

The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

No. 31 (3 067) weekly

<http://www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp> e-mail: flph@star-co.net.kp

Sat, August 3, Juche 108(2019)

Kim Jong Un pays homage to fallen soldiers on 66th anniversary of war victory



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, visited the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery on the morning of July 27 to mark the

66th anniversary of the victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War.

The Supreme Leader laid a flower at the cemetery.

He said the undying feats of the war martyrs, who saved the country from the worst crisis in the



tragic years under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung, will shine forever in the history of the country.

He paid warm tribute to the fallen soldiers of the Korean People's Army who dedicated their precious lives to the sacred war

for safeguarding the freedom and independence of the country and happiness of the people, praying for the immortality of their great souls on the platform of eternal glory.

Compiled from KCNA

Kim Jong Un goes to symphony orchestra concert on V-day anniversary



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander

of the armed forces of the DPRK, saw a concert given by the National Symphony Orchestra in celebration of July 27 war victory day.



As he appeared in the auditorium, all the audience burst into cheers, extending the greatest honour to the Supreme Leader who works hard to

accomplish the great cause of building up a rich country with a strong army

SEE PAGE 2



Concert: Kim Jong Un attends V-day celebration event

FROM PAGE 1

in an all-round way while exalting the independent dignity and might of Juche Korea to the world.

He warmly waved back to the enthusiastically cheering audience.

He saw the concert together with Ri Man Gon, Pak Kwang Ho, Ri Su

Yong, Kim Yong Chol, Jo Yong Won, Kim Yo Jong, Choe Son Hui and other senior Party and government officials, Yang Hyong Sop, Ri Myong Su, Choe Yong Rim and other war veterans, leading officials of the Party Central Committee, persons of merit, creative and performing artists of major art organizations and youth and students.

Starting with orchestral music *July*



27 March, the performers put on the stage symphonic poem *Ode to Eternal Victory*, female solo *Peace Is Guaranteed by Force of Our Arms* and female trio *Our National Flag*.

Listening to the symphonic poem comprised of wartime and famous songs of the times, the audience recollects the rigorous days of the hard-fought Fatherland Liberation War.

As they watched the concert, the audience recalled with emotion the glory years when they won victory after victory with burning patriotism and indomitable fighting spirit following the WPK and hardened their will to add glory to the new history of the heroic struggle of socialist Korea.

Compiled from KCNA

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un oversees test fire of guided multi-rocket launcher

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, oversaw the test fire of a newly developed large-calibre guided multiple rocket launch system on July 31.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, Ri Pyong Chol, Yu Jin, Kim Jong Sik and Pak Jong Chon.

He was greeted on the spot by Jang Chang Ha, Jon Il Ho and other leading officials in the field of

national defence science.

The officials, scientists and technicians were filled with great pride and excitement as they were to conduct the first test fire of a new-type guided ordnance rocket, which will play a leading role in ground military operations, after developing it in a short time according to the strategic policy on the modernization of the artillery for the buildup of the armed forces set forth at the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

As he was briefed on the guided multiple rocket launch system, the

Supreme Leader learnt in detail about its development.

The test fire of the new weapon system took place in his presence. It scientifically confirmed that the tactical data and technical specifications of the newly developed large-calibre guided ordnance rocket have reached the design values and verified the combat application effectiveness of the overall weapon system.

After seeing the result of the test fire, he said that it is really amazing and it would be an inescapable distress

to the forces that incur something to be the target of this weapon.

He repeatedly expressed satisfaction with the result of the test fire and highly appreciated the feats of the national defence science sector and the working class of the munitions industry who have made another wonderful Korean-style multiple rocket launch system of great strategic significance in boosting the combat capability of the Korean People's Army.

Compiled from KCNA

VICTORY DAY

Nation celebrates war victory day with colourful events

The 66th anniversary of the victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War was celebrated across the DPRK.

A national meeting was held at the April 25 House of Culture in Pyongyang on July 26 to mark the anniversary.

It was attended by Choe Ryong Hae, Pak Pong Ju, Kim Jae Ryong and other senior

Party and government officials, officials of military organs and the Party Central Committee, war veterans, officials of ministries and national agencies, service personnel of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Internal Security Forces, teaching staff and students of revolutionary schools, officials of institutions

and industrial establishments, labour innovators, youth and students in Pyongyang and overseas compatriots.

Present there at invitation were foreign diplomatic envoys, representatives of the missions of international organizations and military attaches of foreign embassies in Pyongyang.

Army General Kim Su Gil,

member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and director of the KPA General Political Bureau, made a report.

He said the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War was a brilliant triumph brought about by the Juche-oriented

military idea, war methods and outstanding leadership of President Kim Il Sung and a proud win achieved by ardent patriotism and indomitable fighting spirit of the KPA service personnel and the people.

The war victory exploits performed by the President, who rescued the destiny of the country and people for the second time by leading the Fatherland Liberation War to victory and created the ever-victorious history and tradition of Juche Korea, will be handed down for all ages, he noted.

SEE PAGE 3



A wreath sent by Kim Jong Un to the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong (left). Senior officials visit the cemetery to mark the 66th anniversary of the victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War.



Wreaths laid at the Chinese People's Volunteers Martyrs Cemetery.

FROM PAGE 2

He called for working harder to fully demonstrate the valiant spirit of heroic Korea and win a brilliant victory in building a powerful socialist country of Juche, rallied closely around Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

Working people, youth and students and service personnel visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance, and their statues in different parts of the country to pay homage to them.

A basket of flowers sent by the Supreme Leader was seen standing before the statues of the great leaders on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang.

Jong Il Sim, widow of DPRK Hero An Tong Su, sent a basket of flowers to the Supreme Leader.

She also laid a floral basket at the great leaders' statues on Mansu Hill.

Wreaths were laid at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmuri, the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery and the Chinese People's Volunteers martyrs cemetery in Hoechang County.

Wreaths in the name of Kim Jong Un were seen at the cemeteries.

Working people, youth and students and service personnel paid tribute to the defenders of the country in the great years.

Leading officials of the Party and government, the chairperson of a friendly party and officials of ministries and national agencies visited the Fatherland Liberation War Historic Site.

The visitors walked round the site as they were told that President Kim Il Sung located the Supreme Headquarters there to stay from January 1951 to July 1953 and led the war to victory by defeating the

imperialist aggressor forces, thereby defending the destiny of the country and people.

A variety of performances and sports games were held in the capital and local areas to mark the holiday. A wartime song performance was given by war veterans in Haeju, South Hwanghae Province.

Meetings between war veterans and trade union members, youth and students took place across the country.

Youth and students held dancing parties in different places of Pyongyang and the provinces.

By Pang Un Ju PT



A scene from the performance given by the Mansudae Art Troupe.



The State Merited Chorus stages a performance in celebration of the 66th war victory anniversary at the People's Theatre.



Young men and women dance in the plaza in front of Pyongyang Indoor Stadium in celebration of war victory day.

LEAD

Overpowering sanctions with self-reliance

the master of one's destiny is oneself and one has the strength to shape one's own destiny, and thoroughly applied it to the revolutionary struggle.

Under the banner of the Juche idea the country victoriously carried out the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and the socialist revolution and has consistently followed the line of building an independent national economy.

After liberation from Japanese military rule in 1945, Korea only took over the lopsidedness of colonial economy and backward agriculture, and worse still everything was devastated by the war in the 1950s. But

the DPRK performed the miracle of realizing socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years, which was the great fruition of self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

In the course of this, the Korean people engraved in their hearts the philosophical principle that one should solve all problems arising in the revolution and construction with one's own effort by taking full responsibility for them, and this conviction has been carried forward generation after generation.

They manufactured by themselves lorries, tractors, bulldozers, water pumps, excavators and electric locomotives, which had been

the exclusive property of advanced countries, thereby demonstrating the spirit of Chollima Korea to the world. And afterwards when the hostile forces viciously intensified sanctions and isolation moves, the Koreans turned out such creations of self-reliance as Juche iron, Juche fertilizer and Juche vinalon and CNC machine tools as well.

The spirit of self-sufficiency, self-reliance and creation has always served as a banner of struggle and the motive power of leap forward throughout the Korean revolution, and it is now being given fuller play.

"Self-reliance", "self-development" and "self-

sufficiency" are the slogans that are found everywhere in the DPRK. By displaying such a fighting spirit the Korean people built lots of modern streets and cultural and welfare facilities in recent years, including Ryomyong Street, Mirae Scientists Street, the Wisong Scientists Dwelling District, Masikryong Ski Resort, Munsu Water Park and Okryu Children's Hospital, and made light aircraft, metro cars, trolley buses and tramcars.

As there are the solid foundations of the independent economy that has been built up for decades and the scientific and technical force that gets more powerful amid the campaign to make all the people well versed in science and technology, the DPRK will continue to write a new history of prosperity as it foils the hostile forces' sanctions by dint of self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

By Jong Tang Song PT

FISH FARMING

Making good haul onshore and offshore

Effective cage-net fish farming

As cage-net fish farming makes rapid development in the DPRK which is blessed with rivers and streams, such fish farms are run in various forms in the Taedong and Pothong rivers in Pyongyang.

Among them is the cage-net fish farm in Phyongchon District.

"Cage-net fish farming draws growing attention as it makes it possible to raise fish intensively and in a wide area while moving cage-nets to places with abundant natural feeds," said Pak Hyon A, official at the Phyongchon District People's Committee.

The farm covers an area of more than 1 100 square metres in the Pothong River. Centring around the general control room, employees' room and feed storehouse, there are 11 round fish ponds which are linked by walkways and which remind viewers of a beautiful flower on the water surface as they are installed with outdoor lamps and decorative illuminations in various colours.

According to manager Han Chol Ho, the farm is growing over 6 500 catfish by dividing

them into three ponds according to fattening rate, as well as over 5 000 fries of Ryongjong fish, the same number of carp fries and hundreds of goldfish, red carp and other fishes.

The farm is also raising 10 000 fries of carp and Ryongjong fish respectively in freshwater ponds.

Fish bones collected from the residents in the district are used to make floating feed and water fleas and mud-snails are gathered from the Pothong and Taedong rivers to meet the need for protein.

Catfish that were grown in indoor spawning ponds for two to three months were released in the cage-nets last May and they will weigh over two kilograms at the maximum in September when the fish are hauled in, Han said.

"Our district farm has led other districts in the competition in the capital city. Cage-net fish farming is profitable and therefore we are planning to press on with it on a larger scale in order to supply the residents of the district with more fish."

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Catfish production put on scientific basis

The Pyongyang Catfish Farm produces catfish scientifically and technologically.

Thanks to the establishment of an integrated production system, the water temperature, pH and oxygen amount of indoor and outdoor fish ponds are measured and controlled in real time and the amounts of water supply and feed are regulated accordingly.

The farm shows close concern for scientifically and technologically ensuring spawning, water supply and temperature control and drastically increasing the survival rate of fries.

In particular, it properly carries on the spawning of good catfish varieties with high productivity. This year, it focuses on further increasing the production of neutral catfish.

The neutral catfish grows faster than common one and consumes less feed. But its hatching rate is low due to the characteristic features of seed fish.

"We found out a way of raising

the hatching rate by relying on locally-abundant natural materials and established a scientific method of raising the seed fish," the chief engineer of the farm said.

According to him, the farm has produced millions of fries and increased their survival rate this year through the spawning and hatching of neutral catfish.

It introduces the water recycling system while maximizing the utilization of waste water from a nearby thermal power station.

Shortly ago, it improved the quality of water flowing into the pond of fries by putting the water recycling system on a more scientific basis. On the basis of scientific water analysing system, it disinfects and supplies water more than three times a day and rationally replaces old water with fresh one according to the growth of fish, thereby raising the scientific level of water conservation. As a result, it boosted the catfish yield per one cubic metre of water 1.5

times over the same period of last year.

It puts production on a normal footing, irrespective of seasons, by keeping outdoor ponds warm with the help of solar water heater, and ensures a full operation of equipment including the mobile automatic feeder and catfish collector.

It also directs much effort to reducing the growing period of catfish, lowering unit feed and increasing the fattening rate in a short time.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Offshore fish farming in full swing

Activities are conducted briskly in the DPRK to do offshore fish farming on a large scale.

"The history of offshore fish farming is very short as compared to freshwater one with over a 1 000-year history. But it is making rapid progress as consumers desire diversified and high-class dietary life," said Sin Sang Il, director of the Central Fish Culture Institute under the Ministry of Fisheries.

Korea is bounded by the sea on three sides and has favourable conditions for offshore fish culture. Cold and hot water meets in the East Sea of Korea, and rich nutrients flow into the West Sea of Korea from different rivers and streams. They are free from water pollution and their ecological environment is clean.

According to Sin, offshore fish farming started with Atlantic salmon. Some ten years ago, the country succeeded in breeding the Atlantic salmon which is known as a health food with economic effectiveness.

At present, the fish is bred at an offshore salmon farm and an Atlantic salmon pedigree farm on the east coast.

The offshore salmon farm, in which netted breeding ponds stand in rows and seagulls fly over the blue sky, and the pedigree farm, a comprehensive fish farming base whose production is combined with research, are a sight to behold.

The farms acclimatized rainbow trout living in freshwater to the sea and turn out a variety of processed salmon products including smoked fish, salted spawn and slices. Salmon is supplied to the Pyongyang Taedonggang Fish Restaurant and the salmon restaurant.

Projects are now under way in various fishery stations on the east and west coasts to secure different kinds of seed fishes including walleye pollack and flatfish, produce fries and stock the sea with them.

"This year, the Ryonjin Fishery Station and the Komalsan Atlantic Salmon Offshore Fish

Farm under our management bureau have secured many fertilized eggs through the catching of seed walleye pollack and carried on hatching in cultivation grounds and raising of fries in a scientific and technological way, thus stocking the sea with over a million pollack fries," said an official at the North Hamgyong Provincial Fishery Management Bureau.

Units which are situated in places favourable for habitation of flatfish step up the rebuilding of cultivation grounds and the preparations for artificially propagating black flatfish and right-eyed flounder to stock the sea with hundreds of thousands of fries at a time.

Especially, the Songdowon Fishery Station released in the sea tens of thousands of fry stone flounder in mid-March and more than 100 000 right-eyed flounder fries later. The Yanghwa Fishery Station set free over a million fry flatfish in the East Sea of Korea in early June.

The Songdowon Fishery Station has annually bred more than 100 000 trepang fries to stock in the sea, while the Rason Offshore Fish Farm succeeded in the spawning of king crab for artificial cultivation.

Efforts are also made to farm in the sea tilapia with a high nutritive value and fattening rate, as well as delicious croaker inhabiting the West Sea of Korea.

Close attention is being paid to solidifying scientific and technical foundations of offshore fish farming research, including the selection of kinds of fishes in high demand which are easy to breed and grow fast, the securing of suitable stocking places, large-scale and movable cage-net fish farming, the acclimatization of some freshwater fishes to sea water and their breeding.

"We will steadily push ahead with the offshore fish farming in order to bring earlier the day when our sea teems with nutritious and delicious fishes all the year round," said Kim Han Chol, manager of the Cholsan Fishery Station.

By Kim Il Jin PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
The Pyongyang Catfish Farm increases production by employing scientific methods.

IMPRESSION

Gala performance wows local people with features

Grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance "The Land of the People" that raised its curtain in June is running on at Pyongyang's May Day Stadium, winning widespread popularity.

Amid the playing of *Patriotic Song*, the flag of the DPRK is hoisted under the spotlight and hundreds of drones as luminous as stars in the night sky form the letters of the title at the beginning of the performance. It proceeds striking the audience with wonder all through.

Here are some impressions of viewers:

Epic picture

"The Land of the People" recounts the 70-odd-year history of our country which is replete with creation and changes and brim with pride and happiness.

"After shaking off the fetters of colonial slavery, our people built a dignified socialist state. The history of the DPRK is a chronicle of so great, so thrilling and so breathtaking events. And these events are reproduced on the stage.

"The show is so appealing that it beggars description."

"Through the performance, I could see the historic events that I had only heard from my grandparents. It also unfolds the scenes of the present stirring reality in which the DPRK demonstrates its independent dignity by dint of unrivalled military capabilities and presses ahead with the building of an economic giant. As I saw them I felt refreshed and was filled with deep emotion. And I was also filled with the pride in

living in such a wonderful and powerful country and working for its prosperity."

Once is not enough

"I saw the performance three times. Because seeing it only once was not enough to fully relish it with enormous scope, rich content and fascinating portrayal. At the first time, I mainly watched gymnastic movements and dancing and special stages on the floor. On the second occasion, I mostly saw the flash cards unfolding kaleidoscopic scenes in the huge background. And this time, I enjoyed the overall view of this mesmerizing performance."

"I saw mass gymnastics several times before. As compared to them, 'The Land of the People' has improved remarkably in all aspects. Not all the many performers are professional artistes, but they dance and handle tools so superbly I can hardly distinguish pros from non-pros.

In particular, I was entranced by the electronic lighting with 3D effects that turns the whole of the stadium into a raging sea or a farm field with all kinds of crops and fruits. Every scene is a spectacle striking a trailing note and the performance makes everyone want to see again."

Backdrop animation

"I could see so many students in the large background spreading out various scenes with flash cards. As they think and act like one, they can unfold such wonderful moving pictures, I'm sure."

"Their ability of representation is terrific. Every picture portrayed moved like animation."

"Tens of thousands of flash cards swayed or folded and unfolded at a signal to give life and force to giant pictures and present spectacular moving images."

By Kim Rye Yong PT



A scene from "The Land of the People", grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance now running on in Pyongyang.



HOTEL

Kind, efficient service draws many regulars in peak season

The Pothonggang Hotel is located on the banks of the Pothong River in Pyongyang.

Not far from downtown Pyongyang, the hotel is surrounded by bright foliage and tranquil shores of the river.

The hotel commands a lovely view of the river with yachts and boats cutting their way through waves as well as an expansive view of Pyongyang Municipal Sports Village situated across the river. Thick forests and the Ansan Bridge are seen from the other side of the hotel.

The nine-storey building is not so tall but looks cosy for the distinctive architectural and decorative style.

"We have always many guests and most of them are regulars," said Kim Yong Il, head of the reception department, who has been working there for over 40 years. "Many of them are Europeans and Japanese."

The hotel provides all conveniences for the guests.

Though it is now the hottest period of summer with the temperature creeping up to above 35 degrees Celsius outside, the hotel maintains the internal temperature at 22 degrees.

It has more than 160 guest rooms including VIP and deluxe suites and premium rooms, a banquet hall, dining hall, karaoke lounge, rooms for

billiards and table tennis and an outdoor tennis court.

"Many guests love to dine in our restaurant," said Ri To Suk, manager of the Mokran restaurant. "We serve Korean dishes like Pyongyang cold noodles and Taedonggang grey mullet soup, and Western dishes that are made to original recipes."

This year, the restaurant prepared parties ordered by British, Romanian and Bulgarian embassies and French cooperation office, and they lavished praise on the culinary skills of the restaurant's chefs.

The "perfect service", as guests put it, is a fine tradition

CAMPING

Seaside camp offers exhilarating experience

In the DPRK where children are held up as the "king" of the country, children's camps are located in many scenic spots.

One of them is the Songdowon International Children's Camp at the seaside of Kangwon Province.

It was given a facelift in 2014 under nationwide interest.

As a result, the camp became a comprehensive base for extracurricular education with 39 structures including camp buildings Nos. 1 and 2, international friendship children's hall, gym and wading pool, aquarium, mirror cage and aviary.

Yo Jong Sim, teacher from Nampho Revolutionary School who had camped there during her school years and has recently come to the camp again with her students, said that she was surprised to see the completely changed looks of the camp and that she got to know better about the benefits granted by the state to children.

According to Kim Sang Yong, manager of the camp, it provides five terms of winter camping at the Masikryong Ski Resort, eleven terms of summer camping and one term of international camping every year and accommodates over 1 000 campers in each term.

The campers conduct a variety of activities as they consolidate what they learnt at school and experience and enjoy a lot.

The aquarium, where sharks, rays, tortoises and porpoises swim, and the aviary and flower garden give children extensive knowledge about nature.

The wading pool is a favourite of those from mountain

villages.

"I was so afraid of water that I couldn't learn how to swim, but here I managed to learn it somehow," said Kim Kyong Mi, student from Taegwan Junior Middle School in Taegwan County, North Phyongan Province.

The camp gives all campers swimsuits as souvenirs.

After all, the main attraction of the camp is sea bathing.

Some bathe in the clear seawater cutting through endless waves, while some others make the shapes of their schools, the camp and different animals with sand on the sparkling beach.

Cooking practice and mountaineering are enjoyable experiences for many.

"It was really wonderful to cook by myself and I found out what it was like to climb steep cliffs amid the fresh fragrance of the nature," said Ri Ryong Song, student from Sujongchon Senior Middle School in Kangdong County, Pyongyang. "I can never forget the pleasant time of mountaineering when I collected plenty of botanical specimens, lived in a tent and cooked rice outdoors."

They almost forgot the passage of time at the amusement arcade and 4D simulation cinema.

"I saw a lot about the camp in newspapers and on TV before and it's really nice to be here myself," said Ri Il Mi, student from Junggang Junior Middle School in Junggang County, Jagang Province. "I have taken lots of photos to show my dad and mom."

By Jong Chol PT

inauguration of the hotel and nearly half of them have excellent techniques and skills in service," said Hwang Chol Jin, member of the reception department. "The hotel's business strategy of constantly improving quality of service is virtually implemented by them."

By Yun Kyong Il PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The external view of the Pothonggang Hotel in Pyongyang.

PROFILE

Devoting herself to teaching national dance over decades

"Many of our students are dancing in the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance 'The Land of the People' which is going on in Pyongyang. Their talents are associated with the painstaking efforts of instructor Han Yong Ae (pictured)," said Nam Won Ae, principal of Wonsan College of Arts in Kangwon Province.

Han in her 70s has been dedicating herself to the education in national dance for over 30 years.

As a child she was known as a dance prodigy.

During the Fatherland Liberation War, the five-year-old danced in consolatory performances for soldiers of the Korean People's Army.

Later, she was enrolled at the then Hamhung College of Arts to be professional dancer. She played the lead at different operas including folk tale opera *Eight Fairies of Mt Kumgang* which was created and performed by the Kangwon Provincial Art Troupe.

After graduating from the then Pyongyang University of Music and Dance, she took up teaching at Wonsan College of Arts, instead of taking to the stage.

"I could cultivate talents



thanks to my teachers and grateful socialist educational system. So I wanted to become a teacher," said Han Yong Ae.

She threw herself into teaching students out of a desire to repay the favour shown by the state that brought up the daughter of a slash-and-burn farmer to be a dancer and a deputy to the city people's assembly.

The principal who is also her old student recalled that she still remembers Han teaching students in daytime and working hard to correctly preserve national dance techniques until late at night and that she adopted original methods of teaching

the basic principles of Korean dance and breathing.

Under her guidance, students brought fame to the college by wonderfully representing the national dance style at national and provincial art performances.

According to Ri Song Hye, an actress at the National Folk Art Troupe and also her old student, it took a full month to perfect a dance movement in order to keep alive the characteristic features of Korean dance that exudes rhythmicity even at the time of the curvilinear swinging of arms and standstill.

Han produced more than 80 pieces of dance and staged them at outdoor and other performances held in the province and her former students are now active at prestigious art troupes in Pyongyang and the province.

Though advanced in age, she puts her heart and soul into initiating students into national dance, while writing lots of essays and textbooks, the fruit of her devotion, profound knowledge and rich experience, to make a tangible contribution to developing dance education at the college.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

SELF-SACRIFICE

Students risk their lives to fight a forest fire

Unjong Senior Middle School in Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province, has become well-known across the country for three students.

Ri Jong Dok, Choe Hyon Il and So Ryo Myong of class 2-C performed a heroic deed to put out a forest fire that occurred on a hill behind their school on April 4.

That morning teachers of the school saw the fire and went out to extinguish it, followed by hundreds of students.

On the hill there were the trees that they had planted and tended.

Though the fire did not spread to their trees, they made desperate efforts to keep the fire from spreading to the forest over the hill.

When the situation got worse, teachers shouted at their students not to enter the middle of the fire but to get out side by side with others.

Until then, they were unaware that the three students were already fighting the fire far ahead of them.

After 15 minutes or so, the wind suddenly changed

direction and the fire that had been spreading along a valley started to move downhill.

The moment when the whole hill seemed to shake, two objects in flames rolled down to teacher Ra Yong Bok in succession.

He recognized that they were his students Choe Hyon Il and So Ryo Myong.

"I don't remember how we carried them piggyback and ran downhill," said Ra. "We just ran and ran with the thought that they had to be sent to hospital as soon as possible."

Teachers were keyed up as they found that there had been students in the fire, so they brought other students out of the danger zone and called the roll.

There was only one boy missing. "Ri Jong Dok"... Everyone called out his name but there was no answer. He was found dead at a place not far from where Hyon Il and Ryo Myong were found.

Later, teachers learned that the three, upon hearing about the fire, rushed to the place of fire before others as they crossed vegetable gardens instead of

taking the usual path.

Looking at the vivid footprints in the gardens, all the students as well as teachers burst into tears.

"The three were exemplary students in my class," said the class teacher. "One late night, I found them in the classroom helping classmates with their study."

"In the tree-planting season of March, Jong Dok planted trees on the hill with great care," recalled his mother with tears welling up in her eyes. "I can still vividly remember him taking all the vinyl sheets from home to protect the trees and picking weeds out in the sapling garden of our house."

"Hyon Il used to water the saplings early in the morning every day, saying he should take the lead as a group leader," said a classmate.

"Ryo Myong took special care of a fatherless classmate," said his mother. "As he cared for comrades before himself, he could unhesitatingly jump into the fire to save the forest today, I think."

The commendable deed of

SEX EQUALITY

Women empowered more in social life

July 30 1946 is a historic day when Korean women were provided with the legal guarantee of social status and rights equal to men.

President Kim Il Sung promulgated the Law on Sex Equality in 1946, a year after Korea's liberation, to fulfil the age-old desire for human and social emancipation of Korean women who had suffered a lot, subjected to feudal fetters and suffering the tragedy of statelessness.

Since then, momentous changes have been brought about in their social standings.

They came to enjoy not only equal rights with men in all domains of politics, the economy and social and cultural life but also special benefits, and such empowerment and favour constantly increased with social development.

Remarkable progress has also been made in this field in recent years.

Maternity leave at state expense was lengthened from six months to eight, the Breast Tumour Institute was built at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and other measures continue to be taken to provide women with better healthcare. Especially, the state steadily increases investment in the improvement of medical care conditions and environment even at smallest clinics at localities.

As the numbers of colleges and online college courses grow amid the current trend of making all people well versed in science and technology, more and more working women are enrolled at such colleges and

even housewives attend online courses.

All these benefits are offered free of charge.

Women take up nearly half of the working population in the country. They have equal rights with men in remuneration and other aspects of working life. Material conditions and quality of care at nurseries, kindergartens and welfare amenities further improve for the convenience of working women.

These days, more women are getting involved in the sectors that take big shares in social development.

Sex equality is firmly guaranteed in the political field.

Women take part in political affairs like elections of power organs with equal rights with men and have the rights to vote and be elected irrespective of their occupation, property status and standards of education.

The election of deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly last April saw an increase in the proportion of female deputies, and many women hold important posts in the State Affairs Commission and the Cabinet.

As importance is attached to female talents and officials, a growing number of women are appointed to important jobs at national economic, scientific, educational and healthcare institutions among others.

With every legal and social condition in place for women, their social status and role will be enhanced constantly.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

Phyongan Provincial People's Hospital but also officials, workers and students in the city are showing their sincerity materially and morally.

At present, the hill saved by the three students has got greener than before with over 5 000 trees planted by Jong Dok's parents afterwards.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The entrance hall of the South Phyongan Provincial People's Hospital is jam-packed with people who volunteer to donate their blood and skin to the burnt students.

IRAN-UK CONFLICT

An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth

The relationship between Iran and the UK is getting worse in the wake of the capture of oil tankers.

Early in July, the Royal Marines seized Iran's oil tanker in the Strait of Gibraltar under the excuse of its violation of the EU's sanctions resolution.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman instantly demanded the immediate return of the ship, branding the seizure as an act of piracy.

Seyed Ali Khamenei, leader of Iran's Islamic revolution, said that his country would never tolerate the UK's vicious act, warning that it would surely take a countermeasure in the appropriate place at the right time.

A short time later, the Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps captured the UK's oil tanker Stena Impero in the Straits of Hormuz.

Iran's Tasnim news agency cited the British tanker's continued violation of maritime law as the reason for its capture, asserting that it sailed with GPS devices turned off, entered the strait from the southern route which is the exit from the channel, thereby increasing the danger of accident, and spewed old dregs into the sea to pollute

the Persian Gulf.

British Foreign Minister said Iran has no justification for the capture of its ship and threatened that unless the issue is resolved promptly, serious consequences will ensue. The UK government declared that it would extend the anti-Iran sanctions for the capture of its vessel, while its defence ministry announced that it would dispatch additional warships to the Gulf region for the safety of British ships in the Strait of Hormuz.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani recently said his country does not seek sustained tension with some European countries and noted that if they abide by international frameworks and discontinue such wrongdoing as the one in the Strait of Gibraltar they would get the reward from Iran.

The world public describes Iran's capture of the UK tanker as a countermeasure for the latter's seizure of the former's vessel.

And pundits see that the United States is behind the UK's capture of the Iranian tanker.

BBC and Reuters reported the US asked the UK to capture

the Iranian ship and a Spanish senior diplomat also expressed the same view.

The US, which has long been at odds with Iran, declared early this year that it would impose a total blockade against Iran's oil export and enforced sanctions against some leading exporters of metals.

Most recently, the US Department of Treasury slapped sanctions against the Persian Gulf petrochemical industry company of Iran embracing 39 subsidiaries and overseas agencies on the pretext that it gave financial assistance to the Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

The US tries to block Iran's every source of income including oil by dint of sanctions.

It seems very likely that the US had a hand in the current incident in a bid to bar Iran from exporting oil and aggravate Iran-Europe relations.

Analysts foresee that the broken relationship between Iran and the UK will not be mended easily due to the collusion between the US and other Western countries.

By Om Ryong PT

COMMENT

Japan's military buildup what for?

Japan's moves to build up military capability are giving rise to serious concern of neighbouring countries.

Recently, the Japanese defence ministry made public that it was going to organize a special space unit involving a hundred personnel under the Air Self-Defence Force. Despite the strong opposition of the locals, it is now trying to carry on the deployment of the ground-based missile defence system Aegis Ashore.

Aegis Ashore, which can mount SM-3 Block 2A new-type intercepting missiles, is known as a weapon system that can intercept ballistic missiles in outer space.

As this missile defence system includes a vertical launching system, it can easily turn into an offensive weapon if it is loaded with Tomahawk cruise missiles. Japan specified the possession of long-range cruise missiles that can attack the enemy in its defence programme which was instituted at the end of last

year.

Given that the range of Tomahawk is 2 400 km, Northeast China and the southern Russian Far East come within its range, to say nothing of the Korean peninsula.

Aegis Ashore to be deployed in Japan, both in name and reality, targets not only the Korean peninsula but also China and Russia.

On December 19 last year, Japan's *Asahi Shimbun* said in an article entitled "The defence programme goes beyond the boundary line" that the main object of the defence programme is to cope with the threat of China which is pushing military upbuilding, adding the decision to deploy the missile defence system is aimed at coping with China's missiles.

Japan also spends lots of money to secure attack and strategic weapons.

It is working to purchase 56 SM-3 Block 1B intercepting missiles that can be mounted on Aegis-class warships and

high-performance air-to-air missiles and relevant parts for F-35 stealth fighters.

A helicopter-carrying escort ship, which is engaged in a military drill with US forces in the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean, is to be rebuilt into the first aircraft carrier of Japan. Japan plans to remodel the large escort ship Izumo into the one capable of carrying F-35B stealth fighters. Accordingly, it is trying to possess F-35B stealth fighters, air-to-ground and air-to-ship cruise missiles, precision guided weapons, and other military hardware.

According to information released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute of Sweden, Japan's military expenditure ranked ninth in the world last year.

Japan's buildup of "defence capabilities" aims to control surrounding countries and realize its reinvasion by dint of military upper hand.

By Song Jong Ho PT

DISASTER

Extreme weather wreaks havoc on world

Today, extreme weather caused by global warming pose a serious menace to the world.

In particular, high temperatures have recently been observed in different parts of the world, causing serious damage.

In Spain, Italy, France and some other countries temperature has risen to 38-41°C, 45.9°C at maximum, forcing public buildings to shut down and causing fire in forests and fields. And many people have died of heatstroke.

In the western part of the United States, mercury soared to over 49°C early in June, breaking the record of high temperatures for scores of years. High temperatures lingered on over a month in several regions of India, with at least 30 people found dead and hundreds of thousands leaving their homes. In mid-June temperatures reached 52.2°C in the shade and 63°C in the sunshine in Kuwait.

According to the British weather bureau, it was 38.1°C in the south of England on July 25, to be recorded as the hottest day in July. On the same day

temperature rocketed to 40.7°C in North Brabant in the Netherlands, a record high since 1901 in meteorological observation. Due to high temperatures and sweltering weather, 16 children were taken to hospital and 4 000 chickens died in a poultry farm in the southeastern area of the country.

Torrential rain and landslide have hit several countries in succession, destroying many dwelling houses and causing losses of human lives.

It poured on for several days in the Tuva Republic, Russia, submerging 80 buildings in a village and flash floods hit 16 residential areas in the Amur region recently, with about 600 houses inundated.

Flood and landslide caused by torrential rain hit several parts of Nepal, with some people killed or injured and many others evacuated. According to information published by its Interior Ministry, they inflicted severe damage on 21 areas of the country.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

S. KOREA

Export ban prompts widespread anti-Japanese actions

Anti-Japanese sentiments are now running high in south Korea with Japan's unjust trade retaliation as the momentum.

Civil society organizations from all backgrounds have held anti-Japanese demonstrations day after day in front of the Japanese embassy, office building of the Mitsubishi business and monuments dedicated to the memory of sex slaves in Taegu and Taejon.

They said that the Japanese authorities recently took economic retaliatory measures in response to the south Korean supreme court's decision on indemnifying the victims of forcible drafting.

Probe into the truth through Japan's admission of forcible drafting crime, the recovery of human rights including the apology and reparation by the Japanese government and war criminal enterprises, the mourning of victims and the prevention of recurrence through history education are basic principles to resolve the issue of past history that can never be given up, they noted, calling on the locals to turn out like one

in the fight against Japan, as they did in candlelight vigils, till Japan makes an apology and reparations for the past sins.

Those in Taegu and North Kyongsang Province held a joint press conference and censured

the Japanese authorities for impairing the dignity of victims instead of making an honest apology and soul-searching for the past crimes including sexual slavery, economic exploitation, massacre and forcible drafting. They warned that they would get into a fight in solidarity with the international community if the Japanese government kept taking retaliatory measures in the economic field.

Similar organizations in the Taejon area said that Japan's economic retaliation necessitates the immediate anti-Japanese practical actions of the locals, adding that they would erect the statue of forcibly drafted worker and turn out in strong counteractions.

The south Korean people from all walks of life continue to expand various anti-Japanese movements including a boycott against Japanese goods, the signature collection demanding the cancellation of economic retaliation and the fund-raising for erecting the statue of forcibly drafted worker.

Branding Japan's export restriction as an economic war and an act of aggression, progressive political parties call for responding resolutely and thoroughly against Japan's irrational moves.

By Min Chol PT

TAEKWON-DO

All-star tournament for Jonsung Cup held

The Jonsung Cup national Taekwon-Do all-star tournament was held between July 23 and 30 in Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province.

An annual event for celebrating war victory day (July 27), the tournament decides sparring superstars and all-star teams.

More than 170 players from over 10 teams including the Pyongyang municipal Taekwon-Do team, Korea University of Physical Education and Central School of Physical Education competed in individual and team sparring events.

The first places of individual sparring matches in lightweight, light middleweight and heavyweight categories were respectively taken by Sin Hyon Il (man) from Central School of Physical Education, Ri Un Jong (woman) from the Taekwon-Do team of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, Ha Kum

Nam (man) from the North Hwanghae provincial Taekwon-Do team, Ri Cho Won (woman) from the Taekwon-Do team of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, Tu Kum Song (man) from the Kangwon provincial Taekwon-Do team, and Ri Yong Mi (woman) from the North Hwanghae provincial Taekwon-Do team.

The individual sparring (catchweight division) event for deciding superstars drew the interest of spectators.

The top three players from different weight-category matches competed in the way of group league matches.

The first match was played between Ha Kum Nam and Tu Kum Song, winners of the men's individual heavy and light middle sparring categories. They flaunted diverse striking techniques, especially jumping spin kick, punch and flying

front kick and side kick as they displayed fortitude and perseverance.

Ha Kum Nam beat Tu Kum Song.

Ha Kum Nam stood on the winner's rostrum by overpowering Ham Chung Ryol from the Taekwon-Do team of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, Jo Jin Myong from North Hwanghae Province and Ryo Myong from Pyongyang.

Ri Hyon Gyong from the Taekwon-Do team of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee won the women's individual sparring.

The winners are qualified for the forthcoming Asian Taekwon-Do championships.

In the team sparring, men from South Phyongan Province and women from South Hwanghae Province came first respectively.

By Jong Tang Song PT

Civil servants compete in swimming

A swimming contest of officials of commissions, ministries and national agencies was held between July 24 and 31 on the occasion of the water sports months of July and August.

The team event was held divided into four groups, and the individual one took place divided into three categories. The winners included officials from the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport, the Foreign Trade Bank, the Academy of Medical Science and the Central Committee of the Journalists Union of Korea.

Compiled from KCNA

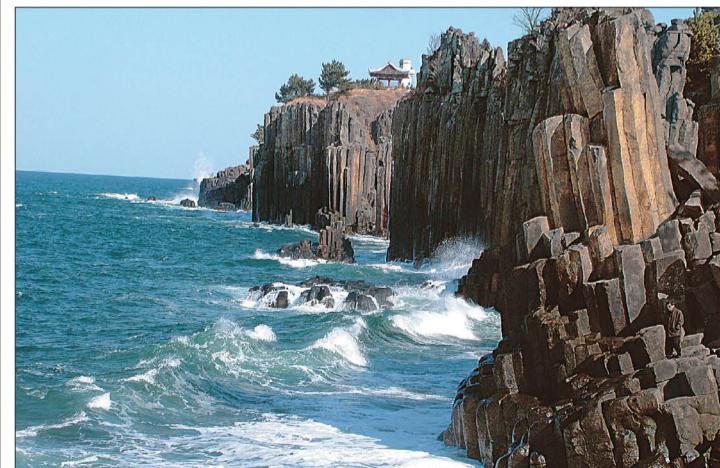


TABLE TENNIS

Paddlers successful at Asian Para Championships

DPRK players were triumphant in the ITTF Asian Para Championships 2019.

The championships which were held in Chinese Taipei between July 23 and 27 brought together more than 260 men and women paddlers from 16 countries and regions including the DPRK, China, Indonesia, India and Iran.

In team events (TT6-TT7),

DPRK players Jon Ju Hyon and Kim Yong Rok saw off the south Korean team in the quarterfinals and Thai opponents in the semifinals.

In the final match on July 27, they beat the Chinese and won gold medals.

Jon Ju Hyon came third in the singles event (TT6).

Compiled from KCNA

MASS ACTIVITIES

Mass sporting activities bring fame to telematics office



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Employees of the Kangwon Provincial Posts and Telecommunications Management Bureau do exercise as part of mass sporting activities.

The Telematics Department of the Kangwon Provincial Posts and Telecommunications Management Bureau is well known as a strong sports team in the province.

The employees take every opportunity to do sports.

A list of their names is made according to sporting events and ages and those whose numbers

are picked take part in various games. It is mandatory for chiefs of each section to play matches.

Everyone is involved in games, led by leading officials.

"We have organized this form of games for several years. It has boosted the number of players and their sports skills as well," said Ri Kwang Bok, chief engineer of the department.

The steadily honed skills and teamwork began to prove effective in 2014 when its women's volleyball team won the provincial tournament. And the department has come first in the total rankings since 2017.

As the department rises to fame, the employees take greater pride in their office and feel stronger attachments to their workplace.

It also channels big efforts into improving sporting conditions. It started the construction of a gym last March.

"Mass sporting activities are not merely an amusement. They promote concord and unity of the collective and give us confidence that nothing is impossible to a willing heart," said director Jon Kyong.

By Jong Chol PT

FOLK FOOD

Gruel promotes health in summer

The Korean people like to have gruel as well as cold noodles in summer.

Gruel has been regarded as a traditional food good for standing the heat and restoring health in summer since olden times.

According to historical records published in the periods of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392) and the feudal Joson dynasty (1392-1910), there were dozens of kinds of gruel.

A book published in the 18th century says that gruel is one of everyday foods for the Korean people.

In the past people usually said that to be a good daughter-in-

law women should know how to prepare over 20 kinds of gruel.

Gruel was made for the purposes of delicacy, health improving, medical treatment and others and it had distinctive characters in different parts of the country.

Typical of it are fish porridge of Pyongyang and Phyongan province, beef and bean porridge of Hamgyong province, millet and pumpkin porridge of Hwanghae province and mallow in bean paste and mussel porridge of Kangwon province.

Compiled from KCNA

HOLIDAY

Summer vacation at its height

It is summer vacation season in the country.

Many holiday camps in scenic attractions are now crowded with people who find shelter from the midsummer heat in the mountain, seaside and lakeside resorts including Mt Myohyang, Lake Sohung and Soltamgugok.

They enjoy their holidays with a variety of activities like visit to historical sites and relics,

mountain-climbing, sea bathing and sports and amusement games.

In the DPRK working people take vacations at holiday resorts operated at the state's expense under the benefit of the state social insurance.

The state provides them with all conditions needed for their living at holiday resorts.

Compiled from KCNA

