

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

Juche 108
(2019)

1

(No. 756)





Happy New Year!

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Supreme Leader's Guidance over Master Plan for Sinuiju Construction

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un examined and guided the master plan for the construction of the city of Sinuiju, together with leading officials of Party, administrative and designing organs of North Phyongan Province in November last year.

He learned about how the lifetime instructions of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on the construction of the city had been carried on so far, and examined the master plan for the construction of the city and a relief map of the future city, before setting forth the tasks and ways for sprucing up the city in line with the requirements of the present times.

He instructed the officials to form the city centre up to the South Sinuiju area with the statues of the President and the Chairman at the city's central square as the axis, arrange high-rise apartment houses and provincial- and city-level public buildings around the city centre to produce a three-dimensional effect, distribute high-rise apartment houses and skyscrapers along the central axis and thoroughfare of the city and the banks of the Amnok River splendidly in terms of formative and artistic beauty and build many parks in the residential areas in order to turn Sinuiju into a city in a park.

In order to build Sinuiju as befits a border city of the country, it is necessary to build many modern and magnificent structures rich in national colour, he said, adding that such public buildings as theatre, cinema, sports village, ice rink and e-library and such service facilities as hotel and department store

should be laid out in a rational way and built wonderfully to suit the aesthetic taste of the present times.

He also indicated the direction of sprucing up the existing industrial areas and renovating the railway station in the city and Uiju Airport. He added that close attention should be paid to creating cultured environment, like urban greening, stressing that green belts should be developed around the major roads and industrial areas to create 50 square metres of green areas for one resident and fine and peculiar city park, botanical garden and recreation ground should be built to meet the local characteristics.

Saying that what is most important in urban construction is to make the people feel convenient in their living, he emphasized that electric power production should be increased and renewable energies used to the maximum to perfect the urban grid, satisfactorily solve the heating problem and supply water to meet the international standards, and that an industrial waste water and sewage treatment system should be established as residential districts and industrial establishments are to be densely arranged.

Greatly encouraged by the Supreme Leader's energetic guidance, the officials made a firm resolve to bring the President's and the Chairman's noble intentions into reality at an earlier date.

Article: Kim Son Gyong



Leading Progress in the Fishery Sector



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un looking round fishery stations in eastern coastal area

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un gave field guidance at the fishery stations in the eastern coastal area in November last year.

On his visit to the May 27 Fishery Station run by the Korean People's Army, the Supreme Leader personally got aboard a fishing vessel and congratulated its captain and fishermen who had returned with a big fish haul. Talking with them, he put forth ways and means for achieving bigger successes in their work.

The next leg of his inspection tour was the KPA August 25 Fishery Station. He spoke highly of the fishery station for taking the lead in making a big fish

haul as befits the birthplace of the history of "gold seas" and of "Tanphung" fishing vessels.

He then made his way to the KPA January 8 Fishery Station. He praised the fishery station for overfulfilling the yearly quota of fish haul by ensuring that more than 1 000 tons of fish were caught by each vessel. He said that the People's Army should continue to stand in the van of upholding and implementing the Party's policy on fisheries as the pioneers of the history of "gold seas".

Article: Pak Pyong Hun



A Model Footwear Factory

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspected the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory in early December last year.

The Supreme Leader said that he was so pleased to hear the report that the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory won the first place at a recent national shoes exhibition and that *Maebongsan*-brand shoes presented by the factory were very popular among the public. He added that a small local factory has become a leather shoes factory well known across the country, an iconic shoes factory leading the shoe-making industry of the country.

He looked round a room for education in revolutionary history and a room dedicated to the history of the factory and a sample display room newly arranged by the factory.

He then looked round the production sites.

Praising a young needle worker for skilfully handling an auto-sewing machine operated by a control program at the uppers-making shop, he called for giving full play to the creative wisdom of technicians and skilled workers and widely introducing computerization into the needlework.

After familiarizing himself with the progress made so far in the research

for automating the shoe sole pasting process, he set forth tasks for perfecting the automation of all shoe-making processes.

He stressed that in order to meet the daily increasing people's demand, it is necessary to keep pushing ahead with the work of ensuring world-level quality with an emphasis put on ensuring diverse patterns, decent colours, lightness and durability in shoes production while meeting the aesthetic tastes of our people.

The Supreme Leader said that he looked round the factory with satisfaction, that he saw a large number of shoes that day when he visited without prior notice, and that he felt happy and pleased to see quality shoes being turned out on a normal track.

He had photos taken with factory employees at the production sites, expressing hope and expectation that officials and workers of the factory will play a pivotal role in the lead in implementing Party policy by producing more and smarter shoes of good reputation under the fierce flames of continuous advance and innovations.

Article: Kang Su Jong



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on his visit to the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un handing over the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League flag [August 2016]



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un with the participants in the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue [May 2015]

New Golden Age of Korean Youth Movement



Young vanguards demonstrating their indomitable faith and will to support the Workers' Party of Korea's leadership with loyalty

The Korean youth movement has now entered a new stage of its development under the wise guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, who is bringing about a new phase of the politics of attaching importance to young people with ardent love for and trust in them.

A prosperous tomorrow will be achieved earlier by the young people taking vigorous steps. Always advance straight forward following the Party!

*Kim Jong Un
January 26, 2012*

This is the Supreme Leader's reply to the letter that officials of the central committee of the then Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League sent to him entering the new century of the Juche era.

On his visit to the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station construction site in April Juche 104 (2015), he said that the Youth League should be stronger in organization, discipline and fighting capability than any other social organizations, and that strong young people make the Party, army and the country powerful.

He ensures that an atmosphere of attaching importance to young people is established across

society so as to improve the nationwide interest in young people and their movement and State investment increased to supply everything for the youth movement.

Thanks to his warm love of, absolute trust in and wise leadership for them, the Korean young people prepare themselves as stalwart heirs to the revolutionary cause of Juche performing miraculous innovations on all sectors of building a socialist power, and the whole country is brimming with youthful vigour and vitality.

The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, built in the area of Mt Paektu, the sacred place of the

Korean revolution, fully demonstrates not only the might of the Supreme Leader's policy of attaching importance to young people but also the mettle of the Korean young people who always live up to his affection and trust.

With ennobling and beautiful spiritual and moral traits, high ambition and creativity, the Korean young people are creating new legendary tales in the great Kim Jong Un's era, standing in the van of the march for achieving the country's prosperity.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho



The Korean young people devoting all their energies and enthusiasm in the worthwhile efforts for the country's prosperity





Mt Paektu, Ancestral Mountain of the Korean Nation



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution [April 2015]





Magnificent appearance of Mt Paektu



Mysterious rocks and cliffs in Mt Paektu



Fog-bound peaks on Mt Paektu



Lake Chon on Mt Paektu in spring



Rhododendron and *chonjiensis*, widely known as specialties of Mt Paektu, and other various plants and animals

Facelifted Pyongyang



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un looking round the completed Mirae Scientists Street [October 2015]





Part of Ryomyong Street built as an energy-saving and green street



People's Theatre on Changjon Street

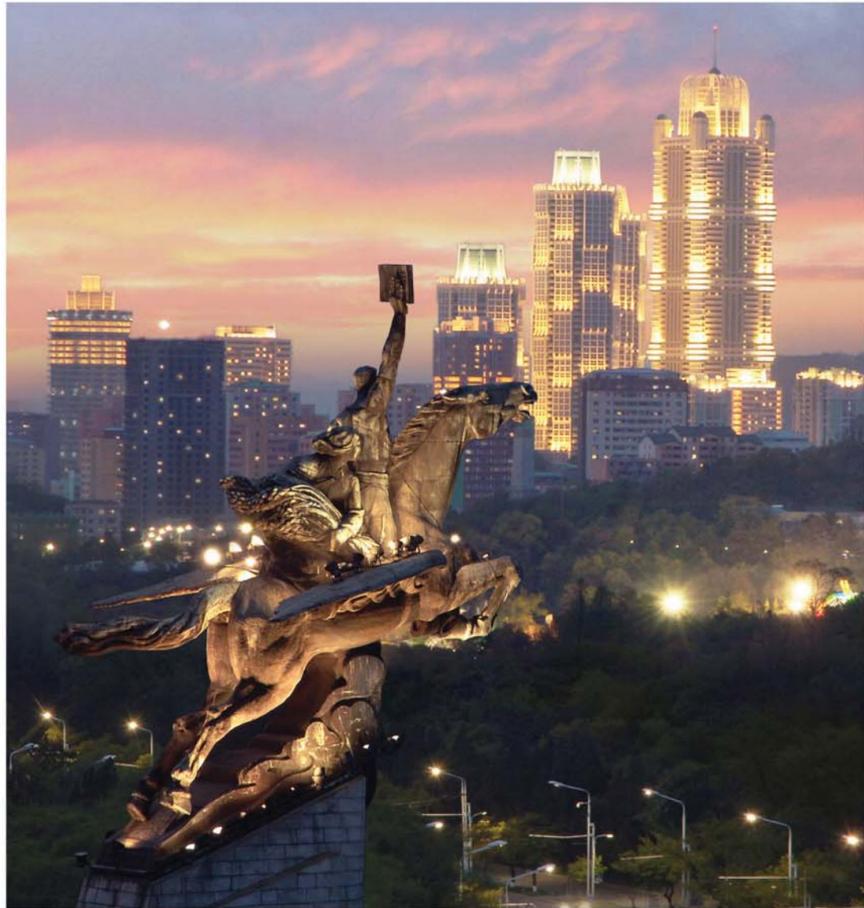


Theatre for the Samjiyon Orchestra, a combination of classic and modern beauties, with a natural acoustics concert hall



Many peculiarly-shaped structures like Sci-Tech Complex built in Pyongyang





Nocturnal scenery of Pyongyang

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam, Pyon Chan U, Kong Yu Il, Kim Song Chol, Song Tae Hyok and Kim Hyok Chol



Juche-oriented Production of Iron and Steel

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, a leading metallurgical industrial base of the country, is making every effort to increase production.

Last year when the 70th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was celebrated splendidly, the complex laid solid foundations for increasing iron and steel production by putting an end to the iron-making method that relies on coking coal and developing a new iron-and steel-making method.

Technicians and workers of the oxygen separator workshop No. 2 in charge of the preceding process are striving to improve their technical knowledge and skills and manage equipment in a scrupulous way so as to operate the facilities at full capacity.

Workers of the oxygen-blown blast furnace workshop are introducing advanced methods in their work and dovetailing working processes so as to further reduce the melting time per charge.

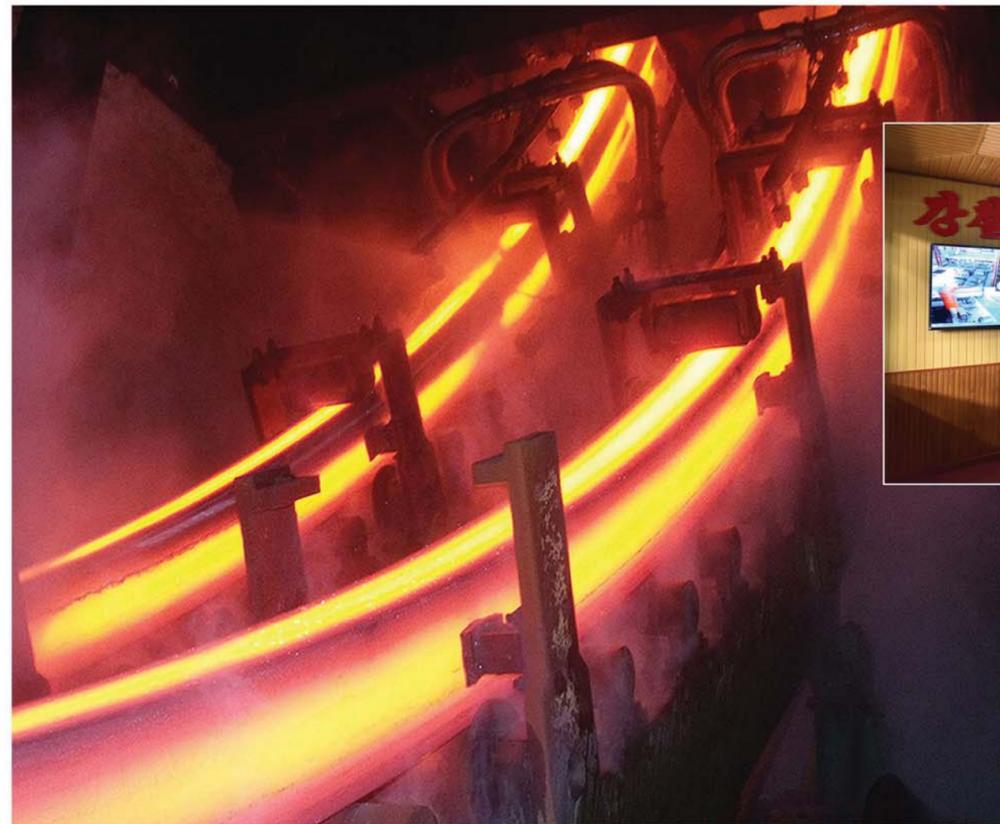
In steel workshop technicians and workers are

making concerted efforts to increase production and improve the quality of molten iron.

Songnim, a city of iron, seethes with the enthusiasm of the workers of the complex, who are determined to supply greater amounts of iron and steel to various sectors of the national economy by making an innovation in production with the start of the New Year.

Article: Kim Son Gyong

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



The complex completed installation of oxygen-blown converter and oxygen separator and other projects, opening a bright vista for increased Juche-oriented production of iron



New Model of Trolley Bus



Real-time control of whole assembly lines of trolley bus



With the spirit of self-reliance and science and technology as the driving force, the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory is stepping up production, while improving the technical specifications of the trolley buses.

Last year the technical team of the factory, in close contact with a designing institute, presented the design of a new model of trolley bus by introducing a new motor with traction power 1.2 times bigger than the former model and a dual power system.

Amid enthusiasm running high to solve all problems arising in production with their own efforts, assembly and other workshops successfully solved difficult technical problems including the roof frame and curved surface of the interior.

Finally, they developed within scores of days a new model of trolley bus with high performance and improved fittings.

These trolley buses are running in Pyongyang.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



Changdok School

Situated in Chilgol-dong No. 1, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, Changdok School was established in 1907, the early period of the Japanese military occupation of Korea. It was set up as a private school by Kang Ton Uk, maternal grandfather of President Kim Il Sung, and other pioneers in the Chilgol area to contribute to the country's independence through patriotic cultural enlightenment movement.

Kim Il Sung attended this school between April 1923 and January 1925, cultivating the will to win back his country from the Japanese aggressors without fail.

On October 28, 1945, after the country's liberation, he visited the school, recalling that his days at the school were a meaningful period in his life and the spirit of patriotism he had cherished in those days gave him a great courage and indomitable fighting spirit when he was fighting against the Japanese imperialists.

The school which has constantly improved its teaching conditions and environment from one century into the next is demonstrating its honour as a model for other senior middle schools across the country.

Steady development has been achieved in education and edification at the school.

It is introducing up-to-date teaching methods in close contact with scientific and educational institutions. Recently it put experiment and practice education on IT basis by interface so as to further improve the quality of teaching.

Collective discussion of teaching, model presentations by chairs and other methods are applied actively to improve the abilities and qualifications of the teachers, with the result that many of them were awarded the title of October 8 Model Teacher.

The school has so far produced gold and silver medallists at the international maths Olympics and a large number of July 15 Honour Student Prize winners.

The students have exalted the honour of their time-honoured school at nationwide academic contests every year; last year they won the national contest of foreign languages conversation of students from middle schools No. 1 and other academic contests.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Ri Jin Hyok, Sin Chung Il



Renovated educational environment





POPULAR HAUNT

The Natural History Museum is located side by side with the Central Zoo at the foot of Mt Taesong in Pyongyang. Opened here recently are an animal ecology hall and children's study and experience area.

The animal ecology hall, divided into three areas—a cave, an area for experiencing marine

ecology and an area of land ecology—is furnished with more than 260 stuffed specimens, animal models and botanical specimens of nearly 150 species.

In the area for experiencing of marine ecology past the area of cave, one feels as if one is cruising under the sea in a submarine.

In the area of land ecology that shows tropical forest and savannah, plants and animals are depicted by continent—Africa, South America, Australia and Asia.

The children's study and experience area is divided into two parts. In the first part students can attend lectures and question-and-answer sessions

given by their class teachers, researchers of the museum or experts of each field—astronomy, zoology, botany and so on.

In the second part, they can broaden the scope of their knowledge of nature through several games like fossil hunting and quiz on animals and plants.

Pupils are particularly appreciative of the new structures as they can consolidate their knowledge they learned at school or from book through real-life experience.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Hong Thae Ung



Various kinds of visual aids, botanical specimens and play things are used for practical education



Goshawk Researchers

Not large size, sharp beak, strong talon, well-proportioned figure and bright eyes—this is goshawk which has been loved by and had close relations with the Korean people from olden times. It was designated as the national bird of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in Juche 97 (2008).

The zoology institute under the State Academy of Sciences has a team that

studies the national bird’s ways of life and ecological features for its protection and multiplication.

Dr. Kim Kyong Jun, a national authority on ornithology, leads this animal ecology division.

With a major mission to investigate the species of animals in the country and their distribution and ecological features and take measures for propagating them, the division conducted ecological investigation into a number of animals and contributed to protecting and multiplying useful animals.

The researchers have to do their work going round the whole country out in the field, not in a room as those in other scientific sectors.

Research of goshawk was a challenge to them.

It was at the time of ascertaining the flyways of the migratory birds that they had to find out goshawk’s habitats, population, characteristics and the like in the country. Worse still, they had not much data on the bird.

Nevertheless, Kim Kyong Jun and his team did not hesitate in the study of goshawk. They were determined to give the people knowledge of their national bird, goshawk.

They used to climb up and down many mountains while braving thickly-wooded forests and paths in search of the bird’s habitat, and stay in deep mountains overnight to observe goshawk.

Thanks to their energetic efforts, accumulated one by one were data such as photos and videos on goshawk’s inhabitation, protection and multiplication, including that goshawk is an all-season bird which breeds in the Mt Paektu area and other alpine regions of Korea between late April and early May and lives even in the middle parts of the country in winter, nesting in a tall tree.

In May 2015 there was newly established a goshawk reserve in Toksong County, South Hamgyong Province.

Still now, the researchers travel to various parts of the country, with a pride in increasing the bird resources of the country.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Choe Won Chol



In search of goshawks



Proactive investigation helps scientific clarification of nationwide distribution and ecological features of goshawk



Many successes have been achieved in breeding new vegetable varieties and putting vegetable production on a scientific footing

Focus on Science-based Hothouse Vegetable Production

Inaugurated in July 2000, the Pyongyang Vegetable Science Institute now serves as the centre for the development of the country's vegetable science.

The institute specializes in breeding new, highly nutritious varieties of vegetables, developing high-yielding cultivation technology in plastic-sheet and hydroponic greenhouses and doing trial production of them.

It has over a dozen laboratories including breeding, cultivation, biology and IT labs, staffed with highly trained scientific and technical personnel, all graduates of the Life Science Faculty and Pyongyang Agricultural College of Kim Il Sung University.

The institute has so far bred dozens of varieties

of vegetables and established scores of greenhouse vegetable cultivation techniques.

In recent years the researchers of the institute concentrated on research into various kinds of leaf, fruit and root vegetables to breed new varieties such as hothouse circular and semicircular eggplants, hothouse tomato and green tomato. Among them is edible sponge cucumber, which was used as an ornamental plant or for washing dishes.

They solved many technical problems including the control of nutritive solution and irrigation in hydroponic greenhouses, standardized sowing, seedling growing, cultivation of vegetable plants, pest control, soil disinfection and dripping irrigation methods, and generalized them throughout the country.

They also developed a new vegetable crop distribution method, making it possible to do five-crop farming a year and raise vegetable harvest to the maximum.

The researchers introduced bioengineering, IT and other advanced technologies into the breeding and cultivation of new varieties of vegetables to acclimatize to the new situation such vegetables as chives, red cabbage and pink spinach.

The institute has made important contributions to the growth of greenhouse vegetable production in the country with notable achievements in scientific research.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Hong Kwang Nam





Korean Sportspeople with Disabilities

Sportspeople with disabilities from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took part in the 3rd Asian Para Games held in Indonesia in October last year.

Players of the Korean Sports Association of the Disabled competed with foreign counterparts in the events of table tennis, swimming and track and field.

Kim Yong Rok with no arm and Pak Kum Jin with congenital crossfeet drew public attention in the men's singles of table tennis event for varied serves and skilful techniques.

Though wheelchair-bound, Sim Sung Hyok, Jong Kuk Song and Kim Yong Hyon fully demonstrated their talents in the swimming events of 100-m breaststroke and freestyle.

Ko Jong Ui and Sin Hyok with visual impairments gained good scores in the track-and-field events of the shot-put, discus throw and 5 000-m race.

Thanks to sincere efforts of the Korean Sports Association of the Disabled, they could enter the sports world that demands perfect physical fitness and fighting spirit and participate in the international games.

Before starting sporting activities, they had been feeling timid and anguished.

The association encouraged and led them to create a new life, who had regarded sporting activities as only a dream.

Officials and coaches of the association visited them one by one, encouraging them to bravely overcome disabilities and start a new life by their own efforts.

They frequently arranged table tennis and other sports games, and then widened the scope of sports events to swimming, archery and skiing.

This was how many people with disabilities enlisted their names in the association, winning back the hope for a new life. At present many sports

games are arranged in the country for people with disabilities.

Those who took part in the 14th Paralympic Games as their first launch into the international arena participated in several other international games like the Asian Para Games, achieving good results.

The association puts continuous efforts to bring their dreams and hopes into bloom.

Article & photo: Hong Su Gyong



Korean sportspersons with disabilities in international games



Prestigious Art Troupe

Famous instrumentalists and conductors produced by the National Symphony Orchestra



People's Artiste
Paek Ko San, violinist



People's Artist
Ho Jae Bok, conductor



People's Artist
Kim Pyong Hwa, conductor

The National Symphony Orchestra is a prestigious art troupe which proclaimed its inauguration with the performance of the immortal revolutionary hymn *Song of General Kim Il Sung* on August 8, 1946.

It was a small orchestra when it was inaugurated, and developed into a full orchestra in the early 1970s.

In the past it enriched the world of musical art by rendering many musical pieces including the symphony *The Sea of Blood*, dealing with the immortal classic work *The Sea of Blood*, orchestral music *A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain* and *Arirang*, and symphonic medley *Ode to the Party*. In recent years it created such excellent pieces as orchestral music *Song of Big Hauls in the Sea* and *Sea of Apple Trees at the Foot of Chol Pass*, violin concerto *Opening My Heart*, symphony

Pyongyang Is Best and piano concerto *Blizzards over Mt Paektu*.

The major characteristics of the creative activities of the troupe are that it creates symphonic works, based on folk songs and famous songs widely known among the people, with the melody-centred method of symphonic development, and mixes Korean traditional instruments with Western ones in its performance.

The mixed orchestra that makes the best use of the characteristics of the Western instruments on the basis of the national instruments including woodwind instruments, clear, elegant and gentle in timbre, *jangsaenap* and gong, is forte of this troupe.

The mysterious sound of the unique mixed orchestra, which can never be measured by the conception of any previous kinds of orchestra in

formation, timbre and expression, is produced by over one hundred instrumentalists including those who won the national individual contests for the February 16 Artistic Prize and several international contests. Among them were conductor and People's Artist Ho Jae Bok and violinist and People's Artiste Paek Ko San.

With delicate and refined rendering skills and high level of portrayal, it gives perfect renditions of not only Korean symphonic works but also foreign works, ranging from classic pieces of Mozart and Beethoven and romantic ones of Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich and Wagner to modern ones.

"The world's A-class symphony orchestra," "New and original symphonic works based on the Korean national music," "The National Symphony Orchestra of the DPRK thrust into limelight in Germany"—these are part of the evaluations made when the art troupe gave performances in many countries in Europe and Asia and joint performances with world-renowned conductors and musicians.

It was awarded the Order of Kim Il Sung two times. The Moranbong Theatre is the base of its artistic activities.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: An Chol Ryong





Persimmon trees in the courtyards of houses contribute to the cash income of residents

Persimmon-tree Village

Chonsam-ri in Anbyon County, Kangwon Province, is a beautiful place with modern dwelling houses and public buildings arranged in an orderly manner at the foot of a mountain and fields surrounding them.

The scenery of Chonsam-ri in autumn, the best of all seasons, is spectacular for the golden-tinged fields and mountains and even the houses.

Anbyon County, especially Chonsam-ri in the county, is widely known as a persimmon area, as it is situated by the seaside with mild climate that is very suitable for cultivating persimmon trees.

Each house plants and cultivates scores of persimmon trees in its garden.

Everyone is versatile and experienced in fruit farming.

The people here have planted hundreds of hectares of hills around their villages

with persimmon trees.

Paying close attention to fertilizing and tending the trees, they make efforts to prevent the decrease of persimmon harvest caused by several reasons including harmful insects, and increase its production.

In addition, they plant new species of persimmon trees, whose productivity is high and whose fruits are tasty, and introduce the latest fruit-farming methods so as to turn the orchards into “thriving orchards”.

In autumn when persimmon trees are heavily laden with fruit, the most spectacular scenery of the village is unfolded.

The harvested persimmons are stored or processed in various ways.

The cooperative farm as well as the households increase their income by

selling fresh fruits or processing them; dried persimmon, persimmon liquor, persimmon vinegar and persimmon punch are representative processed foodstuffs.

In mid-October all members of every household gather together to make dried persimmons—this is another spectacular scene of this rural community.

Persimmon peeled and dried on skewers is a favourite foodstuff of the Korean people for its unique shape and taste and high nutritional value.

The autumnal scenery of Chonsam-ri leaves deep impression on the visitors.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Choe Won Chol



Open-air persimmon drying-ground on the farm



Children Enjoy Folk Games



Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA

