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4





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Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il on the balcony of the Grand People's Study House in April Juche 71 (1982)

Ushering in New History of Juche-based Architecture

In the DPRK which puts forward the working people as masters of the country, construction is carried out to lay a foundation of the people's happiness.

Generalissimo Kim Il Sung created a new history of Juche-oriented and people-oriented architecture which gives top priority to the demands and convenience of the people when laying out a new street and erecting a dwelling house.

Regarding "The people are my God" as his lifelong motto, Kim Il Sung broke the ground to start the Pothong River improvement project, though he was busy building a new Korea after liberating

the country (August 15, 1945) from the Japanese military occupation.

His first step of the nation-building thus began with his groundbreaking to provide his people with a happy life. Since then, he always held fast to the principle that construction and architecture should be carried out for the people in the whole course of creation and construction.

It was one March day in Juche 47 (1958) when the country was in the struggle to fulfil the task of the Five-Year National Economic Plan. He was on his way back to Pyongyang from his field guidance tour, and he saw the Taedong Bridge,

the only bridge across the Taedong River, overcrowded during the morning rush hour, because ferries were checked by the melting ice on the river. He called an official concerned and said determinedly that the construction project of the second Taedong Bridge must be begun ahead of schedule.

At that time the economic situation of the country was difficult because it was not long after the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950–July 1953) against the US imperialists. Therefore, the above-mentioned project was scheduled after accomplishment of the Five-Year plan.

Saying that the Taedong began to thaw, but the people's desire was not accomplished yet, he continued: Though it will be too much for us at present, we should start the construction of the second Taedong Bridge earlier than the appointed period. We must finish the project within the Five-Year plan period, instead of commencing it after the period.

Afterwards he fixed the location of the bridge, had the construction forces organized, and named it Okryu Bridge when it was completed.

In the postwar period, he set forth the housing construction as a primary task in reconstructing Pyongyang, so as to provide his people, who were deprived of their houses by barbarous US bombings, with houses as early as possible. He also saw to it that traditional underfloor heating was installed in every house, pointing out that the Korean people preferred it from long ago.

Thanks to his people-first viewpoint, cultural establishments for the people were built in scenic spots and excellent locations.

Rejecting a plan of constructing government offices on Namsan Hill, known as an excellent location in the central part of Pyongyang, he proposed building a library where people can study, saying that they would be glad, and gave the orientation and ways of construction. Under his meticulous care, the Grand People's Study House, a grand palace where all the people can study, rose in the centre of the capital city.

Not only the study house but also many cultural and recreational establishments serving the people, such as the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace where children bring their hopes into full bloom, Pyongyang Grand Theatre, Pyongyang Indoor Stadium and People's Palace of Culture were built in excellent locations of Pyongyang, and holiday homes, recreation grounds and Children's Union camps for the working people, youth and students laid out in Songdowon area along the East Sea of Korea and other scenic places across the country. The credit for having turned the country into a people's paradise goes to Kim Il Sung who was solicitous about people's well-being and devoted his all to making them happy.

His people-oriented architectural idea on giving top priority to the people's aspiration, demands and convenience was brilliantly carried forward and developed onto a higher level under the wise guidance of Generalissimo Kim Jong Il who clarified in an all-round way great principles of the Juche-oriented architecture and had the structures for the people built. At present, it is being treasured as a precious asset for building a thriving nation thanks to the far-reaching plan of construction and energetic guidance of Marshal Kim Jong Un who is ushering in a great heyday of construction.



Grand People's Study House, a grand palace of people's learning



Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace



Chongnyu Restaurant



Partial view of Pyongyang

Immortal Flower, Kimilsungia



Kimilsungia has won gold and special prizes in international horticultural expos and exhibitions



Kimilsungia strikes visitors with admiration

There are many flowers in the world of flowers, which are being loved by the people.

However, among them Kimilsungia has won great admiration from the people as a flower reflecting a praise for a great man and a famous flower in the world for its deep meaning and its beauty.

Kimilsungia came into being nearly 50 years previously.

When President Kim Il Sung visited Indonesia in April Juche 54 (1965), President Sukarno was so fascinated by his great personality that he had a new variety of orchids bred by a famous florist of his country through his painstaking efforts for a long time, named after Kim Il Sung. Hence the flower Kimilsungia.

Kimilsungia, a beautiful and rare flower of boundless reverence of mankind, arouses admiration among the people across the world.

It was officially registered to the international orchid-related society in Britain in April Juche 71 (1982).

Kimilsungia won top prizes and gained good reputation in many international expositions and shows. It won a gold medal and diploma at the International Horticultural Exposition in Shenyang, China, in 2006, the best exhibition prize and certificate at the 7th China Flower Expo in Juche 98 (2009), and gold award at the international orchid competition of the 2011 Xi'an International Horticultural Exposition, China.

Last January the 8th Sanya International Orchids Expo held in China conferred a special award on Kimilsungia, an immortal flower.

On display at the exposition were over 30 000 pots of orchid flowers presented by 120 organizations from the DPRK, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Germany, France and China.

Charmed by Kimilsungias in full bloom, horticulturists and visitors crowded the DPRK booth.

Chief director of a Chinese corporation and concurrently an executive director of the China Orchids Association said: I offer my sincere congratulations that Kimilsungia, famous flower named after President Kim Il Sung, won the special prize. Thanks to this beautiful, graceful and exquisite flower this exposition will be more conspicuous and popular.

A delegate from the Singapore Orchids Association said: The world-famous Kimilsungia is drawing attention of the visitors. It is very beautiful and elegant. I have taken part in this expo every year and seen numerous orchids, but I have never seen such a beautiful flower as Kimilsungia named after the great man.

Chol Pass Tells



Kim Jong Il at a forefront observation post on Height 1211 in April Juche 86 (1997)

Chol Pass rises in Kangwon Province several hundred km southeast of Pyongyang, the DPRK. The pass, 677 m above sea level, has 99 bends, and takes some 16 km to climb up and another 16 km to climb down. It has served as one of the major traffic routes linking the northeastern part to the southern part of Korea and has also been known for its rugged mountainous terrain and steep paths. Hence the pass which even the fog climbs it with a rest.

Now Chol Pass becomes widely known as an eyewitness of the history to the devoted activities of the eternal Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission Kim Jong Il in strengthening the national power.

During the periods of the Arduous March and forced march the country had to conduct in the 1990s, he frequently crossed the pass.

It was one day in March Juche 85 (1996) when he arrived at the foot of the pass, taking the wheel himself. Paths were very slippery as it had rained for some time, but he drove the car at full speed along the steep, bending roads.

His solemn face showed his firm will to grasp the arms of Songun and brave manifold difficulties, thus bringing about a radical phase for the Korean revolution without fail.

Behind the pass were his beloved soldiers who were defending the country and people with arms in hands.

That's why Kim Jong Il had continuously crossed Chol Pass till the end of his life, rain or shine, late at night or at dawn.

Once, recollecting the days with deep emotion, he said in the following vein: I crossed Chol Pass very often. Vivid before my eyes are its steep paths and high and low peaks. I have the whole of the front line at my fingertips. I have so far led Songun revolution, crossing Chol Pass to inspect frontline units. Chol Pass is the symbol of the Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

Thanks to his leadership, the DPRK has categorically frustrated the imperialists' moves to isolate and stifle it and steadily followed the road of Juche, the road of Songun, the road of socialism, it chose.

Chol Pass, the symbol of Songun, is the banner of eternal victory for all the service personnel and people of the country who are building a thriving socialist country, firmly united behind Kim Jong Un who is creditably carrying forward the ennobling idea and conviction of the brilliant commander of Mt. Paektu.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: Pae Myong Chol



Service personnel march along the road to the front traversed by Kim Jong Il



Youth and students on a tour of Chol Pass



Kim Jong Un Visits November 2 Factory of the KPA

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, gave on-site guidance at the November 2 Factory of the Korean People's Army in February.

Inspecting the factory on November 12 last year, he had assigned it the task to computerize and automate its production lines and make them dust- and germ-free.

KPA Unit 534, factory workers and scientists and technicians in the relevant sector had turned out and devoted their wisdom and enthusiasm to the project, thus implementing the task in a short period.

On being informed that the project had been completed on a high level, he visited the factory again three months later.

Looking round the room dedicated to the factory's history, general control room, and candy, biscuit, sugar-coated bean and pop-bean cake workshops, he acquainted himself in detail with the result of the project.

The general control room, which had been monitoring production at shop floor, has now turned into an intelligent control room equipped with the necessary system for monitoring, controlling and commanding overall production lines, and several

workshops have been upgraded, thus putting production lines from feeding raw materials to production and packaging on an automated basis, and making it possible to boost productivity while economizing on manpower.

Kim Jong Un was pleased with the result of the project.

Having a taste of a product, he noted that its taste and quality have got better as a result of the automation of the production lines.

He continued to say that the hygienic safety, an important matter facing foodstuff factories, can be fully ensured thanks to the dust- and germ-free production environment and the workers are working merrily thanks to the establishment of systems against noise pollution and for ventilation.

Officials told him that the factory owes its present sea change to him as he had solved all the problems arising in the renovation project. Kim Jong Un said that he, the Supreme Commander, would have all the conditions met and requested them to put production on a normal track and supply various foodstuffs to soldiers in larger quantities.

True to his noble intention, the officials and workers of the factory are now boosting foodstuff production.

Article: Kim Hyon



Kim Jong Un delivers a speech at the conference in February Juche 103 (2014)

WPK Eighth Conference of Ideological Workers

The 8th Conference of Ideological Workers of the Workers' Party of Korea was held in February in Pyongyang on an unprecedented scale to mark the 40th anniversary of the proclaiming by Chairman Kim Jong Il of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism.

The conference brought together information workers in Pyongyang and provinces, officials in the fields of revolutionary relics preservation, mass media, literature and the arts, exemplary primary information workers, leading officials from Party and military organs, ministries, national agencies, provinces, cities, counties and industrial complexes who are faithful to the Party's line of attaching foremost importance to ideology.

It reviewed and analyzed the achievements, experiences and lessons in the work of establishing a monolithic ideology in the Party and revolutionary ranks in the past and discussed the tasks before the Party's ideological workers in taking the lead in upholding the cause of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and the ways to fulfil them.

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, delivered a

speech at the conference.

He said: The most powerful weapon for a party that wages a revolution shouldering people's destiny is ideology, and it is its one and only weapon. Without ideology, a party cannot be founded nor can it exist, and its work and revolutionary struggle are inconceivable separated from ideological work. The one and only weapon for the Korean revolution that made its start empty-handed was a great revolutionary ideology. The revolutionaries of Korea rallied comrades and obtained weapons on the strength of the ideology; and on its strength they defeated imperialist powers and built a prospering socialism. The whole course of the Korean revolution can be called a history of ideological work to give fullest play to the might of the truth of the revolutionary ideology of President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il. To hasten the final victory of the Korean revolution keeping up the banner of the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is the faith and will of the service personnel and people of Korea and the wish of the times and history. We must hold aloft modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the maximum programme of the Party and accomplish the Korean revolution without fail on the strength of ideology, on



the strength of single-hearted unity. To hasten the final victory of the revolution by holding higher the ideological theory of Juche, a powerful weapon—this is the main spirit of this conference.

Advancing the slogan "Let us hasten the final victory through a revolutionary ideological offensive!" before the conference, Kim Jong Un set tasks arising in the sector of the Party's ideological work at present.

He continued: First of all, we should concentrate all efforts in the Party's ideological work on firmly establishing the Party's monolithic leadership system. The objective of the revolutionary ideological offensive for establishing the Party's monolithic leadership system is to make the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and its embodiment, the Party's lines and policies, an element of unshakeable conviction of the masses of the people. It is important to conduct the work of imbuing the Party and revolutionary ranks with one ideology in close combination with the practical struggle. The soaring mental spirit of our service personnel and people, who have hardened up their determination to follow the Party Central Committee invariably along the long road of revolution, should be fanned to flare up into flames of a great revolutionary upsurge. Another important task facing the ideological work of our Party is to raise a strong wind of ideological campaign to give an impetus to the struggle for defending socialism. In the present era, as in the past, socialism represents the ideals of mankind, and it is an irreversible trend of the times. We should give Party members and other working people a clear understanding of the essence and character of the present struggle to defend socialism. The ongoing struggle to defend socialism can be said to be aimed at prevailing over

imperialism in all fields of social life by consolidating the victories and successes achieved so far and giving fullest play to the advantages and might of socialism. We must launch an information offensive to ideologically and morally overpower the imperialist reactionary forces who are trying to stamp out socialism by all means. Whereas the reactionary ideology and culture were their guide to aggression in the past, they are playing a leading part in aggression at present. The ideological work of the Party should be conducted in an aggressive manner. Our Party's strategy and tactics in ideological work is to make the whole country seethe with a revolutionary leap forward by making the flames of ideological offensive flare up fiercely in the attack spirit of advancing against all odds. The road of our revolution is not smooth, and every revolutionary front requires genuine and well-qualified ideological workers who have cherished the staunch revolutionary spirit in their hearts. The entire Party should become information and motivation workers, and all officials should conduct political work.

Listening to the speech, all the participants in the conference were resolved to become political workers of the type of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and perform their honourable mission and duty as the Party's ideological workers to arouse the masses vigorously through an aggressive ideological offensive, through vigorous information and motivational work.

The conference adopted a letter of pledge to the Party.

Kim Jong Un had a photo session with the participants in the conference.

The participants visited various places in Pyongyang.

Article: Choe Kwang



Bringing about Sea Changes

The Korean people are now greeting a new era of creation and change in which their dreams and ideals are translated into reality.

The Korean people are erecting a lot of monumental structures and making brilliant scientific achievements, giving fuller display to the advantages of free education and medical care systems of the country, and flying national flags in many international games by raising a strong wind of conducting sports, thus exalting the national power of Songun Korea.

The credit for all these successes goes to the respected Kim Jong Un, who is energetically leading the building of a cultured socialist country where people enjoy all the benefits of socialism, while standing in the vanguard of the struggle for defending socialism by resolutely smashing the imperialists' moves of aggression against the DPRK.

Last year alone, he visited sites of construction projects, factories, enterprises and other units to kindle the flames of patriotism in the hearts of all the service personnel and people.

Crossing Masik Pass on several occasions, he visited the construction site of the ski resort on Masik Pass, greatly encouraged the soldier-builders and took measures for completing the project in the earliest possible date.

His historic appeal issued on June 4 last year raised the flames of creating the "Masikryong speed" across the country. He visited again its construction site nearing completion and inspired the soldier-builders to make great strides, saying that the ski resort on Masik Pass was calling winter and winter awaiting its completion.

When the ski resort made its magnificent appearance, he visited

it again and said that he was very happy to think of his people, youth and students who would freely run down on ski slopes with laughter and excited cries. Under his wise leadership, the large-scale ski resort, a huge project which would take others over ten years, was built within the shortest period.

His detailed guidance is also associated with the world-class Munsu Water Park, Mirim Riding Club, Ryugyong Dental Hospital and Okryu Children's Hospital which were newly built.

He guided the formation plan of the Munsu Water Park on more than 110 occasions and studied its sand table over and over again in his office. He visited its construction site several times, in midnight and at dawn, to perfect it to the minutest detail.

He also visited the construction site of the Mirim Riding Club on several occasions to build the club impeccably as befits a public horse-riding centre by thoroughly embodying the idea of the Workers' Party of Korea on architectural beauty and its people-oriented view.

Thanks to his plan for providing people with the bases for their cultured life as soon as possible, Unha Scientists Street was set up without a single defect in the designs of flats and the formation of blocks with a nursery, a kindergarten, schools, a hospital and shops, and twin high-rises for educationists at Kim Il Sung University appeared at the Ryonghung crossroads.

He also personally guided sports games and artistic performances encouraging the relevant sectors to bring about unprecedented achievements.

Service personnel and people of the DPRK have already been and are now experiencing what a cultured socialist country is



Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, a base of education in the history and tradition of the great war victory

and benefits of socialism they will enjoy are. Therefore, with boundless respect for Kim Jong Un, who is continuing his road of Songun-based revolutionary leadership for greater happiness and pleasure of the people, they are making great strides towards

the future prosperity.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



Pyongyang, city in parks



Children's and sports parks built across Pyongyang



Rungna Dolphinarium where people enjoy themselves



Apartment houses for educationists at Kim Il Sung University



Ryugyong Dental Hospital (left) and Okryu Children's Hospital (right)



Magnificent Munsu Water Park



Mirim Riding Club gives people youthful vigour and joy



In Hearty Response to New Year Address

Pooling Ideas

— Pyongyang Urban Planning and Designing Institute —



To present characteristic designs by enlisting their ingenuity



Construction is an important undertaking for solidifying the foundations of a thriving country and creating bases for the people's happy life.

In hearty response to the call Marshal Kim Jong Un made in his New Year Address to usher in a new heyday of construction this year, officials and designers of the Pyongyang Urban Planning and Designing Institute have set a high target for building up Pyongyang as befits the hub of Songun culture and are doing their best to this end.

Last year alone, they presented architectural designs for the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery, Unha Scientists Street, Mirim Riding Club, Munsu Water Park and other projects, thereby tangibly contributing to laying out Pyongyang more grandiosely and building a cultured socialist country.

Fully aware that from every dot or line they draw on a design starts the future of a cultured nation, they are intensifying their thoughts and study to sustain the utility and characteristics of structures in designing, while strictly observing the principle of ensuring convenience and aesthetics first and looking forward the distant future.

They are also expediting the work of putting designing on the basis of informatics and science.

Not resting on their laurels of introducing many new applications including a program for administering design directives, they are endeavouring to develop more of them useful in drawing detailed designs based on geographical information system and others.

To build all the structures in conformity with the emotions, sentiments and aesthetic sense of the people as well as the models of a cultured socialist country by reaching the highest standards—this is the goal the officials and designers of the institute are going to attain.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: An Chol Won



To put designing on the basis of informatics and science



Panel discussion is often held



In Hearty Response to New Year Address

For Increased Production

The Sonhung Foodstuff Factory, when it was commissioned ten years ago, covered an area of 400 m² and produced 40 kinds of foodstuffs of three varieties.

But now it has changed a lot thanks to the sincere efforts of its employees who are out with pride in serving the people.

The buildings occupying a vast area, have smart production lines equipped with 400 up-to-date machines, which are capable of producing 200 kinds of foodstuffs of 15 varieties, including drops, biscuits, sweet jelly, bread, ice cream and carbonated drink.

In hearty response to the New Year Address for this year, in which Marshal Kim Jong Un mentioned that by stepping up modernization of and introduction of CNC technology into production lines and increasing the proportion of locally-available raw and other materials, light-industry factories should put production on a normal footing, the factory is

working full steam to further modernize its production lines and turn out a variety of foodstuffs with abundant raw materials obtained in the country.

By drawing on the experience of having streamlined the carbonated drink and ice-cream production lines, its managerial personnel and technicians are now making efforts to upgrade the biscuit production line and the process of mixing materials.

A mass technical innovation drive for increasing the proportion of locally-available raw and other materials is in full swing to develop new products like sweet jelly and pop-rice cake and other traditional confectionery with seaweed rich in the country.

The employees, who are filled with pride in contributing to improving the people's living standards, are bringing about a robust, unceasing growth in production.

*Article: Kim Jong Ung
Photo: Jin Yong Ho*



The factory boosts production by increasing the proportion of locally-available raw and other materials and updating production lines



To Turn Out Popular Products



Songyo Ceramic Factory situated in East Pyongyang has a long history. Before the liberation of the country (August 15, 1945), it was no more than a small factory, but now it has become famous as it is greatly conducive to the improvement of the people's standard of living and the development of ceramic workmanship by mass-producing various ceramics for everyday use and other artistic ones.

The appearance of the factory underwent a complete change after the completion of a reconstruction project last year.

Original production buildings were facelifted, along with the disappearance of a chimney.

Their occupying areas were markedly reduced, while their production capacity being doubled.

All processes from pulverizing of raw materials to forming, drying, glazing and firing are equipped with modern equipment and facilities of high efficiency.

The factory is making great efforts to enhance the role of the technicians and improve the technical knowledge and skills of the workers, so that a full operation of all the machines is ensured.

The factory encourages the creators and craftspersons to further develop the ceramic technique of the Korean nation with a long history and turn out more and better products.

The demand for the factory's products is increasing day by day.

Article: Choe Kwang Hyok
Photo: Choe Won Chol



Striving to improve the workers' technical skills and upgrade the quality of products



Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site



Intensifying education in revolutionary traditions through slogan-bearing trees



There are several revolutionary battle sites in the Anju area, South Phyongan Province in the western part of Korea which were set up during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Among them is the Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site, which Kim Il Sung established as a secret base with the purpose of achieving the historic cause of Korea's liberation through an all-people resistance alongside the final offensive of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

Kim Il Sung sent a small unit of the KPRA to this area in March Juche 27 (1938) to set up secret bases there and build them up as a stronghold of the revolutionary headquarters during the final battle against Japanese imperialism.

There are preserved more than 50 slogans members of the KPRA small units active there and the messenger sent by the headquarters had written and other valuable relics.

In January 2014, Kim Jong Un, who visited the site, said that the single fact that President Kim Il Sung set up a secret base there was enough to show that he was a peerless great man endowed with outstanding foresight.

He noted that the site demonstrates the undying revolutionary exploits Kim Il Sung had performed for the cause of Korea's liberation and the indomitable fighting spirit of the Korean people who held him in high esteem as the core of unity and leadership and opened up a new era for national liberation struggle in colonies. Looking at the slogans, he stressed that the boundless loyalty to the leader possessed by the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners was a model to be followed by all the revolutionaries.

Saying that the revolutionary traditions established by the President are the strong roots of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean revolution, Kim Jong Un gave detailed instructions on intensifying the education in revolutionary traditions with the change of generations.

Endless streams of the service personnel and people of the country flow to the Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site.



A camping site



Place where a meeting was held



Slogan "Long live Korea's three great fortunes—General Kim Il Sung, a Heaven-sent, distinguished man, Kim Jong Suk, a woman general of Mt. Paektu, and their heir, the Shining Star of Mt. Paektu"



Triplets



Rim So Baek, Rim Su Byol and Rim Paek Du on the stage of schoolchildren's New Year performance for Juche 103 (2014)



Gold ring and silver daggers presented to the triplets

Greeting the New Year 2014 schoolchildren staged their artistic performance at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in Pyongyang. Among them were triplets from the Chilgol Primary School in Mangyongdae District. They sang "The Happiest Day," portraying the pleasure of the children greeting the New Year's Day with their correct and rich vocal sounds and cute performance.

In April 9-year-old triplets promoted to the third year. Their father is a public security man and mother a shoe repairer at the Mangyongdae District Public Service Centre.

From long ago it is said that it requires painstaking efforts to bring up one child. Much more is the case with triplets.

However, in the DPRK the parents of triplets have no burden, as they are brought up at state expense. Triplets are the pride of the country.

As soon as they were born, the triplets were presented with many gifts from the great leader Generalissimo Kim Jong Il including silver daggers and a gold ring.

They were also provided with a two-storeyed modern house at Kallimgil-dong

No. 1 in Mangyongdae District, by the state free of charge.

Their life in the new house started since their kindergarten age, several years after they were born.

In the DPRK triplets and quadruplets are taken care by teachers and doctors in charge of them at baby homes, thanks to the state concern, until they are old enough to go to the kindergarten.

They returned from the baby home to learn their mother tongue and music at the kindergarten and then went to the primary school.

One day a teacher from the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace visited the house

and told their parents to let their children study vocal music at the palace.

Since then the triplets are enrolled in the vocal music circle to take lessons after school.

They are still too young to understand how they are enjoying the benefits from the free educational system of the country and that there are numerous children about their age in the world who have no access to schooling and thus are illiterate.

They have also a doctor in charge of them at the Pyongyang Municipal People's Hospital No. 3, who pays a regular visit to them every month since they were

kindergartners, even though they did not feel sick. The doctor examines every one of them carefully and gives them medicines supplied by the state. The triplets and their parents, of course, are wholly ignorant about the doctor's fee and the price of medicine.

However, they are growing not only in years and stature but also in mind.

They are singing songs loud, reflecting their hope to be able personnel for the country in the future by studying hard and building up their bodies.

Article: Choe Kwang Hyok

Photo: Choe Won Chol



Triplets grow happily under the care of the state

Ice Sculpture Festival

Mt. Paektu, 2 750 m above sea level, rises in Samjiyon County of Ryanggang Province at the northern tip of Korea. It is the highest mountain and one of the coldest areas in the country.

It is widely known as a sacred mountain of revolution, since Kim Il Sung, based on it, fought the bloody struggle against

the military occupation of Korea by Japanese imperialists, and Kim Jong Il was born there.

From several years previously it has been the venue of the snow and ice sculpture festival in February. Last February, too, the festival was held to celebrate the Day of the Shining Star, birthday of Kim Jong Il.

On show there were some 200 pieces of sculptures, made of snow and ice of 1 900 tons, created by members of the Construction Shock Brigade 618 from the Ministry of People's Security who were taking part in the construction of the Paektusan area revolutionary battle sites and other revolutionary sites. The exhibits presented the striking scene to the festival for

their profound meanings and peculiar portrayals.

Most impressive were the snow and ice sculpture "Mind of Best Wishes" which depicted the thick, snow-covered forest of Mt. Paektu and the portrait of the beaming image of Generalissimo Kim Jong Il, ice sculpture "Tiger on Mt. Paektu," snow sculpture "Whole Life of Our General" that portrayed Chol Pass, and "Rough Sea Route to Cho Island." All the works greatly impressed the people with great yearning for Kim Jong Il.

Other standouts were a large ice vase 3 metres tall and 3 tons heavy, a graceful and dazzling ice-crystal bridge, a snow slide made of 50 tons of snow and so on.

The people in Samjiyon County presented the snow sculptures of the Paektusan area sports village, Samjiyon Schoolchildren's Palace, Pegaebong Noodle House, Pegaebong Ski Ground, Phothae Tableland with a bumper crop of potatoes and the others they take pride in.

Article & photo: Kim Kum Jin





Yun Ko Gwang

50-Year Devotion to Education

Dr. and Assoc. Prof. Yun Ko Gwang, born as the first child of an ordinary worker's family in Sonbong County (present Rason City), North Hamgyong Province in the northern tip of Korea, has been lecturing for 50 years at the Architectural College of Pyongyang University of Architecture.

He says he never conjured up his career as a lecturer while studying at the then Pyongyang University of Construction, and even when he was nearing his graduation.

At that time the whole country was seething with construction and thus badly needed architects, so he was burning with a desire to show his ability as an honor student.

Then, one day he had a serious talk with his teacher, which made him renew his ideal and became a lecturer of his alma mater.

He, always sticking to his sincere approaches to teaching, devoted much time and energy to preparing a lecture, sometimes staying up all night. Before teaching his students one thing, he himself took great pains to be well versed in more things.

That is why the students always looked forward to his lectures in which they could learn in depth not only architecture but also theories and methodologies of other related subjects.

His endeavours have earned him tremendous respect of the students.

When he was free, he spent his much time in writing. He wrote a textbook *Architecture* in his early thirties, and has written eight textbooks and many other reference books while newly developing six more subjects. He was also a staff member in compiling an encyclopaedia.



He is, by nature, calm and gentle, but he spares nothing for the collective, his comrades and students. He was engrossed in writing textbooks for 20 years before reading his thesis for a doctorate in Juche 97 (2008), and helped with dissertations of more than 30 students.

He took part in designing the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, Pyongyang Department Store No.1 and other monumental structures. But he is more proud of his 50-year career as a lecturer that produced among his disciples many dignified officials in the sector of architecture and heroes.

His colleagues in the department of architectural designing are mostly his disciples.

Some time ago, one of them asked him how he had worked as a lecturer for half a century.

His reply was: "If everybody is aware that he will become the root in fostering the future as the foundation supports a structure, he will be attached to his job and devote his all to it."

This is just what he had heard from his teacher 50 years ago.

His energy and enthusiasm which encouraged him to renew his determination have not died down.

With a fresh feeling of excitement and confidence that everything will go well, he always starts his lecture, attracting every student's gaze and saying, "Let's begin our lesson."

Article: Choe Kwang
Photo: Choe Myong Jin



To bring up students as competent architectural designers



Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 and Pyongyang Indoor Stadium: Yun drew up their designs



Ri Yong Ok

Mother's Bosom



A regular health checkup for children



Developing children's talents



Indoor play area



Moran Hill is one of famous scenic spots in Pyongyang, and there is Kim Jong Suk Nursery nestling at the foot of the hill.

After Korea was liberated from the military occupation of Japanese imperialists on August 15, Juche 34 (1945), the great Generalissimo Kim Il Sung had a state-run nursery set up for the sake of the Korean women.

Upholding his lofty intention, Kim Jong Suk, an anti-Japanese heroine, endeavoured to set up the nursery, which was named March Eighth Nursery in commemoration of the International Women's Day, March 8.

The March Eighth Nursery was renamed the present Kim Jong Suk Nursery in Juche 76 (1987), out of the Korean people's desire to hand down for ever the immortal exploits she accomplished in the work of nursing and upbringing the children.

Kim Jong Suk Nursery, a weekly-run nursery, caters children from two and half years old to four for women with such professional jobs as journalists, teachers, doctors, researchers and artists.

Thanks to the state law that legalizes the bringing up of the children at state expense, the nursery is supplied by the state with everything necessary for the children, including meat, eggs, nutrition powder, milk, fruit and other foodstuffs essential to the child growth.

Nursery doctors are graduates of the medical universities, such as Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University, and they are fully responsible for the health of nursery children.

The nursery pays also deep attention to the education of the children.

All routines of the daily life in the nursery are run through with dances and songs, which work well in cultivating their acoustic sense. Various sports and intelligent games are employed in improving the children's physical fitness and promoting their understanding and imaginative power of things and phenomena in accordance with their psychological features.

Many foreigners have visited the nursery and greatly admired that they had never witnessed such an excellent system of bringing up the children as ours.

Every time I hear such praises, I feel more keenly that the children in our country are the most fortunate ones in the blessed time.

Ri Yong Ok, head of Kim Jong Suk Nursery

Photo: Kim Chun Hyok



Lecturers and researchers of Kim Il Sung University who have developed an atomic force microscope

Nano-Technology Measuring Apparatus

Lecturers and researchers of Kim Il Sung University researched and manufactured an atomic force microscope in December last year.

The new microscope, consisting of atomic power measuring, nano-feeding, electronic control and vibration-proof systems, is capable of surveying the surface of samples with 1nm-class resolving power.

This cutting-edge nano-technology measuring apparatus is a major tool playing the roles of a hand and an eye in studying nano technology, one of core, basic technologies, in the present development of science and technology. And it has been manufactured with burning patriotic zeal and creative wisdom of lecturers and researchers from the faculty of materials science and scientific experimental apparatuses and electronic materials institutes of Kim Il Sung University.

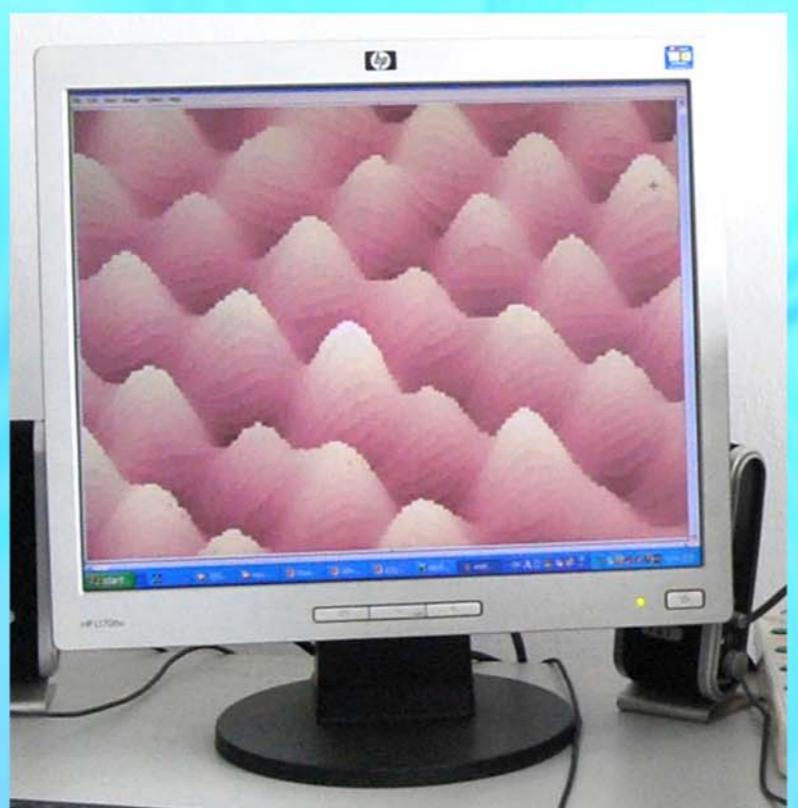
They had already accumulated experiences from developing a scanning tunnelling microscope in the past, and, making the best use of them, settled a lot of scientific and technical problems arising in developing an atomic force microscope, an aggregate of the cutting-edge science and technology.

They also intensified their research into comprehensively improving the performance and utilization of the apparatuses by integrating several measuring instruments with different functions and features.

In this way they successfully developed in a short period of time a comprehensive scanning probe microscope by combining the atomic force and scanning tunnelling microscopes which complement one another in view of performance and observation information sharing on the basis of different measuring principles.

The new atomic force microscope developed by the research group of Kim Il Sung University will greatly contribute to improving the nano-technology research work and education and scientific study of the country onto a higher level.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Jin Yong Ho



Increasing Number of Animals

In the Central Zoo, situated at the foot of Mt. Taesong in Pyongyang, newly born tiger cubs are attracting visitors. They were born last year, two Korean tigers and four white tigers.

Those cubs are romping around in the outdoor playing ground, sometimes fighting fiercely, betraying their wild spirit. Some cubs are even letting out howling sounds. Visitors are enjoying themselves, looking at them playing.

The Korean tigers, endemic to Korea, inhabit the forest areas and cub every two or three years.

White tigers, found in a variety of habitats of rainforest, grassland, mangrove swamps and other environments, are subspecies in northern India and give birth to cubs every three or five years.

Though they breed every some years, they rarely take care of their cubs.



According to the keepers, female lions or bears look after their cubs, but tigresses do not breast-feed their litters, which makes it very difficult to bring them up.

That is why they have artificially nursed the tigers from long ago.

It takes about two months to nurse the cubs and they are vulnerable to dyspepsia and other digestive disorders unless they are fed just in time.

The keepers at the zoo, including Kim Sun Ok, honoured with the title of the Merited Keeper for her services for nearly 50 years, devoted themselves to breeding those six cubs healthily.

The new members of the zoo are enriching the cultural and emotional life of the people.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Choe Myong Ho



Festival Held for the 23rd Time

The Paektusan Prize International Figure Skating Festival which is an annual event held in the DPRK greeted its 23rd round in February this year.

The festival is a distinctive and significant gathering of all the people in the DPRK and the world, which reflects their unanimous desire and wish to celebrate the birthday of Generalissimo Kim Jong Il, who made immortal achievements in accomplishing the cause of global independence, as a

great holiday of mankind.

The recent festival in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star, the Generalissimo's birthday, brought together figure skaters from the DPRK, Russia, Latvia, Belarus, Italy, the Czech Republic and Serbia. It took place in the Ice Rink on the picturesque bank of the Pothong River in Pyongyang.

At the demonstrations of ice dance, pairs and single events the DPRK skaters gave

various performances, such as "Endless Is Our Yearning," "Party Flag, For Ever with You" and "Paean of Motherland."

Their performances depicted the earnest yearning of the Korean people for the Generalissimo, the eternal sun of Songun Korea, and their firm faith and will to build a thriving socialist country under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, and left a deep impression upon the spectators.

Skaters from many countries who

obtained good results at international and national games showed their high skills in "General Star," "Feeling Good," "Pure Imagination" and other performances.

Festival awards were given to the Russian, Italian and the DPRK skaters.

The festival gave pleasure to the Korean people who are exerting endeavours to build a thriving socialist country.

Article: Kim Kyong Hui
Photo: Ri Kwang Song



To Bring Home Glory

The Ice Rink on the bank of the Pothong River in Pyongyang is always fully occupied by skaters training hard.

Seen among them are short-track speed skaters, who are polishing their skills, such as balance shifting using gravity on back straights and other technical skills on curves.

After completing the schoolchildren's sports schools, they are improving their skills at sports teams.

Choe Un Song from the Jangjusan Sports Team won many national skating competitions in his boyhood. He participated in the 2013 Danubia Cup and Slovak Open Short-Track Speed Skating Competition held in Slovakia in December last year and took the first place in total points in men's 500-, 1 000- and 1 500-metre events of adult group, fully showing his fortés.

Ju Yun Mi from the Hwaepul Sports Team and Choe Sung from the Pyongyang Railway Bureau Sports Team finished second in women's adult and youth groups respectively.

Though they have short careers, they have one mind to bring glory to their country by winning many gold medals.

Inspired by this will, they are training harder.

Article & photo: Kim Kum Jin



With an ambition to glorify their country with gold medals



In a general gym



High-Performance Cutting Tools

The Pyongyang CVD Tool Development Corporation situated in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, is stepping up mass-production of various types of cutting tools.

Equipped with high-pressure press, vacuum-type sintering furnace, chemical evaporator, washer, CNC milling machine, electric discharge surface-processing

machine and others, the corporation is in a position to turn out a wide range of indexable inserts made from fine-grained cemented carbide.

Its officials, workers and technicians are making an endeavour to develop cutting tools that are wide in application and convenient for use with a high sense of creative zeal.

Recently, they have succeeded in manufacturing fine-grained cemented carbide with high purity at the modern cemented-carbide powder factory, thus making it possible to produce quality cutting tools relying on domestic raw and other materials.

Besides, they are ensuring full operation of machines by strictly observing the requirements of standard regulation of operation with the attitude of the master of the management of equipment.

Thanks to their high degree of enthusiasm, the corporation satisfactorily supplies lots of tools badly needed in the different fields of the national economy.

Indexable inserts for external and internal machining, external thread cutting, slotting and end milling produced here are widely used in CNC machine tool, universal centre lathe and other sophisticated machine tools.

High-quality CVD cemented carbide tools coated in multi-layers by means of modern CVD technology were in the limelight in the tool exhibitions held in many countries of the world.

It is a zeal and target of its officials, workers and technicians to contribute to the economic development of the country by developing and producing diverse and high-performance cutting tools in larger numbers.

Article & photo: Jon Son Il



An End Must Be Put to the Tragedy of Division

— Reunion of Separated Families and Relatives from the North and South of Korea —

The Korean nation has lived separated by outside forces for nearly 70 years.

As time passes, their desire for national reunification becomes stronger. This feeling has been demonstrated last February when the separated families from the north and south of Korea met in the Mt. Kumgang resort.

Yang Sang Hwan and Yu Ki Jong from Ongjin and Chongdan counties respectively in South Hwanghae Province, Kwak Yun Song from Sukchon County in South Phyongan Province and others met their families and relatives who were forcibly separated by atomic bomb threat of the US imperialists in their attempt to stamp out the DPRK after provoking a war against it on June 25, 1950. They hugged each other and exchanged greetings, sharing the affection of kinship.

Those from the north told their relatives from the south how they were working with devotion for the country's prosperity and what a happy life they were enjoying in a great harmonious family under the care of the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, which deeply moved the southerners.

Bidding farewell to each other, they promised to strive to reunify the country at an earlier date under the banner of By Our Nation Itself.

The recent reunion brought home once again to all the Korean people that the bloodline of the nation cannot be cut and independent reunification, peace and prosperity of the country can be realized only by improving the north-south relations as soon as possible.

Article & photo: Pak Chang Bok



Living Monument

Zelkova Tree at Sogwang Temple

The zelkova tree at Sogwang Temple was planted in 1386 and is the oldest of its species in Korea.

It is a broad-leaved deciduous tree in the elm family, and its bark is dark brown and relatively smooth.

It has alternate leaves which are elliptical and have sharp ends.

Both male and female flowers are found on the same tree, the former in the axils of leaves formed in the lower part of fresh branches and the latter in the upper part. They are 1-3 each.

The fruits, when matured by October, become black in colour, 2-3 mm round, and are misshapen on one side.

The zelkova tree at Sogwang Temple has academic significance and scenic value and is preserved as a living monument of Korea.

Article & photo: Ri Kwang Song

