



Mt Myohyang



One of the eight scenic spots in Korea, Mt Myohyang covers a vast area encompassing parts of Hyangsan County and the city of Huichon in Jagang Province and also of Nyongwon County in South Phyongan Province.

The area can be divided largely into Sinhyangsan (also called Naehyangsan) and Oehyangsan. It abounds in chains of peaks, mysteriously-shaped rocks, waterfalls and valleys. Among the famous valleys are Sangwon, Manphok, Chonthae and Chilsong.

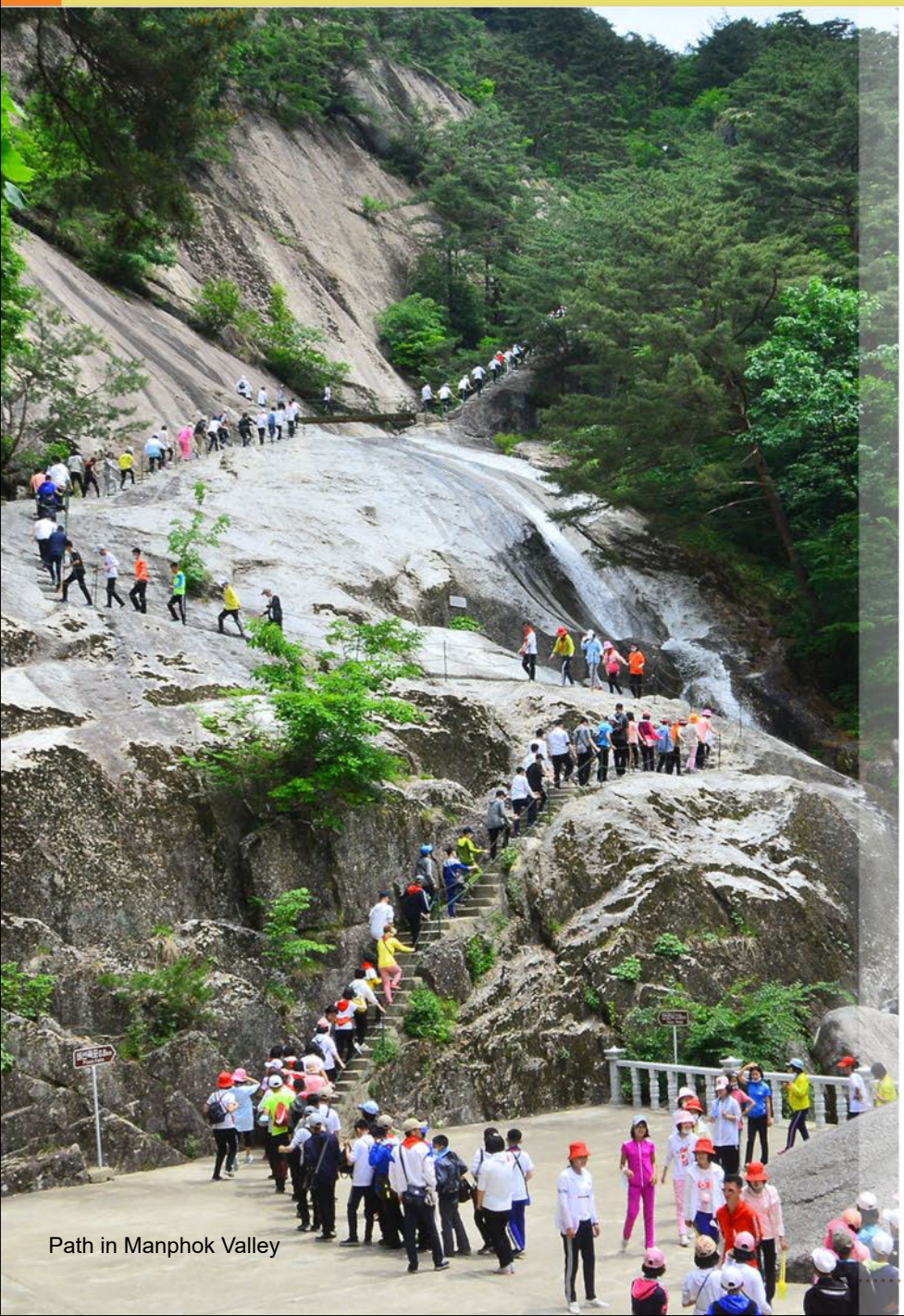
Mt Myohyang is noted for the 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures; the Pohyon Temple, a Buddhist building going back to the 11th century; and other historical relics—all showcasing the Korean nation's time-honoured history, culture and creativity.

Adding fame to the celebrated mountain is the International Friendship Exhibition House, which displays the gifts presented to President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un by party and state leaders and people of different strata from all over the world.

It is home to 1 200-odd species of higher plants and 1 000-odd species of animals, including 130 species of birds and 32 species of wild animals—amphibians, reptiles, fishes, insects, etc.

Counting among the six celebrated mountains in Korea, it was registered as a world biosphere reserve in May Juche 98 (2009).





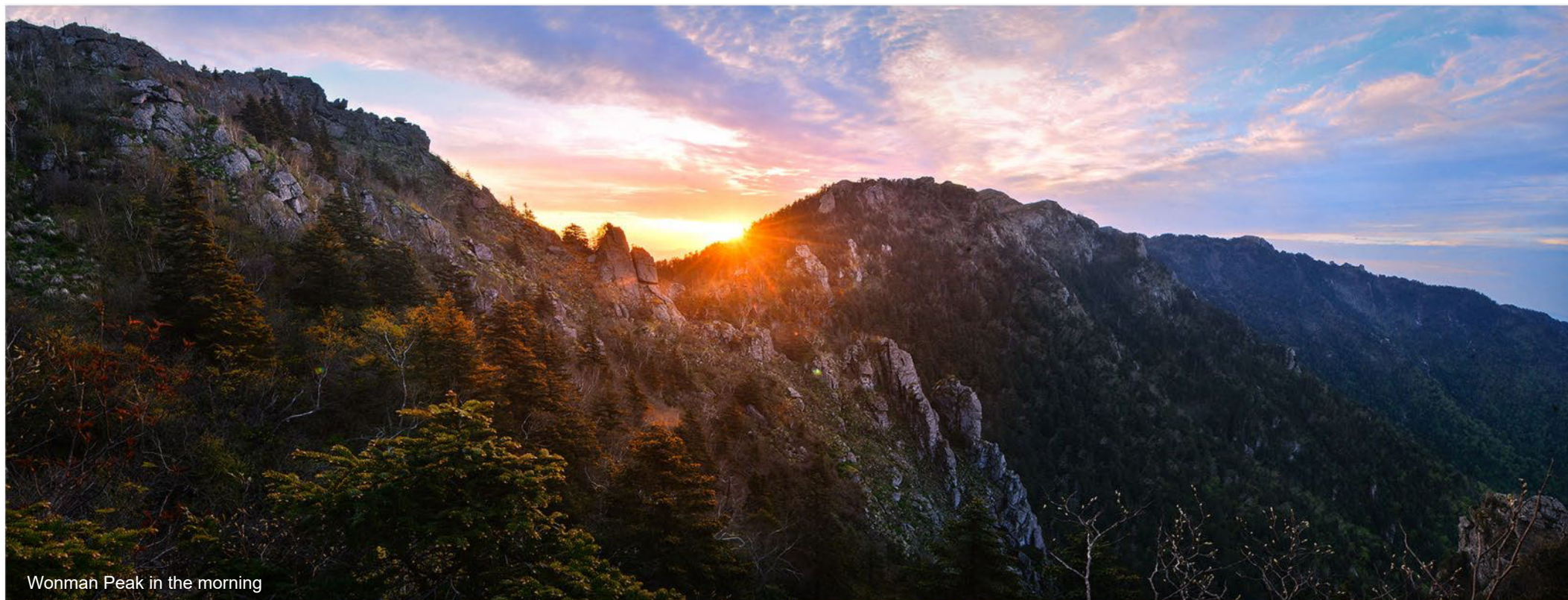
Path in Manphok Valley



Path to Hyangbiro Peak



Sangwon Valley in summer



Wonman Peak in the morning



Rhododendron yedoense near the Pulyong Hermitage



Dwarf Siberian pines on Hyangbiro Peak



Pison Falls



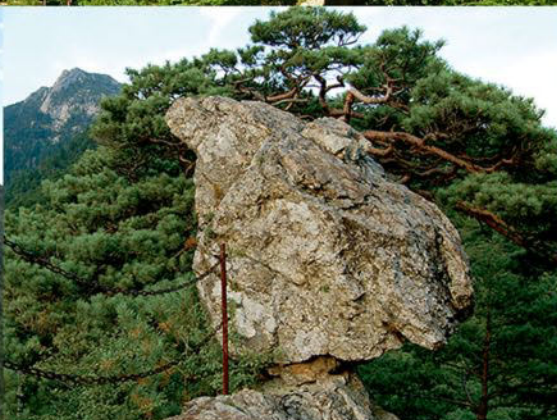
Poryon Rock



Chonju Rock



Rock pile on Wonman Peak



Mae (Hawk) Rock on Paegun Peak



Joyak Rock on Hyangbiro Peak



Isonnam Falls





Pidan Falls



Paegun Peak and Chonthae Peak





Chonthae Valley in autumn



Manphok Valley in autumn



Sangwon Valley in autumn





Evening glow viewed from Tangun Rock



Scenery of two seasons viewed from Hyangno Peak



Snowscape viewed from Inho Rock



Jingwi Peak



Natural monuments

Registered as a world biosphere reserve in May 2009, Mt Myohyang has such natural monuments as Myohyangsan pine, Myohyangsan *Rhododendron yedoense* community, Myohyangsan ash tree, Sangwonam ginkgo, Myohyangsan *Eurystomus orientalis* and Myohyangsan *Pteromys volans*.



Myohyangsan
Pteromys volans



Rhododendron
yedoense



Myohyangsan
Eurystomus orientalis



Sangwonam ginkgo



Myohyangsan pine



Myohyangsan ash tree



Myohyangsan bombycis mulberry

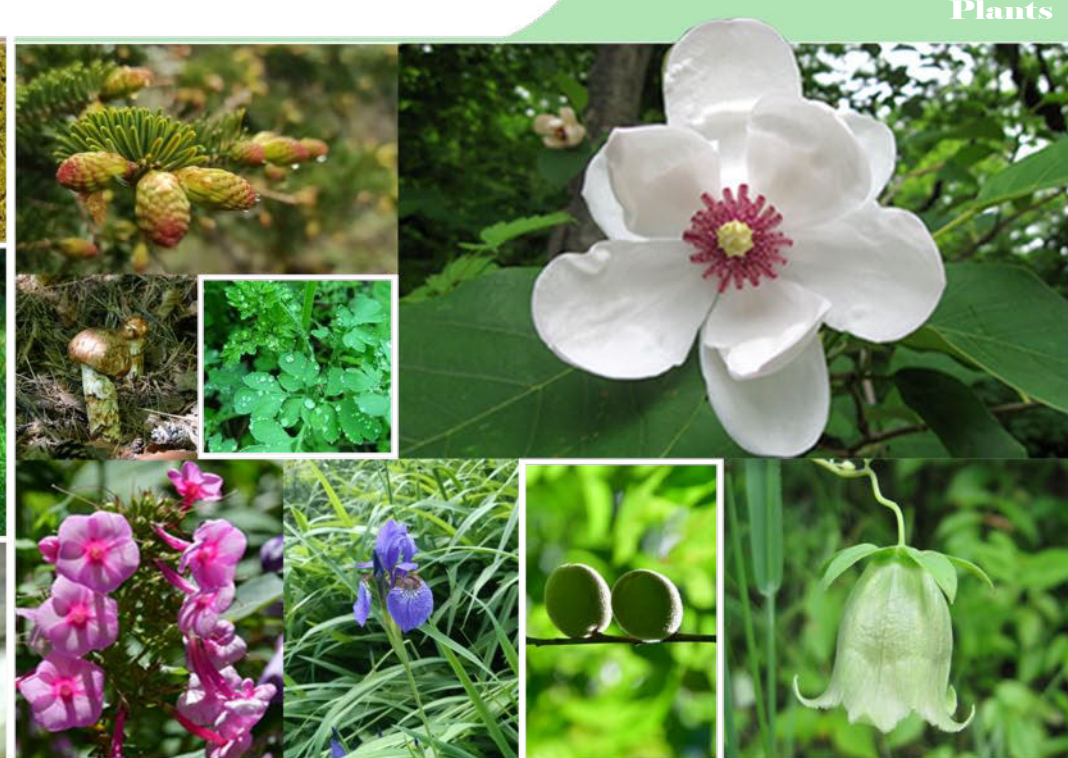
Myohyangsan
Rhododendron
yedoense
community



Animals



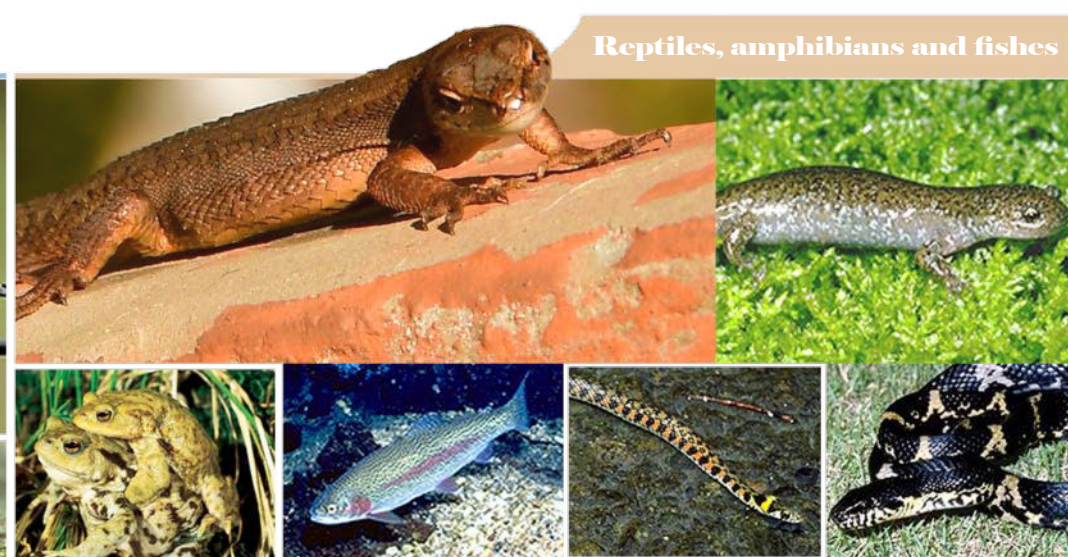
Plants



Birds



Reptiles, amphibians and fishes

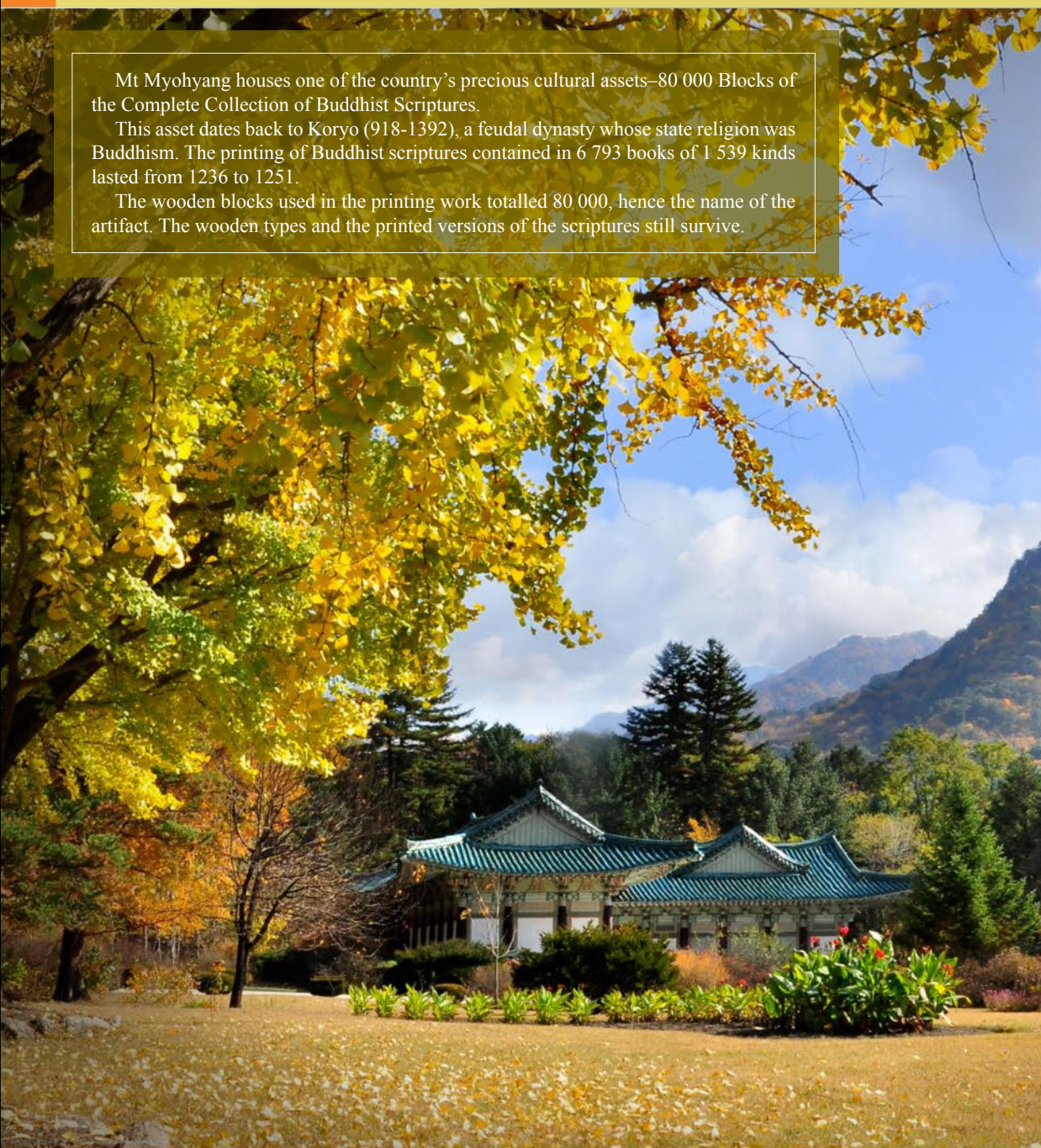




Mt Myohyang houses one of the country's precious cultural assets—80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures.

This asset dates back to Koryo (918-1392), a feudal dynasty whose state religion was Buddhism. The printing of Buddhist scriptures contained in 6 793 books of 1 539 kinds lasted from 1236 to 1251.

The wooden blocks used in the printing work totalled 80 000, hence the name of the artifact. The wooden types and the printed versions of the scriptures still survive.

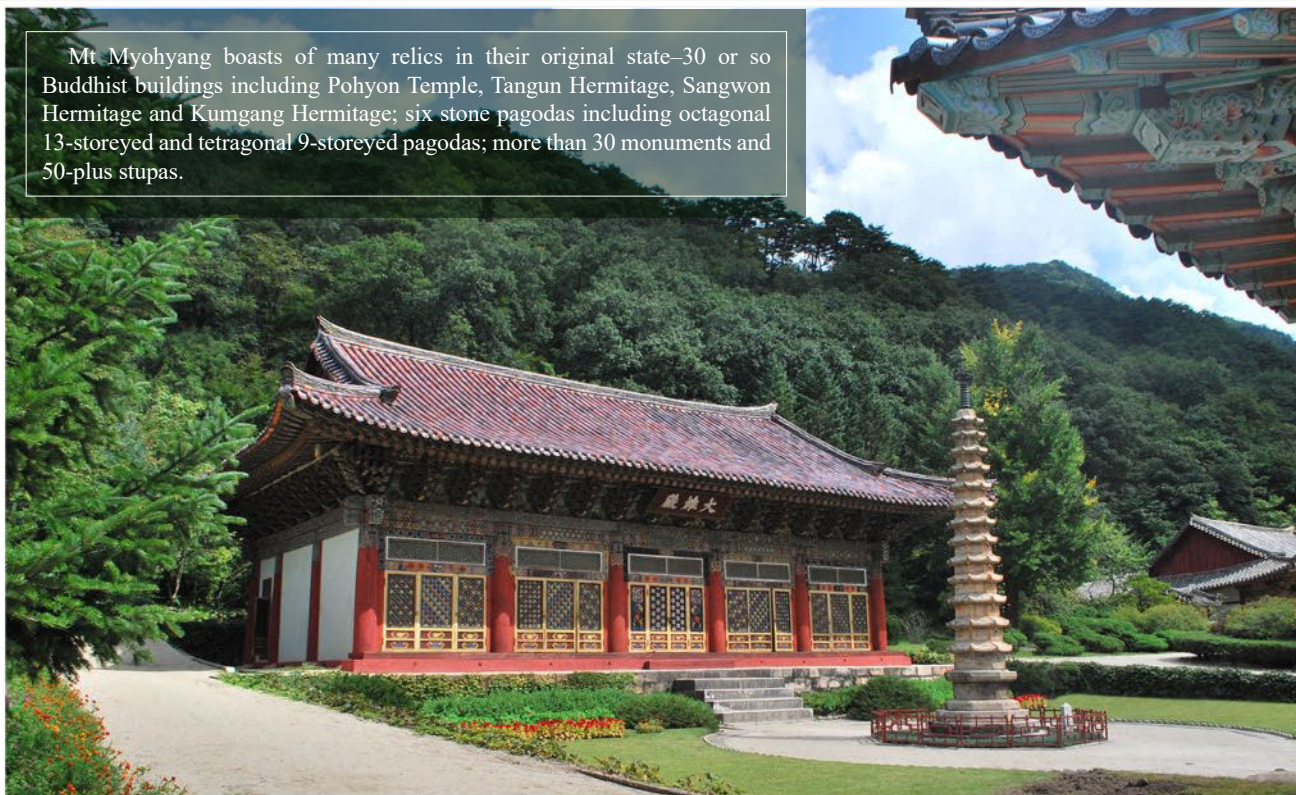


Parts of Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures and the 80 000 blocks used to print it





Mt Myohyang boasts of many relics in their original state—30 or so Buddhist buildings including Pohyon Temple, Tangun Hermitage, Sangwon Hermitage and Kumgang Hermitage; six stone pagodas including octagonal 13-storeyed and tetragonal 9-storeyed pagodas; more than 30 monuments and 50-plus stupas.



Taeung Hall and octagonal 13-storeyed pagoda



Tetragonal 9-storeyed pagoda



Interior of the Taeung Hall



Bell in the Yujom Temple



Kumgang Hermitage



Tangun Hermitage

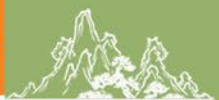


The International Friendship Exhibition House is a Korean-style building with a blue-tile roof, which goes well with the picturesque scenery of Mt Myohyang.

Inaugurated on August 26, Juche 67 (1978), the house displays the gifts presented to President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un by party and state leaders and people of different strata from all over the world.

A pride of the nation, it encapsulates the world people's boundless respect and admiration for the Korean leaders.









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