



# KOREA TODAY

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Juche 108  

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(2019)

# Medallion of Trieste



**Chairman Kim Jong Il received the Medallion of Trieste, Italy in June 1990.**



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President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il paid close attention to the stockbreeding development of the country for improvement of the people's standard of living, and now Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un is carrying it forward.



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**Front Cover: Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill increases the production of silk bedclothes**

*Photo by Hwang Jong Hyok*



**Back Cover: Chottaek (candlestick) Rock in Sinphong Kumgang**

*Photo by Kim Hyok Chol*

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# For Improvement of People's Living Standards

**T**O IMPROVE THE PEOPLE'S LIVING standards is a consistent policy of the Workers' Party of Korea.

## Lifelong Desire

It was President Kim Il Sung's lifelong desire to provide the people with good foods as much as they wanted—particularly white rice, meat and eggs.

The Kwangpho Duck Farm in South Hamgyong Province in the northern part of Korea came into being for the purpose.

During the Fatherland Liberation War (1950–1953) Kim Il Sung, with a far-reaching plan to build a large-scale duck farm in the Kwangpho area, dispatched a survey group to the locality.

Merely five days after the end of the war, the national leader sent there lots of discharged soldiers, technicians and experts to start the project. And he sent fertilized duck eggs.

Later he visited the farm many times, giving detailed instructions on how to use aquatic plants growing in Lake Kwang to solve the problem of feed, how to breed and raise ducks and how to process the meat.

In the Samsok village situated in suburban Pyongyang they had never kept chickens. Only after the President visited the village and gave instructions on raising chickens a lot in rural areas in the 1960s did the villagers begin to raise the poultry. The national leader decided to make the village set an example of how many chickens each family or workteam could keep in rural areas, and introduce the example across the country. He sent to the village breeds of Mangyong chicken growing fast and laying a lot of eggs, and visited it many times every year. In this way he confirmed that a rural family could raise more than five chickens and that a farm workteam could do over 100 chickens in its threshing ground.

One day the President visited a workteam of the then Jangsuwon Cooperative Farm, leading the then chief Party secretaries of provinces and chairmen of provincial rural economy committees.

After listening to a chicken keeper's words that

they had 130 chickens and that the chickens were producing 70 to 80 eggs a day, Kim Il Sung said it meant that a chicken laid 170 to 180 eggs a year, and that they would be able to lay 200 eggs if they were looked after better.

The next day, at a conference of managers in the fields of poultry farming and stockbreeding, the President clarified the task of raising chickens in rural areas as follows:

A campaign should be launched for each rural family to keep five chickens.

Cooperative farms should launch a drive to raise 100 chickens in each threshing ground.

Under the energetic guidance of the President there took place an all-people drive to raise chickens in all farms across the country.

The President also saw to it that an all-people drive was under way to raise other kinds of poultry including ducks, geese, turkeys and quails.

And he wisely led the work to lay firm material and technical foundations for the industrialization of poultry farming to produce much more eggs and meat intensively. Thus there were built modern poultry farms in numbers across the country, making it possible to fully supply meat and eggs to the people.

## Modernization as Required by the New Century

Chairman Kim Jong Il paid close attention to modernization of poultry farming.

One November day in Juche 89 (2000) the Chairman visited the Hwangju Chicken Farm which was about to go into operation.

The farm was fattening hatched chicks up to the average weight of 2kg in 40 days. So it could produce much meat by raising chickens that way eight times a year.

After looking round the farm with a hatchery and several other buildings all provided with automatic equipment, the Chairman said highly modernized and productive chicken and duck farms like the new ones should be built in many other places, and that poultry farms to be built from then on should be perfect enough to be admired in the

► distant future as they were to be handed down to posterity.

During his inspection of the Kanggye Chicken Farm, he made a remark that poultry farming, too, was an art after he had examined all the computer-controlled production lines and seen young women workers in neat white gowns collect eggs.

One October day in 1997 the Chairman visited the newly built Songam Myonggi Cattle Farm. The farm was located at the foot of a hill.

In the farm workers in white gowns were looking after plump cattle in their large sheds with modern equipment, and highly nutritive feed was being produced in a building.

The Chairman was very pleased after acquainting himself in detail with the actual conditions of the farm. He said the farm's capacity to produce beef should be doubled, and stressed the need to find the way to produce beef faster by intensifying the relevant research.

One October day in 1998 Kim Jong Il visited Taehongdan County in the northern part of Korea. Mentioning that if a pig farm was built there to raise lots of pigs it would be possible to produce much pork and much liquid manure to do potato farming better, he said that in other words pig farming and potato farming would be connected to form a cycle of production.

Thus there was created a cycle of production based on the connection between potato farming and pig farming in the aforesaid county and other cooperative farms in Ryanggang Province, whose mainstay was potato farming.

Besides, efforts were made to introduce a similar production system based on connection between fruit culture and stockbreeding in the Taedonggang Pig Farm, Tudan Duck Farm, Kanggye Pig Farm, Hamhung City Youth Goat Farm, Ostrich Farm, Kyenam Livestock Farm, the general livestock branch farm of the Namsan Cooperative Farm in Kusong and so on.

The long journey of patriotic devotion made by the Chairman for the development of stockbreeding is recorded as an epic of love for the people in the history of the country.

### **Modernization and Intensification of Stockbreeding**

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un put forward the policy of solving the problem of food for the people by developing crop farming, stockbreeding and fishing as the three mainstays, and is wisely leading

the work to bring about a new turn in the development of the country's comprehensive stockbreeding. To this end he is always on the tour of field guidance.

One day in 2012 the Supreme Leader visited a livestock farm. When he dropped in at a pedigree pig house, he saw automatic pigsties teeming with hybrid pigs of good breeds. He said that the work of breeding should be further intensified so as to perfect new pedigree pigs fast and spread them to pig farms across the country.

When he inspected a high-grade strain research institute, he stressed the need to solve problems arising in propagating and breeding high-grade domestic animals and conduct the research to breed new high-grade domestic animals.

That day he went to see a foreign kind of goat. The pens were teeming with brown-headed goats considerably bigger than native species, including new-born kids. Saying that a scientific method should be developed in order to raise the new kind of goat successfully, he instructed that in order to change grass for meat it was necessary to complete and introduce a scientific method of breeding widely while introducing high-grade domestic animals. And he clarified new research tasks to complete a scientific method of raising the new goats.

He paid close, constant attention to modernization of the farm, and took measures to consolidate the scientific and material foundation of the good-grade strain research institute.

In May 2013 the Supreme Leader made his way along a rough path to visit a breeding station under construction. After acquainting himself in detail with the project, he said that what was fundamental in raising grass-eating domestic animals was to solve the problem of feed grass by creating a lot of pastures, and gave specific advice about how to solve problems arising in creating pastures.

A few months later he visited the breeding station again, and told them the knack of scientific stockbreeding so that it could become a model breeding station.

Maintaining it as his firm resolution to implement unconditionally and thoroughly the President and the Chairman's instructions for the grass-for-meat policy, he is energetically inspiring all the people to the implementation of the policy.

Now a new turn is taking shape in the development of the country's stockbreeding as a whole.

*Kim Kum Hui*

## **His Urge: Put Livestock Farming on Scientific Basis**

**K**OREA IS CONDUCTING a vigorous campaign to develop animal husbandry. Under the concern of the State, large stock farms have gone up and the material and technical foundations are further consolidated in the existing farms. This can hardly be thinkable apart from the wise leadership and devotion of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

### **Putting Stockbreeding on Scientific and Modern Basis**

It is a plan and resolution of the Supreme Leader to put the country's animal husbandry on the level of the advanced countries in a shortest possible time by putting it on a scientific and modern basis.

One sultry day in August 2012 he visited a stockbreeding combine. Looking round a beef cattle farm, a pig breeding farm, a goat stable and a high-bred livestock research institute, he acquainted himself in detail with the production.

Noting that what is important in stockbreeding is to solve the problem of fodder, he gave specific instructions to create pastures.

He also set forth tasks to strengthen the research work for putting the stockbreeding on a scientific and industrial basis and to steadily improve the equipment and technical management.

In August 2018 he inspected the farm again. Stressing that

the country should rank among the advanced countries in stockbreeding by putting the breeding and raising of animals on a firmer scientific and modern basis, he underlined the need to intensify the research work to prevent degeneration of the present breeds of domestic animals.

Having learned in detail about high-yielding fodder crops which were cultivated for trial at the institute, he said with pleasure that they would be able to make a breakthrough in stockbreeding if they continued to spread the fodder species which were of high productivity, easy to cultivate and of great economic effectiveness, across the country.

He went on to say that the institute should keep up the research work for putting the stockbreeding on a scientific, industrial and modern basis regarding it as a permanent task so as to implement the Party's policy of scientific stockbreeding with practical success, not in words.

### **Vanguard and Pacesetter**

When the Supreme Leader visited the Taedonggang Pig Farm in August 2016, he looked round various places including the integrated control room, fattening house, meat processing shop and organic compound fertilizer workshop.

At that time the farm, pursuing the goal of making livestock farming scientific, IT-

based and automatic at a high level, was producing piglets on a regular basis by establishing a good breed-growing system. To increase the pork production rapidly it was also ensuring the fodder supply and anti-epizootic work at a high level.

Looking at a large number of fattening pigs in every house and processed pork products which were piled up in the meat processing shop, the Supreme Leader was very satisfied.

Saying that the farm had put pork production on a scientific and intensive basis and established the production cycle of fruit growing and animal husbandry as was intended by the Workers' Party of Korea, he stressed the need to make sure that the success and experience gained by the farm were emulated throughout the country.

Then he set forth the tasks to be tackled by the farm, including those of cultivating good-breed pigs, improving the scientific accuracy of growing and managing methods, taking thorough anti-epizootic measures, modernizing the meat processing shop, increasing the variety of processed meat, improving the quality of the meat and raising the production of organic compound fertilizer.

That day, he expressed his high expectation that the managers and employees of the farm would become a vanguard and pacesetter in carrying out the Party's stockbreeding policy.

*Choe Sol Mi*

# Point in Stockbreeding Development



Im Thae Won.

SOME TIME AGO A *KOREA TODAY* reporter had an interview with Im Thae Won, director of the Stockbreeding Management Bureau, the Ministry of Agriculture.

**Recently Korea has been bringing about many achievements in stockbreeding by concentrating efforts on the four key factors—breed, feed, raising and care of domestic animals and anti-epizootic work.**

You're right. Breeds are to livestock farming what seeds are to crop cultivation. Success in stockbreeding depends on good breeds. We are positively introducing the latest sci-tech achievements in breeding so as to obtain breeds that consume less grain fodder and are productive in a short span of time.

Domestic animal breeding research is being conducted by the central research institute, local livestock farming bases and individual families to suit their specific conditions. In keeping with this, we are intensifying the inspections of breeds to determine the purposes for which they will be used.

**It is also important in developing livestock farming to solve the problem of feed, I think.**

That's right. To solve the problem to suit different specific conditions, we are mobilizing all reserves and potentials while creating pastures in various parts of the country and introducing agro-forestry.

While thoroughly establishing a production cycle based on stockbreeding and crop farming, we are producing feed in an industrial way by solving the problems of protein-rich feed and feed additives.

The Ryongjung Cooperative Farm in Mundok County is a typical one. Its stockbreeding workteam and similar sub-workteams of other workteams are breeding lots of animals like pig, chicken, duck and goose. They are solving the feed problem by means of pulverized grain straw, maize stalks, animal fur and shells, and feeding pigs on poultry excrement that is treated by slaked lime and sterilized. And they are saving lots of grain fodder by making rational use of *Pistia stratiotes cv.*

**Scientific and rational method of raising domestic animals and veterinary and anti-epizootic work are both important in stockbreeding, I think.**

To raise lots of domestic animals, the animals should be raised in a scientific way. This requires that the animals are raised in conformity with their physiological features and that the right breeds are raised in the right areas.

For this reason, we make sure that the relevant research institutes play a great role in establishing scientific raising methods and that the officials and working people in the stockbreeding sector are possessed of special scientific knowledge and technical skills.

The country is encouraging both the joint stockbreeding by cooperative farms and the sideline stockbreeding by individual farm workers. This makes organs, enterprises and factories and individuals take an increasing interest in stockbreeding.

Veterinary and anti-epizootic work can be said to be the foundation of animal husbandry. In our country the regular system of anti-epizootic facilities is established in each province, city, county and ri. An epidemiological checking system and an information system are established to prevent animal diseases. The bases for producing relevant preventive medicines are also built.

All livestock farming units are equipping themselves with proper anti-epizootic facilities, conducting regular medical checkups of the animals, and disinfecting their sheds in a regular way. If there is an outbreak of an infectious animal disease or a danger of it breaking out, the relevant area is quarantined immediately and thoroughgoing anti-epizootic measures are taken.

In the future, too, we will set a high goal of developing the livestock farming and make a strenuous effort to attain it. □

# Survival Rate of Domestic Animals Increases

SOME TIME AGO I visited the Epizootic Prevention Centre of the Ryokpho Cooperative Farm Management Committee in Pyongyang. The two-storey building looked so neat and tidy at a glance that I felt no germ could easily get an access to it.

Choe Jong Nam, head of the centre, said welcoming me, "We have recently refurbished our centre as befits an institution which conducts scientific research and anti-epidemic work to prevent domestic animal diseases." Then he told me the following story.

Until a few years ago the centre was housed in a small one-storey building with insufficient anti-epizootic facilities. Now the administrators pulled down the old building boldly and built a new one furnished with rooms for producing vaccines and Koryo veterinary medicines, a preparation room, a parasite examination room, a treatment room and a medicine store.

On the basis, they, first of all, made a detailed survey of all domestic animals raised by organs, enterprises and farms

as well as individual families in the district. As there were lots of domestic animals in the area in their charge, including cattle, goats, sheep, poultry, and rabbits, it was not easy to take care of all of them.

So they established an epidemiological observation system and an information system comprising cooperative farms, organs, enterprises and individual inhabitants. They also established a system of quarantine, examination and preventive inoculation for all domestic animals marking the veterinary and anti-epizootic months of March, April, September and October every year, which yielded a great result.

One year they were reported that the pigs at an establishment were not eager to eat feed. They rushed to the spot, when they were surprised to see the pigs had the foot-and-mouth disease, an infectious virus disease. The virus is so small that the death rate due to the disease is 5%, but in severe cases, it is up to 50%.

Explaining about the dangerousness to the employees the workers of the centre shared board and room with them for nearly 15 days tend-

ing the pigs, and finally brought them back to normal condition.

When they received a report that a goat of a farm worker in the Seumuli Vegetable Cooperative Farm was not eager to eat grass with frequent loose bowels, the centre workers treated it successfully with the Koryo veterinary medicine they had developed by themselves.

In keeping with the enthusiasm for rabbit growing veterinarians developed preventive medicines and applied them to rabbits kept by families, farms and enterprises. For their tireless efforts, the survival rate of rabbits they are in charge of is the highest.

Whenever the local inhabitants meet the workers of the centre, they lavish praises on them. Today the employees of the centre are making strenuous efforts to increase the survival rate of domestic animals by stepping up the anti-epizootic work while explaining to the inhabitants how to deal with animal diseases plaguing the world in recent years.

Article by Sim Yong Jin  
Photos by An Yong Chol



Workers of the Epizootic Prevention Centre look after animals.



# Well-known Stockbreeding Farm

**T**HE KUBIN STOCKBREED-  
ing Farm, Kangdong County,  
Pyongyang, is famous for good  
stockbreeding. Today many peo-  
ple visit the farm to learn from  
their achievements and experi-  
ence.

## Kubin-ri Yesterday and Today

Kubin-ri is located in a mountainous region in a suburban tip of Pyongyang, about 80 km away from the centre of the city. Nearly 90 percent of the ri's area is mountain terrain, so it has no more than 30 hectares of paddy field and a little over 300 hectares of dry field. What comes into sight are a dozen mountains and hills lined up like a folding screen along Kubin Stream, and precipitous mountain slopes. So those who visited the place used to say that everything was in short supply there and that it was a place with sterile land and mountains alone.

In 1997 the local farm was reorganized into a special stockbreeding farm. Under the State concern and support the farm

created pastures on formerly useless hillocks, thus over 1 000 hectares of natural and artificial grassland were laid. Together with this, it propelled the work to build modern stockbreeding and milk processing facilities.

Now the appearance of the locality has changed remarkably. Sloping plots of small sizes were developed into pastures, and Korean-style single-storey houses were built in good order. And the living standards of the farm workers are improving year by year as livestock production is growing. Since reorganization the farm has boosted the milk production about 70 times, and the grain output nearly 1.5 times. This resulted in the growth of cash income of the employees about 30 times. At present the income from animal husbandry accounts for over 80 percent of the gross income of the farm.

The workers have experienced through their own life the vitality of the Workers' Party of Korea's policy of transforming all mountains in the country into "gold mountains" and "treasure mountains."

## A Day in the Farm

The day dawns, and the early morning mist clears when the sun spreads its rays over the mountain valleys stretching along the Kubin Stream. A milk wagon runs pleasantly along the road at the foot of mountains, adding to the landscape of the mountain village.

The morning in the farm starts with a honk of the milk wagon. Each workteam of the farm delivers goat and cow milk they have just produced to the wagon. When the sunlight spreads, domestic animals are let out to the pasture. Flocks of goats and sheep go up mountain slopes—it is really spectacular. Soon the mountains are filled with bleats of goats and sheep, moos of dairy cows and cheerful laughter of the workers. As if responding to those sounds, pigs and poultry in individual houses make their own cries.

Around the time the goats and cows reach their pastures, the milk wagon arrives at the milk processing shop. Over three tons of dairy products are

processed on a daily basis using a natural cave. The products include butter, cheese, milk curd and different kinds of kefir. After unloading milk the wagon carries kefir, butter and cheese to nurseries, kindergartens and the Kubin Senior Middle School.

Such a vibrant scene can be found in any workplace in the farm—the lactic bacterium cultivation room, the spirulina cultivation laboratory, the veterinary medicine laboratory, etc, standing in a line next to the milk processing shop.

The rabbit rearing of the Youth Workteam is very impressive. Two workers raise hundreds of rabbits of good kinds which are over four kilograms each. One of the workers, Pak Il Sim, says, "Now my workteam is rearing thousands of rabbits, and all the members of the workteam have turned out to increase the number to 20 000 by next year."

When the sun sets, animals go down from the pasture. Their cries reverberate through the village once again. Spending a worthwhile day the workers convince themselves of their future.

## No More Than Beginning

Kubin-ri, which used to be

known as a place unfit for human inhabitation, has changed into a wonderful socialist rural community. Over 600 modern dwelling houses have gone up at the foot of hillocks. Planted in the vicinity of each house are peach, apricot and jujube trees, and hundreds of domestic animals in the village provide a tranquil pastoral scene.

The farm has nurseries, kindergartens, a senior middle school and the ri people's hospital, so the children learn to their heart's content and local residents get free medical care. A functional service network such as a house of culture, a comprehensive welfare service facility and the Kubin Shop is arranged, and the fishponds are teeming with schools of catfish. The farm has created over 30 hectares of chestnut forest and 100 hectares of firewood forest. It has carried out by itself an embankment project spanning over 10 km along the Kubin Stream. However, it still has a lot of things to do such as realization of IT-based rearing of animals, a scientific anti-epizootic programme and management of pastures.

The farm has a plan to remarkably increase the variety and quality of dairy products, and raise the number of goats,



Individual families' animal husbandry is encouraged.

cattle, sheep and rabbits. To this end the workers are learning modern science and technology assiduously at the agricultural sci-tech learning space.

Rim Ki Nam, a senior manager of the farm, says, "I think we have just begun to prosper. We are going to increase the production of milk, meat and dairy products 1.4 times, realize the modernization of the milk processing shop and completely set up a methane gas system in each house by 2020. When this plan comes true, we will be able to live a much more enjoyable life."

Article by Choe Sol Mi  
Photos by Ri Song Bok





# Story About Amusement Park of Kaeson Youth Park

“I AM GLAD TO LOOK ROUND THE Kaeson Youth Park which has been newly built as a pleasure ground of the people,” said Chairman Kim Jong Il in a ringing and booming voice on April 22, Juche 99 (2010), when he got to the park at the foot of the picturesque Moran Hill in Pyongyang. He was there to inspect the park which had just undergone an improvement project.

After hearing an explanation in front of the layout map, he understood the construction and operation of the park while looking round the amusement facilities and other service establishments for a long time. He was quite satisfied that the park was remodelled as wonderfully as to be admired even in the distant future.

Enjoying the sight of people, young and old, having a happy time with amusement and game facilities, and the panoramic view of the park area, the Chairman said: Our fatherly leader (President Kim Il Sung—Tr.) showed such a great care and affection for the people and children all his life while enjoying their company. How pleasant he would be if he saw this nice park filled with the happiness of the people.

The Kaeson Youth Park was opened in July 1984. It nestled in some 40 hectares in a perfect formative style with the combination of modern amusement facilities and garden plants. It had fountains and artificial falls in addition to large and small resting places of different shapes. The Unsa and Moran pavilions were in good harmony with various species of trees like pines, nut pines, lilacs, *Rhododendron yedoense*, and apricots, making the landscape much more attractive.

In 2008 the Chairman proposed to remodel the park as a comprehensive recreation ground equipped with latest amusement and game facilities, illuminations and service establishments, and gave specific guidance for the project.

Now visiting the newly arranged park he was quite satisfied, yet there was something he was worried about. When he got to the Disco, Pirate and Z-force ground, he asked which was more thrilling to ride between the Disco and the Pirate. An official answered, “The Pirate seems to be easier to ride, but when it falls from the sky it gives you a thrill as if you were dropping into a bottomless hole. So they prefer the Pirate to the Disco.”

Affirming his words, he asked earnestly to put the Z-force, which soars up and down 48m at 15m per second, into operation only after they solved all technical problems completely relating to the matter of safety.

When he got to the Volare, he asked about the height, distance of flight and speed per second of

▶ the equipment. He joked that they would find it most thrilling to ride it. Then, he told officials in a sincere voice to check the equipment thoroughly and operate it in a responsible manner so that there would be no accident. They say the Volare is surely guaranteed for safety, but you officials had better ride it first for a test so that the people may use it without any worry, the Chairman advised.

Thus officials got on the Power Surge to say nothing of the Volare. The leader asked time and again to keep the facilities in good condition, although they were highly automatic, and put them in good operation with full knowledge of its specification.

Before leaving the park he repeatedly asked: Those facilities are the Party’s present for the people. So you should keep them in good maintenance and normal operation while preventing a smallest accident. With a high sense of responsibility the managers should establish iron discipline and make sure that management and maintenance jobs

are done as required by the rules so as to provide absolute guarantee for the people’s life and safety. Have them take care of the facilities like the apple of their eye, make it a rule to check them every day and have a good technical consultation with research organs.

When all others, riding the facilities or enjoying the sight, were having a pleasant time, the Chairman alone was looking into every corner of the safety matter with care.

On Sunday, December 4, 2011, at the close of his life, Kim Jong Il visited the park again, which marked his fifth visit. Saying that he was there to have a direct understanding of the management and operation of the amusement park, he asked how the catering establishments in the park were working. He asked time and again to keep the park in good operation lest the people would have any inconvenience.

His instructions are alive in the mind of the park managers. □



# Yazov's Confession

MARSHAL YAZOV, Defence minister of the former Soviet Union, used to have expectation about the policy of "reform" and "reorganization" in its initial stage and supported it. He, however, seeing through Gorbachev's despicable personality and the reactionary nature of the policy, changed his stand and asserted that the military should join efforts to check the restoration of capitalism.

Later, at the time of the August 1991 event, he, as a member of the State Emergency Commission, tried to check the collapse of the Soviet Union. With the failure of the commission, however, he was thrown into prison. After his release from prison, witnessing the miserable reality of his country infested with the Western view of value, he got anxious to find the saviour who would save him from the abyss of despair.

One of those days of agony, he happened to read a treatise of Chairman Kim Jong Il of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, titled *The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party*.

The work had a great impact on the veteran, who had regarded the collapse of socialism in the Soviet Union as the result of the surrender of the state leaders who were on the payroll of the West.

In his work the Chairman noted that the basic reason for the frustration of socialism in some countries was that they had not put the main emphasis on strengthening the motive

force for building socialism and on enhancing its role, and had not adhered consistently to the fundamental principles of socialism.

Yazov found this was a scientific analysis of the fundamental reason of the collapse of socialism in the Soviet Union.

Reading the work time and again which suggested the general line of socialist construction and the methods to this end, he was convinced that they would be able to build and maintain socialism successfully if they did as the Chairman advised.

He reaffirmed his conviction further while reading the Chairman's historic work *Socialism Is a Science* which proved the scientific accuracy, truthfulness and invincibility of socialism.

*Socialism is not dead but alive. I'll go to see Chairman Kim Jong Il. I'll work to pioneer the road of restoration of socialism after his advice*—this was Yazov's decision.

This was how he visited Pyongyang in November 1995. During his sojourn of a little over a month he met Chairman Kim Jong Il three times. Through the meetings he knew that the Chairman had a wide-ranging deep knowledge covering all sectors such as politics, the economy, culture and defence. He was fluent in any topic of conversation, and possessed of profound knowledge and insight, and outstanding analysing ability which put the experts in the shade.

Yazov was also completely fascinated by the Chairman's

unassuming character and warm humanity.

Back in his country, he could not contain his urge to see the Chairman again. So, in 1996, he paid another visit to Pyongyang. When he received the report that Yazov had arrived, the Chairman went to a guest house to see him.

Speaking highly of Yazov's determination to dedicate the rest of his life to the cause of socialism the Chairman said that it is easy to lose the socialist system but hard to recover it, that if the military vacillates, the party and government will also vacillate, resulting in the loss of the revolutionary gains, that arms just mean the party, state and people, and that Korea invariably maintains the idea and line of giving priority to arms.

Admiring the Chairman who was illuminating the way ahead with the torch of profound theory Yazov cried to himself:

Today is the day of fortune and miracle for me. I have seen "God" whom the Christians have not met before. This "God" is not in Heaven but on this land, in Korea. Kim Jong Il is well versed in all worldly affairs and illuminates the road that can save the destiny of humankind and socialism—he is the most almighty "God" on earth. He is a great saint and the earthly "God" whom all the people in this world should worship and follow.

Later, Yazov dedicated all his life to the effort to restore socialism as advised by the Chairman.

Rim Jae Chol

# Supreme Commander and Soldiers

IN AUGUST JUCHE 101 (2012) Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un of the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea got aboard a 27hp wooden boat to inspect the Jangjae Islet which directly faces against the Yonphyong Islet where the enemy force was stationed.

When the accompanying officers tried to dissuade him from leaving for the islet, the Supreme Commander said in a firm voice that there were soldiers he loved most on the islet, and that the Supreme Commander is there just for soldiers. Now he got on the boat and sailed to see his soldiers through high waves.

The time he spends with soldiers is the most important hour and the happiest moment for him.

On January 1, 2012, the first morning of the New Year after the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il, Kim Jong Un inspected the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105<sup>th</sup> Tank Division of the Korean People's Army.

Grasping the hands of the officers of the unit who were shedding tears of excitement he said that he had been eager to see them, and that they should turn their unit into a model one of the whole army at the earliest possible

date. While looking around a company of the division, he dropped in at the barracks to feel the temperature of the room and the tap water. He asked the officers to look after the soldiers just like their elder brothers and sisters would do, and, more importantly, as their genuine comrades-in-arms.

The Supreme Commander travels wherever there are soldiers—mountains, far-away islets and front line areas—to take warm care of them. While he was inspecting the Ryo Islet defence unit, he asked the officers of the unit to take parental care of the life of soldiers lest they should yearn for the life on the land. And when he went to the Kkachilbong Post, he tenderly grasped the hands of the soldiers, telling them encouragingly that theirs was not an isolated post at all, and that he would always be with them.

Souvenir photos Kim Jong Un posed for with soldiers on his tour of field inspection are another expression of the relationship between the Supreme Commander and his soldiers.

One day he inspected an air unit in the severe cold of midwinter. Standing by the gale-blowing runway, he guided the flight training of the pi-

lots. After it he summoned all the pilots who took part in the training to have a photo taken with them.

In August 2012 he inspected the Persimmon Tree Company. Saying that he was ready to stand all day long if it was for the sake of the company soldiers he had a photo taken with each of them.

There are countless stories about affection of the Supreme Commander for soldiers; in the venue of the First Conference of Pilots of the Korean People's Army he named a son of a woman pilot true to his promise; he presented himself as the owner of a tomb of the fallen navymen of a submarine chaser who had died while discharging their mission; and he personally sent a message of condolence to a bereaved wife of a pilot.

Loving care brings about yearning, which in turn bears the spirit of self-sacrifice. In any hopeless situation soldiers yearn for their Supreme Commander and are ready to lay down their youth and life if it is necessary for him.

Boundless mutual concern and affection between the Supreme Commander and soldiers, and the bonds of yearning are the reliable source of the military power of the KPA.

Ryang Kyong Ho

# Korea Reflected in Socialist Constitution

EVERY COUNTRY HAS LAWS TO maintain and manage its state, and they have their own features.

Laws of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have a feature inherent to the socialist system. It is that all the laws make up a code of conduct with the main emphasis put on the working masses. A typical example is the Socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which defines the social system of Korea as the one for the working people.

Article 8 of the DPRK Socialist Constitution stipulates, "The social system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a people-centred system under which the working people are the masters of everything and everything in society serves them. The State shall defend the interests of the workers, peasants, soldiers, intellectuals and all other working people who have been freed from exploitation and oppression and become the masters of the State and society, and respect and protect human rights."

This shows that the social system of Korea will, in the future too, exist and develop as the one for the broad sections of the working people, not any special class or stratum. The popular character of the DPRK Socialist Constitution lies in that the constitution makes it legal that the working people are the masters of everything and that everything in society serves them.

Korea substantially provides the working people with the status of masters in the social system by legally stipulating that the working people are the masters of politics and the economy and exercise the relevant right.

Article 4 of the DPRK Socialist Constitution stipulates, "The sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea resides in the workers, peasants, soldiers, intellectuals and all other working people. The working people exercise State power through their representative organs—the Supreme People's Assembly and local People's Assemblies at all levels." And Article 66 stipulates, "All citizens who have reached the age of 17 have the right to elect and to be elected, irrespective of sex, race, occupation, length of residence, property status, education, party affiliation, political views or religious belief. Citizens serving in the armed forces also have the right to elect and to be elected...."

Among the deputies of the 14<sup>th</sup> Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK elected in March last

are not a few industrial workers, cooperative farm workers and women including workteam leader Ri Jong Chol of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, worker Han Myong Hui of Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill and subworkteam leader Jin Yon Sil of the Hero Ri Chang Son Workteam of the Ohyon Cooperative Farm in Yonan County. They are all held in respect and affection by the masses for their devotion to the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people. Since she left middle school, Han Myong Hui, for example, has fulfilled her annual plan for scores of years and led her colleagues to become innovators.

Article 20 of the DPRK Socialist Constitution stipulates, "In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the means of production are owned by the State and social, cooperative organizations." Article 21 stipulates that the property of the State belongs to all the people while Article 22 reads that the property of social, cooperative organizations is collectively owned by the working people involved in the organizations concerned. Article 70 stipulates that all able-bodied citizens may choose occupations in accordance with their wishes and skills and are provided with stable jobs and working conditions and that citizens are paid in accordance with the quantity and quality of their work.

In Korea labour is independent and creative activities of the working people freed from exploitation and oppression. The State makes sure that the labour of the working people who have no worry about unemployment becomes more enjoyable and that it becomes worthwhile as the one for the sake of society, collective and the working people themselves.

Korea legally makes sure that the working people improve their creative ability and fully enjoy sound cultural and aesthetic life.

And the State legally ensures a universal 12-year compulsory education and free education for all students, provides honour students with scholarships, consolidates and develops the system of universal free medical service and strengthens the section doctor system and the system of preventive medical care.

Despite these facts, hostile forces are desperately trying to stain the image of Korea, making a fuss about the "human rights issue" of the country. But as it is impossible to cover the sun with a palm, the reality of Korea cannot be distorted by any means. Referring to their impression from Korea visit, foreigners say, "Seeing is believing." □

# Functional Health Drinks

PEOPLE WANT TO LIVE A LONG LIFE IN good health. It is important to drink water good for health. Satisfying people's such desire is the Generator of Koryo Life Giving Water developed by the Koryo Life Giving Water Technology Company under the Koryo Medicine General Hospital.

The generator can produce in conformity with the user's purpose the deoxidized water with an antioxidizing power, and the oxidized water with a strong sterilizing power by adding a little amount of electrolyte to drinking water to electrolyze it. The generator was awarded the DPRK State Right of Invention in 1995, the state practical new patent of China in 1997, and a certificate of registered sci-tech achievement in 2015. And the deoxidized water and the oxidized water received a DPRK patent in 2004.

## Deoxidized Water Good for Health and Longevity

The deoxidized water is the one having high antioxidizing power with low degree of association. So it has good taste, smooths skin, strengthens metabolism and enhances excretion.

Kim Jong Chol, a laboratory head of the company, said, "The deoxidized water is efficacious in the treatment of diabetes, obesity, bronchial asthma and gastric disorder. If children drink it regularly it helps prevent caries and harden bones, and produces a good effect on their growth."

The head also said that making coffee and tea

with the water helps improve colours and tastes. Using it in cooking makes the food tastier and shortens the time of preparing food, he added.

The company also developed the activated deoxidized water with Koryo medicinal essence as an additive. According to researcher Paek Kyong Hui the mix of the Koryo medicinal essence with the deoxidized water can raise the efficacy of the Koryo medicine 1.5 times. For example, she said, the yew-leaf deoxidized water is the functional water which improves the reduction of blood sugar and hyperlipemia and diuresis.

## Oxidized Water with Strong Sterilizing Power

Oxidized water has a stronger sterilizing power than chlorine-family disinfectants.

According to the researchers it can be used in the treatment of different kinds of diseases including burn, bruise, bed sore, inflammation and dermatosis, and sterilization of treating equipment, appliances and apparatuses. Using the water in washing meat, vegetable and fruit is also very good. It does no harm to ecology in the hygienic and anti-epidemic sector and agriculture.

An Song Hui, president of the company, says, "We will put spurs to the research to produce the deoxidized and oxidized water to satisfy the growing demand of the people."

*Pak Un Yong*



Generator of Koryo Life Giving Water and the diploma it received at the Pyongyang International Sci-Tech Exhibition: Health & Medical Appliances.





## Leading Enterprise

AT PRESENT KOREA IS VIGOROUSLY pushing ahead with grand construction projects. Modern streets including Mirae Scientists Street and Ryomyong Street and a large number of monumental structures have gone up across the country and big projects are going ahead on a large scale, including Yangdok County Hot Spring Resort in South Phyongan Province, Wonsan Kalma Coastal Resort and the construction projects of Samjiyon County.

These great undertakings are spearheaded by the workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex.

The complex is a giant building materials manufacturer and a leading cement producer of Korea. It was established in March 1984, when Korea was vigorously pushing socialist construction for carrying out the Second Seven-Year Plan of the national economy (1978-1984), and the demand for cement was increasing everywhere in the country.

At this juncture, Korea set a target to construct a giant cement producer in the Sangwon area of North Hwanghae Province which was known to have enormous limestone deposits, main material for cement production.

Under the concern and support of the State, later, a modern production process was established and a limestone mine and a gypsum mine were developed while the building of a refractory factory, railway, dwelling houses and supply service bases

was accelerated.

Since inauguration, the complex has fulfilled its annual cement production plan year by year by pursuing a far-sighted programme of upgrading the production steadily along modern and scientific lines. Thus, it made a big contribution to construction of monumental structures in the country and its proud name was etched in the people's memory in every decade of socialist construction.

At the outset of the new century the complex made another rapid progress upholding the Workers' Party of Korea's grand plan of construction. Having found the key to increased production in science and technology, it pushed ahead with the introduction of innovative technical ideas and conceptions into production.

In particular, it exerted itself to decisively increase the educational standard of Myongdang College of Technology (the complex's evening college) and tap the creativity of technicians, researchers and employees by operating its sci-tech learning space on a regular basis.

In the course of this, lots of technical innovative ideas were developed and introduced, including production of low-heat portland cement by addition of volcanic rock. Some time ago, a firebrick production line based on the high-temperature air combustion technology plus anthracite gasification was established, which means a sure guarantee for innovation in cement production.

Thanks to enthusiasm for introduction of new technology, the complex has become able to produce varieties of cement including fire-proof slag cement and seawater-resistant cement, sanitary gypsum and solid potash water-glass.

In addition, it has surpassed the peak of annual cement production year after year since 2015.

At the moment the complex is directing a great effort to increasing the production capacity by speeding up the campaign to modernize production lines and equipment. It is manufacturing sheet metal products for reconstruction and modernization of the production lines and accelerating the modernization of the central control room and the

introduction of new technology for enhancing the crushing capacity of the limestone mine.

With a single mind to be the cornerstone which supports the future of the country in building a socialist power, the workers of the complex are now devoting all their wisdom and enthusiasm to increased production.

Article by Kim Son Myong  
Photos by Hwang Jong Hyok



# Silk Quilt Gets Popular

THE KUMGAN-SAN brand silk thread produced by the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill has got a long-standing fame. Recently there has appeared the Kumgangsan-brand quilt which must be a strong ri-

for the happy life of the newly-weds.

Paek Yong Sil, head of the silk bedclothes-making team, has worked at the mill for 32 years since girlhood. She started her work at the factory as a reel-

ing worker, and she was proud of her job.

When she was appointed head of the silk bedclothes-making team, she felt an unusual sense of responsibility, for she knew she had to manufac-

ture the people's favourite bedclothes using the silk she had been proud of making.

One day her team had an order for silk quilts. When Paek organized a prize contest for the design, the workers produced one or more designs each. There were all kinds of colours and styles, plus original forms of decorations based on embroidery. Thus, dozens of kinds of silk quilts

were produced in a short span of time, and this led to a sharp rise in the workers' enthusiasm for designing. In a few months they produced hundreds of pattern and embroidery designs. Using the designs the team produced a lot of quilts and other bedclothes for each season including mattresses and pillows, true to the state policy of making multifarious, multi-shaped and multi-col-

oured things.

The silk quilt feels comfortably warm in winter and cool in summer, and it is soft and light, so it enjoys good popularity as healthy product.

Korean pillows they make are also of good public comment. The embroidered sidepiece of the cylindrical silk pillow bears the Korean characters meaning happiness and fortune, and it carries the unique tradition of the country, so foreigners find it interesting to use it in bed.

When they visit the mill, most foreign visitors return with silk bedclothes which are gracefully sublime, soft and light.

Paek says, "We will work hard to produce a greater amount of lovely, convenient and healthy silk bedclothes of higher quality."

*Article by Kim Chol Hyon  
Photos by Hwang Jong Hyok*

Silk bedclothes are churned out.



val of the silk thread in achieving fame for the mill.

Ri Mi Hye, a sales assistant at the Kwangbok Area Supermarket, says, "We have a lot of customers buying 'Kumgangsan' quilts. I'm more than busy helping the customers find quilts of their favourite colours and styles."

The mill's kinds and varieties of bedclothes like quilts are growing uninterruptedly. What is particularly popular is the wedding quilt. Koreans have a custom of providing quilts and other bedclothes to their children when they get married and make a new home. This is associated with the parents' steadfast concern for their children—even if they live separately. The quilts and other bedclothes made of silk cotton and cloth also carry the sincere wish of the makers



# Unhasu Cosmetics Increases

THE DEMAND FOR THE UNHASU cosmetics from the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory is growing steadily. Just drop in at any one of shops in Pyongyang, and you can see the cosmetics counter teeming with customers.

It is not so easy for them to find a proper one suitable for their own condition among more than 300 kinds of Unhasu cosmetics. For example, the perfume kind has increased from 5 to 24 in a few years.

There are only three perfume researchers in the factory, and they are able researchers who not only develop new perfume products but also control mixing ratio of flavouring for all cosmetics.

Ko Hui Suk, research section chief of the factory, has been working in the perfume field for over 20 years. She was once assigned the task of developing perfume for protecting the skin from mosquitoes. To find a natural kind of perfume, she studied every tree and grass she came across. She searched the thick woods on Moran Hill several times, up to the vicinities of Choesung Pavilion, to get leaves of trees. She often travelled to mountains and fields in suburban Pyongyang.

Through analysis of over 20 kinds of chosen plant she finally found a natural kind of perfume

capable of repelling mosquitoes, and developed a proper incense and perfume from extracts of *Thuja koraiensis*, *Abies nephrolepis* and peppermint abundant in the country.

Then she developed foot spray, perspiration-checking perfume, room spray and car spray consecutively, and solved the problem of aerosol perfume propellant using domestic raw material.

The kind of cleansing cosmetics has increased as many as 130. Among them is dyeing shampoo, which is very popular as it is of high quality and easy to use because the colour settles while washing. In general, dyeing materials have a side effect on the skin of the people. To decrease the skin irritation, the researchers added ginger and milkweed extracts and collagen hydrolyte, which is effective in preventing hair damage, and thus developed the dyeing shampoo suited to the people's needs.

In addition aloe cosmetics have also been upgraded. Earlier, aloe extract contained a kind of material which irritates the skin, so cosmetics contained only a little aloe extract.

Now the researchers developed a radically different method of extraction. The moisturizing cosmetics with new aloe extract contains a sufficient amount of natural moisturizing elements such as

▶ amino acid, organic acid, polysaccharide and microelements, which help to develop a smooth and soft skin while giving no irritation on the skin.

The factory's cosmetics whose main ingredients are extracts from Kaesong Koryo Insam, wormwood, rose, cucumber and mung beans, are increasing. Leaves of persimmon trees richly found anywhere, as well as those of ginkgo and lilac trees are also used for additives of cosmetics.

The factory is also developing multifunctional cosmetics by introducing advanced technology. The kinds of serum cosmetics containing elements of stem cell energizer, spirulina extracts and sodium hyaluronate, which bring about the moisturizing and whitening effect rather soon, smooth wrinkles, retard aging, promote a white colour and prevent wrinkles around the eye, have been developed in a short span of time.

Moreover, a multifunctional foundation (BB) with all functions of foundation and moisturization and anti-aging and anti-ultraviolet effect and a more advanced variety of the foundation (CC) have appeared, arousing the women's interest.

The researchers of the factory say, "The demand of the people for cosmetics is varied. Furnished with a powerful research force and modern experimental and analysis equipment, our factory has a good prospect in developing cosmetics. In the future, too, we'll make strenuous efforts to develop natural, functional and less irritating cosmetics."

Article by Rim Ok  
Photos by Ri Ik Su



Efforts are made to increase varieties of cosmetics and improve their quality.



# Principal I Could Not Meet

SOME TIME AGO I WENT TO EAST Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 for my story about its achievements in education.

Arriving at the school, I immediately went to see the principal in her office, but I could not find her there. When I asked a teacher where she was, she told me that the principal was in the administration department discussing how to improve the teachers' qualifications.

Now I headed for the department, but I could not meet her there, either. Only the general affairs administrator of the school welcomed me, saying, "You're a bit late. She has just gone to the education research room. She is very busy developing a new education method."

"I heard that your school has already created a STEM mode, haven't you?" I asked.

"You're right. Yet the principal is not satisfied.

She is making a strenuous effort to create another new educational method," she replied.

Then she explained about the STEM mode of education. According to her, it is a mode of education which organically combines educational contents—science, technology, engineering and mathematics—with proper teaching methods.

Earlier, the school saw to it that theoretical lessons of certain subjects were given to the students first of all, and on the basis, they conducted experiments and practice. This method had limitations in the light of the developing reality which requires creative abilities. To overcome the limitations, they created the new STEM mode of education.

Now the administrator clicked an icon of class on the computer display, in which a teacher and students were having a class how to produce electricity from biomass and use it to turn an electric fan. The students themselves made a battery of fruit juice and an electric fan by designing fan blades on a 3D designing program and printing it with a 3D printer.

This mode of learning useful theories through practice is a multi-subject education helping to acquire knowledge of different subjects in a lesson and use the existing knowledge. In this lesson, students are developing their creative thinking fac-



Students are trained into able persons with versatile knowledge.

ulty, planning, exchange and cooperation as well as systematic integration of knowledge.

Looking at the students, who were glad to see the electric fan operating by the batteries they had made, I said that the lesson seemed to be really interesting.

Then the administrator said, "Creating this educational method, we've experienced that only when we teachers have profound knowledge of related subjects as well as their own will we be able to teach students well. And constant exchange and cooperation between teachers, students and specialists are an important prerequisite for talent training."

Most of the teachers at the school are October 8 Model Teachers and have academic degrees or titles. But without constant efforts, they will soon lag behind the developing reality, the administrator added.

After parting with her, I headed for the education research room, but I could not see the principal there either. According to the deputy principal, the principal had just gone to inspect a class at work after she had finished her guidance for a lesson done by a new educational method.

I knew I could hardly meet her, and I decided I did not need it any more because I found how the school had won consecutive victories at national contests and quick-reading competitions of middle schools and got famed as a competent school.

The secret was nothing but the progressive manner of work of the teachers who were making an uninterrupted effort to improve educational contents and methods to train students into able per-



sonnel of the country.

Considering that the students' ability depends mainly on the quality of teaching, I left the school with a conviction that it would achieve still greater success in education.

Article by Rim Ok  
Photos by Ri Song Min





At a mother tongue lesson.

## Prodigies Developed Proactively

**P**HYONGHWA KINDERGARTEN in Wonsan is a small one in the central part of the city. The children, however, have made a lot of achievements in national art festivals of kindergartners. Typical of them are:

First place in the instru-

mental and vocal events in the national art festival of kindergartners in June 2011, special prize in the vocal event in the national art festival of kindergartners in July 2013, and first place in the vocal event in the national art festival of kindergartners in June 2016.

Referring to the secret of the achievements, the local residents say unanimously, "We cannot expect flower and fruit without

root. If it had not been for the kindergarten teachers' sincere effort to find out and develop our children's talent, we couldn't see today's achievements."

One day two years ago, Kim Yong Ran, head of the music department, was passing by a musical instrument store, when she happened to see a boy earnestly asking his grandmother for something, hanging on her hand. According to the grand-



mother it was Choe Ryong Ryong who liked music a lot. He was stubbornly asking her to buy a violin for him. The grandmother looked embarrassed. She said the boy was crazy about new musical instruments whenever he saw them, when there were many instruments at home such as drum, flute, piano and accordion for him. Now Yong Ran took out a kindergarten children's music book and asked him to read a score. Surprisingly, the three-year-old read it without any difficulty.

Now the teacher saw that he had an extraordinary musical talent. She advised the grandmother to let him learn music. But the elderly woman had a different opinion. She said she would let him become a scientist in the future because she and her family members including both his parents were all scientists.

Later Yong Ran visited his home five times to persuade the boy's parents and grandmother. Finally, the child joined the music class in the kindergarten and, for the ensuing six months, he wrote over 50 children's songs to everybody's surprise.

The boy's grandmother and parents said holding Yong Ran by the hand, "We owe this to you."

The high ability of the teachers of this kindergarten is the nutrition for the children's development. Hong Myong Hye, chief of the kindergarten, is wont to say that the teachers should know ten and hundred things if they are to teach one.

The teachers of the kindergarten are all competent and creative. The head teacher herself won first place in a national contest of instruction in the kindergarten sector in September 2017 and was awarded the title of Merited Teacher for creation

and introduction of lots of teaching aids including a model board of traffic order and an aid to develop the ability for verbal expression.

The teachers won the special award 15 times and took first place 40 times at central, provincial and city instruction contests.

The enhancement of teachers' ability has just led to the development of the children, who have received over 110 cups, diplomas and citations at different festivals and contests. Now the kindergarten has produced a lot of prodigies like excellent composers, instrumentalists, calligraphers and vocalists.

*Article Kim Hyon Ju  
Photos by Ri Mun*





# Relying on Koryo Therapies

**T**HE TAECHU-RI PEOPLE'S Hospital in Anak County, South Hwanghae Province is not so large, but it is well known for its good treatment with Koryo therapy and its functional treatment and prevention of diseases.

Han Kwi Chol, 53, a worker of the local farm, says, "I suffered much from chronic cardiac insufficiency and arrhythmia for five years. I felt stuffy even for a small physical burden, and I couldn't work well. I went to several places for treatment, but in vain. It seemed all medicines were ineffective for my problem. Later doctors of the ri people's hospital began to call on me. They decocted medicinal herbs for me, and gave me moxibustion, acupuncture and manual therapy. After a year of such treatment I managed to get well. Now I have no pain at all no matter how hard I work."

It is 30 years ago that the hospital began to put emphasis on Koryo therapy. Yun In Guk, a physician, says, "There were quite a few chronic cases with different diseases until that time. They resorted to modern medicines which brought immediate effects. However, when they stopped using them, they

had relapsed into diseases, and prolonged administration often developed complications. So we took an alternative. It was to apply the Koryo therapy."

The medical staff of the hospital studied classical books on Koryo medicine, and went to see famous medical workers to get deeper knowledge of Koryo therapy. Together with this, they organized regular technical study sessions and experience presentations, and began to apply the methods they had developed into clinical practice. While accumulating experience in the Koryo treatment they proactively visited residential districts to see patients. Thus they successfully cured Ri Ho Gun, who had been suffering from tubercular meningitis, for six months to bring him back to work, and Pak Hye Yong, a farm worker who had had diabetes for a dozen years, for almost a year to help her get well again.

Now a lot of people come to the hospital from other localities to get the treatment.

The hospital is putting a great effort in prevention as well. It is the opinion of the hospital staff that prevention comes before treatment, and that the

work of giving hygienic information to people should be conducted well to this end. So it is their unbreakable daily routine to give hygienic information to not only outpatients but also residents in their charge. Hygienic lessons on such matters as general knowledge of drug use, prevention of respiratory diseases and prevention of hepatitis are all directly connected with the life of the residents. The local residents say that they like to visit the hospital to attend lessons of the doctors full of kindness.

Providing people with cleaner and more hygienic living environment is of great importance in preventing diseases. To this end, the hospital has set up a sterilizing liquid facility by itself to supply the liquid to the local people. At the moment it is supplied to schools, nurseries, kindergartens and welfare service facilities, says Kim Yong Su, director of the hospital. They are going to supply it to each family on a regular basis, he adds.

The hospital staff are making strenuous efforts to help the local people enjoy a healthier and happier life.

*Article by Kim Son Myong  
Photos by Ri Song Chol*

# Doctor in High Esteem

**W**HEN YOU ARE UNDER THE concern of the people, your life is really a happy one. Ri Chun Sil, head of Songbuk Polyclinic in Moranbong District, Pyongyang, belongs to the kind. Her profile is reflected in her nicknames given by the local residents.

## Our Section Doctor

Over a year has passed since Ri became the head of the polyclinic, but she is still called *Our Section Doctor* by the inhabitants. This is an expression of their respect and gratitude for her devoted and sincere care for the residents in her charge.

She had worked as a section doctor for over 30 years and now she has a good idea of all the members of the families in charge, their living conditions, their characteristics, hobbies and chronic diseases, even the number of bowls and spoons in each family.

She used to call on the residents at any time with her medical bag, even in the evening, at night and early in the morning. Cherishing the memory, the residents call her *Our Section Doctor*.

## Skilful Doctor

"How can I cure a chronic disease with a single treatment?" This is a research task she set herself when she started her career in the field of Koryo medicine. She identified some acupoints through her tireless efforts, and made effective use of it to treat some diseases.

Now she can cure hemor-

**Ri Chun Sil**  
(right).



rhoids with a single round of acupuncture and moxibustion, even when it is about to burst. She has successfully treated hundreds of hemorrhoids cases, many of whom were those who had relapsed after receiving operation.

She is also good at treatment of acute and chronic cystitis. Pak Ro Suk, who lives in Neighbourhood Unit No. 39, Songbuk-dong, got well from her acute cystitis thanks to Ri's single round of moxibustion therapy.

Kim Sun Nam, a resident in Neighbourhood Unit No. 58, Kinmaul-dong No. 2, who had suffered from chronic cystitis for scores of years, was also cured of his disease after receiving seven rounds of moxibustion from her.

Recently Ri has introduced her own remedy of removing varieties of tumours—freckle, corn and verruca—which is very popular among the young people, especially girls.

Today the polyclinic has lots of visitors who want to see the skilful doctor.

## Smart Hands

"I got a serious slipped disk seven years ago. I had since been bed-ridden. I received treatments from doctors of famous hospitals, but to no avail. Last year, I heard about a skilful doctor in this polyclinic and, I decided to turn to her. After I began to get treatment from her I was able to sit up in a day and stand up in three days. Indeed, she has wonderful hands," says Kim Mun Son, a resident in Neighbourhood Unit No. 33, Tongsong-dong, Central District, Pyongyang. Not only Kim but also scores of cases with a slipped disk and paraplegic diseases became able to walk again after receiving her treatment. Among them is Ha Yong Hak from Onchon County, Nampho.

In recent years she has successfully cured dozens of cases of liver cirrhosis and diabetes, and in this course she received several national invention certificates.

Her hands seem to be a complex of wonderful therapies and remedies.

*Choe Sol Mi*



**Efforts are directed to hygienic publicity and preventive treatment.**



Ri Myong Sun (centre).

## Weaver Ri Myong Sun

Merited Weaver Ri Myong Sun, who works at Weaving Workshop No. 1, Weaving Division, Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, is an ordinary type of woman in her forties, but she is making an extraordinary career.

iors, and at home she reviewed what she had learned during the day. When she learned skills one by one she started to increase the number of looms in her charge to 8, 10 and 12.

The day she received bouquets of congratulation from her workteam members she said to them that she would live and work like the Heroes of the Chollima era.

### Ten Rounds of Earth

Ri was not satisfied though she always fulfilled her daily task. Choe Yong Ok, who began to work at the shop together with Ri on the same day, says, "Ri thinks how to weave more fabrics alone."

One day when Ri was about to leave the workplace after her day, she carefully watched other weavers going their rounds of looms. Then a novel idea came across her mind. It seemed that when one tended two lines of looms at a time rather than following a line at a time, it would take a half shorter time. Immediately she opened her notebook.

She drew on it the looms she was in charge in arrangement order and the existing route of her journey round the machines and the one she had just conceived. Now she compared the two routes, when she knew the new one was half shorter. But it needed greater concentration and defter hand. In order to get a lightening-like nimbleness she made a painstaking effort. In this way she improved the method of going round the machines, thus increasing the quantity of production per loom.

Such days have passed for 25 years. The total length of fabrics Ri has weaved is 2 400 km. Weaving it she has walked 60 km daily. It means she has covered 400 000 km so far, which is equivalent to travelling around the earth 10 times. Considering she has had to look after her family over the years, this is no less than a miracle.

The state put her forward as National Meritorious Person of Socialist Patriotism and Merited Weaver.

Now she is still running to set a new record.

Rim Hye Gyong

### First Step

**R**I, AFTER FINISHING the middle school course full of dreams and hopes, started her life at the then Pyongyang Textile Combine—she decided to spend her youthful days doing a difficult job.

She delved into the textile world at a vocational school run by the factory. After finishing the course she chose to work at the aforesaid shop which was the most labour-consuming place in the mill. She knew the shop had produced Heroes in the Chollima era. It had wrought miracles and made innovations—like a legendary horse of Chollima which gallops 250 miles a day. Hearing stories of the struggle of senior workers the young girl made up her mind to lead her life as they had done.

To this end, she worked harder than anyone. After her shift she tried to learn even one more thing from her sen-

## Football Family

**F**OOTBALL IS A SPORT liked by many people. For this reason not a few people throw themselves into the world of football with unusual feelings. Among them is the family of Ryang In Nam who is a football instructor of the Sinuiju Municipal Juvenile Sports School. His younger brother Ryang In Bok is a football instructor of the Sinnam Senior Middle School in the city, and their children are learning football. So many people call them *football family*. Each day they are spending busiest hours on football ground.

### Competition between Brothers

The elder brother In Nam liked to kick balls since he was nine years old. As he ran faster than other students, he was chosen by the aforesaid sports school, and played as a forward. His younger brother In Bok felt interested in football while following him around. And when the younger became a schoolboy, he learned football in the school's football circle, and acted as a forward. Having sealed their tie with football, the brothers had a fierce rivalry.



Ryang In Nam (left) and Ryang In Bok exchange experience and opinions.

*Who scores more goals?* The referee was their mother, once a handball player in her girlhood. In the evening at home all the family gathered, and exchanged each other's experience and opinion without knowing the passage of time. In the course of this the brothers further improved their skills with each passing day. Such a competition continued even after they graduated from college and became educators.

*Who will train more wonderful football reserves?*—it was their competitive goal.

The younger brother could not catch up with his brother who had started his career earlier than him. When the students of the sports school trained by In

Nam won first place at nationwide contests, those trained by In Bok failed to get due success at municipal competitions. In Bok, however, redoubled his effort and the football team of the Sinnam Senior Middle School distinguished itself in the city several years later, soaring as a powerful team in the national tournament of senior middle school football classes. It was partly attributable to the effort of the elder brother, In Nam.

Kim In Bok, head of the Sinuiju Municipal Juvenile Sports School, says, "For the past decade In Nam has trained many football reserves, sending them to the Pyongyang International Football School and sports clubs. ▶

During a break.



Guidance of training.



► As an educator of ability he took part in the 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference of Teachers held in September last.”

In Bok, too, enjoys respect from people as he has trained many young football reserves.

### Fly Higher

In Nam has a son, Ryang Kwang Myong by name. The son, like his father, was fond of playing football from his childhood. He entered the juvenile sports school and learned the ABC of football—he made a remarkable development. When the boy was eight years old, he started to learn at the Pyongyang International Football School.

Now he is in his final year at the school, and the coaches comment as follows:

“He is very nimble and creative with quick dashing speed and good physical preparedness. He is timid, but once he stands on the field, he plays very actively and tenaciously. He is also humble and temperate, always believes his colleagues firmly and strives to help them sincerely.

“He plays in the front. In

view of tactical aspect it is quite difficult to understand his mode of play, but his positive attitude and determination will ensure his future success.

“At present his role keeps the balance of the team in defence or attack. He is quick in reaction and decision. In a more appropriate word, he is a very creative player.

“He is a player with a one-to-one tackling forte, and a high sense of match. Now he organizes or has others organize attack, and is good at dribbling and passing. In case of heading, he sees well the goalkeeper’s position, so he takes a correct position.”

He helped his team win first place at matches at home and abroad including the U-12 Asian boy’s football contest held in China in 2015.

Today the boy is learning to his heart’s content at the Pyongyang International Football School. Kwang Ryong, son of In Bok, is also learning football hard at his school’s football circle with a determination to overtake Kwang Myong.

*Article by Kim Tae Song  
Photos by Ra Phyoung Ryol*



The brothers with their family.



Kim Yong Rok.

**E**VERYONE HAS A DREAM for the future. But they need patience and efforts to realize the dream. Kim Yong Rok and Jon Ju Hyon, disabled table tennis players, are among those who have realized their dream with their strong will.

### “I Have Got Hands”

One day in mid-May 2005 a little schoolboy was rushed to the Chollima District People’s Hospital in Nampho. The eleven-year-old, who had both of his arms seriously burnt in an electrical accident, was Kim Yong Rok from Jung-dong, Chollima District, Nampho.

Doctors of the hospital did their best to bring him back to a normal condition, but the boy lost his two forearms because of fatal injury. From his childhood Yong Rok was so clever that he was called a child prodigy. No one could match him at school. So his parents and neighbours as well as his teachers used to have a high expectation about his future.

After leaving hospital, however, the boy was never the same. He turned a silent character without any enjoyment. Recollecting those days, Yong Rok says, “At that time I had no future, no hope and no dream. What I wished was to get back my hands.”

## Disabled But Not Disheartened

► One day in 2015 while he was spending days and months in agony and distress, he happened to see on TV the spring table tennis tournament for disabled persons and amateurs. Disabled people with no hands, even no legs, were playing table tennis ardently, which gave him a flash of hope.

Soon he entered the world of table tennis. He made a strenuous effort with a strong will to realize his new dream of table tennis. He concentrated his energies on training, spending more and more hours in the court.

At last he won first place in the individual event of the Autumn Table Tennis Tournament for Disabled Persons and Amateurs held in 2016. Later, together with Jon Ju Hyon, he took part in the team event of the ITTF Asian Para Championships 2019 and the team TT6-TT7 events of the ITTF Para Table Tennis Bangkok Open 2019, winning victory after victory.

On the awarding platform, he said, “I have got hands”—this probably was what came from the bottom of his heart.

### Dream with Table Tennis Ball

From his childhood, Jon Ju Hyon had a dream to become a table tennis player. When he enrolled at Ansan Primary School in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, he joined the table tennis circle to realize his dream. Soon he distinguished himself, beating all his rivals in the circle in a year. And he was recognized as one of the best little players in the city.

Not resting on his laurels, he constantly intensified the training. He set a twice higher goal

than other members of the circle and never failed to execute it.

Unfortunately when he was 13 years old, he hurt his leg in training by accident. It didn’t seem serious at first, but the pain gradually stretched up to his back and he could hardly move his limbs. Then he went to see different surgeons, but he got no better. Modern medicine diagnosed him with ankylotic spondylitis, declaring that he could no longer play table tennis.

After leaving the world of table tennis, he could not but feel lonely. So he tried to get down to learning, but to no avail. At last he made up his mind to take up table tennis again. “In our society the disabled are provided with freedom and right to participate in all social activities including sporting exercises. I will take part in table tennis competitions for the disabled to realize my dream,” he told himself. Now he went to the Korean Sports Association of the Disabled (KSAD).

This is how his new life as a disabled table tennis player began. Recalling those days he says, “Although I am crippled, I have lived in high spirit under the warm care of kind-hearted



Jon Ju Hyon.

people and the benefit of the free medical service of our socialist system.”

In 2015 he participated in the doubles event of the spring table tennis tournament for disabled persons and amateurs and took first place. He won another victory in the same competition in 2016. Not long ago, he took part in international games with Kim Yong Rok and won two consecutive victories, leaving deep impressions behind.

When a reporter asked him about his feeling after the games, he replied, “Dream is precious for everyone. What is important for them is to advance forward continuously to realize their dreams without giving up. This is just the key to success, I believe.”

*Kim Hyon Ju*



# For 4 Min 30 Sec

SOME TIME AGO THERE was the 57<sup>th</sup> National Schoolchildren's Art Festival and Yun Jang Won from Tongsin Primary School, Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, took first place in the magic event of the festival.

Seized with curiosity for the ten-year-old schoolboy, I visited his school. When I met Yun, I was surprised to find him familiar as I had seen him at a schoolchildren's artistic performance some years ago before when he received a big hand for his vocal solo and *janggo* (Korean drum) solo. *How could he be a magician?* I wondered.

At that time his dancing instructor told me the following story.

Yun was a member of the music circle of the school. He

began to learn how to play the *janggo* at the age of five. As he was naturally sensitive to music, his skill, six months later, was as high as his seniors who had learnt it for a year.

When he was six, he won the special prize in a national art festival of kindergarteners, earning the fame as a little drummer. At the age of seven he ranked in the top three at the 12<sup>th</sup> national schoolchildren's vocal and instrumental solo contest. He enjoyed great applause in the performance of his circle members.

Attracted by his talent, his dancing teacher, who had used to be an assistant magician at the National Acrobatic Troupe, decided to teach him jugglery, for she knew the swift move-

ment of his hands, his natural rhythmic movement and his face charming the audience were all fit for a future magician.

His talent became evident when he learned tricks. While learning the ABC of the magic art, he created a programme. Teaching him hand tricks which required delicacy, accuracy and agility, the instructor considered that it would take him at least a month to learn them as he had to make or eliminate musical notes very quickly. But he completed the task in only 20 days.

"Of course, the artistic disposition is important. Yet his greatest merit is his passion. I found it pleasant to teach him as he is quick to understand," recalls the instructor.

Once both the teacher and

the boy were embarrassed with his not-so-good posture as a magician. After returning home without solving the problem, the boy would not go to bed. He trained himself before a mirror while referring to the instructor's posture on video, until he got a proper posture. Every day he trained himself at home for an hour, which was his habit since he started learning *janggo*.

For his tireless efforts of two months, he enjoyed great popularity in the festival. He showed nine kinds of tricks in his performance of 4 minutes and 30 seconds while playing some national instruments, which showed his musical and magic talents very well.

When he was asked whether he would be a musician or a magician, he replied with a perplexed look, "Well, I'm not sure. I am interested in doing tricks, playing the *janggo* and singing songs."

His parents are ordinary workers. They say, "The musician and magician are both good jobs. But what is important is to become an entertainer who will be able to repay the benefits of the socialist education system which fosters and develops his talent."

Yun is now preparing a magic programme for the 2020 schoolchildren's New Year performance. No doubt this child prodigy will give us pleasure on the coming New Year's Day.

Article by Rim Ok  
Photos by Ri Song Ik



Happy to receive a citation.





► times it gives a wedding party to employees on their marriage. Since the house was inaugurated, twelve couples of the factory workers have had a wedding ceremony in the house. Typical of them were a model worker of the insulation shop and a service worker of the nourishment hall who had a wedding party there on September 19 this year.

Ri Jong Sim, head of the nourishment hall, said to me that the cooks visit special delicacies restaurants in Pyongyang and different places in provinces to learn how to make nice dishes for the sake of the workers. The dishes they make with sincerity

are no less good than what are served at top restaurants in the city, the workers comment.

Unlike the table tennis hall filled with virility, the sci-tech learning space on the second floor is in a serious atmosphere. Workers assiduously assimilate techniques. There I met Kim Song Mi, a teacher of the factory's vocational school, who said that her students owe a lot to the space and that the factory's masters of ingenuity and holders of the certificate of registered sci-tech achievement receive substantial help from the space. The space is a haunt of a lot of technicians and workers who want

to get wide-ranging knowledge as well as special information in their relative realms.

Looking round the house I felt anew the meaning of its name. It is not only providing a rich and civilized life to the workers but also encouraging them to work hard for a higher level of civilization.

I saw the workers enjoying a civilized life and preparing themselves as creators of a higher level of civilization, and I was convinced the factory has a bright future.

*Article by Kim Il Bong  
Photos by An Yong Chol*

## Note of Visit to Munmyong House

ONE OF THESE DAYS I visited the Munmyong (civilization) House which is a welfare service complex of the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326.

The three-storeyed house was an elegant addition to the factory compound with ubiquitous manufacturing shops.

Entering the house I found it crowded with the workers after the day's work—from the bathhouse, swimming pool and other service facilities on the ground floor through the table tennis hall on the first floor up to the sci-tech learning space on the second floor. According to Ri

Myong Sok who looks after the men's bathhouse, they can have salt and ultrasonic baths as well as sauna filled with the aroma of pine and wormwood.

Kim Kuk Myong, a worker of the electric cable shop, said to me that he visited the house every day as he felt refreshed and relieved of all fatigue when he had a sauna and douche there.

Ji Un Gyong, a guide in the fitness hall, said that the hall is also one of the favourite resort of the employees as there are a dozen apparatuses for exercises, like those for the back, walking and running. Choe Kum Dol, a worker of the cable materi-

als shop, said to me that he often visited the hall to relish the pleasant feeling of eating Eskimo pie with crab-flavoured chips after having exercises.

When I went upstairs to the table tennis hall, I found there was going a game. Han Hye Song, a guide in the hall, said that the factory's table tennis team had won district and municipal competitions all the time because they had a drill in the hall on a regular basis. Han is a good "instructor" of the players.

The nourishment hall in the house is a facility to provide nutritious foods to the technicians and model workers, and some-



# Mansugyo Fish and Meat Shop



THE MANSUGYO FISH AND MEAT Shop is situated on the bank of the picturesque Pothong River. The shop stands near the Mansu Bridge on the river, hence its name. Some time ago I visited the shop.

## “I Feel Satisfied”

The first person I met was Choe Chang Ok, manager of the shop. She said, “Many people come to my shop every day. The three-storey shop sells fish on the ground floor, meat on the first floor, and soft drinks and varieties of dishes on the second floor.”

Adding that her shop also sells live fish such as sturgeon and Ryongjong fish, she led me to the live fish counter. A saleswoman was catching a sturgeon with a large fishing net; children were clapping their hands in delight; and some adults were smiling at the fish. Among them was Son Su Il, 74, who lives in Tangsang-dong No. 2, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. He said, “Whenever I feel like eating fish, I come here with my wife. Now I feel satisfied as I bought a big sturgeon.”

Leaving him behind I went up to the first floor.



## ► Processed Meat Exhibition Hall

The floor was crowded with people. A middle-aged woman was choosing meat, and a young couple seemed to be quite busy trying to meet the demand of their lovely daughter pestering them to buy her this and that.

Saleswoman Paek Ri Hyang said, “We sell several kinds of meat like duck and beef and other highly nutritive instant foods.” As she said, it was selling scores of processed foods including smoked beef, smoked duck, hard-boiled duck, nutritive rice and nutritive gruel. Nearly ten kinds of pork were

sold there including pig’s tongue, pig’s stomach, trotters, pig’s cheek, pig-head aspic and pig’s ear. And different tinned foods were on sale like tinned beef, tinned chicken, tinned pork, tinned beef-rib soup and tinned duck soup.

Paek said that the customers were saying jokingly that the first floor was not a meat counter, but a *processed meat exhibition hall*.

## Don’t Advance, Night of Pyongyang

Time passed, and now it was six o’clock in the evening. Pleasant smells of dishes from the restaur- ►



▶ rant on the second floor were attracting the customers. The restaurant is well-known for its good traditional food. It serves mung-bean pancakes cooked by a traditional method, different kinds of kimchi and beef steak roasted with oak charcoal—all of them enjoy popularity.

The foods cooked with live fish fresh from the water tank are also a speciality of the restaurant. Among them is steamed sturgeon favourably commented upon by the customers.

But what is most impressive is a nocturnal view of the Pothong riverside seen from the restaurant. One can see swaying branches of willows lining the riverside in the moonlight while eating delicious foods. It is a scene that can be seen only from the restaurant. And the customers unanimously say that when they enjoy the scene, words of the song *Don't*



Getting ready for service.

*Advance, Night of Pyongyang* come across their minds.

The hour I spent at the shop was not so long, but what I saw and heard there left a deep impression on me.

Article by Choe Sol Mi  
Photos by Ri Song Ik



## Organic Farming Pays Off

**T**HIS YEAR IS COMING TO A CLOSE, AND the agricultural workers in Yomju County, North Phyongan Province, are happily recollecting the benefit from the mud snail-used organic farming.

During the weeding season, this year, too, no workers were seen weeding or applying herbicide in the paddy fields of the county. Instead, the fields were teeming with mud snails.

It was ten years ago that the county began to pay attention to the mud snail.

One day researchers of Kim Il Sung University came to see the officials of the County Cooperative Farm Management Committee. They said that they could avoid the weeding job in paddy rice farming without using herbicide when they made effective use of the characteristics of the mud snail, a tropical mollusk which lives on grass in water.

With a great interest the county officials laid plots for testing the mud-snail-used farming in some workteams of different cooperative farms, and conducted observation. As seeing is believing, the reality was unbelievable. The plots grew free from weeds with each passing day, and resulted in the increased per-hectare yield with the soil turning fertile. The phenomena of the herbicide doing harm to the rice tillering and growing in the later days disappeared, and thus the number of ear-bearing tillers increased. Besides, the vertical movement of the mud snails around the rice root enhanced the soil's permeability of water and air, and the excrement of the mud snail improved the fertility.

Full of confidence the county buckled down to the work of expanding and applying the new kind of farming to all its farms. Choe Yong Il, chief engineer of the Ryongbuk Cooperative Farm, says,

“However, we had some problems. In order to put mud snails in the vast fields in the county we had to secure millions of them, and the existing snail culture could not do it. So we chose the method of letting the snails hibernate.”

The farm workers found out that the most rational method of letting the snails hibernate was to keep them in a dry condition. And they learned that when the air temperature of 8-12°C was maintained continuously, snails could safely hibernate for 200 days, and that it was important to take good care of the nutrition of the snails and let them excrete well before hibernation.

Now all the cooperative farms and workteams arranged dry hibernation grounds and outdoor culture grounds. Soon the Ryongbuk Cooperative Farm made a success of ensuring the survival rate of the mud snail at 98%.

The next year they solved the feed problem, and the following year they settled the problems arising in the outdoor culture including raising the survival rate of young mud snails. A method was developed to make solar heating panels with activated carbon powder, which made it possible to provide a proper temperature in the hibernation grounds in winter. Thanks to positive application of the mud-snail organic farming the county surpassed the peak year level of grain output in 2014, and produced many high-yielding farms, workteams, sub-workteams and workers despite unfavourable weather and climatic conditions.

Today the agricultural workers in the county unanimously say, “We think we could hardly do farming without mud snails. This kind of farming is quite profitable, economical and future-oriented mode.”

Kim Chol Hyon

A mud-snail growing ground.



# By Radically Improving Mode of Farming

**T**HE NAMPHO TERRAPIN Farm in Waudo District, Namp'ho, is not only producing terrapins but also different kinds of fish. The ponds are in shape of solar-heated greenhouse covered with vinyl sheets.

Previously terrapin farming was done in a pond inside a building away from the light. However, the farm knew that a pond like a solar-heated greenhouse covered with vinyl sheets

might be better considering the physiological qualities of the terrapin which likes sunbathing, and economic conditions such as maintenance of appropriate temperature for culture in winter.

The calculation paid off. As terrapins had enough sunbathing in natural conditions, they were almost free from diseases. And the employees used sunlight effectively in providing

appropriate temperature in winter, thus they needed no electric power, and saved much coal.

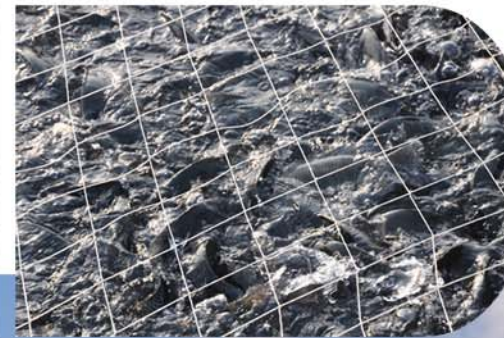
Besides, the farm arranged breeding ponds to produce ten kinds of young fish including tilapia, catfish, loach, carp and so on, and sends them to several units. With main emphasis on terrapin culture it produces scores of tons of fish annually by doing mobile cage-net

▶ farming in harmony with the surrounding environment. The fish is supplied to citizens.

General Manager Kim Kyong Chol says, "Based on the already-achieved foundation and experience and by relying on science and technology my farm will produce more terrapins and fish and supply them to the people."

Now the farm has set up yearly plans and is pushing ahead with the work to implement them.

*Article by Pak Yong Il  
Photos by An Jong Min*



## National Intangible Cultural Heritage (37)

# Custom of Using *Kudul*

**K**OREANS HAVE LONG developed and used *kudul* (Korean underfloor-heating system) for housing. *Kudul* was derived from *kuundol* meaning heated stone, and it is also called *ondol* meaning warm stone.

The Korean underfloor heating system was developed in ancient times.

Such a system was identified at the site of an ancient house in Sejuk-ri, Nyongbyon County, North Phyongan Province. The system was the one making it possible to heat lots of stones by applying the method of keeping brazier-heated stones warm for good hours.

Designs of similar underfloor heating systems are to be seen on murals of the Mausoleum of King Kogugwon and the Yaksuri Mural Tomb, which are both mural tombs of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668).

During the time of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) the underfloor heating system was introduced nationwide.

After Korea's liberation from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation (August 15, 1945) the system was used for multi-storey apartments as well as one-storey houses. Later it was carried on and developed into hot-water, electric and geothermal heating systems.

The traditional underfloor heating system is good for the use of rooms and heat. First of all the system ensures equal temperature in the room: the

difference between the temperature on the surface of the floor and that up to the ceiling is 1 to 2°C, which is appropriate for health and indoor life. And once the floor is heated, it ensures the indoor temperature for a long while without any additional consumption of fuel.

As the heat is used for cooking before warming the floor, the use of fuel is also effective.

The system also makes it possible to keep the indoor air and environment clean and clear. The system is installed under the floor, so the smoke and dust created by combustion go out through the bottom of the floor. And it keeps the floor from moisture and cold, so it is fit for Koreans' custom of indoor life.

A warm floor is good for the treatment of neuralgia, arthritis and other diseases. It is not without reason that Koreans say they get well after fully sweating on the warm floor.

The system intensively reflects the Koreans' traditional custom of home life. It is associated with their way of indoor life whereby they keep the room clean and their creative wisdom and talent in using heat rationally.

The system still remains a good heating facility in Korea. This custom of life was registered as No. 20 in the list of the national intangible cultural heritage.

*Rim Ok*



# Rabbit Growing Pays Off

SOME TIME AGO, I VISITED Kim Ho Chol's family in Pobong-dong, Chollima District, Nampho, who are raising lots of rabbits. I found his house without difficulty in the village as it is called "rabbit home."

When I entered the yard surrounded by matrimony vine, grapevine and various other fruit trees, rabbits seemed to greet me in the open-air ground on one side of the yard. I was instantly impressed that the family was an enthusiastic lovers of nature.

Welcoming me, Kim and his wife Jon Mi Hwa guided me to the rabbit house, where dozens of rabbits were in numbered hutches. In the breeder hutch, spotted rabbits were eating grass.

"These are breeder rabbits of good kinds, which produce more than 70 kindles in all in a month," said Kim full of pride. Beside the mother rabbit hutch was the one for kindles. Hold-

ing a kindle, Jon said, "Look at this. These kindles of good kinds were born at the same time with ordinary ones, but they are now twice bigger."

At the first glance, I knew the breeder kindles were healthy in a good nutritive condition. When I asked what kind of feed they were fed, Jon said after weaning kindles were given soft celandine first, and that several weeks later they were supplied with ordinary grass which was washed and dried. The family was growing some kinds of favourite grass of the rabbits around the vegetable garden.

The Kims said, "What is important in raising rabbits well is to carry out the hygienic and anti-epidemic work on a regular basis while supplying highly nutritious feed." They sterilized the rabbit house by burning wormwood twice a day and spread limestone powder under the hutches so as to prevent different diseases. According

to their experience, the rabbits were free from coccidiosis when they mixed the feed with a little powder or essence of pasque-flower roots. I found the local inhabitants tending to rely on their own idea and experience. Their inquisitive and assiduous qualities seemed to be the secret of successful growing of lots of rabbits.

Since they retired on pension, the elderly couple have been making greater efforts to grow rabbits, which is beneficial to them. Raising as many as 650 rabbits a year, they distribute them to their neighbours and the local school while producing a good deal of meat and furs.

Bidding farewell, Kim said, "I think any family can raise lots of rabbits if only they try it in real earnest. This is how we obtain meat from grass."

In his words, I pictured a brighter future of the family in my mind.

*Pak Thae Ho*

*True story*

## I'll Remain a Winner

(3)

*Kang Ho Jin*

COACH PAK CHOL, however, looked unsatisfied.

"I'm afraid you look frail," said the coach.

At the time Sun Hui looked little different from other children. Rather she looked small probably because she was in her growing age. But she was unusually strong and persistent, and had a good appetite. She never got tired of playing outside all day long.

Now the coach's first question hurt her pride. *This instructor makes light of me*, she thought. *Wait and see. If I am admitted into the circle, I'll do several times better than others.*

The coach, however, had an idea of his own. *Now few children go in for judo, so I am going to admit her anyway and see*, he thought. *If she does training properly, it'll be right, but if she fails to do, it cannot be helped.*

The instructor and the girl were still little informed of each other.

That was the first meeting between the future world judo queen who would startle the world and the coach who would train her. At that time the coach was a vigorous young man in his thirties, and Sun Hui, merely a ten-year-old girl.

Addressing the sixth-term members of the circle including Kye Sun Hui for the first time, Pak said:

"Our country's female judo started in the late 1980s and yet it has only taken the first step. In other words, our judo is no better than a toddler.

"In the future our country should win Olympic trophies and world championships in female judo like in other events. This is just what *we* should do. For the purpose, I will be strict with you in training.

"Those who go through the training will develop into valuable women judoists of the country and win world championships. But those who fail to do it will become a useless being unable to live up to the trust of the Party and the country that have brought them up."

The coach attached importance to the theory of seed in selecting and training recruits. He was of the opinion that as any fertile land planted with a bad seed cannot yield a due crop, reserve athletes should be good in physical condition and possessed of strong mental faculties.

Assiduous and strong by nature, Sun Hui kept up with the intensifying training. As sponge absorbs water, she strove to master the techniques taught by the coach.

Sun Hui's grandmother and father didn't know she had joined the judo circle. After training for more than a year Sun Hui became number one in the circle.



Though young, she made an unusually rapid progress in technical preparation and always took the lead in training. This gradually made her coach attach importance to her training.

One day the coach invited Sun Hui's grandmother In Ae to a meeting of the circle members' parents. At the unexpected invitation the old woman was very displeased with her daughter-in-law and granddaughter's deception at first. So going to the juvenile sports school she told herself to withdraw Sun Hui from the circle.

Having read her mind, the coach had the circle members do match training first in front of their parents. During the training Sun Hui easily threw to the ground her rivals who were four or five years older. Seeing this, In Ae cooled down before she knew.

After the training, she met the coach, and awkwardly said, "Sir, Sun Hui has really changed beyond recognition. Please keep teaching her well in the future, too."

From then on Sun Hui could practise judo without trying to read her family's feelings. ▶



► That day, on her way back home together with her granddaughter, In Ae dropped in at a manufactured goods shop, where she selected and bought the best sports clothes for Sun Hui. Seeing her beside herself with joy at the unexpected souvenir, In Ae said, "It's difficult to do physical training and make a successful career. If you fail to succeed, it will mean wasting your youth. But now that you have chosen your future, try hard to the end."

"It's my determination!" exclaimed Sun Hui.

"It's easy to say, but what if you fail?" In Ae asked.

"I'll never regret it!" replied the girl.

Sun Hui started judo in this way with such a confidence in herself. But she was still young, and sometimes behaved against the expectation of her parents and coach.

One day she came back home before the day's schedule came to an end. It was strange, for from the day she joined the circle, Sun Hui had neither quit the training course nor skipped a training task. She had steadily trained even on holidays, whether she was under the coach's supervision or not.

*Why do they like to go home?* She had always thought. *I like the training hall.*

She had practised technical movements 100 times while others did ten times. And they had to practise the movement of throwing 200 times a day on average, and Sun Hui felt satisfied only when she had done it much more times.

Sun Hui had found the training not only difficult but also interesting. To learn new tech-

niques and defeat her rivals using the techniques was just to the liking of Sun Hui who liked to be ahead of others.

But it was the first time that the girl with so much interest in the training had left home before the end of the training.

On the way back home she fumed over her coach's work. *Why does the coach refuse to teach me new techniques while looking after the others who are inferior to me?* She thought.

In fact the coach had done so deliberately in order to stimulate the girl, who was fast in technical development and unusually competitive, to redouble her efforts.

Unable to read his mind, Sun Hi had rushed out of the training hall angrily when the coach called her names during the training.

Looking through the window at Sun Hui walking away, the coach had not called her back. He had decided to take the opportunity to teach a lesson to the girl who was unusually obstinate and thinking too much of herself.

Sun Hui had repented of her hastiness even before she had got out of the training hall. Yet she had no courage to go back, so she went directly to her home. Still, she felt empty somewhere in the corner of her heart.

The next day Sun Hui was hanging about in the classroom after school. She wanted to go to the training hall but found it difficult to take a step.

Several days passed, and now her mother noticed it.

After learning the reason from Chun Ok, one of Sun Hui's classmates and member of the same circle, the mother went to

see the coach.

"I'm sorry, Mr Pak, I've failed to educate Sun Hui when I'm also a teacher," the mother apologized.

"All right. How is Sun Hui?" Pak asked with a smile.

"She seems to be regretting, but she doesn't have the nerve to come of her own accord," replied the mother.

"I see. She must be restless as she was engrossed in training. I'll go to see her one day."

Several days later Pak went to Sun Hui's school to select trainees, and took this opportunity to meet her pretending that he happened to be there.

Sun Hui looked disheartened, but she obstinately kept her lips tight.

Then Pak said, "If you want to attend the circle again, you'd better come tomorrow. But I won't teach you techniques for three months, so you should train by yourself."

Thus Sun Hui showed up in the training hall that afternoon, not the next day.

Standing in the training suit in front of her coach, the girl opened her lips she had kept tight so obstinately, saying, "I know I am wrong, Mr Pak. Would you please forgive me?"

The coach, however, pretended he didn't hear her words. He paid attention to other girls, guiding them in training.

Sun Hui intensely thought of something while standing on the spot with her head on the chest. Then she walked up to a corner of the hall where there were apparatuses for physical training, and began exercise.

*(To be continued)*

## Mt Kumgang (10)



Chongnyu Cliff in Inner Kumgang.

### Inner Kumgang (3)

LET ME CONTINUE TO guide you to scenic spots in Inner Kumgang.

The Myonggyongdae district in Inner Kumgang is a deep valley with thick forests and high peaks. It is famous for its rocky formation rather than waterfalls and pools. What is characteristic is that its rocks are big ones in the shapes of peak, platform and tower.

In the district are to be seen scenic spots like Ori (duck) Rock resembling a duck looking upon

swimming fish in a brook, Paesok Rock that has the so-called knee and tear traces, Ogyong Pool, Myonggyong Rock, fathomless Huksa and Hwangsa caves, Michul Rock which is said to produce rice and Tabothap, called a natural sculpture.

Sipwang (judge), Phangwan (judge), In (seal), Joein (offender) and Saja (lion) peaks and Jiok (hell) and Kungnak (paradise) gates, which are all standing around Myonggyong and Paesok rocks, have legendary tales.

According to a legend, Myonggyong Rock is a wonder-

ful "mirror" which can reflect even the inner mind of people. If you kneel down on Paesok Rock towards Myonggyong Rock, the "mirror" shows whether you are guilty or not; then, referring to this, the judges of the netherworld, Sipwang and Phangwan, give a decision and attach their seal; then, the lion sends the guilty to the narrow Jiok (jail) Gate and the innocent to the wide Kungnak Gate. The knee trace on Paesok Rock is said to be the sign of the kneeling down on it towards Myonggyong Rock for judgment, and the shallow ►

► channel on the surface is said to be the mark of the stream of tears from the eyes of the guilty.

The Manggundae district has a valley with thick forests and surrounding peaks as well as rugged cliffs, which give a peculiar impression. There is Manggun Rock where you can command a panoramic view of the whole Inner Kumgang. The rock serves as the best observation post next to Piro Peak in Mt Kumgang. When you stand on the edge of the rock with precipitous cliffs all around, you feel instantly dizzy. As it has a strong wind it is very dangerous to stand there.

A magnificent sight to enjoy on Manggun Rock is Hyolmang Peak, which stands directly op-

posite. In the summit of the peak there is a hole, which looks as if made by a crack shot with a gun or by nature so that the wind can go through it. It is wonderful to see the blue sky through the hole. It also has a legendary tale that the hole is said to be the trace of the dragon passing through the rock or the god of thunder taking the trouble to make it.

Past some districts with unique features, you reach Piro Peak, the main peak in the mountain. The top of Piro Peak commands a view of the wide area of many peaks and valleys plus the East Sea of Korea. The peak has different appearances in different seasons, weathers and hours. When you see it in spring, you will feel eager to see

it in summer; and when you enjoy the sight in summer, you will be gripped with an urge to see it in autumn.

What is particularly spectacular to enjoy on Piro Peak is the rising sun over the East Sea of Korea and the sight of the mountain in twilight. Toward the sunset the peaks and valleys in Outer Kumgang to the east of the mountain are already in twilight; the sun nestling on the summit of far-off western peak looks like a lump of heated iron; bright beams of light come through the rifts of thin clouds and peaks shine in the light. You will obviously be able to enjoy magnificent and spectacular views on Piro Peak.

*Pak Thae Ho*



## Renowned Figures in Korean History

# Admiral Ri Sun Sin



**R**I SUN SIN (1545–1598) was an illustrated military strategist who held the command of the sea through successive victories and made a great contribution to the Korean people's victory in the Imjin Patriotic War against the Japanese aggressors' large-scale invasion.

While organizing and commanding scores of naval battles, Ri developed new naval tactics, and set an example in comprehensively applying medieval naval tactics.

The offensive and defence tactics with the turtle ship, the world's first iron-clad ship, in the van; the completion of naval movement tactics relying on warships equipped with powder weapons and cannons; the organization of a naval landing party and the creation and application of offensive tactics against the enemy stationed at port in cooperation with the naval landing party; fire-attack operation; and the formation of diversified battle arrays including the linear type and the echelon type—all these were comprehensive introduction and improvement of previous naval tactics.

The offensive and defence tactics with the turtle ship in the van can be cited. The turtle ship, in battles, was always in the van of charge destroying the battle array of enemy warships, and it moved close to the flagship of the enemy to destroy it with gunfire or impact, thus disrupting the enemy's command system. This tactics was widely

used in many battles including the battle off Sachon, the battle at Tanghang Port and the battle off the Hansan Island.

The turtle ship could be in the van of battle thanks to its special structure. It was all covered with iron armour like the back of a turtle, and there were sharp daggers, augers and so on to prevent the enemy from getting on. So people inside the ship had no fear of being hurt.

As to the power of the ship, old publications say, "When they are confronted with the enemy, they cover the ship with purple eulalia so as to hide the augers and daggers so that the ship could be in the van. When the enemy attempt to climb it, they get stabbed by daggers and augers, and when they dare to get close to the ship, they get in a shower of bullets from it, so they hardly dare fight against it. In this way the ship has made very many achievements in large and small battles."

Ri Sun Sin applied and completed his tactics of naval movement relying on warships equipped with powder weapons and cannons.

There had been earlier mobile naval operations relying on cannon-equipped warships in Korea, and Ri Sun Sin further developed and perfected the tactics. He had warships loaded with cannons such as *chonjachongthong* and *jijachongthong* and cannon balls. The cannons were capable of exterminating the enemy's manpower en masse and destroying warships as well.

*Jijachongthong* could throw a shell or a round stone as far as four kilometres. It could fire 200 egg-size balls at a time, and the

balls could kill and injure enemy troops crowded on a ship.

Well versed in marine configuration and weather, Ri Sun Sin employed tactics of allure-ment and ambush and deceptive tactics a lot.

A typical example of allure-ment and ambush tactics came in the Hansan Island naval battle that remains in the world's medieval history of naval battles. On the morning of July 8, 1592 Korea's fleet advanced to Kyonnaeryang where the enemy's warships were at anchor. Kyonnaeryang was unfavourable for movement of large warships because its strait was merely 500 metres in width and it had lots of reefs. And if the situation turned unfavourable, the enemy might flee to the land.

Ri ordered his ships to retreat, and the enemy elatedly followed several Korean ships that were "retreating." When the enemy ships had passed the narrows, Ri beat the drum, and the alluring ships turned back forming a line to link up with those standing by there. At a sign from Ri, the Korean fleet, with turtle ship at the head, launched a general offensive, encircling the enemy ships. Then the Korean fleet massed its fire upon the enemy, the smoke and sparks, it is said, seeming to fill up the sky. In the battle 59 of the enemy ships were destroyed, and no more than 1 000 of about 10 000 enemy soldiers survived.

During the Roryang naval battle, which marked the end of the Imjin Patriotic War, Ri died shot by an enemy bullet while commanding the battle with drumbeats.

*Rim Sang Jun*

# What Is *Reiwa* Producing?

RECENTLY THE NUMBER of “missing persons” is increasing in Japan. Condemning their social system where money is everything and where “the rich get ever richer and the poor get ever poorer,” they go deep into “fields and mountains” completely isolated from the human society.

“Fields and mountains” are strange places where the law of existence reigns completely different from the normal world. This kind of habitat is found not only in Tokyo but all other parts of the Japanese archipelago. The people living there are those who have disappeared from the normal world giving up their original identity and social standings.

A French journalist reported: The people in the “fields and mountains” are going dead slowly. They smoke and drink intemperately in cramped and dingy rooms without windows. They try to punish themselves for their worthlessness by means of self-maltreatment.

One of these days Japanese Prime Minister Abe, referring to the Reiwa era, declared that he would make a “brilliant future” of his country, but no one lends an ear to him. One of the reasons is that he is clamouring about the “brilliant future” though he is failing to deal with the continuous issue of “missing persons.”

A foreigner has reportedly taken charge of the scenario and direction of a documentary to be

titled “Disappeared People,” and is now producing it. The documentary will feature people in the “fields and mountains” for the leading part.

According to the statistical data 100 000 people have disappeared from the human world annually in Japan since the 1990s. They gave up everything for debts, unemployment, unbearable school expenses, divorce and other reasons, and degraded to the “people in the outside world,” wandering around the dead end of the human world and condemning the evil social system.

Hirokazu, a strapping man who lives in the “fields and mountains,” used to work at a construction site. He lived with his sick mother, whose condition went from bad to worse, driving the family poorer and poorer. He spent much of his time taking care of her, but the soaring price of medicines and treatment made him unable to pay the doctor’s fee. His family had no other choice but to come out of their rented house, and rented a shabby room in a hotel. Later, Hirokazu left his mother alone there, and went into the “fields and mountains,” turning his back to the human world with tears. Three years have passed, but he is still wandering around the “fields and mountains,” reproaching himself for being unfilial.

Like this, a lot of people in Japan have turned against the

human world and have a lonely and solitary life in secluded places. They give up contacts with their families and friends and live alone in the open air as wild animals until they die. What is surprising is that most of those “missing persons” are young people in their 10s to 30s.

A Japanese police officer said that the prolonged missing is another mode for young people to escape from the family and reality and that they get their shelters from unknown persons on the Internet before they break all relations with their relatives and friends.

When Yoshihasa, a woman worker of a company, was in a bad fix for strict system and extreme labour intensity, she made up her mind one day to be a “missing person” on her way to the workplace in 2016. Her family spent a colossal sum of money finding her out, but later she disappeared again. Now when her family ran out of money, they gave her up.

The increasing number of “missing persons” is an inevitable result of Japan’s social system.

Now the insular country is dreaming about a “brilliant future” in the Reiwa era, but the number of “missing persons” will increase year after year and the country will turn into a hell unless it eradicates the fundamental cause of social evils.

*Kim Jae Sok*



A memorial event on the occasion of World Migratory Bird Day in October 2019 at the Mundok Migratory Bird Reserve.

*Photos by courtesy of the KCNA*

## MUNDOK MIGRATORY BIRD RESERVE



