

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

(No. 724)

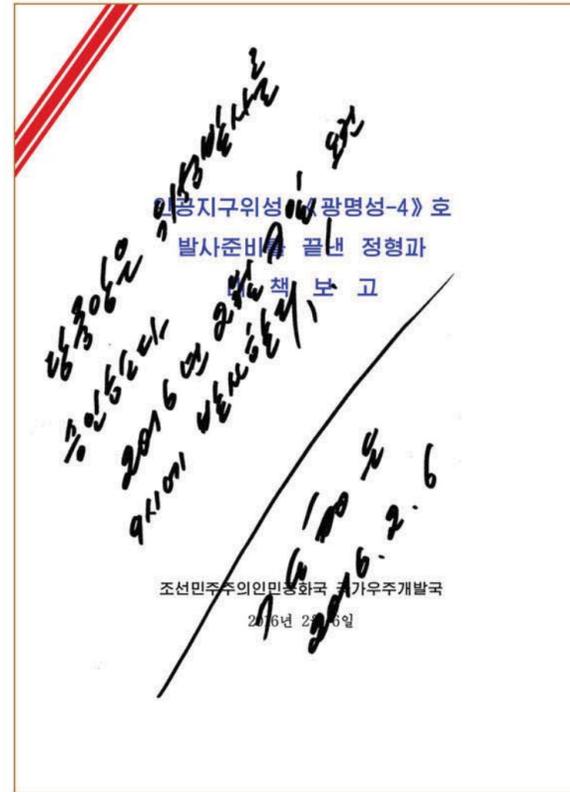
Juche 105
(2016)

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Supreme leader Kim Jong Un gives a written order on the launch of the earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong 4* on February 6, Juche 105 (2016)

The DPRK Demonstrates Its Might as a Space Power





Kim Jong Un gives field guidance over the launch of the earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong 4* [February Juche 105 (2016)]



NADA Report on Satellite Launch

The National Aerospace Development Administration of the DPRK issued on February 7 a report on the successful launch of the earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong 4*.

The report reads as follows:

The space scientists and technicians of the National Aerospace Development Administration of the DPRK have succeeded in putting a newly developed earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong 4* into orbit, according to the plan for 2016 as part of the National Five-Year Programme for Space Exploration.

The carrier rocket *Kwangmyongsong* blasted off at 9:00 am on February 7 at the Sohae spaceport in Cholsan County, North Phyongan Province, and nine minutes and 46 seconds later it inserted *Kwangmyongsong 4* into a picture perfect orbit.

The satellite is travelling along the polar orbit at the orbital gradient of 97.4 degrees and with the perigee of 494.6 kilometres and the apogee of 500 kilometres. And the period of its rotation is 94 minutes and 24 seconds.

It is loaded with measuring and communications equipment for earth survey.

The successful launch of *Kwangmyongsong 4* is a laudable result of the policy of the great Workers' Party of Korea of prioritizing science and technology and it also marks a remarkable event in boosting the country's science and technology, economic might and defence capability by fully exercising its independent right to exploit space for peaceful purposes.

With the Day of the Shining Star (February 16: Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthday), one of the greatest national holidays for Sun's Korea, drawing nearer, the Juche-oriented satellite orbiting wonderfully on track is the most sincere gift of loyalty prepared by the space scientists and technicians for their supreme leader Kim Jong Un, WPK, state and people.

NADA will send more Juche-oriented satellites into space in the future, true to the WPK's sci-tech-first policy.

February 7, Juche 105 (2016)
Pyongyang





Administration's report on the satellite launch was read out. It was followed by speeches. Speakers warmly congratulated the successful launch of *Kwangmyongsong 4*, the satellite of dignified Juche Korea, saying that it is a megaevent demonstrating to the world once again the dignity and might of the great Paektusan nation, and an auspicious success infusing great national pride and patriotic enthusiasm into the hearts of the service personnel and all other people.

They stressed that in the same manner as they demonstrated to the world the dignity and might of a space power under Kim Jong Un's leadership, they would accelerate the general march for the successful advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche and the revolutionary cause of Songun, pioneered on Mt Paektu, to celebrate the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea as a glorious meeting of victors.

On the same day there was a dancing party of young people at Kim Il Sung Square, a firework display decorating the sky over Pyongyang.

Similar army-people celebrations took place in provinces.

The whole country astir with the satellite launch, those who had rendered services to it had a good time in Pyongyang amid the warm welcome of its citizens.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA

Army-people rally held in Pyongyang to celebrate the successful launch of the earth observation satellite *Kwangmyongsong 4*

Successful Satellite Launch Celebrated

In August Juche 87 (1998) the DPRK's first artificial earth satellite achieved orbit and its fourth satellite *Kwangmyongsong 4* was put into orbit in February this year. The successful launch of the earth observation satellite augurs well for the future of the country that is making one signal success after another by giving priority to self-development.

In February the Korean service personnel and people jointly celebrated the auspicious event in Pyongyang.

Kim Il Sung Square and the plaza of the Tower of the Juche Idea overflowed with over 150 000 citizens. They were all full of national pride in being masters of the land of Juche, a powerful people that manufactured and launched the satellite by themselves, demonstrating the dignity and might of Kim Il Sung's, Kim Jong Il's and Kim Jong Un's Korea.

The army-people rally started with the playing of the song *Ode to General Kim Jong Un*. And then the National Aerospace Development



The news of the successful satellite launch brings great happiness to all the people



Kim Il Sung among the students of Tongju Senior Middle School in Pyoktong County [October Juche 46 (1957)]

Ennobling Affection for Younger Generation

President Kim Il Sung, endowed with warm love for children, devoted his whole life to bringing up the future generation of the country with parental affection.

In February Juche 35 (1946), when numerous problems needed to be resolved just after national liberation, he set pencil production as one of the agenda items of the First Session of the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea, in order to realize the age-old desire of the Korean people to give their children pencils for learning.

Still vivid in their memory are the painstaking efforts he made for the future of the country.

On his field guidance trips he would have his car stopped to meet the students walking nearby. He opened their schoolbags to see if they had notebooks, textbooks, pencils and erasers. Then he took prompt measures to provide all the children in the

country with plenty of stationery and textbooks.

In June Juche 58 (1969) he called a meeting of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to discuss the construction of schools. He told the officials that since they were parents, they should regard it as a meeting of students' parents and they must resolve problems arising in education. Under his close concern schools were built in a splendid fashion in both urban and rural areas. Even on islets and mountainous villages were put up branch schools, some for only a few students, teachers going wherever students could be found.

He spared nothing if it were for the education of children, the future of the country. He saw to it that the universal 11-year compulsory education was launched in Juche 61 (1972). He visited such schools as the then Pyongyang Taedongmun



Kim Il Sung visits Pyongyang Taedongmun Primary School [September Juche 61 (1972)]

Primary School and Tonghyon Primary School in Kaesong, seeing the pupils' counting and handwriting and inquiring in detail about their problems with parental affection.

He said that he would feel freed of all worries if only he could see children well dressed and fed. He set it as an important policy of the state to provide students across the country with new school uniforms on a yearly basis.

On a winter day in Juche 52 (1963) he was passing a mountain village, when he saw a few children playing by a road. He was sad that they were not wearing overcoats. Soon afterwards, he called a meeting of the Political Committee of the WPK Central Committee to discuss the issue of clothes for the students and other children in rural communities, taking measures to provide all the children in the countryside with overcoats free of charge.

He was most delighted when he was seeing children in new uniforms every year.



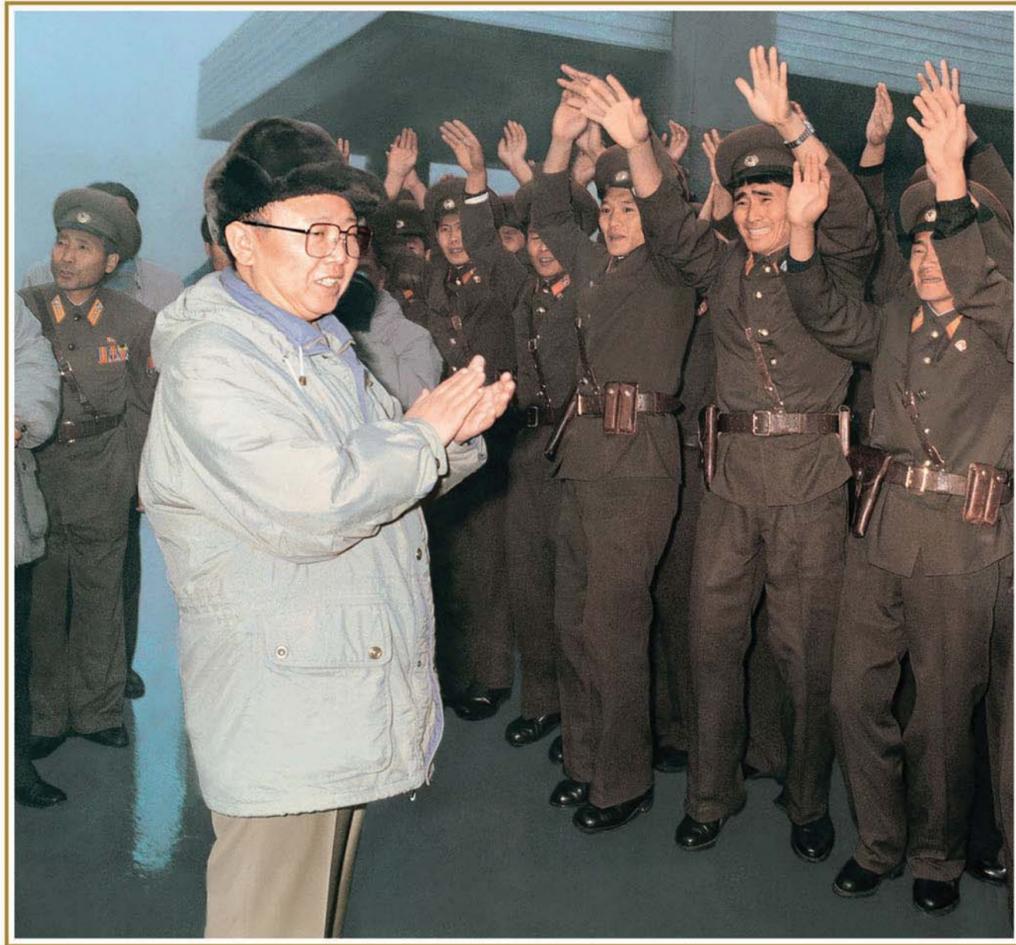
Kim Il Sung has taken pictures of the students in new uniforms [April Juche 66 (1977)]

In April Juche 66 (1977), in spite of his tight schedule for field guidance, he visited the then Yonphung Senior Middle School. In that year new clothes were supplied as presents to the six million children and students of the country. So pleased to see the happy children in new uniforms standing in the playground, he began to take pictures of them one by one. Quite a long time passed, and he took his eyes off the camera, saying **"I cannot see clearly now."** He took off his glasses, looking up to the blue sky for a good while. The officials in his company and the teachers were moved to tears.

The Korean people will never forget the benevolent leader who devoted himself entirely to the well-being of his people and the bright future of the country, and hand down his great exploits through the generations.

Article: Jong Kyong Bok





Kim Jong Il inspects the army post at Panmunjom where acute tension persists [November Juche 85 (1996)]

Songun Commander and National Dignity

Now the Korean service personnel and people are greeting a golden age in which the country's dignity and might have been raised to the highest level.

As April 9 this year marks the 23rd anniversary of the election of Kim Jong Il as Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, they look back with deep emotion upon the great exploits he performed for his country and nation.

Despite the severe ordeals in the 1990s, the brilliant Songun commander energetically led the effort to consolidate

the country's national strength, thereby developing it into a politico-ideological and military power as it is today.

In that decade the imperialists became more blatant in their offensive to stifle the country. However, Kim Jong Il was firmly resolved to tide over the trials unprecedented in history.

In line with the demands of the times, he made sure that a new state machinery was established with the DPRK National Defence Commission as its pivot and the principle of giving precedence to military affairs was applied in all the activities of the state. Then he set out on the long

journey of Songun-based leadership, leading the Arduous March and forced march to safeguard the country, revolution and socialism.

What was noteworthy in those days was his inspection of Panmunjom on November 24, Juche 85 (1996).

Located in Kaesong, Panmunjom is a historic place where the US aggressors signed the Armistice Agreement, admitting their defeat in the Korean war. Like all other areas along the Military Demarcation Line that bisects the Korean peninsula, Panmunjom remains a hot spot where guns have been levelled at



The monument bearing the signature Kim Il Sung wrote on a document relating to national reunification in the last period of his life

each other within hailing distance since the ceasefire.

That day Kim Jong Il looked round the monument bearing Kim Il Sung's signature on a document relating to national reunification, room where the armistice talks were held, Panmun House and other places. Then he learned in detail about the service personnel's performance of duty and showed meticulous concern for their living conditions, inspiring them with iron courage and mettle. He also specified what had to be done to improve the unit's combat efficiency.

As he continued with his field guidance trips upholding the banner of Songun to consolidate the national might, the country's defence line was built up to be impregnable, the Korean People's Army developed into an invincible army and a new era of creation and construction



The room where the armistice talks were held

ushered in on this land.

As days go by, the Korean service personnel and people grow more firmly determined to uphold Kim Jong Il as eternal Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, safeguard the

immortal exploits of his Songun-based leadership from generation to generation, and advance dynamically along the road of victory indicated by him.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho



Panmunjom

Artist of Happiness for the Korean People

Today the DPRK has greeted a new era of creation and prosperity in which people's dreams and ideals come true.

The Korean People's Army stands in the vanguard of the gigantic struggle to demonstrate the national might of Songun Korea and establish numerous monumental edifices for the cultured life of the people.

Both the guardian of the country and the creator of people's happiness, it achieves breakthroughs and performs miracles on the major fronts for building a thriving socialist country. Its heroic feats are attributable to the leadership of



The people's laughter reverberates throughout the country thanks to the devoted efforts of the service personnel who are responsible for both the national defence and socialist construction

Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un.

He makes sure that the KPA performs its mission and role as the main force in building a prosperous country and the creator of the people's happiness. He places great trust in the service personnel, saying that as they struggle to realize the noble intentions of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and become a pillar and a shock brigade in building a cultured nation, the country will abound with precious riches for the people and cheers for socialism and the Workers' Party will resound far and wide.

He has sent army units to challenging sectors, leading them to create models of the times and transform the whole country.

He initiated the building of a ski resort for the people in the mountainous area surrounding Masik Pass and tasked the KPA with the project. In June Juche 102 (2013) he appealed to the whole country to make great leaps and innovations on all fronts of socialist construction with the same spirit and mettle as were displayed by the service personnel who, responding with thunder to the WPK's lightning, were performing heroic feats in building the ski resort by creating the Masikryong speed out of indomitable spirit and unyielding courage. Under his energetic leadership the service personnel waged a heroic struggle in hearty response to this appeal, completing the project in a short period of time, the one which was estimated to take more than a decade.

In August last year, when severe flooding hit Rason in the northern part of the country, he called an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, ordering the KPA to restore the affected area on its own responsibility.

Then he travelled a long distance, onboard a plane, a vessel and then a car, and saw his soldiers on the spot, encouraging and bestowing great affection on them. He praised that they had laid out the area splendidly in the same spirit as they would display in sprucing up their own native homes and villages. He stressed that the successful result of the restoration work was a full demonstration of their ideological and moral traits as befits an army serving the people.



Kim Jong Un inspects the construction site of the Munsu Water Park [September Juche 102 (2013)]





Working people enjoy themselves at the Masikryong Ski Resort



Newly-built Mirae Scientists Street for teachers and scientists

Sci-Tech Complex



Wonsan Baby Home and Orphanage and Pyongyang Rest Home have been built in a splendid fashion



At an electronic recreation hall in the Rungna People's Recreation Ground



He added that they should help the local people move into the new houses and do all what needed to be done before returning to their units. They were greatly moved by his ennobling view of the people.

Under the energetic leadership of Kim Jong Un who leads them to do their all as a people's army with warm affection for the people, the service personnel have become capable of achieving everything as pacesetters of the times. Credit for the numerous edifices on this land goes to these laudable service personnel.

Last year alone, they built the Sci-Tech Complex, Mirae Scientists Street, terminal of Pyongyang International Airport, and Wonsan Baby Home and Orphanage as splendid structures and completed the restoration work of the flood-stricken Rason in 30-odd days, turning misfortune to good account.

The spirit, work style and traits of the KPA which is fully determined to go against all odds and realize Kim Jong Un's grand plan of building a thriving country, inspire all the people with greater verve for miraculous success.

Article & photo: Kim Chung Bok



Terminal of Pyongyang International Airport

Quality Cloth, Living Colours

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill strives to bring about continuous innovations in production on the principle of giving priority to self-development.

It is the consistent policy and one of the major concerns of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government to provide the younger generation with school uniforms and other things for their learning. With great pride in implementing this people-oriented policy, officials, technicians and workers of the mill are increasing the production of cloth for school uniforms, and newly set up a large-capacity line of canvas for bags in a short span of time.

Technicians and workers of the mill, determined to lead the world by dint of their own efforts and technology, pooled their wisdom and efforts with the lecturers and researchers from Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and the technicians and workers from the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory, in weaving the cloth by using home-made polyester rayon yarn and elastic staff looms. They also introduced high-precision barotor machines manufactured at the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory so as to guarantee the computer program control of the dyeing process and apply the system for ensuring the output of diverse products and their small quantity.

All the weavers at the workteam 3 of the general weaving workshop strive to improve their technical knowledge and skills and master new machines so as to keep all the machines going at full capacity.

Those at the processing workteam of the dyeing workshop take good care of their machines and observe the standard operation regulations so as to ensure high quality of the products.

The canvas for bags produced at the mill is of high quality and diverse in colour. This opens a bright prospect for the mass-production of bags according to the varying needs of customers, students in particular.

Article & photo: Ri Myong Guk



Production of the canvas for bags is increased by the new dyeing technology



Various kinds of bags for schoolchildren have been made of the canvas produced at the textile mill



Innovation, Key to Better Quality



Situated in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, the Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople turns out various nutritive foodstuffs, those for sportspeople in particular.

In January last year Kim Jong Un visited the factory and stressed the need to turn it into a world-standard foodstuff factory. Encouraged by his great affection and trust, the builders, officials and employees of the factory renovated the factory beyond recognition in less than a year. They expanded the existing buildings and streamlined all its production lines in a highly intensive way.

Rational re-arrangement of the equipment under a scientific plan and the upgrading of the production lines for their three-dimensional utilization helped boost the output by 1.5 times without any increase in the area of the shop floor and manpower.

The factory has furnished its shipment ground with the sliding conveyor of a novel design.

In its efforts to meet the people's ever-changing demands and tastes for foodstuffs, it has established a scientific and predictable integrated manufacturing system

and put the production lines on a fully automatic footing, thus turning it into a labour- and energy-saving business.

It is virtually free from dust and germ, as its workshops meet the hygienic safety standard and have modern facilities for analysis, sanitary checkup and ventilation.

It has newly set up the line for chewing gum, thereby increasing its product range to over a hundred items in 19 kinds.

In keeping with the notable progress in modernization it encourages its employees to get on-line education and strive to be well-versed in advanced science and technology.

It has also set appropriate standards in choosing, training, assessing and registering talented employees, to be more effective in personnel administration.

The growing enthusiasm of the management and employees for innovation is reflected in the quality and quantity of their products that are winning popularity among customers.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: An Chol Ryong



General control room

Kumkhop-brand products are winning popularity among customers, sportspeople in particular



Wind energy is being exploited



Dwellings and greenhouses benefit from solar water heaters

Benefits from Natural Energy Resources

With the gradual depletion of fossil fuels and degradation of the ecological environment owing to global warming, there is a growing worldwide trend towards development and utilization of renewable, natural energy.

In line with this trend, the DPRK directs great efforts to the development and use of bio fuel and geothermal, wind and solar energy.

It has established natural energy institutes and achieved considerable successes in the research for power generation by means of solar energy, manufacture and installation of solar water heater, and production of biogas.

The Sci-Tech Complex that was built last year is typical of the energy-saving and green architecture designed to use solar and geothermal energy for illumination, cooling and heating.

The workers' hostel at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, the Central Mushroom Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences and many other units have introduced geothermal energy into the heating system, which is of great benefit to them.

Projects are also under way to exploit wind energy by taking advantage of the country's natural and geographical conditions.

The Soho branch of the post office in Mundok County, South Phyongan Province, has established a post and telecommunications service system powered by wind turbines and solar panels, and Medical College of Phyongbuk University also benefits from solar energy.

All households in the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District and the village in Nam-ri, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, have solar water heaters and flat-plate solar collectors.

Lamps in the parks in Pyongyang and other parts of the country are all powered by flat-plate solar collectors.

Many similar energy projects are gaining momentum, thus opening up a bright prospect for the development of natural energy and amelioration of the natural environment.

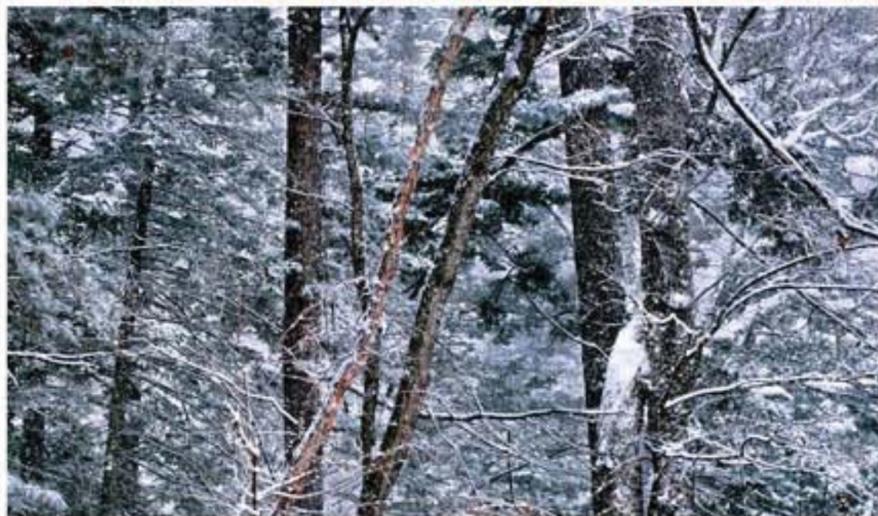


Article & photo: Kim Chung Bok



Electricity is generated by using solar and other natural energy resources

Ogasan Nature Reserve



Ogasan Nature Reserve in four seasons

The Ogasan Nature Reserve stretches long and wide along the boundary between Hwaphyong County in Jagang Province and Kim Hyong Jik County in Ryanggang Province in the northern part of the country.

The area comprises about ten peaks with the heights of 720m to 1 227m above sea level that are linked with one another. The ridges are fairly round, flat and wide.

It is composed of brown forest soil and podzolic soil developed over the layers of granite-gneiss and granite.

The Mt Oga area lies in the overlap between the northern distribution

boundary of broadleaf forests and the southern distribution boundary of coniferous forests, so the characteristic feature of the nature reserve is a rich variety of fauna and flora.

The nature reserve belongs to the East Asian subregion of the holarctic realm in the world floral kingdoms, and is bordered by the boreal and north temperate zones in the Korean floral distribution section. Therefore, it is noted for numerous species of plants and their unique distribution.

The area covers thousands of hectares and has over 1 330 species of animals and

plants.

It offers good habitats for hundreds of species of animals such as wild mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish.

They account for 45.34% of mammals, 32% of birds, 41.66% of snakes, 13.5% of freshwater fish living in the country, relatively high in percentages of species and distribution of fauna as compared with other regions.

The nature reserve boasts a number of natural monuments such as yew, pine-nut, linden, Mongolian oak, and virgin forests.

Noteworthy is the virgin forest zone which has the longest history in the country.

Covering an area of 800 hectares, the zone has trees as old as 400 to 600 years and even a thousand years or longer.

The nature reserve is managed in a scientific way according to the nature conservation policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government, and its useful fauna and flora are steadily increasing thanks to the intensive study of their ecological features.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Rim Kwang Dok

Various species of animals and plants are found in the nature reserve





미래권



An In Dok, chief of a workshop at the Urban Construction Station in Anju

The construction method we learned through cyber lectures and e-reading in the Mirae House has helped us hasten the completion of our building project.

The Mirae House is, indeed, a storehouse of technology which helps broaden our horizons and leads us to further exploration.



O Song Jun, student at Namchon Junior Middle School in Anju

It is very nice as I can learn computer and consolidate what I have learned at school with fine materials on nature and then play games at leisure.

Once I am here, I do not want to leave it.

It is networked with the Grand People's Study House and Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang, as well as with virtual universities in the country.

It also has computer rooms for primary, junior and senior middle school students; e-reading area where they can consolidate what they have learned at school; halls and rooms for reading books, magazines and newspapers.

As the house provides on-line services, including e-reading, browsing through the network, cyber lectures, access to

virtual universities, question-and-answer and photocopy services, to the readers, institutions and enterprises according to their needs, it is drawing an increasing number of working people and students.

Among them are officials and technicians delving into the information on science and technology to renovate their workplaces and make better machines and goods by local resources and technology as well as the working people who have been enrolled at virtual universities.

Schoolchildren are also keen on reviewing what they were taught at school and learning computers. The electronic recreational hall, furnished to suit their psychology, is helpful in boosting their desire for learning.

The residents in Anju say that valuable inventions and plans for modernization of factories and enterprises are conceived at the Mirae House, a library of technological knowledge.

Article & photo: Ri Kwang Song

Learning Hard to Keep Pace with IT Era

– Mirae House in Anju, South Pyongan Province –



Cyber lecture area

The DPRK has set it as one of its major policies to make all the people well-versed in science and technology. To this end, it sets up IT diffusion centres in cities and counties across the country for the wide dissemination of science and technology.

Last year, on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Mirae House was built in Anju, South Pyongan Province, thanks to the patriotic devotion and painstaking efforts of the local people.

The two-storey house covers an area of over 2 000 square metres. It has an e-reading hall that allows access to necessary information on modern science and technology and latest achievements, as well as areas for browsing catalogues, multimedia and cyber lecture.



E-reading area and rooms for learning computer and electronic recreation



People's Artist Jon Hye Yong

Rising Back to Fame

*I blew whistles last night as well,
Just as I have done for months*

...
The song *Whistles*, created in 1990, is still enjoying great popularity among the Korean people. So is People's Artist Jon Hye Yong, the former star at the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble who sang this song for the first time. Until now her name reminds the people of the song.

As a saying goes, one looks back on the past merrily at present and will recall today joyfully tomorrow.

Jon was born as a coal miner's second daughter on August 10, Juche 61 (1972).

The following is what she wrote in her diary in her childhood.

x x x
June 1, Juche 66 (1977)

Today I won the first place at the national kindergarten children's art festival. Mum was so pleased that she prepared a feast for me in the evening.

Tonight I want to dream about becoming a famous soloist.

x x x
July 30, Juche 71 (1982)

Today I pinched myself often to make sure I was awake.

Our fatherly leader Marshal Kim Il Sung enjoyed our artistic performance with a broad smile on his face.

Even though I had won the first place at the national schoolchildren's art festival held in celebration of the 36th anniversary of the Korean Children's Union, I have not dreamed that I would have the honour of singing solo and give pleasure to him.

This moment of glory will be unforgettable.



Training young talented vocalists

x x x
March 30, Juche 72 (1983)

Now I am a student at Kumsong Senior Middle School, and can sing to my heart's content at the schoolchildren's palace. I set out for Japan as a member of the Pyongyang Schoolchildren's Art Troupe.

When I sang the song *Warm Is the Homeland's Affection*, the audience shouted "encore." I was crying seeing the teary eyes of the mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers, who were longing for their country on this alien land and defending the national spirit.

...
It was in the autumn of Juche 80 (1991) when Jon made her second tour of Japan as a pop singer of the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble that she was nicknamed Whistles singer. The mass media gave wide publicity to her distinctive voice and lively and refined appearance.

Her name is still held in loving memory all throughout the country, as she achieved her childhood dream of being a famous singer by performing 200-odd solo pieces and thus winning the title of People's Artist in Juche 81 (1992).

After Leaving the Stage

Jon is now devoting all her efforts to the education of the rising generation as a vocal instructor of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace. Although over a decade has passed since she left the stage, she is yet called "sentimentalist" or "singer enjoying thunderous applause." She is in her mid-forties and has a daughter of thirteen summers. But her attractive and refined voice retains its clear and fresh qualities as ever.

When she was enjoying the climax of her career as an icon of the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble, she was attacked by paralysis in the vocal chords. She felt she had been falling into an abyss, and the thought of her quitting the stage tormented her. She was soon given the best possible medical treatment at the expense of the state and at last regained her beautiful voice. The gifted singer, who had once languished in distress, was now given a second life thanks to the motherly Workers' Party of Korea that takes responsible care of the people's destiny.

Afterwards, she gave a wonderful performance of contemporary masterpieces, to the delight of the audience.

Five years ago she began to work as a vocal instructor of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.



On major anniversaries she makes great sensations on the stage as the People's Artist.

She sang songs as emotionally as in her girlhood at the artistic performance *Song of Memory* and the 10 000-strong artistic performance *Great Party and Brilliant Korea*, both held last year to mark the significant Day of the Shining Star and the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK, respectively.

With a single mind to prove herself worthy of the state's close concern, she finds the genuine worth and joy of her life in rearing the younger generation of Whistles singers, while helping them nurture an ambitious dream.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Kim Yun Hyok



During a foreign tour [Juche 80 (1991)]



In her childhood

Colossus of Pedagogical Science

Founded in December Juche 48 (1959), the Academy of Pedagogical Science is a national research centre that plays a significant role in



developing education in the DPRK.

With a great ambition to become the buttress in implementing the plan of the Workers' Party of Korea to turn the country into a powerful talented nation, the officials, lecturers and researchers of the academy are exerting unsparring efforts to put the country's education on a new scientific basis.

The academy is staffed by hundreds of researchers including many holders of academic degrees or titles, and has several institutes under it. They are responsible for resolving most of the theoretical and practical problems arising in the operation of all the educational units ranging from kindergartens to universities.

Recently, the researchers of the General Education Institute are producing an increasing number of research results, following the enforcement of the universal 12-year compulsory education. They readjusted the scope and level of teaching according to the educational stages including preschooling, wrote over 30 kinds of textbooks, and created several models of teaching forms and methods such as a multi-functional classroom and generalized them throughout the country.

With a high goal of scaling the peak of pedagogy those at the Higher and Normal Education Institute are pooling their wisdom and energy to carry out such projects as compilation of the world pedagogical dictionary and creation of the database of world pedagogical information.

The staff of the Central School for Lecturing Course are making strenuous efforts to perfect the on-line education system and improve the standard of the course. Researchers, journalists and editors of the Educational Multimedia Program Company are applying themselves to developing multimedia for all subjects of the curricula of the universal 12-year compulsory education system, and researchers and laboratory workers of the Educational Equipment Manufacturing and Distribution Company are producing modern facilities.

All the lecturers and researchers are endeavouring to improve their qualifications and presenting scores of treatises for academic degrees every year. And they pay due concern to gaining firsthand experience to confirm the effectiveness of the new textbooks, teaching forms and methods, and updating them, thereby rendering a substantial contribution to raising the level of national education.

Article: Jong Ki Sang
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



They strive to improve teaching methods and educational facilities in accordance with the programme for the universal 12-year compulsory education



Ryugyong Rose House

The Ryugyong Rose House is located in the Mirae Scientists Street that was built on the bank of the Taedong River in Pyongyang according to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea of prioritizing, respecting and loving the people.

The facade of the green-tiled building is embossed with the design of a red rose bursting into blossom, which blends well with the name of the full-service centre.

Most of its welfare service and sports

facilities are related to roses. There are bathrooms and barber's on the first floor, rooms for face and beauty treatment, fitness, table tennis and squash on the second floor and dinning rooms on the top floor and the balcony.

The centrepiece of the house is the bath using rose water and dried rose leaves.

It is well known that rose water obtained during the process of extracting rose oil is highly efficacious for skin protection,

nutritional improvement and equilibrium.

Therefore, having rose-water baths promotes skin moisturization and elasticity by accelerating the supply of nutritive elements, relieves fatigue and even prevents urinary diseases.

The rose water and rose-oil skin cream are used for face treatment and massage, and after fitness activities.

Rose tea is served at all the dinning rooms pervaded with the fragrance of roses.

According to its manager Pang Jong Chol, the tea stimulates blood circulation and is effective in relieving fatigue for its unique aroma and soft and mild taste. As he said, many customers, including teachers and scientists, regain their youthful vigour at the house that embodies the state's policy of ensuring the people the highest quality of civilization on the highest possible level.

Article & photo: Jin Yong Ho

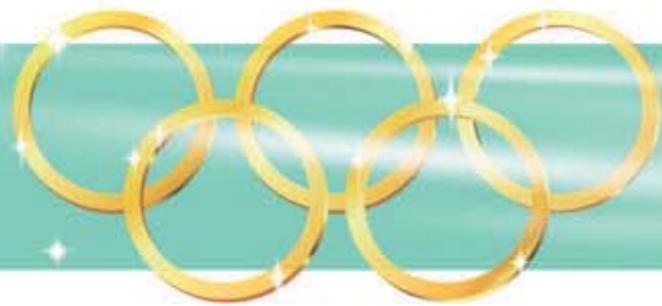
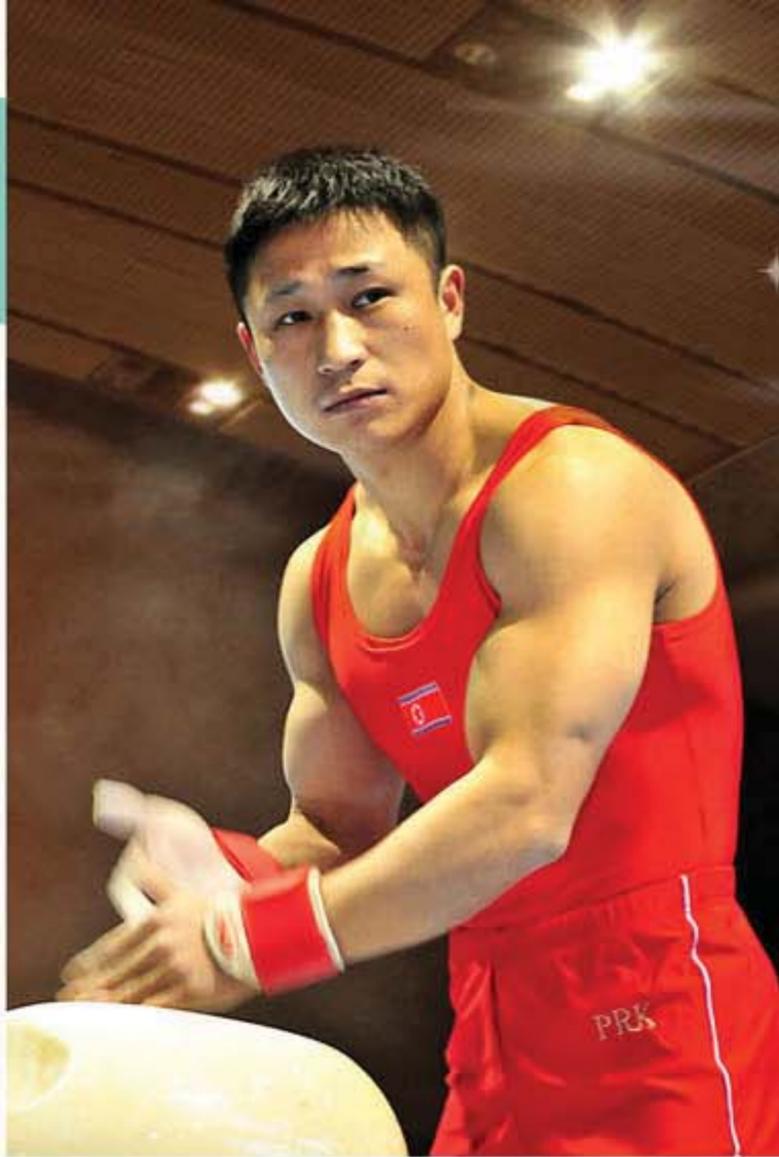


Rose-water bathroom



The Ryugyong Rose House has rooms for table tennis and fitness and other welfare service and recreational facilities, as well as bathrooms and saunas





Ace Gymnast



Ri Se Gwang of the April 25 Sports Team claims the men's vaulting horse title at the 6th FIG World Challenge Cup Artistic Gymnastics

Ri Se Gwang, an artistic gymnast from the April 25 Sports Team of the DPRK, is eliciting the admiration of the people as well as the world gymnastic circle.

His characteristic movements consist of a triple somersault in the air and full-turn landing, and landing with a rotation in a 180 degree arc in an outstretched position after making an 7-shaped figure in the air and executing forward triple somersault. FIG named them Ri Se Gwang's Movements in 2013 and 2015.

Born into an ordinary office worker's family, he took up gymnastics at 7.

Seeing their son exercising on the horizontal bars very often, his parents thought that it was one of the qualities intrinsic to a boy.

But his teachers reckoned that the boy had an aptitude for gymnastics and recommended him to the gymnastics group of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace. There he began to acquire elementary movements and skills of artistic gymnastics and showed his extraordinary

sensitiveness. He won at the national juvenile championships on several occasions, attracting professionals' attention, and started his career at the April 25 Sports Team. He trained hard to acquire first-rate technical skills and achieved victory at many national and international competitions. In 2012 he became a twice Asian champion.

At the 45th and 46th world artistic gymnastics championships he distinguished himself by successfully performing Ri Se Gwang's Movements.

The spectators marvelled at his wonderful performance and the juries gave him the highest marks, appreciating him as the gymnast beyond human imagination.

Ri, now twice world champion, said:

"It takes only a few seconds to execute movements in vaulting horse event. And I will train harder and harder for those seconds."

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Hong Kwang Nam



Giving Impetus to Developing National Foods

The Korean nation with a time-honoured history of 5 000 years and brilliant culture has developed its national foods.

The Chefs Association of Korea, which will soon greet its 30th anniversary, has contributed to the development of Korean foods and cuisine. The association annually arranges contests, shows, training and passing-on-technique courses in order to disseminate traditional culinary skills.

It also endeavours to put cooking on a scientific and standardized basis with a view to fully retaining the unique features of traditional foods, while giving wide publicity to those that are easy to prepare at home. It introduces the superiority of traditional foods and their preparation, and the public catering units and chefs that are exemplary in developing traditional foods through the journal and homepage, both titled *Korean Foods*.

It sponsors educational institutions in the public catering field to produce experts in traditional foods and ensures that the relevant research institutes perform their mission and role to the full.

As a member of the world federation of chefs, it is working in close cooperation with its foreign counterparts and engaging



in various activities of technical exchange through international food contests, practices and visits, thus demonstrating the distinctive features and superiority of Korean foods and rendering a contribution to developing food culture worldwide.

Article & photo: Hong Thae Ung



Close concern is directed to publishing references conducive to the development of culinary skills



Medals and clock awarded to the members of the Chefs Association of Korea at the world culinary cup tournament held in Luxemburg in September Juche 79 (1990)

Internet homepage *Korean Foods* and relevant publications render great services to improving culinary skills





Utmost Sincerity, Medical Skills



they have raised the scientific level of their medical service.

They have so far introduced many effective methods including the removal of the root of teeth and implant-malocclusion treatment.

They also use 36 hygienic information boards of 18 kinds and multimedia including “Teeth and Health” and “How to Prevent Pericoronitis,” to help the people broaden their common

knowledge for maintaining good teeth.

Warm affection, tender care and high skills are important—this is what So Yong Chan, vice-director of the hospital in charge of technical affairs, says very often.

*Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Jin Ju Dong*

Keeping a balanced diet is the key to a long life in good health, and so it is more important than most to take good care of teeth. Hence a saying goes that strong teeth guarantee longevity. This explains the growing public interest in dentistry.

The Ryugyong Dental Hospital is well known among the Korean people, though it was inaugurated not long ago.

It owes its good reputation not simply to its modern equipment.

Much credit goes to its staff who strive hard for the prevention and treatment of dental diseases under scrupulous plans and with warm affection for the people to meet the requirements of the socialist healthcare system.

The hospital directs primary concern to improving the qualifications of its staff, encouraging them to swap experiences and study world trends and advanced techniques through regular workshops and study sessions.

By developing and introducing the techniques of great clinical significance,



Tradition of Kimchi-Making Listed as World Heritage



At the 10th session of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, the tradition of kimchi-making in the DPRK was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

The Korean nation has a long tradition of making kimchi with autumn vegetables at the onset of winter.

Kimchi is the most conspicuous in the food culture of the nation and its peculiar kimchi-making tradition has been handed down for ages.

Kimchi is a non-staple food which is prepared by fermenting vegetables, including cabbage and radish, and wild greens mixed with fruit, meat, fish or pickled fish and seasonings. During fermentation the tastes of various ingredients combine to produce a unique flavour.

Since the period of Koryo, about 1 000 years ago, the Koreans have prepared kimchi in large earthenware jars with radish, cabbage, garlic, chili, salt and so on.

They regarded kimchi-making as one of the great family events for the year.

They make kimchi for their diet in spring, summer, autumn and winter, and kimchi-making for winter is a spectacular sight carrying national flavour.

Considering the climatic conditions of the country, the Koreans invented an effective method of preserving vegetables in early winter so that they could take them till late spring.

For them, kimchi-making was a priority task of preparing half of their winter food.

It still takes the lion's share in winter preparations, a pride of Korean traditional foods.

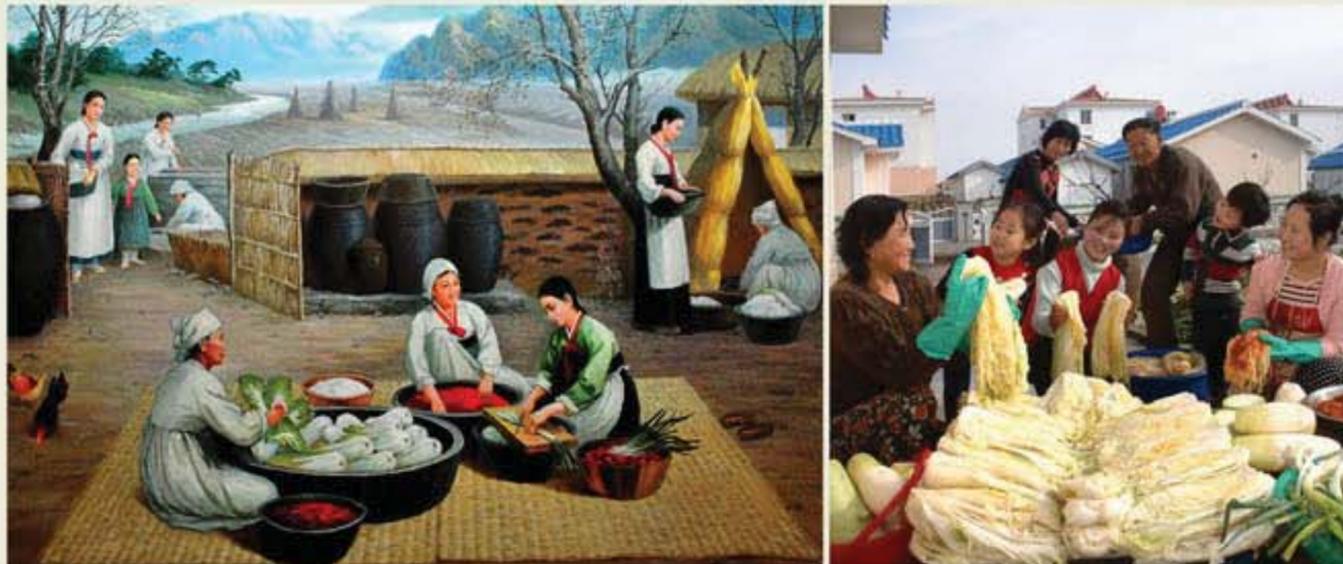
Kimchi is widely recognized as one of the world's five major health foods.

Once a foreign media introduced kimchi as follows: Kimchi is known in Korea as an all-cure, because of its richness in vitamins. It is a unique food made of pickled cabbage. Taking plenty of it helps prevent various diseases. As an indispensable dish for the Koreans, it has vitamins, essential amino acid and minerals.

Kimchi is known as an important source of vitamins and minerals. It helps towards replenishing vitamins on a regular basis in winter when vegetables are rare, arouses appetite for acid foods and reduces the nutritional consumption of sportspeople. Thus it is highly appreciated as a health food.

At the 10th session of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held in early December last year in Windhoek, Namibia, the tradition of kimchi-making in the DPRK was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Article & photo: Pak Pyong Hun



The Korean nation has a long tradition of kimchi-making



Kayagum was invented in the early 6th century

Traditional Musical Instrument

Kayagum

Kayagum is the Korean stringed instrument, whose name was derived from Kaya, a feudal state of Korea that existed in the basin of the Raktong River from the mid-1st century to the mid-6th century.

The musical instrument was invented by Uruk, musician of the early 6th century.

Originally, it was a plucking instrument with several strings.

Made from paulownia wood, it consists of a hollow soundboard, movable bridges in both directions, and 12 strings symbolic of 12 months. It was made to produce sounds by plucking strings.

After Korea's liberation (August 15, 1945), *kayagum* was improved according to the Juche-oriented line of the Workers' Party of Korea on developing national music. It has a soundboard, movable bridges, string rests, headpiece and tailpiece, pegs, legs and resonant box and 21 strings.

It was originally tuned with pentachord and then with heptachord so that it could have a wider range and its playing methods were supplemented. At first, it was used to play monophonic pieces as the player plucked the strings only with the right hand and produced various ornamentations of tremolo with the left hand. Now the player uses both hands to perform polyphonic pieces while retaining the playing methods unique to the instrument.

It is used as a solo instrument and also for rhythm section in many musical genres such as solo, ensemble, concert and national instrumental ensemble.

It is tuned in B flat and has a compass from the lower G to F in the third-scale octave.

It is widely recognized as a favourite instrument contributing greatly to enriching the people's cultural life.

Article: Kim Un Gyong



Sexual Slavery Issue Sparks Public Fury



Civic groups and people of south Korea denounce the humiliating "agreement" aimed at covering up Japan's past crime



The authorities' treacherous scheme to cover up Japan's A-class crime against humanity is causing a great furore within south Korea.

At the end of last year south Korea and Japan announced that they reached an "agreement" on the issue of sexual slavery.

As is known worldwide, Japan, one of the war criminal states in the Second World War, had committed the inhumane crime of forcibly drafting 200 000 Korean women and women from Asian and other countries as "comfort women" for its imperial army.

The issue relating to this brutal crime has not been settled until now, because the Japanese government refuses to admit its legal responsibility, much less apologize for its crime-ridden past and pay reparations to the victims. But the south Korean authorities promised to cover up this crime and remove the monument of a girl dedicated to sexual slaves standing in front of the Japanese embassy in Seoul, on condition that Japan offers some money to "aid funds for sexual slaves." This humiliating measure has irked opposition parties, civic groups, religious men, young people and other citizens of all strata, as well as the victims of sexual slavery and related organizations.

They called it "worst diplomatic disaster" and "treacherous agreement to grant impunity to Japan," holding a series of rallies, demonstrations and press conferences and issuing declarations in denunciation of the "agreement."

In an interview with journalists, an 88-year-old victim who lives in Kyonggi Province said that the authorities committed an intolerable crime of selling out grandmothers, mothers and the nation with a long history as a whole.

Other victims expressed their indignation, saying that the authorities, in disregard of their opinions and demands, connived at Japan's despicable scheme aimed at avoiding the apology and reparation for its past crimes, thereby imposing another disgrace on the nation.

In front of the Japanese embassy in Seoul, mourning the nine old victims who had died in 2015, the members of the council for the settlement of the issue of the "volunteers corps" condemned the "agreement" as a result of humiliating collusion that contains no sincere apology and detailed mention about the legal responsibility for reparations.

The members of the university students'

organization for the settlement of the issue of sexual slavery for Japan's imperial army staged a surprise demonstration targeted at the Japanese embassy, and the artistes, students and other citizens arranged cultural events in front of the embassy to satirize the "agreement."

In front of the Japanese embassy and many other places, rallies and demonstrations attended by citizens of different strata are raging on, calling for the nullification of the above "agreement."

An increasing number of politicians are denouncing the authorities' pro-Japanese attitude.

Those attending the rallies and demonstrations denounced that the authorities were drawing a veil over Japan's war crime. Legions of people have taken to street to protest against the authorities' despicable moves.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho



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