

Politburo of WPK Central Committee holds consultative meeting



Meeting discusses issues of continuously stabilizing and improving overall anti-epidemic situation, preparations for Fifth Plenary Meeting of Eighth Party Central Committee

KCNA

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea convened a consultative meeting at the office building of the Party Central Committee on May 29.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, guided the meeting.

The meeting was attended by members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee. Present there as observers were officials of the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters.

The Political Bureau first heard a report of the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters on the situation of the spread of the epidemic as of May 28.

More than 89 500 persons caught fever and over 106 390 others fully recovered throughout the country between May 27 and 28.

A cumulative total of fever patients found as of May 28 since late April is some 3 448 880, of which more than 3 262 700 (94.602%) fully recovered and over 186 110 (5.396%) were under medical treatment across the country.

Reported to the Political Bureau were the epidemic spread situation in each region, the characteristics of the course

of the disease, various analysis data, the supply of medicines and the experiences in treatment.

The Political Bureau heard the results of the state-sponsored study and explication of the first place of the outbreak of the disease and the route of its spread before discussing the relevant issues.

It made a positive evaluation of the epidemic situation being controlled and improved across the country and discussed the issues of continuously stabilizing and improving the overall anti-epidemic situation while further consolidating the experiences gained in the early period of the anti-epidemic work.

The Political Bureau deliberated on the issue of effectively and promptly coordinating and enforcing the anti-epidemic regulations and guidelines in keeping with the current stable situation as to the epidemic spread.

The meeting heard the accounts of the technical guidance teams' activities for the mid-term review of the execution of the Party and state policies set forth at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee and discussed important issues concerning the preparations for the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

It also studied and discussed the orientations of other state affairs.

Let Us Open a New Era of Rejuvenation of Chongryon by Enlisting the Inexhaustible Strength of the Compatriots of Various Social Strata

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a letter to those attending the 25th Congress of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) entitled *Let Us Open a New Era of Rejuvenation of Chongryon by Enlisting the Inexhaustible Strength of the Compatriots of Various Social Strata* on May 28.

The following is the full text of the letter:

I feel it happy that the 25th Congress of Chongryon (General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) has been convened in this meaningful year, when we celebrated the 110th anniversary of the birth of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the 80th anniversary of the birth of the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il as auspicious revolutionary events, as the greatest political festivals of our nation.

On the occasion of the 25th Congress of Chongryon, which has opened amid the great interest and expectation at home and abroad in the stirring period when the dignity and powerful strength of Juche Korea are being demonstrated all over the world, I extend, along with the hearts of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, warmest congratulations and greetings to the participants in the congress and all other officials of Chongryon and compatriots in Japan.

In strengthening Chongryon, a dignified organization of the overseas citizens of our Republic, and developing the movement of Koreans in Japan on a steady upward track, the role of the congress, the highest decision-making body of Chongryon, is very important.

To look back, the long course Chongryon has traversed up to now since the day of its formation, when the movement of Koreans in Japan rooted in Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, was firmly put into the Juche-oriented orbit, is proudly recorded with its congresses that constituted watersheds of inheritance and innovation, advance and leap forward.

Whenever the congresses of Chongryon were held, the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, founders and builders of Chongryon, would send letters of congratulation, clarifying the road ahead of the movement of Koreans in Japan and blessing the happy future of the compatriots in Japan.

True to their idea of the Juche-based overseas compatriots' movement and their guidance, officials of Chongryon and other compatriots in Japan have climbed a "high mountain" of the cause of patriotism whenever a congress has been held while overcoming all sorts of difficulties in an alien land.

The whole historical course traversed by Chongryon and the movement of Koreans in Japan was a continuation of a march against all odds, but the past four years since the 24th Congress was a period of harsh trials, when all the compatriots had to experience too much difficulties owing to the aggravated anti-DPRK and anti-Chongryon manoeuvres by the hostile forces and the global spread of the epidemic disease.

However, in the face of manifold indescribable difficulties the officials of Chongryon and other compatriots in Japan kept step with their socialist homeland, achieving remarkable victory in every theatre of struggle where a new golden age is being ushered in the movement of Koreans in Japan.

Even in the protracted circumstances in which their visits to their homeland were suspended, the compatriots in Japan have dedicated their devotion for their homeland and nation, demonstrating their original features. Witnessing this ennobling spiritual world, the people in the homeland gained great strength and realized more keenly how precious Chongryon, a patriotic legacy of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, is.

I pay a high tribute to the officials of the elder generations of Chongryon, including Comrades Han Tok Su, Ri Jin Gyu, So Man Sul, Ri Kye Baek and the other sung and unsung compatriots of the first generation, who devoted their all for the reunification

and development of their homeland and victorious advance of the movement of Koreans in Japan in the unprecedentedly harsh previous decades.

And I extend thanks to all the officials of Chongryon and other compatriots in Japan who are devoting their pure conscience and sense of obligation on the sacred road of opening an era of a new upsurge of the movement of Koreans in Japan without claiming any fame and reward and by stoutly overcoming all the difficulties in the alien land with their lot cast in with their homeland.

Avaling myself of this opportunity, on behalf of the Workers' Party of Korea, the government of the DPRK and on my own, I extend warm gratitude to the personages of conscience and other Japanese peace-loving people and diplomatic envoys in Japan, who are rendering active encouragement to Chongryon and the Koreans resident in Japan in their righteous struggle.

Chongryon and the movement of Koreans in Japan made a great leap forward in the struggle over the past ten years for ushering in a new heyday for themselves, and have developed from the stage of being defended and preserved to an era of comprehensive development for a higher goal.

The current congress held at this juncture will constitute a gathering of great significance in accelerating the patriotic advance for accomplishing the far-reaching ambition and ideal of building a powerful Chongryon. The basic task of Chongryon in this period is to open wider the new era of prosperity of the movement of Koreans in Japan, a new era of its rejuvenation, by pooling the efforts of the compatriots of all walks of life.

The inexhaustible strength of the compatriots, who are rallied behind a great ideology and by the bonds of kinship, is a guarantee for the eternal victory of Chongryon and the movement of Koreans in Japan. It should go deeper and more frequently among the compatriots the harder the times are, so that the community of Koreans brims over with the beautiful trait of helping one another displaying tenderness and human feeling.

It should focus an all-out effort on protecting and taking care of the lives and health of the compatriots.

No undertaking is more crucial and important than to safely protect the lives, health and homes of the compatriots in Japan which is prone to earthquake, tsunami and typhoon.

Chongryon should victoriously usher in a new era of its rejuvenation by enlisting its one and only driving force, the inexhaustible strength of the broad sections of the compatriots, who are burning their hearts with patriotism.

The first task facing Chongryon is to orient all its activities to the fellow-compatriots-first principle and pursue it as its invariable principle.

This principle is an embodiment of the great Juche idea, the people-first principle, in the practical movement of Koreans in Japan.

Chongryon, guided by the Juche idea, should develop as an organization governed by this principle and advance holding aloft this slogan.

As a champion and advocate of the democratic national rights and interests of the Koreans resident in Japan, Chongryon organizations, affiliates and other bodies at all levels should always give priority to the struggle to defend and expand their rights to independence, existence and development.

Always keeping in mind the wish of the first generation of Chongryon who set it up and defended the places of learning for the children of the fellow compatriots at the cost of their blood and sweat, Chongryon officials and other compatriots in Japan should launch a stronger campaign to defend their rights to education, business and livelihood.

Chongryon organizations and their affiliates at all levels should adopt a thoroughgoing approach to the matter of defending the rights of the compatriots, regarding it as an essential task in safeguarding the achievements gained in the patriotic effort, and further expand the realm of the mass movement for the rights and interests of the compatriots.

Chongryon should also launch an intense struggle to make the Japanese authorities revoke their unjust

measures of checking the visits to the homeland by the Koreans in Japan, including the Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

The government of our Republic will, in the future, too, take thoroughgoing state measures to defend and provide their democratic national rights and interests in line with the law on defending the rights and interests of the overseas Koreans, and implement one special measure after another to guarantee their rights to independence, existence and development.

Organizations, affiliates and other bodies at all levels of Chongryon should, with ardent feeling of kinship, devote all their efforts also to service and welfare activities for promoting convenience in the life of the compatriots.

It is my sincere feeling to have all the wealth of the country spent for our priceless compatriots in Japan, true to the intention of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il who, always mindful of overseas compatriots, bestowed all affection and benevolence on them.

In waging all undertakings and activities, Chongryon should give top and absolute priority to the demands, interests and convenience of the compatriots and perseveringly conduct the service and welfare activities closely related to their life. In this course it can raise their confidence in its organizations and remarkably expand its mass basis.

It should run the life consultation offices on a regular basis and solve with all sincerity their demands related with marriage, job-seeking and the problems of the elderly and disabled persons.

It should go deeper and more frequently among the compatriots the harder the times are, so that the community of Koreans brims over with the beautiful trait of helping one another displaying tenderness and human feeling.

It should focus an all-out effort on protecting and taking care of the lives and health of the compatriots.

No undertaking is more crucial and important than to safely protect the lives, health and homes of the compatriots in Japan which is prone to earthquake, tsunami and typhoon.

Chongryon should investigate the resistance against earthquake by the institutes and schools of various levels and houses of compatriots and take relevant measures.

And it should concern itself more with and pay special heed to the compatriots living in the areas vulnerable to natural disasters. In this way it can ensure that not a single compatriot suffers a misfortune.

Although the community of Koreans has not sustained a huge loss from the global pandemic thanks to its preemptive measures and painstaking efforts, Chongryon should never rest content or relax but continue to direct strenuous efforts to the safety of compatriots, so that every one of them is healthy and free from illness.

The second task facing Chongryon is to develop its democratic national education into one which can shoulder the future of the movement of the Koreans in Japan and to which the compatriots can readily entrust their children.

Democratic national education is the lifeline of Chongryon and the movement of the Koreans in Japan and a patriotic undertaking of ever-lasting value on which the existence and future of the community of Koreans in Japan depend.

Therefore, the democratic national education of Chongryon should focus, to all intents and purposes, on imparting a correct understanding of their leader, homeland and nation to the compatriots.

To this end, Chongryon should channel a primary effort into turning the ranks of educationists into those of career revolutionaries who can take responsibility for the future of its patriotic cause.

The Union of Korean Teachers in Japan should

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provide substantial guidance and assistance to all the teachers with the focus put on arming them firmly with the policy of making a revolution in education in the new era and improving their qualifications and abilities as educationists.

The educationists of Chongryon should, mindful of their unique pride and mission in taking responsibility for the future of the movement of the Koreans in Japan, lead others in ushering in an era of efflorescence of national education.

They should establish the Juche orientation firmly in national education and constantly renovate the contents and methods of education in line with the global trend of the development of education.

While giving definite precedence to politico-ideological education and education in national identity, schools at all levels should further improve the contents of education in the direction of teaching the compatriots the knowledge and skills essential to their work and life.

They should proactively create new teaching methods and various methods of extracurricular education that conform with the ages and psychological features of the students, and share them with one another.

Chongryon should decisively increase the number of students of its schools of various levels.

Chongryon should conduct a more intense campaign, involving all its organizations and all the compatriots, to preserve their national identity so that the Koreans in Japan will continue to be under the limelight as the reflection of Korea, as the face of our nation, who are never assimilated by foreign culture even if they live in an alien land through generations.

The Korean Educationists Association in Japan and its other organizations, affiliates and other bodies at all levels should stake national pride and make strenuous efforts to create for the children of compatriots educational conditions and environment which are no inferior to others.

By regarding national education as the top priority of their patriotic undertakings and consistently conducting the movement of taking loving care of and helping schools, not only the Mothers' Society and Fathers' Society but also all the organizations under Chongryon should ensure that the validity and vitality of national education are fully demonstrated.

It is important to further improve the work of Korea University, in particular.

Korea University is the highest institute of democratic national education and the sole university of overseas people in the world, which the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il established and valued so dearly.

It should bring up more and better dependable hardcore persons who can shoulder the future of Chongryon's patriotic cause, thereby firmly guaranteeing the future of the movement of Koreans in Japan.

No matter where they work and at what, Chongryon officials and other compatriots should cherish the university in their minds and give active material and spiritual assistance to the work of training successors to Chongryon.

The third task facing Chongryon is to raise a strong wind of preserving the national identity of the Korean community in Japan.

The people at home should be strong in national identity, but it is all the more so with overseas compatriots.

The first criterion for characterizing a nation is its lineage and the second one is language.

For the compatriots living in an alien land far away from their motherland, the true feature as a patriot finds expression in safeguarding the lineage of the nation and the time of speaking their mother tongue is the time when they live a patriotic life.

Mindful of the fact that encouraging the compatriots to enjoy using our language, both written and spoken, which is a means of linking the ties of kinship among them, is the starting point, the first step, of preserving their national identity, Chongryon should ensure that our beautiful and excellent language resounds in its organizations, affiliates, schools, homes and all other places across the Korean community.

It should also pay close attention to ensuring the excellent traditions, culture and customs of our nation are continuously inherited.

The publishing and information institutes of

Chongryon should not spare time and space in giving publicity to the time-honoured history, brilliant cultural legacy, homogeneous lineage and ennobling manners and customs of our nation.

The younger generations of Chongryon should be encouraged to carry on the strong temperament and good manners and customs of the Korean nation in their pure form. By doing so, they can maintain the strong sense of unity and pioneering as well as hatred for injustice, while respecting their elders, promoting harmony in their neighbourhoods and taking loving care of their parents and spouses and children.

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Chongryon organizations and other bodies at all levels should pay due attention to the external activities in their regions to ensure that the local autonomous bodies actively support and cooperate with the activities of Chongryon for championing the democratic national rights and interests of the compatriots in Japan.

Chongryon should carefully conduct activities with foreign missions in Japan and actively advance to the international arena to staunchly defend the national interests of our Republic and make sure that the voices of support and approval for the patriotic activities of the Chongryon organization and compatriots in Japan are amplified.

In order to successfully carry out the important fighting tasks to usher in a new era of its rejuvenation, it should further strengthen itself organizationally and ideologically in line with the requirements of the changed environment and times.

First of all, it should hold fast to the ideological theory of Juche and put primary effort to the ideological education for doubling the motive force of advance of the movement of Koreans in Japan.

The only shortcut to the new era of Chongryon's rejuvenation is to move compatriots in one direction and enlist their spiritual strength to the maximum.

Education in the greatness of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, education in patriotism, education in the Korean-nation-first spirit, education in the history and tradition of the movement of Koreans in Japan and education in the revolutionary faith constitute the main contents of the ideological work of Chongryon.

Chongryon should further intensify education in the greatness of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il among the compatriots including the new generations so that their immortal ideas and the history of their benevolent love would go down generation after generation even in the alien land far away from their homeland.

Ideological education should be provided effectively without neglecting any element of its contents; education in the greatness of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il should be offered together with education in the Korean-nation-first spirit and education in the south Korean belligerents.

Chongryon organizations and bodies at all levels should make it a tradition to hold the national flag hoisting ceremony as suited to their specific conditions on such occasions as the greatest national holidays, the anniversary of the founding of the Republic and that of Chongryon.

Schools at all levels should also intensify education in

alien land, and prepare themselves as absolute supporters and stout champions of their socialist homeland.

Over the protracted period from the beginning of nation building to date our people have been cornerstones and beams in the building of our Republic. Among the images of these indomitable people are also those of the compatriots in Japan.

Chongryon and the compatriots in Japan should offer characteristic services for the building of a powerful socialist country by carrying on the proud tradition of contributing to the country's prosperity.

Chongryon should work positively to create a favourable international environment for the revolutionary cause of Juche and the patriotic cause of its own.

The main task facing Chongryon in its foreign activities at the moment is to ensure peace and stability of its own and the community of the Koreans resident in Japan by steadily increasing the number of our supporters and sympathizers among the peoples of different countries of the world, including Japan, under the ideals of independence, peace and friendship.

It should work with personages from different strata of Japan in a flexible manner and adopt a more scrupulous way in working with the democratic forces and solidarity organizations that support our nation's reunification. In this way it can steadily increase the number of supporters of and sympathizers with our Republic and Chongryon among broader sections of the Japanese people.

Chongryon organizations and other bodies at all levels should pay due attention to the external activities in their regions to ensure that the local autonomous bodies actively support and cooperate with the activities of Chongryon for championing the democratic national rights and interests of the compatriots in Japan.

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the symbols of our state and offer students opportunities to hoist the national flag by themselves while singing Patriotic Song on various occasions including the entrance and graduation ceremonies so that they always link their precious dreams with the socialist motherland.

There can never be any fixed methods or omnipotent formula in the information and cultural activities of Chongryon, which are conducted in capitalist Japan.

Chongryon should root out formalism in its ideological work and continuously explore and apply methods of education, which the compatriots respond to and which they sympathize with.

It is important to steadily enhance the capability of penetration and attraction of publications and other information materials.

The Joson Sinbo Company and the Korean News Service should work to promptly inform more of the compatriots of news about the homeland and the compatriots in Japan through newspaper and website and spread our culture uninterruptedly.

The Union of Korean Writers and Artists in Japan, the Kumgangsan Opera Troupe and other institutions and art organizations in charge of information and culture should further enhance their functions and role, and local song and dance troupes should give performances and vigorously conduct all kinds of literary and artistic group activities to make the Korean community alive with our songs, our tunes and our dances.

Next, the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, its organizations, affiliates and bodies at all levels should be consolidated as firmly as a fortress of single-minded unity and reliable citadel stones of patriotism.

This means making Chongryon an impregnable fortress that resolutely defends the socialist homeland and the life and happiness of compatriots from any external attack and abuse.

It is imperative to improve the leadership abilities of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryon, the general staff of the movement of Koreans in Japan, in every way.

The committee should adhere to it as its lifeblood to establish the Juche-based ideological and leadership system in itself and organize and conduct all work and activities strictly according to the lifetime instructions of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

It should intensify policy-oriented guidance over its organizations, affiliates and bodies at all levels and direct particular efforts to its internal work to promote the single-minded unity of its ranks and ensure that the lineage of its hardcore is carried on generation after generation.

Its prefectural headquarters should steadily raise their own organizing, controlling and executive abilities.

They are regional guidance units for the movement of Koreans in Japan and regional assistant units of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryon.

They should establish a more effective system of work with their subordinate units and lead and help them on a regular basis so as to make sure that the decisions and instructions of the Central Standing Committee bear good fruit.

The work to reduce regional variations of the headquarters should be conducted purposefully and consciously to create a new situation in which small and medium-scale headquarters rise up and exert their full strength.

They should hold fast to the idea of attaching importance to branches and chapters, and develop and strengthen all the grassroots organizations into living ones that fully display the spirit of love for the country and nation.

The branches should be turned into those firmly based on the compatriots of all social standings, the ones that are run by hard-core compatriots as the driving force.

They should further increase their activity by positively enlisting part-time officials and conduct an emulation drive among themselves in a sustained way so that all of them can perform their mission as the units that actually implement the decisions of the congress.

Only when the chapter, the basic unit of living and lowest-echelon organization of the compatriots, demonstrates its strength can all the organizations of Chongryon be strengthened and everything can go smoothly in the compatriots' community.

The most ideal target of chapter building is to turn it

into a harmonious compatriots' community, in which everyone is firmly united based on the great truth, sharing warm human feeling.

Chongryon should attach importance to the conference of chapters as much as its congress, and intensify the work of raising the political awareness of their officials so as to turn all the chapters into sound and vigorous organizations.

All the chapters should constantly adhere to the four major tasks for strengthening themselves, and consistently wage the patriotic creative movement so that all parts where the compatriots live are continuously afire with enthusiasm for harmony and unity and love for the country and nation.

Chongryon officials are career political workers who embarked on the road of patriotism by shouldering the destiny of their compatriots of their own accord and overseas revolutionary comrades that our motherland treasures most and pays high tribute to.

It is also necessary to further increase the fighting efficiency of Chongryon's mass organizations of all strata.

The prosperity of Chongryon and thriving community of compatriots are inconceivable separated from the deep sincerity and patriotism of the Korean businesspeople, young people and women who unstintingly dedicate all their precious things solely for the sake of their country and nation, despite the heavy burden of their own trade and support for their own existence in capitalist Japan.

The mass organizations of Chongryon, always being conscious of their duty as those for ideological education, should lead all their members to steadily carry on the ennobling spirit displayed by the preceding generations and conduct vigorous mass drives that reflect the aspirations and demands of compatriots, and in the course of this build up their own ranks in every way possible.

Korean businesspeople were and are invariably basic sections of the masses under Chongryon and the main force in the movement of Koreans in Japan. They should regard the masses of compatriots as the most precious and powerful beings, hold them as sacred as God, always go deep among them and work by relying on them with a belief in their strength.

They should make a habit of seeking solutions to problems as they sit knee to knee with compatriots as if they discuss family affairs with their kith and kin while always finding themselves among the fellow countrymen, and of settling all affairs by enlisting their spiritual strength.

They should understand the feelings of the compatriots in the areas under their control and find out methods of work appropriate to them so as to conduct the work with them in a novel way.

They should hold their compatriots in great esteem, and should never deviate from their original aim as they reflect on themselves by mirroring themselves on the masses of the fellow countrymen.

All the officials of Chongryon should hold higher the slogan "Let us make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of compatriots!" and become sincere and industrious servants who give all their soul and mind to the happy life and welfare of compatriots.

The burning love for and devotion to the compatriots and the warm affection shared between the officials and compatriots are just the strength of Chongryon.

Its officials should not make light of any one of the demands of the compatriots, even if they number a hundred or a thousand, and should constantly strive to meet all their demands at the highest possible level.

They should become filial children for the compatriots who are living a lonely life, intimate siblings to those who are suffering distress in life, a breeze to those who are feeling hot and a campfire to those who are feeling cold.

Young people should naturally hold up the banner of vanguard and shock brigade in the honourable advance towards a new era of rejuvenation of Chongryon.

The Korean Youth League in Japan should vigorously conduct various mass movements that suit the psychology of young compatriots with stress put on enhancing the independence and individuality of its organizations at all levels so as to make the community of compatriots replete with youthful enthusiasm, the spirit of the new generation.

The Union of Korean Students in Japan, too, should steadily conduct the work with Korean students attending Japanese universities so as to lead them to live with the soul of Korea, the spirit of the nation.

The Union of Democratic Korean Women in Japan is the largest mass organization under Chongryon, which represents the rights and interests of all the Korean women resident in Japan.

The first teachers who implant the feeling of love for the country and foster national dignity in the Korean children in Japan are just the women compatriots, and the gardeners who tend the flower garden of national education with greatest care to defend the beautiful dreams of Korean children are also none other than them.

Firmly believing that all the participants in the 25th Congress of Chongryon would work with redoubled courage for our precious compatriots and our dear younger generations, by following the brilliant plan for the rejuvenation of Chongryon, I hope that the congress will become a milestone for a great change in advancing towards a higher goal of a new heyday in the movement of Koreans in Japan.

The women's union should positively put forward young women who have been trained in the practical patriotic work to make them push one of the two wheels of the movement of Koreans in Japan staunchly through generations.

Next, a radical change should be effected in the method and style of work of Chongryon officials, the commanding personnel of the movement of Koreans in Japan.

Chongryon officials are career political workers who embarked on the road of patriotism by shouldering the destiny of their compatriots of their own accord and overseas revolutionary comrades that our motherland treasures most and pays high tribute to.

Our motherland has fully entrusted them with the dignity and destiny of Koreans in Japan, and expects that all its officials would perform the mission and duty assigned by the country and nation with an extraordinary resolution and passion.

All the officials of Chongryon should put much effort into the work with compatriots from all walks of life and do it well with a correct mass viewpoint.

They should regard the masses of compatriots as the most precious and powerful beings, hold them as sacred as God, always go deep among them and work by relying on them with a belief in their strength.

They should make a habit of seeking solutions to problems as they sit knee to knee with compatriots as if they discuss family affairs with their kith and kin while always finding themselves among the fellow countrymen, and of settling all affairs by enlisting their spiritual strength.

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All the officials of Chongryon should keep deep in mind the earnest request of the homeland which is eager to realize all the dreams and ideals of our compatriots, and dash forward more vigorously towards a fresh victory in the movement of Koreans in Japan with the warmest love for the compatriots and the spirit of devoted service for them.

It is the eternal policy of our Republic to attach importance to branches and chapters, and develop and strengthen all the grassroots organizations into living ones that fully display the spirit of love for the country and nation.

The branches should be turned into those firmly based on the compatriots of all social standings, the ones that are run by hard-core compatriots as the driving force.

They should further increase their activity by positively enlisting part-time officials and conduct an emulation drive among themselves in a sustained way so that all of them can perform their mission as the units that actually implement the decisions of the congress.

Only when the chapter, the basic unit of living and lowest-echelon organization of the compatriots, demonstrates its strength can all the organizations of Chongryon be strengthened and everything can go smoothly in the compatriots' community.

The most ideal target of chapter building is to turn it

TO THE RESPECTED MARSHAL KIM JONG UN, THE GREAT SUN OF JUCHE KOREA AND BENEVOLENT FATHER OF CHONGRYON AND KOREANS IN JAPAN

At a stirring time when the people in the homeland are glorifying this year, which marked the 110th birth anniversary of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il Sung and the 80th birth anniversary of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Jong Il, as a watershed in the development of the Juche cause thanks to the gifted wisdom and outstanding leadership of the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, we splendidly held the 25th Congress of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon).

You are an ever-victorious commander who completed the great cause of building the national nuclear force and consolidated the war deterrent for self-defence of the DPRK as the strongest while smashing vicious nuclear threats and severest sanctions and embargo of hostile forces by dint of matchless courage and grit, a peerless patriot who demonstrated the independent dignity and might of Juche Korea on the highest level with your superb diplomatic wisdom and proactive strategies and tactics and a lodestar of national reunification who rallies the anti-epidemic campaign for safeguarding the country and people while shouldering the destiny of the country and nation, and gratitude to you.

The 25th Congress of Chongryon was successfully held as the one of single-hearted unity, inheritance and innovation to make another milestone in the development of the movement of Koreans in Japan under the paternal care and guidance of the respected Marshal.

We extend the greatest honour and warmest thanks to you, a peerlessly great man and benevolent father of Chongryon and Korean compatriots in Japan, as a reflection of the boundless reverence and loyalty of all Chongryon officials and Koreans in Japan.

The respected Marshal who warmly embraces all Chongryon officials and other compatriots in Japan as our great people living in an alien land is the great father who granted all kinds of favours and bestowed state benefits unsparingly on them plus the love of the Generalissimos.

We will always hold fast to the struggle for defending and expanding the democratic national rights and interests of Koreans in Japan as the main line by upholding the compatriot-first principle which is the application of the great Juche idea and people-first principle to the practice of the movement of Koreans in Japan, and will make determined efforts in the service and welfare activities for promoting convenience in compatriots' life.

Conference of the Chapters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan-2020 (third conference of new golden age) and a congratulatory message to us every New Year's Day to lead at every step Chongryon's movement of loving the nation and supporting the homeland for hastening a new heyday.

We, in the congress, reviewed with pride the achievements made by enduring and braving the work of involving students and the movement of loving and helping schools by making all organizations put forward national education as the top-priority patriotic affair.

We will launch an intensive drive for preserving the national character in the Korean community in Japan to make sure that the beautiful and excellent Korean language is used everywhere in the community and that the community is always harmonious and full of national sentiment by actively conducting national cultural activities and mass sports activities.

All the delegates attending the congress are brimming with the honour of upholding as our great leader the respected Marshal, who personally sent the important letter to unfold a bright blueprint for rejuvenation of Chongryon even though you were having busy times spearheading the anti-epidemic campaign for safeguarding the country and people while shouldering the destiny of the country and nation, and gratitude to you.

The respected Marshal who warmly embraces all Chongryon officials and other compatriots in Japan as our great people living in an alien land is the great father who granted all kinds of favours and bestowed state benefits unsparingly on them plus the love of the Generalissimos.

We will further strengthen Chongryon organizationally and ideologically in keeping with the requirements of the times and changed environment in order to successfully carry out the major fighting tasks for opening up a new era of rejuvenation of Chongryon, by enlisting the strength of the compatriots of various social strata.

We will conduct an offensive

way the five-point education for redoubling the motive force of the movement of Koreans in Japan by firmly adhering to the Juche-based theory of ideology and stamp out formalism.

We will consolidate the Chongryon Central Standing Committee and other organizations, affiliates and bodies at all levels as fortresses of single-hearted unity and reliable cornerstones for the patriotic cause and bring about a fundamental turn in the working method and style of officials.

The officials of the central body of Chongryon elected at the congress will definitely raise the politico-ideological level and work ability by becoming passionate loyalists of the respected Marshal and fulfil their honourable duties with the indomitable determination and the spirit of selfless, devoted efforts by always cherishing the trust and expectation of compatriots.

All the delegates attending the congress pledge to loyally repay the great trust and expectation of the respected Marshal with remarkable achievements in the work by making devoted efforts to implement the decisions of the 25th Congress of Chongryon, which embodies your letter of great importance.

We earnestly wish for the good health of the respected Marshal, the symbol of the mightiness of Juche Korea and the destiny and future of the Korean revolution and the movement of Koreans in Japan.

As a reflection of the ardent loyalty and reverence of all Chongryon officials and other Korean residents in Japan, we will make a distinctive contribution to the independent reunification of the country and the overall development of socialist construction in response to the era of our-state-first principle.

We will further strengthen Chongryon organizationally and ideologically in keeping with the requirements of the times and changed environment in order to successfully carry out the major fighting tasks for opening up a new era of rejuvenation of Chongryon, by enlisting the strength of the compatriots of various social strata.

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We earnestly wish for the good health of the respected Marshal, the symbol of the mightiness of Juche Korea and the destiny and future of the Korean revolution and the movement of Koreans in Japan.

The 25th Congress of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) was convened in the Korean Hall of Culture in Tokyo, Japan, on May 28 and 29.

It was attended by Chairman Ho Jong Man and other officials of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryon, advisors to the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, the director of the Korean history institute in Japan, chiefs of Chongryon headquarters, leading officials of central affiliates and other bodies, members of the Chongryon Central Audit Committee and delegates elected from organizations, affiliates and bodies at all levels under

address.

A letter to Kim Jong Un was adopted at the congress amid a storm of applause.

During the congress, there was a photo exhibition showing the immortal exploits of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, the reality of the DPRK advancing towards the overall development of socialism and the efforts made by Chongryon organs at all levels and compatriots to usher in a new heyday in the movement of Koreans in Japan in the great era of Kim Jong Un.

The congress heard a report on the examination of qualifications before adopting "On the work report of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee submitted to the 25th Congress of Chongryon", "On financial settlement and budget bill" and "On electing the staff of central organs of Chongryon" as the agenda items of the congress. Ho Jong Man delivered a closing



6 TOP NEWS

SPA Standing Committee plenum held

KCNA

The 20th Plenary Meeting of the Standing Committee of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on May 31.

It was presided over by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the SPA Standing Committee.

The meeting was attended by vice-chairmen Kang Yun Sok and Pak Yong Il, Secretary General Ko Kil Son and other members of the SPA Standing Committee.

Present there as observers were relevant officials of the SPA

Standing Committee, secretariat of the Cabinet, state emergency anti-epidemic headquarters, ministries and national agencies.

Put on the agenda for the meeting were such items as the adoption of the newly-drafted law on appellations of origin and geographical marks of the DPRK and law on medical evaluation and the amended and supplemented law on emergency anti-epidemic work and law on road and the recalling and election of judges and people's assessors of the Central Court of the DPRK and chairman of the SPA Standing Committee.

At the meeting a report was delivered on the main contents of relevant laws and amendments deliberated by the SPA Legislation Committee.

On the basis of in-depth study and full discussion of the agenda



Chairman Choe Ryong Hae presides over the 20th Plenary Meeting of the Standing Committee of the 14th DPRK Supreme People's Assembly at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang.

items, the plenary meeting adopted the decrees of the SPA Standing Committee "On adopting the DPRK law on medical evaluation", "On amending and supplementing the DPRK law on emergency anti-epidemic work", and "On amending and supplementing the DPRK law on appellations of origin and geographical marks of the DPRK", "On adopting the DPRK law on medical evaluation", "On amending and supplementing the DPRK law on emergency anti-epidemic work", and "On amending and supplementing the DPRK law on road".

Judges and people's assessors of the Central Court of the DPRK were recalled and elected at the plenum.



Premier Kim Tok Hun looks round the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory.

Premier Kim visits pharmaceutical factories

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected the Pyongyang and Sunchon pharmaceutical factories.

As he made the rounds of the construction site for

upgrading the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory, he said that sufficient production and supply of medicines are a prerequisite for the protection of the lives and health of the people in the current fierce anti-epidemic campaign and emphasized the necessity to turn the factory into a model and standard factory in the field of the pharmaceutical industry as soon as possible. At the Sunchon

Pharmaceutical Factory he noted that it should normalize the production of various kinds of medicines that meet the physical constitution of the Korean people, their demand and international quality management standards and at the same time dynamically push ahead with the work for domestic production of raw and other materials by effectively exploiting the scientific and technical potentials.

Economy grows in top emergency anti-epidemic situation

KCNA

Leading iron and steel producer boosts production

Iron and steel production picks up at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex.

After setting an ambitious goal of making the operation of oxygen blast furnace science-based this year, the technical personnel and other employees of the blast furnace workshop worked

hard and finally found a way to improve the quality of molten iron with less fuel.

The steel workshop normalizes the operation of the 100-ton UHP electric arc furnace.

The metal plate workshop concentrates on increasing the production of rolled steel.

The workshop has extended the repair cycle of the furnace by reasonably resetting the shape of fire-bricks to be used for repairing the furnace.

The running time of heating furnace is precisely

the output of rolled steel. But in the past the life of fire-bricks which were used for repairing the heating furnace was short and it proved a great hindrance to the operation of equipment," said the workshop manager.

The mine continues to increase limestone production by organizing manpower, design of processes and supply of materials rationally according to the current

ceiling.

Mine carries out huge blast

The Sunchon Limestone Mine successfully carried out a 100 000-cubic-metre blast on May 31.

The mine continues to increase limestone production by organizing manpower, design of processes and supply of materials rationally according to the current

anti-epidemic campaign

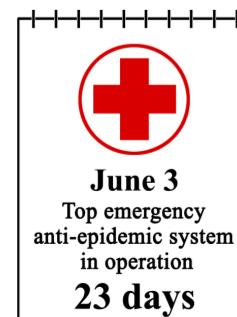
Production of primary school uniforms for summer rounded off

Factories in the garment industry sector have finished the production of a new type of summer primary school uniforms to be supplied to pupils across the country.

Knitwear factories in different parts of the country completed the production plans as scheduled by giving

the production workers a deep understanding of the requirements of technical guidelines related to school uniform production so that they could adhere to the principle of giving priority to quality over quantity in production.

They supplied cut parts in time, introduced efficient processing methods and applied various useful jigs into production so as to speed up the processes.



COVID-19 situation in DPRK

Over 82 160 people contracted fever and more than 93 830 fully recovered in the DPRK from 18:00 on June 1 to 18:00 on June 2.

A total of some 3 917 580 people caught fever nationwide between late April and 18:00 on June 2. Of them, over 3 763 790 (96.074%) were fully recovered and some 153 720 (3.924%) were undergoing treatment.

7 ANTI-EPIDEMIC CAMPAIGN

Operations underway to cope with change of anti-epidemic situation

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Operations and command are activated in an all-round way to promptly respond to changing anti-epidemic situation while firmly maintaining the top emergency anti-epidemic posture nationwide.

The central emergency anti-epidemic sector is completing a reasonable operational plan and applying it in close collaboration with experts

in a scientific way according to the spread of the infectious disease.

In particular, it is firmly switching the work over to the popular one so as to perfectly block the spread of malignant infectious disease and thoroughly annihilate its source within the shortest possible time while leaving nothing against ground, air and coastal blockade lest new mutant viruses infiltrate into the territory.

They make sure that disinfection facilities are repaired, maintained, perfected, managed and run in major regions and places in a responsible way and on a regular basis, hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of life sewage and thousands of tons of dirt are sterilized and treated every day and samples are surveyed and

organized epidemiological groups in order to correctly analyse and estimate the nationwide spread of infectious disease.

Emergency anti-epidemic sectors at all levels prioritize the testing of samples collected from rivers and lakes with high risk of infection and space for the inroads and strengthen sterilization.

Research and discussions have been intensified to constantly renovate the guidebook for the treatment of the infection, readjust the quarantine and medical surveillance date to meet the specific situation, grasp the patients with high fever who do not react to antipyretic and clarify its causes, and take relevant treatment measures.

Special attention is being directed to children, old people and patients with

basic and chronic diseases and hygienic information activities are further intensified among residents.

The Cabinet organized non-permanent medicine supply command teams in Pyongyang and every province, city and county by involving officials of relevant sectors and ensures that timely measures are taken in the transport, sale and price assessment of medicines.

Efforts have been put uninterruptedly into implementing the childcare policy of the Workers' Party of Korea despite the top emergency anti-epidemic situation, and thus the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory has wound up the production of baby formula and powdered rice in May ahead of schedule, and the commercial sector is prioritizing the supply of formula and powdered rice for children across the country as a primary task.

'Our army is the best'



Medics of the Korean People's Army drop by households to deliver medicines.

By Pang Un Ju PT

Since the strong medical forces of the Korean People's Army were urgently committed for

sale and transport of medicines in Pyongyng on May 15 according to the special order of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, the KPA service personnel shared difficulties with residents in the city and displayed their infinite devotion to safeguard their lives.

The couple then thanked them, saying that they were sorry to have troubled them who did not rest even for a while for the sake of many residents in the dong. If they had a problem, the couple added, they were wont to ask for help from service personnel first.

They would decline to receive special foods which local residents brought. So, aid materials which people put unseen were piled up in front of pharmacies. But the service personnel took them to needy residents.

One morning a few days ago, an elderly woman entered a pharmacy in Tongsin-dong No. 2, Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, and had to get treatment for his own disease but he engaged in medicine supply and medical treatment without revealing his disease.

She deeply felt preciousness of and gratitude to the KPA in the unprecedented trials, she said and added, "Our army came first when people faced natural disaster and they did so when people were suffering from agony caused by the epidemic. Our army is the best as they defend the destiny, happiness and future of the people."

At the dawn of the following day, they brought fresh foodstuffs and vegetables to the old couple, saying that he had to recover his health as soon as possible.

They severer the trials and difficulties get, the deeper the service personnel go among the people to share joys and sorrows with them, dedicating their all to the protection of the latter. This makes the people feel a sense of kinship with the servicemen.

They would decline to receive special foods which local residents brought. So, aid materials which people put unseen were piled up in front of pharmacies. But the service personnel took them to needy residents.

"Sincerity of our army for people was so warm but they were quite reluctant to accept slight devotion of people," said Kim Myong Son, resident of neighbourhood unit No. 17 of Tongsin-dong No. 2, Tongdaewon District.

She asked for medical help, saying that her husband seemed not to last through the day, and left in haste.

KPA medics who followed her took first-aid measures for her husband sick with a high fever and returned only after he passed the crisis.

Beautiful virtues displayed out of noble civic conscience

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

A variety of commendable deeds because they also live in a difficult condition," said Jon Un U, war veteran living in neighbourhood unit No. 25 in the same dong.

"Some days ago I was worried over my son suffering from a sudden illness. Then, unexpectedly, an official of the dong and the head of our neighbourhood unit visited my house with some medicines necessary for his treatment. When we could not find words to express our gratitude, they said that the medicines were donated by Ji's couple," said Kim Myong Hui living in neighbourhood unit No. 4.

At the house of Ji Son Ho and Ri Kum Sil living in neighbourhood unit No. 49, Tongsin-dong No. 2, Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, lights were on until midnight on May 14.

With the thought that they should do something good for the country when it is in difficulties, they agreed to purchase medicines and donate them to cure neighbours.

"Their family is not better off than others. They are ordinary working people. Out of clear conscience, they intended to fulfil their civic duty for the country," said Jon Un U.



Ji Son Ho and his wife Ri Kum Sil prepare some medicines to be distributed to needy neighbours.

Chemical giants boost fertilizer production

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex and Hungnam Fertilizer Complex are running the recently expanded production lines at full capacity to raise fertilizer production to a high level.

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex is directing primary efforts to maximizing its fertilizer production capacity while carrying on current production. Having set forth the normal production of newly installed facilities including compressors as an immediate task, the complex is arousing the technicians and workers to its fulfilment.

Recently, the complex fully solved technical problems arising in the normal operation of the newly installed carbon dioxide compressor and successfully carried out a no-load test run. Now the technicians and workers are preparing for a no-load test run of a mixed gas compressor and working to solve technical problems of improving the capacity of compressors.

It is also setting up a new cooling system necessary for normal production in hot days.

The Hungnam Fertilizer Complex is striving to raise the fertilizer production capacity to the full.

Having completed a large-scale expansion project last year, the complex is concentrating efforts on perfectly solving technical problems for the normal production of fertilizer at a high level.

Ensuring simultaneous operation of three gas generators, three centrifugal cycling compressors and oxygen plants Nos. 1 and 2 was of great importance in putting fertilizer production onto a firm growth stage. Though the simultaneous operation entailed some complicated technical problems, the complex successfully conducted simultaneous operation



The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex steps up fertilizer production.

of several facilities which was a fundamental problem in increasing the production capacity to the maximum.

Having recently boosted the daily fertilizer production to a high level

Rock drill production increases by means of waste materials

By Kil Chung Il PT

Generally, production of rock drill leaves waste materials. But the actual output ratio of the waste materials is not large when it is melted in a furnace.



Technicians hold a discussion on how to improve the quality of parts at the Kim Chaek Rock-drill Factory.

The Kim Chaek Rock Drill Factory, however, considerably increased the output ratio of such materials, thereby introducing a rational method of operating the furnace.

Workers of the factory obtained

up to three times of more alloy steel from the furnace than before by inventing and introducing various technical innovations to shorten the time of dissolution and raise the quality of the molten iron. Now the factory is pushing ahead with the installation of a two-ton hammer necessary for the processing of alloying materials on the final stage.

The use of such a hammer was inconvenient as it caused vibration and noise in operation.

So other units gave up the introduction of the hammer, but technicians and workers of the factory found out a technical way to overcome such inconvenience.

"All racked their brains to solve the technical problems so as to boost production. This has helped increase the factory's technical capacity," said the chief engineer of the factory.

Top inventor prize winner



Ri Chol Jin, head of the cardiovascular surgery department of the Okryu Children's Hospital

Surgeon makes new-style supplies for heart operation

By Kim Il Jin PT

It is our intention and wish to live for bright smiles on the faces of children, said Ri Chol Jin, head of the cardiovascular surgery department of the Okryu Children's Hospital.

Using these needles, the hospital performs operations for atrial septal defect and ventricular septal defect without using expensive supplies and blood at all.

It also decreases the days of postoperative treatment and raises the rate of recovery without using expensive ECMO and Prostaglandin E by using a valve for decreasing pressure of the right ventricle in operation for ventricular septal defect complicated with severe pulmonary hypertension.

Ri Chol Jin went on to invent and introduce double pericardial-thoracic cavity drainage tube in heart operation, unlike in the past when pericardium and intrathoracic cavity were drained separately, thus making it possible to save lots of labour, disinfectant and supplies and raise the rate of postoperative recovery.

The method of heart operation based on right chest wall incision approach invented by the department head won the February 16 Science and Technology Prize, the top scientific and technological prize in the country, in 2018 and he won eight national patents in 2020 alone.

And his research findings were highly rated at various symposiums, presentations and exhibitions including the national medical science symposium on thoracic surgery and the national exhibition of sci-tech achievements in the public health sector and he brought huge profits to the state by ensuring the domestic production of supplies for heart operation.

The merit of the atraumatic

Technicians hold a discussion on how to improve the quality of parts at the Kim Chaek Rock-drill Factory.



Creditable history of Korean children's organization

Founded on June 6 1946, the Korean Children's Union has a 76-year history.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

June 6 is drawing closer, the founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union, which is a source of joy, pride, hope and future of the DPRK.

The KCU is a mass political organization of Korean children inheriting the tradition of the anti-Japanese Children's Corps.

Founded on June 6 1946, it kept adding brilliance to its history in the past 76 years.

Among KCU members there were those who formed children's guards and guerrilla units to fight to defend their dear native villages during the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950–July 1953) by inheriting the spirit of

members of the anti-Japanese Children's Corps.

And in the course of post-war rehabilitation and socialist construction, KCU members grew up into young patriots.

It was possible thanks to the painstaking efforts of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who set the work for rising generations as an important state affair and put their heart and soul into it.

Kim Il Sung established the precious tradition of the Korean children's movement in the flames of the anti-Japanese war and the most popular system of universal free education for the first time in the world. The President made sure that new uniforms were

provided to schoolchildren every season and had a photo taken with the participants of the Fifth Congress of the KCU to wish them a bright future in the last days of his life.

Kim Jong Il was the dear teacher and benevolent father of Korean schoolchildren, who took warm care of them saying that slowing down one step in the education of the younger generation means a ten-step delay in the advance of the country and that economic value should not be considered in the work for schoolchildren.

Regarding KCU members as the precious treasure more valuable than billions of tons of gold, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un attended KCU congresses to indicate the ways to be followed by the children's movement. He is always solicitous about the sound and cheerful growth of rising generations as he ensures that schools, schoolchildren's palaces, halls and camps are built more wonderfully and that they



A file photo shows schoolchildren attending a ceremony of accession to the Korean Children's Union.

are provided with new uniforms, satchels and other school things.

Today KCU members prepare themselves to be reliable pillars of the country as they learn to their heart's content enjoying the benefits of the free education system.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Members of the Korean Children's Union learn to their heart's content and conduct various do-good-thing activities, preparing themselves to be reliable pillars of the country.

Pride in being members of children's union

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Lots of primary school pupils in the DPRK joined the Korean Children's Union on the occasion of the Day of the Sun last April.

The KCU is a revolutionary mass organization of Korean

children.

Admission to the KCU is an unforgettable occasion in the life of Korean children who grow up learning to their heart's content with the dream and hope of becoming the reliable pillars of socialist Korea and masters of the future under the special care

and love of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state.

Kim Jong Wi, pupil of 3-2 class of Hasin Primary School of Sosong District, Pyongyang, said: "As I joined the Korean Children's Union, I received the red tie and badge. The war veteran who tied it around my neck asked me to exalt the honour of a KCU member like those of the anti-Japanese Children's Corps and young guerrillas during the Fatherland Liberation War. By keeping deep in mind the request, I will study hard, take an active part in organizational activities and do more good things."

"The red tie always awakens me to my mistake. Previously, my teacher and parents would scold me when I did something wrong, but now I reflect on my actions as I look at the red tie at my chest," said An Phyong Ryon of the same school.

Such pride in being KCU members grow up into future pillars of the country, singing loudly such songs as *We Are the Happiest in the World* and *March of the Korean Children's Union* in the DPRK which loves the future and attaches importance to the education of younger generations.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Pupils of 3-2 class at Hasin Primary School in Sosong District beam with joy after joining the Korean Children's Union (April 2022).

KCU instructor of Hasin Primary School.

The country pays close attention to the growth of KCU members.

It provides them with such cultural activity bases as children's palaces, halls and camps in different parts of the country and awards such high decorations as Kim Il Sung Children Honour Prize to those who have done commendable deeds.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, called also the KCU members exemplary in study and organizational life to banquets in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the WPK and the 74th anniversary of the DPRK to wish them good luck for the future.

KCU members grow up into future pillars of the country, singing loudly such songs as *We Are the Happiest in the World* and *March of the Korean Children's Union* in the DPRK which loves the future and attaches importance to the education of younger generations.

Where genuine human rights are ensured

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Recently a 21-year-old woman was stabbed and fatally injured on a street in Britain. On another street a 34-year-old woman also suffered a fatal stab wound.

With the continued increase in homicide and violence against women, British police announced an action plan for banning violence against women and girls in April. But such tragic incidents continue to occur.

They said that 11 women have so far been killed by stabbing or other violence in the country this year.

In the United States hate crimes against Asian people have been rampant. They reportedly totalled 6,603 cases from March 19 to 31 in 2020, of which those against

women accounted for 64.8 percent.

Over a century has passed since women staged a demonstration in Chicago to oppose all kinds of restrictions and inequality and demand genuine human rights for women. But women's dignity as humans and their rights have yet been trampled down in the US, Britain and other Western countries.

Women exercise equal rights proudly as full members of society in the DPRK where people-first politics are administered.

They enjoy free delivery service at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and especially pregnant women and nursing mothers of triplets and quadruplets are admitted to the hospital and provided with all conditions including nourishing meals by the state

Telemedicine has been introduced to provide all

under the special care of medical workers until they leave it. Gold rings and silver knives are presented as gifts to the triplets and quadruplets as well as their parents by the country.

"I could have a better understanding of the real state benefits for women in the country as I visited this hospital. In a word, the women who are admitted to the hospital are granted such privileges as those of 'queen,'" said a foreign visitor to the DPRK after looking round the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

The Breast Tumour Institute under the hospital is also a comprehensive medical service and scientific research institute for women.

When people feel the danger of tobacco and an urgent need to give up their smoking habit on such occasions as developing a smoking-related disease, the prohibition of smoking becomes very effective.

In this regard, it should be the demand of smokers themselves rather than a legal obligation.

Tobacco is no longer a "luxury of men," nor is smoking a "charm".

Now that the tobacco-prohibition law has become more concretized and public interest in tobacco cessation is rising, the anti-smoking movement is aimed at "making tobacco a museum piece".

However, the enactment of the law does not mean the immediate termination of smoking which is a persistent habit of many.

In view of past experience, perception was very important in prohibiting smoking.

Kim Ok Rim

Consultant of the Tobacco Cessation Centre



Target: To make tobacco a museum piece

In the past, a variety of anti-smoking activities have been conducted across the DPRK.

Information activities have been intensified, including the measure of compulsorily adding cautions about the danger of smoking on cigarette packs produced at factories, and various products such as smoking-quitting pills and stickers have been developed and applied to help quit smoking.

However, they only had limited effects on smokers.

BYWORD

Socialist working people

Working people in the DPRK work hard as masters of the country, giving full play to their voluntary enthusiasm and creative initiative for the country and people and for the society and collectives.

Countless are those who, with the ennobling view of life that though a river course is limited, the patriotic road

of loyalty to the Workers' Party of Korea and the country is endless, work faithfully, enthusiastically and unassumingly at their workplaces for nearly 40 or 50 years.

On the first morning of the New Year 2022, the respected

Comrade Kim Jong Un had a photo session with merited persons and labour innovators who contributed to glorifying the first year for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK as the one of proud victory.

OPINION

Japan's shameless attempt to cover up sinful past

By Song Jong Ho PT

Shortly ago, it was revealed that Japanese Prime Minister Kishida begged his German counterpart to remove a girl statue dedicated to the memory of sex slaves erected in Germany.

According to foreign media, Kishida at a summit with the visiting German chancellor last month complained about the girl statue in Germany, which fell on deaf ears. So, he behaved himself humbly to ask for cooperation in the removal of the statue.

It is a widely-known historical fact that the Japanese imperialists forcibly drafted and kidnapped numerous women from different countries of the world to reduce them to sex slaves in the first half of the past century.

In Korea alone, they took away 200,000 local women to subject them to humiliation and cruelly killed many of them.

The world history of war had never recorded such a criminal state as Japan which forced foreign women into serving its aggression troops as sex slaves.

It is the most heinous unethical crime the 20th century witnessed and should have been settled a long time ago.

But it remains unsettled yet due to the wrong attitude of the Japanese government towards history.

Japan's successive authorities have shamelessly pretended ignorance of the sex slavery for its imperial army. They flatly denied the crime originally, but later admitted it reluctantly in the face of evidence and then denied it again allegedly for lack of evidence.

When lots of countries put up the girl statues, enraged by Japan's past crimes, its politicians even resorted to bribery to remove them.

When such a memorial was erected in New Jersey, the United States, it tried to make a deal for its removal, only to disgrace itself before the eyes of the world.

Far from feeling ashamed of that, however, its diemnt flew to America to make the ridiculous remarks that such monuments distort history and demand their removal. They even made the rounds of the country to wage a "petition campaign for removal".

It was just a scandalous conduct that could only be shown by such shameless political dwarfs totally devoid of ethics and morality.

All these conducts of Japan are geared to covering up its sinful past, evading its responsibility of making state reparations and imbuing rising generations with the militaristic idea so as to repeat the crime-woven past of aggression.

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US—the biggest sponsor of terrorism

PROVIDED TO
THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, the US State Department has once again staged a trite and boring farce of re-designating the DPRK, Iran, Syria, Cuba and Venezuela as the "countries not cooperating fully in the fight against terrorism".

The US which is being called the "hotbed of terrorism" and "kingpin of terrorism" is rating everything other countries do in their efforts for counter-terrorism as if it is the "judge of terrorism". This constitutes the height of impudence and a mockery of the international society.

Terrorism is the means of existence for the US, a gangster state.

The US is officially recognized by the international community as the No. 1 sponsor of terrorism and the world's biggest criminal country of state terrorism.

The Korean War in the 1950s, the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 1970s, the invasion of Grenada and Panama in the 1980s, the Gulf War and the War in the Balkans in the 1990s, the Afghan War in 2001,

the Iraqi War in 2003 and all other wars provoked by the US were large-scale acts of state-sponsored terrorism which took the lives of tens of millions of civilians.

During the 1960s and 1970s alone, the US committed numerous assassination and terrorist acts targeting government figures and individuals in other countries.

It is well-known fact that the US was behind the following incidents; the assassination plot of president Soekarno of Indonesia in the 1950s, the ousting of Mossadegh government from Iran, the murder of Lumumba, the first prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo, in 1961, the murder of Allende, the former president of Chile, in the 1970s, the assassination of Ratsimandrava, leader of Madagascar, in 1975, the explosion of the plane with President Machel of Mozambique aboard in the mid-1980s, the suspicious death of Chavez, the former president of Venezuela, hundreds of assassination plots against Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

The UN rapporteur on illegal killing pointed out in the report released in July 2020 that the assassination of Soleimani was illegal and constituted wanton violation of the UN Charter.

On January 3 2022, the Iranian president, in his speech delivered on the occasion of the second anniversary of the death

incident as a momentum, but it has further increased terrorism, rather than terminating it.

The international community has branded the Afghan and Iraqi wars, the wars provoked by the US under the pretext of "anti-terror war," as overt criminal acts of state-sponsored terrorism, expressing strong opposition to the high-handedness of the US which uses the "anti-terror war" as a tool for interference into internal affairs of other countries.

At dawn on January 3 2020, the US used its drone "MQ-9A Reaper" to assassinate Qasem Soleimani, the commander of the Quds army of Iran Islamic Revolutionary Guard, at Baghdad international airport. This is a typical example which shows to what extent the US criminal acts of terrorism reached.

The facts prove that the US is indeed a hotbed of terrorism, kingpin of terrorism and the biggest sponsor of terrorism.

As long as the US exists on earth, terrorism would never be eradicated, and the tragic vicious cycle of terrorism would remain as a cancer detrimental to the global peace and security.

WORLD

Briefly

Cuba

President underlines need to increase grain production

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said at the national meeting of delegates of cooperative farms and the agricultural production sector on May 28 that to supply the people with food by the country's efforts it is imperative to abandon dependence on import.

The agricultural sector has become a major front of economic construction, he said.

It is important to work in the most efficient way, readjust the agricultural system and get young people ready to push the agricultural production, he added.

Russia

PM blasts West for sanctions hysteria

Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin criticized the West for its anti-Russia sanctions hysteria in a speech delivered to the finalists in the competition "Who's No. 1 in Russia?" on May 27.

Noting that their anti-Russia sanctions number over 10,000 cases at present, he said that they are aimed at destroying the Russian economy and containing its development and annihilating everything related to culture and tradition.

Though the West is hell-bent on wiping Russia off the world map, Russia is an enormous and independent country where talented people live and it has everything it needs to follow its own path proudly, he added.

China

Dandong City intensifies anti-epidemic work

The deputy mayor of the Dandong City People's Government in China reviewed the anti-epidemic situation of the city before answering journalists on May 27.

He said that as of 24:00 on May 26, those reported to be infected with COVID-19 in the city amounted to 26 and that survey results confirmed that they were infected with o-mutated virus "BA.2.3".

The danger still exists in individual places and regional communities of the city at present and residents should never relax their vigilance and eliminate the practices of neglecting the anti-epidemic effort as infected persons are discovered sporadically, he stressed.

Iraq

Bill prohibiting relations with Israel adopted

The Iraqi national assembly adopted a bill prohibiting national institutions, officials and ordinary people from normalizing relations with Israel on May 27.

According to the bill, the Iraqis will be forbidden to travel or have contact with Israel in any form and those who violate the prohibition will face severe punishment like life sentence or death penalty.

By Kim Jong Hyok

Recently, the coast guards of Japan and the US signed a new document to "seek" solidarity in joint exercise, information sharing and others.

The world still vividly remembers the blood-stained past of Japan which ignited the fuse of a surprise war in the Pacific by sending even to the Pearl Harbor its airplanes and warships with the flag of rising sun shedding rays, the symbol of

What cannot go unnoticed is that the purpose of strengthening solidarity is to "maintain the maritime security in the Indo-Pacific."

Japan is styling itself the "master of the Indo-Pacific" even by dragging a country across the ocean. This is an act of aggression

otherwise than an explicit attempt to command the sea and to hold supremacy over the region and the world under the pretext of maintaining maritime security.

Japan is now misleading the public into thinking that the regional peace and stability as well as the maritime security are getting unstable by its neighbouring countries in order to find justification for realizing its wild ambition for world hegemony it could not achieve in the past century and shift the blame for the unstable situation onto others.

Japan is styling itself the "master of the Indo-Pacific" even by dragging a country across the ocean. This is an act of aggression

environment.

The 1972 Stockholm Conference spurred the formation of environment ministries and agencies around the world and kickstarted a host of new global agreements to collectively protect the environment.

At the Stockholm Conference the idea of World Environment Day was formalized, with the first one being celebrated in 1974.

In early June 2022 the high-level Stockholm+50 international meeting will be held in Sweden, a few days before World Environment Day.

The host country for 2022 is Sweden.

"Only One Earth" is its campaign slogan and the theme is

It is celebrated by millions of people across the world.

With over 150 countries participating, this international day engages governments, businesses, civil society, schools, celebrities, cities and communities, raising awareness and celebrating environmental action.

This year marks the 50th year since the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, widely seen as the stage of making plans related to production and construction,

"Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature".

Having been celebrated annually since 1974, WED has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach.

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Elephant-shaped Rock at Monggumpho

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Natural monuments are natural substances or objects which are specially designated and protected by the state for their rarity, singularity and great academic, educational and ornamental value.

Among them is the Monggumpho Khokkiri (Elephant) Rock.

It is situated in the shore of Monggumpho, a scenic attraction of the West Sea of Korea. There is a small rocky islet 20 metres away from the rock to the west and a purple eulalia field on the southeastern slope of the shore.

The vertical joint surface of quartz porphyry of the main layer on Mt Taebo underwent weathering action and abrasion in the Cretaceous period of the Mesozoic age to form the shape of an elephant.

It is about 15m high and 3m round in the part of the "trunk".

At high tide, it looks like an elephant drinking water in the sea with its long "nose" drooping over the sea water.

The curious-looking rock adds more beauty to Monggumpho since it is in harmony with cliffs of the shore and clear and blue sea.



Khokkiri (Elephant) Rock at Monggumpho.

Jasonjol, traditional etiquette of greeting

By To Kyong Chol PT

Jasonjol (Korean bow) is the main greeting etiquette of Koreans that can fully express respect and friendly feeling for the other party.

Jol is an inherent Korean word that means bending one's body to express politeness to one's seniors or friends.

"*Jasonjol*, which was already created in ancient times, has been handed down with the development of the nation, being fixed as part of etiquette that adds to harmony and affection between people and as one of good manners peculiar to the nation," said Sin Kwang Il, researcher of the Folklore Institute under the Academy of Social Sciences.

The greeting largely consists of *sonjol* and *anjunjol*.

Sonjol was done outdoors and *anjunjol* indoors.

The former was classified into *khunjol*, *phyongjol* and

panjol according to the object to which it was done and the extent to which the body was bent.

Khunjol was done by bending one's body low to express the greatest respect to one's seniors such as the head of a family or the elder of a village, *phyongjol* by bending the upper part of one's body moderately to people of one's age and *panjol* by seniors to juniors—the former slightly bow their head in return for the latter's greeting.

Sonjol expressed the extent of one's respect to the other by how low one bent the upper part of his or her body. This etiquette of salutation did not vary from men to women.

Anjunjol was also classified into *khunjol*, *phyongjol* and *panjol* according to the object and the extent to which one bent the upper part of his or her body. It varied from men to women.

Khunjol of *anjunjol* was the one done most politely

during ceremonies of coming of age, marriage, funeral and ancestral worship.

Man's *khunjol* was done by holding his stretched arms to the height of his eyes horizontally, having his finger tips touch each other or having one hand lap the other a bit before sitting on his knees, bending the upper part of the body with the palms of the hands put on the floor and bowing the head so that the forehead almost touch the backs of the hands.

Such a bow is done three times to one's deceased parents or several times on different occasions.

Phyongjol includes a New Year's bow, a bow done to a new acquaintance or one's senior and the one done by a condolence caller. Unlike *khunjol*, it was done only once.

It was similar to *khunjol* in case of a man, so men did *khunjol* or *phyongjol* on lunar New Year's Day. Children, too, did so as a New Year's bow. This is why *phyongjol*

was called *khunjol* among the people in the past.

A man's *phyongjol* was done by holding his stretched arms to the height of his shoulder horizontally with the hands placed like in *khunjol* and bending the upper part of the body and the head at a level with the floor.

A woman's was done by letting her arms slightly hang down at the sides of the skirt and sitting with one or both of her knees drawn up before bowing her head with the tips of the hands slightly placed on the floor.

Panjol of *anjunjol* was a bow a senior made in return for a bow done by a junior. The senior did it by bowing his head slightly in a sitting position.

"Like this, *josonjol*, though different according to place, object and sex, is part of good etiquette to fully express respect for others. It manifests the beautiful and noble manners of the Korean nation," said Sin.

Jasonjol is the main greeting etiquette of Koreans fully expressing respect and friendly feeling to others.

