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Independence—DPRK's Ever-victorious Banner

THE KOREAN REVOLUTION started and has been in victorious progress all along by dint of the policy of independence. The pioneer of the cause was Kim Il Sung who is the eternal President of the socialist Korea.

In the 1930s when Korea was under the Japanese imperialists' military occupation he originated the Juche idea that man is the master of his own destiny and has the power to shape it. With the confidence in the efforts of the Korean people he launched the anti-Japanese armed struggle and brought about a great victory. The Juche idea permeated with the principle of independence has been the leading ideology of the time making astonishing changes in the revolution and construction. In each stage of the revolution and construction—building of a new democratic Korea after the country's liberation on August 15, 1945, victory in the Fatherland Liberation War in the 1950s and

the socialist construction—the Korean people have staunchly advanced along the road they chose. In the course of this, they erected a socialist power which is independent in politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in national defence.

Chairman Kim Jong Il of the DPRK National Defence Commission, holding fast to the Juche idea, the Songun idea, as the lifeline of the nation, effected historic events one after another, turning adversities into favourable conditions. The Korean people often recollect with deep emotion the launch of the first artificial earth satellite of the country, *Kwangmyongsong-1*, into orbit in August 1998. At that time the country was having a hard time dubbed the Arduous March and the forced march due to the imperialists' severe politico-military pressure and economic blockade. The then US Republican presidential candidate Bob Doll said

that north Korea would collapse sooner or later, that the country in a serious economic crisis and coupled with a food shortage was just like a persimmon tree with soft ripen fruits, and that when the lower part of the trunk was struck with an axe, persimmons would fall easily.

The fruits didn't fall, though. Instead they became a nuclear deterrent shocking the world, and an earth satellite flying into space. They were the result of the country's endeavour and technology from A to Z. The first step of space development was made in this way and it was followed by a number of launches in 2009 and in December 2012.

The Russian newspaper *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* dated December 13, 2012 reported under the title "The Juche Idea Has Reached Outer Space": The Democratic People's Republic of Korea launched a rocket loaded with a satellite on December 12. This ►

Service personnel and Pyongyang citizens have a joint rally in February 2016 to celebrate the successful launch of the earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong-4*.



▶ meant disregard of the UNSC's banning resolutions and persistent claims of many countries. Quite a few nations urged the DPRK to cancel its launch plan, but this couldn't change the course of action. The country is little afraid of the pressure from the international community which regards the country's launch of rockets as a technical test of ballistic missiles it manufactures. Furthermore, the DPRK declared through its Foreign Ministry spokesman's press release on December 12 that it would continue to exercise its legitimate right to satellite launch, regardless of what others argue.

Korea's space development is not merely intended to develop its science and technology; it is aimed at safeguarding its national sovereignty and dignity from hostile forces. The successful launch of the earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong-4* on February 7 last showed the nation's rapid development in space science and technology on one hand and demonstrated its will to exercise its legitimate right to space development on the other. Leaping forward to the launch of an earth observation satellite from launches of two test satellites and the rapid development from the inclined-orbit satellite to the polar-orbit one—this means conquering outer space is not a dream or ideal to the Korean people any longer. Korea has become able to do anything in outer space as well as on the land once it is determined to do it—thanks to the wise leadership of the supreme leader Kim Jong Un.

Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, carried an article on February 8, 2016 which reads: "It is neither a fortune from Heaven nor a fruition of anybody else's effort. It is a multiple explosion of Korea's great and enormous national power, and splendid firework of victory and a repeated blow to the imperialist bloc that is working desperately to check our advance."

Holding aloft the banner of independence the Korean people, in the future, too, will write a history of victory under the guidance of Kim Jong Un.

An Song Duk



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Front Cover: Workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex have turned out to realize the great construction plan of the Workers' Party of Korea.

*Photo by courtesy
of the KCNA*



Back Cover: Mangyongdae in Spring

Photo by Kim Jin Ho

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Motherly Party



Kim Jong Un inspects the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill in January 2016.

PEOPLE—THIS IS THE FIRST WORD IN THE list of the vocabulary used by the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) in the whole period of its revolutionary leadership. The WPK's history is the history of love for the people, which means holding them dear and sparing nothing for them. This is why the Korean people call the WPK the motherly party, trust it wholeheartedly and entrust all their life and destiny to it.

The revolution means love for the people

Cherishing love for the people, President Kim Il Sung started the Korean revolution and created great heroic epics in two revolutionary wars and in creation and construction. Though he was the

President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the General Secretary of the WPK, he was more fond of being called "father" than being addressed by his official titles. His love for the people was deeper and broader by far than their parental love. The President devoted his whole life to fostering the people's welfare. In all winds and weathers, he visited factories, farm villages and army units to take care of the lives of the people and soldiers like their own parents. He devoted all his life to providing the people with better food, clothing and shelter.

In everything he did, the people's benefits were his first consideration. In factories he would visit the dining halls of the workers' hostels first before finding out how production work was going on, and in farm villages he would go to farmhands' ►

► houses and look into rice pots and cupboards in the kitchens to see if they were well off or not. This was his usual practice in on-the-spot guidance. Therefore, his photos taken in workers' dining rooms and ordinary houses' kitchens and on sideline farms are as many as those of him making speeches in conference halls or talking with people in the course of his field guidance in all parts of the country. His love for the people was not limited to areas connected with the food problem. He was concerned about every aspect of the people's life—food, clothes, shoes and small and simple daily necessities. He was like the sun emanating warm love—his soft voice, eyes full of affection and gentle hands. In his embrace the bodies and hearts of the people warmed up. His love for the people was so deep and permanent that the Korean people even now call him “father.”

Roots of the revolution

When I feel hungry, cold and tired, I don't care. If only the people aren't hungry and cold and feel happy, I wish for nothing more. I'll be the roots making the people enjoy a happy life and the country prosperous. I'll go on cheerfully devoting my all to the good of the people, even if nobody would care about me. With such a noble view of life, Chairman Kim Jong Il lived his life of great devotion.

From 1964 when he began to work on the Central Committee of the WPK to the last moment of his life, the Chairman devoted his all to the benefits of the people and the revolution. His devotion to the country and the people deepened further in the 1990s when he held up the banner of Songun to lead the WPK and the people to victory. He overcame the hardships of the forced march in the northern areas ►

**The ranks of single-hearted unity follow the WPK as their motherly party.
(A scene from the military parade and Pyongyang citizens' mass demonstration
in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK in October 2015.)**



► of the country in January 1998, the distress of 2007 when the country was visited by an unprecedentedly heavy rainfall and severe swelter, the mid-summer forced march in 2008, and the hardest forced march in 2009, lighting up the flames of the great revolutionary upsurge across the country.

His revolutionary leadership was marked endlessly by unforgettable days and months of hard field inspection. In July and August 2008 alone, he gave field guidance to scores of units. The mass media reported that in August that year he visited 20 units. The course of his field guidance covered over 100-400 kilometres a day, and in the hottest mid-summer month he travelled more than 4 000 kilometres for on-site inspection.

Oleg Schenin, former chairman of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, wrote in his book *The Doyen of Men Kim Jong Il*: “The life of Comrade Kim Jong Il as a state leader and revolutionary is that of the people’s favourite son and servant. To live for the people is the invariable principle of his life.”

In May 2009 when the Chairman visited mines in the Komdok area, he went down deep into the working place of Ryongyang with water dripping from the ceiling, where he stayed long with the miners watching them working rock drills. About this, a writer wrote, “The people know the greatness of our leader Kim Jong Il much better than God. Our respected leader Kim Jong Il goes unhesitatingly to the end of Puktu Peak and into the deep underground mining pits for the sake of the country and the people, preferring it to extravagant ceremonies or gorgeous parades. Even Heaven bows to this great man and the people follow him with boundless loyalty. Nothing can check the advance of the people led by him.”

The reward of the revolution

Like the mother who feels happy working all through the night to prepare savoury dishes for her children or going a snowy path at night to meet her children, the harder the officials work and the less they rest, the happier the people will be. This is the idea of Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the WPK.

With a lofty view of the people like the President and the Chairman who had regarded the people as holy as Heaven, the supreme leader holds the people dear just as they had done and prizes them who are loyal to the WPK as the priceless treasure of the revolution. Selfless devotion to the people is his innate disposition rather than an obligation. The first step he took in tears of blood after sudden demise of the Chairman was vowing to give priority and devoted service to the people. He wrote *Serve the People!* which impressed the people deeply.

Many structures have sprung up in different parts of the country in recent years, vividly showing the national leader’s noble love for the people. Sometimes, he would go up and down the stairs of unfinished buildings on construction sites dripping with sweat, and at other times, would carefully survey the plans of new buildings shielding his eyes with his hand against sandy winds. Just for one building, he would examine many plans, and care about where to place pieces of household furniture and the number of wall sockets.

He gives thought first of all to the people who are in faraway and isolated places engaged in rough work and going through hardships. He saw to it that baby homes, orphanages and rest homes were built before everything to dispel sorrow from the minds of orphaned children and helpless old folks. He also made workers, farmhands, scientists and teachers live in palatial houses of new civilized streets and modern farm villages.

Under his energetic guidance many monumental structures for the people have cropped up like mushrooms as if ten years’ work is done in a single year. However, when the buildings are completed, the people cut the red ribbons on them, get benefits from them, and live comfortably in them. Then the national leader would visit them, dropping into one home after another, rejoicing in the happy life of the people, the workers and the children. He is overjoyed and says this is the reward of the revolution. All the Korean people feel happy beyond measure in the broad and kind embrace of the supreme leader whose affection for them is as warm as sunshine, as deep as the sea and as delicate as the mother’s love.

An Chol Ho



We'll Travel One Road Forever

WE'LL TRAVEL ONE ROAD FOREVER IS one of the most favourite songs of the Korean people.

*It's been a long way over mountains and ridges
That we have come for revolution
in the same mind.*

*Whether it's a way of glories or a way of ordeals
We'll travel one road forever after the Party.*

This song was created in 1981, the year after the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea was held. It reflects the Korean people's will and faith to follow the road of socialism alone to the end under the guidance of the WPK.

The US imperialists, who were crazy about the ambition to take hold of the whole world, forced the

disastrous war (June 25, 1950–July, 27, 1953) on the Korean people who had been liberated from the Japanese military occupation only five years before. When the Koreans reconstructed their economy from debris of war with great difficulties tightening their belt, the Americans brought the danger of a new war of aggression; when the former turned out to develop their national economy, the latter hurled the stumbling blocks of unprecedented sanctions and blockade in the way.

The WPK, however, has always charged forward courageously in any hardships, and won victory after victory while writing a new history of great changes. In the whirlwind of history, the WPK has trusted the Korean people alone, and they have been its only supporters, advisers and assistants.

The enemy was not seen outside the country ►

▶ alone. The chronicles of the WPK have countless anecdotes relating to the Korean people's will to travel the road of revolution alone, following the Party and trusting President Kim Il Sung. One of the stories goes:

In August 1957 when the President visited a polling station in Thaesong-ri, the local people presented him a bouquet reflecting their boundless respect for and gratitude to him. But he, saying it should be given to an old woman, offered it to a woman whose son had died in a battle during the Fatherland Liberation War, earnestly wishing her a long life in good health. Looking up at him she said reverently the people absolutely supported the President alone. By this she voiced the mind of all the people in the country who were willing to follow the President alone faithfully. She continued to say: "I'm afraid your health has broken. Don't be worried too much, please. Whatever the factionalists may rattle on the people's life, there is no problem as we can live well. After all, it's we who will win, and not the factionalists, I'm sure. Don't worry. We support you."

Later the President recalled that he had felt freshly encouraged to hear her and thought that he should purge the factionalists.

The earlier generations of the Korean revolution held Kim Il Sung as the one and only leader of the Korean revolution and safeguarded him at the cost of their lives. They dealt a deadly blow to the anti-Party, counter-revolutionary factionalists, realized the socialist industrialization in 14 years under the guidance of the Party, created the Pyongyang Speed and the Chollima Speed, and advanced straight forward invariably.

In the early 1990s tragic events took place: socialist ruling parties and socialism collapsed in several countries owing to the anti-socialist moves of the imperialists and the renegades of socialism. Taking advantage of the situation the US and its vassal forces made a desperate attempt to topple the DPRK propagandizing the imminent "collapse" of socialism in Korea. It was at this time that the WPK and the Korean people sustained the greatest loss in their history, that is, the demise of the President. In the manifold hardships Korea experienced the unprecedentedly hard time dubbed Arduous March and forced march. To make matters worse natural calamities lashed the country hard consecutively, causing tremendous economic difficulties.

When the world was gripped with apprehension over the destiny of Korea, Chairman Kim Jong Il made a solemn declaration: Don't expect any change

about me. I will thoroughly defend socialist Korea and the red flag of Juche associated with the whole life of the President and surely build a thriving nation on the strength of the Party and arms.

Under the guidance of the WPK the Korean people waged a vigorous struggle to introduce the CNC technology all across the country. As a result they successfully manufactured and launched artificial earth satellites, the acme of science and technology, brought the laborious Arduous March and forced march to the victorious end and laid a solid foundation for building a prosperous, powerful socialist nation.

When the generation of revolution changed, Korea was faced with formidable challenges. When the Korean people were still in their greatest sorrow over the unexpected demise of the Chairman, modern-version factional elements who had been lurking in the Party ranks challenged the Korean revolution unhesitatingly. In December 2013 an enlarged meeting of the Politburo of the WPK Central Committee was held to expose roundly the anti-Party, counter-revolutionary acts of the modern-version factional clique and purge them mercilessly. This was a demonstration of the steadfast faith and will of the WPK and the people to consolidate the single-hearted unity in every way, the priceless revolutionary asset left behind by the President and the Chairman, and to carry forward and complete the revolutionary cause of Juche with credit on the strength of the faith.

True to their will the Korean people built many edifices and popular recreation centres under the guidance of their supreme leader Kim Jong Un in the short span of four years—the Masikryong Ski Resort, the Mirim Riding Club, the Munsu Water Park, the apartment houses for teachers of Kim Il Sung University, the Mirae Scientists Street, the Sci-tech Complex, and others.

*The fragrance of a flower standing
snow and frost lasts forever.*

*The flower blooming in the sunlight
always turns to the sun.*

*Even if we have to cross high mountains
or rough seas*

We'll travel one road forever after the Party.

*Countless years may elapse, but our faith will
remain unchanged.*

We'll travel one road forever after the Party.

Sim Chol Yong

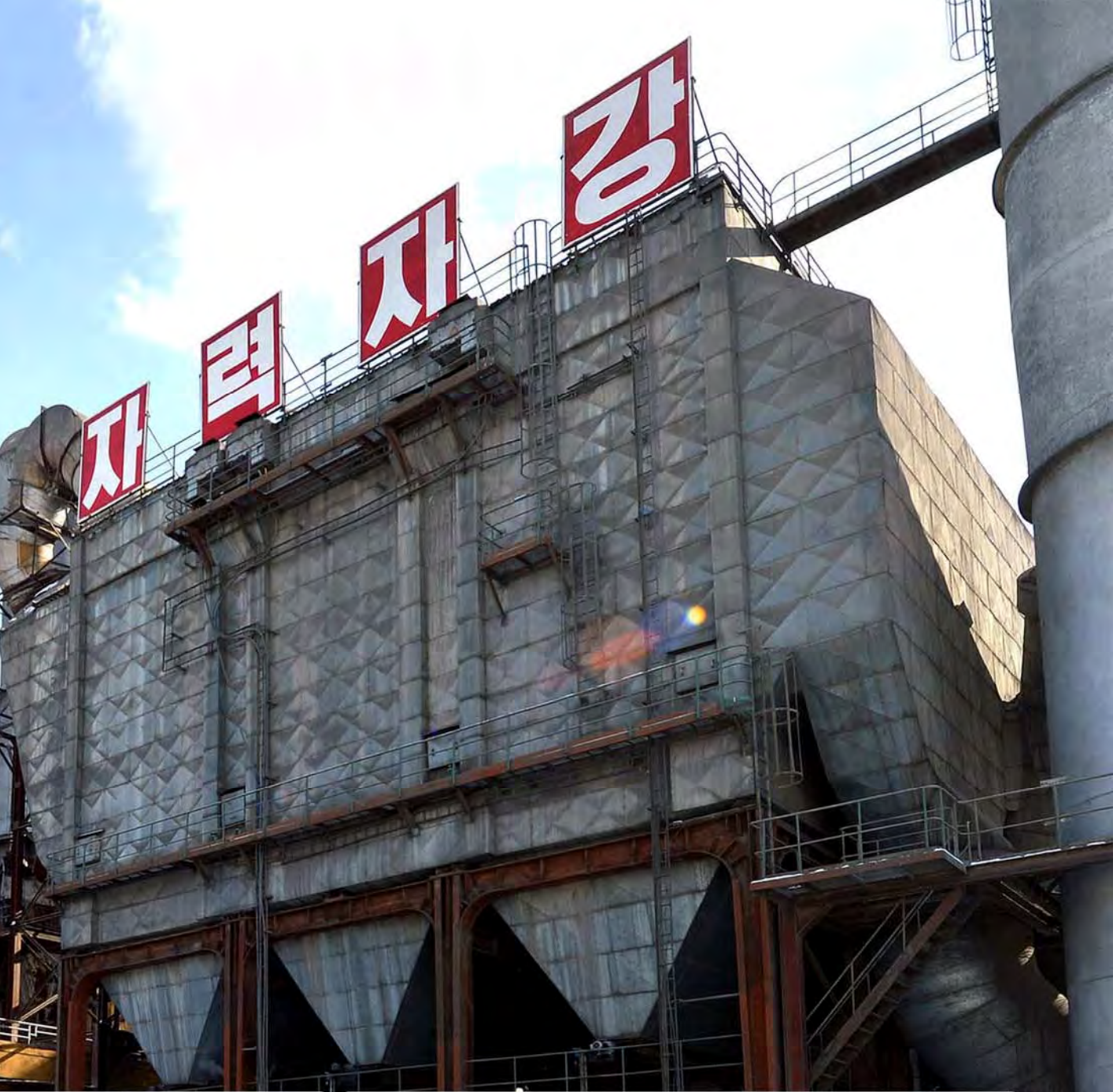


In the Run-up to the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea

On the Strength of Self-development

Innovation is made in cement production.







A Factory With Many Worker-inventors

“HAVE FAITH IN YOUR own strength!” This is a common remark one can hear among the workers and technicians of the Pyongyang Electric Cable Factory 326. Last year they achieved a great success in production by solving sci-tech problems by their own efforts.

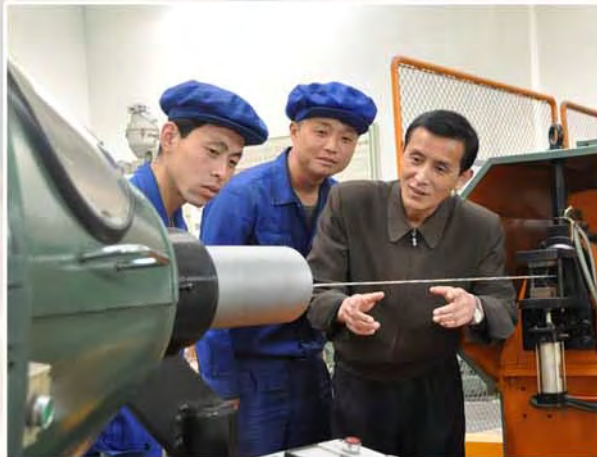
In mid-July last year the cable workshop was given a task to cut plastic sheet half as thin as before for insulation of communication cable. It was common knowledge that very thin plastic sheet could not be cut because it would get entangled in the machine and severed to pieces. O Kum Chol who had worked long as an operator of the paper and plastic sheet cutting machine could not but be faltering. If this problem was not solved in time, the task could not be fulfilled. He calculated one by one the dynamic power that affected sheet cutting and goods winding. At last, he realized that precision of the guiding axis of the plastic sheet and hundreds of guiding bushes supported by the axis should be greatly raised in order to reduce the entangling rate which was now twice as high as before. He buckled down to remodelling the machine. The news about his attempt to raise the precision of the plastic sheet cutting machine came to be known across the factory. The workers of the repairs workshop finished the remodelling of the axis and hundreds of bushes, so that the machine went into operation in good time and the assigned task was carried out.

When the matter of ensuring the round shape of the cable turned up, the technicians and skilled hands of the cable workshop solved it by their own efforts

by taking measures to input the fillers correctly and introduced it into production, improving the printing quality of the cable.

Moreover, a new device was invented in the course of changing the wooden drum into the iron one at the equipment, looping and sheet metal processing workshops to remove completely the defect in the hole for fixing the cable which was inimical to the quality of products. The staff of the cable research institute secured the

melting furnace with a capacity of hundreds of kilograms not only to ensure the power element's stability but also to examine, record and control its operation in real time, lowering the production costs per unit. In addition, they refashioned the 150-mm caterpillar traction engine of the extruding machine to normalize production and reduce the repairing time. The workers of the looping shop greatly contributed to the normalization of production by



technical guarantee for normalizing production by designing the phenol plastic material reactor to produce phenol plastic, formerly an imported material, by themselves and sharply reducing the production costs of phenol plastic accessories of the supporting roller of the high-speed drawing machine, the winder's brake shoe of the extruding machine in concert with the skilled workers of the looping workshop.

In close contact with the relevant sci-tech institutions, the members of the production technical department remodelled the protection circuit of large power control element of the aluminium





▶ using a substitute material on the basis of analyzing the quality of the joint bush of the main motor of the cold-rolling mill.

In 2014 the factory received an international certificate on GMP and was awarded the December

15 Quality Medal, the highest quality medal of the country. Attaching importance to science and technology and making great efforts to study the latest science and technology in the study-while-working system have pro-

duced many inventors among the workers of the factory. Now they are exerting themselves to settle any problems in production by their own efforts.

Sim Yong Jin





Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory



Varieties of children's foodstuffs including soya milk are produced.

IN KOREA CHILDREN ARE CALLED "KINGS." Whenever they see the soya milk cars running along the streets of the capital city, people say that Kings' cars are passing. These cars run every day to deliver soya milk produced at the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory to the kindergartens and

schools in Pyongyang. Soya milk is one of the children's favourite refreshments produced at the factory which was opened in October 1977. The factory is under special concern of the Workers' Party of Korea and mothers across the country. Since its inauguration it has produced various kinds of nutritious

- ▶ foodstuffs easy of digestion and rich in protein and other ingredients necessary for the children's growth.

General manager Jon Chang Guk said, "In the past we rested content with what we were producing. But today life demands that better and tastier foodstuffs be produced in larger quantities for the children."

Last year the factory was modernized under the care of the government in accord with the requirement of the new era. The management staff and workers of the factory and the technicians of the relevant units took an active part in its modernization. Tens of buildings were newly erected and many buildings were modernized in a little over ten months. The factory was refurnished with up-to-date equipment. The factory has a unified multidimensional system of production that enables an overall control of every problem arising in production and management. All processes—material input, production, packing, storage and delivery—have become automated and unmanned to produce more with less manpower. And the production site is fully sterilized to secure foodstuffs from bacteria and dust. There is a synthetic analysis room for quality inspection on the international standard. These achievements

made it possible to develop various nutritious foodstuffs last year and improve designs and packing of products to suit children's likings and meet purchasers' convenience.

Chief engineer Cha Song Chol said, "Polished rice peptide, a functional food, is a new product developed by the scientific research team of the factory. It is made up mainly of rice protein and very nutritious. It is used as a protein nutrient for infants and enriched food for sportspeople."

In November last year the supreme leader Kim Jong Un gave on-the-spot guidance to the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory which was turned into a model factory for modernization. He said: We are carrying on the revolution in face of difficulties for the good of children who represent the future of the country, and their happy laughter makes me optimistic about our bright future although the going is hard today.

And he expressed his expectation and trust that the management staff and workers of the factory would produce more soya milk and other nice and nutritious foods for the children, always keeping in mind that normal production is the way to guard the laughter of children.

Today the management and workers of the factory are making innovations in production every day, engaged in a 70-day campaign to greet the Seventh Congress of the WPK with great labour achievements.

Pak Un Yong



Love the Youth!

THE KOREAN YOUTH ARE the most exertive section of society for their excellent combat efficiency, strong sense of revolution, unflagging fighting spirit and revolutionary stamina. This is why the Workers' Party of Korea has always regarded attaching importance to the youth as a strategic line of the Party and the revolution.

Love the future!

This is a slogan put forth by Kim Il Sung in the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to liberate the country from the Japanese military occupation. Attaching importance to the youth was one of his important concerns all his life.

In his early years he started his revolutionary activities by rallying young people. Having decided to launch an anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle by training them as the main driving force, he formed the Down-with-Imperialism Union, the first revolutionary youth organization in Korea, on October 17, 1926, and the Young Communist League of Korea (YCLK), the genuine revolutionary vanguard organization of the Korean youth, on August 28, 1927. The YCLK was not merely a youth organization. At the time when Korea had no revolutionary party, it played a pivot role in pushing ahead with the revolution by leading not only its associate organizations but also other organizations including those of workers, peasants and women. The YCLK members in their teens and twenties, as true com-

rades-in-arms and comrades of Kim Il Sung, were the first-generation fighters of the Korean revolution who firmly defended their leader's ideas and policies and even laid down their youth and lives readily to achieve the cause of national liberation.

Kim Il Sung always placed the young people in the van of the revolution—in the years of building a new nation, the Fatherland Liberation War to repulse the US imperialists' armed invasion from June 1950 to July 1953, the post-war rehabilitation and the socialist construction. In this way he developed the youth movement onto a higher level.

He wrote in his reminiscences *With the Century*, “**No work in the world is more worthwhile and honourable than work among young men and women. If I were fortunate enough to begin my life anew and if I were given the right to choose a job, I would devote myself to youth work as I readily did when in Jilin.**”

Let us glorify our youth!

Chairman Kim Jong Il famously noted that *Let us glorify our youth!* should be the Korean young people's slogan and view of life. He said that the youth is the pride of the nation and the most valuable assets of the revolution, that nothing should be spared for them and that to put up and love them as much as possible is precisely the most correct attitude toward the youth.

The Chairman gave a classic formulation that the Party's destiny means that of the youth and that socialism is their life. He saw

to it that a great attention was given to the effort to bring them up as the Party's young vanguard and the reliable successor to the socialist cause. Believing that young people would be able to do anything once they put their burning heart in it, he put them in the lead of the struggle to build a prosperous nation.

Through their patriotic enthusiasm and devotion the young people erected a large number of monumental structures. The Youth Hero Road which was built to mark the 55th founding anniversary of the WPK is one of them. When the country was undergoing the most difficult time, the young people built the road from scratch connecting the capital city of Pyongyang with Nampho. The Chairman entrusted the road project to the youth and often asked about the actual conditions of the project and highly spoke of their struggle. When it was completed, he named it Youth Hero Road to hand their feats down to posterity.

On the Youth Day in 2000 Kim Jong Il visited a power station which had been built by the young builders of Jagang Province with their own efforts. Expressing great satisfaction with the eternal treasure of the country, he suggested naming it “Hungju Youth Power Station” after the local young people's heroic efforts. Thaecheon Youth Power Station No. 3, Wonsan Youth Power Station, Anbyon Youth Power Station, Hamhung Youth Goat Farm and Kungangsan Youth Railway also tell of his policy of regarding the youth as



Young builders successfully finish the concrete tamping of the dam of Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station No. 1 in August 2015.

► the flower of the nation and the most vigorous section of society.

Long live the idea of attaching importance to the youth!

This is the slogan written on the dam of Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station No. 1 which was completed in October last year.

The supreme leader Kim Jong Un is carrying forward the great leaders' idea of attaching importance to the youth and loving them, saying that as he has the young main force, the strong body of young people who are ready to go arm in arm and shoulder to shoulder with him to the end of the revolution, he feels reassured. In January 2012 soon after the demise of the Chairman, the nation's greatest loss, the country was in serious difficulties due to the

imperialists' downright challenge and stifling manoeuvres. At the time the supreme leader sent his autograph to the youth, reading **"Our prosperous tomorrow will be further hastened by our youth's forceful march. Advance straight forward all the time following the Party! Kim Jong Un January 26, 2012"**

All the young people made up their mind to dedicate all their sweat and effort to the patriotic effort for their country and their people. In August that year he sent a congratulatory message to the participants in the Youth Day celebration meeting and all other young people of the country, appealing to them to be youth heroes adding glory to their fatherland and honouring their time. Enshrining his great confidence, the young people are performing brilliant feats in difficult projects for the building of a prosperous so-

cialist nation, including the construction of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, and are devoting their all to society, the collective and comrades.

In his speech delivered at the military parade and the Pyongyang citizens' mass demonstration in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK in October last year, Kim Jong Un said that by continuing to hold fast to the three-point strategy of attaching importance to the people, to the army and to young people as its foremost weapon, the WPK would advance forward vigorously towards final victory and accomplish the Korean revolution.

The Korean youth are held in such great love and trust. They regard the love and belief as their most valuable assets and honour.

Jong Kyong Bok

Eternal NDC Chairman

AT THE 5TH SESSION OF the 9th Supreme People's Assembly held in April 1993 Kim Jong Il was elected Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Under his leadership, the Korean people could further strengthen their politico-military might and lay a solid foundation of the economic construction and improvement of their living standard in unprecedentedly harsh trials.

After the Cold War, the confrontation between socialism and capitalism was reduced to the one between the DPRK and the US, and the hostile forces' manoeuvres to isolate and suffocate the DPRK reached the extreme. Strengthening their military moves of aggression to kill the country that was invariably holding up the banner of independence and socialism, the imperialist reactionaries including the US put unbearable pressure in all spheres including politics, the economy, culture and diplomacy. Worse still, the consecutive natural calamities for several years made the Korean people's living more difficult.

The Korean people found themselves at the crossroads of socialism and capitalism. They had to choose between independent integrity befitting an independent nation and slavery under the imperialists' control. To cope with such a grave situation, Chairman Kim Jong Il administered Songun politics in an all-round way, which relies on the People's Army for the pillar and main driving force of the revolution, by implementing President Kim Il Sung's idea and line of Songun revolution. The Chairman's on-site inspection of Tabaksol (dwarf pine) Company

on January 1, 1995 meant a historical declaration of his decision to make a head-on counter-offensive against the reinforced attacks of the US-led imperialist aggression forces by relying on the People's Army.

From that time to the last days of his life in 2011 he gave field guidance to more than 2 490 units of armed forces to make sure the People's Army officers and men were prepared more firmly in politico-ideological, military and technical terms. In February 1996 he climbed up Height 351, a frontline post in the eastern section of the front, only 1 200 metres across from the enemy's post, to give the soldiers good ideas to foil the enemy's aggression attempts, and in November that year he visited a unit stationed on Cho Islet in the West Sea of Korea to set tasks for them to develop the islet into an impregnable fortress and line of no retreat which is able to check the advance of any formidable force.

In August 1998 he visited a military post in Mt. Osong, a foremost post in the central part of the front, for the second time. Mt. Osong is higher and steeper than other mountains in the frontline area and very near to the enemy post. The road up to the post is so rugged and dangerous that vehicles can hardly go up when it rains or snows a little. That day it rained from the early morning, so the road was too slippery to move up. However, the Chairman told his driver to run the car up the mountain, passing steep bends one after another on the dangerous way. The car rolled up inch by inch, but suddenly stopped on the slippery road when there were still several bends ahead to the destination. Kim Jong Il got out of the car

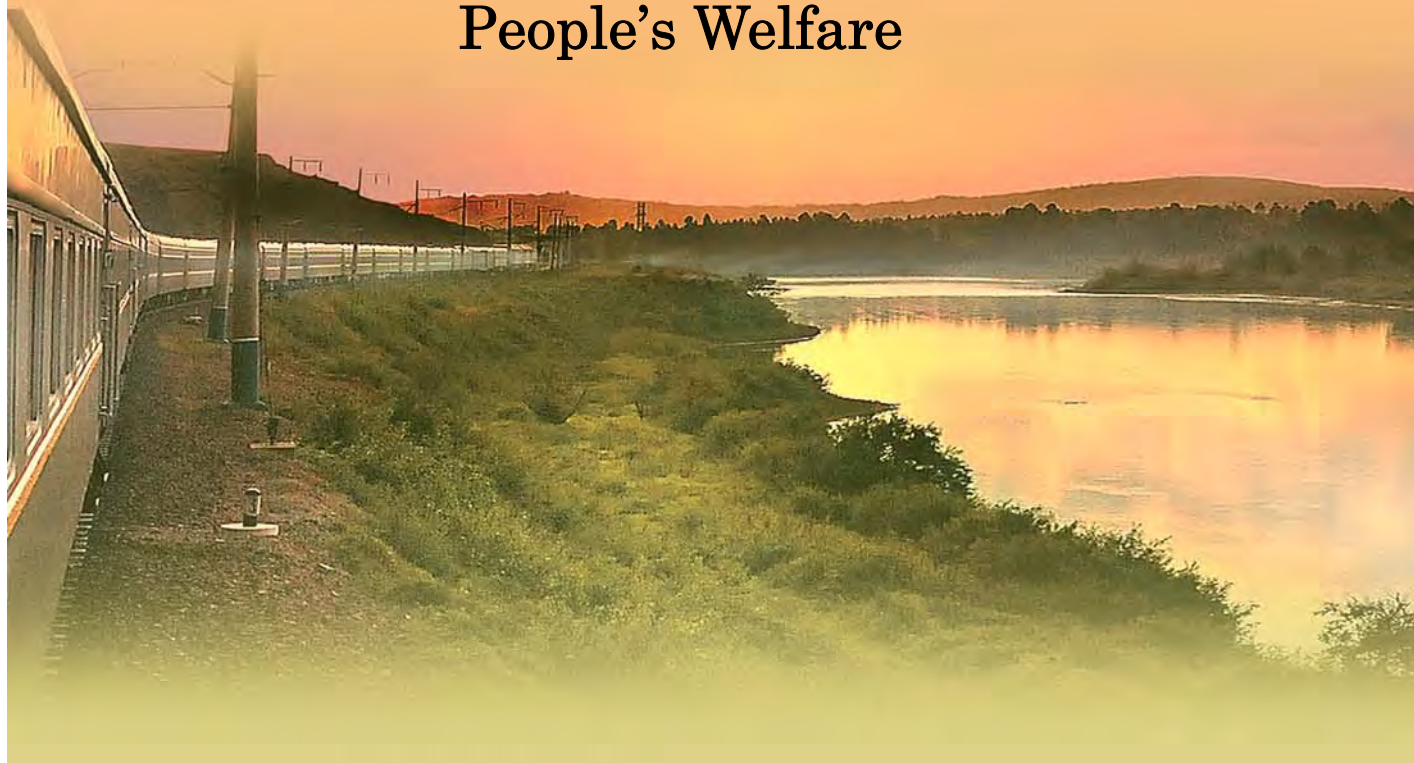
and pushed it together with his officials. In this way he reached the top of the mountain to see his soldiers. In November that year he climbed up the mountain again to give detailed tasks for the unit's combat readiness. His visits there repeated several times, including the one on February 8 the next year. He made a great effort to build up the unit's fighting capacity and improve the soldiers' living condition.

Later he said that whenever he heard of Mt. Osong he felt tearful because it reminded him of the days of the Arduous March and the forced march, and that as long as they pursued Songun politics the Korean people would be able to keep their dignity and honour as independent nation and be well off in a prosperous country. That way they would surely achieve the final victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche started in Mt. Paektu, the leader said.

Thanks to his Songun politics, the People's Army strengthened as invincible armed ranks and performer of miracles and feats making a breakthrough in socialist construction, and the country was able to manufacture and launch artificial earth satellites and become a nuclear state. In honour of his great achievements the Korean people acclaimed Kim Jong Il as the eternal Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission at the 5th Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly in April 2012.

Songun politics is invariably continued by Kim Jong Un, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, and the Korean people are now confidently advancing forward to the final victory, the building of a thriving socialist nation. □

Life Dedicated to the People's Welfare



For Good Crops in the Yonbaek Plain

ONE DAY, AT DAWN, IN August 1993, President Kim Il Sung dropped in at Ohyon-ri, Yonan County, after finishing his field inspection of several farms in Paechon County. With his arms akimbo, the President surveyed the rice fields all in ear, saying the crops were very good. He asked who was the chairman of the farm. An official behind the President came forward and said he was the chairman. Praising him for raising good crops, the President took his hand and drew him nearer to his side. Pointing at a rice paddy in front, he asked the chairman about its crop estimate and the amount of fertilizer applied. The

chairman replied that they had sown the paddy field with the seeds sent by the President as a proper variety fit to the soil of the place and that they had applied fertilizers in the way instructed by the President. He said he thought the rice crop could be 10 tons per hectare on an average. The President patted the chairman on the back, speaking highly of him again for his good work. Then, grasping his hand warmly, the President encouraged him with important instructions to do farm work well in future, too.

Inspection of a Textile Mill at the Age of 80

In May 1992 President Kim Il Sung visited the Kaesong Textile Mill and met the manag-

ress of Weaving Shop No. 1. He asked her to work the loom. Approaching the loom, he personally felt the smooth cloth being woven and asked about the width of the stuff. When she said it was nearly three times wider than before, the President nodded and asked about the use of the stuff. As he heard it was polyester fibre for working clothes of workers and farmhands, he stroked the cloth again with a bright smile. Now his attendants were worried about his continuous inspection of the city without a break. From early morning he gave field guidance to Kaesong City, visiting the Songgyungwan, Manwoltae, Mausoleum of King Wang Kon and other historical and cultural relics, giving instructions to preserve them well. It was already ►

Great Saint

PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG was the greatest ever leader of the Korean people in their national history spanning thousands of years. He is alive in the mind of the Koreans and other progressive people around the world. The *Korea Today* editorial board introduces excerpts from notes of foreigners on impressions from their meeting with the President.

The Sun of Juche Will Shine Forever

I went to visit the socialist

Korea in the spring of 1979 for the first time. Going round the country I was struck with an amazing reality. At a steel works I found the workers keeping in mind the words of Kim Il Sung who, sitting on a piece of a fallen wall, had asked them earnestly to get rid of the debris of the war. At a rural village I saw a simple cushion kept in a cottage, the cushion the President had sat on while talking with peasants knee to knee. In a coastal hamlet I found a net felt by the President while meeting fishermen, and in a coal mine a prop caught my

eyes, on which he had seated himself together with miners. All that I saw convinced me of the fact that he was the father of the whole nation.

During my first visit to the country I realized I had been mistaken when I had tried to decide the question "Who is great, the leader or the people?" And this realization turned into admiration.

I told myself that the Juche idea is there for all people to learn and that it is an idea of global importance for mankind.

The most important day in

► lunch time.

As he was going on with his guidance after having a light breakfast on the grass off the road in spite of his advanced age of 80, the members of his suite had earnestly asked him to take a rest after having lunch. To this, the President answered he was thankful for their concern, but he had to visit the textile mill which was playing a big part in solving the clothing problem of the people, and proceeded to the mill.

Care for the People in City Planning

In September 1991 when President Kim Il Sung was making an on-site inspection of Jagang Province, he examined the relief map of Kanggye City completed by architects. Carefully

surveying the relief map, the President said the city should be built grandly and that, to this end, it was imperative to expand the city. As the city was narrow and close geographically, surrounded by undulating hills, the city planning workers were having a hard time finding out the correct way of expanding the city.

Pointing at the Yonphung-dong residential district along the road on the banks of the Puk River, the President said that two streets could be laid by building another road behind the district, and that it should be good to build another block at the foot of the hill. He indicated the Sokjo district across the river and said that a new residential street should be built in the area, mentioning that it was good to build a city astride

a river. Showing the Sokhyon district in the opposite side of the city, the President said that as he was looking around the place the day before, he thought a wonderful urban quarter could be built on the hill of the district. He added that as the district was not so high, the city would present a wonderful view if dwelling houses were built in it. He also stressed that no factory should be built but dwelling houses, schools, shops and other service facilities should be built on the hill of the district to make a residential quarter of it. Earlier, as the district was placed on a good location, the city planners had intended to construct factories and enterprises together with dwelling houses in it and the relief map had been made accordingly.

Kang Hye Ok

► my life is May 11, 1982 when President Kim Il Sung received me. Approaching the place of reception I saw him standing in the hallway to welcome me. I went up to him in haste and made a bow. Kim Il Sung gave me an embrace with a bright smile. It was our first meeting, and yet I could feel the care of the teacher for his student and the affection of the parent for his children.

On the occasion I told him all in my mind—how I as orphan had been subjected to the lowest level of the human life's ladder, how I had roamed about spiritually in search of truth, and how I had come to worship the Juche idea.

I said, "Your Excellency President, I am now convinced that the social and political integrity is essential for a human being. I don't have any idea of my father, and I deem it my honour to say you have given me a true life."

Casting generous glances at me, the President said he had got another revolutionary comrade that day and that he regarded me as an eternal revolutionary comrade of his. Then he stood up and raised a toast to me. I was overwhelmed by thankfulness, and shed tears of happiness for the first time in my life.

I saw the President for the last time on April 15, 1994 when he celebrated his 82nd birthday. I found him virile, but in July that year I heard the news of his demise, which was like a bolt from the blue. Tears of grief and bitter wails filled the world.

Kim Il Sung made a formal definition of the ideal of mankind—who had been wandering spiritually for thousands of years—as Juche, and led them all to the green hill of independence. He was just the centre of the universe.

*Dr. Inoue Shuhachi,
International Kim Il Sung
Prize winner, Chairman of
the International Institute
of the Juche Idea Board
of Directors*

He Was Incarnation of Humanity

My family has a valuable thing, which is a silk Korean dress. That was what President Kim Il Sung gave to my mother as gift.

When I visited Korea for the first time and met the President, he, on learning I had old mother at home, kindly asked me to bring her to Korea on my next visit to the country. As he said, my mother and I paid a visit to Korea together the same year. Kim Il Sung was so kind that he received us and gave us a luncheon though he was quite busy.

Later he met us several times. Learning that my mother had something wrong with her leg, the President was very worried and made thorough arrangement for treatment.

In September 1987 my mother and I were on a visit to Pyongyang, when she was going to celebrate her birthday.

I respect my mother, an unusually humble and frugal

woman. She had had a lot of trouble to assist my father and me in our struggle against fascism.

As she was going to celebrate her birthday in an alien land far from her country, I made unusual efforts for the celebration.

But, to all my surprise, President Kim Il Sung, remembering my mother's birthday, sent birthday cake with the pattern of magnolia, national flower of Korea, to us at our guest house. And on the birth anniversary he was kind-hearted enough to visit us at our lodging. Wearing a bright smile he congratulated her on her birthday and gave a precious gift, which would be a good memento all her life. The gift included a Korean silk dress. That day my mother shed lots of tears overwhelmed by her gratitude for the President's care. Even in her deathbed, too, she murmured about her longing and gratitude for the President who was endowed with great love for human beings.

Indeed, Kim Il Sung was rather a man of humanity than head of state of a country.

The Koreans are susceptible to tears, and this is not because they are an enthusiastic, sensitive and emotional nation. Because the legendary loving care of President Kim Il Sung has settled in every heart the Koreans are often seen shedding tears of happiness and thankfulness.

*Jiancarlo Elia Valori,
secretary general of the
Institute of International
Relations, Italy*

Preparations for a Bloody Battle

THE KOREA TODAY editorial board introduces excerpts from President Kim Il Sung's reminiscences "With the Century."

Our efforts to found the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army faced difficulties from the beginning. The questions of cadres, weapons, military drill, provisions, the mass foundation and relations with the national salvation army, as well as many other questions of a military and political character, were raised and awaiting solution.

In forming the armed units we considered cadres and weapons as the most essential two elements. But we were short of them both.

By cadres we mean those who were prepared militarily and politically. We needed young people who understood politics and military affairs and were ready to fight in arms for the country and people for a long time.

In the national liberation revolution in colonies it is impossible to make people take up arms by means such as a mobilization order or a system of obligatory military service. In the revolution the appeal of the leader of the revolution or farsighted people replaces the law, and the political and moral awareness and militant enthusiasm of each man decides his voluntary entry into the army. The masses take up arms for their liberation of their own accord without the request or direction of anyone else. It is an act natural to the people who regard independence as their lifeblood and are ready to devote their lives to it.

Based on this principle, we began to search for people to be enlisted in the guerrilla unit in Antu and the surrounding area. In the paramilitary organizations such as the Red Guards, the Children's Vanguard, the worker pickets and the local shock brigades there were many sturdy young people who wanted to join the army. Paramilitary organizations grew fast and young people were awakened ideologically beyond recognition in the stormy harvest and spring struggles.

With the training in the Red Guards, the Children's Vanguard, the Children's Expeditionary Corps and other paramilitary organizations being intensified and their ranks built up, dozens of reliable young people who were prepared politically and militarily were rallied around us. We selected those who were working in the various counties along the River Tuman and the young people tempered and seasoned in the harvest and spring struggles and called them together in Antu. Many young people came to us from different parts of Manchuria, including Antu and Dunhua.

The formation of these guerrilla groups was attended with a bloody struggle to acquire weapons. The struggle was beset with great difficulties.

The Japanese aggressor army steadily increased the fighting ability of their ground, sea and air forces by supplying them with modern arms and other equipment mass-produced in their own country, whereas we had no home front to provide weapons nor money to buy rifles. What we needed was not cannons and

tanks but, for the time being, rifles, pistols, grenades and other light arms. If our country had had factories producing weapons, we could have acquired them with the help of the workers. But our country did not have such factories. Unfortunately, in arming ourselves we did not benefit from the industry of our country.

That was why the grim slogan "Let's take the enemy's weapons and arm ourselves!" was adopted.

On returning to Antu I dug up from the ground the two pistols which my father had entrusted to my mother. I said to my comrades, as I held up the two pistols:

"Look, these are the pistols my father left for me. My father did not serve in the Righteous Volunteers or in the Independence Army, but he had these pistols with him until the day of his death. Why? Because he considered the armed struggle to be the highest form of struggle to achieve national independence. My father's desire was to launch an armed struggle. When he left me these two pistols, I made a firm resolve to do what he desired in his place. The time has come. Let us start our march for independence with these two pistols to help us. Now we have two pistols, but think that one day they will have multiplied to two hundred, two thousand and then to twenty thousand. With 2 000 rifles, we will be fully able to liberate the country. Let us multiply these two pistols into two thousand and then twenty thousand rifles."

I felt a lump in my throat at the thought that my father had died an early death without realizing his aspiration, and I could

► speak no more.

The struggle to obtain arms was waged vigorously in a mass movement all along the River Tuman. The revolutionary masses, irrespective of age and sex, with members of the guerrilla group, the Red Guards, the Children's Vanguard and the local shock brigades in the van, waged a brave battle against the Japanese aggressor army, the Japanese and Manchukuo police, the pro-Japanese landlords and the reactionary bureaucrats to take their weapons from them under the slogan "Arms are our life-blood. Arms for arms!"

The struggle to obtain arms was a prelude to an all-people war of resistance. All the revolutionary organizations and the entire people roused themselves to the struggle and enlisted in it. As the revolution required arms, the masses came out in the struggle to obtain them without hesitation. In the course of this they were awakened ideologically, and they came to realize how great their strength was.

Our slogan that one should obtain weapons for oneself proved its great vitality everywhere.

Needless to say, in the course of struggle we lost many revolutionary comrades. Each rifle we obtained was imbued with the warm blood and the ardent patriotism of our revolutionary comrades.

At the same time we launched the struggle to make weapons for ourselves under the slogan of self-reliance.

At first we made spears and swords at smithies. Then we made pistols and bombs.

If a writer were to collect episodes about the unexcelled spirit of self-sacrifice, boldness, wit and creativity our people displayed in their struggle for arms and give a

vivid portrayal of them, it would make an epic story. A simple people who had been worked hard as cheap labour for tens of thousand years, plunged in the darkness of ignorance and illiteracy and were suffering the sorrow of a stateless nation shedding tears of blood, deeming it to be their fate, finally embarked on the path of the noble liberation struggle to forge their own destiny.

We paid special attention to laying a mass foundation for the anti-Japanese armed struggle while pushing ahead with the preparations for building active revolutionary armed forces. It was an essential demand of our developing revolution to awaken and ceaselessly temper the masses in the practical struggle and prepare them thoroughly for the anti-Japanese war. Their voluntary enlistment across the country in the anti-Japanese war was a guarantee for ultimate victory in the war.

The work to make the people of east Manchuria revolutionary in the flames of the spring struggle developed to a new high. The Korean communists persistently enlightened and educated the masses by going among them in spite of the intensified offensive of the counterrevolution against our revolution. The mass organizations kept the door to the masses wide open and steadily tempered them in a practical struggle.

But the work was not smooth sailing everywhere. In one case several revolutionaries laid down their lives to make a village revolutionary. At times revolutionaries had to tolerate intolerable insults and the mistrust of the people, without revealing their identity.

Such was my experience in Fuerhe village.

Fuerhe is an important village occupying a key position on the road from Antu to Dunhua. Free travel between Dunhua and south Manchuria was impossible without passing this village. Without making the village revolutionary it would have been impossible to ensure the safety of Xiaoshahe, Dashahe, Liushuhe and other nearby villages.

The organization sent several able political workers there, but all of them, one after another, met with failure.

So I volunteered to go to Fuerhe.

The rumour went round the village that I was good at my work. The people in Fuerhe took me for a meek farmhand. When the well iced over, the village women waved to me to come and break the ice. I did what they asked with good grace. I did so because if the village people gave me more work to do, I would look more like a farmhand. If I did what they asked of me creditably, it would have been harder for secret agents to recognize the revolutionary in me.

I once went to Fuerhe at the head of a unit after forming the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army. Riding to the village on horseback I, the commander of the guerrilla unit, stopped there and held a mass meeting at which I delivered a speech. Seeing me, the people were extremely surprised.

When she saw me riding my horse again after my speech, one woman who had waved me over to crush the ice exclaimed in surprise, "Dear me! Isn't that the young farmhand who was once in our village? He's become the commander of the guerrilla army!"

The difficulties in our way were overcome in this way. □

Growing Sci-tech Enthusiasm

LAST YEAR THE WORKERS OF THE Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex produced a subway electric train by their own efforts and wisdom. In November last year the national leader Kim Jong Un took the new electric train at Kaeson subway station and rode it past several stations, saying that the ride on the new subway train was comfortable, giving a safe and reliable feeling, and that people would be very much pleased when they rode the train made by the Koreans' own efforts and technique. He added that the new train of the Korean style was a fine fruit of the workers' struggle waged under the revolutionary banner of self-reliance with the belief that modernization meant home production. He further said he felt convinced that everything could be produced if they relied on their own powers and science and technology.

In Korea now, the line of giving prominence to science and technology has been set out and great efforts are made to develop science and technology, with the result that wonderful successes are achieved.

The scientists of the Pyongyang Biotechnology Research Centre have made bio-agrochemicals highly effective for agricultural production, animal husbandry, fruit farming, horticulture and afforestation, harmless to human body, soil and ecological environment, and built up sterilized, dust-free and unmanned production processes capable of mass-producing bio-agrochemicals. The scientists and

technicians of the Korea graphite development and exchange agency have invented an electric brush with natural graphite rich in the country, and its home production has started, marking a new stage in its production. The natural graphite brush invented by them earned an international standard last year.

The sci-tech development in Korea is aimed at further consolidating the foundation of the independent national economy, and this is a work embracing not only scientists and researchers but also all the producers. The Korean people are firmly determined to break through the frontiers of science and technology by their own efforts and build an economic power unperturbed by any kinds of blockades, economic sanctions and upheavals by running a hundred paces when others go one pace. With the workers of the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory, scientists and technicians established an inter-

A newly-developed underground train.





The exhibition of sci-tech achievements of youth and students in commemoration of the 70th founding anniversary of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League in January 2016.

▶ graded multidimensional production system and made all processes from materials input to production, packing, storing and delivery automated and unmanned in ten months. In the Pyongyang Catfish Farm scientists from the State Academy of Sciences established an integrated production and management system covering the fodder production process, electric power control system and business management, mechanized the process of catching fish and modernized many other processes such as of feeding and additives production, opening up broad vistas for increasing the production of catfish radically.

When the modernization of the major production processes of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex came to the fore as an immediate task, it appeared hardly possible to start on the job while going on with the production of iron and steel with the worn-out equipment of the giant industrial setup. However, the workers of the complex set to work with the help of scientists, teachers and researchers from the State Academy of Sciences, Kim Chaek University of Technology and Chongjin University of Mining and Metallurgy and the officials of the State Commission of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry. Working out difficult scientific and technical problems in concert with the latter, they modernized and introduced CNC technology into over ten processes like the hot rolling process, making it possible to produce high-quality rolled steel while saving a large amount of electric power, materials and labour, and realize home-production of major equipment and materials which had been

imported from abroad before.

The Korean people's great concern about the country's sci-tech development is clearly shown by national sci-tech festivals and sci-tech paper readings and exhibitions. Not only scientists and technicians but also working people of the country took part in the 30th national sci-tech festival last year which had scores of subcommittees covering agriculture, light industry, fishery, biology, basic sciences, energy, CNC, information, construction, land and environment conservation and medicines. At the festival proposals were made and latest sci-tech products were displayed for the sake of developing agriculture, animal husbandry and fishery by closely combining science and technology with production and using domestic material resources and technical skills and also for putting the equipment and production processes on a CNC and unmanned basis. In addition, a large number of valuable inventions and treatises authored by workers at the production sites were made public at the national invention and new techniques exhibition, national sci-tech paper reading and exhibition in the green architectural technological sector, the national sci-tech paper reading of the mushroom farming field and other exhibitions and symposiums.

The Korean people's enthusiasm to break through the frontiers of science and technology is running still higher to greet the coming 7th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with great successes in production.

Sim Chol Yong

The Story Told by Two Researchers

THIS REPORTER OF *KOREA Today* visited the Microbiology Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences to find out how they had helped the Pyongyang Catfish Farm to increase its yearly yield two times.

When I asked the head of the institute about the researchers who had developed new feed additives to increase the fish output at the Pyongyang Catfish Farm, he told me they were researchers of the enzyme and genetic engineering research rooms. Kwon Yong Jin, head of the enzyme engineering research room, was just over 40. He attributed the credit for the new additive to the genetic engineering research room and told me about the feat of that room.

The new feed additive made by them was red yeast. Five years ago they started the study of feed for the cultivation of marine animals. Two years later, they completed the study and set about the research on feed additives for fish culture. At the time, primary feed for sea cucumber, shellfish and other kinds of fishes in their larval and infant stages was insufficient. The researchers of the

room exerted great efforts and finally succeeded in making red yeast rich in protein to raise the rate of survival of young sea cucumber, shellfish and other fishes from 10~40% to 50~70% and the rate of growth to 120%. The red yeast expedites the growth of fishes by preventing their contraction of diseases in the larval and infant stages, raising their immunity and promoting their nutrition.

As a high-potency antioxidant and effective colourant, the red yeast has bright prospects for use in medicine and fish farming, Kwon said and went on, "In a football match, strong backs will allow the forwards to dash ahead to score goals without anxiety. The genetic engineering research room can be likened to our reliable backs, for they raise the rate of survival of young fishes and their immunity." No sooner had he finished speaking than Ri Yong Jin, head of the genetic engineering research room, entered. "There you go again, talking of your dear football backs!" he bantered. Then, he shifted the topic to the work of the enzyme engineering research room.

Their researches had been carried on for eight years. Their goal was to produce leaven, a biological product so far imported, by their own efforts. They set it as an important task to raise to the maximum the function and role of leaven that had a wide use in stockbreeding, sericulture, poultry farming as well as fish culture. Another task was to secure safety in its use and storage. They visited many food-stuff factories and stock and fish farms to get suitable leaven. They researched on it widely in literature and held collective discussions frequently. They finally made compound enzyme preparation. It promoted fattening by increasing the rate of digestion and absorption of feed, resisting power to diseases and immunity. Further, it had no adverse side effect. It hastened the growth of fishes with a small amount of feed and could be stored for more than three years in addition to raising the coefficient of feed utilization. The feed additive was good for improving the quality of water of fishponds.

Ri said with a smile that the forward was too fast to keep pace with. I asked him how they were so well aware of the other room's work. He said, "The new feed additives we have made are different only in their time of use. But they are identical in increasing the production of fish by refashioning the production processes in a domestic way by our own efforts, our own techniques and our own resources. After all, the offensive and defensive positions have been firmly built. This will lead to a winning score. We scientists have faith as one in this truth."

Kim Un Chol



Eight Wins and Teachers

IN RECENT YEARS STUDENTS of Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 have won eight running victories in the International Mathematical Olympics. When they are asked how they have won, they answer that their successes are attributable to their teachers Ham Yong Chol, Yom Ryong Gol and O Kwang Nam.

His Wish

Doctor Ham Yong Chol spent his childhood in a coast village in Sinpho. Staid and careful in everything, he had a distinctive quality. It was that he would regard everything he saw in relation to mathematics. When his friends were rejoicing over the beauty of flowers, he was lost in counting their petals, and often ran out to the coast with a metre rule to measure the heights of the wave. Later, as he grew older, he won in national mathematical competitions many times and he was praised by his villagers and teachers as a talented boy. When he entered Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1, people predicted that he would be an eminent mathematician. But he became a teacher after graduating from a university. When he was asked by his friends if he was not sorry to have become a teacher, he said, "I have no regret. I have chosen this road to do my obligations to our social system and my old teachers who fondly looked after me to bring my talent into full bloom." Today he is doing his best to rear able students, feeling a great pride in his works.

Strict Teacher

Mathematician Yom Ryong Gol is known as a man of few words in the school. He is also well known as a strict teacher



O Kwang Nam, Yom Ryong Gol and Ham Yong Chol (from left).

among students. After graduating from the applied mathematics faculty of the Kim Chaek University of Technology, he became a mathematics teacher in the Changdok School. He has a motto as a mathematics teacher. It is to find out a correct answer to the question with a fast and novel idea. He gives extra marks to students who grasp gist of a problem and shorten the solving process. This is his basic method of marking. His principle in guiding the students is to steer them along the course of creative thinking and practice with few words in life and study. He says, "My pupils are still at an early age. But I always tell them that they can fully understand the world of numbers with their creative brains in spite of their tender years."

Real Key

To this day O Kwang Nam remembers Hwang Hyang Suk, his teacher at East Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1. She likes to speak about her old pupils. Especially when she recalls

O Kwang Nam, she is wont to say, "In those days I thought he was just an urchin." One day a selective examination was given and she presided over it. Some time passed after the examination started, when she spotted a boy playing with a pencil and drawing something with his finger. She went and glanced over his test paper. To her surprise, she saw all problems worked out in neat order with correct answers. She found out his play with a pencil and finger was connected with his mathematical inquiry. The boy was no less than Kwang Nam. He was of strong character and always came out first in academic competitions at the secondary school. He then entered Kim Il Sung University and finished its mathematics course with honours. When he became a teacher, he said, "Our teachers are at work all the time to raise their students above the world intellectual level. My life as a teacher will also be dedicated to that end."

Ri Chung Ho

Getting More Functional

IN JULY 2013 THERE TOOK place a technical consultation arranged by the southeast Asian regional branch of the World Health Organization (WHO) on telemedical service in Pyongyang, capital city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The participants specified three points as characteristic features of the local telemedical service system: Firstly, the system is in operation all over the country; secondly, it serves all the working people free of charge, not for any special class; thirdly, it has been established on a high level in a very short span of time. And they all agreed that if anything is thought helpful for the people, the state accepts it as its policy to bring it into effect and makes an unsparing investment into it.

The researchers at the Public Health Administration Research Institute under the Ministry of Public Health developed a new program for long-distance operation support system in 2012 and introduced it at over 220 people's hospitals in all provinces, cities and counties in April–June 2013.

So people can have access to the telemedical care wherever they are in the country.

On June 9, 2014, Kim Myong Chol, 32, resident in Jongju City, North Phyongan Province, hurt his head when he fell against a stone cycling down a hill. He fell unconscious and was taken to the Jongju People's Hospital the next day.

The surgeons had a consultation immediately to deal with the case. After making a general diagnosis, they conducted the first operation on him. But the patient still remained in a coma and his high fever would not drop for a fortnight. The doctors had several discussions but could not find a right cure.

Only after they had consulted

the doctors at the neurosurgery department in the provincial people's hospital, could they understand their mistakes. The operation had been so passive that they had been unable to remove hematoma completely, for they hadn't found the bleeding point.

However, they could not make a decision right away because they had no experience in the method of operation suggested and another operation by their conventional method might end up in an accident or infection. Formerly the surgeons at the provincial hospital would travel 120 km to and from Jongju for operations impossible for the local doctors to do for lack of skill.

After discussions, the surgeons of the provincial hospital made a decision that the surgeons in the Jongju People's Hospital would do the operation by themselves referring to technical assistance that could be afforded through the long-distance operation support system.

On June 29, the operation started in the morning and was carried out successfully in a short time. The next day the patient came to from his 20 days' unconsciousness, and turned for com-

plete recovery days later.

Han Chung Il, director of the long-distance operation support system at the North Phyongan Provincial People's Hospital, says, "The patient and his family were so moved. They chanted that our socialist healthcare system and long-distance operation support system are really great. And the medical workers in the Jongju People's Hospital felt so happy that they were convinced of the advantages of the long-distance operation support system through the successful operation which they thought was very difficult to do. They said their technical ability improved."

Thanks to active operation of the system, the number of patients sent to senior hospitals fell drastically in the country, and they can have their right diagnosis and cure in a short time.

Son Chang Ho, director of the aforesaid research institute, says, "We will continue to intensify our research to make the long-distance operation support system better and actively contribute to the improvement of the people's health."

Kim Tae Song

The telemedical service room of the Okryu Children's Hospital.



Laudable Table-tennis Players



Ri Mi Gyong.



Kim Hye Song.

IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC of Korea there are many girls doing their best to lead a worthwhile life. Among them are the table-tennis players Ri Mi Gyong and Kim Hye Song.

Request

Ri Mi Gyong from Wonsan, Kangwon Province, has played table tennis since she was six. Taking after her mother, table-tennis player of a factory team, Ri cut a figure as paddler when she was in primary school. Left and right drives, her merit, caught the eyes of coaches of the local juvenile sports school.

In the sports school her skill was improved remarkably. She won several national games and was well known to the people in the city as well as her neighbourhood.

Gradually she felt satisfied with her ability thinking she had no rivals in her school. Her parents thought a lot about her mentality. They decided she grew in only table-tennis skill but not in sportsmanship. The trouble got bigger when Ri heard she was expected to move to a sports team. She disliked going to school and played late in the evening outside with her friends. Now her father admonished her, "An old saying goes the body comes from the parents but not their mind. You may be accepted by a sports team since you are good at table-tennis, but I'm afraid you won't be able to succeed in anything with your present mentality. You don't know for what our players strive and why they shed tears when they have our national flag hoisted in the international arena. Without the love for the motherland you won't be a real sportswoman. That's what you should keep in your mind wherever you go."

Listening to her father Ri looked back upon her

past—her friends happy to see her winning honour in games, her neighbours visiting her with delicious foods to congratulate her on her bringing honour to the home village, her coaches working hard to improve her skill without having a rest even on holidays and Sundays.

From the next day Ri went to the sports school for training until she got admission to a sports team. The request of her parents became a motive to her. In the sports team she improved herself both in soul and body.

Weight of the ball

Kim Hye Song learned table tennis in a juvenile sports school in Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province. She had to tread a tough way to enter a sports team. She trained herself strenuously to become a good table-tennis player. In the sports team she carried out intensified training programme making great demands on herself. Well aware that exact performance of smart techniques enables her to win games as well as take the initiative, she devoted herself to training and spent her spare time acquiring knowledge about new technical attainments in the sci-tech diffusion room.

Last year she went to the World Team Cup Table-tennis 2015 together with Ri Mi Gyong. The pair came second in the team event and women's doubles. Kim felt disappointed. Her chief coach Kim Jin Myong said, "You're a sportsperson, and you should know the result in a tournament is just what you present to your country. Training a lot does not mean the win always. Put your heart and soul in the table-tennis ball, and you will be able to stand on the platform of honour." Though the table-tennis ball is light, ►

Family of Inventors

LAST YEAR THE NATIONAL INVENTION and new technology exhibition was held in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea and the 70th anniversary of the country's liberation. At the exhibition the inventions presented by Nam Chang Dok, chief of the Mechanical Engineering Editorial Board of the Higher Educational Books Publishing House, and his two sons were all prize winners, thus his is now called family of inventors.

Priority to the Country's Interest

Nam Chang Dok drew the attention of visitors at the exhibition for his corona-high-frequency-style electric dressing machine which is badly needed in the economic development of the country. There is an important reason why he developed the machine though he is neither a scientist nor a researcher.

In the mid-1970s he was assigned to work as editor at the aforesaid publishing house after graduating from the Kim Chaek University of Technology. He often went to the Komdok Mining Complex, Unryul and Jaeryong mines, and other places in order to compile teaching materials conducive to the education of the younger generation.

One day he happened to see a stream contaminated by ore dressing agents. The water was to be filtered in a settling pond, but he was afraid it might harm the beautiful landscape of the country in some way. So he was determined to solve the problem and buckled down to make a dressing machine himself. Visiting several machine factories he had discussions with experts and made several experiments. But his effort fell short of his expectations. Moreover, he was short of time, compiling teaching materials.

He, however, made the most of his spare time and obtained indices for standard design little by little. Later, he succeeded in making four medium-sized dressing machines in cooperation with the workers

and technicians of a special machine factory. His machines improve the grade of ore up to 40-49% from the usual 25-30%. The machine sorts out conductor, nonconductor and semiconductor materials by their



Dr. Nam Chang Dok.

electrical properties, thus saving much chemical agent, water, labour force and fund and bringing huge profit to the country while preventing environmental pollution.

Appreciating his effort the State conferred on him the certificate of registered sci-tech achievement, the certificate of new technological introduction and the DPRK patent. Besides, he has been awarded many certificates of invention, and has written teaching materials, contributing actively to the education of the rising generation.

Father's Request

Nam Chang Dok's eldest son Nam Kyong Chol is a researcher in the public health sector. After graduating from the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University he was assigned to research on blood. At first he was high-spirited for his job. ▶

▶ it carries the weight of the country's honour, she decided.

She tried hard to improve diverse techniques and skills and completed her own mode of playing in the doubles with Ri. Ri's high skill of strong left and right drives and Kim's high skill of good receiving and immediate counter-attack were in so good harmony. They won the women's doubles at the 22nd

Asian Table-tennis Championships held in Thailand from late September to early October last year.

Asked of the secret of the win, the girls say, "We have just tried to respond to the call of our country."

Today they are making redoubled efforts to prepare for international tournaments expected this year.

Kim Il Ryong

▶ *I'll surely become a good health worker of the people, he made up his mind.*

But the reality was different from what he had expected. At this juncture his father advised that he should always dedicate himself to others ahead of his own honour in order to do good things for them. Bearing his words in mind Kyong Chol exerted all his effort for the research into blood.



Nam Kyong Chol.

The blood which had been used before had a short shelf life with limited source of materials, and it caused side-effects occasionally because of different types of blood. To solve the problem he made strenuous effort. However, it was not an easy undertaking to pioneer an unknown world. Through tireless work he succeeded in making a new artificial blood which was rid of previous shortcomings in close cooperation with teachers and researchers of the Life Science College of Kim Il Sung University in the long run. The new blood can be mass-produced, and it has a long life. Moreover, it can be transfused into people of any blood type. All the materials used in producing the artificial blood are domestically available.

This blood has turned out to be very efficacious in treating hemorrhagic shock, serious anemia and hypotension, and it is expected to be used for wider-ranging purposes.

Second Son With Many Certificates

Nam Chang Dok's second son Nam Kyong Il has a nine-year career as a teacher. Since 2007 he has been teaching at the College of Food Science and Technology of the Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry, winning a dozen different certificates of sci-tech attainments.

His first certificate came in November 2009. It was a certificate of new registered teaching method, which he received for his applying a question-and-answer system into e-lectures; the system is of much help in improving the students' theoretical cognitive faculty. The most important of his research successes is that he developed a functional fermented drink. A foodstuff additive he made took first place at a national exhibition of youth's scientific and technological achievements.

In 2013 he developed a kind of fruit beer (apple beer called functional beer), whose manufacture is a global trend, and brewed the first trial product. Later, he succeeded in making fermented apricot wine and apricot-seed wine—functional fermented drinks—with unique taste and aroma. He says he came across the greatest trouble in cutting down the acidity in making those drinks. Through repeated experiments he identified the ideal, standard index at last. He presented the fermented apricot wine and apricot-seed wine to the national invention and new technology exhibition last year.

The two daughters-in-law of Nam Chang Dok's family are also researchers. When their certificates are added, the family will have dozens of various certificates.

Sim Chol Yong

Nam Kyong Il.



Worth of Distance Learning

WHEN YOU VISIT THE sci-tech diffusion room of the Chollima Steel Complex, your attention will be drawn especially to the data on major scientific and technological successes and the news on certificates of registered sci-tech achievements posted on the wall—construction of UHP electric arc furnace No. 2 and anthracite gas generator, and application of CNC technology to power management. Head of the room O Yong Gil says, “Our complex has registered many successes by solving scientific and technological problems arising in steel production by its own ability. This is largely due to the efforts of the workers who have received distance learning.”

A large number of workers of the complex attend lectures given

by the Distance Learning College of the Kim Chaek University of Technology through a computer network modernly arranged in the distance-learning lecture branch of the sci-tech diffusion room. Distance learning started in the complex only four years ago. The workers study hard by choosing subjects according to their jobs and apply the newly-acquired knowledge to practice. So, the number of applicants is on the increase every year. The management staff and worker-students say that distance learning is an ideal education system conducive to turning all people into talent well-versed in science and technology. In particular, they say in unison that they can acquire wide-ranging sci-tech knowledge of different engineer-

ings such as machinery, metal, materials and electronics, as well as business management, information technology and foreign languages.

Lectures are given by the heuristic method and it is emphasized for the students to fully understand what they learn at lectures. So, the distance learning is highly reputed. The students receive non-real time lectures without regard to frequency and length of time. Along with this, they all jealously attend real-time lectures where they raise problems hard to understand at lectures and solve knotty sci-tech problems at the work sites by means of question and answer. Meanwhile, they consolidate what they have learned in the process of solving assignments given through the computer network.

Ko Kyong Ryul, worker of the steel workshop, says, “Enrolled in 2012, I am now receiving distance learning in metal engineering. As I had no correct knowledge of



Natural in Korea

ONE OF THESE DAYS Han Yong Hui, manageress of the Taedonggang District General Grocery Store in Pyongyang, and her workers went to visit the Munhung Primary School in the district.

Headmistress of the school Ri Song Hui and teachers and pupils welcomed them who brought with them computers, TVs and many other things necessary for education for contribution. They are close friends now, not because they are in the same district but because Han and her workers are always caring for the school.

Here goes a story. One day Han, passing by the school on business, saw the playground being rearranged. She got off and walked into the headmistress's room to know how to help the school. The headmistress said no thanks to her, for the school was being supplied with everything by the district administration. Returning to her office, Han had a consultation with the workers. Then they sent weathered gneiss and salt to the school. When the nationwide work of equipping classrooms with intellectual facilities was going ahead, the store



Positive aid is given to education.

management helped the school sincerely. Asked whether it was her alma mater or her kids went to the school, Han says, "Our country spares nothing for education of children, and we should take responsibility for the school work ourselves, and it is natural, whether my kids are studying there or not. Successful education will make our country thrive and assure the happiness of our own."

Han, born into a teacher's family, well knew how great care and efforts the Workers' Party of Korea and the government di-

rected to the educational affairs. She herself learned at university free of charge and her husband is a teacher at Kim Il Sung University. That's why Han has been deeply interested in supporting the school though she was busy looking after the supply of foods to the local people. She also encourages her workers to take an active part in the work of helping schools. Now the store is counted as one of the best contributors in the district to the work of supporting schools.

An Nam Hui

► metals before, I would often run against a snag in my work. But today I come to understand difficult problems one by one through distance learning with the help of teachers and researchers of the Kim Chaek University of Technology and solve technical problems arising in production. It's really splendid!" Ri Yong Chol, worker of the lime kiln workshop, says, "Distance learning has convinced me that

knowledge of science and technology is indispensable for higher production results. I'm a second-year student now and I'll study hard by racing against time to contribute my share to the introduction of CNC technology into the production processes of our complex."

Last year a meeting was held at the complex to congratulate first 13 graduates of the Distance Learning College of the Kim

Chaek University of Technology who were different in age and occupation. At the meeting all of them made a determination to contribute to hastening the building of a thriving nation by applying their knowledge. More and more workers are improving their technical knowledge through distance learning and growing into able men of science and technology.

Kim Un Chol

Sixty-odd-year Career as Dancer



Hong Jong Hwa,
chief secretary of the
Central Committee of the
Dancers' Union of Korea.

HONG JONG HWA, KIM IL SUNG PRIZE winner and People's Artiste, was a dancing star with distinctive personal character and is a veteran choreographer. The career dancer, 76, is still cutting a prominent figure in this time of pulsation.

Unexpected fortune

Asked what made her choose a dancing career, Hong says, "It was for my mother and siblings, to tell the truth."

She was born in August 1939 as second daughter of a son-and-daughter sevensome of a railway worker in Jongju, North Phyongan Province. Since she was very young, she was pretty and quick in her movement. At the time the country was under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists, so her family was very badly off. Seeing his cute little daughter her father used to say, "If we've a good world in future, I wish Jong Hwa would be a dancer."

The good world came, indeed. After national lib-

eration in 1945, a dancing institute and a dancing school were established in Pyongyang. Hong, however, had to bear the burden of supporting her family because her father died. (Her elder sister was bedridden.) As the country was still in difficult economic conditions, her family's livelihood was also poor. For all the situation, Hong began to go to a dancing school at the age of 15 as her father had wished. She knew she would be able to support her family only when she learned dancing as soon as possible, so she trained hard day in and day out. She was always seen in the training hall even after lessons and regular training hours.

At last she graduated from the school and began to work in the then State Dancing Theatre. In June 1959 in the then Moranbong Theatre, there was a full-dress rehearsal of an art group to be sent to the 7th World Festival of Youth and Students in Vienna in July that year. In this rehearsal Hong danced a



solo *Delight* which vividly showed the image of the Korean women who were leading a happy life at the time free from all sorts of suppression and fetters they had been subjected to before national liberation. The dance also represented the life of her own. After performance she unexpectedly heard happy news that President Kim Il Sung had given her a big hand saying that she, though young, was a very good dancer and advising that she should be trained as a dancing star.

Now she felt she was the happiest in the world. She was too excited to go to bed that night. She recalls that that was the turning point in her life.

In later years the President saw her performance several times. He told her that establishing Juche in the arts means holding it most important to meet the Korean people's sentiments and tastes. He gave his blessing to her, wishing she would be an excellent dancer of the people.

She made up her mind to live up to his expectation.



On a foreign performance tour.

▶ Lasting flower garden

As dancer, she is of a small stature—158 cm in height. However, whenever people saw her dance on the stage, they were enraptured by her rhythmic movements, beautiful, graceful, elastic, quick and smart, and spared no praise. She referred the success not to her talent but to her presentation of the fundamental characteristics of the traditional Korean dancing art.

In the post-liberation years the dancers usually adopted slow and mild tunes. It penetrated into the minds of people unawares and made them regard it as the unique taste of the Korean dance. At the time the President gave an instruction that the Korean arts must be vibrant, constructive and revolutionary to meet the demand of the times and the Korean people's aesthetic tastes. In the 1950s the entire nation, under the wise leadership of the President, were vigorously marching forward for socialist construction in the spirit of Chollima.

Hong immersed herself in the realities with no hesitation. She visited the then Pyongyang Silk Mill to see Labour Hero Kil Hwak Sil who was famous throughout the country at the time. The mill was full of the workers' high enthusiasm. What was the most attractive was the workers skilfully reeling off silk threads while going and coming nimbly between lines of machines. She was taught by them how to work before the machines. In the course of this, she realized all movements including those of reeling off silk threads, linking broken threads and rolling thread-balls, and became convinced that if she wove these movements she could create a good dancing work. Her painstaking efforts produced the solo dance *Thread of Happiness*.

Not only dancing on the stage but also creating works are her forte as dancer. Later she worked as dancing instructor, head of the dancing department and chief of the dancing creation department, producing many works like *At a Break in a Golden*

Field, Kitchen Wagon Runs, We Are the Defender of the Fatherland and the Creator of Happiness and Grandmother and Soldier.

Over her 60-year-long dancing career she performed and produced more than 100 pieces. She gave four solo dance presentations. The country arranged her performance in celebration of her 70th birthday. The audience were surprised to see her dance on the stage, giving lavish praise for her youthful vigour despite her advanced age.

She is now the chief secretary of the Central Committee of the Dancers' Union of Korea. Three years ago she wrote a book titled *Lasting Flower Garden*, which goes in part, "Sunlight brings all sorts of flowers into bloom in this land, and the flowers make the garden beautiful. However beautiful they are, the flowers fade with the passage of time. This is the law of nature. But, in the garden of the Juche-oriented dancing art, full-blown flowers never lose their beauty and new flowers blossom continuously to make the world fragrant. This is a glory and happiness for us dancers unfolding the heyday of the dancing art under the guidance of the great leaders generation after generation."

Yom Song Hui

Hong's dancing presentation on her 70th birth anniversary.



To Keep the Traditional Korean Costume

SOME DAYS AGO KOREA TODAY interviewed Kim Myong Sil, head of the Korean costume section of a clothing research institute under the Ministry of Food and Consumer Goods Industries. Excerpts:

Please give me a general idea of the history of the Korean costume.

The Korean costume has developed for thousands of years in accord with the temperate climate of the region, the physical constitution of the Koreans, their preference to clean and graceful qualities, their livelihood based on farming, and their unique lifestyle whereby they like to live in floor-heated houses.

The national character of the Korean costume finds expression mainly in the colour. Our nation was known as *white-clad nation* from of old because they liked wearing white clothes. Worshipping the white as the colour of the sun they regarded it as symbol of brightness, neatness, honesty, purity and clarity. So the white clothes they wore traditionally for thousands of years became representative of our national clothes, which reflects our national spirit.

How can you classify the Korean costume?

Styles of the Korean costume have improved for ages, and they had been basically completed by the time of Feudal Joseon Dynasty (1392–1910). The main styles of the time are still intact. The Korean costume is mainly classified into the upper and lower garments, and into the outerwear and underwear. It is divided into men's and women's, into unlined clothes worn in summer, lined clothes in spring and autumn, quilted clothes in winter and also into everyday clothes, working clothes and full dress. Usually outerwear meant full dress and something of mark of class status in the past. The clothes were mainly made of hemp, ramie, silk and cotton and in later years cotton took an important position. Special dress was worn during memorial services. Typical of children's clothes are those worn on the first birthday and the 100th day since birth.

What kind of programmes are you pursuing to carry forward and develop the Korean costume?

The more the era and society develop, the higher the interest and demand of the people for their attire become. This requires us to intensify the research on the Korean costume. What is important in this respect is to have good knowledge of the history, geo-



Head Kim Myong Sil.

graphical features, culture and lifestyle of our nation and keep the advantage of the Korean costume permeated with the national character.

Colour is an underlying problem, I can say.

The traditional favourite colour of our nation is naturally pure, bright and graceful tone, instead of artificial one. The aesthetic sense of the Korean people formed through a long period, retains the character of our people who are optimistic and progressive with mild and decent disposition and likings to the qualities of clearness, neatness and brightness.

We are attaching importance to such colours.

At present, the women's aesthetic sense is developing rapidly and we are exerting our efforts to imbue the Korean costume with modern qualities without harming the original style of the national costume.

To implant modernity means refining the aesthetic elements of style and perfecting the clothes by satisfying the demand for depictive depth and diversity of the colour and pattern decoration according to people's age and season.

We are directing great efforts to the work of research on various kinds of convenient clothes of national character which are easy to wear in everyday life according to the socialist way of life. Recently in our country men are actively encouraged, as well as women, to wear national clothes. A growing number of people like to wear Korean costume in everyday life, to say nothing of in wedding and on holidays. We will conduct active research to develop the Korean costume according to the people's demand, physical constitution and likings. □

A Great Family

ONE OF THE KOREAN words of the highest frequency is “our.” The fond word of everyone, whether they are young or old, is expressive of the true image of the Korean society, where they live harmoniously helping and leading one another forward. Take for example Jon Won Guk’s family, resident in Kwanmun-dong No. 3, Rangnang District, Pyongyang. Five years ago, some strange women came to see them at home. Jon’s son had died heroically in a naval battle in the West Sea of Korea. Saying that they were paying a visit in memory of the son, Hero of the DPRK, who had fallen in the battle against the enemy, they offered lots of materials they had prepared with sincerity, such as various daily necessities, household articles and seasonal clothes. “Please consider us your daughters,” a woman said. Later they visited him very often, not only on holidays but also birthdays having a pleasant time with the hero’s family.

In March last year, the family saw a photo of a woman, who was familiar to them, in the local venue of election of deputy to the district people’s assembly. She was Sin Kum Suk, head of an organ under the control of the Rangnang District People’s Committee. She has her own children, and yet has been devoting herself to the effort to solve

the local residents’ problems in their living for several years. For such a nice official, Jon’s family cast a yes vote at the election.

As days went by, Kum Suk and her workers were more deeply concerned for the hero’s bereaved family. When they came to inquire their living conditions even at night, the hero’s mother was moved by their sincerity. “As we have people of this

People’s Army servicemen for a dozen years.

When one of the staff members asked Kum Suk to let their story known to the public, she said, “We’ve done it not because we wanted any honour. Our society is a family with our respected leader Kim Jong Un as our father. That’s why it is our duty to work for our great family. When the inhabitants in our district raise cheers for the Workers’



Managers visit Jon Won Guk’s family.

kind who think of others before themselves, our society is a large harmonious family”—this is not just a voice of a single family. Such a voice can be heard everywhere Kum Suk and her members visit.

They have afforded material and moral aids to a dozen war veterans, honoured disabled soldiers and dependents of the

Party of Korea, we can feel proud of our job.”

Now Kum Suk and her colleagues are fondly called “our directress” and “our sister,” and they are preparing a colourful performance to be presented on the coming anniversary of the founding of the Korean People’s Army.

Rim Hye Gyong

The Mobile Cage-net Fish Farm in the Taedong River



LATE LAST YEAR A mobile cage-net fish farm was newly set up in the picturesque Taedong River between Okryu Bridge and Rungna Islet, and now is visited by lots of interested people. The fish farm is tended by the workers of the Taedonggang Fish Farm and Breeding Fish Production and Supply Centre. They say they hit upon the idea of setting up the farm because the state was concerned about supplying plenty of fish to the people.

Fish-breeding team leader Kim Chol Nam says, "Our respected leader Kim Jong Un visited our farm in November last year and said that the mobile cage-net fish farm was a great reserve for solving the problem of fish supply to the people and, placing great trust in us, gave

instructions to produce fish in abundance so that people could benefit substantially from it."

At first, their fish culture was in a small way. In particular, they had little technical knowledge and experience about mobile cage-net fish farming and so their work made progress at a snail's pace. However, they decided to get rid of the old ways of work and to take a bold step forward and buckled down to establishing the new fish farm. At the same time, they pored over latest sci-tech books related to fish farming, and resolved problems arising in fish culture in the context of their practical experience. Along with this, they procured necessary materials for setting up the fish farm. At last, their efforts bore fruit and a mobile cage-net fish farm made an attractive appear-

ance in good keeping with the scenery of the Taedong River. It dispensed with pumping equipment and was capable of producing a large quantity of fish with less labour.

The fish farm with an area of over 1 600 square metres consists of many polygonal net cages for breeding various species of fishes, but it looks neat. The floating cage-nets have a good water environment so that the fishes can grow well. The fishes like silver carps, *Ryongjong* carps, carps and shellfish are put in different depths of water in keeping with their specific characters.

Further, the fish farm has a feeding system capable of preventing water pollution while economizing on feed. It also has an integrated maintenance sys-



► tem to measure water temperature, pH value and the quantity of oxygen in real time and automatically control feeding, times and hours of feeding, light traps and decorative lights net by net. The fish farm bears good fruit because it is favoured by warm sunshine and a large quantity of plankton.

They have solved the problem of power for the management of the fish farm by solar batteries and set up a nice resting place for the employees. While keeping the cage-nets in a good state, they carefully watch fishes in their movement and feed and take measures to prevent them from diseases in different seasons.

Fish breeder Choe Ok Chol says everybody is trying hard to get well versed in all technical problems of the fish farm, adding: "Whenever I think how to get the fish in the nets delivered soon to the people, I feel my work is very important."

Kim Kwang Myong

Immortal Youth

(Continued from the last issue)

WHEN PAK YONG SUN appeared at the senior-class table-tennis match of the Mangyongdae Prize Games, Pak Yong Ok and O Yong Suk were both surprised and delighted. They had all grown up in the table-tennis circle of the Namsa Middle School, Chongsong Workers' District, Sakju County. They were glad, proud that they were now all members of professional sports teams to enter for contests in senior-class games as former pupils of table-tennis coach Ri Ja Chong.

Nevertheless, Pak Yong Ok felt uneasy looking at Yong Sun. Because she would often have a hard time of it in contests with Yong Sun at school and county games in the past. Sometimes, she would win and other times lose the game to her. Yong Ok, however, concealing her inner feelings, held Yong Sun's hand beamingly for a good while. Tall and chubby, she looked kindly at Yong Sun who was still lovely as in her early days. She cracked a joke, "You girl of unyielding spirit, you've come trailing after me again. Well, you know my heart beats quick when I stand face to face against you in a contest from our schooldays."

"Because you often lose games to me."

"That's right. But this time I hope we shan't stand opposite to each other in the finals."

"Let's see how things will shape up."

"So, you mean to come up to the finals? You're headlong as ever."

They parted, and kept coming up by playing matches according to the schedule of tournament. But Yong Sun was eliminated from the tournament, beaten in the quarter-finals by Cha Kyong Mi who was the table-tennis champion for several years. When Pak returned to the sports team its head said to her and her coach Hwang Kon Dong, "Well, the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il saw a football match of our players recently and clarified a new principle of contest of our own style. He instructed us to wage vigorously ideological, perseverant, speedy and technical campaigns in sports games. It's completely a new competition method of our own. From now on we should fully implement the requirements of this method in training and matches. I think there'll be some advances in the national championships slated for late September."

"I see," Pak Yong Sun said firmly in high spirits. At that time she was a table-tennis player of the February 8 Sports Team.



Astonishing National Champion

In 1973 the national table-tennis championships was held splendidly at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium. It drew a large number of teams from across the country. Instructor Ri Ja Chong also came to Pyongyang with his pupils from North Phyongan Province. After seeing the junior-level tournament, he sat quietly on the seat watching the matches of Pak Yong Sun, Pak Yong Ok, O Yong Suk and Jon Pok Sun.

Unexpectedly, Pak Yong Sun won all matches with players from other provinces and the capital, and advanced to the finals, beating off O Yong Suk from the Amnonggang Sports Team in the semifinals. Seeing the matches of his former pupils, Ri could hardly contain his excitement.

▶ When Pak Yong Ok saw Yong Sun in the finals, she was somewhat confused, opening her eyes wide in astonishment. Yong Ok's coach Kim Hong Gi knitted his brows when he saw Yong Sun, a girl of sturdy build.

In 1968, Yong Sun at the age of 12 won third place in the junior-level contest of the national games. She visited the Amnok-gang Sports Team and requested to be accepted into it, saying she would be glad to be with Pak Yong Ok and O Yong Suk. But her wish was not fulfilled. So, Kim Hong Gi now thought if Yong Sun had joined their sports team at that time, Yong Ok would not have to confront her this time, and that either of them could be the winner to add to his success. He earnestly prayed for Yong Ok coming off the winner today.

The stadium was overcrowded with audience and experts, and they watched the match between Yong Ok and Yong Sun with great interest. As the two players were well aware of each other's merits and demerits, it was a close game, each now ahead and now behind with the gap of one or two points. Yong Ok was high-spirited at first, but she became impatient and over-strained in the end of the first round of match, losing the game by 18 to 21. The audience was struck with wonder at young Yong Sun's success of her last lightning drive, giving her big applause.

Pale with worry, Kim Hong Gi shouted to Yong Ok, "Be patient and cool in passing the balls. Your hand shakes when you hit the

ball. Strike the ball two ways, left and right."

Yong Sun's coach Hwang Kon Dong also called out telling her to keep up her spirits and continue with attack; he refrained from further advices because she played well, better than expected.

In the second round the two had a seesaw match. Yong Sun seemed to be excited and her last strokes fell out of the table. She lost the game by 20 to 22. In the third round Pak Yong Sun won by 21 to 19 with her smart drives. In the fourth round Kim Hong Gi kept shouting to Yong Ok in a fret, "Strike right!" Yong Sun seemed weak in the right-side defence, and began to lose points. Her right-side counterattack was not correct and the ball missed the table. Anxious to recover the lost score, she started to do rash left-hand drives. Almost half her strikes failed because of her whim and impatience, and she lost the fourth round of the game.

Before the fifth round, Hwang advised Yong Sun, "You grow fitful again. That makes you impatient. This is the last round. Brace up and don't get excited. Hold out and do good defence."

Yong Sun's left drives succeeded one after another. But she seemed to be less well prepared than Yong Ok mentally and physically, and she made errors in the end, losing the game by the score of 18 to 21. Though she mounted the platform as the runner-up, she showed no sign of disappointment. She was confident that she could beat Yong Ok next time.

In April the next year Yong

Sun advanced again to the finals in the Mangyongdae Prize Games and snatched the title of champion at last. This time Pak Yong Ok was unable to cope with Yong Sun's powerful and quick drives. The coaches and players of the February 8 Sports Team shouted for joy, their cries resounding through the indoor stadium. "Pak Yong Sun has won the national games!"

Yong Sun's victory in the Mangyongdae Prize contest caused a great sensation in the country's table-tennis circle just as the DPRK championship of Pak Yong Ok did. When the match between Yong Sun and Yong Ok finished, Ri Ja Chong ran down to the stadium's lobby in a flurry as if he were out of his mind. As he came down to the floor, Yong Sun and Yong Ok recognized him. Yong Sun ran towards and greeted him, "Master, how are you?" Yong Ok also did her manners to him, "You have come again!"

"I've watched your match. I've been deeply impressed, so I came down in haste. Yong Sun, congratulations for your win in the national tournament! Seeing your match, I thought you've made further progress. It's really surprising." With deep emotion, Ri embraced both of them.

A man feels proud and happy when he has done something good for society and the people. In excitement Ri Ja Chong looked back on the past days when he trained and reared the girls, his pupils, into sports champions.

(To be continued)

She Is Happy

AT THE SOSONG DISTRICT Restaurant Chain in Pyongyang, the cooks are good hands in making national dishes, in particular, four national dishes of Pyongyang like Pyongyang cold noodle, Pyongyang warm rice, mung-bean pancake and Taedonggang mullet soup. Kang Un Hwa, chief of the Janggyong Noodle House of the chain, was often praised for her nice dishes at national cooking festivals and shows.

Experts and participants say that her national dishes are distinguished for their peculiar tastes, sweet aromas and clear colours. For example, mung-bean pancake, a favourite food of the Korean people from olden times, is very savoury when it is prepared by her, which is popular among the people for its sweet taste, softness and nice smell. The characteristic of her pancakes is that they all look alike just as one in roundness, thickness and colour, for she has a method of her own in grinding, soaking, moulding and controlling temperature. So, the mung-bean pancake she makes is favourably commented upon by judges and participants, and her rivals shrink back.

Further, she makes Pyongyang cold noodle very well, better than all other cooks. From olden times, any traveller to Pyongyang would be sorry if he had no taste of Pyongyang cold noodle while visiting the city. To preserve its peculiar taste, she not only visited the famous Okryu Restaurant to learn from its cooks' experience but also went to the Grand People's Study House to read old national books about Korean dishes. Now the Janggyong Noodle



Kang Un Hwa (second left).

House is frequented by people to eat cold noodle she makes. This shows how exquisite her cooking skill is. She is said to get interested in cooking from her childhood, seeing her mother's kitchen work. In her secondary school days, she was often praised by teachers for her good cooking skills at girls' cooking practice lessons. Then, she entered the then Pyongyang College of Commerce as she wished and became a cook after graduation.

After marriage, too, she exerted efforts to develop national dishes. A stubborn practician with a strong spirit of inquiry, she got herself well-versed in a wide range of national dishes. For her tireless efforts, she won first place three times at national cooking festivals and shows held in Pyongyang, and one year, she was awarded a special prize and medal.

Meanwhile, she endeavours to make all employees of her restaurant masterhands in national dishes. Cook Kim Hyon Ok says, "Kang is teaching us her cooking

methods to hand down our restaurant's good tradition of national dishes. She improved our general cooking level remarkably in a short span of time by organizing technical seminars, demonstrations and competitions often according to weekly and monthly plans."

Kang Un Hwa, now in her early 50s and coming to maturing as a cook, displayed her cooking ability in the 20th cooking festival on the occasion of the Day of the Sun. Her national dishes displayed at the festival gained public favours for their peculiar flavours. Whenever the participants asked about the key to her success, she would answer, "I think it is my duty to retain the characteristics of national dishes that have come down over long history. I think that is why I cannot contain myself for joy whenever I see people like national dishes."

She is always busy but happy serving more savoury national dishes to people coming to her restaurant.

Pak Yong Il

Historical Root of Taekwon-Do

TAEKWON-DO, AN ORTHODOX martial art of Korea, is employed for self-defence—to overpower one’s rival and protect oneself from the rival’s attack using one’s foot, hand and all other parts of the body trained through spiritual and physical exercises, and without any help from weapons and instruments. Of the Korean word, *tae* means kicking or stamping with a foot, *kwon* stands for stabbing or breaking with a hand, and *do* means spiritual and moral standards and their cultivation.

Taekwon-Do is an indigenous martial art of the Korean nation with Pyongyang Thaekyon at the root of it. Pyongyang Thaekyon, which usually goes by the name of Pyongyang Nalpharam, comes from Pyongyang, and it is representative of Korean Thaekyon.

When Pyongyang was designated as capital of Ancient Joseon established by Tangun in the early 30th century B.C., Thaekyon emerged as the nation’s typical martial art. The government set up a state organ, called *Ungga*, which was charged with the mission of looking after both military affairs and development of martial art. The agency standardized

the martial art of the nation systematically and made efforts to develop it. This resulted in the birth of Pyongyang Thaekyon and its nationwide propagation, along with the coining of the famous phrase “A ferocious tiger out of the forest.”

Age after age Pyongyang Thaekyon has invariably been in a dominant position among varieties of the Korean martial art that was centred on Pyongyang. This was because it is a crystallization of the ardent patriotism and indomitable spirit of the Korean people who are unyielding to any ordeals and resolute in punishing injustice. The idea of Pyongyang Thaekyon found its way into the Korean Thaekyon as a whole, fully demonstrating the might in the sacred struggle for national defence.

Pyongyang Thaekyon is based on powerful foot-centred techniques to suit the physical merit of the Koreans with unusually strong back and leg. Some pieces of historical evidence are the murals in the Mausoleum of King Kogugwon of Koguryo (277 B.C.–A.D. 668), which was laid in Anak County, South Hwanghae Province, Korea in the mid-4th century,

and the Dancing Tomb in Ji’an, Jilin Province, China, which dates back to the early 5th century. These pictures show truthful technical movements of Koguryo’s Subak martial art. (The performers use their body as a whole for both offensive and defensive purposes.) According to *Koryosa* (Chronicles of Koryo) Song Jong So, officer of Kyon Ryong-led unit, beat a tiger to death with a naked hand when it suddenly appeared in the Uthachon Plain in 1102. And *Taedonggimun* (Record of Korea) says that in the early 17th century Kim Jung Myong, a military officer, kicked a tiger to death at a stroke when it showed up before him in a memorial service at his forefather’s grave. These stories are eloquent proof of the power of Pyongyang Thaekyon.

The orthodox Korean martial art is displaying its might in the world arena as proud and priceless cultural assets of the nation. It is drawing greater international interest now that it is an important event of international competition.

*Associate Professor
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Mt. Chilbo (3)

Outer Chilbo

DIFFERENT FROM THE beautiful and magnificent qualities of Inner Chilbo, Outer Chilbo is noted for slopes and valleys, strewn with enticing hills, fantastically shaped cliffs and rocks, and ceaseless streams of crystal-clear water.

In terms of the local features and sightseeing courses, Outer Chilbo is divided into a number of sections like those centring on Jangsu Peak, Manmulsang and Rojok Peak.

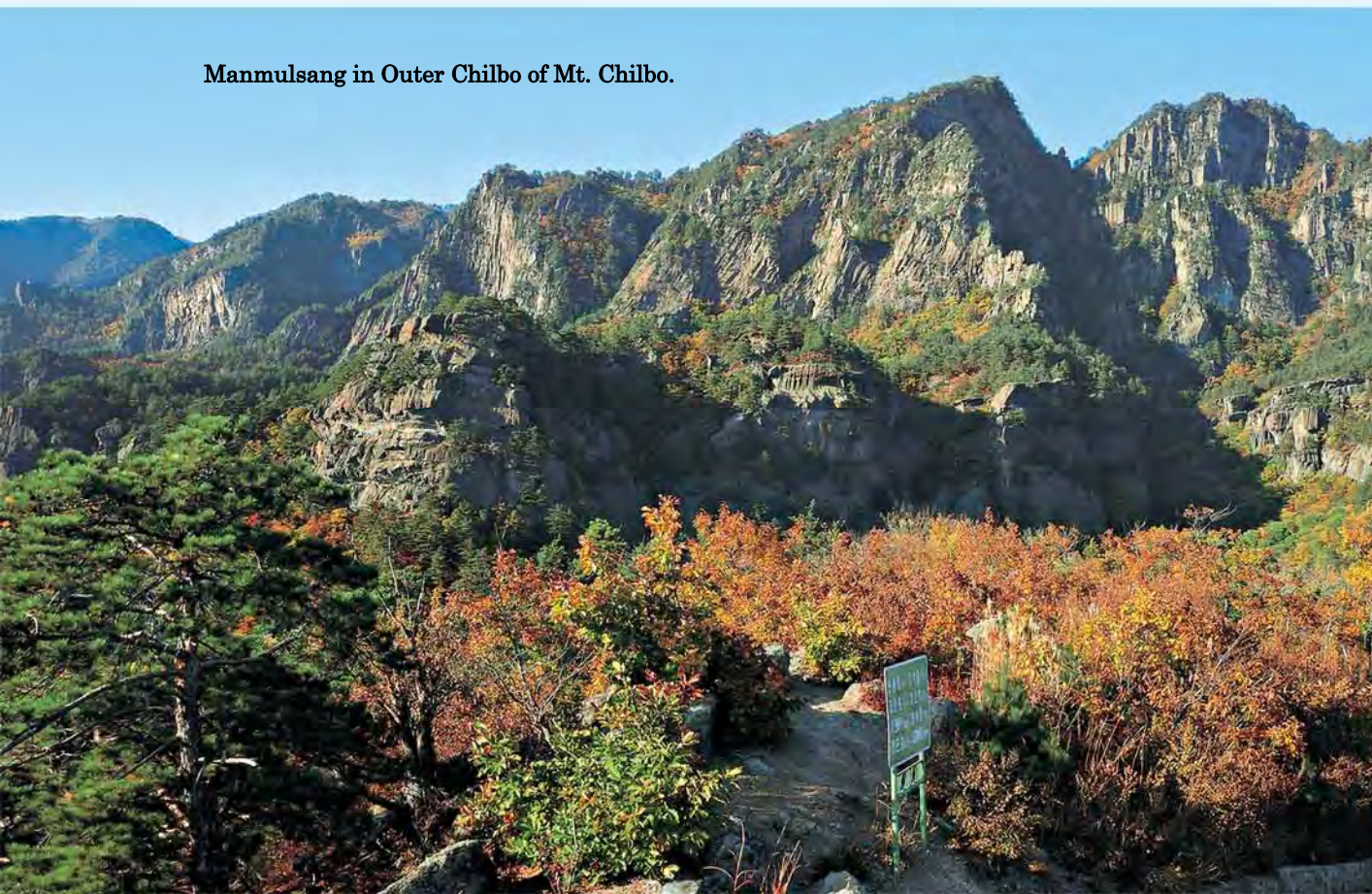
The Jangsubong section features Suri (eagle) Peak which is said to have been a habitat of an eagle, Jangsu (warrior) Rock which looks like a warrior standing majestically ready to mow down a formidable enemy at a

stroke, Kom (sword) Rock which is legendarily said to have been used by the warrior to sharpen his sword, and Okryu Pool which is said to have been the place where the warrior sharpened his sword. The section also has Mae (hawk) Rock resembling a dancing hawk, Maengsu (beast of prey) Peak looking like a horde of beasts of prey showing off their courage by a strange movement, Chonyo (girl) Rock and Chonggak (boy) Rock. Below Chonyo Rock lies a rock that seems to be a cat looking up at the girl. Chonyo Rock is just like the graceful figure of a shy girl in a raincoat, her hands tucking her rain-drenched skirt. Chonggak Rock looks like a taciturn and innocent boy standing awkwardly while proposing to a girl.

Shaped so vivid and real-like, the natural formation of Chonyo and Chonggak rocks catches the eyes of the sightseers who scrutinize them from all angles with a burst of guffaws.

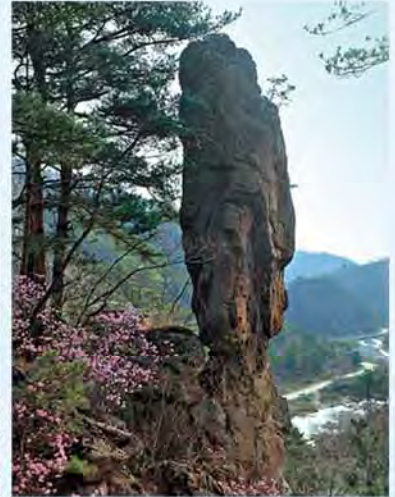
The Manmulsang section includes Manjang Peak named after its sky-scraping cliffy mass, the palace-like Kwolmun Peak, Janggun Peak standing ingeniously like a general in command of a million-strong army, Sungchon Peak which is said to have been the haunt of fairies who frequented to enjoy the scenery of Manmulsang or Myriad-shaped Peaks, and other peaks and scenic spots lying on their slopes. The local charm is boosted by Suthak (cock) Rock looking like a cock about to fly away with its head erect after having a fill of ▶

Manmulsang in Outer Chilbo of Mt. Chilbo.





Hwaebul (torch) Rock.



Sap (shovel) Rock.

▶ food, Chokhyol (arrow) Rock which is said to have been riddled by arrows shot by a warrior to learn martial arts, and Joyakdae which is a good point that commands an open view of the section.

The Rojokbong section has some renowned places like Rojok (heap of harvest) Peak looking like a high heap of rice bags, and

Kichi (banner) Peak with the name coming from its shape like a group of banners held high by standard bearers in the vanguard of a marching column. The scenery is more elegant with dwarf pines growing in crags of the peaks. On a ridge next to Rojok Peak lies a rock which is just like the figure of a peasant looking up at Rojok Peak with a greater harvest in mind. This section has a two-stage falls and a six-stage falls which is of paramount interest in the Rojokbong Valley. The six-stage falls sometimes cascades and sometimes drops vertically, and there are pools in each stage. It is particularly spectacular in the rainy season.

The Taphokdong section is well-known for its beautiful valleys and ravines which are counted as typical attractions of the celebrated mountain. Here water flows down in consecutive falls and pools. Some well-known falls and pools are the Ryongso (30 m) which is one of the biggest falls in the mountain and the oval Ryongso Pool, the Idan Falls formed in two stages, the Umnok Pool where a couple of deer is said to have haunted to drink, and the Chonu Falls which looks just like a shower.

Outer Chilbo has many other places of superb natural beauty.

Kim Tae Song

Nungin Falls.



Taejoyong, Founder of Palhae

IN THE MIDDLE AGES, between the late 7th and the early 10th century, there was a country called Palhae in Korea. As a powerful sovereign state built by the surviving tribes of Koguryo (277 B.C.–A.D. 668) in the former Koguryo territory, it existed for more than 200 years and was known to the world by the name of “Haedong Songguk” (Flourishing Empire in the East). Its founder was Taejoyong. Taejoyong (?-719) was born of a feudal noble family. His father was a military commander who had performed great feats in wars for national defence in the late period of Koguryo. Naturally Taejoyong was born with a clear head and good looks. He grew up into a man of stout body and clever mind. Nine feet tall, he was well versed in military affairs and wrote a good style. As a young commander in the Koguryo army, he won fame for his bravery in battles to crush foreign invaders.

But Koguryo, a powerful country for a thousand years, was ruined in September 668 due to the treacherous deeds of feudal bureaucrats.

Taejoyong was greatly conducive to the foundation of a small state “Jinguk” by helping his father who set out on the struggle to restore the ruined country. He hated Tang that had invaded and destroyed Koguryo and wanted to take revenge, but he got no good opportunity for it. In 690, he had a good chance to attain his aim. After Koguryo was ruined, its

innumerable surviving people dragged away by the Tang army and their issues, Khitans, Malgals and other tribes were greatly discontented with Tang’s cruel rule. While uniting the Koguryo people, he encouraged the Khitans to rise in revolt against Tang. In May 696, the surviving people of Koguryo led by Taejoyong rose up in revolt together with Khitans and Malgal people. Having taken the Yongju Fortress first, the Koguryo revolted led by Taejoyong captured many towns in league with Malgal people, preparing for an eastward offensive.

But a year after the start of the uprising, the Khitan people were defeated by the intervention of the Tujue army. Taking advantage of this opportunity, the invaders attempted to advance eastward to break the resistance of the Koguryo revolted. At this juncture, word came that Taejoyong’s father Taejungsang died of illness. But restraining all his sorrow, Taejoyong rose in the last decisive battle. The Koguryo people trusted and united around him. The Malgal people who had been defeated and scattered came to him swearing revenge. Feeling himself stronger now, Taejoyong made a combat plan to defeat the “punitive army” of Tang. Now he had as many as 400 000 men under his command. After studying the mental state of enemy soldiers and the capability of their commanders, he planned to employ the tactics of

decoy and ambush. After defeating the Malgal rebel army, the enemy was in high feather, carried away by their victory.

Early in 698, Taejoyong formed a decoy unit with 3 000 choice cavalymen and he himself led the unit. They allured the enemy by offending their commander or pretending to be routed in battle. The triumphant enemy troops came in hot pursuit of them. At last, the enemy men were lured into the Chonmunnyong valley. At the rumble of drumbeats a shower of arrows fell and big stones rolled down from both sides of the valley. The decoying unit turned back and attacked the enemy. In this battle known as Chonmunnyong battle in history, the rebel army of Koguryo survivors wiped out the enemy “punitive force” except their commander who barely escaped death.

The news of their victory spread to all parts of the land and swarms of former Koguryo people rallied round Taejoyong. At last, Taejoyong became the monarch of a great kingdom with a vast land and population. He developed the small state Jinguk founded in the area of Mt. Thaebaek into the great Palhae kingdom with its capital in Tongmosan. He became its king.

So, Taejoyong was a great talented military man who founded Palhae by dealing crushing blows to the foreign invaders who had destroyed Koguryo.

Pak Thae Ho

Accomplished Desire of a Woman from Jeju Island

IN 1735, THE PHYONGAN, Hwanghae and Jolla provinces of Korea suffered a great damage from floods. Rice and other crops were washed away and the people were visited by a severe famine. At this time of calamity, a woman called Man Dok living in Jeju Island donated a large amount of provisions to the state for the relief of the sufferers. Born of a rich family reputable in the island, she was now a widow past 60.

The island's magistrate immediately reported the fact to the Court. After a few days the Court ordered the island's administrative office to send Man Dok to the capital. The news that she was invited to the capital by the Court became the talk of the whole island. People spoke highly of her: "When she gets to the capital, she will probably be awarded a great prize," or "She may come into a big fortune."

Finally, the day came for her to leave and her relatives and villagers saw her off at the pier, regarding her with envy. When she arrived at the capital after a long journey, a young government official came to see her in the inn. He said the Minister of Culture and Education was waiting for her. She followed him through a crowded street to a government office enclosed in high walls. She entered a wide hall and saw the

minister sitting on a high platform before a large desk. She knelt down and made a polite bow. The minister, staring down at her, asked her if she was Man Dok from Jeju Island. She answered yes. After a little pause, he said with dignity:

"Listen to me. You have done a really laudable thing as a woman to have donated provisions for the relief of many families when people are starving. The Court regards your deed as praiseworthy and is going to award you by complying with your wishes. So, tell me without hesitation what you want."

A dead silence reigned in the hall for a moment. Man Dok adjusted her sitting position and said definitely:

"May I humbly tell you that my earnest desire I have cherished since my childhood is to visit Mt. Kumgang? I'd like to go and see the mountain."

"Oh!"

All the officials were surprised. Her announcement was beyond their expectation. The minister said, nodding, "Now I have come to know that your deed was due to your sincere love for the people and the country, not a big prize or fame. If you want to see the sight of Mt. Kumgang, arrangements will be made for you to leave for the mountain tomorrow. So, get back to your inn

and wait."

Man Dok made a bow and left the place. The next day she left for Mt. Kumgang changing the specially prepared post horses one after another. She finally reached the mountain and enjoyed the sights of Outer Kumgang, Inner Kumgang and Sea Kumgang. Her delight knew no bounds. She was captivated by the ecstatic scenic beauty of Mt. Kumgang with its grand and strange-shaped peaks and rocks, magnificent waterfalls, placid lakes and pools, white beaches with thick pine groves behind them. The wonderful views of the mountain brought back to her the memory of her father.

"My father was right when he said the sights of Mt. Kumgang will make people realize that our country is the most beautiful country in the world."

When she was a little girl, her father would often take her up Mt. Halla on Jeju Island and told her that their country is a country of scenic beauty and that Mt. Kumgang is the most famous mountain which the people all over the world envy. Since then Man Dok had cherished an earnest desire to see the sights of the mountain all her life.

This episode is enough to show how much the Korean people love their beautiful country.

Kim Myong Sim

Fundamental to Reunification

MORE THAN 70 YEARS HAVE PASSED since the Korean nation was split into north and south by foreign forces. The nation's long-standing division has been accompanied by the danger of war. Thanks to the foreign forces it underwent calamities of war in the 1950s. Scores of years have passed, but the country still remains in two separated parts, and the peninsula is the world's hottest spot arousing international apprehension.

To re-link the blood vessels and achieve peace and stability in the peninsula is a common desire of the Koreans.

It is fundamental in realizing the country's reunification to prevent the danger of war and safeguard peace and security in the peninsula. Today the peninsula has become the hottest spot in the world and a hotbed of nuclear war owing to the US aggressive strategy for domination of Asia and its reckless moves for a war against the DPRK. The US and south Korean authorities conduct large-scale military exercises aimed at a nuclear war against the DPRK one after another every year. This is precipitating a critical situation in the Korean peninsula and throwing serious obstacles in the way of improving inter-Korean relations. Last year's August emergency showed that even a trifling, incidental conflict between the north and the south may spark a war and escalate into an all-out war.

Over the past years the DPRK has made strenuous efforts to solve the problem of national reunification in the common interest of the nation under the ideal of *By Our Nation Itself*. Last year, greeting the 70th anniversary of national liberation, the DPRK, hoping to write a new chapter of the history of inter-Korean relations and open a broad avenue to independent reunification with concerted efforts of all the Koreans, made proposals of reunification and strived for their realization. On January 20 last year the joint conference of the DPRK government, political parties and organizations released an appeal to the entire Korean nation. On February 6 last year a meeting of cochairmen of the Pan-national Alliance for the Reunification of Korea representing the north, south and overseas sides took place. It adopted a decision on making a success of a joint national function to be attended by broad sections of the Koreans in the north, south and abroad on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the historic June 15 Joint Declaration and the 70th anniversary of national liberation, and turning it into a pan-national meeting for reunification which would promote great unity of the nation true to its name. This filled all the Korean hearts with a fervent determination to bring about another June 15 reunification era in the early days of the year.

The nation's aspiration to independent reunification grew stronger on the 70th anniversary of the country's liberation. Different reunification-oriented events took place: while Pyongyang was seeing a marching column for independent reunification leave Mt. Paektu and meetings held to renew the will for independent reunification, all within the framework of the national reunification conference in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of national liberation, Seoul and some other places in south Korea witnessed colourful reunification-destined events including August 15 rallies for one Korea and the meeting for independent and peaceful reunification.

In August last year when a touch-and-go situation was prevailing, a north-south high-level emergency contact took place and a joint press release came thanks to the proactive measure of the DPRK. This served as an important turning point in removing the acute military tension and saving the catastrophic inter-Korean relations. Following the issue of the press release separated families and relatives from the north and the south had a reunion; a north-south workers' football game took place successfully in Pyongyang for national reconciliation, unity, peace and reunification; an inter-Korean women's meeting was held in Kaesong for the same purpose. All this was a clear manifestation of the firm determination of the Koreans to write a new chapter of the history of inter-Korean relationship.

The DPRK's strenuous efforts, however, failed to yield due results. Owing to the anti-reunification elements in south Korea and abroad who are undesirous of improved inter-Korean relations, a number of north-south joint functions were aborted and the first north-south authorities' talks came to no fruition.

Through this development the Korean people keenly felt that it is fundamental in realizing their country's reunification to prevent the danger of war and safeguard peace and security.

This year, too, the south Korean authorities are aggravating the confrontation between the systems in the north and the south by conducting aggressive military rehearsals for war against the DPRK and resorting to anti-DPRK "human rights" campaign in collusion with the foreign forces.

It is a consistent stand of the DPRK to smash the challenges from the anti-reunification elements in south Korea and abroad and open up a new era of independent reunification.

The Korean nation's will to put an end to national division and open up a broad avenue to independent reunification by their concerted efforts is the last thing to be broken or checked.

Kim Hyon Ju

The Infeasible Fantastic Policy

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION OF America announced its policy of “strategic patience” against Korea several years ago. With each passing year, however, public criticism is mounting against this policy.

In November last year the Internet homepage of the UPI reported the remarks of experts that the policy of “strategic patience” cannot settle the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula and, furthermore, that it is an infeasible fantastic dream to expect an early collapse of north Korea. They also said it is ridiculous for the United States to expect that north Korea’s collapse will guarantee the safety of its nuclear arsenal.

This has something in common with the fact that in recent years displeasure with the present administration’s policy toward Korea is rising in America and that the policy research institutions are severely denouncing it as “a careless policy” and “a completely frustrated policy that has pushed north Korea toward consolidation of its system and possession of nuclear arms.”

After its advent, the Obama Administration adopted the “strategic patience” policy as its policy for isolating and stifling Korea which is essentially the copy of its predecessor’s hostile Korean policy, and has followed it intently till now. This is verified by the fact that it forced Korea to “abandon nuclear weapons first” as a “waiting strategy” and intensified the moves for suffocating the DPRK while isolating it militarily, economically and diplomatically.

The Obama government denied it the legitimate right of space development as a sovereign state, incited the UN Security Council to cook up “a resolution on sanctions” and carried on hostile acts against Korea. Along with this, America keeps bringing its aggressive forces to south Korea. On the pretext of “strategic flexibility” it continues to reinforce its armed forces in preparation for an aggressive war in the Korean peninsula. It is a common knowledge that “strategic flexibility” enables the US aggressive forces to rapidly deploy in any part of the world to go into a predatory war, with the Korean peninsula as

their main target.

To this end, in 2003 the US made public its arms buildup plan with the principal object of cyclic deployment of its latest quick mobile forces, and shipped up-to-date war equipment to south Korea in great quantities. Since then it has deployed its air corps in the US air bases in south Korea for four cyclic months. In 2007 alone the outmoded “F-16” fighter-bombers in the air base in Kunsan were replaced by updated ones under the name of cyclic deployment, and “F-117” stealth fighter-bombers stationed in the US proper and Europe and many other ultramodern fighter-bomber corps were also brought to south Korea. In recent years, a mechanized battalion, a chemical battalion, and other US troops swarmed into south Korea, and the deployment of mobile strike forces including a multiple launch rocket battalion and special forces of the 10th mountain division is going into practice soon. Along with this, thousands of combat troops are coming to south Korea.

The reality shows vividly how right it was for Korea to have built up its self-defensive power. The reckless nuclear blackmail and war exercises of America held in succession by the name of “regular annual event” have made Korea possess self-defensive nuclear deterrents; its missile threats have prompted it to have striking forces equipped with strategic and tactical rockets; and its senseless attempt to “strike Pyongyang” led her to develop means of precision strikes on America proper. The experts in international affairs are commenting that it will be to the advantage of the security of the United States to boldly abandon its stereotyped hostile policy against Korea and respond to her proposal for concluding a peace agreement.

Judging the reality reasonably and adopting a political decision suited to the trend of the times is a wise measure. The Obama Administration should correctly understand that its “strategic patience” policy is a complete flop and is speeding up its decline.

Kim Il Bong

Delusion of Japan

PROSPECTS AND DESTINIES of a nation are swayed by its political ideals. Wrong political ideas hinder development and prosperity of a given nation. This is the lesson of the events of the past century given to mankind. Those who have experienced the horrors of war are reflecting on the lessons of history that wars must not be repeated.

But until now Japan is trying to replay their old days. During the Second World War it inflicted irreparable injuries upon the Asian people. In this war of unprecedented deaths and destruction Japan signed the instrument of surrender. Japan was defeated in August 1945, and the international community expected the emergence of a new Japan, giving it an opportunity of revival even though it had a record of reckless aggression. A friendly and cooperative approach instead of aggression and plunder was what was expected of the country. So, "Pacifist Constitution" was adopted in the postwar years, which prohibited the nation's war and possession of fighting capacity.

But what did Japanese politicians have in their mind?

Their mind was full of revenge even at the moment of shedding tears for their defeat. Before they declared their unconditional surrender they attempted to keep the Emperor system as terms of capitulation. Their aim was just to revive their

militarism. They reckoned to implant the militarism in the head of the Japanese and make it an invariable spiritual pillar and political idea. The rightist and militarist tendency of society got strong while people who wanted to see their country break with militarism and make a new start were subjected to oppression and persecution. The militaristic poison deeply infiltrated the political, economic and cultural system, even reaching the cognitive realm of the people. Thus, in 1999, "Hinomaru" and "Kimigayo," bloody symbols of Japanese militarism, were declared as the national flag and national anthem. In 2000 the then Premier Mori went so far as to say that Japan is "divine country" centred on king.

The Japanese politicians make a fortune with distortion of history. Their foreign invasion used to be started with distortion of history. In the past the Japanese military authorities organized in the army general staff a group specializing in history distortion when they were preparing the invasion of Korea and fabricated a theory on "Mimana Miyake" (Imna under Japanese control) which argued that Japan had once ruled Korea. Japan's history distortion started with suppression and reduction in the mid-1950s, and led to total distortion, denial and praise of its history, being finally adopted as a state policy in the current cen-

tury. In the past the argument on "Korean Conquest" led the Japanese people to hate the Koreans and now the rumor of "threat from north Korea" is spread to kick up the fever of war.

To justify their bloody history the authorities cling to the vicious amendment of history books and at the same time they are creating a social trend of praising it by means of literature and the art and media. As a result, mental monsters appear, who are mistaken that Japan's aggression of Korea and other Asian countries was "liberation war," and "righteous cause" that brought them "civilization" and "prosperity" and that their country is a "senior nation" instead of war criminal nation. Japanese politicians are trying to infuse militaristic poison into the younger generations who don't know about crimes of their senior generations, and make them follow in their steps. So the international community is treating them with scorn as politically and morally immature.

Long ago a writer said, "The humans are the only being that blushes or needs to blush." The Japanese politicians dashing along the militarist way and beautifying their filthy past want their new generations to be "leader" of Asia and dominate it. It is a tragedy that they don't know it is a fool's delusion that can't be carried out.

Kim Hyon Ju

Kaesong South Gate and Yonboksa Bell

THE KAESONG SOUTH Gate, standing in Pukandong, Kaesong, was erected in 1391–1393 and repaired in 1899. This heritage was burnt down in an indiscriminate bombing by the US imperialists during the Korean war (June 25, 1950–July 27, 1953).

Later in 1954 the gate was restored to its original state thanks to the government policy of keeping the cultural heritage in good condition and bringing the

historical remains and relics back to the original state in Kaesong, which is a time-honoured city with long history.

The South Gate consists in trimmed-granite-piled rectangular embankment with a pavilion on it. The central part of the embankment is cut through in the form of archway, which is based on stones and piled up with stones in a semicircular type. The embankment has a parapet around the top with different shapes of holes in it for firing guns. And the four corners are fixed with a facility to collect and discharge the rainwater. The eaves with the slightly rising end look pleasant in good harmony with the magnificent form of the structure, which boasts the outstanding architectural expertise of the Korean people.

In the pavilion on the gate there is a famous bell. Originally the relic of historic interest was made in 1346 during the time of Koryo Dynasty (918–1392) and hung in the Yonbok Temple in

Kaesong, capital of Koryo. After the temple was burnt in a fire accident in 1563, the bell was moved to the South Gate. It is 1.9 m in the mouth diameter, 3.12 m in height, 0.23 m in thickness and about 14 tons in weight. The body is marked with several bold lines in the middle to be divided into two parts, on which are incised Buddhist images, texts of Buddhist scripture, different patterns and the name of the bell. The edge of the mouth is formed in quite rhythmic curves with a streamlined inscription of fish, dragon and other animal shapes. In particular, the dragon-shaped decoration on the top ring is so vivid that it looks as if wriggling alive.

The bell has not only elegant, graceful and imposing outer decorations but also clear and beautiful sound which reverberates as far as scores of km.

The alloyed-copper bell presents good evidence of the metal foundry and metalwork of the Koryo people.

Pak Yong Il



