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Order of Kiyatikun

Chairman Kim Jong Il received the Order of Kiyatikun, the top order of Laos, from the President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in April 1992.





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Photo by Ri Chung Song



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New Year Address

Kim Jong Un

January 1, Juche 105 (2016)

DEAR COMRADES,
Filled with the dignity and self-respect of being victors, who have set up a shining milestone in the history of the glorious Workers' Party of Korea and our country, we are greeting the new year 2016.

In reflection of the fervent loyalty of all the people and service personnel, I extend the noblest respect and New Year greetings to the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, the symbol of socialist Korea and the sun of Juche.

My New Year greetings also go to all the service personnel and people, who are working devotedly for the prosperity of their socialist country with a firm determination to follow the road of Juche to the end together with the Party, and I wish that all the families will be filled with harmonious feelings and the happy laughter of our dear children resound more loudly.

Seeing in the new year, I extend greetings to our compatriots in the south and abroad who are struggling to achieve national reunification, the cherished desire of the nation, and to the progressive peoples and our friends in the world who aspire after independence, justice and peace.

The year 2015 was a year of gigantic struggle, which is adorned with meaningful events and eye-opening successes, a year of victory and glory, in which socialist Korea fully demonstrated its prestige and might.

Last year we celebrated the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea as a proud and significant revolutionary event of the great Paektusan nation.

Having turned out as one in hearty response to the Party's call, the service personnel and people waged a heroic struggle in the revolutionary spirit of Paektu and through bold army-people cooperation, thus bringing about proud labour results dedicated to the motherly Party.

The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, Chongchongang Power Station in Tiers, Sci-tech Complex, Mirae Scientists Street, Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm and many other structures

of lasting significance and beautiful socialist villages that embody the Party's ideas and policies sprang up, showing the mettle of the country which is advancing by leaps and bounds reducing ten years to one.

Our working class, scientists and technicians, true to the instructions of the great leaders, made a big stride in making the metallurgical industry Juche-based, built model, standard factories of the era of the knowledge-driven economy in various parts of the country and put production lines on a modern and IT footing, thus opening a new road of advance for developing the overall economy and improving the people's standard of living. The flames of the campaign to implement the Party's ideas and defend its policies have unfolded a proud reality of our indigenous plane flying in the sky and our indigenous subway train running under the ground, and rich fish and fruit harvests were gathered, their socialist flavour bringing pleasure to the people. Our sportspeople including the trustworthy women's soccer players exalted the honour of their motherland and further encouraged the militant spirit of our service personnel and people by winning gold medals in international competitions.

Through the large-scale events held to celebrate the Party's 70th anniversary drawing the attention of the world, we demonstrated far and wide the might of the single-hearted unity of all the service personnel and people around the Party and the bright future of Juche Korea.

The moving scenes unfolded on the October celebration square shook the world with power greater than that of explosion of an atomic bomb or that of the launching of an earth satellite, and clearly showed that nothing can check the dynamic advance of our Party, service personnel and people that are fighting with the single-hearted unity and arms as their ever-victorious weapons.

Last year our service personnel and people ward off the danger of war facing their country and nation and safeguarded the dignity of the Republic and world peace with honour.

► That we neutralized the hair-trigger situation teetering on the brink of armed conflict owing to the grave political and military provocations by the hostile forces and defended the dignity and security of our motherland from possible calamities is a brilliant victory born of the Herculean might of the great army-people unity and of the powerful Paektusan revolutionary army.

What makes us look back upon last year with greater delight is that our young vanguard who are reliably carrying forward the lineage of the Juche revolution and faith demonstrated the might of the youth power without parallel in the world by means of their loyalty to the Party and heroic struggle.

Educated and trained in the embrace of the great leaders and the Party, our young people rushed ahead along the course of the Korean revolution set by the Party, creating the charging spirit and culture of young people of the Songun era and performing laudable deeds that touched people's heartstrings. The millions of young people, fully equipped with the revolutionary ideology of the great leaders and firmly rallied behind the Party, have grown strong in ideas and faith, to become successors to the cause of the Juche revolution. This is the greatest dignity, pride and success for us.

All the victories and successes achieved last year are a fruition born of the heroic struggle of our people, who turned out in the general offensive for their country's prosperity with the spirit and mettle of Paektu, and a crystallization of the invaluable blood and sweat the service personnel and people dedicated to the country and the revolution.

Spending last year seething with creation and filled with miraculous achievements together with the service personnel and people, who were burning their hearts with patriotism and loyalty, our Party witnessed with a warm feeling their beautiful spiritual world and strenuous struggle and gained greater strength and courage from their trust-filled look and sincere opinions.

As there are the Party's sagacious leadership, the invincible army and the great people that absolutely support the Party and defend it unto death, we have no difficulties to be afraid of and can accomplish any great cause without fail—this is the proud conclusion of last year's struggle.

I extend warm thanks to all the members of the Workers' Party of Korea, service personnel and people who glorified last year with heroic struggle and feats in devoted support of the cause of the Party cherishing ardent loyalty to it and faith in sure victory.

Comrades,

This year is a significant year when the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea is to be held.

The congress will proudly review the successes our Party has achieved in the revolution and construction under the wise guidance of the great leaders, and unfold an ambitious blueprint for hastening final victory for our revolution.

We should celebrate the Seventh Party Congress as a glorious meeting of victors as it will constitute a historic landmark in carrying out the cause of the Juche revolution.

"Let us usher in a golden age in building a thriving nation in this year when the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea is to be held!"—this is the militant slogan our Party and people should uphold as they advance.

All Party members, service personnel and other people should turn out as one with ardent loyalty to the Party and extraordinary patriotic zeal, and demonstrate the spirit and mettle of Korea that is rushing forward towards final victory racing against time.

We should concentrate all our efforts on building an economic giant to bring about a fresh turn in developing the country's economy and improving the people's standard of living.

In order to achieve breakthroughs for a turning point in building an economic giant the electric-power, coal-mining and metallurgical industries and the rail transport sector should advance dynamically in the vanguard of the general offensive.

The problem of electricity should be resolved as an undertaking involving the whole Party and the whole state. The existing power stations should be kept in a good state of maintenance, bolstered up and run at full capacity to ensure maximum output of electric power. The construction of the Tanchon Power Station and other projects for boosting the country's power-generating capacity should be promoted along with the efforts to ease the strain on electricity supply by making proactive use of natural energy. All sectors and all units should wage a vigorous campaign to economize on electricity and make effective use of it. The sector of coal-mining industry should raise the fierce flames of an upsurge in production to ensure enough supply of coal for the thermal power stations and several sectors of the national economy.

The state should take thoroughgoing measures to make certain that the sector of metallurgical industry receives adequate material supplies and the metallurgical factories, such as the Kim Chaek ►

▶ and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes, expand the successes achieved in making their production Juche-based and modern. By doing so it can increase the output of iron and steel. The rail transport sector should establish rigid discipline and increase effectiveness in organizing and controlling transport services to ensure regular operation of trains, and step up the modernization of railways.

Our Party maintains the improvement of the people's living conditions as the most important of the numerous state affairs.

The crop farming, animal husbandry and fishing sectors should make innovations to effect a radical change in improving the people's standard of living. The agricultural sector should actively adopt superior strains and scientific farming methods, speed up the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy and take strict measures for each farming process, so as to carry out the cereals production plan without fail. The animal husbandry and fishing sectors, which are waging an all-out struggle in response to the Party's call, should ramp up production as soon as possible and see to it that the fish farms, vegetable greenhouses and mushroom production bases built across the country pay off. Thus they can contribute to enriching the people's diet.

The light industry sector should put its factories and enterprises on a highly modern footing, provide them with plenty of raw and other materials to keep their production going full steam and increase the number of world-famous products and commodities with a competitive edge.

Construction is a yardstick and visual evidence for the strength of a country and the quality of its civilization; it constitutes a worthwhile, important undertaking for embodying our Party's people-oriented policies. The construction sector should launch a general offensive to implement the Party's construction policy and grand plan. By doing so, it should build important production facilities, educational and cultural institutions and dwelling houses on the highest possible level and at the fastest possible speed, so that they serve as standards and models of the times. In this way it can make sure that the great heyday of construction continues without letup.

All the sectors of the national economy should set ambitious goals and maintain regular production by tapping every possible internal reserve and potentiality. They should also take it as an important policy-oriented requirement to improve product quality, ensure domestic production of equipment and rely on locally available raw and other

materials, and make strenuous efforts to this end.

The whole Party, the entire army and all the people should buckle down to the campaign to restore the forests of the country.

The urban and rural areas, workplaces and villages should be kept spick and span, and positive measures should be taken to conserve the resources of the country and prevent air, river and sea pollution.

Our Party is steadfast in its determination and will to solidify the foundations of a thriving country by dint of science and technology and, with them as the engine, achieve national prosperity. The scientific research sector should give priority to resolving the scientific and technological problems that arise in consolidating the might of the Juche-based industry, the socialist independent economy, and improving the people's standard of living, and strive to push back the frontiers of science and technology. Factories, enterprises and cooperative farms should build science and technology diffusion rooms in a splendid fashion and put their operation on a regular basis, so as to ensure that all the working people learn modern science and technology. It is also necessary to establish a social climate of resolving the problems arising in reality on the strength of science and technology.

The Cabinet and other state and economic organs should decisively improve their economic planning and guidance. Leading economic officials should fully equip themselves with Party policy, work out plans of the economic work in an innovative way and give a strong push to it on the principle of developing all the sectors at an exponential speed by relying on the inexhaustible creative strength of the working people and by dint of modern science and technology. They should accurately identify the main link in the whole chain of economic development and concentrate efforts on it while revitalizing the overall economy, especially when the conditions are not favourable and many difficulties arise. They should be proactive in organizing and launching the work of establishing on a full scale our style of economic management method which embodies the Juche idea, thus giving full play to its advantages and vitality.

The political and military might of our Republic should be strengthened in every way.

It is necessary to cement the politico-ideological position of socialism rock-solid.

We should regard ideology as the driving force of the revolution and focus on the five-point education so as to train all the service personnel and people to be strong in ideas, to etch in their hearts ▶

▶ the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, the spirit of the blizzards of Paektu, and encourage them to give free rein to their indomitable mental strength in the struggle to carry out the instructions of the great leaders and safeguard the Party's policies. Political work and frontline-style information and motivational work should be vigorously conducted to ensure that the whole country seethes with an atmosphere of heightened political enthusiasm in the lead-up to the Seventh Party Congress.

Single-hearted unity is the great foundation and ever-victorious weapon for the Juche revolution. All the officials, Party members and other working people should connect their burning hearts with the garden of the offices of the Party Central Committee and share the Party's ideas, breathe the same breath as it and keep pace with it in order to travel one road forever following the Party. Party organizations and state organs should give absolute priority to the demands and interests of the people by thoroughly applying the politics of prioritizing, respecting and loving them, and take responsible care of their political integrity and material and cultural life to the end. Party organizations should take hold of public sentiments, rally the broad sections of the masses closely around the Party, and launch an intensive struggle among officials against all practices of abuse of power, bureaucratism and corruption that gnaw at and undermine our single-hearted unity.

The country's defence capability should be built up.

In this year, which marks the 20th anniversary of the movement of winning the title of O Jung Hup-led 7th Regiment initiated by General Kim Jong Il, the People's Army should further develop itself into a revolutionary army of the Party in which the Party's unified command system is thoroughly established, into a steadfast army of the Party that keeps the revolutionary faith to the death, and effect a turnaround in implementing the Party's four-point line of building up the army to be formidable. By keeping it as the seed to conduct training in a real-war atmosphere and put it on a scientific and modern footing, the army should raise the fierce flames of training so that all the service personnel are prepared to be elite soldiers of modern warfare and stout fighters who are equipped with the military strategies and tactics of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, the heroic fighting spirit and flawless abilities to fight an actual war. It should become a standard-bearer and shock force of the times to make breakthroughs as intended by the Party on the major

fronts where a thriving country is being built, and look for more tasks that are for the good of the people.

Officers and men of the Korean People's Internal Security Forces should smash in embryo the manoeuvrings of the class enemy and hostile elements to harm the leadership of the revolution, our socialist system and our people's lives and property, and members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards should intensify combat and political training and fully prepare themselves to defend their villages.

The munitions industry sector should develop defence science and technology, put the defence industry on a highly Juche-oriented, modern and scientific footing, and give full play to the revolutionary spirit of Kunja-ri, so as to develop and produce a greater number of various means of military strike of our own style that are capable of overwhelming the enemy.

We should ensure that our people enjoy the highest quality of civilization on the highest level.

By raising the flames of radical improvement in education in the new century, we should renovate the conditions and environment for education and improve its quality decisively, thereby bringing up talented personnel who are knowledgeable, morally sound and physically strong. We should improve medical treatment and preventive work as required by the socialist public health system in order to protect the people's life and promote their health.

We should make sports mass-based and part of daily concern to ensure that the whole country is astir with enthusiasm for sports, and radically develop the specialized sporting techniques to create new miracles of heroic Korea in international games. The sector of art and literature should brace itself to produce a larger number of contemporary masterpieces which make all the service personnel and people burn their hearts with enthusiasm for the revolution and for struggle.

We should launch a strong drive to establish discipline with regard to moral ethics so as to ensure that a sound and civilized way of life prevails throughout the country.

All the officials and working people should turn out as one in the struggle to usher in a golden age in building a thriving nation in this year when the Seventh Party Congress is to be held.

It is the tradition of struggle and temperament of our people to turn out with a single mind and will and continuously work miracles like moving mountains and filling up seas if it is the Party's

▶

► call.

The heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, as befits the core unit of the Juche revolution and the eldest son of the country, should support the Party's ideas and cause in the vanguard and advance holding up the torch of a new great revolutionary upsurge in building an economic giant. Agricultural workers, with the sense of responsibility that they are in the trench on the first line of the forward echelon of the campaign to defend socialism, should strive to bring about a turn in agricultural production. Intellectuals should promote the building of a thriving country by means of brilliant scientific and technological successes as required by the era of the knowledge-based economy, and become pacesetters and standard-bearers in opening the efflorescence of civilization of the age of the Workers' Party.

Our Party pins a great hope on the role of young people in today's general advance. Young people, cherishing the trust of the Party that has given prominence to them as masters of the youth power, should train themselves further to be dependable pillars of the country and become artists of miracles and heroes on all the sites where a thriving nation is being built.

Officials should immerse themselves in the reality to inspire the masses and conduct every undertaking in a revolutionary and scientific way. They should also become true servants of the people and competent leading personnel of the revolution who make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people with the ennobling view of life that they have nothing more to wish for even though their bodies may be scattered like the grains of sand on the road for the good of the people.

In all fields of social life we should sustain the original features and great appearances of our society which is advancing on the strength of helping and leading one another forward and through a concerted effort. Our target is a Juche-oriented socialist power, and the might of socialism is none other than the might of collectivism. All sectors and all units should attach primary importance to the interests of the state, the Party and the revolution, introduce the successes and experiences gained by the leading units and make leaps and bounds in the flames of collectivist competition.

The principle of giving priority to self-development should be maintained in building a thriving socialist country. Worship of big countries and dependence on foreign forces is the road to national ruin; self-development alone is the road to sustaining the dignity of our country and our na-

tion and to paving a broad avenue for the revolution and construction. With affection, trust, dignity and pride in everything of our own, we should achieve the great cause of building a thriving nation and realize the people's beautiful dreams and ideals without fail by our own efforts, technology and resources.

National reunification is the most pressing and vital task facing the nation.

Last year, greeting the 70th anniversary of national liberation, we appealed to all the compatriots to pool their efforts to open up a broad avenue to independent reunification, and strived for its realization. However, the anti-reunification forces that are not desirous of national reunification and improved inter-Korean relations ran amuck to realize their schemes for a war and even created a touch-and-go situation short of crossfire, causing grave apprehension at home and abroad. The south Korean authorities publicly sought to realize their goal of "regime change" in our country and unilateral "unification of systems" against the trend of inter-Korean dialogue and détente, and fanned distrust and confrontation between the north and the south.

This year we should hold up the slogan "Let us frustrate the challenges by the anti-reunification forces within and without and usher in a new era of independent reunification!" and press on with the national reunification movement more vigorously.

We should reject foreign intervention and resolve the issues of inter-Korean relations and national reunification independently in keeping with the aspirations and demands of the nation.

It is none other than the outside forces that divided our nation, and it is also none other than the United States and its followers that obstruct the reunification of our country. Notwithstanding this, the south Korean authorities are clinging to a smear campaign against the fellow countrymen in collusion with the outside forces while touring foreign countries to ask for the solution of the internal issue of our nation, the issue of its reunification. This is a betrayal of the country and nation that leaves the destiny of the nation at the mercy of the outside forces and sells out its interests.

The issues of inter-Korean relations and national reunification should, to all intents and purposes, be resolved by the efforts of our nation in conformity with its independent will and demands, true to the principle of *By Our Nation Itself*. No one will or can bring our nation reunification.

The whole nation should struggle resolutely against the sycophantic and treacherous manoeu-

► vres of the anti-reunification forces to cooperate with the outside forces. The south Korean authorities should discontinue such a humiliating act as going on a tour of foreign countries touting for cooperation in resolving the internal issues of the nation.

It is fundamental to realizing the country's reunification to prevent the danger of war and safeguard peace and security in the Korean 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 the domination of Asia and its reckless moves for a war against the DPRK. The US and south Korean war maniacs are conducting 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.

The US and south Korean authorities must discontinue their extremely dangerous aggressive war exercises and suspend acts of military provocation that aggravates tension in the Korean peninsula.

It is our consistent stand to strive with patience for peace in the peninsula and security in the region. However, if aggressors dare to provoke us, though to a slight degree, we will never tolerate it but respond resolutely with a merciless sacred war of justice, a great war for national reunification.

We should value such agreements common to the nation as the three principles for national reunification and declarations between the north and the south, and in conformity with them, open up an avenue to improved bilateral relations.

These principles and declarations constitute the great reunification programme common to the nation, and all fellow countrymen wish that they are implemented as soon as possible and a radical phase opened up in reunifying the country.

If they are sincere about improving inter-Korean relations and reunifying the country peacefully, the south Korean authorities must not seek pointless confrontation of systems, but make it clear that they intend to respect and implement with sincerity the three principles for national reunification, June 15 Joint Declaration and October 4 Declaration, which crystallize the general will of the nation and whose validity has been

proved in practice. They should cherish the spirit of the agreement signed last year at the inter-Korean high-level emergency contact, and desist from any act that will lead to a breach of the agreement and mar the atmosphere of dialogue. In the future, too, we will make strenuous efforts to develop inter-Korean talks and improve bilateral relations. We will also have an open-minded discussion on the reunification issue, one of the national issues, with anyone who is truly desirous of national reconciliation and unity, peace and reunification.

All the Korean people in the north, in the south and abroad will smash all challenges and obstructive moves by the anti-reunification forces in and out of the country and build a dignified and prosperous reunified Korea on this land without fail under the banner of *By Our Nation Itself*.

The United States has persisted in ignoring our just demand for replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace pact to remove the danger of war, ease tension and create a peaceful environment in the Korean peninsula. Instead, it has clung to its anachronistic policy hostile towards the DPRK, escalating the tension and egging its vassal forces on to stage a "human rights" racket against the country. However, no plots and schemes of the enemy could break the indomitable will of our service personnel and people to firmly defend and add brilliance to our style of people-centred socialism, the base of their happy life.

The challenges by the hostile forces remain uninterrupted and the situation is as tense as ever, but we will invariably advance along the road of independence, Songun and socialism under the unfurled red flag of the revolution, and make all responsible efforts to safeguard peace and security in the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world.

Our Party and the government of our Republic will further strengthen solidarity with the peoples of the world who are opposed to aggression and war, domination and subordination, and develop relations of friendship and cooperation with all the countries that respect our national sovereignty and are friendly to us.

The cause of Juche-oriented socialism is ever-victorious, and only victory and glory is in store for us who are advancing under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Let us all strive for the final victory of the revolution full of confidence in victory and optimism.

Greeting the hope-filled new year, I wish the people across the country good health and happiness. □

The Tradition of Self-reliance

Rugged Course Rather Than Level Road

ONE DAY IN OCTOBER 1984, CHAIRMAN Kim Jong Il gave on-the-spot guidance to the then Ragwon Machine Factory for the third time. While inquiring into the production of oxygen plants, he asked how many of the parts of the large oxygen plants were made in the factory itself. The workers answered that all the parts except the ones engaged in cooperative production were made in the factory. He was pleased to hear that, and, coming to a large machine, told its operator to get it going to see how it worked. At the flip of the switch the machine began to run slowly and turned out wonderfully fine products. Seeing the working of the machine, the Chairman said that he was right to have believed them and that the achievement meant a great revolution displaying industrial might of the nation once again.

He further said that the workers of Ragwon had tackled by themselves the tasks assigned to them by the Party without relying on others, greatly benefiting the country by following the rugged course from the beginning rather than going the level road. He added that the whole country should learn from the exemplary revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude of the Ragwon workers who had made grenades from scratch during the Fatherland Liberation War and water pumps in the days of postwar reconstruction, and were now making oxygen plants in adverse conditions. Learning that the production of drilling rigs increased four to five times through the production emulation at the factory, he said beaming with smiles the self-reliance team won the game against the relying-on-others team.

Before leaving, he stressed the need to continue with the tradition of self-reliance and solved all problems such as of supply services for the workers and the building of a nursery school and a kindergarten.

Not in Word but in Deed

In September 2012 the national leader

Kim Jong Un visited the then Taedonggang Tile Works. Surveying for a long while the interior of the building of the second-stage project with large machines standing in rows, he said that Chairman Kim Jong Il had proposed to build the works as a base of building materials production and chosen its site, and then he highly praised the managers and workers of the works for completing the colossal second-stage project of expanding the capacity of production, which was a task given by Chairman Kim Jong Il, in three years by their own efforts.

The building of the second-stage project was furnished with the production processes for large and high-quality building materials such as microlites, composite glass tiles and scagliolas. Seeing the samples of arching tiles and glass products which were slightly curved on the surface, he said with pleasure that most of the buildings going up now are shaped square, but that the arching products from the works opened up vistas for constructing round buildings. When a managerial official of the factory told him that they gasified anthracite coal and home-produced all raw materials, he said that this works was an enterprise run entirely by domestic raw materials and fuel, one faithful to Juche as the Chairman had said. After making the rounds of the production process of the second-stage project, he went over to the production process of the first-stage project following the course of on-the-spot guidance by the Chairman.

Watching various floor tiles flowing out on the conveyor system, he said that he had heard the works had sent large quantities of tiles to major construction sites including those of Changjon Street and Rungna People's Pleasure Ground, adding that it was a matter of great pride that Korea's own buildings of Korea's own designs were dressed with tiles of Korea's own make. With this, he likened it gleefully to dressing his people with outer garments and underwear of Korea's own make. He said he was pleased with the people of the works because they did not covet things of others, and highly praised them for their patriotism practised not in word but in deed.

Kim Un Chol

Independence—Lifeline of Korea



Kim Jong Il, Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (November 2000).

LAST YEAR THE KOREAN people splendidly celebrated the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea. Over the seven decades the Party has led the Korean people to victory, and it is inconceivable apart from the revolutionary leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who led the country straight along the road of independence, Songun

and socialism.

The distress-torn history of the Korean nation and the chequered history of the international revolutionary movement left bitter lessons that flunkeyism and dependence on outside forces result in humiliation and submission and only bring about failures and setbacks. Deeply understanding the lessons of history and requirements of the

time Kim Il Sung, in his early years of revolutionary activities, originated the Juche idea that man is the master of his own destiny and that he plays the decisive role in shaping his destiny. By implanting the spirit of independence in the mind of the Korean revolutionaries and people, the President accomplished the historic cause of Korea's liberation and built a socialist coun- ►

► try, independent in politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in national defence, on this land.

Chairman Kim Jong Il invariably maintained the principle of independence as required by the Juche idea, thus firmly defending the sovereignty and dignity of the nation and further developing the people-centric socialism.

Since its founding the DPRK has built up socialism against the imperialists' persistent moves of sanction and blockade and the obstructive schemes of the dominationists. In the latter half of last century the country was faced with far more vicious policies of the imperialists aimed at suffocation. The imperialists and reactionaries clamoured about the "end of socialism" following the consecutive collapse of socialism in several countries. At this juncture, Kim Jong Il published his immortal classic works including *The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party*, *Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable* and *Socialism Is a Science*, proving the validity and scientific accuracy of socialism and solemnly declaring that his country would go its own way without any deviation and vacillation.

At that time the DPRK had to bear the brunt of attack from the US-led imperialist allied forces that were pursuing a harsher policy of isolation and suffocation. The Chairman held higher the banner of independence, frustrating the enemy's aggressive and provocative moves apart. When the United States put pressure on Korea in all fields of politics, defence, the economy, ideology and culture, and diplomacy taking issue with the country about "suspicion of nuclear arms development" and forcing it to accept nuclear inspection, the Korean

leader took tougher countermeasures against the policy of suffocation. Consequently, the US President, on October 20, 1994, sent him a letter of assurances for the provision of light water reactors and for arrangements for interim energy alternatives; the DPRK-USA joint statement in which both parties agreed to settle the nuclear issue of Korea peacefully was adopted on June 11, 1993; and the DPRK-USA Agreed Framework, the gist of which was for the US to provide Korea with light water reactors and interim energy alternatives, was adopted on October 21, 1994.

In those days Chairman Kim Jong Il applied Songun politics in all fields and thus laid a firm foundation to thoroughly safeguard the sovereignty of the nation and advance socialism dynamically. In the previous working-class theory the working class was defined as the leading class and the main force of the revolution, and this theory was recognized as truth in other socialist countries. Irrespective of the preceding theory and existing formula the Chairman created the mode of Songun politics by succeeding to and developing President Kim Il Sung's idea and line of attaching importance to arms in keeping with the changed situation and the requirement of the revolutionary development, and officially set it as the basic political mode in building socialism.

As a result, the military power of Korea strengthened remarkably thanks to the unique Songun politics which pushes ahead with overall socialist construction by consolidating the driving force of the revolution with the People's Army as its core and main body; in August 1998 Korea successfully launched its first artificial earth satellite of its own make, and soon made a success of an underground

nuclear test. The mass media around the world featured the event, saying that Korea humbled the United States in its own right, that the US was in a tight corner due to the independent Songun politics of Korea, and that if the US were keeping hold of the world, Korea was keeping hold of the US.

The prestige of Korea grew higher thanks to Kim Jong Il's wise leadership in maintaining the principle of independence and staunchly defying any pressure and threat from outside forces. A new change took place in the situation: those countries that had neglected and kept away from Korea switched their policy to improve relations. In a few years nearly all west European countries, including Italy, the UK, the Netherlands, Germany and Spain as well as the European Union, and many other countries such as Canada, Brazil, New Zealand, Kuwait and Bahrain established or reestablished diplomatic relations with Pyongyang.

By virtue of Songun politics, or independent politics, of Chairman Kim Jong Il, the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration was adopted in June 2000 to achieve reunification of Korea with the concerted efforts of the Koreans true to the ideal of "By our nation itself" and, in 2007 the October 4 Declaration, the action programme of the June 15 Declaration, was adopted, thus unfolding the eye-opening reality of the era of the June 15 reunification for the first time in relations between the north and the south of Korea.

Today the national leader Kim Jong Un is carrying forward Songun politics, politics of independence, and the politics is pushing the socialism of Korean style vigorously while overcoming all sorts of challenges.

Sim Chol Ok



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

The People's Army, Vanguard of Patriotism



CHAIRMAN KIM JONG IL was a peerless patriot who firmly safeguarded socialist Korea by holding high the banner of Songun and forged the almighty sword for the independent development of the nation.

Holding higher the banner of Songun, he put up the Korean People's Army as the vanguard of patriotism. He clarified that the People's Army is the main force of the revolution and the pillar of the country. He regarded the army as the vanguard of the patriotic struggle to carve out the destiny of the country and nation, not simply a means of winning political power and of national defence. Moreover, he deemed the People's Army most reliable and

powerful in all respects not only in defending the country but also in leading the van of the gigantic patriotic work of building the country in the circumstances of ceaseless threats of imperialist aggression and hard conditions facing the building of a prosperous socialist nation.

In the whole period of revolutionary leadership, he led the People's Army to fulfil its responsibility and role as the main force of the revolution and the vanguard of patriotism. His primary concern was to closely equip the People's Army politically and ideologically. He set forth an idea that the revolutionary army should be the army of the leader and the Party before being an

armed force fighting against the enemy with arms, and adhered to it consistently in building up the army. He saw to it that ideological education was conducted vigorously to foster the People's Army soldiers as men of strong ideas and faith, and took warm care of them, regarding them as his revolutionary comrades.

The strong ties that united the leader and the soldiers firmly like blood relations were the former's warm love for and trust in the latter. When he visited a KPA unit, he would make the rounds of the barrack rooms, kitchen, wash and bath room, daily storehouse and sideline fields and even tasted the foods. He did not forget a promise he had made with the

► parents of an ordinary soldier, and looked up their son on his frontline trip and had a photo taken with him. Though he made a night trip to visit a unit, he waited outside in the cold wind for a long time lest he should disturb the sleeping soldiers at dawn. He would visit army posts on high mountains and defence units on remote islets in raging wind to meet the soldiers. So, the soldiers followed and trusted the Chairman who had a warmer heart than their own parents, not only as their Supreme Commander but also as their benevolent father, faithfully supporting his idea and leadership.

Chairman Kim Jong Il reared the People's Army into a powerful armed force guarding the anti-imperialist military front. He defined national defence as a war for defending socialism, and the anti-imperialist military front as the lifeline of the revolution affecting the fate of the country and the people. He put up the People's Army which is by far stronger than any other social bodies in the revolutionary spirit, fighting power, organization and discipline as the armed force guarding the anti-imperialist military front and the vanguard defending the socialist motherland. He put his heart and soul into building up the People's Army into a match-for-a-hundred force equipped with the latest armaments. Thanks to his Songun-based revolutionary leadership, the KPA developed into a strong combat force not only in ideology and spiritual strength but also in operational and tactical capability, training and armament.

One day in October 2005 he sat together with commanding officers of the People's Army and said that the banner of Songun had made it possible for his nation to go through successfully the severe Arduous March and the forced march and firmly defend

the socialism of Korean style against the imperialists' anti-DPRK and anti-socialist moves, demonstrating the dignity of the country and nation to the whole world. He put up the KPA, defender of the country, as the builder of the people's welfare and the shock brigade for the building of a thriving nation, and dynamically propelled socialist construction as a whole with the revolutionary army as its pillar.

In his uninterrupted journey of field inspection to the army, he always stressed that the soldiers should display the laudable spirit of army-people unity so that they love and kindly help the people and that they should continue to set examples in breaking through difficulties in the hard and rough fronts of building a prosperous nation. He entrusted the KPA with socialist construction in addition to national defence, and led them to render distinguished labour services in the hard and tough sectors of work including the building of huge power stations, large-scale land rezoning projects and irrigation works, agricultural production and coal mining.

Under the slogan "Let us take

upon ourselves both national defence and socialist construction!" the People's Army soldiers made breakthroughs in the most difficult sections of socialist construction. They erected many monumental edifices representing the Songun era in all parts of the country, and brought about great changes in the major sectors of socialist construction including coal, power and agriculture. In this way the Chairman created a new method of building a prosperous and powerful nation by making the KPA the main force in both national defence and socialist construction to push forward overall socialist construction with the spiritual strength and vigour of the army.

The present-day reality in Korea where great progress is made in overall socialist construction owing to the pivotal role and heroic struggle of the People's Army is eloquent proof that the road of Songun opened up by the Chairman with the army as the vanguard of patriotism is the genuine road of building a thriving nation and of patriotism.

Pak Chong Sop

Soldier builders make contribution to the effort to build a thriving nation.



Holy Resort of Korean Revolution



FROM OLDEN TIMES MT. PAKTU WAS well known as the most celebrated among the eight beauty spots in Korea. Covered with white snow for all seasons, it stands magnificent harbouring Lake Chon, a natural lake on the top of the mountain.

There can be seen some grand panoramas on Mt. Paektu—the grand and magnificent alpine regions and 216 peaks including Janggun Peak, Piru Peak and Manmulsang which look like giant pieces of craftwork for their time-honoured natural cutting and trimming, Lake Chon with a deep and expansive body of clear water, unique physiographical formations, spectacular sunrise and beautiful evening glow, unmeasured ancient forests and flowers in full bloom, hot spring gushing from deep under the ground, and forceful waterfalls.

As Mt. Paektu, situated in the centre of the northern borderline of Korea, rises magnificently in

the unmeasured nature with wonderful natural beauty, it is associated with many legends, and the Korean people have long worshipped the mountain as in Heaven.

Mt. Paektu is the ancestral mountain permeated with the soul of the Korean nation. The mountain, which came into existence in a volcanic eruption about a million years ago, formed the skeletal topography of Korea. Settling in this land that spreads from Mt. Paektu, King Tangun, the founding father of the Korean nation, opened the age of state of mankind, and his descendants have lived in the land generation after generation as a homogeneous nation while nourishing wisdom and courage and developing brilliant culture and beautiful manners.

The Great Paektu Mountains, which runs from Mt. Paektu to Mt. Halla in Jeju Island, is the main mountain range of the country. As Mt. Paektu is the starting point of the Korean topography and the ►

Lake Chon in Mt. Paektu.





The birthplace of Chairman Kim Jong Il in the Paektusan Secret Camp, and the people on a study tour to the birthplace.

- ▶ Great Paektu Mountains makes up the main range of the Korean territory, the Korean people have long worshipped it as ancestral mountain and honed their national spirit, modelling themselves after its undauntedness and pure-heartedness.

Since Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, waged a revolutionary struggle in Mt. Paektu, the hereditary ancestral mountain and cradle of the national history now became a sacred mountain of the great sun. The Korean people regarded it as a symbol of the struggle for national liberation since the anti-Japanese armed warfare was started there by Kim Il Sung. It was just the star of hope to the Korean people.

The President founded the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army in the forests of Antu from where Mt. Paektu is within a stone's throw and launched the anti-Japanese armed struggle based in Mt. Paektu. All the lines and strategic policies on the national liberation struggle were formulated and realized in Mt. Paektu; it was there that plans were drawn up and executed to build lots of secret bases across the country and rally patriotic forces.

The mountain has lots of legendary tales about the President, well known among the people—"A General Has Appeared in Mt. Paektu," "The General Star over Mt. Paektu," "Now That the General Star Has Risen, Our Country Will Be Soon Liberated," "As General Kim Il Sung Has Come to Our Village, the Morning Star Shines Brilliantly in the Galaxy in Midnight," "General Kim Il Sung Is Capable of Commanding Heaven and Earth," and "Where Is He, in the Sky or Under the Ground?" etc.



and difficulties creating the revolutionary spirit of Paektu with which to strive to win victory after victory in any adversity.

Mt. Paektu is the birthplace of Kim Jong Il, eternal General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea. There can be seen a simple log cabin at the foot of Jong Il Peak in Sobaeksu Valley. This is the native home of the leader. The anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters addressed him as *Kwangmyongsong* (Shining Star) with the hope that he would grow to be a star shining the land of Korea.

Kim Jong Il spent his childhood in the arduous period of revolution. Battle fields where gun reports roared and the thick forests of Mt. Paektu swept by a severe snowstorm were just the places of his growth and learning. That's why he kept the forests of Mt. Paektu in his heart all his life and enshrined the soul of revolution that settled in Mt. Paektu.

Early in his school days he pioneered the study tour to Mt. Paektu and climbed the mountain several times, making up his mind to accomplish the revolu- ▶

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, a Revolutionary Ideology With an Integrated System of Idea, Theory and Method

KIMILSUNGISM-KIMJONGILISM IS NOT only an ideological theory run through with the Juche idea that man is the master of everything and decides everything but also a revolutionary ideology with the integrated system of idea, theory and method.

It consists of the idea, theory and method of Juche. The Juche idea is the gist of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, which is a revolutionary ideology with the Juche idea as its quintessence, with all its other contents and components developed and systematized according to and proceeding from the idea.

The revolutionary theory of Juche is an essential constituent of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism. It comprehensively clarifies the theories on national liberation, class emancipation and human liberty and on the transformation of society, nature and man to be carried out by the masses of the people independ-

ently and creatively.

It scientifically illuminates the road ahead of the revolutionary struggle with the stress put on the internal factors. So, it has clarified that the fundamental method of the revolution lies in strengthening the main body of the revolution—the united whole of the leader, Party, army and people—and in enhancing its role, and that the revolution will take place and come off victoriously when the main body of the revolution is strengthened and its role is exalted although the productive forces are in a low level of development. It further elucidates that the main goal of the revolution is to eradicate all manner of fetters and subordinations and to completely realize the independence of the popular masses, and that, to this end, one should carry on the revolution to the last even after the establishment of the socialist system.

In particular, the revolutionary theory of Juche ►

► tionary cause of Juche while looking back on the glorious revolutionary activities of President Kim Il Sung. Under his wise leadership, many sites and relics of historic importance relating to the revolution—battle sites in wide areas centring on the Paektusan Secret Camp, slogan-bearing trees, houses and tents—were discovered, thus actively contributing to the education in the revolutionary traditions.

Chairman Kim Jong Il spent all his life with the blizzards of Mt. Paektu in his mind. That's how the world of noble comradeship, in which they keep their promises made before the revolution, was created, and the system of benevolent care for all people and single-hearted unity of the national leader, the Party, the army and the people was formed.

Mt. Paektu is the eternal symbol of succession and completion of the revolutionary cause of Juche.

The supreme leader Kim Jong Un is leading the country with the will to build a thriving socialist nation at all costs by realizing the desires of the President and the Chairman in the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu.

In October 2014, he climbed Janggun Peak, the

crown of Mt. Paektu, defying the roaring, fierce snowstorm. There he declared that one can have a true idea of Mt. Paektu only when one exposes oneself to the blizzard on the snow-stormy Paektu, like he did at the moment, and strengthen a resolve to accomplish the Korean revolution to the end. He said that the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, or the spirit of blizzards of Paektu, is the noble spirit that the Korean army and people should keep in their heart forever and the most precious spiritual treasure that overwhelms a total of all valuables in the world.

True to his intention, study tour groups of service personnel, students and working people of all strata visit Mt. Paektu. They renew their resolve while feeling the soil of Paektu that is associated with the soul of the Korean nation and the historical root of Juche revolution.

This is how the Korean revolution, implanted with the soul of Paektu, is making progress.

Mt. Paektu, the pride of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il's nation, will stand shining forever with the nation of the sun.

An Song Duk

► explicates the idea and theory on further strengthening the main force of the revolution and constantly raising its role by giving priority to the military affairs and building up the strength of the armed forces in every way in keeping with the inherent requirements of the revolutionary struggle which is attended with physical showdown with imperialism and all manner of counterrevolutionary forces so as to firmly guarantee the victory of the revolution. Thanks to the revolutionary theory of Juche, the theories on the anti-imperialist national-liberation revolution, anti-feudal democratic revolution and socialist revolution have been systematized originally. Especially, the theory on socialist construction has been elucidated in a new, comprehensive way.

The Juche-oriented method of leadership is a major component of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism. It is the system and method for leading the masses of the people to hold their ground as master of the revolution and construction and fulfil their role as such. Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism presented the issue of the method of leadership as a fundamental question for victory of the revolution, clarifying it comprehensively, and, in particular, threw a new full light on the ruling party's method of leadership and the method of leading socialist construction. All problems arising in the leadership of the revolution and construction from the principle and system of leadership to the method and style of work have been elucidated to the full by the theory on the Juche-oriented method of leadership.

The structural characteristics of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as an integrated system of idea, theory and method of Juche clearly show the path of progress of the present times. Our time is an age of change, creation and struggle devoted to building genuine human society, a society where the popular masses are the master of everything, free from all manner of inhuman anti-popular practices. The path of development of history lies in raising to the highest level the role of the popular masses who are in charge of the struggle to enhance the dignity and value of man to the utmost and create history.

The key to victorious advance of the revolution is in training and guiding the popular masses to be fully aware that they are the master of their own destiny and constantly exalt their responsibility and role as such. Therefore, the revolution requires applying the most scientific principles purposefully and employing the right strategies and tactics suited to

each stage of struggle, and it is essential to use a correct method of guiding the masses. Proceeding from such actual requirements of the development of history, the guiding idea of the present age should be made up of the system of idea, theory and method.

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is fully equipped with such structural characters as a guiding idea of the present times illuminating the path of development of history. It is a revolutionary idea with a perfect structural system rather than a complex of various learnings. For its weighty historical mission to guide the popular masses in their liberation struggle, Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism cannot follow the traditions of the past. The age when they have emerged as a legitimate master of their own destiny for the first time in human history has posed the urgent task of the times to make them the full-fledged master of the world and their own destiny. In order to settle this contemporary task it is imperative to equip the masses closely with the idea of independence and lead their liberation struggle correctly with a scientific theory and method.

With this historic mission Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism established an integrated system of the revolutionary theory and leadership method which gives scientific elucidation to the ideas infusing independent consciousness into the popular masses and the object, direction and ways of struggle. The three components of Juche—idea, theory and method—provide a comprehensive analysis and stocktaking of experience of the masses winning victories in their struggles waged under the correct guiding idea, theory and method and also of the lessons of failures. The revolutionary struggle for the independence of the popular masses will win brilliant victory when they, the master of the struggle, are fully equipped with high independent consciousness and revolutionary world outlook, when strategic and tactical leadership based on a scientific revolutionary theory is assured in the revolution and construction, and when their revolutionary zeal and creative activity are turned to full account.

The composition of the idea, theory and method of Juche is an ideological and theoretical system inevitably required by the experience and lessons of the revolutionary practice and struggle of the masses of the people. The Juche system of idea, theory and method is a structure peculiar to Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

Jong Kyong Bok

History Brimming With Noble Moral Obligation (3)

By I. Ya. Novichenko

I HAVE A LIVING MEMORY of what happened when the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation was celebrated. Just before the national meeting for the celebration started, President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il received my father in the lobby. The President had a handshake with heads of many foreign delegations, and, alarmingly, when he reached my father he had a hearty embrace. Chairman Kim Jong Il wore a bright smile to see my father, giving a warm handshake. This meant father remained a flower in the garden of internationalism and friendship between the Soviet Union and the DPRK, and now between Russia and the DPRK, although it was scores of years ago that he performed a heroic feat at a moment of history.

Now talking of the 70th anniversary of their own events people wear different expressions recollecting their past life.

Father has been praised by the Korean leaders as symbol of the DPRK-Russia friendship. He is a Labour Hero of the DPRK. To me and my family the country became the second fatherland. Visiting Mangyongdae and climbing Mt. Paektu, we learned the history and spirit of the socialist Korea. We also went on a sightseeing to the Arch of Triumph, the Tower of the Juche Idea, the West Sea Barrage and other monumental edifices, and this helped us to know what kind of great leaders the Korean people had. We had a good time at famous scenic spots like Mts. Myohyang and

Kumgang. Father told us that he had had swimming in the sea as many hours as the young people although he had lost one arm, and that he had caught more than 40 fish with a fishing rod Chairman Kim Jong Il had given him as a gift. I thought he was benefiting from a great sense of obligation, indeed. They call Ya. T. Novichenko flower of Russia-Korea friendship, and I wish to tell them that President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il were men of true humanity and great leaders who tended with all cares and efforts the garden of full-blown flowers of obligation.

The swaying forests of Siberian birches sound so magnificent and dignified as they carry a song of true sense of obligation. The plate of my house in Travnoye is written with the following statement: "This is the house of DPRK Labour Hero Yakov Tikhonovich Novichenko (April 28, 1914-December 8, 1994)." This is quite a formal statement but it carries a profound meaning. Like a torrent under thick ice, it goes with a deep affection and an ardent future-oriented desire. The meaning of the words is that history will not throw earth on his name, that Russia will regard the DPRK as its eternal brother and that the fraternity, obligation and internationalism between the two peoples will remain steadfast.

The plate is a sign of infinite respect for my father, reminding our posterity of the old house in the forest of birches. It was presented by the Novosibirsk provincial government and the Dobo-

lensk District administration on the 100th birthday of my father. I'm grateful for the contribution, and I know it is in the background of the friendship with the DPRK that cherishes the memory of my father despite the passage of time. The plate is fixed to a house that is a long way off from Moscow and Pyongyang, yet it is a close expression of the friendship between the two peoples who value history and tradition.

I make such a particular reference to the plate because the 100th birthday of my father was celebrated as an international event under the concern of the governments of the two countries.

As a matter of fact, my family had decided to erect a new gravestone for my father on his 100th birthday and fix it with a bronze plate reading "DPRK Labour Hero and Internationalist Fighter Ya. T. Novichenko" provided by the DPRK in 2004, after rearranging the surroundings of the grave.

Learning of our plan, the DPRK supreme leader Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a team of builders to make an admirable reconstruction of my father's grave and rebuild his old house. He dispatched a high-ranking officials' delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea for the function of my father's 100th birthday along with a wreath of flowers in his own name and a kind-hearted message to us bereaved family members. In his message the DPRK leader wrote he extended warm greetings to ►



► the bereaved family of Novichenko, an internationalist fighter, on his 100th birth anniversary, and that the Korean people enshrine in their heart the lofty deeds of heroism of Novichenko who had defended the leadership of the Korean revolution by risking his own life at the critical moment. He went on that he would like to pay tribute to the memory of Novichenko who is an unforgettable revolutionary comrade-in-arms and a true revolutionary comrade. He sincerely asked us to carry forward father's spirit and wished us happiness and good health from the bottom of his heart.

Father's 100th birthday was commemorated with a grand function. Travnoye became the focus of the world's attention again. The DPRK ambassador in Moscow came, and high-ranking officials of Novosibirsk Province and Dobolensk District, pressmen and many other people were present on the occasion. The international relations department chief of the provincial government personally presided the function throughout the course. (He said he was ordered from the federal government to make a success of the function.)

A wreath bearing the name of

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, was reverentially laid at father's grave, his kind-hearted message was conveyed to us bereaved family, and speeches were made in memory of father. Looking round the grave admirably rearranged according to Kim Jong Un's instruction, the participants in the ceremony were impressed by Korea's sense of internationalist obligation. The party Kim Jong Un arranged for the sake of us became a great public topic.

Novosibirsk Province and Dobolensk District worked hard for the commemoration of father's 100th birthday, attaching much importance to the function. They organized a function to unveil the commemorative plate of father's old home which had been rebuilt by the Korean comrades, while opening a memorial hall named after father at Dobolynaya Secondary School.

The old home with the commemorative plate has now turned into something of a museum symbolizing Russia-Korea friendship. Reading the words on the plate time and again, I fell into deep thought.

How is it that father enjoys great honour continuously even long after he passed away?

A senior official from the provincial government said the 100th birthday of Hero Novichenko was successfully marked thanks to the respected leader Kim Jong Un, and that the event gave the Novosibirsk people a good idea of the great personality of Kim Jong Un as well as a good impression about his lofty sense of obligation. The chief of Travnoye proudly remarked that Novichenko became known around the world bringing fame to his

community, thanks to the great leaders of the Korean people.

The treasured truth left by the past 70 years is that you can hardly think of a tree without roots, and, more importantly, that even if it had roots, a tree could not grow big and tall in the natural tempest unless there was the bright light from the sun and the tender care for it.

As there have been the great leaders of Korea, the historic importance of Novichenko's feat is growing ever higher as days go by. Now the Korean people hold him in respect as hero who safeguarded the leadership of the Korean revolution and secured the continuation of the cause of the Korean socialism from generation to generation.

As a witness to history, I myself want to talk of my own opinion of the past 70 years: Only when it is under the guidance of a sagacious leader can a nation become powerful and faithful to its internationalist obligation.

On his deathbed father said to mother, "President Kim Il Sung promised he would remember me for ever. I'd be with him as his soldier even when I am dead. President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il are the permanent benefactors of our family. You'd better tell and retell our Siberians the story about the great care of the two benefactors as long as you are alive."

Father was honoured with the title of "internationalist fighter" from President Kim Il Sung and became a hero under his care at the closing years of his life. Meaningfully, he breathed the last on December 8, 1994 at the same hours as the President, just five months after the President passed away.

(To be continued)



Catfish Farm Renovated

IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR the Pyongyang Catfish Farm was newly renovated. It has established an integrated production system on the principle of intelligence, information and digitization, equipped with fixed and mobile automatic feeders installed in ponds, catfish hauling machines and other modern facilities.

The general control room measures and controls in real time the water temperature, pH and the amount of oxygen in the indoor and outdoor ponds, regulates the water supply and amount of feed in accordance with the growth of catfish, takes hygienic and anti-epizootic measures, and deals with problems arising in production and business activities in a scientific way using simulation. The farm has introduced solar water heaters and covered vinyl sheets over outdoor ponds, providing a guarantee for raising catfish all the year round. Each pond is equipped with a

device which automatically measures and controls underwater temperature and supplies oxygen, and with one fixed automatic feeder. The real-time outdoor control panels are also installed to measure the water conditions and take relevant measures.

Furnished with solar water heaters the farm secures the stability of fry raising. According to a technical officer of the farm, the installation of solar water heaters makes it possible to raise the survival rate of young catfish more than 5 per cent than before. The farm is directing special attention to raising young fish. In the past the nutrition of young catfish was conducted in indoor hatching ponds. Now the farm raises young catfish two times more than before in the PVC sheet-covered ponds and changes water one or two more times per shift, thus supplying oxygen under water in a responsible manner.

Meanwhile, the farm provides

a sufficient number of fry with credit in the stage of fattening and regularly selects young fish to divide them into different sizes so as to keep them safely and haul as many as the initial number. In the process of selecting, attention is paid lest the catfish get hurt, and relevant measures are taken to prevent the outbreak of disease in highly-intensive ponds to ensure the maximum survival rate of fish. As a result, the farm saves much water and labour compared to the past records while raising production two times.

When you visit the farm, you'll be struck with wonder to see the amount of catfish overwhelming that of water in ponds.

Sim Yong Jin







Leader of Improving Power Control

THE PYONGYANG ELECTRICAL Appliances Joint Venture Company is playing a big role in establishing a power control system capable of judging power supply and consumption correctly and finding out problems in the power use promptly so as to address them in time.

At the beginning of its operation after inauguration in October 2005, the company was producing watt-hour meters equipped with a foreign program. So it entailed higher cost, and, it was impossible to repair broken meters. Soon the company determined to form a research team to develop a program suited to the actual condition.

Kim Kwang Jun, research section chief, recalls, "At that time it was an untrodden path, but we had courage because we knew that we could do anything when we determined to do." The research team lacked in sci-tech knowledge in the relevant field and encountered knotty problems in making the program. Defying the difficulties they exerted

themselves in the research work with a determination to take the lead in technical innovation.

Finally, they developed a new program, which is suitable to the realities of their country, in less than a year and began to produce card-style watt-hour meters equipped with the program. In these days, they developed a new power control program capable of controlling card-style watt-hour meters and introduced it to power distribution stations across the country. Later they developed an infrared watt-hour meter.

Still, they were not content.

The researchers deepened their study; in 2007 they developed and produced new-type frequency-stabilizing watt-hour meters which were fixed to transformers throughout the country. In 2010 a new-type watt-hour meter for alternate production was developed, which can help organize alternate production at all factories and industrial establishments across the country, and an automatic power-factor compensation system was also completed. The system, made to keep the load power factor at more than 95%, is of high precision and ►

Strenuous efforts are made to develop better watt-hour meters.





Sci-tech diffusion is regularly done.

- accuracy, and is very easy to operate.

Afterwards, the research was centred on development of the RTU device. This device, used in power industry in those days, wore off so quickly. This badly needed making a better one to replace the old device.

After finding out the cause of wear and technical solutions, they finally made a concentration facility that could replace the RTU device. The facility was introduced in power stations and substations, bringing great profit. The researchers made a new kind of watt-hour meters for apartments in the new Changjon Street

for better electrical management. Their new power control system was introduced in the Mirae Scientists Street which went up last year.

That's not all they've done. In accordance with the improvement of watt-hour meters in the technical level and quality, the researchers pushed the work to supplement and perfect equipment of production and technical processes. In the course of this, they laid a good foundation to produce devices for measurement, protection and control required in the electrical industry.

Last year, they set up a power control system based on a mobile

communications network in Pyongyang and thus made it possible to take proper measures in time for a slightest sign of wrong use of electricity. This is profusely paying off. This real-time monitoring system is of such high accuracy and practical use that it enjoys general popularity.

Now the researchers are in high spirit to introduce the power control system based on mobile communications network across the country.

Their effort is going ahead for development of and research in a power control system of the latest type.

Kim Kwang Myong



To a Higher Goal

“AS WE’VE INTRODUCED GMP in our yeast workshop for getting the foodstuff production processes germless, it’s really splendid; the environment has changed clean before everything and the quality of the products has reached the international standard, encouraging us in our work,” said the yeast workshop manager of the Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory.

This management system has been introduced by the researchers of the bio-industry laboratory under the frontier science research centre of Kim Il Sung University. This laboratory started from the thrombus dissolvent research group of the microbiological department of the then Biology Faculty of Kim Il Sung University in 1990, and now it has developed into an independent advanced research centre. In this course, it has invented a new oral thrombus dissolvent *Chong-gok* kinase and succeeded in its clinical demonstration. It also realized not only the intermediate industrialization of microbiological yeast production but also integration of education, science and production, and developed the cutting-edge technology for industrializing yeast production.

Recently they received a certificate of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea by completing GMP for putting all the foodstuff and medicine production processes on a germfree basis which is feasible only in a few countries. This system is called an aggregate of rules of production and quality control for securing the efficiency, stability and security in the medicine and foodstuff production.

As required by the developing reality, the researchers of the centre including its chief Ri Hyon Gwang and section head Yun Un Hui exerted themselves to the utmost to make the pharmaceutical and foodstuff industries germ-free. In those days the most baffling question for them was that cutting-edge sci-tech documents about the subject were beyond



Introduction of the GMP standards is hastened.

their reach. However, they could not remain idle when they were responsible for the promotion of people’s health.

Two years ago, they were deep in thinking about how to develop the GMP suited to the circumstances of Korea while meeting the international standard. They began by calculating its possibility on the basis of grasping the actual conditions of the pharmaceutical and foodstuff factories to set about drawing up the designs. Making the designs was not easy, for it was the first time they did it. However, they did their best to draw them one by one faultlessly and repeated discussions pooling their wisdom to complete them on the highest level. At last, they succeeded in developing a rational and ideal GMP as they wished. They deepened their research work by applying this new program first in the production process of capsulated medicines. In this course, they completely did away with defects.

As a result, broad vistas have been opened up for realizing asepsis and dustlessness in the production processes of the high-tech industries catering to the people’s health, such as pharmaceutical, foodstuff and cosmetic industries.

In addition, the introduction of the GMP has made it possible to bring immense profits to the country.

This achievement of research was awarded a special prize at the 30th national sci-tech festival held in April last year.

Now the researchers have introduced the GMP in many factories including the Kanggye Koryo Medicine-processing Factory, Kanggye Koryo Medicine Factory, Sogam Pharmaceutical Factory, spore inoculation room of the seasoning workshop and Vitamin E production process of the Pyongyang Condiment Factory, yeast workshop of the Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory, and over ten mushroom farms including the Pyongyang Municipality Mushroom Farm, and they often go out to production scenes to help prove its real worth in production.

In Korea today, the work of introducing the GMP into production processes is not limited only to a few places, but is carried on vigorously, covering all pharmaceutical and foodstuff factories in the country. The researchers are now advancing briskly to attain a higher goal in their studies of frontier science and technology.

Sim Hyon Jin

Clean Water Alone

RECENTLY SCIENTISTS OF THE URBAN Management Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences developed an efficient process of biological treatment of sewage and applied it to the Ryongsong Sewage Works. The project was assisted by the Ministry of Urban Management, the Pyongyang Municipal Water Supply and Sewage Management Office and other related agencies and the engineers of the Ryongsong Sewage Works.

Generally speaking, biological treatment is the basic process in sewage treatment, in which the organic materials, nitrogen, phosphor and other materials are removed with the action of microorganism. Eutrophication of rivers and lakes lets floating organisms including water caltrop multiply massively which result in big drop in the clarity of the water and the volume of oxygen in the water. This causes suffocation of fishes and other living things, and do harm to the human existence. So it is one of the critical environmental problems facing humanity.

Scientists of the institute pushed ahead with the project to develop and apply an efficient process of biological treatment which makes it possible to remove organic materials and nitrogen and phosphor alike in the waste water while making the most of the existing conditions of the Ryongsong Sewage Works. Day in and day out, they made painstaking efforts seeking the clue to success.

In the course of this, section chief Ra Hong Chol, and researchers Kim Mun Hyok and Choe Nam Su successfully solved a number of scientific and technical problems in laying a new process of getting rid of nitrogen and phosphor in the sewage by remoulding the structure of the existing tank of

biological reaction.

General Manager Kim Won Chol of the works says, "I'd like to pay tribute to the researchers for their efforts to prevent the Taedong River from pollution due to the sewage. In cooperation with the researchers we in the works developed a new kind of fertilizer, and it is bringing us huge profit. It is very popular with the nearby farms."

At present the scientists and officials of the institute are pressing ahead with a project to introduce a better process of biological treatment in other sewage works and other establishments in Pyongyang, building on their experience gained at the Ryongsong Sewage Works.

Their endeavor is contributing to the effort to keep the Taedong River clean and clear all the time.

Kim Il Bong



One Ideal

I VISITED THE PYONGYANG UNIVERSITY OF Architecture, a base of training architectural talents. There I met Kim Kum Sok, Kim Jin Song and Ri Chol Guk, fifth-year students.

To Return the Debt of Gratitude

Last year Kim Kum Sok became a pride of his classmates when his design of the teachers' dining-room of the Wonsan Orphans' Primary School was adopted. But it did not come in a moment. From his childhood he had something out of the common. As a child he learned drawing at the Mangyongdae School-children's Palace. In those days the boy made up his mind to compensate for his indebtedness to the State that nursed the children's small buds of talent into full bloom. So, when he was serving in the army, he devoted all his creative wisdom to the reconstruction of the barracks, dining-room and recreation site with a single mind to please Chairman Kim Jong Il when he was in his unit, the Chairman who took care of the soldiers' living conditions first whenever he inspected military units.

His zeal persisted even after he entered the college. As the contents and range of his studies involving architectural creation theory, ecological architecture and architectural formation extended, he became engrossed in mastering all subjects of study faster than other students. Besides, he worked day

and night to draw up designs of buildings. Whenever he was praised for his clear head, he would say, "I don't think only an intellectual man can draw up plans for fine buildings. My obligation, conscience and enthusiasm to return the debt of gratitude to the State for fostering me have enabled me to draw up good designs meeting the demands of the people though not large in scale."

Bringing Their Dream Into Reality

Kim Jin Song, a son of an ordinary worker, is 23 years old now. As he was small and spare of words in his boyhood, his parents were worried if he would grow up and keep company with his friends in an ordinary way. But as he grew up into a cheerful boy, their fears disappeared. His parents say that his character changed as they took him often to parks, pleasure grounds and theatres when he was a kindergartener. Then he was attracted by new modern buildings appearing on TV.

He liked to draw pictures of new buildings. Seeing his picture book full of crayon drawings, people would praise him highly as a boy cherishing a lofty dream. His parents, too, felt proud of their son growing up as a bright and cheerful boy. As a college student, he displayed his works at national exhibitions of students' IT achievements, which were highly appraised. Now he became a leading developer of 5.1 sound system. His architectural designs adopted in practice are highly estimated for their architectural and artistic effects.

When his designs for the cloak-room of the youth workteam at the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm and the dining-room of the day nursery in Sonbong District, Rason City were accepted, all people concerned were glad and congratulated him on his success. He says, "I have seen the dream of the people since my childhood. I wanted to have the people's dream and ideal translated into reality. Today I'm proud of myself as a man realizing their dream. Every time I think of it, I'm all on fire to work harder."

Kim Kum Sok, Kim Jin Song and Ri Chol Guk (from left).



Under the Benefit of Free Medical Care System

KOREA TODAY'S INTERVIEW WITH KIM Hyon Ung, deputy bureau director of the Ministry of Public Health

Today the Korean people enjoy happy life in good health thanks to the benefit of the free medical care system. The system was introduced soon after our country was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation in August 1945, wasn't it?

From January 1947 after liberation the blue- and white-collar workers and their dependents were treated gratis at state expenses, but the origin of the system dates back to the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle. When the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950–July 1953) was at its height, the DPRK Cabinet Decision "On Introducing Universal Free Medical Care System" was adopted at the 22nd Plenary Meeting of the DPRK Cabinet and its enforcement began on January 1, 1953. And when the economy of the country gradually recovered from the aftermath of war, the government introduced a complete and universal free medical care in February 1960.

Since then the health of the working people and children has been under better protection by the benefit of the free medical service. The right to free medical care is surely given in the DPRK Socialist Constitution and the Public Health Law. Medical care establishments and doctors are to be seen wherever there are working people, and the section



Free medical care system was introduced during the wartime.

doctor system is in operation to responsibly look after the health and life of the people. All citizens get prophylactic service before they fall ill, and special state benefits are directed to children, pregnant women, nursing mothers and the elderly for their health.

Meanwhile, the government completely satisfies the people's demand for medical service to the full. All sorts of medical services are free of charge such as outpatient and inpatient treatments, sick calls, diagnoses, tests and experiments, functional tests, operations and foods at hospital, and the state or cooperative organizations bear travel expenses to and from places of recuperation. Moreover, such

► Though I'm the Youngest...

Ri Chol Guk, the youngest student in the class, is always longing for his native town Rason City. Whenever he came home during a vacation, he could see a new change taking place in a short time.

When he heard last year that the city had suffered from a disastrous flood, he felt heavy at heart. However, his anxiety did not last long. The national leader Kim Jong Un saw to it that the rehabilitation of Rason City was taken up as an important matter to be discussed at an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea in August last, and ordered the Korean People's Army in his capacity as its Supreme Commander to take full charge of the rehabilitation work

and finish it in a short time. He was moved to tears to hear that the leader said it was his decision to build modern and much better houses for the residents than the old ones. With an excited feeling at the measure taken by the State to provide the people of his hometown with new houses, Ri worked out a plan for the entrance hall of the day nursery in Sonbong District, and the plan was adopted. All his classmates were delighted and offered him their congratulations.

Recollecting the day, Ri often says, "I saw the future of my motherland in the new appearance of my hometown. Though I'm the youngest in my class, I'll play the role of the eldest in designing the future of our country."

Kang Hye Ok



People are under well-regulated healthcare.

- services as health checkups, delivery of pregnant women, provision of prostheses to disabled persons, treatments and supply of medicines are all given gratis.

The benefit of free medical service has increased steadily for the past scores of years. What would you say about it?

Surely. As I always feel as a health worker, the advantages and vitality of the free medical care system are in full play in our society which puts forward the people as the most valuable being in the world. Above all else, strong material and technical foundation has been laid for substantial provision of the right to and benefit of free medical care system.

Medical service bases including large and modern comprehensive hospitals and different kinds of spe-

The Ryugyong Dental Hospital.

cial hospitals and polyclinics are arranged in good order—ranging from the capital of the country down to local residential quarters in all provinces. In Pyongyang alone, many healthcare establishments have been erected to improve the people's health; examples are the General Dental Hospital, the Pyongyang Ophthalmic Hospital and the Thongilgori Fitness Centre in Rangnang District, and the Breast Tumour Research Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, the Okryu Children's Hospital and the Ryugyong Dental Hospital in the Munsu area. Clinics and hospitals are set up independently in factories and enterprises and mines. And first-aid stations are placed inside the pits of mines, and similar posts are also to be found in the ocean fishing fleets. The telemedicine system is in operation even in the terminal people's hospitals in counties which are ceaselessly supplemented with modern medical apparatuses.

And state investment is made unsparingly to provide hygienic living conditions and working environment to the people. □



Without Questioning

SOME TIME AGO I, AS A Korea Today reporter, visited the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University to meet Dr. Jong Kyong Se, an authority on ophthalmology in Korea, for news coverage. Jong, candidate academician and professor, is nearly 80, but his stride and greetings were replete with youthful vigour. Excusing himself for an operation he presented me a thick book, saying it might be helpful to me.

The place where desires are realized

The first part of the book contained his note.

He was born a son of a tenant in Taehwa-ri, Uiju County, North Phyongan Province when the country was under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists. He was always hungry as his family didn't have even a patch of their own land. Though he reached school age, he couldn't go to school for want of money.

One day misfortune knocked his family. Jong's uncle in his twenties and elder sister died of typhoid and typhus because they could not see a doctor. Those maladies took many other lives in his village. Seeing them suffering from the epidemics the young boy craved for a benefactor who would save those miserable people.

The liberation of the country (August 15, 1945) brought him a bright future. Thanks to the Agrarian Reform Law his family received acres of land gratis, and Jong became a student as he had yearned even in a dream. His family was overflowing with great joy and happiness. Leading a happy life he often thought of his uncle, sister and villagers who had been dead. So, he chose to



apply for the then Pyongyang University of Medicine.

When he left to study at the university, his father, stroking him on the head, said, "It's great our family has a university student now. I wish you would be a renowned doctor."

Distinguished services

In the next part of the book I found stories about those who recovered their sight and the data on his achievements in research.

One September day a young man whose eyes had been ruptured in an accident was rushed to the hospital. Jong held consultative meetings several times and applied latest scientific achievements and his clinical experience he had gained over scores of years and thus brought a sight back to him in a month. There was a story about a soldier who had completely lost his sight from a severe bruise before Jong gave him two operations and enabled him to stitch a collar to his uniform.

When he encountered patients who lost their sight owing to the diseases or bruises, he renewed his resolution to deepen the scientific research work to restore their sight. Thanks to his pains-

taking study, contact lenses and false eyes were developed eventually based on domestic materials so as to meet their nationwide demand.

By making the most of his experience in his long career of education he wrote the textbook *Ophthalmology* (5 vols), reference books *Ophthalmological Operation and Major General Diseases and Eye*, and essays *Diagnosis of Eye Tuberculosis and Its Treatment* and *Ophthalmological Medicines*. His papers delivered at academic presentations or symposia were highly appreciated, including *Study on Grafting of Artificial Cornea*, *Prevention of Brachymetropia and Its Treatment*, *Study on Influence of Computer Screen on Eye* and *Sandy Dust Inimical to Eye*. He wrote a doctoral thesis entitled *Clinical Study for Improving Corneal Transplantation*. Jong was awarded dozens of certificates of registered sci-tech achievement, certificates of invention, and certificates of new conception and device.

In the end of the book were also a number of names of his disciples and their occupations in the ophthalmological world, the titles of their degree theses and research successes and the names of the people they had cured completely.

When Jong came back to see me again after finishing the operation, I praised his long, praiseworthy career. He said, "The spring with plenty of water resource gushes out endlessly. In this land where we have the state policy of looking after the people and the children with great care, the spring of light and happiness will always gush out."

Ri Chung Ho

Thought About Fist and Soul

I HAVE BEEN VERY INTERESTED IN sports since childhood. Thus, I feel something out of the common when I see on TV our Korean athletes win gold medals and become tearful looking at the rising flag of our country. Last year our Taekwon-Do performers won victory at the 19th Taekwon-Do World Championships. When I heard it I couldn't get to sleep. I am well over 70, but when I hear the news of Taekwon-Do I feel as if I were young again, and I find myself look back upon my career.

I was born the youngest of four siblings in Pihyon County, North Phyongan Province, when our country was under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists. As child I could often see Japanese policemen beat innocent Koreans and take them to prison. During the Korean war started by the US imperialists I saw my home village burn to ashes and folks killed and I was full of anger against the US. At that time I was eager to have an iron fist to strike the enemy and never let him invade.

This urge remained in me. One day I heard a story about Kim Sin Rak (Rikidozan) who was commanding great popularity as champion of the world of professional wrestling. Though subject to national humiliation of all hues for being Korean while living in Japan, he smashed his opponents with his karate chop to everybody's admiration, I learned. The story gave me the idea that I could protect the nation's soul when I had a strong fist. Now I started to learn martial arts with an ambition to glorify our country's honour as a man.

One day in the 1970s I heard a rumour that one foreign master of martial arts could chin with two of his fingers to the wonder and admiration of the world people. I trained myself hard thinking I could hardly be a master of martial arts if I didn't surpass him. When I had a physical ability to chin easily with one



Mun Ung Jun (left).

finger, all were surprised about it.

One of those days, I knew a government policy of developing Taekwon-Do which is a pride, spirit and soul of Korea. I was really excited, and I made up my mind to devote my life to Korea's Taekwon-Do. This was how I sealed a tie with Taekwon-Do.

I assiduously learned the principles of technical movements, patterns and sparring. Reading books on Taekwon-Do written by President Choi Hong Hi of the International Taekwon-Do Federation and reference books about martial arts of the world I could know the superiority of Taekwon-Do well. Classic books also let me know the long history and valour of Koreans. I gave several demonstrations and I was often asked how I could strike with my fist and head with the power amounting to 10KN. I replied, "If we have a weak fist we can neither protect ourselves nor defend our fatherland."

President Kim Il Sung often asked about the training of Taekwon-Do performers and instructed us to intensify scientific research in Taekwon-Do, stressing the need to improve Taekwon-Do techniques by putting Taekwon-Do on a scientific basis and make it part of daily life.

I made up my mind to bring up more disciples ►

► and combined training with scientific research. I produced a theory in the early 1980s that is about steeling a certain part of the body and exerting utmost energy based on concentration of stress. This was a good contribution to improvement of attack and defence of Taekwon-Do. When I performed press-up with two arms 800 times at a go and with one arm 150 times, all were full of admiration, saying that I broke the record.

From then on, I have written many essays and reference books including *Study of Taekwon-Do Training*, *Study of Taekwon-Do Techniques*, *Physiological Principle in Raising the Power of Taekwon-Do*, and *Points in Concentration of Strength in Taekwon-Do*.

Taekwon-Do was gaining popularity and spreading all over the world with the adherents and trainees increasing in number. I had high pride in living in the homeland of Taekwon-Do.

In those days I had the honour of meeting President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, and I won the titles of doctor, professor and then candidate academician and People's Athlete. The government sent me a birthday spread on my 70th birthday.

I often tell my son about my cherished opinion of effort and concentration and now I'm writing a paper on strengthening the power of Taekwon-Do. I have finished more than 50 essays and papers with my son, and I would be happy if only they would be of any help to development of Taekwon-Do of my country.

I always say to my son and disciples, "You must keep it in mind that you can defend the soul of our nation only when you have a great national leader. The more keenly you are aware of it, the more stronger your fist will be."

Prof. Mun Ung Jun

Taekwon-Do

TAEKWON-DO, ORTHODOX MARTIAL art of Korea, is based on scientific principles with different events. The events are basic movements, patterns, sparring, training, and the art of self-protection.

The basic movements number as many as 3 200 for attack and defence arranged on the principle of strength.

Patterns are divisions of basic movements grouped by their principles and aims. They serve as a yardstick to estimate performers' ability.

Sparring is an event of applying basic movements learned in the pattern event to one's active opponents in different circumstances. Through sparring Taekwon-Doists acquire the fighting spirit and courage which are seldom attained in the practice of basic movements, and the ability to know the tactics and movements of the opponents. Physical training helps build up one's body and mind through different practice and hardship; it consists of mental and physical training, and the exercise of parts of the body for attack and defence.

The art of self-protection is to make technical movements for protecting oneself from one's opponents with bare hands. Highly technical movements are prerequisite for the art, and pattern and sparring skills are to be combined with the skill of joint breaking.

Taekwon-Do is performed in the competitive events of patterns, sparring, power demonstration, forte, and self-protection. And patterns, sparring, power demonstration and forte are divided into individual and team events. □

Football Rhythmic Exercise

FOOTBALL RHYTHMIC exercise is in vogue in Korea. The football players who have learned the exercise say, "Training and playing a match after doing this exercise, we are sure to gain greater success." Even football fans say, "This is not simply an exercise but an invigorator giving pleasure, optimism and hope for the future and a shortcut to the gold medal."

This football rhythmic exercise has been invented by designer O Hye Song and composer Han Yong Chol of the Korean Mass Gymnastics Production Company and Yon Chol of the DPRK Football Association in compliance with the people's rising sports enthusiasm. But they had to surmount lots of difficulties in the early stage. Studying many countries' musical rhythms, they felt their task was not an easy job.

O Hye Song who was in the forefront of the production of many mass gymnastics in the 1990s and was one of the producers of the Kim Il Sung Prize-

winning mass gymnastics and artistic performance *Arirang*, says, "In the past it was usual to make the body pliant by taking rhythmic exercise in time with music."

They set a goal to suit all the components like rhythmic motions and music to the characteristics of football and Korean people's constitutional features. As rhythmic motions are the basis of the warming-up exercise of football, Hye Song devoted all her energies to making every motion rational and easy for all to perform, and Yon Chol invented the basic technical movements of the exercise on the basis of deep study of the globally renowned football players. Han Yong Chol in charge of music arrangement made painstaking efforts to produce excellent musical pieces by drawing on the experience obtained in the course of creating the tunes for popular health and mass rhythmic exercises.

When they were absorbed in completing the rhythmic exercise, an old man who had been watching them from afar came up and said, "This motion is quite different from the

real one." He was Rim Jung Son who had won global fame at the 8th FIFA World Cup. "Why do I say you are wrong? Because in football games the players more often than not jump on one foot rather than on both feet as you are doing here now. True, they may jump on both feet sometimes as in volleyball, but that's very rarely to be seen." The old man's words encouraged them.

They finally completed the football rhythmic exercise that goes well with all people irrespective of age and sex.

The experts who saw the exercise said, "It is really grand that three motions go in one measure. This rhythmic exercise for football warm-up will play an important role in turning our country into a sports power."

The football rhythmic exercise that helps the players and students make their bodies pliant and become adept in basic technical movements through rhythmically adjusted movements for warming up performed in time to light music, is very popular among the experts and fans.

Kim Il Bong



3-D Films Please Children and Adults

NOWADAYS 3-D FILMS shown in the 3-D cinema houses across the country find favour with the public. The 3-D films *The Artificial Satellite* and *The Basis of 3-D Pictures* are popular both with children and adults.

These popular films are all produced by the young researchers of the Film Science Research Institute established in 1961. The researchers have grown up into an able team solving many problems in conformity with the characteristics and needs of the film art which is made up of art and technology. They are intent on working out scientific and technological problems arising in film production—shooting, developing and recording—by introducing various devices for special effects of film and studying and producing the makeup materials and smoking effects.

In the new century they set a goal to produce 3-D videos fully satisfying the cultural demand of

the people. Researchers including Ri Kum Song, head of the computer image research team, solved key problems after many failures and finally produced the first 3-D video showing the launching of the artificial satellite *Kwangmyongsong No. 2*. They displayed their achievements in the Sci-tech Festival 2012 held on the occasion of the centennial birthday of President Kim Il Sung. An endless string of people visited the Three-Revolution Exhibition House, the venue of the festival, to see their videos. Their videos won prize. Later, the videos proved greatly helpful in the setting of special scenes of such films as the multi-part feature films *The Nation and Destiny* and *The Country I Saw*. Encouraged by this, the researchers continued their studies on new videos to follow

up their successes.

“By nature, people want to venture into the realm of the unknown,” says Ri Kum Song. “To gratify their desire, we researchers are doing our best to broaden the scope of our imagination.” They have deepened their studies of the undersea and underground world and dinosaurs. Even for the production of one video, they visited over again the Grand People’s Study House, the Academy of Social Sciences and the Central Zoo. The 3-D films *The Dinosaurs* and *The Interesting Undersea World* are the fruits of their hard work. Their subjects are varied, extending from the world of fantasy to the themes of patriotism. The 3-D film *The Fortress of the*

Researchers create new 3-D films.



Sky which shows heroic feats of the KPA airmen leaves a deep impression on the audience.

Their speculation and researches beyond the restriction of time and space are now bringing about many interesting 3-D films. Their efforts continue to provide the people with still better 3-D films representing the world of socialist civilization.

Kim Hyon Ju

Pride of the School

MORANBONG SECONDARY School No. 1 has trained excellent students who are knowledgeable, physically strong and morally sound. This has earned for it titles granted to leading schools, including the one of Model Sports School. It's a laudable school.

Recently it got another pride: Its students gained reputation in an international arena. In March last year the 25th International Schoolchildren's Art Festival was held in Khabarovsk, Russia. In the festival the students of the Moranbong school displayed the honour of their school in front of the participants and the audience.

Various kinds of programs were put on the stage while the national flag of the DPRK was unfurled on the display: instrumental quintet *We Are the Happiest in the World*, folk dance *Water Jar Dance*, *Janggo* solo *Beat the Drum and Go to War* were presented. When each program finished, there was a deafening applause. Especially while the *Janggo* solo was on praises burst forth here and there: A school boy in national costume played *Jangsaenap*, made wonderful dancing movements by turning decorative tassels on the head and then played *Janggo* and other percussion instruments

cheerfully. At the end of the festival the top award was given to the *Janggo* player, the first prize to each of the other four Korean students, and the award of educator to their teacher.

The audience showed great response. The mayor of Khabarovsk said that the performance of the Korean students was very fascinating when each of them played more than two instruments while dancing, and that he now knew the high standard of art education and the excellent education policy of Korea. Meanwhile, Slinesskaya Jiana, a spectator, gave the Korean students a sketch of their opening performance, ▶





The artistic performance in the Far East, Russia, in August 2015.

► saying the young Korean artistes had won fame in an instant.

In August last year the students of Moranbong Secondary School No. 1 visited the Far East of Russia as members of a delegation of friendship and culture, adding a brilliant decoration to the year of friendship between the DPRK and Russia. Various kinds of programs were put on the stage, such as instrumental quintet *Patriotic Song*, *Kayagum* solo *Ongheya*, dance *Janggo Dance*, chorus *March Forward After Our Leader Kim Jong Un* and Russian songs *Kalinka*, *Katsusha* and *Suburban Moscow at Night*. Kim Hyon Suk, the teacher, says that whenever the students artistically presented scenes of their happy and joyful life, a life of growing up into a new generation of Songun Korea with nothing to envy in the world, there was a

deafening applause with ceaseless admirations. The students left a great impression on the Russian people.

The deputy mayor of Fokino said that though he had seen schoolchildren's performances on many occasions in the past, it was his first time to see such a performance of high skill. Judging from the fact that they were students not of a conservatory but a secondary school, he could see the standard of the Korean art in general, the deputy mayor said.

The speaker of the Partizansk assembly spoke of his impression: I could see the advantages of the policy of education of the Workers' Party of Korea and the socialist education system through the performance. However talented you might be, you could hardly expect a good result unless you were under a system that can give

good training. The DPRK is a country of true education where the children are taken good care of and provided with all conditions on a preferential basis. I envy the Korean students for their healthy training under the excellent education system without any worry.

"My students worked hard to show their happy life under the socialist education system as well as the merits of the Korean nation through their performance," says Kim Hyon Suk.

The students of Moranbong Secondary School No. 1 have given performances for the sake of overseas Koreans and foreign visitors more than 1 850 times over the past 30-odd years.

The students are working hard at their studies while conducting artistic activities with a pride in their school.

Rim Hye Gyong

Fervent Yearning



ONE OF THESE DAYS A Korea Today reporter interviewed Jon Hye Yong, vocal instructor at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace. Excerpts:

Everybody knows you "Whistle" singer, and this must be a great pride to you, I should say.

Quite right. I had never expected I'd be the "Whistle" singer. From my kindergarten days, I was very interested in music. I received professional vocal instruction as I grew up. I felt happy, and yet there was something that worried me. Whenever there was a test to pick up reserves of professional entertainment establishments, I was recommended as No. 1. But I had to give up my place to other applicants because I was short. When experts of arts rejected me for my height, Chairman Kim Jong Il saw something about me and sent me to the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble. Then he took all pains to help train me as a People's Artist, the "Whistle" singer known to the whole country.

In retrospect, I had a difficult time myself as a musical enthusiast. For nearly five years from 1999 I suffered from paralysis in the vocal chords, so I could hardly speak, to say nothing of singing songs.

Chairman Kim Jong Il was

very sorry to learn this fact. He asked officials concerned to have my problem cured at any cost, and bring the voice of the "Whistle" singer back to me, the voice remembered by the people. Then he took every measure to the end.

Thanks to his care I regained my voice after treatment, and I became able to sing again.

I should say you were unusually happy to sing at the artistic performance "Song of Memory" and the 10 000-peopled artistic performance held last year in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

I was more than happy. In February last year the artistic performance "Song of Memory" began in the People's Theatre in Pyongyang. This performance was initiated by our respected leader Kim Jong Un. He said with emotion that although the entertainers of the past were advanced in age now, their appearance on the stage would remind the general public of the time of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

At the time we sang many songs of yearning for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, and the audience looked back on the Juche arts embroidered in the chronicles of the past time. Although they were grey-haired elderly people with deep wrinkles on their faces who had left the stage a long time before, the songs they sang with youthful ardour gripped the heart of the audience. The audience gave a big hand to the performance of the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble and the Wangjaesan Light Music Band that filled the 1980s and the 1990s with graceful, refined and vigorous performances. I myself sang the songs "Whistle," "Cuckoo" and "Girlhood" and then told the audience what happened to me in 1999. Now the audience knew

how I had regained my voice as singer of the song "Whistle." Then, I sang the song "I Yearn for the Care" which is my favourite No. 1, with tearful eyes. I still vividly remember the moment when I, the singer, and the audience shed tears of emotion.

I've got a proud career thanks to the uninterrupted care of the country, and there are many entertainers like me. We joined hands to open the 10 000-peopled performance in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea. We sang of the exploits President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il had performed for the country and the people, and of the changes we are now witnessing in this land which is developing into a paradise of the people under the wise guidance of our respected leader Kim Jong Un. It was a performance dedicated to the infinite thanks to and longing for the Chairman who ushered in the heyday of Juche arts; it was also a performance filled with faith and will of the people who are determined to trust and follow our leader Kim Jong Un alone.

You instructors of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace are charged with an important role to play, aren't you?

Surely. You know our country pays great importance to the training of the children. In this sense the country built this palace. Sometimes I'm asked why I'm an instructor when I could still be a professional entertainer. Then, I reply that this is the only way I could repay the care I've been under. You know I was brought up under the free education system of the country whose importance policy is to select children with unusual talent and train them into good pillars.

I'm going to devote myself to the work of rearing good reserves of singers. □

Love of Their Job

PHYONGCHON DISTRICT, Pyongyang, boasts its street cleaners who are loved by people for their good work.

To Return Their Thanks

One day towards the end of 2000, 20 women living in Kansong-dong, Phyongchon District, came together in the house of Jo Kil Nyo. Jo opened her mouth in a soft tone, "The government has supplied plenty of daily necessities to our families in spite of the hardest conditions. I don't know how to express our thanks. We are neither rich nor powerful, so I think we should return our thanks by keeping our residential district neat and clean. I propose therefore that we all become street cleaners." Her suggestion was accepted by all.

After the meeting they wrote a letter expressing their decision to Chairman Kim Jong Il. Now, Kil Nyo became the head of the Saemaul workteam of the Phyongchon District Urban Facility Management Station and the members of the team devoted themselves to road maintenance rain or shine. Kil Nyo's husband, a driver, followed the example of his wife and became the driver of a street sweeping car. Jo Kil Nyo was elected a deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly and the state makes public recognition of the members of the workteam for their selfless services at every opportunity.

Affection

Kim In Sun who has worked as a street cleaner for 10 years has a special affection for her job.

Whenever her acquaintances advise her to retire and rest now that she is old enough, she replies, "I am sure the workteam will do well without me. But now it is a routine work of my life to go over the streets in my charge. I feel happy when I see people coming and going and cars running freely on the streets I have swept clean. And when passers-by wave their hands or call a greeting to us, I think they have kind feelings of trust in and love for us. That's why I feel guilty when I see something littered in my territory." Moreover, she has contrived some tools for road maintenance and presented them to the workteam. Her cleaning devices are praised by all for their originality.

"A Kindergartener and I..."

In the workteam is a man called Jong Myong Ho. He would live an idle life, frequently running away from home. He was a talk of everyone. At the beginning of his work in the workteam, he seemed to be a hard worker, but his old habit showed up before long and he would work at random.

One festival day, the streets were busy with many people. In the early morning Myong Ho went out to sweep the street under his care as usual, but he was not much interested in his work. He went a little way ahead sweeping the road when a vinyl wrapper fell on the sidewalk, blown by a sudden rush of wind. Seeing this, a little boy, releasing his hand from the grasp of his father, ran forward and picked it up. The boy then threw it into a garbage box. When his parents praised him he replied, "The teacher of our kindergarten said we should be exemplary in keeping our town and district clean."

Seeing the receding figures of the boy and his parents, Myong Ho fell into deep thought. "A kindergartener and I..." That incident brought about a change in his life. He became a diligent worker spared no effort to tackle whatever the workteam was faced with. A few years later, he was honoured by the state as a Meritorious Worker of the Songun Era. He said, "I have parted for ever with my life of past days. I love my job and my workteam."

Sim Yong Jin



In Pursuance of National Unity



KOREA TODAY'S INTERVIEW WITH SIM Yong Chol, Department Chief of the Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Chondoist Chongu Party. I'd like to have a general idea of the party.

You'd better have an understanding of Chondogyo, our nation's own faith, if you want to hear about the founding of the party. Chondogyo is the indigenous Korean religion based on the systematic analysis of Tonghak, or Eastern Learning, which came into existence in the mid-19th century. Tonghak is the predecessor to Chondogyo initiated by Choe Je U (1824–1864) and developed by Choe Si Hyong (1827–1898). It was transformed into Chondogyo, or the Religion of the Heavenly Way, by Son Pyong Hui (1861–1922). The transformation of the Eastern Learning into Chondogyo was aimed at refashioning the belief as a world-class faith in consideration of the rapidly-growing tendency toward modernity in Korea and the intensified policy of the Japanese imperialists for Korean occupation and colonial rule (1905–1945). By this the religion tried to legalize the activities of the adherents of the faith, break with pro-Japanese elements and the traitors to the nation and separate broad masses of the people from their influence to the camp of patriotic fighters against the foreign aggression.

Son proclaimed the establishment of Chondogyo on December 1, 1905 while keeping the original idea of Tonghak. The history of Chondogyo is consistent with the anti-Japanese struggle against aggression. The adherents initiated the March 1st Popular Uprising, which was a pan-national uprising against Japan that flared up on March 1, 1919 in an attempt to regain the nation's sovereignty, and conducted the campaign vigorously. They waged a brave struggle for the liberation of the country.

After the country was divided into north and

south by the US imperialists with the liberation on August 15, 1945, the Chondoist Chongu Party was founded for the purpose of champion the interest of the Korean nation, the Chondoists in particular. The party was inaugurated on February 8, 1946 to meet the aspiration and desire of the popular masses to liquidate the remnants of the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists and build a new society. The party carries on the spirit of independence of our nation which is a homogeneous nation state with a 5 000-year-long history, and the tradition of patriotism and national unity our forefathers created in the Kabo Peasants' War, the March 1st movement and the sacred warfare against the Japanese aggressors for national liberation.

Your party has worked hard to attain the ultimate aim. What could you say about it?

The ultimate aim of our party is to achieve independent and peaceful reunification of the country through great unity of the whole nation and build an egalitarian society and an earthly paradise where everybody lives an enjoyable life. The basic task of our party is to reject foreign aggression and intervention in the spirit of national independence under the party's traditional banner of "Rejection of the West and Japan" and establish a pan-national unified state where all the working people lead a happy life in their own right. In order to accomplish the task our party joined the democratic national united front and has taken an active part, along with other democratic parties, in the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950–July 1953), the socialist revolution and socialist construction. Meanwhile, we have offered positive support to the south Korean people of all strata in their struggle for independence, democracy and reunification, and to the Korean nationals overseas in their just patriotic endeavours, while working hard to strengthen solidarity with the democratic parties and organizations in different countries around the world. ▶



► In the initial years our party launched an un-
daunted struggle to foil the policy of the US imperial-
ists and the pro-American forces in south Korea for
establishment of a separate government in the south
and to found a single unified government represent-
ing the whole country. We have made persistent ef-
forts for national unity and reunification while giving
unremitting support for the proposals of the govern-
ment of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for
making the US-divided country into one again.

**I think your party has achieved a lot in the effort
to help the nation get united under the idea of "Man
and God are one."**

We have waged an uninterrupted struggle to
accomplish the Chondoist idea of "Man and God are
one" and help the north and the south become re-
united. With the outset of the 2000s we launched a
stronger campaign for national reunification. Avail-
ing ourselves of the rising tide of enthusiasm in the
north and the south and overseas for one Korea fol-
lowing the adoption of the historic June 15 North-
South Joint Declaration, we issued statements, press
releases and joint appeals and annually arranged
joint or separate commemorations of the National
Foundation Day in the north and the south and
abroad. We accelerated the movement for national
reconciliation, unity and reunification under the idea
of "By Our Nation Itself."

In 2002 and 2003 we had grand commemorations
of the National Foundation Day at the Mausoleum of
King Tangun, holy place of the nation, with the par-

ticipation of delegates from the north, south and
abroad. The functions demonstrated to the world
again that our nation is a homogeneous nation fa-
thered by Tangun and that the Korean people are
determined to join efforts to win the sacred cause of
national reunification by achieving reconciliation
and unity under the banner of the June 15 North-
South Joint Declaration.

Later in 2014, the year that marked the 20th
anniversary of the reconstruction of the Mausoleum
of King Tangun, a splendid ceremony was held to
jointly commemorate the National Foundation Day
with the participation of a large number of delegates
from the north, south and abroad. The ceremony
adopted a north-south joint appeal.

Last year when the situation was so complicated,
the National Foundation Day was also marked with
large attendance displaying the determination to
achieve national reconciliation and unity. The cere-
mony adopted another joint appeal, thus carrying
forward our predecessors' tradition of patriotism and
national unity.

Our party will steadily continue to push ahead
with different programmes to encourage organiza-
tions associated with our national religion and na-
tional movements to work hard for reunification of
our country under the banner of "By Our Nation
Itself." We are also determined to improve solidarity
with foreign democratic parties and organizations
that are sympathetic to the just, patriotic struggle of
our compatriots. □

The National Foundation Day is commemorated every year.



Mt. Chilbo (1)

Physical Geography

MT. CHILBO, LOCATED IN THE SOUTH OF the east coast of North Hamgyong Province, is one of the celebrated mountains in Korea covering an area about 250 km². For the outstanding beauty of the inland and the coast it was well known as “Mt. Kumgang in North Hamgyong Province” from of old. The name *Chilbo* means seven treasures. The mountain goes by “Kkottongsan” in spring for its beautiful flowers in full bloom, “Rogumsan” in summer for its green foliage, “Hongasan” in autumn for its red-

tinged scenery and “Solbaeksan” for its snowscape.

A tourist guide map stands on the ridge of Pakdal Pass, known as gate to the mountain, and there are observation platforms and pavilions for commanding the bird’s-eye view of the mountain including Sungson Rock. As it is part of the Paektu volcanic belt ranging from Mt. Paektu to Ullung Island, Mt Chilbo was formed by volcanic action just like the formation of Mt. Paektu. The countless rocks formed by lava gusting from the deep underground and then cooling down were weathered and eroded over a long time, thus presenting such a magnificent, curious and peculiar scenery.

Sangmae Peak (1 103m) is the main peak of the mountain, and, centring on it, there are some peaks which are around 1 000m high above sea level, such as Pakdal Pass (761m) and Samgak Peak (1 030m) in the north, and Kkachi Peak (900m) and Hyangno Peak (844m) in the south. With the ridge of those peaks as the axis many other peaks and fantastic rocks soar in the east and west, presenting scenic slopes and ravines. The Sea Chilbo area in the east has little sandy beach compared with other sea-shores. Instead, it has a cliffy face, thus giving a very ▶





Pae Rock in Mt. Chilbo.



Sol Islet in Sea Chilbo.

- beautiful scenery to be enjoyed from the sea.

Surrounded by the high Hamgyong Mountain Range in the west and spread with a lowland area in the east open to the sea, Mt. Chilbo is mostly subject to oceanic climate. In summertime a southeast wind blows usually and a northwest wind in winter. Many streams flow down narrow and deep ravines. The Pochon and Phoha are relatively big among the streams. In the mountain area there are several hot springs including the Hwangjin Hot Spring which was well known from old times.

The flora of the mountain is very diversified and abundant; over 800 species of plants are distributed in the mountain such as pine, oak and maple; rhododendron and *Ledum palustre* which usually grow in the northern alpine region, and southern species like

Sasa coreana, Pyongyang chestnut and *Rosa wichuriana* Crep. There are to be found wild fruit trees like wild pear, wild grapevine, and tara vine, and over 70 kinds of medicinal herbs such as wild insam, barrenwort and *Schizandra chinensis*. The *Songi* mushroom from the mountain has a unique taste and flavour, and it is counted best among mushrooms in the country.

Over 30 kinds of wild animals like bear, roe deer, raccoon dog, badger and hare inhabit the mountain as well as different kinds of birds including eagle owl, thrush, starling and oriole, reptiles, amphibians, and insects. In the sea off Pochon in Sea Chilbo there are various marine resources like pollack, crab, octopus, sea urchin, shellfish and seaweed.

Pak Un Yong



Pyongyang, Cradle of Korean Nation (4)

Pyongyang Area, Cradle of Tangun-fathered Korea

SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANCIENT Joseon by Tangun, the Korean nation has maintained the same lineage for 5 000 years, speaking a single language and developing a single culture.

Tangun formed the first ancient state of Korea with Pyongyang as centre in the early 3rd millennium BC, and took a great area, including the northwestern region of the Korean peninsula, for the realm of the rule of Ancient Joseon.

Tangun's Korea, centred on Pyongyang, expanded its territory to a vast expanse gradually, displaying the wisdom of the nation. Under the direct influence of Tangun's Korea ancient states came into existence and the economic and cultural interactions between the states became dynamic. With the increased leading role of Ancient Joseon, the states grew to be a single, homogeneous nation.

The people of Tangun's Korea kept any foreign tribes or immigrants from intruding their land and settling so as to keep hold of their national integrity and ensure their simple composition of population and their single bloodline.

The establishment of Tangun's Korea meant the emergence of the Korean nation, and it brought about the substantial guarantee for the Korean people to develop into a homogeneous nation steadfastly. This is why they have held Tangun, founder of An-



Various pipa-shaped daggers.

cient Joseon, as father of the nation.

Tangun was born in Pyongyang, was active in the Pyongyang area (a typical example is that he set up a state with Pyongyang as its centre) and was buried in Pyongyang after his death.

The area produced a lot of archaeological materials which are helpful to the explanation of the inher-

ent qualities of Ancient Joseon's culture. Such typical relics of the time as pipa-shaped dagger, pipa-shaped spearhead, gourd-shaped pot and bronze arrowhead, which are representative of the early Ancient Joseon, have been often excavated in dolmens and stone-coffin graves in the Pyongyang area. In the basin of the Taedong River in the Pyongyang area there is a concentrated distribution of not only graves that belong to the earliest forms but also those of different shapes and forms that are indicative of the courses of the time. In other words the area has diversified types of dolmens which show changes in making dolmens, ►

A dolmen in Munhung-ri, Kangdong County, Pyongyang.



► ranging from the Chimchon-type one which is the oldest in its size and structure to the Odok-type one and the Mukbang-type one. There is a distribution of a dozen thousand dolmens in the basin of the Taedong River.

Not a few stone-coffin graves have also been found separately or in groups. In the basin of the Taedong River in the Pyongyang area there are distributed dozens of groups of stone-coffin graves. The Pyongyang area also has a concentration of extra-large dolmens of big owners of slaves, which are as big as mausoleums of kings. The top stone panel is usually more than 50 square metres and weighs 50-60 tons. These mammoth graves in the area total as many as 15. The high techniques of trimming and laying stone pieces are an intensive sign of the development of the ancient culture in the Pyongyang area.

In the first half of the 3rd millennium BC when Tangun's Korea was established the inhabitants of Ancient Joseon made and used gourd-shaped pots as well as top-shaped vessels. This kind of relics was found in different ancient graves including the Ryongdok-ri Dolmen.

The Pyongyang area is also the cradle of the pipha-shaped dagger culture. The pipha-shaped spearheads, one of the typical leftovers of the early Ancient Joseon, were discovered in many places including Sangwon County and Tokchon City in the 1990s. They are estimated to have been made in the 26th century BC.

In the basin of the Taedong River in the Pyongyang area, crop farming developed earlier than other regions. The people of Ancient Joseon harnessed draught cattle with ploughs for tilling, used carriages and other vehicles for transport of farming materials, and improved species of cultivated plants, thus giving rise to the farming in the paddy, that is, irrigation farming. Ancient Joseon relied on the farming population. Therefore, the country attached im-

portance to farming from its initial years.

The Pyongyang area is the origin and centre of the bronze culture as well. Bronze tools and vessels are regarded as an important criterion of the ancient culture. In the Pyongyang area the inhabitants in the first half of the 3rd millennium BC began to make bronze weapons like pipha-shaped daggers and spearheads and bronze arrowheads, and bronze articles like bronze tools and trinkets. These things were in wide use in many fields of everyday life, thus opening the time of bronze culture. The sites of historical interest in the Pyongyang area produced different kinds of bronze articles including pipha-shaped daggers, pipha-shaped spearheads and bronze arrowheads. In particular, the pipha-shaped daggers and spearheads found in Housing Site No. 10 in the Phyodae Remains in Samsok District, Housing Site No. 16 in the Namyang Remains in Tokchon City, Dolmen No. 5 in Ryongdok-ri, Sangwon County, and Stone-coffin Grave No. 1 in Sinam-ri, Sinphong County have been confirmed to date back to the first half of the 3rd millennium BC.

Ancient Joseon created its own alphabet, called Sinji, and developed astronomy and other scientific and technological fields.

Pyongyang was the capital of Ancient Joseon. The most influential proof of the claim is to be fetched from the fact that the remains of Tangun was unearthed in the Mausoleum of King Tangun in Kangdong County, Pyongyang. That Pyongyang was the capital of Ancient Joseon is strongly supported by historical documents as well as archaeological materials. A typical document is *Samgukyusa* (History of the Three Kingdoms). The part dedicated to the description of Ancient Joseon gives a manifest account of how Tangun found Joseon, claiming, "He (Tangun) fixed the walled city of Pyongyang as the capital when he founded Joseon." Pyongyang was the capital of Ancient Joseon throughout the existence of the country. □

Different shapes of pots.



Bronze vessels.



In Search of Origin of Salt Production

ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO ONE STUDENT asked a question in a history lesson. “Sir, did Koguryo and Koryo (918–1392) that were military and economic powers depend on import from neighbouring countries for salt?” The teacher who was asked at that time was Choe Sung Il at the Wonup Senior Middle School, Onchon County, Nampho City. He was at a loss what to say.

Onchon County in Nampho City is one of the biggest salt production bases in Korea. Moreover, the Wonup area bears a large share in salt production. In the early 20th century the Japanese imperialists occupied Korea militarily. In the Wonup area they destroyed all the historical relics and confiscated and incinerated all history books on salt to stamp out the history of salt production in Korea. Then, they made propaganda that salt production was started by Japan in Korea.

Since then a lot of people had a wrong idea that their country owed salt production to Japan. The student mentioned above was one of them. Now Choe fell into thought: Everybody knows that our ancestors prepared kimchi and soy and bean paste



Choe Sung Il (middle).

by using salt from olden times; Yet I can't answer my students' question because of shortage of historical knowledge about salt.

Choe decided to give an answer to the question by making an investigation at any cost. He spent many years collecting legends and folk tales from the natives in Onchon County, but no scientific information. He then turned to classic books and studied not only Korean history but also foreign historical documents. As a result, he could make sure that the Wonup area in Onchon County was a long-standing salt producer. A particular piece of proof was a Japanese lecture summary on history of salt titled “Road of Salt” (On Features of Ancient Salt Making). It wrote that salt manufacture found its way from Korea to Japan. Moreover, in a history book “Songhosaesol” he could read that Tangun was the best in the study of salt in Ancient Joseon. There were also materials that noted lots of salt was manufactured in Korea and exported to neighbouring countries.

Choe made up his mind to verify his predictions by unearthing historical relics on the spot, although he was neither an archaeologist nor a linguist. He resolutely started unearthing, thinking if he delayed his work he couldn't teach his students the right history. He studied himself archaeology, geology and salt-manufacturing engineering and finally discovered 50 sites believed to have been places of salt manufacture in several square kilometres of the Wonup area. Later, in close connection with teachers and researchers of the history faculty, Kim Il Sung University, he unearthed a site of salt manufacture which dates back to the age of Koguryo

A site of salt manufacture during the time of Koguryo.



Folk Dance *Tondollari*

FROM ANCIENT TIMES THE KOREAN people were fond of dancing, and they created many beautiful and graceful folk dances including the peasant dance and dance with fans. *Tondollari* is one of them. It is a local dance with a long history peculiar to the coastal areas of Hamgyong provinces. The people of the provinces are all familiar with the dance movements. All who visit the provinces can see them regardless of sex and age turning out and having a good time of dancing *Tondollari* all day on holidays and gala days. Originally, the dance inherited other old folk dances such as *Tongdong* of Koguryo. At first, it was called *Tongdongdari*, but later its name changed to *Tondollari* in Hamgyong provinces.

In the early 1930s the meaning of the name of *Tondollari* changed into *Tongthulnal* (day will dawn), reflecting the Korean people's aspiration and wish to live a new independent life free from the exploitation and oppression of the Japanese imperialists.

The dance begins with women pleasantly drumming on gourd dippers turned over on the water filling deep pots, and then those who are good at song and dance come out to sing and dance. When the zest of dancing rises, the onlookers are invited into dancing, form-

ing a circle of dancers and making merry singing and dancing.

The dancing movements of *Tondollari* are characterized by enthusiastic motions of arms and strongly rhythmic steps. Moving wrists and arms in time to the music, turning wrists, flipping fingers, and other brisk motions in combination with big strides make the dance very rhythmical and strongly elastic. These rhythmic characteristics of the dance represent the progressive, diligent, tenacious and unyielding nature and disposition of the people of Hamgyong provinces.

The dance with a long history and a unique local colouring is still very popular with the people, adding to national sentiments and optimism.

Dr. Kim Son Yong,
researcher of the Academy
of Social Sciences



- (277 BC-AD 668) in the Wonup Workers' District area. At the same time he found over 80 rocks with constellation inscriptions, 10 sites of ancient human shelters, 50 pieces of the Neolithic leftovers, over 100 dolmens and three rocks with primitive letters.

Choe says, "In the course of unearthing salt production sites of Koguryo we have discovered many relics dating back to ancient times. So we guess that many people gathered here to produce salt from ancient times. And considering many constellation-inscribed rocks we think our ancestors produced salt based on meteorological observation."

The researchers of Kim Il Sung University confirmed one of the places with relics was a site of production of salt from the sea water, which belonged to the period of Koguryo.

Later, Choe made a new teaching material on the history of salt production in Korea. As there are unearthed many relics dating back to primitive and ancient times in the Wonup area, he is convinced that relics of salt production of relevant times will show up. He is directing effort to their discovery.

Sim Hyon Jin

Along the Consistent Line of One Korea

THE TRAGEDY OF NATIONAL division in Korea caused by outside forces has passed over 70 years.

To put an end to this tragedy the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a fair proposal for national reunification more than once in the past and has done its best for their implementation. The complicated north-south relations of the past days gave a lesson that to ease the tensions between the north and the south of Korea and meet the wishes of the Korean nation for independent reunification, it is necessary to open up the way for dialogue and negotiation.

The events of the 1970s proved this. With the beginning of the 1970s, a new change took place in the international and domestic situations. Advocating a policy switch from the "policy of power" to "dialogue," "coexistence" and "negotiation," Nixon, US President at the time, put forward a "peace strategy" for improving relations with big countries and maintaining a "standstill policy" for divided countries.

In the context of the changing situation at home and abroad, the DPRK made a proposal to open up new vistas for national reunification, declaring that it was ready to contact with all the political parties including the Democratic Republican Party, public organizations and individuals of south Korea at any time. This proposal for wide-ranging contact and negotiation between the north and the south called forth unanimous support and response from the people at home and abroad.

Soon after, the door was opened for a north-south dialogue. On July 4, 1972, the historic North-South Joint Statement with the three principles of national reunification as its core was issued. With the announcement of

the North-South Joint Statement which is the general programme of national reunification, an epochal phase was opened for pulling down the barriers between the north and the south and clearing the way for peaceful reunification by the united force of the people in keeping with their desire and interests. From late August of 1972, a talk between the north and south Red Cross societies was held to abate the misery and pains of the separated families and relatives in the north and the south, and a high-level north-south political talk was arranged.

Thanks to the efforts of the DPRK, a north-south summit meeting was held in 2000 for the first time, where the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration was adopted. All the eye-catching events in the following period remain to this day in the memory of the Korean people. With the adoption of the joint declaration, the principles and ways of dialogue and negotiation were confirmed and, on this basis, many issues were settled in conformity to the mutual benefits. As a result, north-south dialogues which had been the scenes of dispute in the past turned into fruitful talks.

This brought about unprecedented successes in the relations between the north and the south and in the national reunification movement. Various talks including ministerial talks between the north and the south, held for the purpose of fulfilling the joint declaration, turned into scenes of settling issues practically in the spirit of faith and cooperation. In this course the methods for reconciliation and unity were found out, the way of cooperation and exchange opened up, and measures were taken for the easing of tensions.

As great progress was made in

the implementation of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, the time of reconciliation and cooperation arrived in the north-south relations which had been disturbed by confrontation, tension and distrust for over half a century, and a bright prospect of national reunification was opened up. Now, the barriers of misunderstanding and distrust between the north and the south collapsed and the severed railways and roads were reconnected while the air and sea routes were reopened.

History shows that if the authorities of the north and the south trust each other in the position of reconciliation and unity and have dialogues and negotiations, it is quite feasible to improve their relations and accomplish national reunification. Therefore, the DPRK has been claiming to work out all issues of inter-Korean relations by means of dialogue and negotiation ever since the country was divided by America. Dialogues and negotiations between the two parts of Korea will promote the process of building up mutual trust and achieving common prosperity, free from the feelings of distrust. It will fully accord with the wishes of the Korean nation who desire reconciliation and peace rather than confrontation and war.

The DPRK has striven and will strive along the line of one Korea and of national reunification which meets the long-cherished desire and claim of its people for national reunification in order to settle all problems arising in the inter-Korean relations by means of dialogue and negotiation and promote national reconciliation, unity, cooperation and exchange.

Kim Il Ryong

The True Culprit Against Peace

RECENTLY THE AMERICANS care to mention peace and security more frequently than ever before. Whenever the opportunity arises, the President and officials of the US Administration raise their voices about “peace” being disturbed and security “threatened” by someone. But the reality tends to disprove their concern for peace and security.

This is clearly sustained by the situation in the Asia-Pacific region. Mentioning publicly a plan to reinforce its naval force in this area, the US military is trying to deploy the 7th and 3rd fleets together in the area which is of great strategic importance. Already deployed in Japan, the 3rd fleet with more than 100 warships including four aircraft carriers is now working in close military cooperation with the 7th fleet with 80 warships, 140 airplanes and 40 000 troops. Along with this, the US has deployed a prompt reaction force in the Asia-Pacific area, newly building up their forces. While bringing huge armed forces including a nuclear aircraft carrier striking group and “F-22” stealth fighters to south Korea, they have shifted 15% of the US Marine Corps to the Asia-Pacific region. The region has become an assembly place of the four strategic weapons of the US like nuclear aircraft carriers, “B-2” stealth bombers, “F-22” stealth fighters, and nuclear submarines. In particular, they are bent on military invasion of the DPRK under a plan of elite armed forces deployment in and around the peninsula. The US military equipment in the Asia-Pacific area is way above that in Europe and the Middle East. This is no secret.

Such a rapid arms build-up in

the area is a link in their strategic readjustment for the realization of their Asia-Pacific strategy. The Asia-Pacific region holds an important place in their aggressive foreign policy in general, and so the US regards it as the key to world supremacy to seize this area. Here, the most important target is the Korean peninsula. This is proved by the fact that right after Korea’s liberation in August 1945, MacArthur, Commander of the US Armed Forces in the Far East, said that if they occupied the whole land of Korea, they “could cut to pieces the only supply line between Soviet Siberia and the Southern regions and dominate the whole area between Vladivostok and Singapore,” and then that Dulles, former US Secretary of State, said that Korea was a “dagger” to cut out the “lump of meat” called Asia. With the object of cutting out Asia, the lump of meat, the US is trying to hide the real intentions of reinforcing their armed forces and keep the neighbouring powers around the Korean peninsula off their guard by noisily advertising “peace” and “threat.” This is the reason why the US reinforces their armed forces while conducting provocative military exercises regularly to keep the tense situation in the peninsula at all times.

The Americans would once say that they had no hostile intention against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and were ready to take measures to improve the bilateral relations in the spirit of mutual respect for sovereignty and equality, and that they would not use armed forces including nukes or threaten with such weapons. However, their words

were nothing but hypocrisy to hide their hostile policy against Korea and their nuclear threats. Worse still, after making such statements and clarifying their attitudes, their hostile moves against Korea were further stepped up.

Their hostile acts are obvious not only in military threats and frantic nuclear war rehearsals but in all manner of attempts to isolate and suffocate the DPRK. They have established diplomatic relations with Russia and East European countries that once had different ideas and systems from America, but they deny even to properly call the official name of the DPRK, far from establishing diplomatic relations with it. Though Korea became a member of the UN in 1991 and most of the UN member nations recognized the DPRK’s sovereignty, the US still refuses to deem the DPRK a member of the international community to coexist with. It also spreads a false view about the DPRK’s nuclear and human rights issues and makes every attempt to isolate and suffocate the DPRK by abusing the means of the UN and other international organizations. Even the US President has gone to the length of advocating the collapse of the social system in the DPRK. The constant hostile policy of America has severely threatened the Korean people’s right to enjoy peace and progress, and made the situation in the Korean peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region tense.

All this clearly shows that the US is not a guardian of peace and security but the true culprit against peace.

Kim Yong Un

Doomed to Ruin

JAPAN CONCLUDED THE “Korea-Japan Friendship Regulations” by forcing the feudal government of Korea 140 years ago. In the lunar August of 1875 the Japanese militarists caused the brigandish “Unyo” incident, and made it an occasion to forcibly conclude an unequal and subordinate treaty with Korea’s feudal government.

In the council held in his presence with the attendance of the heads of the army in the lunar September of 1875, the king of Japan gave orders to dispatch a “plenipotentiary” to Korea to force it to conclude an unequal and subordinate treaty with Japan. According to the order, the reactionary government of Japan appointed wicked officials to be sent to Korea and gave them “instructions” on the contents of “treaty” and the details of its forcible conclusion. On the lunar December 19, 1875, the Japanese intruded into Pusan with 800-odd aggressive troops aboard seven warships. They made illegal sounding of the sea and committed acts of espionage along the coast while making a show of force in the South and West seas of Korea. They came to the waters off Kanghwa Island and forced the feudal government of Korea to have talks. Not prepared to repulse the invaders, the feudal government had no way out but to agree to conclude the unequal treaty forced by Japan. On February 27, 1876 (the lunar February 3) the “Korea-Japan Friendship Regulations” with 12 articles was concluded.

It was totally an unequal and subordinate “treaty” which violated the sovereign rights and interests of Korea. The “regulations” stipulated that ports of Korea should be opened to the Japanese merchants for “free trade.” It also specified that the Japanese militarists should be allowed the free sounding and

mapping of the coastal waters of Korea. This paved the way not only for the political and economic penetration but for military intrusion of Japan into Korea. The Japanese aggressors forced Korea to sign the “Appendix to the Korea-Japan Friendship Regulations” and the “Korea-Japan Trade Rules” on August 24, 1876 (the lunar July 6) as supplementary agreements to the “Korea-Japan Friendship Regulations.” It allowed the circulation of Japanese currency in the open ports and tax exemption of its import and export commodities for several years.

Extraterritoriality, tariff exception and circulation of its currency provided favourable conditions to the Japanese aggressors who were keen to recklessly plunder material wealth abroad for the purpose of rapid growth of militarism. The conclusion of the “Korea-Japan Friendship Regulations” sent Korea down rapidly into the vortex of semi-colonization. All this was the prelude to the Japanese imperialists’ military occupation of Korea for 40-odd years, during which they committed unprecedented extra-villainous crimes while enforcing fascist rule over it.

Japan, however, has not yet made reparation for its past crimes to the Korean people. The Prime Minister of Japan openly praises its blood-stained history and the Diet members make it a regular practice to go and worship at the Yasukuni Shrine, the symbol of militarism. The Self-Defense Forces of Japan, established in the name of “self-defence” with a small armed force, has now been expanded to an aggressive force next to the US forces in size in the Western world. The military strategy of Japan has been constantly upgraded. At the outset it was “exclusive defence.” According to it, the operational sphere of the

SDF was limited to the airspace and territorial waters of Japan. Afterwards, it was changed to “total defence,” and then, after the end of the cold war, to the strategy of overseas aggression. The sphere of military operations was expanded largely from the “1 000 mile sea route defence” aimed at holding the commands of the air and the sea around Japan to the “2 000 mile sea route defence” reaching to the Indian Ocean.

In the new century, Japan, taking the US’s “anti-terror war” as a golden opportunity for realizing its ambition of reinvasion, set forth the “countermeasure to the threat of terrors” as the main point of its security policy and put up a military strategy oriented to overseas attack. Today the operational sphere of the SDF is totally free from geographical restrictions. The SDF’s sphere of activity is now extended to all parts of the world in conformity with the revised “Japan-US defence cooperation guidelines.” The direction of deployment of the SDF strength has now been switched over from the north aimed at the former Soviet Union to the west.

In particular, Japan’s move for military reinvasion of Korea is getting more pronounced. At all levels of military schools the Korean language has become a compulsory subject and military exercises are carried out under different names with a view to invading Korea. Japan is now accelerating its preparations for a pre-emptive strike against the DPRK by concluding an agreement on sharing information with the United States and south Korea and stepping up military espionage against the latter.

Dashing forward frantically along the road of reinvasion, oblivious of the lessons of history, Japan is doomed to ruin.

Kim Un Ryong

The Relics of the Ancient Fortress

THE ANJU FORTRESS WAS built during the Koguryo Dynasty (277 B.C.—A.D. 668) and the Feudal Joson Dynasty (1392–1910), and its relics remain in Anju City, South Phyongan Province. After Koguryo moved its capital to Pyongyang, Anju was built as a point of military importance in the northern area to defend Pyongyang. In those days many fortresses were built in the areas surrounding the Walled City of Pyongyang, and the Anju Fortress was one of them. Anju, an important strategic point, was a centre of traffic, too. The fortress was about 6 500 metres around, and it consisted of three parts—the inner fort, the outer fort and the new fort, built in different years. The inner fort was built in the time of Koguryo, with its walls standing on the ridge of the Kadu range dipping down to the shore of the Chongchon River

and on the hills along the riverbank. They were 7~8 metres high from the level ground and 4~5 metres on the slope. The outer fort built in the period of the Feudal Joson Dynasty is 3 650 metres round. The new fort, over 550 metres round, was built in the 17th century after driving out the foreign invaders.

The Anju Fortress was reconstructed several times during the Koryo Dynasty (918–1392) and the Feudal Joson Dynasty. The gates of all the forts were located east, west, south and north. Each gate was built on the stone foundation with an archway and a gatehouse. The gates of the Anju Fortress had remained unimpaired till the end of the Feudal Joson Dynasty, but most of the gates and walls were pulled down by the Japanese imperialists after their seizure of Korea. As a result, only the archway of the east gate

of the outer fort remains as it was. The Paeksang Pavilion destroyed in the US imperialists' bombings during the Korean war (June 25, 1950–July 27, 1953) was restored to its original state in April 1977. It is said that the fortress had many large ponds full of water. The largest of them was Chilsong Pond, which was studded with seven tiny islets resembling the Great Bear.

The Anju Fortress discharged its mission as a formidable stronghold many times in the battles against the foreign invaders.

Thanks to the state policy of conservation of national cultural heritage, parts of the walls of the fortress, the Paeksang Pavilion and the Chilsong Pond have been restored to the old state, so that now they serve as a cultural recreation ground for the people.

Pak Thae Ho



