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## Order of Justice and Peace Defender and the Certificate

Chairman Kim Jong Il received the Order of Justice and Peace Defender from the Russia-based International Union of Charitable Organizations "The World of Kindness" in February 2010.

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**Front Cover: All-time winners of the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015**

*Photo by courtesy of the KCNA*



**Back Cover: Chair lifts in the Masikryong Ski Resort**

*Photo by Ra Ju Hyok*

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# Let Us Usher in a New Golden Age of Building a Sports Power in the Revolutionary Spirit of Paektu

Kim Jong Un's Letter to Those Attending the Seventh  
National Conference of Sportspeople

March 25, Juche 104 (2015)

**A**T THIS EVENTFUL TIME, WHEN ALL THE service personnel and people have turned out in a general offensive in the revolutionary spirit of Paektu and are registering successes in all fields of defending socialism and building a thriving nation, the Seventh National Conference of Sportspeople has opened.

The conference, which is being held amid the great interest of the whole country, will constitute an epoch-making occasion in further exalting the brilliance of the imperishable exploits performed by the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il for the development of the country's sports and in carrying out the Party's plan of building the country into a sports power.

Sports play a very important role in consolidating a nation's strength, adding lustre to a country's prestige and honour, inspiring people with national pride and dignity and imbuing the whole society with revolutionary mettle.

The great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, in putting forward the development of sports as a matter with an important bearing on the prosperity of the country and nation, indicated the road ahead of Juche-based sports and wrote a new chapter in the history of building a sports power by dint of outstanding ideas and leadership.

In order to develop the country's sports in line with the great leaders' ideas and plan for developing Juche-based sports, our Party directs great efforts to the work of the sports sector.

Under the Party's leadership a climate of attaching importance to sports has been created across the country, enthusiasm for sports is mounting as never before and our sportspeople have achieved excellent results in competitions. Cherishing the high expectations of the Party and their fellow people, our reli-

able sportspeople have made redoubled efforts and won many gold medals at the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games and in subsequent international contests including the world championships and Asian Games, thus demonstrating the mettle and strength of Juche Korea, filling the service personnel and people with great national pride and dignity and encouraging them to perform renewed miraculous innovations and feats.

Under the Party's close concern and thanks to the devoted efforts of our service personnel and working people, the Masikryong Ski Resort, Mirim Riding Club and other modern international-standard sports facilities have been established and such multi-functional sports facilities as the May Day Stadium, the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium and the Sports Village in Chongchun Street have been renovated in a short span of time; thus conditions have been provided for the sportspeople and working people to develop their sporting techniques and enjoy a sporting and cultural life to their heart's content.

However, the work of the sports sector has yet to attain the level demanded by the Party and expected by the people. Our overall sporting techniques lag behind the demands of the times and the world trends, and the level of sports science and the material and technical foundations of this sector are inadequate. Some officials still reveal the tendency of making little of sports, and rigid discipline and order have not been established in the sector.

Our Party expects this conference to review and analyze the successes and experiences, shortcomings and lessons in the implementation of the Party's policy on sports and adopt revolutionary measures for the development of sports so as to improve the work of the sports sector and open a broad avenue for building our country into a sports power.

- It is our Party's determination and firm will to raise the status of our country to that of a prestigious sports power within the coming few years by bringing about a revolutionary turn in the work of the sports sector.

Building a sports power is a patriotic undertaking aimed at translating into reality the plan and wish of the great leaders, who devoted their efforts to building our country into one that prospers and grows stronger on the basis of sports. By defending and brilliantly carrying forward their Juche-oriented ideas and exploits for building a sports power, we can demonstrate to the whole world the resourcefulness and courage of Kim Il Sung's nation, Kim Jong Il's Korea, in the sports arena.

Building a sports power is a key focus of our Party in building a thriving socialist country. Only when we step up the building of a sports power can we display to a higher degree the might of the military power, successfully build a socialist economic power and civilized nation and demonstrate the dignity of Juche Korea by fully preparing all the service personnel and people for national defence and labour.

We should raise the country's sporting techniques to the world standard, make sports mass-based and a daily activity and improve the level of sports science in a short span of time, thus bringing the Party's plan for building a sports power to brilliant fruition.

The major objective set by our Party for building a sports power is to help our athletes win in the Olympic Games, world championships and other international contests and demonstrate the prestige and mettle of the country by radically developing the specialized sporting techniques of the country.

Sportspeople are standard-bearers and a shock force standing at the forefront in the building of a sports power. Only sportspeople can cause the flag of our Republic to be hoisted in the sky of other countries in peace time; it is their sacred duty to exalt the prestige and honour of their country by winning gold medals. Cherishing the honourable duty of being revolutionary sportspeople in the Songun era and the high expectations of their country and fellow people, they should become vanguard fighters in the struggle to implement the Party's plan for building a sports power.

They should prepare themselves as people possessed of the spirit and mettle of Paektu who are

strong in ideology and spirit and in physique and technique, and win successive international competitions on the strength of the excellent tactics of our own style.

"Let us rush forward towards the finish line of building a sports power in the revolutionary spirit of Paektu!"—this is the fighting slogan our sportspeople should hold up.

To run, leading the world, to win thrillingly and to compete undauntedly so as to win is the sporting spirit of Juche Korea which embodies the revolutionary spirit of Paektu.

All sportspeople should feel their hearts burning with the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, the spirit of the blizzards of Paektu, and become reliable fighters of the Party, proud sons and daughters of their country and people who create new, amazing stories of heroic Korea in international competitions.

The main link in the whole chain of the effort for fully preparing sportspeople in terms of ideology, spirit, physique, technique and tactics is to encourage them to train intensively.

Training is a furnace where excellent sportspeople are honed; the gold medals that exalt the honour of the country are assured by the sweat they shed in training. Our sportspeople should regard their training programmes as combat orders given by the Party and their training arena as a battlefield for implementing the Party's ideas and defending their country, and temper their ideology, will, physique, techniques and tactics in the furnace of training that is done in the atmosphere of actual competitions. In particular, they should be aware that only the athletes who have developed world-class special techniques can contribute to building a sports power by means of gold medals, and should strive persistently to possess such techniques.

The role of coaches, who organize and oversee training and competitions, should be improved decisively.

The true abilities of athletes and teams and success in competitions are dependent on coaches. With a high ambition to become famous coaches who develop world-class athletes, they should constantly raise their levels. They should do away with organizing training in a stereotyped manner and for form's sake, work out realistic and scientific training plans, improve training methods and make strong demands on athletes so as to prepare them to cope skilfully with any circumstances in competitions.

- We should create excellent playing tactics of our own style and actively introduce them.

Success in sports competitions is guaranteed by the superiority and effectiveness of the tactics, together with the athletes' ideological and spiritual, physical and technical preparedness. General Kim Jong Il presented the principles and methods for competing with a high degree of ideological awareness, fighting spirit, speed and skill. Sportspeople should consistently hold fast to these principles and methods and continually create and perfect brilliant and flexible tactics so that they can beat the best in the world fair and square.

What is important in perfecting and applying the tactics of our own style is to apply attacking guerrilla-style tactics. This idea is a comprehensive embodiment and development of the principles and methods of competing with a high degree of ideological awareness, fighting spirit, speed and skill.

Officials and coaches in the sports sector should ensure that sportspeople, by applying attacking guerrilla-style tactics in every sports event, seize the initiative and always win. The associations of all sports should perfect and actively apply effective and singular tactics and modes in line with the requirements of the attacking guerrilla-style tactics in the events in their fields.

Many competitions should be organized to allow sportspeople to prepare themselves ideologically and spiritually, physically and technically and actively apply the tactics of our own style. Competition is a process of displaying sporting techniques and tactics and at the same time an important occasion for developing them at a higher level. In experiencing the pleasure of victory or the agony of defeat, competitors and coaches accumulate experience or draw lessons and can subsequently redouble their efforts to perfect their techniques and tactics.

We should arrange national games including the Republic Championships all year round, and sports teams should organize regular practice matches, pre-tournament matches, challenge matches and home-and-away matches among themselves so as to further develop their sporting techniques. At the same time sportspeople should be made to take part in many international competitions so as to raise their technical levels and accumulate experience in actual competition.

Efforts should be directed to developing events in which our athletes can excel.

The sports sector should select events which suit the characteristics of the constitution of Koreans and in which we have a tradition of achieving success, and focus on them. It should first secure world supremacy in women's football, the marathon, weight-lifting, boxing, table tennis, wrestling, judo, artistic gymnastics and archery, and then retain it. The development of these events as the major thrust should be followed by the development of physical training for national defence, maritime physical culture, winter sports and other events. In this way it can secure Asian supremacy and, moreover, world supremacy in many events. It should widely encourage Taekwon-Do and *ssirum* (Korean-style wrestling-Tr.), traditional sports events of Korea, thereby encouraging the whole country to practise Taekwon-Do so as to demonstrate its spirit to the world, and further developing its skills and the traditional techniques of *ssirum*.

We should improve the training of reserve players and officials in the sports sector.

We should train reserve sportspeople in a farsighted way. Training reserves in the sports sector, in which the cycle of change of the generations is shorter than in any other sector, is a very important undertaking that is decisive of the future of the development of the country's sporting techniques. The bright prospects for the development of sports depend on how many able reserves are trained that can carry forward our supremacy in prominent events and shoulder the future of sports.

It should be regarded as a principle to select as reserves people with intelligence, a sturdy physique and a suitable constitution for each event. The sports sector should select reserves on a regular basis and in a steady way, in contact with Party and youth league organizations and the education sector.

While selecting appropriate people as reserves, it should make a major effort to train them. City and county juvenile sports schools should intensify education in basic techniques in line with the demands of the Party and world trends in the development of sports, and thus bring up promising reserves in a systematic way.

Efforts should be made to raise the level of officials in the sports sector, including leading officials, team coaches and gym teachers.

Educational institutions in the sports sector should select and educate promising people and drastically improve the quality of sports education ►

- ▶ and training, and thus develop large numbers of able sports officials. The Korea University of Physical Education should improve, and generalize among institutions responsible for training sports officials, the content, method, conditions and environment of its education as required by the developing reality, and create an example for training sports officials.

Refresher courses for sports officials in active service should be run properly. It is important to send these officials to educational institutions in a planned way for refresher courses and organize workshops for them so as constantly to improve their technical levels and qualifications. Meetings for swapping experience, demonstration lectures, workshops and the like should be organized on a regular basis to improve their practical levels.

We should make sports mass-based and part of everyday life and thus get the entire population to enjoy participating in sports and the whole country to seethe with enthusiasm for sports.

To make sports mass-based and part of everyday life is an important policy of our Party in building a sports power. Sports in our country are an undertaking for the people and by the people. Only when all sports events are made mass-based and part of everyday life can all the people be in good health and proactively contribute to national defence and building a thriving nation. Carrying out this policy is also needed if the country's professional sports sector is to develop rapidly.

Schools should improve and intensify physical training.

Only then can they bring up their students as sturdy pillars for the future and produce many fine reserve sportspeople. In their physical training schools should focus on increasing students' height, building up their bodies in a balanced way and teaching them basic sports knowledge and the techniques of more than one sports event. Due attention should be paid to physical training for national defence which is conducive to cultivating their courage, perseverance and fortitude. Schools should raise the level of gym teachers and radically improve the quality of physical education. They should all furnish themselves with sufficient sports equipment, organize various after-school sporting activities suited to the students' characteristics and regularly run specialized groups for sports events.

Organizations, enterprises and cooperative farms should conduct brisk sporting activities.

They should arrange various sporting activities, including health-promoting exercise, mass rhythmic exercise and health-promoting Taekwon-Do, on a regular basis and in keeping with their actual conditions, and organize different kinds of sports and other recreational pastimes on holidays, major anniversaries and days off so that people can take an active part in sporting activities with a competitive spirit. Families, too, should often take part in health-promoting exercises like morning exercise and recreational pastimes.

National Inter-Provincial Games and similar games should be organized among cities, counties, organs, enterprises and cooperative farms to help the working people build up their bodies and minds and to generate greater enthusiasm for sports. When a match is to be played, scrupulous arrangements for cheering should be made to enliven the atmosphere, boost the players' morale and demonstrate the sense of organization and unity of the collective.

It is important vigorously to wage the movement for winning the titles of Model Sports County and Model Sports Unit and make effective arrangements for the sports promotion period.

Sports science should be improved.

The key to victory in building a sports power is to put sports on a scientific basis. This is a powerful impetus to the development of sports. The present reality, in which sporting techniques are developing at a fast speed worldwide, shows that the one that leads the competition in sports science and techniques becomes the victor, and the one that lags behind, the loser. When the soaring spiritual strength of our reliable sportspeople, who are eager to demonstrate the dignity and honour of their country to the whole world, is supported by advanced sports science and techniques, great progress will be made in the development of the country's sports.

All the officials, athletes and coaches in the sports sector need to study sports scientific knowledge and techniques, overcome the tendency to cling to outdated experience, and improve and develop all the realms of the work of the sports sector, including training, competing, education and rearing reserves, on the basis of modern sports science.

The sports science sector should develop the techniques of each event in our own way from the Juche-oriented standpoint. In particular, it should direct primary efforts to the research into solving the ▶

► scientific and technical problems arising in the development of those events to which the Party gives priority. Along with this, it should intensify research into physiology, biochemistry and other basic sciences, put the work of conditioning, psychological regulation and nutrition supply for players on a scientific basis, and develop different nutritious foods for improving their physical abilities. It should channel efforts into inventing state-of-the-art sports equipment and studying how to produce modern equipment, including clothing for each event, using domestic materials.

Brisk information work related to sports science and techniques should be conducted so that athletes and coaches can be well-informed of the world trends in the technical development of each event and of the teams they may play against in international competitions and then cope with the trends and foreign competition.

Nationwide attention should be paid to the effort for providing full conditions for developing sports science, including data, up-to-date equipment, measuring instruments and reagents.

The Academy of Sports Science has a significant role to play in putting sports on a scientific basis. It should build up its ranks of scientists and researchers, work out sports science development plans in a far-sighted and realistic way and in line with the actual conditions in our country and the trends in the development of modern sports science, and launch a vigorous campaign to go beyond the cutting edge in its work.

Members of the February 17 Scientists and Technicians Shock Brigade, who have been assigned to the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports, should develop and introduce computer-aided guided training programs, sports equipment and fatigue-relieving and nutritious foods so as to provide scientific and technical guarantees for achieving success in sports competitions.

In order successfully to carry out all the tasks arising in the building of a sports power, it is important to enhance the functions and role of sports guidance organs in every possible way.

The National Sports Guidance Committee should improve the work system in the sports sector in line with the Party's plan and the requirements for building a sports power, discuss and resolve in time important issues that require nationwide concern to develop sports in the country, and take appropriate

measures. The Secretariat of the National Sports Guidance Committee should play a greater role in raising a strong wind of sports across the country, give effective guidance to all relevant units, including the sports guidance committees at different levels, in their efforts to implement the Party's policy on sports, and ensure that the members of the National Sports Guidance Committee and the sponsoring organizations render active help, both material and psychological, to the units in their charge.

The Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports should draw up a scientific national strategy for developing sports, true to the Party's intention of building a sports power, and carry it out stage by stage and in an effective way. Officials of the ministry should rid themselves of the short-sighted style of working—busying themselves only with making arrangements for competitions at hand; they should foresee and plan everything with an eye to the future and press on with it in a persevering manner. They should take hold of the main link in the whole chain of implementing the Party's policy on sports, go among sports teams and their members to give full rein to their spiritual strength, and make positive efforts to raise the level of sports science. It is necessary to ensure the balanced development of sports teams at the central and provincial levels and those attached to organs and enterprises, and encourage them to compete fiercely among themselves so as to develop the country's sports in an all-round way. Effective work order and stringent discipline should be established in the sports sector, just as in the army.

The Pyongyang Municipal Sports Guidance Committee and similar committees at the provincial, city and county levels should give proper guidance to all sectors and all units in their respective regions so that they can implement to the letter the Party's policy of making sports mass-based and part of everyday life, and help and lead forward the sports teams and juvenile sports schools.

Positive external activities should be conducted to create an environment and conditions favourable for developing the country's sports. The sports sector should work diplomatically with international sports organizations on the principle of prioritizing the dignity and interests of our Republic, and organize invitation and away matches and joint training frequently.

We should bring about a radical improvement in ►

- ▶ solidifying the material foundations of the sports sector.

The building of a sports power cannot be successful unless it is underpinned by adequate material conditions. The Party and the state should pay close attention to laying solid material foundations for developing the sports sector.

We should build modern sports facilities, including gymnasiums, stadiums, swimming pools, firing ranges and physical training centres, in Pyongyang and the provinces, and sports parks in different places so as to cover the whole country with a network of sports facilities. We should also make regular arrangements for keeping those facilities in a good state of repair.

We need to modernize our sports equipment factories and ensure the high quality of their products so as to make them widely available to our sportspeople and other citizens. We should make proactive efforts to produce the sports equipment needed by ourselves. We should renovate training centres and provide sportspeople with ample conditions for training all year round.

We need to pay close attention to improving supply services for sportspeople. We should build up supply service bases for the sports sector and put their production on a normal track so as to provide sportspeople with sufficient amounts and various kinds of soft drinks and nutritious foods.

The state should take steps to provide the funds necessary for developing the country's sports, and actively help the sports sector secure other funds on its own.

Social interest in sports should be increased to develop the country's sporting techniques rapidly and make the enthusiasm for sports run higher.

The key to heightening social interest in sports is to ensure that officials have a correct attitude towards sports. Officials in all sectors and at all units should attach importance to sports, true to the Party's intention, work hard to implement its policy on sports and become models in mass-based sporting activities.

We need to give social prominence to sportspeople and accord them preferential treatment. We should ensure that those who have demonstrated the honour of the country in international competitions are respected as patriots and heroes and receive appropriate political commendation and material rewards. By doing so, we can make other

people respect and look up to them with envy. The Party and the state should direct close attention to the living conditions of sportspeople. The mass media should promptly and widely disseminate news and information about sports competitions and the sector of art and literature should create many works that can inspire sportspeople with vigour and courage and kindle an enthusiasm for sports among the masses.

Party guidance over sports should be strengthened.

Party organizations at all levels should regard as a key concern the undertakings geared to realizing the Party's plan for building a sports power, and give effective policy-oriented guidance over them. They should thoroughly establish the Party's leadership system in the sports sector and conduct effective organizational and political work to implement the instructions of the great leaders and the Party's policy on sports to the letter. They should build up the ranks of officials in the sports sector with people who are loyal to the Party and able enough to play a significant role in developing the country's sports.

Party organizations in the sports sector should conduct positive political work, as is done on the front line, to give full play to the spiritual strength of sportspeople. They should be efficient in conducting among sportspeople the five-point educational work, with a focus on education in the greatness of the leaders, so as to bring them up to be the Party's faithful fighters who can score remarkable successes in competitions, always remembering the benevolence of their Party and leaders and the preciousness of their homeland. They should give prominence to models of the Songun era produced in the sports arena and encourage other sportspeople to learn from their spiritual world, training style and moral traits.

The gold medalists who have exalted the dignity and honour of their country before the whole world, leaving shining traces of their lofty lives, will go down in the history of building a Juche-oriented sports power as heroes and true patriots for our Party, our country and our people.

I firmly believe that, with this conference as the momentum, all our officials and sportspeople will strive to bring about a fresh turn in building a sports power and thus live up to the Party's trust and expectations. □

# Faster Pace of Sports Development



The DPRK women footballers take first place in the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015.

**I**N RECENT YEARS THE DEMOCRATIC People's Republic of Korea has gained lots of achievements at international games as a result of quick progress in the sports field. Over the last four years the Korean sportspeople have won more than 1 050 medals, including some 460 gold medals, in nearly 260 international competitions, especially at the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games, the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games and the 18<sup>th</sup> Taekwon-Do World Championships.

In July last alone Kim Kuk Hyang won the women's 10-m platform title at the 16<sup>th</sup> FINA World Championships and in the following month the Korean women mounted the dais of honour at the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015 by beating the teams

of Japan, China and south Korea.

In the DPRK great efforts are directed to odds-on events agreeable to the Korean physical constitution, in which achievements were made in succession in the past, such as women's football, marathon, weightlifting, boxing, table tennis, wrestling, judo, gymnastics and archery, while due attention is paid to the development of national sports events like Taekwon-Do and *ssirum* (Korean wrestling).

To raise the odds-on sports events to the global standards and put other events, including defence sports, water sports and winter sports, on a par so as to win more Asian titles and further more world titles in more events—this is the orientation the

DPRK players return home after registering good successes in the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in October 2014.



- country maintains in the sports field.

It is in this direction that athletic games of professional teams, like the Mangyongdae Prize Games, the Paektusan Prize Games, and the national championships, take place successfully every year and that practice matches, pre-tournament matches, challenge matches and home-and-away matches take place regularly. This helps sportspeople attain the sportsmanship of trying hard to lead the world in race and win by an overwhelming margin, the spirit of fighting it out by rising up no matter how often one may fall, and develop and improve resourceful and versatile tactics.

The Korean women footballers, whom the world mass media commented on as the most excellent team with an unyielding spirit and will, strong ideological and spiritual strength, have stuck to principles and methods of fighting in high ideological

spirit, at a high speed, with grits and technical skills both in training and games.

The state spares no expenses for consolidating material bases of the sports field. In recent years modern sports facilities including the Masikryong Ski Resort and the Mirim Riding Club, have been built; versatile sports facilities including the May Day Stadium, the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, and the Sports Village on Chongchun Street have been modernized in a short period. As a result over 90 stadiums, 130 indoor stadiums, about 1 800 football fields and over 280 sports centres have been newly built or modernized for the past four years.

A well-organized system of training sports reserves has also been established. Young people of suitable physical builds have been selected in cooperation with the Central Committee of the Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League, the Education



**The national inter-provincial games take place annually with splendour.**



- Commission, primary schools, junior middle schools and senior middle schools, and they are under systematic training through basic and special instruction.

Famous players of the country, especially Kim Un Guk who broke a record in the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games and won the World Weightlifting Championships 2011 and 2014, Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong who won the mixed doubles title in the ITTF 52<sup>nd</sup> World Table Tennis Championships, Hong Un Jong who won the 45<sup>th</sup> World Gymnastics Championships, went through systematic instruction during their childhood.

In Korea mass-based sports are also developing briskly. At present the effort to make sports mass-based and part of everyday life is coming onto a high level and the public enthusiasm for sports is rising day by day. The national inter-provincial games and games of each of the sectors of the social life take place every year arousing great interest of the people, and the movement for winning the title of Model Sports County is under way across the country.

Various kinds of sports games are held actively at institutions and enterprises on the Sports Day, the monthly sports days, weekends and national holidays.

In the past four years more than 280 parks, furnished with roller-skating grounds and other sports facilities, have been newly built or modernized to fan up the zeal for sports activities such as skiing, riding, roller skating and volleyball. So the whole country is replete with revolutionary optimism, and the social harmony and unity have been further improved, making the people healthier and propelling the development of the professional sports field. While pushing ahead with the building of a thriving socialist nation at present, the Workers' Party of Korea and the government are determined to effect a revolutionary turn in the sports field as well to make the country a sports power in the near future.

The facts that the supreme leader Kim Jong Un sent a letter titled ***Let Us Usher in a New Golden Age of Building a Sports Power in the Revolutionary Spirit of Paektu*** to the 7<sup>th</sup> National Conference of Sportspeople held last March in Pyongyang and that he came out to the Pyongyang International Airport to welcome the women footballers in August last on their triumphant return home from the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015, show how the Korean Party and government are interested in the sports field.

No doubt that sports will make a faster pace in the country under the care of the Party and the government.

*Sim Chol Yong*

### Sports activities become popular and part of everyday life.



# Increasing Number of Sports Facilities

The May Day Stadium.



SINCE 2012, THE FIRST year of the new century of the Juche era, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has newly built a large number of sports facilities and refashioned existing ones all over the country amidst the growing public interest in and enthusiasm for sports. Such projects are still going on.

The May Day Stadium was wonderfully renovated. Located on Rungna Islet in the Taedong River, it was opened on May 1, 1989. It was the venue of the 13<sup>th</sup> World Festival of Youth and Students and the mass gymnastics and artistic performance *The Ever-victorious Workers' Party of Korea* in celebration of the 55<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the WPK and the mass gymnastics and artistic performance *Arirang*, a Kim Il Sung Prize winner, which took place annually for a dozen years. Last year the 150 000-seater stadium's football field, running tracks, a warm-up room, bedrooms for players and rooms for coaches and referees were improved in accord with international standards. It was also furnished with sporting, recreational and welfare facilities and a service network such as a swimming pool, table-tennis halls, miniature golf courses, recovery rooms and so forth, so it can provide full

service to players for their training and playing and ensure spectators' convenience.

On Yanggak Islet in the Tae-dong River flowing across Pyongyang, a new sports village came into existence, building up the material and technical foundation to develop sports technology of the nation. It occupies tens of thousands of square metres in total floor space and is furnished with modern facilities and equip-

ment including a lodging which is equipped with the geothermal heating system, training halls, a sci-tech diffusion room, a bath-house, and others.

The Sports Village on Chong-chun Street in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, was wonderfully modernized into a sporting and cultural centre that can ensure various events of international and national games. Every stadium is fully furnished with a





**Parts of the interior and exterior of the stadiums in the Sports Village on the Chongchun Street.**



► lighting system which can satisfy the needs of any particular sporting event, and a temperature-control system so that players can do exercises and have games and contests in all seasons. And several open-air and indoor stadiums have fine rooms for umpires, players, press interview, dope test

and other usages, with modern furnishings. An up-to-date refereeing system for each sporting event, developed by Korean scientists, is introduced at the stadiums to ensure international games on a higher level. All the stadiums including those of basketball, table-tennis, weightlift-

ing and football, and a restaurant are furnished with modern equipment and facilities to ensure adequate training and competition and proper service.

In a scenic mountain area of Masik Pass, a ski resort was laid as a comprehensive winter sports base that has a full condition for

#### **The Masikryong Ski Resort.**



► sporting, tourist and holiday activities. The resort is an expression of the Workers' Party of Korea's warm love for the people. The supreme leader Kim Jong Un inspected the construction site of the resort on steep Masik Pass several times whether it was sultry in midsummer or freezing cold in December, giving an energetic guidance to the project so as to complete it as a popular sports and tourist resort of the people. Now, in winter the working people of all strata, students and children lead a civilized socialist life at the resort to their heart's content while developing their physical strength by skiing, skating, sleighing.

The supreme leader took every possible measure to modernize the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium as

required by the times, and after it was remodelled he came to the stadium to see the finals of mass-based sports events of the national inter-provincial games.

The Rungna People's Sports Park went up wonderfully. The park, spreading in an area of more than 200 000 square metres, has all sorts of sports facilities for the general public, including a grassed football field and grounds of basketball, volleyball and roller-skating. There are also small parks, restaurants and snack bars for the people to enjoy their recreational activities. It is fully furnished for people, old and young, to have an enjoyable time to their heart's content and do sports activities as they like. In all respects, it is a comprehensive facility for the fun of the masses of the people.

Big establishments for sports activities including the Munsu Water Park, the Mirim Riding Club which can serve many purposes, and the People's Open-air Ice Rink which contributes to the development of the ice-skating and the physical training of the working people, students and schoolchildren, have been set up to vigorously propel the sports development of the country.

Meanwhile, many sports parks have been built on the places of scenic beauty along the Taedong and Pothong rivers and in several residential districts of Pyongyang to promote regular mass-based sports activities to fan the atmosphere of enthusiastic activities.

The modernization of stadiums in all provinces, cities and counties, as well as those in Py-

**People do exercises at different facilities.**



ongyang has been completed or being propelled.

The achievements in the work of consolidating the material and technical foundation of physical training and sport as required by the developing reality, tell that developing Korea into a sports power is not an empty talk but a firm decision of the WPK and the Korean people.

At present the Korean sportspeople are full of fiery zeal to glorify the country by winning gold medals and flying their national flag, and the working people, students and children enjoy themselves at sporting and fitness centres, feeling gratitude to the WPK for its people-oriented policies.

*Sim Hyon Jin*

# Promising Winners

**I**N RECENT YEARS THE sportspersons of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have been successful in international competitions. Sports fans and experts still have a vivid memory of Ri Se Gwang, a world gymnastics champion, Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong who astonished the table tennis world, a world-weightlifting-record breaker Kim Un Guk. And more and more athletes are running forcefully to be world champions.

## Debut

Won Un Gyong snatched the gold medal in the final of the junior 46kg category at the AIBA Women's Junior/Youth World Boxing Championships 2015. She is a student of the Kangso District Juvenile Sports School in Nampho. It is four years since she began to learn boxing.

Instructor Ri Myong Chol of the school was becoming interested in a girl he often met on the way to and from his work. She was always seen playing among boys, and she looked strong at the first glance. One day Ri asked her if she wanted to learn boxing. The 11-year-old asked back courageously, "Do you think I can win and fly our national flag as Kim Hye Song and Pak Kyong Ok did?"

"Why not? It's all up to your decision," he replied.

In this way she began to learn boxing. With her quick sense of movement and powerful strength she made a rapid development. The instructor made exact demands on her at all times, and she met them unconditionally without any disagreement. Her painstaking and unyielding effort resulted in her winning in the women's 40kg category boxing at the 51<sup>st</sup> National Games of Juvenile Sports Schools 2014, thus qualifying for the AIBA Women's Jun-



ior/Youth World Boxing Championships 2015. Though she was the youngest of the competitors in the championships, she won the title. When the national flag of the DPRK was hoisted in the sky over Taipei, China, Un Gyong was shedding tears of emotion.

When people congratulated her on her victory, she said. "It's only my debut. I know I have to redouble my effort to win more medals."

## The weight of the country's honour

In June last Pak Jong Ju took first place in the men's 62kg category at the World Youth Weightlifting Championship 2015 in Poland. After the competition the deputy chairman of the Asian Weightlifting Federation praised that Pak was really a pride of Asia.

Pak, 18, has a record of ranking among the top three at the World Junior Weightlifting Championships 2013 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Olympic Games. His coach Ri Chol Nam says that the secret of his winning the competitions lies in his possession of a persistent character rather than in his strength and technology.

One day before the World

Junior Weightlifting Championships 2013 he got hurt in his heel while training. Doctors recommended him to have a rest cure. Pak, however, showed up in the training ground with his heel in bandage. Surprised, other players and coaches persuaded Pak to go back. Pak, however, would not recede, saying, "My shoulders bear the honour of the motherland which has cultivated my talent and taken care of me. I cannot sit idle because of such a trifling problem."

In a fortnight Pak participated in the World Junior Weightlifting Championships 2013. The coaches and other players watched his performance with bated breath. At last Pak won first place both in jerk and snatch, thus bagging three gold medals.

He says, "When I lift the barbell which is somewhat beyond my limit, I think that the weight of the barbell is just that of my country's honour." He is now training hard to break a world record.

*Pak Yong Il*



# Future of Korean Football

IT IS A LITTLE OVER TWO years since the Pyongyang International Football School opened in Korea. Here we can have a bright view of the future football players.

## First pupils

The school has primary classes, junior middle classes and senior middle classes. Pupils and students are selected from around the country and are provided good educational and living

conditions. Kim Jin Hyok in a junior middle class says, "The State found something about football in me and sent me to this wonderful school, the only school of this kind in our country. We know the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to make our country a sports power and a football nation. I will do my best to take the lead in study and training. Maybe, my friends have the same idea as me."

## First competition

The pupils participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Codian Cup ▶

The instructors put their efforts in training the students as football stars.



## First instructors

Instructors in this school were once famous on international scenes. For example, O Kum Hui belonged to the team who won the 3<sup>rd</sup> U-20 Women's World Cup held in Russia in 2006. She is a Labour Heroine and a People's Athlete. She says, "We teach pupils not only basic theory on football combined with practice but also mathematics, physics, chemistry and other subjects. All the subjects are associated with football. I am proud of being one of the first instructors of the Pyongyang International Football School, and I'm going to devote myself to the work of training football stars known not only to our country but also to the world."





**Children at their studies.**

► held in Haimen City, Jiangsu Province, China, in March 2014, a year after it opened. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, Thailand, Japan and south Korea participated and they played league matches. The victory and defeat were concluded by the total number of scores. The DPRK team had no experience in international games, so those matches were really hard

for them. Coaches Kang Myong Chol and Ri Yu Il firmly trusted players, and they mapped out an

innovative tactical plan and applied it to the match. The players did their best with well-organized



defence, attack and counter-attack. Finally they won first place by increasing the score through thrusts into the goal area by fast break, and man-to-man passing.

They won first place again in the 4<sup>th</sup> International Codian Cup held in April 2015. In the two contests they were given two best coach awards, two best player awards, two greatest scorer awards and a best goal keeper award. An Phyong Il received the greatest scorer award for his 20 goals, and was seen as a promising player by the organizers and spectators of the tournament.

*Sim Hyon Jin*

# Researchers Guarantee Success in Sports

**T**HREE ARE PEOPLE WHO FEEL AS HAPPY as the sportspeople over the win in international competitions. They are none other than the researchers of the Athletic Science Institute.

## My happiness lies in the success of sportspeople

In recent years Korean weightlifters have won many gold medals in international contests, especially in the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games and the World Weightlifting Championships 2014. Kim Un Guk, in particular, won a title in the World Weightlifting Championships 2011 and broke a record in the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games. And then he won a title in the Asian Weightlifting Championships 2013 at his first try. He also won his category event in the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games and the World Weightlifting Championships 2014.

His success is partly credited to Pak Yong Gi, a weightlifting researcher. He focused his attention on the constitutional qualities of the Koreans while doing research in weightlifting. Soon he was convinced of the fact that weightlifting was agreeable to the Koreans' physical constitution and that it could be an odds-on event. He let Kim Un Guk try a training method of lifting the barbell quickly in a lower space. And he made a synthetic analysis of all factors such as his health condition and psychological state, and had them impregnated in his training, while correcting mistakes in exercises.

The happy moment of winning the title Pak Jong Ju experienced in the World Youth Weightlifting Championships 2015 last June, is also attributable to the effort of the researcher. Yong Gi's book *Weightlifting Handbook* is a great favourite with the weightlifters.

## Take the initiative at all times

When there's a topic about the mixed doubles game of table tennis, Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong are the first to flash in the mind of the Korean people. Their success is the result of their good teamwork with which they fight to the end, and, more importantly, of the effort of a researcher who backs up their training accurately. His name is Jang Kwang Il.

It is a present-day trend of table tennis playing to be offensive instead of being defensive, which was a general practice in the past. So, Kwang Il concentrated on how to speed up the ball flight and increase its rotation. He also constantly helped the



players improve their techniques and tactics suitable to the Korean builds and make the most of them in their training and games. He also paid attention to helping players make correct judgment of the direction of the main attack and its timing during the game and have a good mentality to hold the initiative.

Such an effort of his bore fruit: Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong won another victory in the mixed doubles, this time in the 6<sup>th</sup> East Asian Games and the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games.

## The first champion

Kim Kuk Hyang won the title in the women's 10-m platform of the diving competition at the 16<sup>th</sup> FINA World Championships in July, thus becoming the first Korean champion in the event.

Her honour would also have been impossible but for the diving researcher Kim Chol Min's effort. In the past many Korean players had attended the game but had made little achievement.

Chol Min got experience and learned good lessons, scientifically analyzing problems about players' physical preparations, their kinetic functions, turning speed in the air, and amplitude and resistance at the moment of touching the surface of water. On the basis he developed several methods of movement applicable to the players. His effort brought Kuk Hyang to the honour of standing on the top of the awarding platform, beating other excellent opponents in the game.

In the institute there are also researchers of other events such as football, wrestling, marathon and boxing who help sportspeople fly the national flag high at international competitions.

*Sim Hyon Jin*

# Deep Care for Development of Sports

## Praising the Little Girl as a Player Who Had Flown Our National Flag in America

ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 31, 1991, President Kim Il Sung met many children of talent from all parts of the country just before the children's New Year performance. He saw the forte of them including a little poet and a tiny musician one by one. Then he watched the exhibition play of Kim Kwang Suk, a little girl who had won first place in an event of uneven parallel bars in the 26<sup>th</sup> World Gymnastics Championships held in the USA. She was faultless in her motion of revolving twice on the top bar with her legs spread out at a certain angle and then shifting over to the lower bar reversing her body completely. The President highly praised her flawless gymnastic skills. When her exhibition play ended, he was the first to applaud her.

In February 1992 President Kim Il Sung met a few athletes. He grasped the hand of an athlete who had carried off two gold medals in the World Trap-shooting Championships; he praised one who had won the title in the 64<sup>th</sup> World Weight-lifting Championships, calling him a man of great strength. Then, he looked fondly at a girl wearing a Children's Union necktie standing by adults. He said, "**I know her. She won first place in the event of uneven parallel bars in the 26<sup>th</sup> World Gymnastics Championships held in the USA and flew our national flag in America.**" Then he praised her by saying that she had performed a great feat though she was only 14.

## The Heroine of the Nation

Towards the end of August 1999, Jong Song Ok finished first in the women's marathon in the 7<sup>th</sup> World Track and Field Championships held in Seville. Chairman Kim Jong Il called officials to his office. When they came wondering what could be the matter, he asked them abruptly about the news of the women's marathon. Beaming with joy,

he said our runner won the race in the championships and that he had had a wakeful night at the news. With this, he paced the room. After a while, he said, "**It's grand, really grand! The marathon race is the most significant of all sports events. Still now, there has been no Korean who won a marathon race in the world track and field championships. Before liberation the Korean runner Son Ki Jong came off first in a marathon of the Olympics, but he had to run in the name of an alien country because he was a member of a ruined nation. But this time our runner has won the world marathon championship for the first time as a Korean. How splendid!**"

The press made a feature of her spectacular success and the whole country was in a festive mood singing a song about her. Later, the Chairman said that she was a heroine of our nation who won the title in the women's marathon in the World Track and Field Championships, the arena of competition with the best athletes from the world.

## In the Exercise Room

The supreme leader Kim Jong Un stopped in the exercise room of the Kyongsang Kindergarten on his second visit to the kindergarten. Children were having a good time playing basketball and lifting weights. The leader was affectionately looking at children who were throwing balls at the basket, and then he stood a boy on the semi-circle line and told him to throw a ball into the basket. But the child failed though he tried several times. Kim Jong Un, who had been watching his motion, dabbed his cheek and taught him how to throw the ball into the basket. After that he watched children in the game of weightlifting. Seeing a child of strong build looking like a grown-up weightlifter lift a toy weight with all his might, he said with a laugh the child seemed to be a man of great strength. After watching the children boxing and playing on a slide, he had a souvenir photograph taken with all the children.

*Kim Un Chol*

# Durability and Indestructibility of the DPRK's Socialism



TODAY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S Republic of Korea socialism is gaining greater dignity and might under the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea. Chairman Kim Jong Il of the DPRK National Defence Commission wrote in his immortal classic work *Our Socialism Centred on the Masses Shall Not Perish* in May 1991 that the secret of durability and indestructibility of the DPRK's socialism is that it is centred upon the popular masses, that it has made the masses the genuine masters of society and that it has devoted everything to the service of the masses.

Socialism in the DPRK is the application of the Juche idea and is centred upon the popular masses.

President Kim Il Sung founded the Juche idea, a new guiding idea of the revolution, early last century, on the basis of full understanding of the demands of the era when the oppressed and exploited masses of the people emerged as masters of the world and were carving out their destiny and writing history in an independent and creative way. The

Juche idea means that man is the master of his own destiny and is powerful enough to carve it out. This serves as the ideological and theoretical foundation of the DPRK's socialism. The history of the socialist construction in Korea is just the one of comprehensively applying the Juche idea, and all valuable gains in those days are the fruition of the Juche idea.

In particular, it is totally thanks to the Songun idea, which is the embodiment of the Juche idea, that the Korean people survived the hard time, called Arduous March and forced march, in the 1990s. At that time the imperialists and reactionaries were talking much about the "imminent end of socialism" and dead set on suffocating the DPRK. Chairman Kim Jong Il, believing firmly that Songun is the sure guarantee for national defence, made a new accurate analysis of the correlation between the army, the Party, the state and the people.

In the socialism of the DPRK the Party, the state, the people and the army are closely related with one

► another to share life and death. In the current realities in which the construction of socialism was going on against the unceasing military threat from the imperialists, the socialist state, the Party and the people can never exist without the protection by the army. In the Korean society the revolutionary army and the popular masses share the same fundamental interests, intentions and desires, so attaching importance to the army means giving importance to the socialist state and people.

From this view and stand the Chairman established the principle of Songun and made it clear that he would overcome harsh trials of the revolution and lead the Korean people's patriotic struggle to victory by setting up the People's Army as the mainstay of the revolution. On his way of Songun leadership, he saw to it that all the people learned from the revolutionary soldier spirit that is an integration of the spirit of guarding the leader with one's very life, the one of implementing the Party's policies at the risk of one's life and the one of sacrificing oneself heroically. And he also wisely led the Korean people to rise as one for the building of a prosperous socialist country by turning misfortune into a blessing. Thanks to his Songun politics, the sovereignty and dignity of the country and the socialist gains remained secure and a new page of prosperity was written.

The indestructibility of the DPRK's socialism rests on the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses. Kim Jong Il stated that although the popular masses are the driving force of socialism, they can play their role as the independent driving force of the revolution and successfully carry out the socialist construction only when they are rallied around the Party and the leader.

The single-hearted unity was Kim Jong Il's revolutionary philosophy. Believing that the unity of the entire nation is strong enough to outdo even atomic bombs in power, he gave a full explanation of the single-hearted unity of the revolutionary ranks in many of his works including *Let Us Advance Under the Unfurled Banner of Single-hearted Unity*. By single-hearted unity he meant the unity based on a great guiding idea with a great leader at the centre, and the moral and obligatory unity based on revolutionary comradeship and sense of obligation. With the single-hearted unity prepared by the leader with all his devotion, the Korean people could change the Arduous March and the forced march into the march to paradise and bring about epoch-making changes in the building of a prosperous country.

The single-hearted unity in the DPRK is reaching the highest ever phase. The Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army keeps genuine revolutionary comradeship with his soldiers, the leader and the people share the same purpose and feelings, and all the people are carrying out the leader's policies and intentions faithfully. The Korean single-hearted unity also has brought about the trend of upswing across the country, miraculous successes in all parts of the country and victories in the anti-imperialist and anti-US struggle. The Korean people are convinced that the people-centred socialism has a bright future because it has the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party, the army and the people.

The popular masses' absolute support and trust are the sure guarantee of the durability and indestructibility of the Korean socialism. The Korean people regard socialism that puts everything in the service of the popular masses as the home of their life and happiness and entrust their all to it. As masters of the state and society, the Korean people fully enjoy their political, economic, ideological and cultural activities corresponding to the intrinsic need of an independent human being, in the people-centred socialist system. They, as masters of the government, take part in exercising state power and administering the state, and enjoy their political freedom and exercise their rights by taking part in the political and organizational life as members of certain political organizations including the Party and working people's organizations. In addition, they, as masters of the economic management and masters of the means of production, enjoy a creative working life, provided with proper right to work. Thanks to the people-oriented policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government, they are provided with equal and sufficient material life.

The Korean people, as masters of ideology and culture, enjoy a wholesome and sufficient ideological and cultural life. As masters of all ideological and cultural organs and means they manage them to realize their politico-ideological and cultural and emotional needs. The Party and the government provide the people with all kinds of ideological and cultural conditions for life. As a result, the Korean people both create and enjoy spiritual and cultural wealth.

This is why the Korean people are deeply attached to their socialist land of Juche and cherish great love for their socialist country in which their ideals come true.

*Pak Chong Sop*

# *Unhasu Cosmetics*

**R**ECENTLY THE DEMAND for *Unhasu* cosmetics is increasing in Korea. They are produced at the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang. The factory turns out 64 varieties of 38 kinds of cosmetics including cream, lotion, shampoo, rinse, hair-oil

and perfume, plus various kinds of soap.

This year the management staff and workers are striving to make their products cater well to the increasingly refined tastes and wishes of the consumers. Their principal objects in view have been to promote home pro-

duction of all cosmetics and its modernization and to suit their products to the skin type of the Koreans. So, they organized the research group into several teams for each team to tackle its specialized task in good earnest. Efforts are made to put production work further on a scientific basis. To ▶





► this end, the research teams are programming the analysis of material elements and proportions of material compounding in close connection with Kim Il Sung University, University of Sciences, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry, and State Academy of Sciences.

Equipped with highly efficient means of analysis and measuring instruments, the factory is producing large quantities of high-quality safe cosmetics. Stress is placed on producing suntan and anti-wrinkle creams and whitening cosmetics. Work is carried on prospectively to suit all cosmetics including normal cosmetics, functional cosmetics and medical cosmetics to the constitutions of the

Koreans. The types of Koreans' skin tissues are analyzed to produce cosmetics accordingly. Those are safe and unstimulative cosmetics as they are produced by using natural substances from well-known Kaesong Koryo insams, pine trees and ginkgo trees.

Many varieties of cosmetics are produced to fit in with the tastes and skins of people. As a result, types of suntan creams including cold creams, powder creams, liquid creams and bathing creams, anti-wrinkle cosmetics and whitening cosmetics increased and their qualities improved. The cosmetics from this factory thoroughly guarantee hygienic safety. In this process,

the number of people awarded certificates of scientific and technological achievements and invention is increasing constantly in this factory and the factory's cosmetics were highly rated at the 10<sup>th</sup> Pyongyang Autumn International Trade Fair in 2014.

Today researches are making headway in the factory to produce cosmetics that have both functional and therapeutical effects. Ri Son Hui, chief engineer of the factory, says, "The people's cultural and aesthetic level is rising everyday. The firm foundation of production we have laid with our own wisdom and efforts will enable us to present a more beautiful future to the people."

*Kim Un Chol*

# Secret of Increased Production

THE JOYANG COAL MINE under the Kaechon Coal-mining Complex is making extra efforts to send more coal to thermal power plants. "The height of science and technology means that of coal output." This is the motto of all the workers of the mine.

One year the mine turned out to be lagging behind other mines in the complex in production. It was a serious problem, for the mine had long stayed at the top in production results. To find the reason the general manager and the chief engineer went into pits and met skilled workers. Nothing changed, and this meant there was a different reason for the fall. Now they learned that other coal mines boosted production by introducing science and technology to suit their conditions. The managers of Joyang Coal Mine felt guilty seeing that the others were increasing production by giving priority to science and technology while pushing ahead with tunneling and adopting advanced cutting methods. When the Joyang

mine was busy with on-going production, the others were adopting a far-sighted way of operation. Now the Joyang managers made efforts to put the business on the IT basis. They successfully developed a management program in months in cooperation with the technicians from Ministry of Electronics Industry. Using the program they succeeded in putting the management on the IT basis based on intranet. With the realization of the intranet, the mine began to benefit from application of advanced technology. They improved the scientific accuracy of the design by computerizing the work of designing based on the 3D underground information system. As a result the time of designing shortened and the coal production went up.

In addition, the mine is making profit by introducing a 3D program into the processing of equipment. The processing of materials takes less time and makes less waste.

An important achievement

technicians gained in putting the operation on the IT basis is the completion of the image system program, which raised the mine's ranking to the top at the complex. The data base in the intranet contains as many as ten thousand items of science and technology, and it is steadily growing. The mine is pushing the scheme to estimate the character of the shape of coal beds through the CT physical prospecting while elevating the mining rate more than ten percent by increasing the pit-holding time with tied props. What is more, a new kind of prop-recycling machine is placed in every cutting face to cut the production cost. Kim Song Ho, manager of the Wolbong Pit, says, "Putting management on the IT basis is important in enhancing the miners' zeal and making an upsurge in production."

With the management getting on the IT basis and greater efforts directed to development of technology, the coal production is going up all the time.

*Kim Hyon Ju*



# Simple but Great

A FEW DAYS AGO WE visited the Pyongyang Condiment Factory. In front of the packing process where packages of peppered bean paste were streaming out, I heard a workshop manager call with delight, "Hey, workteam head, as our monopump is operating well, you can fulfil your daily plan at 120 percent, can't you?" The monopump he mentioned had been made by researchers at the Mining Machinery Research Institute, the State Academy of Sciences, I learned later.

Until years ago, the monopumps needed were all imported from abroad. For all that it was impossible to build a new production process, because the cost was too much. In fact, monopumps are essential to the factories that use high-viscosity liquid materials, but their demand was not big. As a result, when even a small part was worn off, they had to buy a complete set of monopump. What was worse was that some of them were shorter-lived than guaranteed. The purchase of the machines was getting more and more expensive, but it attracted little attention.

Early last year, Kim Jae Yong, a section head of the research institute, staying at a mine for his research work understood that the problem should not go unnoticed. As soon as he returned to the institute, he had a discussion about the problem. When researchers heard him say that monopumps should be made by themselves and



that in a way that any machine factory, not any special one, could make it, they looked confused. Because they knew that although the materials were obtainable without difficulty, they needed a special apparatus to process the complex profile of the inside of the pump with high precision. Moreover, the monopump itself wasn't of much scientific value.

But when they heard that not only the state suffered loss quite a lot year after year but also factories and enterprises had difficulties in normal operation for the problem, they knew they were mistaken, and actively supported the idea of the head researcher.

Thanks to their tireless efforts, the design was completed in a short period of time, but processing was still a problem. It was suggested that they could do it with a CNC-based machining centre. But when they tested the pump made with the centre, they found it wore off too fast. The problem was the processing pro-

gram.

The programmers redoubled their effort to make a new program which would be able to meet the requirements of accurate processing. Moreover, they set a higher aim of making a program which could be applied to processing monopumps of all sizes.

At the end of the year 2014, in less than a year after the start, their efforts emerged successful: a completely homemade monopump was developed. The newly developed one costs half of the older model in production, but its life has much increased. So it was highly appreciated at the 30<sup>th</sup> national sci-tech festival in the spring of 2015.

The workshop manager of the Pyongyang Condiment Factory said, "The pump isn't something great, but I think it's an important machine because it is soaked with the patriotic zeal of our scientists."

*Kim Chol Ung*

# *CodechefChampions*

**A**S A CONTEST WHERE THE WINNER IS decided by the accuracy of the answers given to the presented ten questions within 240 hours, the *Codechef* program contest is one of the world's top three Internet program contests.

In this contest the students of the Kim Chaek



Ryu Song Chol (*left*).

University of Technology won three consecutive victories in March, April and May this year. They were Ryu Song Chol, 21, and Mun So Min, 22, who are the program science circle members of the university which is leading the van of the country's science and technology.

With the intention of bringing glory to their university on the world arena, they waged an intensive brain war from the beginning of the March contest. After solving all questions in an instant, they were confronted with the last challenge question. It was to find N points on the secondary degree plane to satisfy any condition. Most participants in the contest tried to tackle the question only from the mathematical angle, but Ryu Song Chol correctly grasped its character and drew up his algorithm by applying the law of elasticity tactfully. So, even by the end of the contest other programs presented in the Internet did not reach the level of his first program submitted when he set about the question. The contest allowed renewing the solution 500 times, but Ryu only renewed it 200 times to come closest to the target value and gained the highest marks. Mun So Min came out second in the contest with 250 times of renewal.

Then, Mun made another exertion and won the

April contest.

The most impressive contest for the participants and spectators was the May contest. Many other program experts who had lost the March and April contests, too, entered the May contest. Their aim was to win. Ryu Song Chol who had stayed at the top for



Mun So Min.

all the time in the contests dropped to the third place just a day before the end of the contest. This proved that his rivals were never to be slighted. In fact, Ryu solved nine problems in a short time after the contest began, opening up the way to the first place. In the third day of the ten days' contest, he nearly solved the last challenge question. But the question which would decide the issue of the contest did not readily open its secret to him. He was somewhat flurried, but never lost his head. Though time was pressing, he conceived a new algorithm and brought his answer close to the target value. The contest ended in his win.

Ryu said, "During the contest, I only thought of winning first place. It was not necessary to have much time to get through the contest successfully. The awareness that we represent the country's level of sci-tech development inspired me with original ideas."

At present all members of the program science circle of the Kim Chaek University of Technology are studying hard full of confidence that they can win a *Codechef* championship if they make efforts like them.

*Chae Kwang Myong*

# Awaited Lectures

NOT LONG AGO I VISITED the Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce, when I heard some students talk, "The lectures are all full of clear and interesting contents." "Sure. What are we going to learn in the next lecture?" Urged by curiosity about the teachers, I headed for the clothes designing department of the clothing faculty.

Soon I met one of the teachers, Dr. Han Ki Nam, who has steadily renewed teaching contents of instruction and methods of clothes designing for over 40 years since the early days of the university.

One day years ago she realized that the students' ability was not as high as expected although they had had a good practice in her lectures. In particular, some students found it difficult to make a reasonably proportional structure of various styles of clothes. Now Han thought deeply about her teaching method. Though it is a kind of instruction on fine arts, the method to help the students get the knack through repeated experiments and experience was already outmoded, she said to other teachers. They felt it urgent to make a wider range of study of the structure of shapes of clothes, a branch of the industrial art.

Deepening the study

with their concerted efforts and wisdom, they found out a scientific and very substantial method to design clothes. It was to apply the principle of golden section. When the principle is applied to a subject, you can get the most stable and balanced effect of appearance. On the principle the teachers set a new calculation formula to fix the length of clothes of various kinds. The formula greatly helps fix the most reasonable and proportionate dimensions of clothes to suit any stature of people. It also makes it possible to closely combine scientific principles with artistic representation. The lectures and practices based on such a new method tremendously improved the students' cognitive, creative and practical abilities.

Not content with this, the

teachers exerted themselves to acquire a wider range of knowledge in different fields to give better lectures. They systematized a simple method to picture different postures of people. Based on this, they wrote textbooks and reference books with fresh contents, including *Study of Clothes Structure* and *Clothes Sketch*. More and more students of the university took top places at national industrial art festivals.

Going to supervise a graduation examination, Han Ki Nam said to me with a smile, "Our students are not waiting for lectures alone. They seem to wait more eagerly for the time when they will be able to demonstrate their ability good enough to compare with their teachers."

Kim Un Jong

**Teachers have a collective discussion to acquire relevant knowledge on designing of different styles of clothes.**



# Priority to Koryo Therapy

NOT BIG AS IT IS, THE Yonthan County People's Hospital in North Hwanghae Province is well known across the country for its honours at national medical science forums, provincial medical science forums and provincial drug and medical appliances exhibitions. In particular, the therapy based on Koryo medicines which are made from herbs richly found in the county is favourably commented upon, as it covers a shorter period of treatment, while being more efficacious and giving less spiritual and physical pains to patients than that of Western medicine.

In the past, the hospital staff made a thorough scrutiny of old books on medical science written by Korean ancestors to understand tantalizing principles of Koryo medicine. Now they found their locality was abundant in medicinal resources. On this basis, they buckled down to the effort to develop medicines suited to local patients' constitutions, characteristics and cases. By making the most of the telemedicine system connected with Kim Man Yu Hos-

pital and Okryu Children's Hospital, they made scientific analysis of their ideas of new medicines for both adults and children.

They also directed efforts into cultivation and collection of medicinal herbs suitable for the county's climatic and soil conditions, and standardized the production of Koryo medicines with their concerted efforts and wisdom. A doctor developed from peanut shell a remedy which makes it possible to cure the first- and second-degree frostbite in only two days, and another doctor prepared a liquid medicine to cure constipation, from the cherry seed. In a year 45 kinds of Koryo medicines were developed, including a Koryo anti-cancer medicine and an anti-hepatitis sweet pill. The Koryo therapy of laryngopharynx stenosis, the study of diarrhea treatment and the experience in Koryo therapy-based cure of osmidrosis axillae were highly evaluated at provincial medical science forums.

Their experience is

wisely disseminated in all provinces, counties and cities now. Koryo medicines which are now supplied to people's hospitals and polyclinics of the county town and ris, and the Koryo therapy-based service by section doctors are very effective.

About the secret, Ri Kwang Nam, the hospital's vice director in charge of technical affairs, says, "We intend to maintain and develop our nation's tradition and therapy, and we value our local people and our country. Perhaps this has brought us some success. Any health worker with such a spirit can do such a job."

*Ri Chung Ho*



Doctors discuss on effects of Koryo treatment.



# Adroit Hands



**P**YONGYANG MUNICIPAL People's Hospital No. 2, situated in Taesong District, Pyongyang, boasts able doctors of the digestive disease department who are well-known across the country for their high healing skills. All of those who have received treatment from them lavish praises on them for their adroit hands. The doctors treat patients of such internal diseases as acute gastroenteritis, pancreatitis, liver cirrhosis, acute colitis, stomach and duodenal ulcer and various hemorrhage of internal organs, curing them quickly.

This is not all. The department is always maintaining enough treating conditions and environment in keeping with their actual practice. This year, their zest is running high for introducing more scientific methods of treatment by the use of computer. They are exerting themselves to be well versed in all cases in four seasons while raising the operation rate of the medical apparatuses by improving their technical manage-

ment under a scrupulous plan. In addition, they are actively engaged in the preventive treatment of patients who have an acute stomachache in the changeable weather of autumn. All wards of the department are kept clean and tidy hygienically and the doctors and nurses in charge are performing their roles with a high sense of responsibility. In particular, they are devoting their energy to the improvement of the methods of treatment. They advance new ideas and discuss them frequently to shorten the time of treatment and ease the pains of the patients. Besides, they actively study and introduce the methods of treatment by Koryo medicine.

These remedies created by them have won first place respectively in the national show of scientific and technological achievements in the public health sector, a seminar on medical science and national sci-tech festivals. By their efforts, the patients of digestive troubles including acute pancreatitis are cured of their

diseases in a week, and cases of acute toxic colitis get well fast. The doctors are constantly improving their medical qualifications, poring over medical books in the Grand People's Study House and other archives and getting acquainted with cures not only of their own therapeutic line but also of other branches, through the Kim Man Yu Hospital's tele-medicine system. They are also striving to improve their technical level of operation.

As a result, many inventors and originators have come forth from among them and more and more of them have become holders of academic degree and professorship.

Phyo Tong Hyon, chief of the department, says, "People often say that we have adroit hands. Each time we hear it, we are encouraged, because their comment is a credit due to people who have fulfilled their duty and responsibility for human lives."

*Ri Chung Ho*

# Mulling over Happiness

**A**N OLD SAYING GOES, “The bird spreads its wings to fly while man is born to live happily.” There is no one who doesn’t wish happiness. It, however, never comes of its own accord. I can tell it by my career.

I was born of an ordinary college teacher’s family. My father taught at the Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry (the then Pyongyang University of Light Industry) and was always busy with education and research. Even on my first day at school he couldn’t take me to school as others did. He was on a local business tour for an immediate research project. Later, the day he was awarded the doctor’s degree, I asked him, “Dad, do you have to work so hard?” Then he, grasping my hands tightly, said, “Hyon Sil, there is no personal happiness apart from the national prosperity. To help our country develop wonderfully and get rich we should all do our work in a responsible manner. Then happiness will knock at each door.”

At that time I couldn’t read between the lines. When I was assigned to work at the then Pyongyang Soju (light spirits) Factory as I had wished after graduating from the university of light industry, my father said, “There is no distinction of jobs between men and women for social development. I wish you’d become a good worker.” His earnest wish has been the motive force for me to advance forward constantly.

Actually, a large number of women were working devotedly in different sectors of the national economy. In the scientific research sector Paek Sol Hui, a DPRK Labour Heroine, who had



rendered a great service to the improvement of the people’s eating habit, and other women scientists were doing their bit in propelling the development of the country’s science. I started my career with an ambition to be such a woman scientist.

I set it my goal to make a high-quality spirit which would reflect the pure-hearted, honest and kind nature of the Korean people and the fresh appearance of my country. From old times my country was widely known as a land with beautiful mountains and clear water. So it is rich in water resources which are not only fresh and clean but also healthy. First of all, I deepened the study of water resources while carrying on the basic research to make a spirit of a famous brand by using abundant water resources in the country. The aim was high, but it was not anything that could be attained in a short span of time.

My study continued even after I got married. Sometimes when I was on a business trip for research, the nursery and kindergarten took care of my son for me. My husband who was a teacher of the Kim Chaek University of

Technology appreciated and supported my work heartily.

In the course of this I was appointed as chief engineer of the newly-built Taedonggang Foodstuff Factory through the job of a field engineer. Many people gave me a helping hand in my study. The technical officers of the factory and even researchers of a professional institute joined discussions about my work, regarding it as their own and giving their opinion of the taste of the spirit I made. While getting rid of shortcomings one by one I developed a perfect wine named Pyongyang Soju after all difficulties. It was supplied to all the families across the country, and I can’t forget the time when I shared joy with people over the wine. I was in rapture of pride in having done what little I could do for the people. I intensified my research work, and I got the doctor’s degree. I was honoured to participate in the national conference of scientists and technicians and was elected a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People’s Assembly.

The door of happiness opened up wider. Last year my family moved to an apartment built and given by the country to the teachers of the Kim Chaek University of Technology free of charge. People envy me for my “successful career.” I say to them, “It is attributable to our grateful system. It set up all the women and mothers including me as dignified masters of society. Under this system we’ll get happier and happier.”

*Choe Hyon Sil, chief engineer of the Taedonggang Foodstuff Factory*

# Father and Son Make Picture Books

JANG UN SOP, JOURNALIST of the newspaper *Kyoyuk Sinmun*, has dedicated all his life to creating picture books for children. In recent years, his son Jang Tae Gil has also been working as an author of children's picture books at the Educational Books Publishing House. The books they have made interest not only children but adults, too, as they give common sense and knowledge.

## Mixing with Children

It is scores of years ago that Jang Un Sop began to make children's picture books. At that time, he was the chief of the picture book editorial department of the Kumsong Youth Publishing House. One Sunday he went to a bookshop. There a few children were looking into picture books. Now, a girl asked a boy standing next to her, "Brother, is this a puppy?" The boy replied curtly, "No, not a puppy, but a roe deer." But the girl insisted in a tearful voice, "Yes, it's puppy." "Don't be

Jang bought that book and returned home. Back home he scanned the pictures in question and found that the ears and legs of the roe deer were poorly done and more like those of the puppy—the ears less pointed and the front legs not so lithe. He mumbled to himself, "How important the role of picture books is in giving a correct understanding of things to the children!" He awoke to the fact that the author of picture books should have high ability to make children grasp the meaning of things at once by seeing pictures, not by listening to some seniors. Since then he spared no time and efforts to perceive the characteristics of things and phenomena. He went to wherever there were children, including nurseries, kindergartens, and primary and middle schools to delve into the children's world.

In this process he produced *Hygiene Reader* for primary and middle schools and the picture book *Let's Learn Hygiene* in answer to the request of the relevant

per *Kyoyuk Sinmun*, he found out scores of fairy tales which had lain hidden for a long time and made a collection of children's picture books and multimedia pieces with them in concert with his son, rendering great services to the upbringing and edification of the children.

## Following in the Steps of His Father

After graduating from the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, Jang Tae Gil took up the job of making children's picture books at the Educational Books Publishing House. A few years later, he made a draft of his first picture book *A Rabbit and an Elephant* and showed it to his father. His father was pleased with the book made by personifying the story of the ears of a rabbit and the trunk of an elephant growing longer.

He turned over the leaves of the book appreciating its contents with the eye of a naive child rather than a judge. Then, he told his son, "The rabbit is a docile



Jang Tae Gil.

"stupid," the boy retorted flatly. At this, the little girl burst into tears, refuting, "It's just like the puppy in my grandma's home." Un Sop consoled her and asked, "What is it your grandma's puppy resembles that of the book in?" To this the girl muttered her reply, "The ears and legs."

international organization, and made visual aids for children *Traffic Safety Play*, *Environmental Hygiene Play* and *Living Habits Play*, in addition to doing over 150 illustrations for newspapers, magazines and books, and bookbindings every month. Further, after moving to the newspa-



Jang Un Sop.

animal. So, people often call it mild. So, the mild nature of the rabbit should be apparent in its appearance. Then, the children will perceive the mild nature of the rabbit by seeing its picture." He continued to say that a picture book is not merely an art piece, but is a kind of textbook showing ►

# Pondering

► the characters and principles of things and phenomena in an interesting way to the children, and that therefore, the pictures should be drawn as vividly as life and in a way suited to the mentality of children. This requires, he added, that the compiler of the picture book should be an educator before an artist and a child psychologist before a picture book publisher.

Now the son set about the work of revision. His thought was focused on how to draw pictures that were agreeable to the mind of children. He often visited a kindergarten in the neighbourhood and listened to the story told by the teacher and observed the way of children's answers to the teacher's question and their behaviours. He studied in detail what kind of words came easy to the children, what were the thoughts and behaviours peculiar to them, how they expressed their joy and sorrow and how their different characters expressed. In this way he delved into every movement of children and their inner thoughts. This is just one aspect of his efforts to make picture books for children. He visited many nurseries and kindergartens in Pyongyang and travelled to the provinces numberless times to collect materials for picture books. He went to the Central Zoo scores of times to draw living animals for his books.

He published scores of multi-volume picture books including *You and Me, Ha Ha Ha!*, *Pongi Kim Son Dal* and *I Want to Know Everything*. Recently, he published *Developing the Intellectual Faculties of Children* (20 vols), *Foreign Fairy Tales* (60 vols), *I Can Do It by Myself* (32 vols), and the intellectual picture book *Do You Know?* (10 vols). All of them are winning favour among the children and adults for their life-like and fresh pictures.

He continues to go to see children to make more picture books for children and pupils.

Sim Yong Jin

**I**M ONE OF THE ORDINARY girl workers you can see wherever you go in this country. If there's anything different about me, it would be the fact that I volunteered to be a mother of seven orphans when I was 18. I am now known to the whole country as "maiden mother." I find myself feel shy when I receive congratulatory and inspiring letters, on Mother's Day, which start with "Dear 'Maiden Mother'." There are countless people in my country, who dedicate their blood and flesh and even lay down their lives for the sake of others without hesitation. I know it well, and this urges me to write about what encouraged and helped me, an unknown girl, regarding my conduct as laudable.

Kangson, where I was born and grew up, is known as the home of the world-famous Chollima. It's also famous for the story about the "Shoemul (molten iron) House" in which, after the Fatherland Liberation War (1950–1953), people of different strata from different places with the chequered past were hugged readily in a family to be trained as true, honorable people before the country and the people.

It was one January day in 2013, when I began to work at the Chollima District Public Catering Agency, Nampho, after I finished school. As usual I went to give a helping hand at the steel workshop of the Chollima Steel Complex, where my mother was registered as an honorary worker. Passing by the resting room of the shop I happened to see some children play-



Jang Jong Hwa at the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference of Model Youth of Virtue.

ing in the room. When I asked who they were, I was told that their father had died from a sudden illness while working in the steel workshop and that their mother, a model worker in the workshop, had also died in harness. The kind-hearted workers of the workshop had been looking after the children, regarding it as their duty.

I returned home, but the image of the eldest girl was still lingering before my eyes, who I had heard would try to be a good sister, taking the place of her parents, to lull her younger sisters, who frisked about during the day and called their mother at night, sitting on her lap.

Couldn't I be their mother? I thought hard. Finally I made up my mind when the morning came.

That's how I adopted Un Jong and her two sisters, and in the following month I took four more orphans home. Ja Myong, two years old, was among them.

Adopting those children, I didn't regard my decision and deed as something laudable. I thought it natural since I was just a girl of Kangson who had ►

# over Motherhood

► grown up hearing the story about the “Shoemul House,” as well as daughter of the woman who had adopted me, an orphan, and looked after me just like my own mother would do. That’s why I tried to keep the tiring burden to myself.

But I was mistaken. One of those days when I sat up night after night treating Ja Myong with abscess on all his body, officials of my agency visited me at my house bringing school supplies to the children and other things for everyday life.

Manageress Pak Myong Hak, caressing my hands, said, “I see you have been looking after these innocent children alone though you are only a girl. You haven’t asked for any help and have been bringing them up for yourself in silence. That’s praiseworthy. That is a difficult job even for an experienced woman, so I wonder how you can manage to do it alone. How about taking care of them altogether?”

The story about my children became gradually known to many

people. Vegetables and foodstuffs came to my home preferentially from the vegetable and grocery stores.

My family was always under the concern of the dong officials, and neighbourhood unit meetings were often held in my house to address assistance to my family. Some managers and workers of the road maintenance company often came to my house to do male-hand-needed housework. The sincerity of the staff of the district youth league committee also touched my heart. When they heard that a young girl with some orphaned children often visited the steel workshop to give a helping hand, they came to see us at my house. The officials of the local People’s Committee, caring for my family in every nook and corner, often called in, supplying my children’s winter clothes ahead of others.

These people all looked like my own parents, brothers and sisters, and I frequently found myself tearfully thankful.

Yet I wasn’t aware that their

heart-warming sincerity was much more than sympathy for the orphans or care for a girl who had been taking care of them by herself, until I was honoured to take part in the Second National Conference of Model Youth of Virtue. At the meeting I got to know innumerable deeds of virtue performed by young people across the country, and I felt anew that all the help and assistance I had had came from the intrinsic nature of our socialist system, which is a large family.

After the conference I had the glory of meeting our respected leader Kim Jong Un at the photo session. Putting me forward before the participants in the meeting, he, in his kind voice, called me “maiden mother.” It sounded just like the voice of my beloved mother, who would enjoy finding even a small thing laudable about her children and feel proud of it.

Now the leader further nurtures the spirit of selfless devotion to society among young people.

As long as we live under his care, I’m sure my children will grow up to be true people who will add to the glory of our country wherever they work and whatever they do.

That’s why I say to my children in my heart whenever they call me mother, “We are all sons and daughters not of any one mother but of the Workers’ Party of Korea that is developing a garden of humanity on this land under the leadership of our leader Kim Jong Un.”

*Jang Jong Hwa, worker of the Chollima District Public Catering Agency, Nampho*



# Picturesque Rural Community



**T**ODAY THE JANGCHON Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, is well known across the country as a picturesque community; numerous greenhouses sparkling with the sunshine, houses standing in rows along the crisscross wide roads, fruit trees surrounding each of the houses, the Jangchon Health Complex, the house of culture and other public buildings of unique shapes, and the resting places. A glance gives you refreshing and modern aesthetic feelings, and a closer look presents a cosy and comfortable sense. You are too attracted to it

to step away.

The rural community does not evoke admiration alone. It arouses your interest in how it came into existence and has developed. The local residents of the Jangchon farm say that the radical transformation of their farm began with vegetable growing. In the past, they eked out their lives by growing foxtail millet or barnyard millet, because the yield of other crops was much lower. Later the farm entered a golden age under the concern of the state. Deciding that vegetable is the most appropriate crop in the land, the state opened up a bright pros-

pect of vegetable farming. The managers and workers of the farm started to do vegetable farming on a large scale in compliance with the state policy of producing vegetables to be supplied to the Pyongyang citizens in all seasons while raising their income.

Now the local people put an end to their lament over their land which is improper to grain ▶





► farming, and wrote a new chapter of history, this time, of prosperity. The scale of the farm expanded year after year, and it has turned

into a special vegetable supplier to the Pyongyangites. And the livelihood of the farm workers improved with each passing day

thanks to the preferential treatment taken by the state in the relevant periods. The people used to say their living was far better ►





- ▶ than the landlords' in the past.

Now that the farm workers became better off, the state set up a target of building civilized rural communities. Like in other farms, mechanization was introduced in the Jangchon farm, making toilsome jobs into easy ones, and imposing dwellings went up in lines. In the 1990s the farm was famous across the country for its good economy.

The supreme national leader Kim Jong Un's visit to the farm in June last year became a new landmark in its development.

Another chapter of history of changes has been written. Houses of two to three storeys furnished with a complete set of furniture and family utensils, and a natural energy supply grid was introduced into them. Many greenhouses based on the cutting-edge science and technology were built, making vegetable production scientific, information-based and intensive on a high level. The house of culture of the farm is as wonderful as an urban one, and it is filled with the workers' singing of their happiness and emotion.

The Jangchon Health Complex and other resting places are overflowing with the enjoyment of the people.

Kim Myong Yon, chairwoman of the farm's management board, says, "We don't enjoy our farm's landscape alone on the pavilion. Appreciating the changed appearance of our farm we recall its yesterday, and we see in it the future of the rural communities of our country and the height of the civilized socialist nation we're going to build."

*Ri Song Chol*



# The Spirit Undestroyed Even in the Flames



Yun Kwang Nam.



Ri Son Il.

THE KOREAN PEOPLE VALUE THEIR leader and the Party more than their own lives and regard the guarding of them at the cost of their lives as a great honour. Among them are eight people who remain for ever in the memory of people as glorious credits to the country.

At about two o'clock in the afternoon of April 26 this year black smoke was rolling up from a mountain not far from the Sogu Revolutionary Battle Site area in Tanchon City, South Hamgyong Province. It was a forest fire. Fanned by the strong wind blowing 15 metres per second, it spread with horrible sounds. The Sogu Revolutionary Battle Site has trees bearing the inscriptions of slogans written by members of a small unit of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army who were active in the area during the anti-Japanese revolutionary war waged under the command of Kim Il Sung in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century for national liberation.

Such trees inscribed with slogans are in many places of the country. The inscriptions represent the KPRA soldiers' steadfast mental attitude to defend the headquarters of the revolution at the cost of their

lives and remain loyal to their leader. Therefore, they are not mere slogans but historical data vividly showing the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters' loyalty to their leader, boundless devotion to the revolution, conviction of sure victory and revolutionary optimism; they are valuable treasures of the Workers' Party of Korea and the revolution and the most precious treasures of the nation to be handed down to posterity.

Yun Kwang Nam, a people's security man, took the lead in rushing up to the mountain ridge where slogan-bearing trees stood. He was followed by other people's security men, interior army soldiers and battle-site guides and caretakers. No sooner had they reached the area of slogan-bearing trees than the fire bore down on the place. Black smoke overspread the sky. Raging flames, producing terrific sounds, swept across the pine tree tops, shedding fireballs to the ground. The thick smoke was blinding and choking. Nevertheless, they dauntlessly faced the difficulty and set about daubing the letters of the slogans with clay. They dug up clay from around the trees and, moistening it with water, plastered the tree trunks ►

- with it layer upon layer. Their uniforms caught fire and their faces were fire-flushed. Their flesh burned in the flames, but they were unaware of it. With the only thought that though they themselves were burnt to death, the letters of slogans on the tree bodies must remain unhurt, they spread clay on the slogans with set teeth and scratched the earth for clay with bleeding hands.

Ri Son Il, a people's security man, who was coating the tree trunk with clay shielding his body against the flames, found some of the letters of the slogan high up beyond his reach, and so climbed up the tree inch by inch. Though exhausted, he managed to ascend the tree with superhuman effort and spread the last lump of clay on the upper part of the slogan. With no more energy left in him, he lost consciousness and slipped down to the ground. At that moment a strong hot wind sent him rolling down the slope of the valley.

Seeing this, Yun Kwang Nam rushed up to him and picked him up. He carried Son Il on his back and went down the valley with soldiers. Now the flames were spreading to the opposite mountain ridge. In the strong wind, the flames shot up and leapt over hundreds of metres from one ridge to another as if to devour all living things. Collecting his blurred consciousness, Yun brought Son Il and another man to safety, and then turned round to go back into the flames and smokes. Someone stopped in his way, telling him, "No, don't. If you go, you'll be killed."

But he turned his steps into the thick smoke. He met soldiers coming down in each other's arms and asked them repeatedly about the safety of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il's portraits, the Party's basic slogans and the political books. Then, after telling the soldiers to get out of the valley without delay, he went up to the place where buildings of the revolutionary battle site stood. He could not rest assured before he saw with his own eyes if the old battle site was out of danger.

It was only when the fire got under control and the smoke cleared away that people, hearing about the forest fire, rushed up to the mountain. They urgently evacuated the senseless people's security men, soldiers and cooperative farm workers lying about all

over the place and kept going up when they discovered Yun lying unconscious near a burnt building. They shook him up. He barely muttered, "Trees, slogan-bearing trees!" and dropped his head. The people's security men and soldiers who arrived belatedly moved Yun's body to the hospital and entered the room of the first-aid department where Son Il's body was lying. They hugged it, crying out in tears, "Son Il, you oughtn't to go this way! Open your eyes, please! Open!"

Yun, 48, and Son Il, 21, were dead. They fought against the flames for 15 minutes and were gone! Then, what made them leap into the flames, knowing full well that they could lose their lives?

About this, *Rodong Sinmun*, the organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, for July 1 wrote, "They were convinced that though they might die, the slogan-bearing trees would remain alive forever, handing down the revolutionary traditions of Paektu, or its lineage, to posterity. They also firmly believed that everything valuable in this land would be transmitted forever as long as the lineage of Paektu endured long. With this conviction and confidence kept deep in their minds, the eight courageous people of the Pomsok Valley—Yun Kwang Nam, Ri Son Il, Yu Kwang Hyok, Kim Il Hyok, Kim Song Il, Choe Wi Song, Kim Nam Hyok and Jo Hye Song—could unhesitatingly rush into the scene of life-and-death battle just as the 17 heroes of the Mujae Peak had done in the past. The trees which they protected at the cost of their lives solemnly display the slogans: Twenty million compatriots! Korea has a great good fortune. A new general star has risen over Mt. Paektu to grow up into a Janggun star (Kim Il Sung), 'The heroine (Kim Jong Suk) of Mt. Paektu is mowing down the Japanese rogues by moving with preternatural swiftness!'

"Although their bodies were burnt to death, no flames nor hot winds could burn the slogan-bearing trees because there was the spirit of defending the leader with one's own life standing in the way of the flames."

They were simple people, no more than ordinary people's security personnel.

*An Nam Hui*

# No. 1

*By Ri Kuk Chol*

**S**ONG JUN WAS ALMOST dumb-founded. Now he seemed to believe the proverb "Misfortunes never come singly." When he was already in a fix over the delayed production of spare parts needed for overhauling of machines and equipment, he heard shocking news.

Almost stupefied, he gazed at Jin Myong in front of him. How could he put Jin Myong, who was as good a keeper as anyone else, out of the match? Song Jun felt as if he were seeing a house collapse after its pillars were removed.

"Well, Comrade Workshop Manager," said Jin Myong, who could no longer stand him sitting absent-mindedly, "you have to stop sitting idle but straighten out the situation."

*He is right. It isn't late yet. I've to straighten it out,* Song Jun thought, and left his office in the workshop in haste.

The enterprise was going to have an inter-workshop sports meeting from the next day. The annual contest was a fierce competition that would decide the honour of the workshop, as was usually stated by the young workers of his workshop. The result of the contest would have a great influence on the enthusiasm of the workers for production. So the workshop managers were all enthusiastic about the contest, trying to provide their teams with better uniforms, spikes and other things than their rivals. Perhaps the sports meeting was, in the final analysis, the contest of workshop managers' logistics—as organizer, coach and supply service officer.

It was probably right, viewed from the case of Jin Myong alone, who had been working in the enterprise since he had been demobbed two years before. He was a wonderful goalkeeper. To make a score in the goal he kept was something almost as difficult as to put a thread through the eye of a needle in the candlelight. In reality his maintenance workshop had taken first place at this time the previous year thanks to Jin Myong, when it had been the envy of other workshop managers. Some managers even asked Song Jun to recommend a good goalkeeper like Jin Myong. But, now when another round of football games was going to start, Jin Myong said he was banned to play. Perhaps it was a false rumour Jin Myong overheard.

Song Jun didn't know what had brought him into the office of a senior officer of the enterprise, when he reached it.

The senior officer who always wore a bright smile, stood up from his seat and welcomed Song Jun in warmly, saying, "I knew you would come. You're here to talk about the matter of Jin Myong, aren't you?"

The greeting sounded quite ominous, so Song Jun felt his heart fall with a thud. "I'm afraid it'd be a great difficulty to persuade all the workshop managers," said the senior officer.

Song Jun felt as if a doctor took out an injection even before the patient made a groaning sound.

"We decided that the workshop managers be the No. 1 player of their teams from now on,

that is, the goalkeeper. You know the whole country is enthusiastic about sport, and I believe we officers should stand in the van and have a wonderful game."

Song Jun could hardly utter a word in protest, and stepped out of the office listlessly. What could he say?

It was quite an embarrassing situation. Song Jun knew they could hardly win without Jin Myong. According to the routine of the contest decided by the lot drawn, his team was going to have a match with the consumer goods workshop team, whose manager was a famously competitive woman. She was just his wife. The consumer goods workshop team was formidable footballers. This year, too, on Sundays, they had often played football games between workteams in the shop, making thorough preparations. Eventually, the first game of the contest was to take place between Song Jun and his wife Sim Ryon Sil, rather than a match between the maintenance workshop and the consumer goods workshop.

Song Jun and his wife were both sports enthusiasts. Before he became the workshop manager, Song Jun had been referred to as "goalkeeper" or "football master." It wasn't too much to say that it was thanks to his efforts that his daughter was a runner at the Amnokgang Sports Team and that his son was a good forward in the local juvenile sports school's football team. When Song Jun gave a fluent summary of the recent sports events at home and abroad during the spare time, ▶

► there were crowds of people around him. And when there was a football game on the TV, he was an able commentator. When he said seeing a player miss a valuable chance, "Oh no! He shouldn't have made a direct shot but passed the ball to the No. 3 player. That's pity," the TV commentator said, "In that case, passing the ball to the charging No. 3 player would have been better for a shot than a direct shot. It's quite a regret."

No sooner had he commented, "He's dribbling too much. He should pass the ball at a kick. Otherwise his team might be exposed to a counteroffensive," than the TV commentator said, "If the players keep the ball too long, it might be a chance for the opposite team to make a counteroffensive," to the pleasant surprise of his children as well as his wife.

His wife Ryon Sil was also fond of sport. As a young girl she used to be an enthusiastic footballer with a great dream.

The ties of the couple became sealed when Song Jun was carried by Ryon Sil on the back one day. About the lunch time Song Jun who had been repairing a machine, fell with a serious pain in the belly. Luckily, he was noticed by Ryon Sil who was there in the maintenance workshop to get a spare part, and another girl. When the other girl began to call for help from men, Ryon Sil unhesitatingly took him on her back and rushed to the factory hospital. Other girls might have crumpled trying to take Song Jun, or fallen down in a few steps while carrying him. But Ryon Sil, a girl of a small stature, managed to carry him to an operation table in a rush—to the surprise of all people who knew her. Song Jun was successfully operated on for his

acute appendicitis. To hear him worry himself about the disassembled machine, the girl was moved. And Song Jun was drawn to her for her sincere heart, for she had collected all his tools in the box and kept them until he returned. This was how they had got married.

Whenever he recollected the story, Song Jun felt happy, his face wearing a smile. His wife was always in high spirit and healthy. She was seldom confused about her difficulties at home or at work, probably because she was an enduring kind of woman. She was a great pride to Song Jun. That must have been the reason why he usually asked those who were going to marry if his spouse was able to carry him on the back and run a hundred metres without difficulty. And when he heard boys talk they wanted to get married, he would advise, "Choose an athletic girl. That'll be all right with you."

On his way back home Song Jun was harassed by the thought that he had to be a goalkeeper in the game. What shame would it be if he lost the ball in the goal? He had never gone out to play since he became the workshop manager. He had believed that the workshop manager had only to arrange the game, draw up the tactic and look after the supply service. Now things turned strange. He had to keep the goal for his team as chief of the workshop. He felt all the more nervous to think that his wife might make fun of him at the doorway. She had often talked Jin Myong was the mainstay of Song Jun's team—the only good luck to Song Jun.

Getting home, however, Song Jun couldn't see his wife. He felt rather sorry. His daughter said

she had gone to the school playground to play football with her son. *Alas, here's a pretty go. She is nearly 50, and yet she thinks she's young,* Song Jun told himself.

"Mum said you'd better go out to the playground, too," his daughter said, when Song Jun licked his lips.

His wife came in only after darkness fell. "Why don't you train, Song Jun?" she asked in a concerned voice, seeing him absorbed in a piece of paper at the desk in the upper room. "I'm afraid you'll make a mess," she declared before walking into the bathroom.

Song Jun raised his head from the paper, and talked rebukingly, "That's a shame for you, a workshop manageress, to play football. Don't be silly. You're going to be a laughing stock."

"Let them laugh," words came from the bathroom along with giggles and sound of showering. "How can I feel shy when I've to go out for a game tomorrow? Now that I've had a good exercise, I feel quite refreshed."

"Then, you'd better pitch a tent in the playroom and settle there," Song Jun talked back with a sneer. "And apply for the Women's World Cup. You're being a fool. You're a workshop manageress, so you've to draw up a tactic and make a good disposition of players. However hard you try, you'd never be Jin Myong."

That night Song Jun racked his brain to frame up a tactic of the football game. He worked over a sheet of paper throughout the night, making arrows and circles and sometimes making nods in doze. His head was filled with a football game.

*(To be continued)*

# The Rimyongsu Cascade

THE RIMYONGSU CASCADE is located in the Rimyongsu Workers' District, Samjiyon County, Ryanggang Province. Water cascades down a cliff

on the right side of the Rimyongsu valley which was formed by the erosion of basalt belched out by Mt. Paektu a million years ago, looking like a sheet of white silk

hanging over a steep wall of rock.

There are nine main falls and many small ones coming down like beads between the main falls. The main falls rush down breaking on rocks into sprays or branch off into small torrents to meet again and fall into a large pool. The cascade looks like a collection of various falls, presenting different sceneries according to seasons in good harmony with black rocks between falls, crystal-clear water below and surrounding woods. Azaleas in spring, green foliage in summer and maple-tinged scenery in autumn offer peculiar scenic beauty. It is wonderful to see a rainbow spanning the sky over the cascade in a sunny day. In winter, the whole place is adorned with ice, yet still there is water falling between ice columns. Especially, when the gushing underground water comes in contact with the icy air, fog forms to make frostworks on the tree branches in the valley, turning the whole place into a world of white frostworks.

As the cascade comes from underground water, it makes an unusual landscape, and so it was designated as Natural Monument No. 345 in January 1980. The cascade is topped by a pavilion which commands a view of the surrounding scenery.



Pak Thae Ho

# Pyongyang, Cradle of Korean Nation (1)

**I**N THE PAST SOME historians including the Japanese infected with imperialism denied the theory that the Koreans came from the present-day Korea. Distorting history they argued that the Korean nation was formed by immigrants from different quarters. Such a distortion is still going on.

As the historians of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea stipulated in a written protest to the US government and historians on June 15, 1989, the US researchers twisted the origin of the Koreans and the formation of the Korean nation in a textbook of world history: they divided the inhabitants in the Korean peninsula into two groups, the natives and immigrants, and argued that those who had arrived in Korea before Christ dominated the natives and that in the course of this a "mixed-blood tribe" was formed, becoming the basis of the formation of the Korean nation.

The *Korea Today* editorial board serially introduces Professor Jang U Jin's work on the clar-

ity of the fact that Korea is one of the cradles of human civilization and that Pyongyang, capital of the DPRK, was the cradle of the Korean nation where the homogeneity of bloodline, language, culture and territory developed.

## From Time Immemorial

A site of historical interest that dates back to the first term of the Old Stone Age, called Komunmoru Remains, was discovered at Hugu-ri, Sangwon County in 1966. It was named after the original name of the locality. In this site stone implements used by primitive people and animal bones from the past geological ages were unearthed in numbers. The stone implements were very crude ones including crescent-shaped, trapezoidal, pointed and broken stone implements, which were made artificially for the first time in history. The fossilized animal bones were of 29 large and small species and come under seven orders, 17 families, 22 genera. Eighteen kinds of them are already extinct. Sangwon horse,

Sangwon flat-antlered deer and Sangwon hyena with large spots were characteristic species ever known in history. Those animals are supposed to have existed during the early Diluvial epoch of the Quaternary period. They are quite consistent with the chronological background hinted by the morphological characteristics and primitive feature of the unearthed stone implements. Apparently the animal bone fossils date back a million years ago when humans appeared on the earth. Thus it can be said that the earliest primitive people just after the period of the ape-men began the human life in the Pyongyang area.

The Komunmoru people opened the human history in the Pyongyang peneplain keeping the Taedong River as a source of life-giving water. Later, they developed steadily in the severe struggle against natural rigours in the arena of the area.

That the descendants of the Komunmoru people lived from generation to generation in the Taedong River basin centering on the Pyongyang area is to be proved well by remains belonging to the middle Palaeolithic era, including those found in Taehyondong, Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, and the lower layer of a cave in Mt. Sungni in Tokchon City, South Phyongan Province, and remains ascribed to the late Palaeolithic era, including those in a cave at Mandal-ri, Sungho District, North Hwanghae Province, and the middle layer of a cave in Mt. Sungni in Tokchon City, ▶

The panoramic view of the Komunmoru Remains.



# Yon Kaesomun

KOGURYO (277 BC–AD 668), the first feudal state of Korea, was the most powerful country in Korean history. Koguryo was celebrated in the East as a powerful nation for about a thousand years because its people deeply loved their country, had great national pride and were very brave.

The chronicles of Koguryo record many great military commanders. Among them was Yon Kaesomun (?–666) who displayed peerless valour in battles against the foreign invaders in the mid-7<sup>th</sup> century. Brave and excelled in martial arts from his childhood, he was sturdy and dignified as a man.

When the country was threatened openly with foreign invasion, the feudal rulers were frightened and cowardly took to the path of surrender. But Yon, now the commander of the nation's army, provided against the enemy's invasion by building up the national



power—storing up food, reinforcing armament and repairing and strengthening all the walled cities and fortresses.

In 645 when the foreign aggressors invaded Koguryo with hundreds of thousands strong army and naval forces, he mobilized all the Koguryo people and army troops to the struggle to defend the country. Under his command, the Koguryo army and people fought fierce battles at many walled cities and fortresses in the Ryodong region including

Kaemo, Pisa and Ryodong cities. For 60 days the enemy tried frantically to take the Ansi Walled City by banking up earth against the walls to cross them, but in vain. In this battle, the enemy suffered heavy casualties and beat a hasty retreat giving up the siege. In 647, 648 and many other times when the alien foes made inroads, Yon led the Koguryo army and people to victory, demonstrating his spirit and resources as commander. The aggressors had been struck out of their wits so dreadfully by the renowned commander of Koguryo that even a crying child would stop crying when he heard "Yon Kaesomun is coming."

So, Yon Kaesomun became noted in history for the feats he performed in building up the national power and firmly defending the country against the invading enemy by arousing the entire army and people.

*Pak Yong II*

- South Phyongan Province. Gradually the Komunmoru descendants expanded their realm of life to wider areas of Korea centred on the area of Pyongyang. At first they were in a small collective of primitive humans, but as the population increased the group became bigger only to be divided into many smaller groups. Such a process repeated constantly and in the Old Stone Age the descendants of the Komunmoru people came to live in an expansive territory of Korea.

Remains from the early Palaeolithic era were unearthed in

Kumgul in Tanyang County, North Chungchong Province, and in Kongju City, South Chungchong Province. Meanwhile, many stone implements were discovered in Jongok-ri, Ryonchon County, Kyonggi Province, which are estimated to come from the late first term, or the middle term, of the Palaeolithic era. Most of them were crescent-shaped axes, pointed trigonal and sharp stone implements, hunting stones and hammers made of quartzite and they were much more developed than Komunmoru Remains. There were many

types of crescent-shaped axes—spear-pointed, arch, oval and flat axes, in particular.

Entering the middle and later terms of the Old Stone Age the people's vitality strengthened and they expanded their life to farther places from Pyongyang. The remains of the middle and later terms of the Old Stone Age were unearthed on the Tuman River in the north of Korea (Osinovka remains in the Maritime Province of Russia), in Rason City (Kulpho culture) and Jeju Island in the southernmost of Korea (the Pille Pond). □

# Pongsan Mask Dance

THE PONGSAN MASK Dance, a typical folk dance in the region of Hwanghae Province, is part of the cultural heritage of the Korean nation.

From olden times the mask dance was popular everywhere in Hwanghae Province, so the province was famous for mask dance of all things. The most celebrated is the one found in the Pongsan area.

The Pongsan Mask Dance has a wide variety of forms, and the twelve-scene work is well known across the country. Presented in the forms of singing, instrumental music, dancing, talking and mime, and by means of mask, costume and props, the dance is basically represented by dancing. The masks are shaped after people of different social strata and characters and various animals. The costumes usually consist of white trousers, a *jogori* (a coat) and a red-coloured jacket with green sleeves, all looking gorgeous. Typical musical instruments used are flute, fife, *haegum* (a Korean fiddle), *janggu*, drum and so on, and typical pieces of music are *Kut-*

well as their desire and requirement for things new.

By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, almost all parts of the province had their own mask dances, typical of which were the ones in Haeju, Kangryong, Unryul, Sohung and Sinchon.

But after they occupied Korea militarily the Japanese imperialists issued the orders of forbidding the play of the Pongsan Mask Dance in 1937, so it gradually disappeared from the memory of the people.

After national liberation (August 15, 1945) President Kim Il Sung saw to it that the Pongsan Mask Dance, which had almost been extinct under the Japanese policy of stamping out national culture of Korea, was put on the stage. He also scrutinized the restored mask dance performances and gave an instruction to perfectly improve it as a folk dance suited to the aesthetic tastes of the time. Appreciating the Pongsan Mask Dance as treasure of the country, he took a step to save it on a documentary film for its preservation and development.

Chairman Kim Jong Il,

seeing the folk opera *Tale of Chun Hyang*, asked to insert the Pongsan Mask Dance into the opera so that the opera was more folk-oriented. When he visited Unjon-ri, Pongsan County, in June 2003, he saw the Pongsan Mask Dance presented by the local farm workers, when he encouraged them to disseminate it.

As a result, the Pongsan Mask Dance has became widely known as a favourite folk dance of the people, and a typical artistic form with deep national characters. It was performed at the opening and closing ceremonies of the 13<sup>th</sup> World Festival of Youth and Students in 1989 and the Taesongsan folk ground for the event, exciting praises of the audience from around the world for its spectacular scenes.

Under the guidance of the national leader Kim Jong Un who is adding lustre to the national cultural heritage true to the intention of the President and the Chairman, the Pongsan Mask Dance is now becoming popular among the people, men and women, young and old, and it is also a favourite programme of the stage art. □



*gori, Tharyonggok, Nyombulgok* and the like.

Evolving from the Koguryo Mask Dance, the Pongsan Mask Dance made a rapid development in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, showing the bitter irony and ridicule against monks and rulers of the feudal society and the people's progressive view and attitude to the contradiction of the feudal society as



# The 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures

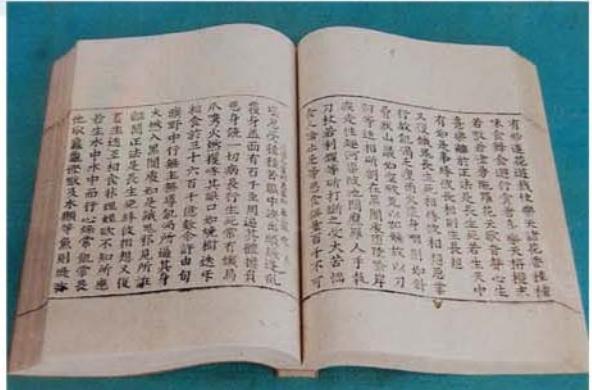


A wooden block of *The 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures* and a book printed with the blocks.

**I**N KOREA THERE ARE OLD BOOKS printed with 80 000 blocks. They are the *Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures* which were compiled during the Koryo dynasty (918–1392). They are a library of Buddhist literature comprising a colossal amount of books in classification. The engraving of the blocks began in 1011 and ended in 1087, and the scriptures consist of over 6 000 volumes.

Later, in the latter half of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, 4 769 volumes of over 1 000 kinds of Buddhist Scriptures compiled by the famous monk Uichon known as Taegakguksa were printed with wooden blocks for the second time by the Buddhist books publishing organ Kyojongdogam. However, all of them were burnt down by foreign aggressors in 1231. So, the third carving of Buddhist Scriptures in wooden blocks started in 1236 and ended in 1251. The complete Buddhist literature was printed in 6 793 volumes of over 1 530 kinds and carved in 80 000 wooden blocks. This is *The 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures* handed down to this day as the world's oldest and most complete Buddhist literature. It is also called *Koryo Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures*.

The wooden blocks were made of *Machilus thunbergii*, oak and white birch. Each block 69.6 cm long, 24 cm wide and 3.7 cm thick has 22 lines and 14 letters in each line. The four corners of the block are



protected with brass belts fixed with nails and wood bars are attached to both ends to prevent twist. The surface is lacquered to prevent rotting and moth-eating. It is now kept in the Pohyon Temple, Hyangsan County, North Phyongan Province. Thanks to the state policy on preserving legacy of national culture, it is kept at the storehouse equipped with modern facilities in Mt. Myohyang well-known as a scenic spot. In 1988 the National Classics Research Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences published the bibliographical introduction of the complete Buddhist literature in 25 volumes.

The 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures comprises Buddhist doctrines and their interpretation, biographies of well-known monks and other contents absolutizing Buddhism, but still they remain a valuable cultural legacy of the Korean nation showing high printing techniques. □

# The Manwoltae Remains

**M**ANWOLTAE IS THE OLD site of the royal palace of Koryo (918–1392) in Songak-dong, Kaesong. The palace, the main royal home of Koryo, was originally magnificent and imposing, but burnt down by foreign invaders in 1361. The royal palace with an area of 1 250 000 square metres consisted of the main palace and the southern annex palace.

The main palace 390 000 square metres wide had four big gates— Sungphyong Gate, the main gate, on the south, Sohwa Gate on the west, Tonghwa Gate on the east and Hyonmu Gate on the north—and small other gates. The Tonghwa Gate communicated with the Crown Prince's palace. Inside the Sungphyong Gate were the Tongnak Pavilions on both sides and there was a wide yard called Kujong between the Sungphyong Gate and the Sinbong Gate. The Kwangmyong Stream flowed through the middle of the yard, and a stone bridge spanned the stream. Going north from the site of the Sinbong Gate, you will

come to the site of the Changhap Gate, beyond which stands a terrace faced with four large stone steps before a yard. This is the terrace where the central buildings of Manwoltae including the Hoegyong Hall stood. Go up the steps and past the site of the front door of the hall, you will come to the site of its main hall. At the back of the Hoegyong Hall site, there are the sites of large palace halls such as the Janghwa Hall, Wondok Hall and Jangryong Hall. To the west of the group of the high central buildings on the terrace, there are remains of the palace halls where the king used to live while attending to state affairs.

The Kwanghwa Gate, the main gate of the annex palace, was on the east of it. The annex palace had the Thaehwa Gate and Jangchu Gate on the north, Yongchu Gate on the west, Jujak Gate on the south and small other gates. These structures clearly show excellent architecture and especially the stonework at the

time. It is said that the blue tiles for roofing the arbours and pavilions in the palace were made in the coastal areas of South Jolla Province and carried to Kaesong by ox-carts for over 400 kilometres.

Worthy of special note in the Manwoltae remains is that the structure of the Koryo royal palace and the disposition of the major palace buildings bear a close resemblance to the remains of the royal palaces of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668) and its successor Palhae (late 7<sup>th</sup> century–early 10<sup>th</sup> century). In the remains of Manwoltae, too, the planes of major palaces are all cross-shaped.

The remains of Manwoltae, the old site of the Koryo palace, which clearly show the Korean people's creative talent and excellent architecture in the period of the Koryo dynasty, were registered as a world cultural legacy at the 37<sup>th</sup> session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in 2013.

*Kim Myong Sim*



# Dark Side of Crises

**I**N RECENT YEARS THE world has suffered shocking crises. Here's a glance of the dark side of such crises.

## Source of infectious diseases

MERS is now sweeping over the world. Recently a shocking fact was disclosed that this epidemic might have stemmed from the virus study of Pentagon's plan of germ warfare, infuriating the international community. Originally they thought that the epidemic came from the camel. It was widely reported in 2012 that MERS began from the camels in the Arabian Peninsula. For the camel's special virus antibody, this was also called "camel disease." But soon it was known that the disease was widely spread by bats living in the cliffy Nile River basin.

During the second invasion of Iraq by the US-led allied forces, the US Air Force used GBU-28 bunker-busters charged with depleted uranium to destroy tunnels and caves. The virus was spread to people by bats contaminated by these bombs. A bacteriologist who had once worked for Pentagon on a bargain said that MERS came to be spread because the bats contaminated by the virus found their nests in densely-populated cities.

The No. 3 Navy research unit, a USA research group for germ warfare based in Cairo, Egypt soon understood MERS's genetic code and ascertained the

truth that it is a new type of corona virus and belongs to the old-type virus group including SARS and normal flu.

In April 2014 the US Defence Department set up a bacteriological warfare technological centre with the study of MERS as its top priority task. Building on it, the US has put great efforts in the study of bacteriological warfare at scores of civilian labs in bioengineering companies, research institutes and universities at home and abroad. According to the US military information agency, Pentagon's top-class laboratory and research bureau for bacteriological warfare supervised the study of MERS-corona virus. This fully shows that the US is an empire of evil developing and spreading epidemic diseases that can ruin humankind. It is trying to get world supremacy by waging even bacteriological warfare.

## American play behind economic crisis

The major capitalist countries that once showed off a high growth rate have been in the economic crises for years. The financial crisis is the worst of them. The financial crisis that began in the US in 2008 drove the world into a whirlwind. To overcome the financial difficulties thanks to the "anti-terrorist war," the US carried out its financial policy randomly. This accelerated the bankruptcy of the real estate market and the outbreak of

financial crisis involving many countries that have suffered financial and monetary crises so far. In the European Union alone, the amount of production has decreased, a number of businesses have been ruined and the rate of unemployment increased.

After the outbreak of the financial crisis, the US declared it had no intention to give assistance to European countries in financial difficulties. It will never use money even for its allies. Its true colour is to approach them only when it needs them.

The fact that Greece, a victim of the US's financial crisis, has suffered serious difficulties in recent years is very suggestive. In fact, the European countries have suffered not a few economic crises owing to the US. After the Cold War, the US gave rise to the pound crisis in order to smear Europe's identity, and unleashed the Balkan war to prevent the euro's birth. Today, under the pretext of encirclement of Russia, it is aggravating the Ukrainian situation, thus destroying the European countries' economies that are closely related with Russia.

Many people believe that the financial crisis is America's "drama to escape from its crisis." Following the jungle law, the US puts other countries on its altar. This is why the voice is growing strong for bringing the empire of evil to the international court of justice.

*Kim Il Ryong*

# The Catastrophe in the Offing

**I**N LAST JUNE THE LIST OF SIGNERS against the government's "security bill" was presented to the Japanese Diet. Over 1.65 million Japanese people participated in the signature campaign which began early this year. The signers protested against the authority's forcible enforcement of wrong policies including the approval of the exercise of the "right to collective self-defence" and insisted that the Diet should boycott the adoption of the controversial "security bill."

Why then do the Japanese people come out against the law which will allegedly ensure the security of their country? Because when the law is amended, the scope of Japan's Self Defense Forces' overseas activities will be extended, endangering its security. In last April the United States and Japan revised the bilateral "defence cooperation guidelines." The US-Japan "defence cooperation guidelines" is a brigandish aggression war document which has opened the way for Japan to embark on foreign invasion again by sending its SDF forces to any parts of the world under the cloak of munitions support to the US troops in case of contingency. This points to a new stage of the aggressive US-Japan military tie-up which has been strengthened in recent years. And its main target is the Korean peninsula. The US needs the Korean peninsula to establish its domination over the Asia-Pacific region while Japan is keeping an eye on the peninsula to invade it again.

The US is inflaming Japan's ambition in an attempt to step up the building of its MD system by enlisting Japan in the realization of its Asia strategy in the name of sharing information about "north Korea's nuclear and missile threats." The US Department of Defense overtly announced that "it is imperative for the national interests of the US to help Japan get ready for its own defence by raising its intelligence and monitoring capabilities." As a result, Japan is all out in an attempt to rearm itself and exercise the "right to collective self-defence." Literally, it has now stepped into a danger zone. Japan is trying to scrap the pacifist constitution and

preparing the Self Defense Forces for invasion of Korea and domination of the world.

Japan is now purchasing up-to-date weapons on a large scale from the US including early warning aircrafts, new-type radars and missiles in a craze for rearmament. This attests to what the Japanese have in view. The Japanese Defence Minister stated that it is possible for the SDF of Japan to strike north Korea's bases in conjunction with the US by rearming themselves and exercising the "right to collective self-defence." This clearly shows what a risky stage the military tie-up between the two countries for invasion of the DPRK has reached. Military experts have asserted that the "US-Japan defence cooperation guidelines" has incited Japan's lust for exercising the "right to collective self-defence" by agreeing to share information between them.

Commenting on this, a high-ranking Japanese official, soon after the announcement of amendment of the guidelines, said that the colours and military boots of the SDF can appear at any places of the world at the request of the US. The former high intelligence bureau director of the Foreign Ministry of Japan expressed his strong discontent that the unstable regional situation will turn still more insecure if the SDF takes military actions around the world jointly with the US troops.

The unstable regional situation runs counter to the interests of the Japanese people. This is why they come out against the authorities' behaviours. Japan is a defeated nation, beaten in the war of aggression they had started to conquer the whole of Asia in the last century. This year marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Japan's defeat in the war. But it is really a tragedy that the Japanese politicians are still dreaming the old dream of "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere," instead of atoning for the crimes of their fathers by acknowledging, apologizing and making reparations for the wrongs they had done in their horrible history of aggression. It is only a matter of time that this tragedy will end up in a catastrophe.

*Kim Yong Un*

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Poster "Let's create a peaceful environment!"

