As old records show, the tomb was discovered on the mountain ridge on the northern bank of the Songdo reservoir a little away from the outer wall. And the ridge commands the view of the site of the gate.

The DPRK Archaeology Society confirmed that it is his tomb on the basis of detailed deliberation and analysis of its scale, style, location, relics and historical records.

Son Un Il, deputy director of the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency, asserts that the royal tomb is a valuable historical site showing the relations of cultural inheritance between Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668) and Koryo.

The style of the tomb can be found in the three tombs in Kangso and the tomb with murals in Tokhung-ri that are typical tombs from the period of Koguryo.

Researchers believe that in-depth research into the tomb will yield much more evidence proving Koryo's cultural inheritance of Koguryo.

By Jong Chol PT

