

# The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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## Kim Jong Un sends facilities to local hospital

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, sent modern medical

equipment and appliances to the newly built Samjiyon City People's Hospital as gifts.

The medical facilities have provided the hospital with the basic groundwork for preventive and curative

medical care and the operation of the hospital.

A meeting took place at the hospital on Feb 11 to present the gifts to it.

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## Supreme Leader pays homage to late film star

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on Monday sent a wreath to the bier of Labour Hero and People's Actor Choe Chang Su, former head of the movie actors group of the Korean Film Studio, to express his deep condolences over his death.

A top male film star loved by the people, Choe Chang Su was cast in the lead role in many movies including feature film "Wolmi Island" and multi-part feature film "The Nation and Destiny" (Parts of Choe Hyon Dok), greatly contributing to the

development of the country's cinematic art.

The same day, a wreath in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was also laid at the bier of the deceased.

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### ECONOMY

## Industries make steady progress

The Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex has introduced an advanced blasting method.

The new method has enabled the complex to accelerate tunnelling with the existing labour by raising the blasting efficiency and progress per cycle.

The Hamhung Knitwear Factory has also adopted new research findings and contrivances to overfulfil its production plan by over 5 percent every day.

On the basis of experimental analyses of raw and other materials, it has properly solved all the technical problems that

might arise in heat treatment, dyeing, quality control and other processing processes.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill is turning out quality cloths by ensuring full-capacity operation of all looms and, in the course of this, many weavers became labour innovators.

The third stage of the Samjiyon City construction project is progressing apace.

According to an official at the construction headquarters, the project scheduled to be finished by October this year includes the construction of dwelling houses for thousands of families and

public and industrial buildings, more than 750 facilities for various purposes and over 20 major structures including several hotel buildings, laying of power transmission lines spanning hundreds of kilometres, paving of roads extending for dozens of kilometres in a dozen circumjacent districts and farms of the city including Rimyongsu-, Phothae- and Sinmusong-dong. The total workload is some 1.4 times that of the second stage and the number of total buildings to be built amounts to well over a thousand.

The construction units have almost finished the vast demolishing work in the districts and farms and engaged in the production of blocks, crushed stones and Hume concrete pipes. Meanwhile, efforts are also directed to securing heavy machines, parts of vehicles and apparatuses and to making an effective use of locally available materials and by-products of the construction process.

The builders of the Tanchon Power Station are speeding up the construction of units 1 and 5 while putting primary efforts to tunnelling works.



The Musan Mining Complex boosts the production of concentrated iron ore.

KIM JIN MYONG / RODONG SINMUN

### ANTI-EPIDEMIC

## Nation on high alert against COVID-19



Premier Kim Jae Ryong chairs a consultative meeting of the central emergency anti-epidemic headquarters in Pyongyang over the prevention of COVID-19.

Premier Kim Jae Ryong inspected the emergency anti-epidemic headquarters in Pyongyang, South Phyongan Province, North Hwanghae Province and Nampho City.

At the Central Emergency Anti-epidemic Headquarters Kim held a consultative meeting, at which he said every panel should decisively enhance their responsibility and role and guidance and control should be carefully given so that inspection and quarantine are enforced more thoroughly at the border crossing points and anti-epidemic discipline strictly maintained.

After learning in detail about the anti-epidemic work at the emergency anti-epidemic headquarters in South Phyongan Province, North Hwanghae Province and Nampho City on the spots, he said that all officials should bear in mind that it is an important work concerning the state's security and people's lives to prevent the novel coronavirus infection and they should be fully ready to rapidly respond to the need.

An all-people campaign has been undertaken to combat the novel coronavirus infection in the country.

Hygienic information activities have been intensified to raise public awareness of the infection through publications, TV broadcast and large LED display boards, with information being updated continuously including data about the spread of coronavirus in the world and its danger, infection and abnormal symptoms and common medical knowledge about the disease control.

If any slight abnormal symptom like fever is observed, timely measures are taken

against it.

The relevant public health institutions work hard to fully grasp the actual situations of the areas in their charge every day and take prompt measures in close cooperation with government organs at all levels.

And strict discipline and order have been established to make sure that the instructions of the emergency anti-epidemic headquarters are obeyed absolutely.

Constant attention is being paid to the provision of medical supplies like hazmat suits and necessities. Residents are requested to ventilate and disinfect their living rooms frequently and observe the rules of health.

The DPRK Red Cross Society set the disaster control teams of the RCS and its branches in motion, organized training courses for Red Cross volunteers and sent them to relevant areas.

It promotes cooperation with national Red Cross societies in different countries and international organizations in the fight against the epidemic.

The Non-permanent Central Public Health Guidance Committee of the DPRK discussed the issue of prolonging isolation period and strictly putting it in force to thoroughly block the incoming route of novel coronavirus and defend the people's lives and the safety of the state, before submitting it to the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly.

The SPA Presidium has adopted an emergency decision of provisionally extending the period of isolation to 30 days within the territory of the DPRK to prevent the epidemic.

By Pang Un Ju PT

## LEAD

# Kim Jong Il eternal Sun of socialist Korea

One of the miracles worked in the upheavals at the end of the 20th century is the fact that socialism was safeguarded in the DPRK.

The frantic anti-socialist campaign of the imperialists who got more arrogant than ever before was a serious challenge to the cause of socialism in the 1990s when socialism collapsed in different countries in succession.

The imperialists and reactionaries were given to abuses of socialism as they touted the "end" of it.

The fall of socialism in the former Soviet Union, in particular, shook the faith of many people aspiring after socialism, plunging them into a labyrinth of hesitation, vacillation and confusion.

At that juncture, Chairman Kim Jong Il kept the wild wind of history at bay with unshakable faith in the socialist cause and a noble sense of mission.

In his lots of works including *The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party*,

*Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable* and *Socialism Is a Science*, he made an in-depth analysis of the cause of collapse of socialism in different countries and historical lesson and illuminated the orientation and ways for the victorious advance of the socialist cause to deal a heavy blow to the imperialists and the renegades of socialism.

Having clarified the truthfulness of socialism as a science, the Chairman safeguarded peace and security on the Korean peninsula by dint of his unique Songun-based politics.

The world hailed this politics of the DPRK as a new and original political mode accurately reflecting the prevailing situation and praised the Chairman, who defended the country, revolution and socialism and won victory after victory in the anti-imperialist and anti-US showdown by dint of Songun politics, as a strategist who brought the enemies to their knees without fight.

Songun politics not only

safeguarded the country and revolution but laid solid foundations for the victorious advance of socialism.

The Korean People's Army built a great number of structures of lasting value as it made a breakthrough in socialist economic construction under the slogan of "Let us take upon ourselves both national defence and socialist construction!"

The fighting spirit and morale of the KPA service personnel who braved all hardships and trials became the ethos of the whole society to uninterruptedly create the miracles of turning adversity into favourable conditions, and they serve as an invaluable asset in today's struggle for building a powerful socialist country.

At present the DPRK's strength has grown remarkably and it enjoys unprecedentedly immense international prestige, and the Chairman lives on in the hearts of the Korean people as the eternal Sun of socialist Korea.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

## Nationwide

### Workers call for emulation drive

Employees of the oxygen blast furnace workshop of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex sent a letter to the counterpart of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex to suggest an emulation drive for increased production.

The letter proposed that both complexes operating oxygen blast furnaces sound the loud drumbeat of increased production of Juche iron and that both workshops take the lead this year to contribute to making innovations in the metallurgical industry.

### Weavers dream of becoming heroines

There are two weavers at the Sariwon Textile Mill, who are dreaming of becoming heroines.

In their early twenties, Kim Yong Sim and Ri Ju Hyang carried out two or three years' workloads every year and hit the production targets for last January earlier than planned.

They are looking after scores of looms, emulating their workshop leader Ri Ok Son who became a Labour Hero at the age of 24.

They are trying hard to learn after not only the workmanship but also the spiritual world of their role model.

### Sci-Tech Complex lures 200m online visitors



Since its inauguration on Jan 1 2016, millions of people have visited the Sci-Tech Complex and well over 200 million used its website in total.

In January this year alone, a total of over 123 000 people visited the complex and 1.07 million accessed its website to read more than 5. 87 million pieces of information.

### Greenhouse veg yield up at North Hwanghae province farms

Rural communities in North Hwanghae Province have increased greenhouse vegetable production 1.2 times as compared to the same period of last year.

The farms in Yonthan County have markedly boosted the output of greenhouse vegetables including cabbage, spinach and crown daisy as against the same period of last year and positively introduced hydroponic cultivation.

The rural communities in Sariwon and Songnim cities renovated and constructed vegetable greenhouses and spread a large quantity of

organic fertilizers on plots to produce dozens of tons of vegetables in the first month of the new year.

Junghwa, Sangwon and Sohung counties applied growth promoters to suit the leaf and fruit vegetables to turn out a great deal of greenhouse veg.

### New varieties of greenhouse cucumber developed

Scientists of the Pyongyang Vegetable Science Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science unveiled after over a decade-long efforts a new variety of greenhouse cucumber which bears fruit well both in low and high temperatures and is highly productive. And all of its fruits are said to be uniform in shape.

The introduction of it into several local areas shows that the picking period is long and the number of fruits per plant is large, resulting in a 15-20 percent increase in yield.

### Cement giant registers record-high output



The Sangwon Cement Complex in North Hwanghae Province overfulfilled its

## FEST

# Ice sculpture festival marks Day of Shining Star

Ice Sculpture Festival-2020 in Celebration of the Day of the Shining Star (Feb 16) recently opened at the ice sculpture festival and music festival hall in Samjiyon City.

Ice sculptures on various



themes show the vibrant looks of the DPRK that is dynamically advancing in the face of a multitude of difficulties.

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KIM KWANG RIM / RODONG SINMUN  
Ice sculpture festival-2020 is held in Samjiyon City in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star, birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.



A medical worker at the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital checks residents as part of preventive measures against the novel coronavirus infection.

production target for January by 12 000 tons, renewing its monthly production record.

### Factory increases output through recycling

The Kusong Machine Tool Factory in North Phyongan Province bolstered up production 1.7 times as compared to five years ago without increasing the consumption of materials.

It recycles the machine tools whose serviceable life was already terminated.

### Waterways cleared up

Farmers across the country are pressing on with the cleaning of waterways.

According to information available, waterways extending for over 17 000 kilometres have been cleansed nationwide.

### Salt production based on ion-exchange membrane

The Kwangmyongsong Salt Works in South Hamgyong Province set up a new salt production process on Feb 12.

Researchers of the Hamhung Branch of the State Academy of Sciences completed a new technology of manufacturing ion-exchange membrane for seawater concentration and the production process and established an integrated manufacturing system at the salt works.

### Tideland reclamation projects pushed ahead

According to information available, hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of earth have been removed and over 100 000 cubic metres of stone covering over dykes have been carried out at tideland reclamation sites across the country this year.

The general tideland reclamation enterprises of North and South Phyongan and South Hwanghae provinces carried out huge blasting, tunnelling and embankment for tideland reclamation at respective areas.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## STEELMAKING

# Measures taken to increase iron and steel production

Iron and steel producers have taken realistic measures to boost production.

The Kim Chaek and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes and the Posan Iron Works are working to introduce scientific furnace operating methods to meet different raw material conditions and increase the number of workdays of furnaces. In particular, the Posan Iron Works has recently automated the material supply system to lower the per-unit consumption of materials per ton of products and raise their grades.

An undertaking is also underway to expand production

capacity and turn production processes into energy-saving ones.

Several units are pressing on with capacity-expansion projects for the construction of oxygen plants after building energy-saving oxygen blast furnaces.

At present, the laying of groundwork for building an oxygen plant and oxygen blast furnace is progressing at a fast pace at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex. Having worked out a detailed plan for the construction of oxygen blast furnace, the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex is supplying equipment and materials on

a preferential basis while giving priority to technical arrangement.

Big efforts are being channelled into putting iron ore and refractory production on normal track.

The Kumpho Mine and other iron ore producers work to normalize production by restoring a submerged pit and securing an open-air stope. Refractory producers also strive to refashion production processes into energy-saving ones and set up a rational electric-power system while turning out high-grade refractory.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

## PAPERMAKING

# Reed-based papermaking process established

Researchers of the Paper Engineering Institute of the State Academy of Sciences and the Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Mill have established a process of making paper from reed.

They increased the tensile and surface strength by selecting auxiliary additives to suit the property of reed pulp whose fibre length is short.

Paper made with reed pulp is superior in quality characteristic indexes like smoothness,

whiteness and surface strength and the quality of its prints is also very high.

Reed is produced in Sindo County, called Pidan (silk) Island, of North Phyongan Province.

Last year the county produced 10 tons of reed per hectare in thousands of hectares of reed cultivation fields, 18 tons at maximum.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Mill in 2018 and stressed

the need to boost the paper industry by relying on locally available raw materials and resources for the sufficient supply of the paper needed for the production of textbooks, reference books and notebooks for students. He also said that a modern paper production process should be established with reed as the raw material by activating the reed production on Pidan Island.

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## LAVER

# A variety of processed laver produced, demand growing

"February is the month of taking measures for improving the quality of products. In the month we are making special efforts to improve the quality of processed laver products including roasted and flavoured lavers," said Choe Mi Ok, manager of the Pyongyang

Taegyong Laver-processing Factory.

The demand for processed laver is now on the rise and therefore the factory is increasing its variety, she added.

The roasted laver is a product made by seasoning famous Ongjin laver sheets. It can be

used in making rice rolls without processing and eaten as a snack. It is also used as dry food on business trip or for picnic.

"Laver is prone to moisture. Therefore, we developed and put into the laver package a natural damp-proof agent made of shells," said Kim Yong Hyok, chief of the technical preparation room.

The flavoured laver is a mixture of roasted or sliced laver with various lyophilized vegetables and meat, spices and flavourings.

The lyophilized products are said to keep fresh taste as they readily return to their original shapes at certain temperatures and seldom change in colour and their nutritive substances are hardly destroyed.

The toothsome flavoured laver is eaten by mixing it with hot rice or soup.

According to the materials added to the laver, it has the



RYANG KUM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Processed laver products made by the Pyongyang Taegyong Laver-processing Factory.

## FARMING

# Organic farming the secret of high yield

The Migok Cooperative Farm in Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province, is known as a high-yielding unit in the DPRK.

Last year, too, the farm produced an average of 11.3 tons of rice per hectare, exceeding the peak-year level.

"However barren the land may be, diligence and devotion bring about a good crop," said Song Yun Hui, chairwoman of the farm management board, as to the key to success.

According to chief engineer Kim Song Ryong, 600-800 kilograms of organic matters in soil are consumed when a hectare of land yields over 10 tons of paddy rice in a year and, therefore, in order to replenish them 20 tons of good quality organic fertilizer should be applied. He said that the farm planned to spread 40 tons of organic fertilizer per hectare to all paddy and non-paddy fields this year and carried out the plan as of mid-February.

To make the organic fertilizer



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Farmers transport compost to the fields at the Migok Cooperative Farm in Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province.

tastes of shrimp, crab, pepper and the like.

"Seasoning sauce is essential in making flavoured laver. It is important to preserve the original flavour of laver while making sweet, salty and savoury tastes blend well," said Ko Un Yong at the technical preparation room.

Having set up a concentrated seasoning sauce process, the factory uses liquefied farina that is abundant in the country and extracts seasoning substances from the by-products of fish processing and yeast extracts.

"A great deal of roasted sesame seeds are required for making the flavoured laver powder, but their husks are difficult to digest. So we manufactured a husking machine to remove their husks and increase digestibility," said Ko.

The flavoured laver powder is well liked by the elderly and children.

Besides, the factory produces the hard-boiled laver, laver paste, salt-cured kelp, fish soy sauce and various pickles.

By Kim Il Jin PT

# Riverwater tested for epidemic control

The quality of water of the main rivers have been tested in the DPRK as part of its efforts to prevent the novel coronavirus infection.

According to information available from the Central Emergency Anti-epidemic Headquarters on Feb 9, the water of the Amnok, Tuman and Taedong rivers did not exceed the state environment protection standards in pH, the degree of oxidation, dissolved oxygen concentration, and the amount of suspended solids and ammoniacal nitrogen.

The test was conducted by the land and environment protection management bureaus of Pyongyang and provinces through which the rivers wind.

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## EDUCATION

# Sci-tech learning space spurs technical innovation



Employees of the Ryongaksan Liquid Soap Factory acquire knowledge at the sci-tech learning space.

The model sci-tech learning space movement is briskly being conducted across the country.

The validity and vitality of the movement are evidenced by the achievements many units have made in boosting production by directing efforts to the diffusion of scientific and technological knowledge for preparing working employees as intelligent workers.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex has run its sci-tech learning space on a regular basis with hundreds of thousands of pieces of data and the February 8 Vinalon Complex has solved sci-tech problems arising in production by diffusing sci-tech knowledge among employees.

The Hungnyong and Kangdong coal mines under the Kangdong Area Coal-mining Complex encourage employees to be prepared as intelligent workers through online courses of different universities and play a pivotal role in production.

The Sopho and Hadang chicken farms also run their sci-tech learning spaces on a regular basis as it helps them markedly reduce feed consumption per unit in the production of meat

and eggs.

The Hamhung Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory and the Rangnang Unha Garment Factory have fired employees with the zeal for the study of science and technology while applying valuable technical findings to production in an efficient way.

The Daesong Department Store and Mansugyo Soft Drinks have widely introduced advanced science and technology into business and service activities, while the Ryugyong Kimchi Factory has developed various new products like sweet kimchi and hot kimchi by applying latest sci-tech findings, thereby winning growing popularity.

Nampho Port also positively spreads sci-tech knowledge among employees in order to increase the proportion of work done by machines in harbour. Workers of different other units make the most of advanced knowledge they acquired at sci-tech learning spaces to contribute to fulfilling their national economic plans.

By Ri Sang Il PT

## PATENT

# Water processing technology wins local patent

According to research information, the cause of all human diseases and their prevention are closely related to water.

In the past, the quality evaluation of water largely depended on mineral matters in water.

"Today, it can't be a correct appraisal of water's role in rating water quality according to its mineral contents (such five nutritive elements as protein, carbohydrate, fat, mineral and vitamin)," said Pak Kwang Il, section chief of the basic energy institute of the University of

Sciences.

It is said that even clean water cannot play its substantial role in human body if it is stagnant for a certain period of time.

At present, the activity evaluation based on the hydrogen combination of water molecule has been added to the world's water evaluating standards (pH, taste, smell and mineral content in water), Pak said.

Now researchers aim to develop "activated water".

Previously, the activation process of water was only considered as a course in which the degree of association

## GARMENT

# Fashionable clothes tailored to satisfy customers

The Ponghwa garment research and dissemination office is located on Kyonghung Street in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang.

It is well known among locals and foreigners as well as overseas compatriots.

"We've researched and diffused new types of garments that meet the likings and aesthetic tastes of people. We mainly offer order service of suits and customers are on the increase year after year," said Jon Un Sil, chief of the office.

According to cutter So Un Byol, they tailor-make suits manually.

Especially, they put much effort to the development of techniques for processing laborious stout-sized clothes.

In the course of this, they contrived and introduced back collar modifying and woollen pad processing and other methods into tailoring men's stout-sized jackets.

"What is most difficult in tailoring men's stout-sized suit is to process the back collar of close-buttoned jacket and if this part is not elaborately processed, the collar gets wrinkled," said

needle worker Choe Un Byol.

The back collar modifying method for processing men's stout-sized jacket was registered as a national invention last year.

Recently, the tailors made various types of women's suits.

Among them is a women's suit with collarless neck executed with the cloth bearing white and black pattern decorations to give freshness and with the white dart around the pocket having

symmetry with the white breast dart designed to stretch down to waist to give an additional charm.

Suits with zipper instead of buttons and two-line silk satin decorations in place of collar and others are also popular.

Last year, the office's garment production process was awarded a quality management system certification.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



A consultative meeting is held to design new fashions at the Ponghwa garment research and dissemination office.

## ORGANIC FERTILIZER

# Humate production process set up

Lecturers and researchers of Sariwon University of Technology in North Hwanghae Province have recently established a humate production process with an annual capacity of 1 000 tons at the Sariwon Organic Compound Fertilizer Factory.

"We've set up a process for the production of humate by applying strong alkali to peat, air oxidation humic acid, lignite and its muck and mouldy

coal," said chief designer Jon Hyok, associate professor and lecturer at the mechanical engineering department of the university.

It is said that the spraying of humate on seeds and crop leaves promotes germination and root growth, and thus increases crop yield.

Humic acid reportedly improves the resistance of crops against low and high temperatures, drought, damage

from moisture and unfavourable biological conditions with low percentage of sunshine.

According to Jon Hyok, the establishment of the process in the Sariwon Coal Mine helps save over 50 percent of manpower and increase productivity more than six times and the introduction of humate helps produce much more cereals in the country.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

of water molecule plays an important role in the aging of water and proved that the activity evaluation typifying the activated water is decided by the ratio between external hydrogen combination and internal hydrogen combination of water cluster.

In the course of this, they found out the stable combination structure of activated water cluster and developed a new activated water generating device.

"We did not apply an electrochemical method, but a dynamic method based on water-spout existing only in nature to activating and converting water into smaller one, thereby maintaining the proper characteristics of water and ensuring the activity as natural as the water of falls. We also thoroughly calculated the

energy needed for maintaining the activity of water for a long time," said Paek Myong Guk, one of the developers.

The newly developed smaller molecule activated water is multi-functional and very durable in terms of its function and effect as compared to the previously-developed activated ones and its nature does not change in organic bodies.

It reportedly promotes the circulation of metabolism as it has strong antioxidant ability, improves digestion and absorption, removes unnecessary fat and waste materials, prevents vascular diseases and enhances self-immunocompetence.

This water won a national patent and its generating device was registered as a national high-tech product.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

## MEMOIR

# He was a son of common people, writer recalls

I have a fond childhood memory that I get more eager to recall whenever I greet the Day of the Shining Star.

The memory which I cannot express as otherwise than lucky begins in Pyongyang Primary School No. 4 in 1954.

At that time, I studied on the same desk with young Kim Jong Il and this fortune continued in the middle school days.

Located in current Sochang-dong, Central District of Pyongyang, the school was an ordinary one which pupils living around it attended.

Kim Jong Il always studied with us in common yet plain attire and even cleaned the classroom or was on duty like others to make a fire in the stove.

It happened one middle school day.

That day we did the work of breaking up the soil of a practice field and the teacher did not give him a hoe as she organized the work out of a thought that she

could not allow him to do such hard work.

But he ran to his home and came back with a hoe, and worked hard.

Nobody knew that he had such a worn-out hoe and he would do hoeing work so well.

As was known later, the hoe was offered to his mother by his great-grandfather in Mangyongdae and it was permeated with her sweat.

That day, he wrote a diary that he was not a "special being" and, therefore, he was displeased with his teacher's "unprincipled treatment". He added that labour is a sacred one conducive to creating enormous wealth for humankind and it helps deepen understanding with each other, firmly unite the collective and develop fresh consciousness in it.

Although we could not fully understand his mind, the teacher and all the classmates including me came to keenly realize something great about him.

As I look back upon the past days despite advanced age, the lifetime of Kim Jong Il I had witnessed and experienced was really the same with that of the sons of common people, which was manifested in his schooldays through a hoe.

Chairman Kim Jong Il went on his journey for the people's well-being while undergoing hardships more than any other and devoted his all to the prosperity of the country and people.

Today's DPRK and future of socialism which will be more prosperous are guaranteed by the self-sacrificing lifetime of him who found himself on a train for field guidance until the last of his life.

Indeed, I can proudly say that it is the fortune of all the Koreans to hold him as their great leader.

**Paek Hyon U, writer of the Central Committee of the Writers Union of Korea**

Field 1.0, a sci-tech data order service system, to the homepage.

The Task Field 1.0 satisfies the needs of customers through consultation between consumers and those who possess relevant information.

"Our institute compiles various e-publications, and dictionaries are most popular among them," said Yu Min Chol, section chief of the institute.

Large sci-tech dictionary Kwangmyong 3.0 is winning favour with scientists and technicians as it contains explanations of major technical terms, multimedia presentations, data on nature and geography, panoramic view of habitats of animals and plants, common scientific knowledge, scientific chronological table, world-famous scientists and anecdotes about them.

"Now we are pushing at the final stage the compilation of Kwangmyong 4.0, which contains 110 000 more terms," said researcher Kong Il Yong.

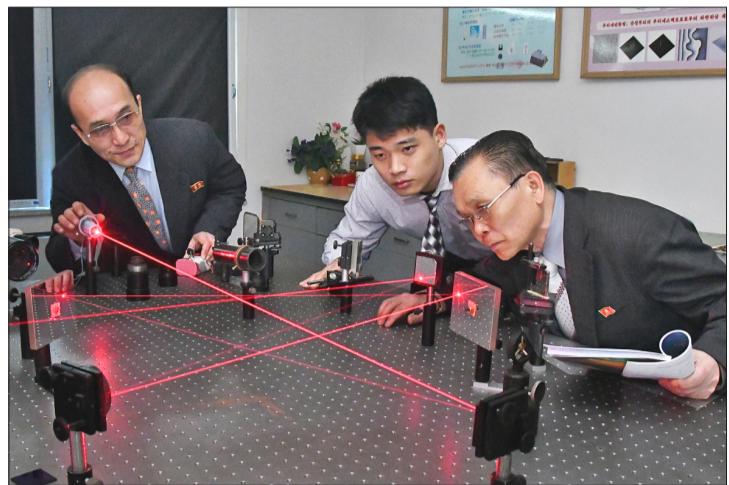
Other standouts are Piyak 4.0, a large Korean-English-Chinese dictionary of scientific and technical terms and E-encyclopaedia for Household dealing with the commonsense in family life.

The institute has been chosen as the best IT enterprise four times since 2016 and its various products were registered as the best IT products. It is a unit with software development quality certification.

**By Yun Ki Song PT**

## UNIVERSITY

# Distinguishing themselves in physics circles



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Researchers of the photoelectron research institute of the Physics Faculty of Kim Il Sung University study the properties of the surface of objects by applying laser beam.

The faculty of physics of Kim Il Sung University has extraordinary abilities, drawing the attention of the world's academic circles of physics.

Boasting over 70-year history along with the establishment of Kim Il Sung University, it has solid foundations and traditions of education and scientific research.

In the 2000s, it has made remarkable progress, demonstrating its existence at home and abroad.

A unit which is switching over to a research-oriented educational faculty, it is staffed with excellent lecturers and researchers in their 20s-30s and teaches the students who have flaunted their superior scholarly performances, including the graduates of middle school No. 1 in each province. They devote themselves to carrying out priority research tasks of great national and global significance.

Pak Hak Chol, candidate academician, Prof and PhD, and several other lecturers in the faculty also perform their duties in the State Commission of Science and Technology, the State Commission for Conferment of Academic Degrees and Titles and the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

Kang Jin U and Jong Kwang Chol are members of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics, an affiliated organ of UNESCO, while Im Song Jin is active as an academic examiner of OSA, IEEE, and Germany's Springer-Nature publishing house. Several other lecturers graduated from International School for Advanced Study

in Italy, a prestigious institution recognized by the world's physical circles, with top honours and received doctorates.

"Young research students from the DPRK are all brilliant scholars. They are excellent enough to be admitted at our

school before any research institutes of other countries," said Alessandro Treves, professor of International School for Advanced Study.

The achievements made by the lecturers and researchers of the faculty in the cutting-edge science research field, especially particle cosmology, quantum optics, nonlinear optics, theory of high-temperature superconductivity and computational biophysics, have been published in the scientific journal of Nature of Britain and SCI-class international science magazine to create sensations.

For example, the Springer publishing house which is known as the world's most authoritative institution specializing in the publication of the booklets in the high-tech field, brought out a booklet about the research findings on modern nonlinear nano-optics in the name of Im Song Jin. The paper of Jong Kwang Hyok, who gave an answer for the first time to the effect of solvents like water on the outbreak and progress of dementia by applying the methods used in condensed matter physics to the research of dementia, astonished the director of International Centre for Theoretical Physics and members of the doctoral thesis deliberation committee of International School for Advanced Study.

At present, the faculty gives lectures on 120-odd subjects by relying on four departments and over 20 sections with theoretical physics, photoelectron, condensed state physics, applied physics and acoustics research institutes as the main axis.

Its ambitious goal to flex its muscles as the world's first-rate research-oriented educational unit is being translated into reality by young and competent lecturers and researchers day after day.

**By Kim Rye Yong PT**

## IT

# Institute finds niches in IT service

It has been nearly 20 years since the establishment of the Kwangmyong homepage and it is winning growing popularity as the days go by.

It is run by the Kwangmyong IT Institute under the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology.

According to director Jin Kyong Chol of the institute, the homepage has hundreds of millions of sci-tech data in various fields including basic and applied sciences, bio-engineering and medical science in different languages.

Among them, netizens' favourite information is up-to-date domestic and foreign sci-tech data which are promptly

analysed and posted on the homepage.

The data about economic situations, tendency and development at home and abroad, sci-tech data in this field, and news about basic core technologies and advanced science are systematized in a plain and comprehensive way along with the practical matters arising in their introduction.

"When we face knotty problems in reenergizing business or production, we visit the Kwangmyong," said Kim Yong Chol, deputy general manager of the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex.

Recently, the institute developed and applied Task



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Researchers are engaged in developing new IT products at the Kwangmyong IT Institute of the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology.

## RECREATION

# Ice rink adds spice to winter leisure activities

The People's Open-air Ice Rink with a roof in the shape of a wave on the banks of the Taedong River is a favourite haunt of Pyongyang citizens.

"Winter vacation ended at schools, but the number of visitors never dwindles," said Ri Kwang Ok, a service office staffer of the ice rink.

The customers wear skates, enter the 1 800-square-metre ice rink and begin to perform stunts to the tune of music.

"Standing on the spacious ice, I feel as if I have taken part in

a figure skating competition," said Song Yun Jong, a student at Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

According to her, she began to learn figure skating at the diffusion centre of the ice rink a year ago as she was so envious of figure skaters making graceful rhythmic movements on the ice.

The pretty and shapely woman performed ice dance movements nicely and freely in time with lyric music pieces, drawing the admiration of the viewers.



SONG YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A family enjoys skating at the People's Open-air Ice Rink in Pyongyang.

## PHOTO SHOP

# Company improves service to draw customers

The Tongmun Photographic Technology Company is counted among the most popular photo studios in Pyongyang.

It provides a wide range of service from taking characteristic photos to making frames, printing large photos, repairing and selling cameras and disseminating photographic techniques.

In the rooms whose walls are decorated distinctively to reproduce different backgrounds, clients can have photos taken with various

effects produced by dozens of backdrops and props to simulate seasons and traditional and ultramodern surroundings.

Especially, the children's photographing room can turn into a "playground", "study room", "piano practice room" or even the "Masikryong Ski Resort".

Many people visited the company on *Jongwoldaeborum* or the First Full Moon Day which fell on Feb 8 this year.

"Of course there are photo studios near my place but I



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A family examines a picture after posing at the Tongmun Photographic Technology Company in Pyongyang.

Ri Hyon U, a student at central financial accounting school, visits it so frequently that he is called a regular customer. Today he came to the ice rink again with his friends, saying he is full of hope for life and optimism whenever he visits it and gliding on the ice on skate gives him a thrill that he cannot feel in other sports.

All the visitors are full to the brim with great excitement and pleasure: girls wearing figure skates deftly skate on the ice, young people skate in an attractive pattern performing spins, jumps and other stunts and learners skate pleasantly with the help of specially-designed apparatuses.

Among the visitors are also seen middle-aged women who practise skating with the help of instructors and old people who skate in a comfortable position.

"I feel ten years younger to skate at my age at the ice rink overlooking the beautiful scenery of the Taedong river banks with visitors enjoying skating," said Kim In Son, an old man living in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang.

By Pang Un Ju PT

think none of them is as good as this company," said Kim Jin Hyok from Moranbong District. "I had a very nice photo taken here with my family on lunar New Year's Day against the backdrop of snow-clad trees. Today is the First Full Moon Day, so I've come to have another photo taken against the backdrop of a Korean-style house with a full moon in the night sky."

"The customers have become stricter and more varied in their orders," said photographer Kim Song Il.

The company's thick opinion book is full of compliments on its good service.

"Having visited many photo studios as I prepared for my wedding, I chose this company as I was attracted by the kindness of the service workers," a bridegroom wrote in the book. "The photos are flawless and I can feel that they tried hard to satisfy the choosy bride. I will cherish the memory of the excellent service here along with my wedding photos."

"We started as a small photo shop decades ago, and now it has developed into a much-liked photographic technology company," said director Ko Kum Il, ascribing their success to their devotion to the people and painstaking quest for novel ideas.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

## TEASHOP

# Tea lovers increasingly relish local species



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Two young women drink tea with relish at the Unjong Teahouse in Pyongyang.

The Unjong Teahouse on Changjon Street, Pyongyang, is not only a comprehensive service base but also a hub of tea culture dissemination.

"Our teahouse serves green, black, Tieguanyin, barley and corn silk teas, and many tea drinkers visit here," said manager Kim Mi Yong.

According to her, Unjong tea helps prevent senile arteriosclerosis, hypertension and cardiomegaly and ensure the smooth activity of the heart as it contains a plenty of caffeine, tannin, vitamin C and other vitamins.

It is winning growing popularity for its remarkable fatigue-relieving, poison-neutralizing, anti-cancer and age-retarding effects.

"I often come here to have tea, and tea makes me feel refreshed and arouses national sentiment at the same time," said Choe Hak Min living in Kyongnim-dong, Central District, Pyongyang.

Korea boasts a time-honoured history of tea culture.

Already in the period of the Three Kingdoms—Koguryo,

Paekje and Silla—tea trees were cultivated and spread in the southern area, and *Samguksagi* (Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms) and other historical records say that tea culture permeated the Korean people's life, and a scene of drinking tea can be seen also in Koguryo tomb murals.

In the course of drinking tea for a long period of time, people came to believe that the quality of a tea is determined by the quality of tea leaves and water as well as teacup appropriate to them and, therefore, these three factors constitute the criteria for good tea.

Drinking tea slowly while relishing its taste and fragrance and appreciating the teacup has become an aspect of cultural life.

In the DPRK, tea leaves are produced in large quantities in Kangryong County of South Hwanghae Province and Kosong County of Kangwon Province.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



JANG KYONG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Students look at exhibits at the 35th Festival of Science and Technology held by Pyongyang University of Transport. The event displayed more than 180 research findings. It was held in the form of presentation and exhibition, divided into panels of management, economy, machinery, electricity, construction, IT and pedagogy.

Another event of the same kind was sponsored by Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering.

## CHINA

# President Xi stresses fight against COVID-19 at party meeting

The Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China met on Feb 12.

President Xi Jinping, who is also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, told the meeting that positive changes and achievements have been made in the situation of the epidemic and infectious

disease control after painstaking efforts as he referred to the all-out anti-epidemic campaign the government has led by focusing on the personal safety and health of the public since the outbreak of the contagious pneumonia caused by COVID-19 infection.

Party committees at all levels and the government should intensify specific

guidance and take proper measures in all regions while planning and organizing all work in detail and efficiently to win the fight against the epidemic.

The meeting discussed such issues as of ensuring the supply of medical materials and enhancing the creativity of the businesses which produce masks and hazmat

suits for medical purposes while providing materials which are insufficient in a uniform way and meeting the needs in the priority areas preferentially, of properly ensuring the production and supply of daily necessities and carefully organizing the production, circulation and supply of main and subsidiary foods, of ensuring enough supply of farming materials including seeds and chemical fertilizer and implementing measures for manuring and cultivation of crops in spring and spring sowing in all places.

KCNA

concentrated iron ore and handicrafts.

Especially, the discovery of new oil fields in the country's southwest and Khuzestan has cemented Iran's status as a world oil producer.

President Hassan Rouhani called on all the Iranian people to stand against the imperialists' economic sanctions in firm unity, saying that national unity is the key solution to all the problems and that the sanctions and pressure moves of the imperialists are doomed to failure for the spirit of resistance and assiduity of the Iranians.

Iran's efforts to safeguard national sovereignty are winning support from many countries.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

is intolerable for the Japanese government to turn black into white by insisting that the islands belonging to other countries are Japan's.

Its circulation of the false territorial claim cannot be seen merely as being motivated by its wrong approach to the historical issue. The seriousness of the situation lies in that such a move might spark territorial conflicts with the countries in Northeast Asia and plunge the region into the calamity of war.

All countries of the world, as well as Asian nations that were invaded by Japan in the past, will have to sharpen vigilance against its territorial ambition.

By Song Jong Ho PT

activities against neighbouring countries by deploying its offensive forces in outer space under the veil of "defence".

It is illogical that Japan's military satellite will only spy out the DPRK in outer space.

UPI reported that the satellite is believed to collect information about the surface of the earth with the help of high-performance optical instrument.

Japan's bid for spy satellites draws the wariness of neighbouring countries.

By Om Ryong PT

## Briefly

## Russia

## FM denounces US' embargo against Cuba

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in the interview with Cuba's Prensa Latina on Feb 5 said that all new sanctions the US imposes against Cuba are the revelation of inability of the US administration which failed to force its attitude and values upon the Cuban people.

## China

## US urged to outgrow cold-war mentality

Recently, the US State Secretary in a meeting of the National Association of Governors and Managers called on local governments to be deliberate in cooperation with China as he referred to the Sino-US rivalry. In this regard, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang in a regular online interview on Feb 11 said the US top diplomat's remark is neglectful of the history and reality and full of the Cold-War thinking and political prejudice.

## Cuba

## FM decries US embargo

The Cuban foreign minister, in an article posted on his Twitter account on Feb 6, said the US has adopted sanctions nearly every week against Cuba to stifle its economy, adding such a hostile and aggressive policy does every harm to the Cuban people.

## Iran

## Islamic revolution anniv marked

A mass rally and demonstrations were held in Iran on Feb 11 to celebrate the 41st anniversary of the victory in the Islamic revolution.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in a congratulatory address said that Iran overcame many difficulties caused by the US' sanctions, adding its government, people and armed forces will resolutely stand up to US pressure.

## Japan

## Abe regime dubbed as fascist

The chairman of the parliamentary measure committee of the national democratic party of Japan in a recent meeting of opposition parties branded Abe as a fascist who takes no account of the law, budget, system and parliament.

Koga, former chief secretary of the Liberal Democratic Party, opposed the Abe regime's bid to revise the constitution, saying there is no need to specify the Self-Defence Forces in Article 9 and it would make trouble in the future.

## IRAN

# Firmly defending national sovereignty

**O**n February 11 1979, the Iranian people toppled the Pahlavi dictatorial regime under the guidance of Ayatollah Imam Khomeini and won victory in the Islamic revolution.

Over the past decades since the victorious revolution, Iran has made a vigorous advance along the road they chose under the ideal of independence, freedom and Islamic republic.

In the course of this, the country has achieved remarkable

socio-economic progress while increasing its influence in the international arena as well as in the Middle East.

It now makes positive efforts to defend national sovereignty in all domains of politics, economy, military and culture.

In particular, its defence capability is great enough to fully guarantee its sovereignty.

Last year alone, the country ensured the domestic production of advanced weapon systems.

Iran has taken a tough stance

against foreign aggression.

This is evidenced by the exhibition of the wreckage of the US and British drones that were downed last year and the arrest of an American spy.

Iran has also made significant economic achievements in the face of hostile forces' sanctions and pressure. Last year, the country increased its industrial output, while stepping up power generation and maritime transport and greatly boosting the volume of exports including

## JAPAN

# Scheme behind territorial claims

**T**he Japanese foreign minister reportedly claimed that "Takeshima (Tok Islets) is an island peculiar to the Japanese territory in view of both historical facts and international law" as he recently addressed the Japanese diet.

Though such a remark is often uttered by Japanese politicians, it is not a matter to be overlooked as it was made by the top diplomat of a country.

Tok Islets are an inalienable part of the Korean territory.

Evidence proving this has so far been discovered in

abundance, even in Japan, exposing the unreasonableness of Japan's claim to the island.

However, the Japanese are obstinately denying it as they seek recourse to agitprop in a bid to justify their dominium.

This is illustrated by the recently inaugurated "territorial sovereignty exhibition hall".

On the day when the Japanese foreign minister made a claim to Korea's Tok Islets, the Japanese government held the opening ceremony of the hall which was expanded seven times larger than previously.

The Japanese authorities claim the hall keeps evidence

"proving" that not only Korea's Tok Islets but also China's Diaoyu Island and Russia's southern Kuril Islands belong to Japan.

Through the hall, they are going to advertise that these islands belong to their territory in a bid to inculcate in the minds of the local people the distorted view of history and brainwash them with ultra-nationalism so as to repeat the past history of massacre and other crimes.

Any false assertion made by a pseudo-scholar or a venal historian about history cannot be overlooked. Moreover, it

space.

In a meeting of senior officers of the Self-Defence Forces held at the defence ministry in September last year, Abe expressed his willingness to concentrate efforts on defence upbuilding in such new domains as outer space, cyber and electromagnetic wave as he referred to the establishment of space operation corps for space surveillance in the Air Self-Defence Force in 2020.

A defeated nation and war criminal state, Japan is now working to conduct espionage

# Bid for spy satellite elicits wariness

**A**ccording to a foreign news report, Japan has launched a state-of-the-art military satellite by investing US\$274 million in its development.

Russian newspaper *Rossiskaya Gazeta* said that a new kind of spy satellite Optical 7, which Japan had scheduled to put into space in late January, is equipped with a high-resolution

camera capable of taking photos of the earth surface even in unfavourable weather conditions and at night and its basic mission is to collect the espionage data related to the DPRK.

Japan's move to develop the spy satellite is very dangerous as it has been timed to coincide with its ever-pronounced attempt to militarize outer

activities against neighbouring countries by deploying its offensive forces in outer space under the veil of "defence".

It is illogical that Japan's military satellite will only spy out the DPRK in outer space.

UPI reported that the satellite is believed to collect information about the surface of the earth with the help of high-performance optical instrument.

Japan's bid for spy satellites draws the wariness of neighbouring countries.

By Om Ryong PT

## FOLKTALE

# Legends tell more about Mt Kumgang

Located in the middle part of the east coast of Korea, Mt Kumgang blessed with beautiful scenery is associated with many legends. Below are some of them:

## Leading happy married life through

Once upon a time, there was an ill-matched couple in a cosy little village where over ten farming families resided at the sunny foot of a hill behind Chongsokjung. The couple would find fault with each other and go on with their quarrels. They failed to make peace with each other and finally decided to divorce.

They separately packed up and left their house to mount the hill of Chongsokjung. At that moment, a sound as loud as the cracking of an ice block was made and an angry voice calling "Stop!" was heard all of a sudden. When they turned back with a surprised look, they could see two rocks standing in anger.

Each rock standing opposite to the wife and her husband asked them respectively, "What about living with me from now on, given that you are on bad terms with each other?"

They promised to tie the knot before returning to a thatched house.

That night the two couples started to live together. When they woke up in the morning, their spouses were former husband and wife. It is said that the couple who had been at odds lived happily thereafter, sharing sorrow or joy with each other, and the two rocks have been called Pubu (couple) Rocks.

## Reserves to be established for wildlife

The DPRK has taken a measure to increase useful animal reserves.

In the reserves people are prohibited from mining underground resources, felling trees, cultivating land, hunting animals and raising such animals as dog at large. They will be provided with all conditions for the habitation of animals and birds.

Useful animal breeding bases will also be established in the



The snow-covered peaks of Mt Kumgang.

### Spring brings back youth to old couple

There is a small spring in a place not far from Ansim Rock in Mt Kumgang.

Long ago, a young man and woman called Soebawi and Ok Bun got married and lived in a valley. Time passed and they turned 70 years of age.

They were bent and their legs were so weak that they walked with the help of sticks.

One day, Soebawi went to Manmulsang valley with a stick to gather medicinal herbs. When he collected a great deal of herbs, he felt thirsty. He wandered from place to place to find water and finally discovered a small spring.

He was so delighted that he drank water as much as possible and fell asleep, unconsciously got drunk.

When he got up after a while, he had a straight back and felt invigorated as if he became a general. Therefore, he forgot to carry his stick and returned home carrying only herbs.

His wife was surprised to see her husband when she opened the brushwood gate for him at midnight.

She could not believe her own eyes as the man standing in

front of her was young instead of her old husband. After being told about his experience, she left home the following day to find the spring.

Her husband went to the spring again as his wife did not return even after sunset.

However, a beautiful young woman was sitting beside the spring, rather than his old wife. When he looked at her carefully, she was his wife who became younger after drinking the spring water.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

### DISH

## Delights of Phyongan

Phyongan Province that existed during the feudal Joson dynasty was an area comprising today's Pyongyang and North and South Phyongan provinces in the northwestern part of Korea which was also called the Kwando area.

The area encompasses high mountains, hills and coastlines and the locals are known to be broad-minded and enterprising by nature.

So, this seems to be the reason why they make appetizing dishes in large sizes and copiously.

Their special foods include Pyongyang cold noodles, Pyongyang *onban*, meat



Pyongyang cold noodles, Pyongyang *onban*, or chicken soup with rice in it, and *nachi*, or a fried glutinous rice cake mixed with malt.

### ICH

## Tug of war

Tug of war is one of the folk games the Korean people have played since olden times.

It is introduced in old records including *Tongguksesigi* (book dealing with folk customs of Korea which was written in the first half of the 19th century) and *Tonggukyoyisungnam* (geography book in the middle ages of Korea which was compiled in 1481).

The folk game was usually played on the fifteenth day of the first month by the lunar calendar, or on Chusok (the fifteenth day of the eighth month by the lunar calendar) according to regions.

According to the specific features of local areas, the rope was mainly made by twisting rice straw or arrowroot vines in those days, and it is said that the thickness and length of the original cord were decided by the scale of the match.

Since the original cord was too thick to be pulled by contestants, two or three metres of thin cords were connected at intervals of about one metre. They were called *tongjul*.

According to Kim Son Yong, researcher at the Folklore Research Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, children aged 12 to 13, divided into two teams, played tug of war game at first, which was called *aegijuldanggigi*, or pulling a thin rope, followed

by the match of adults. On the morning of the contest day, the venue was packed with crowds from different villages.

The game is usually over in 20 to 30 minutes, and it was a custom that the winning team returned home and made a round of their village, carrying the rope on their shoulders and playing farm music, to demonstrate their power.

Though there are some differences in its scale and form, tug of war is one of the popular games enjoyed by all even today.

In the present-day tug of war match, scientific numerical values are introduced to maximize tensile strength, especially players' posture, tensile angle and frictional force.

"The victory of the game hinges on how to concentrate the strength of players to the maximum," said Ri Pyong Hun, researcher of the Sports Science Institute. "A number of technical factors exist, but the most important thing is the unity of collective. Therefore, tug of war is the most favourite one among the sports games of any class."

Tug of war was inscribed as a national intangible cultural heritage element in December last year.

By Kil Chung II PT

A distinctive feature of the food is that the chicken soup is seasoned with salt alone to preserve the original taste of the meat.

According to a legend, the food was originated from the fact that a woman servant at the Pyongyang district office of the feudal government served her lover, who was imprisoned on a false charge, boiled rice with mung-bean pancake on top by pouring hot soup over it on a cold winter day.

The locals of this area preferred meat dumpling soup to rice-cake soup and therefore they prepared lots of dumplings and froze them to have them with meat soup on lunar new year's day or other occasions.

By Ko Kwang Yon PT



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

