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DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
KOREA

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Kim Jong Il, eternal Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was a peerlessly great person who led socialist construction in the DPRK along the road of victory and performed immortal exploits for the cause of independence of mankind by conducting energetic ideological and theoretical activities and overcoming manifold ordeals and hardships on the road of accomplishing the cause of socialism and the cause of anti-imperialist independence. He was also a benevolent leader who took care of the people with his ennobling virtue.

Praising him as an outstanding veteran statesman, the most brilliant commander and the most sacred of the sacred, prominent figures in the political and social circles and other personages of various countries in the world expressed boundless admiration and respect for the Chairman, and foreign governments, political parties and social organizations awarded him orders and medals.

Many political parties and social organizations nominated him as their honorary chairman and leader, and a large number of cities and universities awarded him titles of honorary citizen, academician, professor and doctor.

A lot of party and state leaders, important personages and peoples from all walks of life in the world presented him with gifts that reflected their sincere feelings of respect and admiration.

Even after his demise, progressive peoples of the world continue to send gifts and award orders, medals and honorary titles.

Article: Kim Mi Ye



Chairman Kim Jong Il

Infinite Admiration for the Great Person



Kim Jong Il talking with Deng Xiaoping, director of the Central Advisory Commission of the Communist Party of China, in June 1983



Kim Jong Il having talks with V. V. Putin, president of the Russian Federation, in August 2001



Kim Jong Il meeting with Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, in March 1986



Kim Jong Il meeting with Madeleine K. Albright, US secretary of state, in October 2000



Kim Jong Il meeting with members of the top-level delegation of the European Union in May 2001



Kim Jong Il meeting with Megawati Sukarnoputri, president of Indonesia, in March 2002



Kim Jong Il receiving the highest order of Cambodia from King Norodom Sihanouk in July 2004



Kim Jong Il receiving the highest order of Laos from President Kaysone Phomvihane of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos in April 1992



Gold Star of Friendship Order and its certificate (Mongolia)
February 13, 2007



Order of October Revolution and its certificate
(Russia)
October 9, 1997



Order of Grand Star of Honour 1st Class and its certificate (Ethiopia)
November 16, 1985



Grand Cross Order of Independence and its decree (Equatorial Guinea)
April 13, 1992



National Grand Cross Order and its certificate (Niger)
September 20, 1986



National Grand Cross Order and its certificate (Mali)
December 17, 1992



Order of Solidarity and its certificate (Cuba)
January 31, 1992



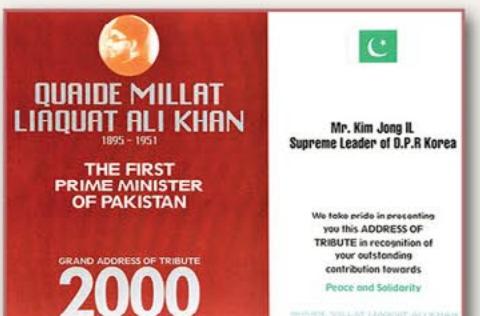
Rattanakosin 200 Medallion (Thailand)
November 24, 1982



55th Anniversary of the Communist Party Medallion (Lebanon)
October 10, 1980



Soka University Founding Commemorative Medallion (Japan)
April 30, 1986



"Grand Address of Tribute 2000" Certificate (Pakistan)
November 25, 2000



Anti-Fascism Union Medallion and its diploma (Bulgaria)
February 5, 2002



Yacambu University Honorary Professor (Medallion, Badge, Diploma and Resolution) (Venezuela)
October 15, 1997



Key to Arequipa and its Honorary Citizenship certificate (Peru)
January 30, 1998



Quito Autonomous University Honorary Doctor (Diploma, Resolution, Gown, Cap and Medallion) (Ecuador)
March 27, 2001



Gold Medallion of Josip Broz Tito (Yugoslavia)
February 16, 1987



Gold Medallion of Padova University (Italy)
July 30, 1987



Medallion of Seixal, Setubal (Portugal)
February 7, 1992



Ongulumbashe Medal (Namibia)
September 11, 1992



Silver vase from President V. V. Putin
of the Russian Federation
February 2007



Textilework Cranes and a Pine Tree from Wen Jiabao, premier of the People's Republic of China and member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China
October 2009



Turban-shell table lamp from
the Speaker of the Senate of
the Republic of the Philippines
April 2006



Ceramic vase decorated with
gemstones from a senator of
the National Assembly of the
Federal Republic of Nigeria
August 2015



Crystal work Symbol of Peace
from the Festo Delegation of Bulgaria
May 2002



Crystal vase from the General Manager (Indian)
of the Bin Al Sheik Rebar Factory, Qatar
February 2009



Silverwork Folding Fan from the International Institute
of the Juche Idea
February 1992



Table clock from the President
of the ABC of the USA
April 1995



Gold table clock and wristwatch from a delegation of
the Geneva Club, Switzerland
April 1989



Gold dagger from Deputy Minister of National Defence and Secretary
of the Supreme Political Council of the Romanian Army of
the Socialist Republic of Romania
May 1986

Military Parades of the Korean People's Army

To have a powerful army of their own was an ardent desire of the Korean people, who had been subjected to national ruin as they had no army to defend themselves.

President Kim Il Sung, who led the arduous anti-Japanese war and liberated Korea from the Japanese military occupation on August 15, 1945, advanced the founding of a powerful regular army as a prerequisite for building an

independent, sovereign state and pushed ahead with the cause of army building by dint of his extraordinary ideas and energetic leadership.

On February 8, 1948 a military parade took place at the plaza of the then



The first military parade of the Korean People's Army took place at the plaza in front of the then Pyongyang Railway Station to mark its founding on February 8, 1948





The KPA has developed into an elite revolutionary army which is capable of firmly defending the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea





Pyongyang Railway Station, which declared the birth of a regular armed force to defend the security of the country and people.

Kim Il Sung reviewed the military parade and delivered a speech, titled, *On the Occasion of the Founding of the Korean People's Army*.

His speech was followed by the march-past of the units of the Korean People's Army that lined up in the plaza.

The columns marched past the reviewing platform in high spirits, taking

pride in having participated in the first military parade of the regular army and demonstrating the proud image of the new Korea.

Thanks to this day, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from the outset of its founding, emerged as a dignified country of the people with its own powerful military support and achieved a great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War (June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953) by defeating the imperialist army of aggression that had boasted of being the "mightiest" in the world.



Over seven decades have passed since the first military parade.

In October last year and January this year military parades of the Korean People's Army took place at Kim Il Sung Square of Pyongyang, demonstrating the might of the KPA and the prestige of the DPRK that developed into a world military power.

The military parades manifested that the KPA always emerged victorious in the fierce struggle to defend the country and the people and developed into

an invincible army capable of defeating any formidable enemy by holding fast to the self-defensive military line and smashing at one stroke all acts of provocation by the hostile forces.

All the participants in the military parades were full of determination to fulfil their honourable mission as a powerful sword in defending the country and the people and safeguarding peace, as long as there remains imperialism and the hostile policy toward the DPRK.





Those military parades also showed that the DPRK developed its military capability so that no one can belittle or rival it and built a deterrent to any military threats that it is facing or may face.

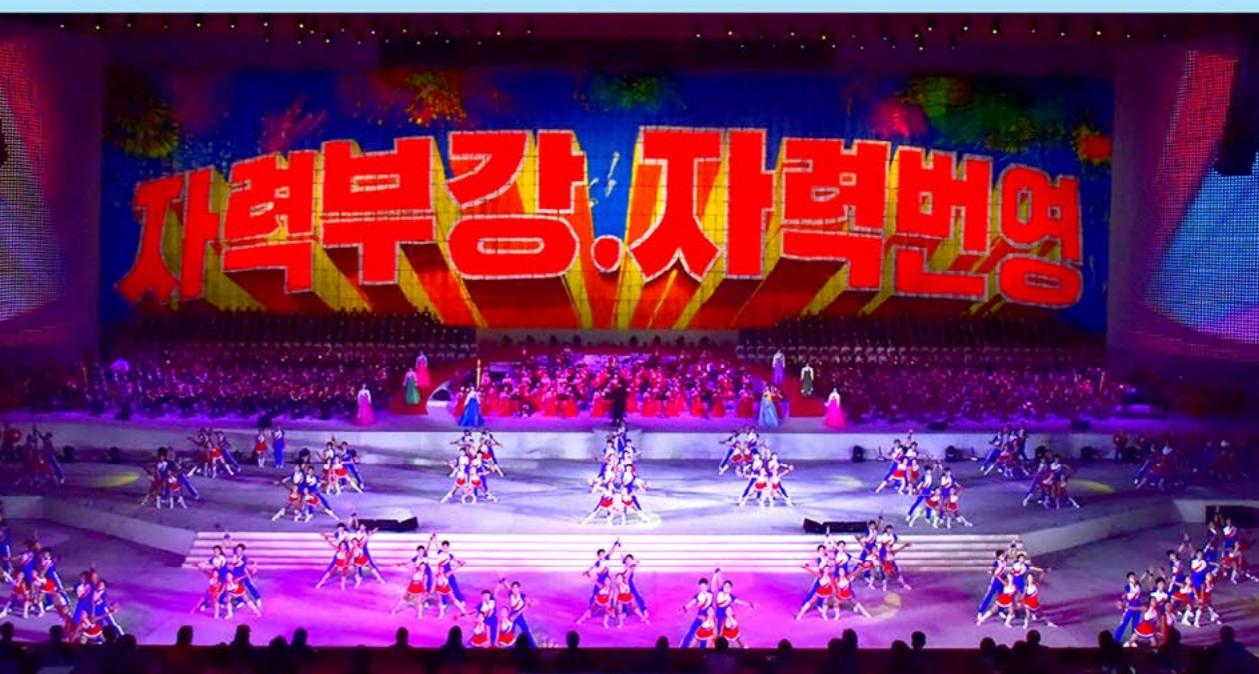
They were the weighty proof for the eternal prosperity the Korean people would enjoy in the country free from war for ever.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho

Gala Performance Held to Mark the Party Congress

The grand art performance "We Sing of the Party" raised its curtain on the 13th of January in celebration of the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and continued until the 24th at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium.

Photo: An Chol Ryong, Ri Myong Guk, Ri Chol Jin, Son Hui Yon







Metallurgical Base Seething with Enthusiasm for Increased Production

From the outset of this year, the first year of the new five-year plan for the national economic development, the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex is

seething with a high enthusiasm to bring about an upswing in production. All its employees are full of determination to manifest the might of

the metallurgical giant in dynamically propelling the overall economic development of the country.

The complex is concentrating considerable efforts on solving urgent problems arising in technically perfecting the Juche-based iron making system while making steady efforts to increase the output of iron and steel.

Officials, workers and technicians at the oxygen blast furnace workshop, who are fully aware of their responsibility in charge of the first process of the production, are boosting the molten iron production per charge by channelling continuous efforts into fixing the rational proportions of raw materials and fuel and putting the operation of the furnaces on a scientific footing.

Various technical innovation plans are actively introduced at the oxygen plant branch factory to normalize the operation of all the facilities even in winter and thus produce sufficient amounts of quality oxygen.

The steel workshop No.2 and hot-rolling workshop are conducting a dynamic drive of technical innovation aimed at improving the operation methods of such facilities as oxygen converters and rolling mills, and those in charge of supplying raw and other materials are tapping internal potentials to make a contribution to increased production.

Photo: Yun Jong Sik

Article: Pak Pyong Hun





Power Stations along the Ryesong River



The Ryesong River, the longest one in North Hwanghae Province, underwent tremendous changes in its appearance and natural environment, thanks to the hydropower stations with high-rise dams and reservoirs built in the new century.

Though there are hardly any traces reminiscent of the construction projects left at present, the employees of the power stations, the then young builders, still vividly remember the days when they built them, braving the challenges of the nature.

The Ryesong River basin is comparatively rich in its annual precipitation, and mostly in the rainy season.

Every rainy season there were heavy rainfalls which caused the river to flood the cofferdams. However, nothing could discourage the builders who were determined to turn the river of misfortune into the one of happiness and fortune. They erected dams, dug out waterway tunnels, built buildings for generators and laid transmission lines over the mountains.

All the people in the province gave their sincere assistance to the construction projects.

Ryesonggang Youth Power Station No. 1, the first large-scale hydropower station in the province, was built in 2008, and Ryesonggang Youth Power Station No. 2 was completed two years later.

By 2018 several power stations were built along the river.

These power stations turned the river, which had vainly emptied into the West Sea of Korea for thousands of years, into the treasure river producing electric power necessary for the economic development of North Hwanghae Province, removed the source of flood damage along the river and contributed greatly to the agricultural development in the province.

Photo: Sin Chung Il

Article: Pak Yong Jo



Dam of the Ryesonggang Youth Power Station No. 2



Ryesonggang Youth Power Station No. 3



Ryesonggang Youth Power Station No. 4

Home of Girl Weavers



In November last year a workers' hostel and a welfare facility were built for the employees of the Sinuiju Textile Mill in the seat of North Phyongan Province.

The hostel providing accommodation for over 700 people stands on the bank of the Amnok River, and the welfare facility is called Pangjik (textile in Korean) Health Complex.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the mill in June 2018, he learned in detail about its production and also the living conditions of the workers. Saying he was told

that the hostellers of the mill were so envious of the hostels at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill and Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill provided by the Party, he promised them a hostel as wonderful as those in Pyongyang. Then he personally appointed a site for the hostel and sent a powerful construction force.

The newly-erected hostel and health complex have a total floor space of 29 000m². The hostel consists of three buildings furnished with bedrooms, a dining hall, and rooms for book-

reading and medical treatment. And the health complex has a swimming pool, fitness room, beauty parlour and other facilities for providing the workers with convenience.

Every night the brightly-lit windows of the hostel resound with merry laughter and singing of the girls.

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam

Article: Pak Pyong Hun





Ri Kun Il

Forty-seven years ago Ri Kun Il graduated from a college and began his career as a worker of the Pyongyang Condiments Factory. He led a workteam and a workshop before being promoted to chief engineer and then manager in 2004.

He is now recognized as an authority on fermentology and a man with rich experience in field work, and obtained a doctor's degree.



Manager with Doctor's Degree

Over the past decades Ri changed greatly in appearance, but little in his intense scholarly ardour, creativity and tenacity.

After he became the manager, Ri initiated a project to remodel and upgrade several production lines and facilities and put forward the proposal for manufacturing some high-tech equipment by the factory itself, surprising everyone.

Though, he pushed ahead with the project, thus technically reconstructing the production lines of soy sauce, bean paste, edible oil, fermented soybean and other condiments and setting up a new line of vitamin E production, the first of its kind in the country.

When proposing the reconstruction project, Ri aimed to incomparably improve the abilities of the technical staff, and, more than that, convince even ordinary workers of the importance of science and technology, and he achieved it.

A sci-tech learning space was set up in the factory, and many workers, mainly young people, were involved in the distance learning system to complete higher education courses.

At present, one among its five employees has obtained a diploma, and the number of academic degree holders is on the steady increase.

Ri Kun Il, PhD and deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, is an idol of the factory employees.

Photo: Choe Won Chol

Article: Ri Jin Bom

Growing Popularity of Traditional Costume

Created and developed through a long historical period, the traditional clothes of the Korean nation suit every Korean, irrespective of sex, age and countenance, and set off their appearances.

The Korean traditional clothes are diverse in kind, including *jogori* (jacket), *paji* (trousers), *chima* (long skirt), *paeja* (waistcoat for women), *tangui* (formal dress for women), and *turumagi* (overcoat), as well as in colour and form, thus making people dress appropriately according to seasons and by age.

Nowadays, not only the elderly, women and children but even men like wearing traditional clothes.

Women attired in *chima* and *jogori* give the impression that they are innocent and soft.

National Korean costume shows, which commenced in 2003, took place every year until 2019, drawing a larger number of professional and amateur dressmakers.

And acclaimed Korean dressmaker's shops in the country enjoy endless orders.

In 2016 the dressing custom of the Korean

nation was inscribed on the list of intangible cultural heritage of the DPRK.

Photo: Ri Ryong Un
Article: Kim Son Gyoung





Kim Thaek Song imparting a great deal of experience to his sons and grandsons

For Three Generations

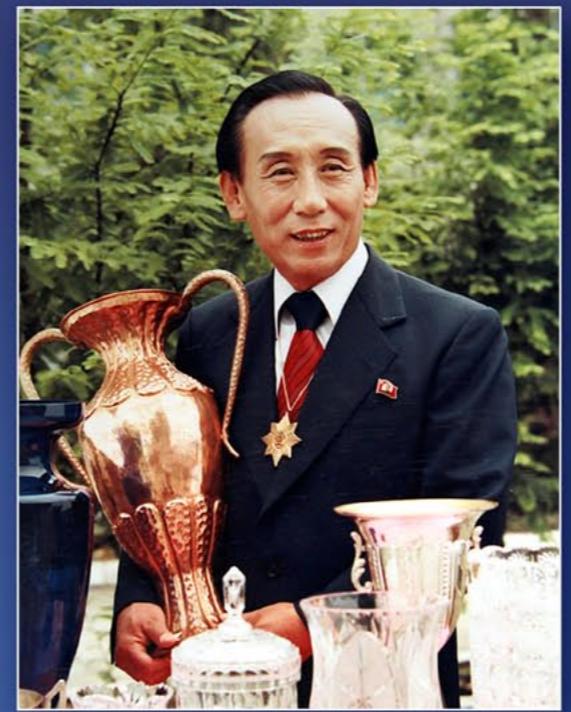


Kim Ju Song and Kim Kwang Song are grandsons of Kim Thaek Song. Though with short acting careers of 3-4 years, they have already staged their own magic pieces, such as *On the water* and *Alongside the bus*, which enjoy great popularity.

They aspire to employ the latest achievements of science and technology in magic performance.

What runs through this family for three generations is the desire to raise magic to a higher stage with continuous innovation, bold creation and further progress.

*Photo: Ri Jin Hyok
Article: Kim Son Gyong*



Kim Thaek Song won the Grand Prix and the title of "King of World Magic" at the 16th International Festival of Modern Magic

Kim Thaek Song was a magician widely known across the country in the 1970s, when the DPRK was greeting a golden age in the sector of art and literature, to the admiration of the world.

Before his days, magicians entertained spectators by simple tricks involving sleight of hand. But Kim greatly influenced magic to develop into a powerful art form that promotes the creative abilities and intellectual faculties of the people.

He put on stage more than 200 magic pieces, such as *A flower basket*, *Rich apple harvest*, and *Silk cloth cascades*, and won prizes at several international magic festivals.

He is the winner of Kim Il Sung Prize, a Labour Hero, and a People's Artiste.

After he retired from stage, Kim took up his post as the head of the magic department at the Pyongyang Acrobatic School under the National

Acrobatic Troupe, and has so far produced a lot of magicians.

Among his disciples are his two sons.

Kim Chol, the eldest, cut his conspicuous figure in the sleight-of-hand magic, and Kim Kwang Chol, the younger, was special in the use of psychology.

They made strenuous efforts to materialize their father's view on magic that it should be the art form to depict life in a lifelike and beautiful way.

They produced a lot of magic pieces that were greeted with big applause at home and abroad.

They both won Kim Il Sung Prize and the title of People's Artiste.

At present Chol leads the magic department of the National Acrobatic Troupe, and Kwang Chol is a director and also performs on stage.

The tradition of the magicians' family has passed down to the third generation.



Kim Chol and his son Ju Song

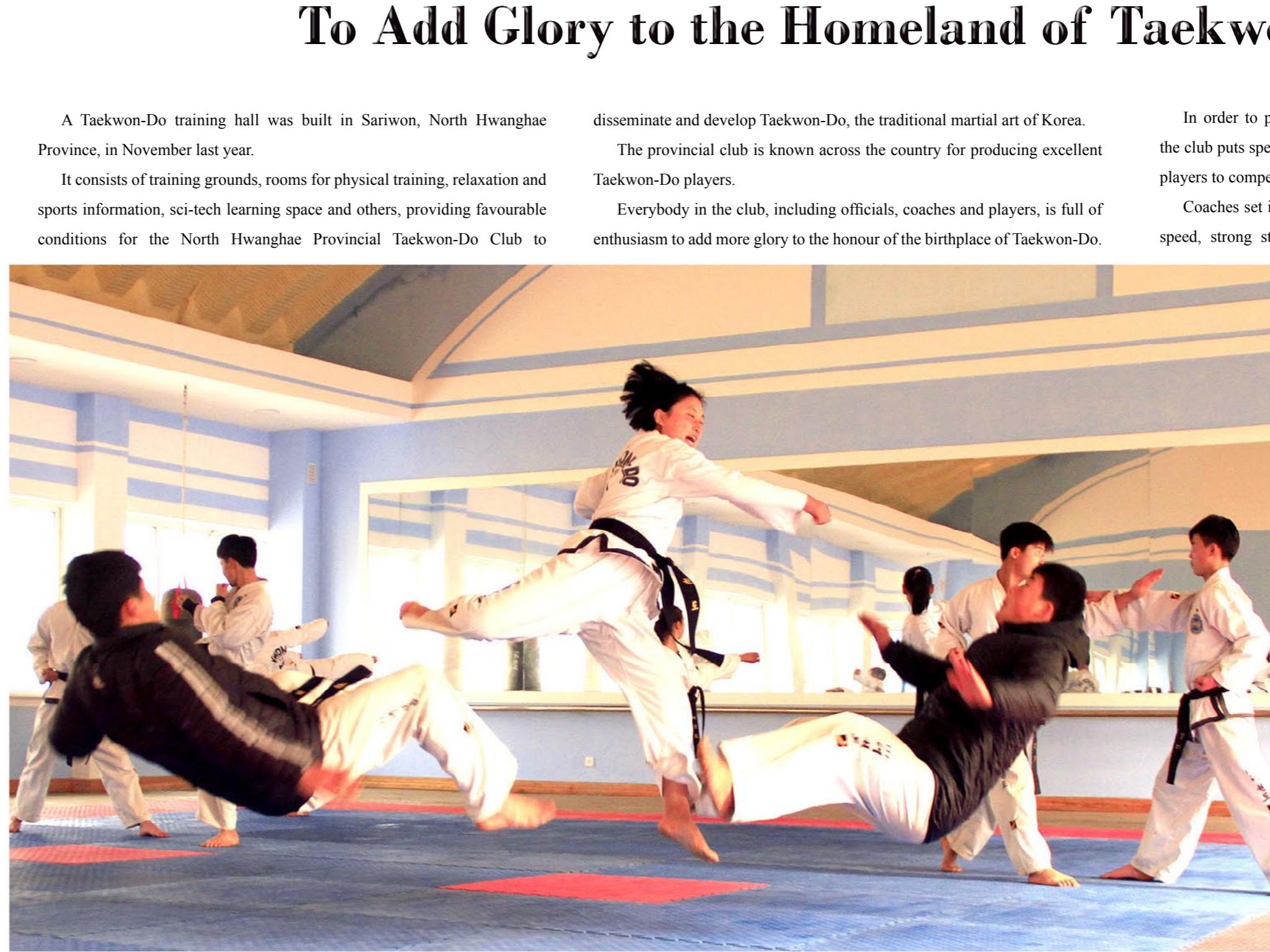


Kim Kwang Chol and his son Kwang Song

To Add Glory to the Homeland of Taekwon-Do



Taekwon-Do players of the North Hwanghae Provincial Taekwon-Do Club snatched gold medals at the 12th youth and 7th veteran Taekwon-Do world championships and other international competitions



A Taekwon-Do training hall was built in Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province, in November last year.

It consists of training grounds, rooms for physical training, relaxation and sports information, sci-tech learning space and others, providing favourable conditions for the North Hwanghae Provincial Taekwon-Do Club to

disseminate and develop Taekwon-Do, the traditional martial art of Korea.

The provincial club is known across the country for producing excellent Taekwon-Do players.

Everybody in the club, including officials, coaches and players, is full of enthusiasm to add more glory to the honour of the birthplace of Taekwon-Do.

In order to prepare players in terms of physique, technique and tactics, the club puts special emphasis on training in basic techniques and encourages players to compete with each other to attain physical and technical indices.

Coaches set it as the major task of technical development to acquire high speed, strong striking power, accurate movements and perseverance and devote all their wisdom and enthusiasm to education and guidance in training.

By working out detailed plans as suited to the ages and psychological features of the players and attaching great importance to make them have a correct understanding of the principles of Taekwon-Do, they train players to execute every movement with accuracy.

Players also strive hard to perfect their techniques, setting themselves high goals and overcoming physical exhaustion, and thus achieve successes in training.

The club makes steady efforts to train promising reserves.

It has so far produced a lot of Taekwon-Do players honoured with national and international awards. Among them is Ha Kum Gang who won gold medal at the 21st World Taekwon-Do Championship two years ago.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin

Article: Pak Yong Jo

MT CHILBO IN WINTER



Snow-covered mountain ranges of Inner Chilbo viewed from the Sungson Rock

Winter has set in, and Mt Chilbo, one of the six celebrated mountains in Korea, presents another distinctive scenery.

Mt Chilbo, which occupies several hundred square kilometres in area, encompassing Myongchon, Hwadae, Myongan and Orang counties in North Hamgyong Province, and unfolds a myriad of fantastic views of Inner Chilbo, Outer Chilbo and Sea Chilbo set off by majestic yet mysterious and beautiful

peaks, valleys and coasts, has been called by different names according to seasons. And it is called Solbaeksan (snow-white mountain) in winter.

The Sungson Rock, which carries a legend that fairies flew to Heaven from the rock, commands a bird's eye-view of the east and northwest of the Kumganggol. In winter snow-covered rocks of various shapes offer wonderful views. Also marvellous are scenic spots in Inner Chilbo, such as Mansa,

Chonbul and Jonggak peaks and a monkey-shaped rock, as well as mountain ranges of Outer Chilbo looking like a white folding screen.

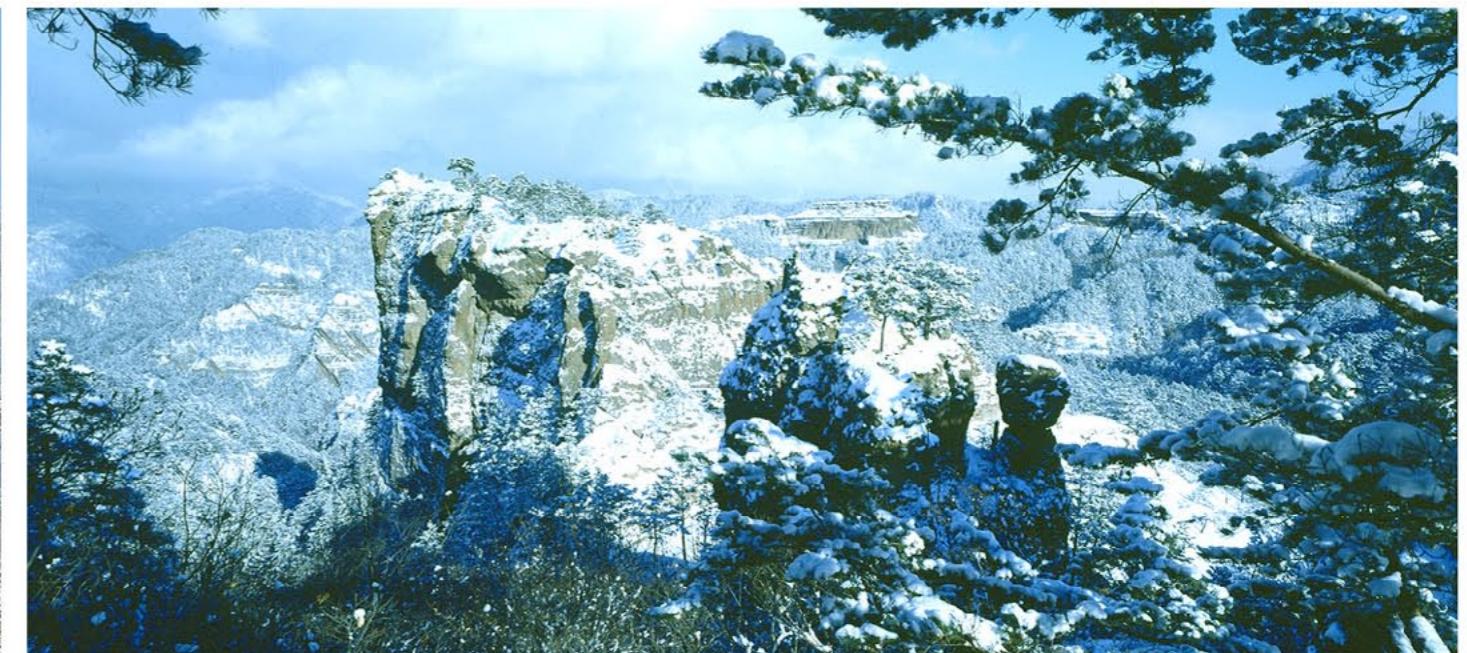
The Taemo Rock, looking like a woman carrying a baby piggyback and a big bundle on her head, has a cap of snow on top of it.

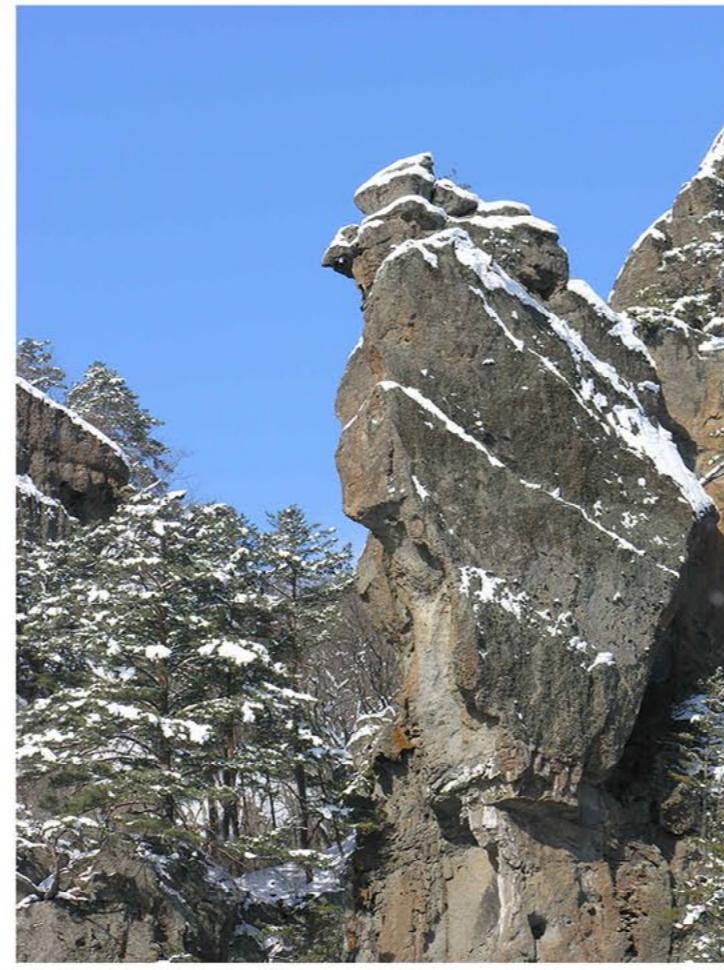
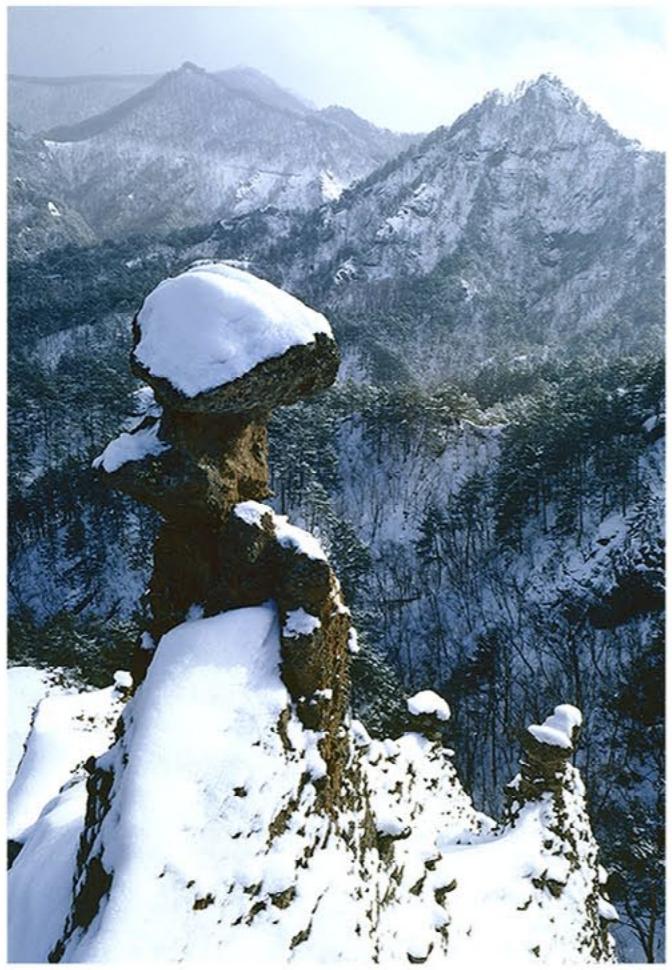
The snowy Mujigae (rainbow-shaped) Rock standing with one of its feet anchored on a mountain slope and the other in the sea adds a marvel to the

famous scenery of Sea Chilbo, quite distinct from its summer view.

Not only them, but snow-covered pines rooted on top and in the cracks of the rocks of odd shapes and in the middle of steep cliffs enhance the winter scenery of Mt Chilbo, called Mt Kumgang in North Hamgyong Province.

Article: Ri Jin Bom





Thajong, Taemo and other myriad-shaped rocks add to the scenic beauty of the famous mountain

Piryu Pool



Hoar frost at the Kaesim Temple



Sea Chilbo in winter

