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Front Cover: The Sci-tech Complex

Photo by courtesy of the KCNA



Back Cover: Sobaek Stream in Winter

Photo by Kim Yong Nam

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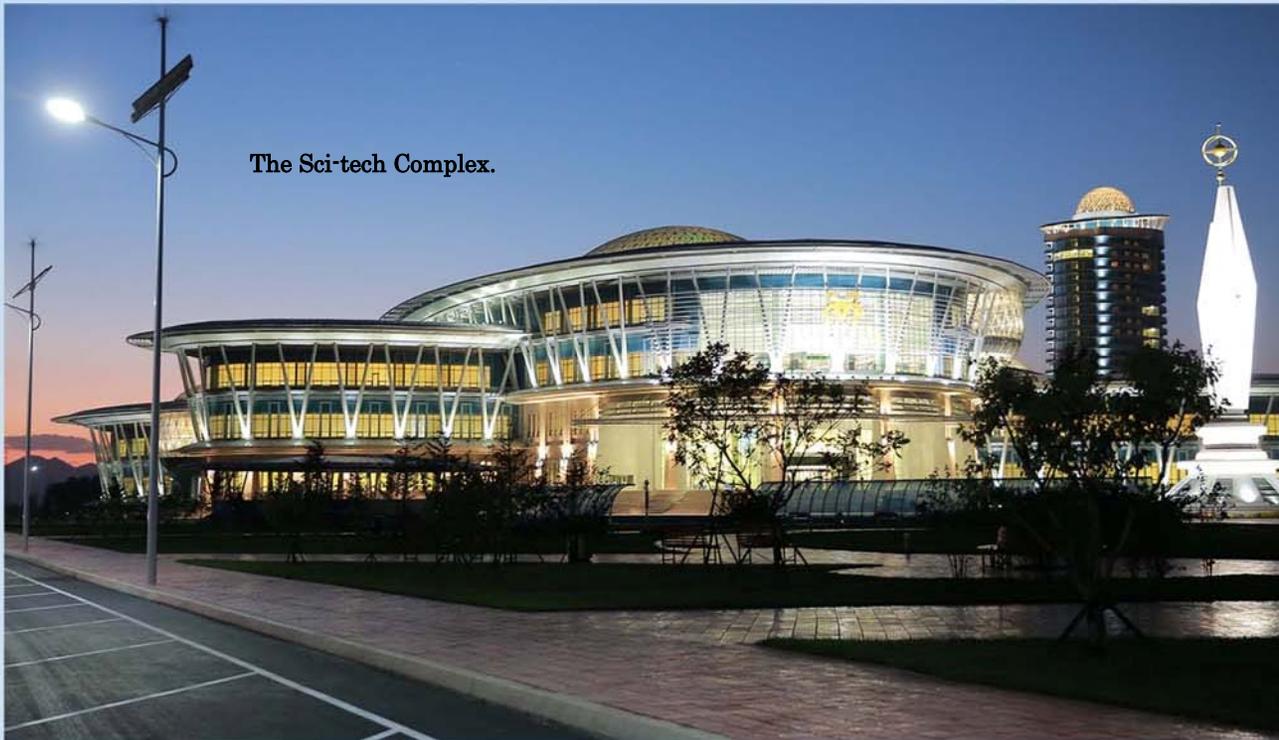
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2015, Year of Great Changes



Kim Jong Un inspects the completed Mirae Scientists Street in October 2015.





The Sci-tech Complex.

LAST YEAR WAS A SIGNIFICANT ONE when the Korean people celebrated the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea (October 10, 1945). To prepare a grand festival of victors—to be recorded in the country's history—on the 70th anniversary of the WPK that has led the Korean revolution to the victory and glory, the Korean people turned out as one to achieve remarkable successes in production and construction.

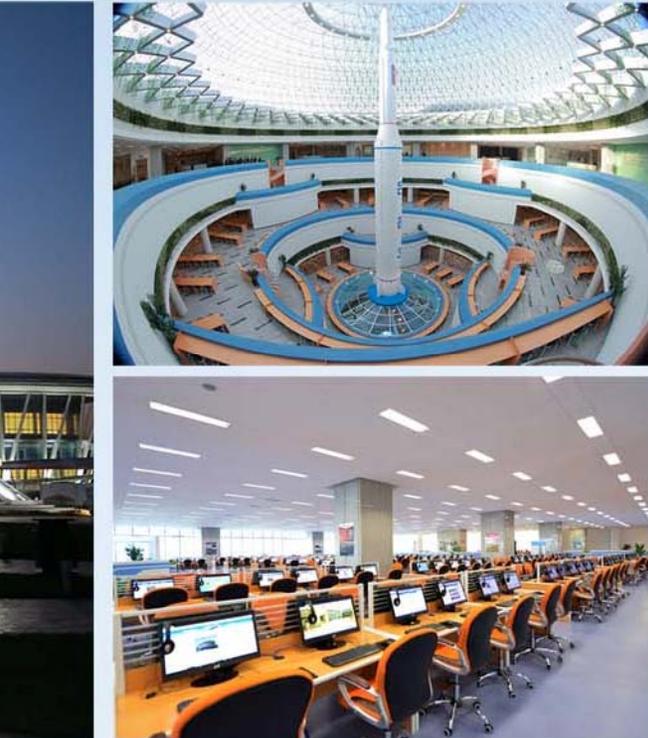
The construction sector erected many monumental edifices of the era of the WPK through a dynamic campaign to create the Korean Speed.

The young people built the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station in the most unfavourable geographical conditions in the country's history of construction of hydropower stations, and the builders erected ten power plants in the 80-odd-kilometre section of the Chongchon River. An air terminal of the Pyongyang International Airport went up as a model structure of formative art and the Satellite Control Centre of the National Aerospace Development Administration was built in a matter of eight months. The Sci-tech Complex in the shape of atomic structure rose up as a green architectural building on Ssuk Islet in Pyongyang; the framework of a 53-storey apartment building was finished in no more than 66 days by the soldier-builders working for the construction of the Mirae Scientists Street. The Wonsan Baby Home, the Wonsan Orphanage and the Pyongyang Rest Home were completed in a modern way in only several months. The Jangchon

Vegetable Cooperative Farm turned into a smart farm in less than a year, and some parts of Rason City which had been devastated in an unprecedentedly catastrophic flood were converted into wonderful socialist communities in a little over 30 days.

The scientific research sector strove to break ►





▶ through the cutting edge, thus obtaining extraordinary sci-tech achievements. Scientists of the Pyongyang Biotechnology Research Centre developed biopesticides that are suitable to the Korean condition and laid a foundation for their mass-production,

thereby pushing back the frontiers in the research and application of biotechnology. The State Academy of Sciences solved technical problems arising in the construction and operation of renewable energy-based power stations and the development and use of wind power resources, and succeeded in advanced research projects that go a long way towards quality improvement and analytical technology. Many other research projects of national importance emerged successful. Scientists of the agricultural sector bred high-yielding varieties of maize, rice, bean, barley, sweet potato and vegetables and established methods of drastically increasing their output.

Teachers and researchers of Kim Il Sung University completed a production process of blasting gas counteragent which is of great significance in waterway projects, introduced scores of successful research projects in the effort to put greenhouse farming on a scientific, IT and intensive basis, succeeded in developing new antiseptic and germicide based on domestic materials, and put the scientification of corn processing onto a high level.

Teachers and researchers of the Kim Chaek University of Technology completed their tasks to put production and management activities of light industry factories and major industrial bases like the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex on a higher scientific basis, while those of the Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering and the Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry, the Hamhung University of Chemical Engineering, the Uni- ▶

The Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang.



The air terminal of the Pyongyang International Airport.



► versity of Sciences, the Huichon University of Technology, the Wonsan University of Fisheries and other colleges across the country made valuable successes in numbers including the completion of recycling of leftovers by establishing a calcined slag brick production process with slag from the lignite gasification and the development of a new crop growth regulator.

The rapid sci-tech progress is giving a great stimulus to the effort to put the national economy on a modern and IT basis in the DPRK. The Pyongyang Municipality Mushroom Farm was newly built on a high scientific, intensive and industrial basis, and the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory has turned into a model and standard footwear factory. An oxygen-heated blast furnace was rebuilt at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, a Juche iron revolving kiln was added to the Posan Iron Works of

the Chollima Steel Complex, a process of acrylic paint production was laid at the Suncheon Chemical Complex, many other production bases were inaugurated and all sectors of the national economy pressed on with modernization and home production of materials.

With great enthusiasm to mark the October festival by winning many gold medals, sportspersons of the DPRK garnered more than 200 medals including over 80 golds in a number of international games like the 15th Asian Marathon Championships and the Hong Kong Marathon 2015 held in January last year, the 16th FINA World Championships, the FIG ART Challenge Cup 2015, the World Youth Weightlifting Championships 2015 and the 19th Taekwon-Do World Championships. In particular, the women's football team of the DPRK won the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015, demonstrating indomitable ►

The Pyongyang Biotechnology Research Centre.





The women footballers take first place at the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015.

► spirit and high techniques.

In addition, many factories and enterprises passed their past peak production records, and brilliant successes were made in many fields including education and literature and arts.

The sweeping nationwide drive for creation and change last year showed that any challenge from the hostile forces can never chill the Korean people's fury enthusiasm and that any hardship and difficulty cannot block their advance towards the building of a prosperous nation.

The national leader Kim Jong Un said in his New Year Address last year that the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, the spirit of the blizzards of Paektu, is an unyielding offensive spirit of braving obstacles and difficulties and a staunch fighting spirit of rising up no matter how often one may fall and fighting it out, and that all the officials, Party mem-

bers and other working people had to enter the venue of grand October celebrations proudly with gifts they prepared by dint of the revolutionary spirit of Paektu and through creative struggle.

His energetic field guidance all the year round made the Korean people's inexhaustible spirit erupt like a volcano. He visited the construction site of an air terminal of the Pyongyang International Airport several times to examine the miniature repeatedly and to build the terminal on the highest level. When women footballers won the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup 2015, he sent a congratulatory message to them and went out to the airport to welcome them on their return home.

The Korean people are convinced that their ideal to enjoy the happiest life in a thriving country will come true before long.

Sim Chol Yong

The Wonsan Baby Home and the Wonsan Orphanage.



The Pyongyang Rest Home.



New Language in the Era of Kim Jong Un

TODAY IN KOREA NEW PHRASES ARE being coined to express the vigorous struggle to build a thriving socialist nation and translate the beautiful ideals and dreams of the people into reality.

The Korean Speed

In April 2014 the Korean People's Army January 8 Fishing Station went online. This modern enterprise on the coast of the East Sea of Korea supplies fish exclusively to baby homes, orphanages, orphans' primary and middle schools, and rest homes in the country. The national leader Kim Jong Un visited the fishing station before inauguration, when he said that the huge construction project had been successfully carried out and was nearing to completion only a little more than two months after he proposed building a fishing station. He described this as a miracle and the Korean Speed. Since then the Korean Speed became a pronoun of creation and innovation and a banner of encouragement.

The soldiers of the KPA and people vigorously waged the campaign of creating the Korean Speed, and thus built the Pyongyang Baby Home, the Py-

ongyang Orphanage, the Pyongyang Rest Home, the Wonsan Baby Home and the Wonsan Orphanage in a matter of several months. In particular, last year when the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea was celebrated the movement for creating the Korean Speed swept the whole country. As a result many major construction projects including the Mirae Scientists Street and the Sci-tech Complex went up at a miraculous speed.

The movement for creating the Korean Speed is not confined simply to the construction sector. Now it is spreading to all sectors and units, and carried out on the principle of ensuring the maximum speed with the highest quality and standard. The service personnel of the KPA wrote a new chapter of history of the golden sea by catching a huge amount of fish in a few months after Kim Jong Un's visit to the KPA January 8 Fishing Station.

Last year the Pyongyang Corn Processing Factory equipped with the unmanned and

The KPA January 8 Fishing Station.



► germ-free production processes was built, and other factories with latest production processes were newly built or renovated. And the Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University developed a new 3-dimensional support program of human anatomy for education based on the data on the living organism for the first time in the world, and many other eye-catching achievements were made in the sectors of education and scientific research.

The movement for creating the Korean Speed, a mass-based collective innovation movement, is representative of the art of leadership of Kim Jong Un who is giving the fullest play to the advantages of socialism and the desire of the Korean people to advance faster. The building of a thriving socialist nation is making brisk headway in full vigour amidst the stronger frenzy for creating the Korean Speed day after day.

Campaign to Make All the People Well Versed in Science and Technology

Now in Korea the effort to improve contents, methods, environments and quality of education is making fresh progress in keeping with the enforcement of the universal 12-year free compulsory education system, and the state investment into the sector of higher education is on the increase. Especially, the work to make all the people well versed in science and technology is well under way. Last year the Sci-tech Complex was erected; the sci-tech diffusion rooms were or are arranged at all factories, industrial establishments and cooperative farms, and working people are enrolled on distance learning courses.

The supreme leader Kim Jong Un suggested the grand plan of making all the people well versed in science and technology and is translating it into reality. It is a firm will of the leader to accelerate the building of a powerful socialist nation and make the Korean people the most civilized nation by developing the country into a talented nation. Whenever he gives his energetic field guidance to factories, enterprises and cooperative farms, he first drops in at sci-tech dissemination rooms to acquaint himself in detail about its operation and tells them the direction and ways to improve the workers' level of scientific and technological attainments and technical skills. The Sci-tech Complex, the hub of disseminating advanced science and technology across the country, was completed thanks to the initiative and leadership of the leader. Thanks to the frenzy for sci-tech achievements scores of workers at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex acquired technical qualifications at the same time after learning at college, and there are increasing numbers of "worker doctors" and "worker innovators."

Youth Power

These days the Korean youth movement is in a new heyday of its development. Regarding national defence as the greatest patriotism and the most sacred duty young people in Korea stand in the front-line posts safeguarding the socialist motherland, and make a breakthrough in difficult and labour-consuming workplaces for building a thriving nation.

In October last year the young builders wrought a miracle of erecting the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station in the face of the severe natural environment, and this is the manifestation of patriotism of the youth who ardently love their motherland. Keeping an ambition in their mind the young scientists are vigorously propelling the building of a prosperous nation with remarkable sci-tech achievements. Young people are arousing the enthusiasm for sports all over the country. Along with this, they stand in the van of establishing a noble way of cultural and recreational enjoyment and a cultured way in production and life.

The Korean youth are wonderfully performing the role of vanguard and shock brigade in building a thriving socialist nation, and it is attributable to the national leader Kim Jong Un who leads them step by step to be vanguard fighters of the Korean revolution with noble spiritual and moral traits and high creative ability. In the historic letter he sent in September 2014 to those attending the Fourth Conference of Workers of Primary Organizations of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League, he clarified the way to be followed by the Korean youth movement. He also entrusts major construction projects to them and encourages them to perform laudable feats. He saw the flight training of women pilots of supersonic fighters and had photographs taken with them; he kindly called a girl from Kangson "maiden mother" of seven orphans, putting her forward as a model of virtue known to the whole nation.

When women footballers made a triumphal return after winning an international tournament he went to the airport to receive them warmly and gave them all honour he could give. And when he visited a power station built by the young people he named it the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, and saw to it that the education room of the power station was called the Exhibition House of the Feats of the Heroic Paektusan Youth, saying that the laudable feats of the youth are precious treasure which will go down in the history of the WPK through generations.

Thanks to the national leader's idea of giving priority to the youth new language of the times will come into existence in Korea on the road of building a thriving nation in the future along with the phrase "youth power."

Sim Chol Ok

Urgent Problems to Solve

A Light Industry Exhibition in Wartime

IN OCTOBER 1951, A LIGHT INDUSTRY exhibition was opened in the place where the Supreme Headquarters of the Korean People's Army was stationed. Grasping the living conditions of the people in wartime, President Kim Il Sung saw to it that a light industry exhibition be held so as to briskly operate the producers' cooperatives and display the daily necessities produced by them to popularize good experience across the country. Displayed at the exhibition were more than 400 kinds of products like fabrics, clothes, shoes, sundry goods for daily use, school things, cosmetics, foodstuffs, household goods and farm implements. In front of each product was a simple explanatory label.

The President came to the exhibition and stepped close to the stand of knitted goods. Praising them for their quality, he said that such knitted goods should be produced more and supplied to the people. Seeing a box of matches at the stand of sundry goods for daily use and a pencil at the school things stand, he gave instructions to produce and supply them in large quantities. In front of the cosmetics stand, he said that though our people were now living in dugouts in shabby clothes, they were in reality highly-civilized people with a strong revolutionary spirit and were fond of clean and bright things. After looking round the exhibition, he expressed pleasure at all goods on display, and gave important instructions to develop light industry and local industry further and supply enough daily necessities to the people in the wartime conditions.

Tasty and Nutritious Fish to the People

One day in May 2000, Chairman Kim Jong Il gave instructions to enlarge the breeding of eel and open eel restaurants in Pyongyang for the people. Then he took measures to provide not only equipment, materials and labour needed for enlarging the capacities of the eel farms but also the funds for collecting elvers, producing assorted feed and ordering necessary facilities.

Several days later, he told the officials that the eel was fatty, tasty and nutritious and so it must be supplied to the people by cultivating more of it. After that, when he was informed that the Taedonggang Eel Farm with dozens of indoor fish-

ponds in many blocks was built in a short period of time and plenty of eel had been produced, he saw to it that the eel was supplied to the Okryu, Chongnyu, Ryugyong Rungna and other restaurants to cater to the people's pleasure of the table.

When he visited the farm later, he said that the menu of dishes was scanty in the light of the increasing material and cultural demands of the people, and stressed that great efforts should be made continuously to develop the culture of eel and other species of fishes so that the people might be served with dishes of various fishes such as sturgeon, tortoise, eel, swellfish and salmon.

A Street for Scientists

In September 2013, the national leader Kim Jong Un visited the completed Unha Scientists Residential District for inspection. Looking at him who was smiling with great satisfaction at the fine dwelling district, the officials reflected on how the district came into being.

Learning in detail the scientists' working and living conditions, the leader proposed to build a new street for them and guided the making of its miniature and plan. Coming out to the construction site in spite of rainy weather, he made the rounds of houses, and inquired how the floor was going to be finished off, whether the kitchen was to be tiled and what were the finishing materials. He said there was a saying that a meritorious man deserves to be seated on a gold cushion and that scientists should be honoured in the same way by giving them houses as splendid as gold cushions.

A month later, he visited the construction site again and looked round several dwelling houses. He carefully inspected the colours of the wallpaper and the furniture like beds, desks and sofas, and then looked into the kitchens and toilets. He was very much pleased that the houses were built with great care using good finishing materials. That day he stressed again the importance of the quality of construction and asked the builders to work with a high sense of responsibility in the building operations just as they were building their own houses.

This was how the street was completed in a grand style including not only dwelling houses for scientists but also other buildings like the Unha Nursery, Unha Kindergarten No. 1, Unha Restaurant, Unha Health Complex and Unha Department Store.

Kim Un Chol

Korea's Might

IN RECENT YEARS THE US AND ITS VASSAL nations have resorted to extremely oppressive and aggressive moves against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Nevertheless, the Korean people have advanced along the road of independence, Songun and socialism invariably and forcefully. The more desperately the imperialists make challenges, the more clearly the inexhaustible potentialities of the Korean people come to the fore, disclosing the vulnerability of the imperialists more nakedly.

Korea's Mettle

In December 2012 the first application satellite of Korea soared up into the space to go into orbit successfully. It was a full demonstration of the nation's space technology which was making fast pace. It also meant a brilliant victory of the nation in the confrontation with the US and its lackeys that were making desperate attempts to check the launch.

But the US and its blind followers saw it differently. Stigmatizing the peaceful-purpose launch as "launch of a missile" they instigated the UN Security Council to adopt a "resolution on sanctions" against the DPRK, and the US went so far as to openly talk of its plan of a nuclear attack against the country. The Americans' intention was to take Korea's satellite launch for an opportunity to strangle the nation.

To cope with the Americans' reckless moves of aggression the DPRK carried out its third nuclear test in February 2013. And in the following month the country had an emergency operations meeting to decide tasks of the Korean People's Army Strategic Rocket Force for firing strike, in which the final examination and ratification were made of a plan to make strikes at US military bases in the Guam, Hawaii and the US mainland. Korea made it clear that it was ready to cope with any mode of war the US chose, and that if the US started a war of aggression it would extend its anti-US showdown to the US mainland beyond the Korean peninsula. The declaration was a critical blow to the US whose mainland had never been exposed to attack at all, even a single shell, from the enemy, although it had conducted numerous wars of aggression.

At the time the south Korean and Western mass media reported that the supreme leader Kim Jong Un rose up as the world-recognized leader through the third nuclear test and that he was courageous enough to have a fight with the US fair and square.

Korea's Courage

Pyongyang held the 1st Conference of the Korean People's Army Pilots on a large scale in 2014. During the meeting the pilots were honoured to have photos taken with the supreme leader and received warm hospitality before returning to their units amidst the farewell of the Pyongyangites.

At the time the Korean peninsula was shrouded in a grey cloud as the danger of war was getting stark with a joint air drill of the US with south Korea in the peninsula.

Despite the situation Pyongyang had a meeting of all the pilots of the entire army leaving the airspace open. This was an unheard-of event, which manifested the nation's grit.

The meeting was called and presided over by the national leader Kim Jong Un.

Korea's Resolution

Despite repeated warnings from the DPRK the US was having the Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercise with south Korea in August last, creating a grave situation in the Korean peninsula. At this moment the south Korean authorities, instigated by the US, cooked up the so-called "mine explosion" incident and took it for a chance to get back on the air for psychological warfare against the north on a full scale. And then, they, on the absurd excuse of the "north's shelling," made another military provocation by randomly firing dozens of shells towards the DPRK's territory.

To cope with the grave situation, the DPRK immediately held an emergency enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea under the guidance of the supreme leader Kim Jong Un. The meeting discussed a plan of political and military countermeasures to crack down on the enemy moves for provocation of war and examined and ratified the KPA Front Command's offensive operations plan which was designed to launch an immediate counterstrike and counteroffensive across the front in emergency. It also approved the decision of the KPA General Staff which released the ultimatum to the south Korean defence ministry to stop the hostile propaganda and remove all the psychological warfare facilities in 48 hours or face a full-on military campaign. At the meeting Kim Jong Un, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, ordered the frontline large combined units to get into a state of war armed fully enough to start operations at any time, and declared a semi-state of war in the frontline areas.

Kim Jong Un is convinced that national dignity and sovereignty are more precious than peace. He is determined to answer the enemy's provocation with immediate counterstrikes and an aggression war with a just war for national reunification.

After all, the south Korean authorities, engaged in desperate political and military provocations against the DPRK, reluctantly agreed to have negotiation, which resulted in the adoption of a joint news release on the agreement to prevent armed conflict and ease the tension between the north and the south and promote development of inter-Korean relations.

Sim Chol Yong



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

The Zeal for Increased Production







On the Strength of Science and Technology

THE TAEAN HEAVY Machine Complex is called the nation's mainstay factory in manufacturing generating equipment and other ordered facilities.

Over the past one year the workers of the complex have produced many generating facilities to make a breakthrough in the projects to build a number of power stations down the Chongchon River and the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station.

Last year when the complex was given the task to produce the generating equipment for the power stations on the Chongchon River, General Manager Yang

Sung Ho fell into deep thought. If they worked with usual preparedness and determination, they could never finish the task in time. Because the generating facilities for low head were much bigger and heavier than other facilities they had already made. If the capacities of the mechanical equipment of the complex were calculated in the technical and engineering terms, it would take them more than five years to finish the task. However, the general manager knew that they had to do it within one year, not five years.

He and other managers of the

complex had serious discussions with technicians and workers. In this course, they realized that it was very important to reduce as much as possible the processing time of such big parts as fixed bucket. The technicians and workers pooled their wisdom and finally invented original methods to design, manufacture and install the large auxiliary face plates on middle-sized turning lathes and increase the length of the processing axis. So the turning lathes could process large workpieces which had been produced by large-sized turning lathes.





▶ The workers in the field of the material supply were also in high spirit. At the steel casting workshop, the casting that had been done once in several days was done everyday. The workers carried out three years' work in a few months. They brought the sizes of thousands of guide bucket axes and bushing materials close to the final measurements, and this reduced the processing time by more than half.

Attaching importance to science and technology made it possible to work such miracles.

At present many people visit the complex to learn their experience.

Yang Sung Ho says proudly, "This time we realized that the creativity of the working people with sci-tech attainments has no limit."

The workers of this powerful complex are now making innovation after innovation in the production of generating equipment.

Kim Il Ryong



Creators of Legendary Tale of Heroic Youth

IN THE DEMOCRATIC People's Republic of Korea the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station came to completion in October last year days before the 70th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea. The construction of the power station was a great event that added brilliance to the 70th anniversary of the founding of the glorious Party and promised a bright future of the dignified Korea.

At the power station construction site at the foot of Mt Paektu, sacred mountain of the Korean revolution, a legendary tale of heroic youth was created; the young people built their grand monument shedding patriotic sweat and blood in the spirit of death-defying implementation of

the WPK's policies. Answering with their burning hearts the Party's militant call to build the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station by the 70th anniversary of Party founding as a grand youth monument in the Songun era, the young people performed in the Paektu area feats of labour most brilliant in the history of the youth movement of Korea.

On October 3 last year the supreme national leader Kim Jong Un attended the inaugural ceremony of the power station and delivered a historic speech.

In the speech he said that members of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade, vanguard fighters of the Party, had unsparingly devoted the strength and

passion of their precious youth, building dams for several years in the deep, rugged mountain valleys far away from the capital city of Pyongyang, that no words would be enough to describe fully the feats of labour of the shock brigade members, who had built dams and dug waterway tunnels inch by inch breaking rocks and moving mountains with sledgehammers and crowbars for several years in the face of biting northern cold, that when even means of transport had been frozen in intense cold, they had transported building materials with large and small sledges, that the death-defying corps members had bolstered up the railway bridges with their bodies in the icy water of the Sodu, and that



▶ everyone would bow to the revolutionary, self-sacrificing and patriotic spirit they and other young people had displayed in building the power station.

They had carried within some 120 days the amount of work equal to what they had done in the previous 10 years by working day and night with the youthful courage and mettle of Paektu which the Party gave them, and built the dam of power station No. 1, he said, and went on that that was a fruition of the patriotic devotion and loyalty of the builders including the young people of Paektu, who had all turned out in adorning the Party's history of building a youth power with proud labour successes; it is also a legendary tale of heroic youth that would be created only by the young people of Korea who have been educated and trained in the embrace of the Party.

Kim Jong Un remarked that in the course of building the dam of power station No. 1 the young people had grown up into heroes of the times, into giant artists of creation, and proved in practice the Party's history of attaching importance to young people, and that the soaring dam was the accumulation of the burning patriotism and loyalty cherished by the young vanguard, and that the height of the dam of power station No. 1 was the height of the dignity of the country with heroic young people, a youth power. The leader went on to say that busy as they had been with building the power station, the youth shock brigade members and young soldiers had built beautiful socialist villages for the people who were to be evacuated from the districts exposed to inundation, and planted trees and flowers in the area of the power station, and that this

working manner testified to the ennobling world of loyalty of the young people, who death-defyingly implement every single policy advanced by the Party.

The national leader also said that all the monumental structures built on the Korea land carry the heroic feats of the young people, many of them named in honour of them, and that there are no young people in the world as laudable as the Korean youth who volunteer to work in the remote mountain areas, not in the flourishing urban quarters, and find the worth of living in carrying out the Party's intention, and who cultivate themselves in a revolutionary way by working out the curriculum of "Paektu Youth University" and giving marks to their conscience every moment and every day on their own.

He added that when he saw the proud shock brigade members working, he felt deeply grateful to them, that he felt like raising them high up in the sky with his arms, that whenever the revolution had been faced with trials and difficulties, those who had buttressed his mind had been the young people who had volunteered to start their career at the construction site of the power station and won the diploma of the "youth university" after working with patriotic devotion in the Paektu area, and that sure enough, the Party is blessed with young people, the greatest of blessings.

Kim Jong Un recalled that the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station is associated with Chairman Kim Jong Il's ardent love for young people who represent the future of the country, a proud structure demonstrating the might of the Party's policy of attaching importance to young

people, that the Chairman had been steadfast in his revolutionary faith that there is nothing in the world that they cannot achieve if they enlist the strength of young people who are dependable successors to the revolution and the most vigorous of social forces, and that as he had trusted them so much, he had charged the youth league with the entire project of building the power station. The Chairman had said on several occasions that he might have had the People's Army or the Cabinet take charge of the project but that he had decided to entrust the young people with the whole of it, because the youth league is a powerful combat unit that implements the Party's plans unconditionally and, more importantly, because he had intended to educate and train them in the course of carrying out the project.

Kim Jong Un said: The Chairman saw to it that the shock brigade was named in a meaningful way in reflection of the aspirations of the young people who would faithfully support the Party's cause looking up to Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of revolution; he also resolved all the problems arising in building the power station, even sending a special plane to carry padded coats to the members of the shock brigade; he was seriously ill in the closing years of his revolutionary career, but on his return from a foreign trip, he visited the construction site of the power station in the rugged mountains before dealing with important Party and State affairs; he spoke highly of the young people for having made notable progress in the project and inspired them to perform new heroic exploits. It is very moving to tell about the Chairman's painstaking efforts of patriotic

► devotion that permeate every nook and cranny of the power station, Kim Jong Un said.

Then the leader noted that that the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station had been built as a grand monument by young people to mark the 70th anniversary of Party founding, showed how sagacious the leadership of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and the Party had been in preparing them to be stalwart successors to the revolution, that to review the course of building the power station, the Party was most pleased about the fact that the young people had armed themselves with one ideology and achieved more solid unity as intended by the Chairman, rather than the construction of the dams and the possibility of easing the strain on electric power in the Mt Paektu area, and that that was most important and the greatest achievement.

Kim Jong Un said that in the course of building the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station had been created the charging spirit and culture of young people that are representative of the Songun era, which constitute a precious asset for the promotion of the youth movement in the country. He noted that the charging spirit of young people in the Songun era created at the site of the grandiose nature-remaking project, where Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain on which the Korean revolution was pioneered, is within a calling distance, is a spirit of rushing straight forward after pushing aside other things in hearty response to the Party's call, a powerful attacking spirit of levelling a mountain and blocking a river course at a stroke like exploding dynamite, and a spirit of self-reliance and self-

development of tiding over indescribable difficulties by dint of comradeship and the might of the collective.

The national leader went on to say that the Songun-based culture of the young people is a wholesome culture of developing the decent things of the nation, not adopting gaudy ones of others, a militant culture of advancing full of vigour singing revolutionary songs loudly in the face of difficulties, and a typical socialist cultured way in the Songun era of leading an assiduous, meticulous and cultured life whatever the situation, and that when the ranks of young people across the country brim over with that spirit and culture, as pure as the limpid water of Lake Chon and as straight as the larches on the Paektu, the might of the Paektusan youth power would grow ever stronger. He stressed that it is the unshakeable determination and will of the Party to put forward young people in the vanguard of the ranks of the general onward march as masters of the times and help them put up the doorplate of a thriving country before anybody else, and that all the young people should always advance vigorously, straight forward following the Party with unstained loyalty and conscience.

Kim Jong Un emphasized that "Let us rush forward along the course of the Korean revolution sailing with the blizzards of Paektu!" is a slogan of trust advanced by the Party, that the militant slogan should be upheld everywhere young people live and work, and that the great country of Korea making a leap forward with youthful vigour is calling young people to theatres of building a thriving nation where fresh

feats are to be created.

He continued to say that young people should turn out in high spirits in the sacred struggle to translate the Party's plans and determination into reality and set up structures named after youth in various places, so as not to regret having failed to add brilliance to their youth, the only precious period in their life. When young, one should cherish a great ambition and enterprising spirit to present world-startling research result or to work at the speed of a supersonic plane, he said. All young people should launch dynamic movements of youth shock brigade, young guards, youth workteam and youth subworkteam at every theatre of the revolutionary struggle so as to make youthful vigour pervade it.

Kim Jong Un clarified that a vigorous campaign should be waged across society to emulate the charging spirit of the young people in the Songun era and their culture created in the Paektu area. In the last part of the speech he appealed to dash forward towards a bright future, the Party Central Committee believing in young people and they believing in it on the worthwhile onward march to achieve the prosperity of their country, a precious inheritance of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il associated with their lifelong struggle.

His speech greatly encouraged not only the young builders but also all other people in the country. True to his call the young builders have turned out dynamically to build power plant No. 3 following the completion of power plants Nos. 1 and 2 of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station. □

Korean Youth's View of Life

TODAY THE YOUNG people of Korea are in the lead of the dynamic struggle to build a thriving nation. They are making positive efforts to realize the plans and policies of the Workers' Party of Korea, holding high the slogans "Let us glorify the prime of youth!" "Go through thick and thin in response to the call of the Party!" and "Let us always advance straight forward after the Party!"

Last year all the Korean people turned out as one to make a general offensive to significantly celebrate the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK. In the course of this, many monumental structures were built in the country; the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, the Mirae Scientists Street, the Sci-tech Complex, the stockbreeding bases in the Sepho area and a series of power stations on the Chongchon River. The young people took the lead in the projects.

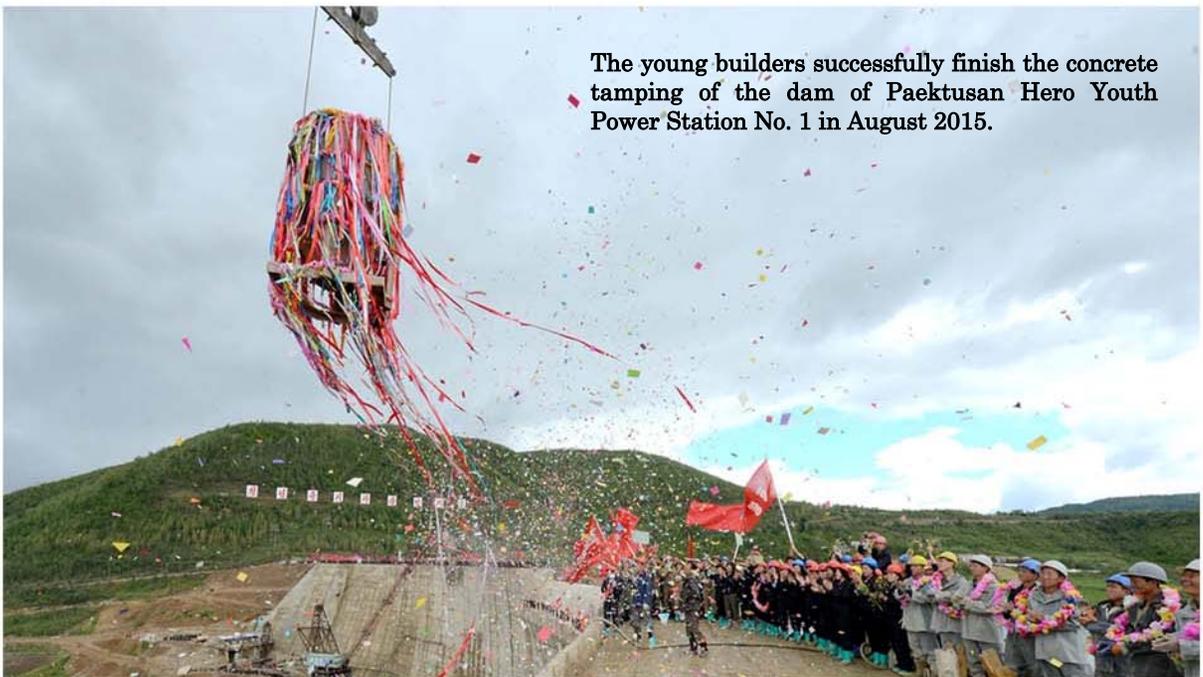
The construction of the Paek-

tusan Hero Youth Power Station can be cited. The building of the power station in the Paektusan area in the northern part of the country was a difficult and huge project which had to overcome the most unfavourable physiological conditions in the history of building hydropower stations in Korea. Countless numbers of young people all over the country voluntarily came to the construction site to materialize the plan of the WPK. They conducted campaigns day and night with a burning zeal to finish power plants Nos. 1 and 2 ahead of the WPK's 70th founding anniversary. The dams and waterway tunnels crossing the rugged mountains, and the well-furnished sanatorium and tree nurseries built by the young workers are associated with their devoted and heroic merits—they broke the natural rocks with hammers and chisels in the face of the piercing cold weather of 30~40°C below zero. Cement and

steel materials were not the only things needed. The power station was the materialization of the indomitable spirit of the young workers. So they called the construction site a college of faith and courage.

In April last year the supreme leader Kim Jong Un visited the construction site appreciating the heroic feats the builders performed in every corner of the construction site by coining a new phrase of the time "youth power." A few months later he visited it again and renamed the power station the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station.

That is not all. The number of monumental edifices called after youth is on the increase in the country thanks to the spirit of faithful devotion of the young people who volunteer to work at secluded power station construction sites, cooperative farms, fishing stations and new minerals exploitation sites in order to realize plans of the Party. The young ▶



The young builders successfully finish the concrete tamping of the dam of Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station No. 1 in August 2015.



“Maiden mother” Jang Jong Hwa (fourth right).

▶ people of Korea who have a strong sense of justice and a strong desire for beautiful traits are glorifying their prime of youth with honest and industrious work while taking pride in sacrificing themselves for the sake of society and the collective.

Many young people are performing labour feats in difficult and labour-consuming workplaces, overfulfilling their production assignments. There are many innovative workers including Kim Ok Hyang, a weaver of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, and Mun Hye Yun, a weaver of the Nyongbyon Silk Mill who overfulfilled their production tasks by improving their technical knowledge and skills and vigorously waging a campaign of operating more looms. And Kim Tong Chol of the Songnam Youth Coal Mine of the Pukchang Area Coal-mining Complex, Kim Yong Mun of the Kwaksan Mine and other young people organized workteams by mobilizing young people with unclean past records, and hit their production targets by 1.5 times month after month.

Young students and scientists are rendering services to the development of the country’s science and technology with their successful researches. Last year the national university students’ exhibition of the information sci-

ence and technology achievements and the national young people’s exhibition of the sci-tech achievements were held respectively, where thousands of valuable conceptions of invention and technological innovation were presented. In the national university students’ exhibition of achievements in information science and technology a class of the IT engineering faculty of the Chongjin University of Mining and Metallurgical Technology presented a dozen programs developed with their collective wisdom. As they were developed to solve actual problems in the course of combining instruction and practice, they are conducive to development of the national economy.

Young people also take the lead in fanning up the enthusiasm for sports activities across the country. Laudable achievements came at international contests; the women footballers won the EAFF Women’s East Asian Cup 2015 and 16-year-old Kim Kuk Hyang snatched a gold medal at the 16th FINA World Championships.

Praiseworthy deeds performed by the young people become everyday occurrence. “Maiden mother” Jang Jong Hwa, 20, a worker of the Chollima District Public Catering Agency, is looking after seven orphans

with maternal affection, and many others are doing laudable things for the sake of society and the collective. Ri Kyong Sim, a primary course teacher of the Kumsa Senior Middle School, Kumya County, is one of them. One day in 2011 when she went around making a list of school-aged children she happened to see a girl—Un Yong by name—standing in front of her house at the foot of a mountain with the support of crutches. She took Un Yong on her back from her home to the school every day to teach her, and enlisted efforts of doctors to set her back on her own feet.

In May last year the 2nd National Conference of Model Youth of Virtue was held in Pyongyang, and many young people like Jang Jong Hwa and Ri Kyong Sim attended it. The supreme leader Kim Jong Un had a photo session with the participants, and he expressed his expectation and conviction that they would fully demonstrate the heroic mettle and resources of the Korean youth by rendering distinguished services at posts of building a thriving nation like the revolutionary forerunners who sacrificed their youth and life for the Party and the national leader, and like the generation of their parents who voluntarily worked at any places—in the mountains, sea and new mines—in hearty response to the Party’s call. And he offered warm thanks and comradely greetings in the name of the WPK First Secretary to the Party and youth league organizations that have trained models of noble spirit and virtue.

The tender love and trust of the leader are a great encouragement to the young people. With a determined resolution and aspiration to be youth heroes in the era of the WPK all the Korean youth are devoting their all to the sacred cause of building a thriving socialist nation.

Sim Chol Ok

Revolutionary Idea Guaranteed by Songun

KIMILSUNGISM-KIMJONGILISM IS AN integrated system of the Juche-oriented idea, theory and method with the Juche idea being its essence. It is a revolutionary ideology with the Songun idea at the core of the Juche-oriented revolutionary theory and method of leadership.

The Juche idea is the root of the Songun idea and the Songun idea is an embodiment of the Juche idea. Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is the revolutionary idea created and developed by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who pioneered the Korean revolution and advanced it on the strength of the gun, so it originated with the revolutionary thinking of giving importance to the gun, or the Songun revolutionary idea, for its essential content.

Soon after he set out on the road of revolution, President Kim Il Sung created the Juche idea and the Songun idea, the embodiment of the Juche idea, thus providing a solid guarantee of national liberation. He gave rise to the Songun revolution by creating the Songun idea, and achieved the historic cause of national liberation by organizing and conducting a protracted armed struggle.

Chairman Kim Jong Il established the Songun revolutionary idea as an integrated system and further developed and enriched it in the course of the practical revolutionary struggle to achieve the popular masses' independence. In particular, he developed the President's idea of giving importance to the gun into the Songun revolutionary idea and the theory of Songun politics, and advanced the policy of building a thriving socialist nation.

The essential characteristic of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is to be found in that it gives precedence to the gun in the revolution and relies on it to achieve the ultimate aim of the revolutionary struggle, that is, the realization of the popular masses' independence. The Songun revolutionary idea is the idea which developed the Juche-oriented revolutionary theory and method of leadership onto a higher level and enriched them, thus giving scientific and practical solutions to vital problems in winning the final victory of the revolution.

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism illuminates the principles and rules of the Songun revolution and the theory of Songun politics comprehensively based on a new outlook and view of the position and role of the gun and the revolutionary army. On the basis of the scientific analysis of the position and role of the revolutionary army and its revolutionary spirit, organization and fighting spirit, it deeply expounds the

truth that the revolutionary army is the main force in the revolutionary struggle. As a revolutionary armed force that stands guard on the anti-imperialist military front which is of crucial importance in the revolution, the revolutionary army is stronger in the revolutionary spirit, organization and fighting spirit than any other class or strata.

With the clarification of the truth that the revolutionary army is the main force of the revolution, a new vista was opened up to rally the broad masses of the people closely behind the Party and the leader with the revolutionary army as its hardcore and enhance the might of the main force of the revolution in every way so as to secure the victorious advance of the cause of independence.

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism successfully settled the problem of the main political mode of socialism. The revolutionary mode whereby to give precedence to the gun and rely on it is just the mode of Songun politics.

Songun politics is a political mode to defend the country, revolution and socialism and push ahead with overall socialist construction by giving priority to military affairs and relying on the army as the hardcore and driving force. It guarantees the victorious advance of the popular masses' cause of independence by realizing socialist political ideas of independence, democracy, unity and benevolence in fierce confrontation with imperialist reactionaries—this is why Songun politics is the basic mode of socialist politics.

Songun politics combined military affairs with political matters closely and laid the military and political potentials simultaneously for the final victory of the revolution by strengthening the gun. Songun politics made it possible to successfully solve all problems arising in the revolution and construction by enhancing the role of the gun, that is, the revolutionary army.

As the revolutionary army set examples on all fronts of the revolution and construction and in all sectors of the social life and the whole society learned from them, all sectors of the social life including the economy and culture made rapid progress, with the guidance and management of the socialist society improving to a great extent.

As Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism includes the Songun revolutionary idea as an important ideological and theoretical wealth, it is a powerful and viable revolutionary idea that scientifically indicates a new road of the victorious revolution and construction.

An Chol Ho

The Korean Revolutionary Army

PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG formed the Korean Revolutionary Army at Guyushu, China, which was the first step for the launch of an armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists. The basic mission of the Korean Revolutionary Army was to enlighten and awaken the masses of the people in towns and farm villages and unite them under the banner of anti-Japanese resistance and, at the same time, to gain experience in the armed struggle and prepare for the formation of fully-fledged armed forces in the future. After the formation of the army Kim Hyong Gwon, Kim Il Sung's uncle, engaged himself dynamically in the effort to lay a mass foundation of the armed struggle.

Kim Il Sung recalled his activities in his reminiscences "With the Century." The excerpts follow:

The ceremony of founding the Korean Revolutionary Army took place in the yard of Samgwang School on July 6, 1930. Before distributing the arms I made a brief speech. I made it clear that the Korean Revolutionary Army was a political and paramilitary organization of the Korean communists formed in preparation for launching an anti-Japanese armed struggle and announced that it would serve as the basis for building a permanent revolution-

ary armed force in the future.

After its formation the Korean Revolutionary Army was organized into many groups and these groups were dispatched to various areas. A few groups were sent into the homeland.

We decided to send into the homeland another operational group headed by my uncle Hyong Gwon and consisting of Choe Hyo Il, Pak Cha Sok and another. The task of this group was to cross the River Amnok at Changbai and advance almost as far as Pyongyang, going via Phungsan, Tanchon and Hamhung.

I first learned through a newspaper report about the activities of the armed group led by my uncle Hyong Gwon that had gone into the homeland. I cannot remember accurately if it was when I was in Harbin or somewhere else that a comrade brought me the newspaper. It said that an armed group of four men had appeared in Phungsan and shot down a police sergeant, before hijacking a car coming from Pukchong and disappearing in the direction of Huchi Pass.

The armed group which had left Phabal-ri after the shooting captured a motor coach carrying the head of the criminal section of the Phungsan police station at the approach to the valley of Pongo. They disarmed the police

officer and then made an anti-Japanese address to him and the other passengers. They proceeded to Munang-ri, Riwon County, and talked to the charcoal burners in the valleys of Paedok and Taebawi and in various other places to enlighten them politically. They worked actively all the time in spite of the difficult conditions.

My uncle was detained in Hongwon police station for a while after his arrest, and then transferred to Hamhung gaol where he was put to mediaeval torture. The news of his litigating action in Hamhung local court reached me through many lips. Having accused the Japanese imperialists of their crimes, he had loudly declared that armed burglars should be fought off with arms, I heard. What force was it that had made him behave so proudly in the court? It was his faith in and devotion to the revolution, I believe. If there was anything my uncle feared more than death, it must have been the betrayal of the faith which makes a man righteous and courageous and enables him to be the most dignified being in the world.

Choe Hyo Il was sentenced to death and my uncle to 15 years imprisonment. My uncle and his comrades-in-arms sang revolutionary songs loudly in the court. After singing they shouted slo- ▶

▶ gans.

My uncle was thrown into Mapho prison in Seoul, a prison intended mainly for long-term prisoners sentenced to more than ten years. He did not cease his struggle in prison, either. When the Japanese ruffians tried to seduce the long-term “political offenders” to abandon their stand, my uncle made a passionate speech against ideological conversion before a crowd of prisoners to stir them up and then waged a dauntless struggle at the head of the prisoners for an improvement in their treatment. I think the facts about his struggle are already widely known to the public.

Stepping up their war preparations, the Japanese rogues drove the prisoners out to work on making ammunition boxes. The prisoners were forced to do murderous labour on seventh-grade rations. Indignant at this, my uncle led a prisoners’ strike in the prison factory to protest against the jail guards who were forcing them to do the murderous labour, the anniversary of the October Revolution marking its launch. A large number of prisoners participated in this strike. In an attempt to stay the influence of my uncle, the prison authorities locked him up in a dark isolation cell and, not content with this, put irons on his wrists and ankles so that the irons cut into his flesh whenever he made the slightest movement. He was given only one meal a day, and this a ball of rice

mixed with soy beans as small as a child’s fist. Since my uncle continued with his struggle in such terrible conditions, the prison authorities whimpered that Kim Hyong Gwon was turning the Mapho prison red. One day, while working in the prison factory, Pak Cha Sok heard that we were actively engaged in an armed struggle throughout Manchuria. He conveyed this news to my uncle. On hearing it, my uncle wept for the first time since being put behind bars and, holding the hands of Pak Cha Sok, said in a faltering voice, as I heard later:

“I think my days are numbered. But you survivors, I pray that you fight on to the last. When you have served your time and get out of here, be sure to go and see my mother in Mangyongdae and tell her about me... If you meet Song Ju some day, tell him my story and let him know that I fought to the last moment of my life without yielding. This is my last request.”

Just before he breathed his last, uncle Hyong Gwon told the other inmates of a fact he had been keeping secret:

“Kim Il Sung is my nephew. He is now leading a large revolutionary force in Manchuria, thrashing the Japanese swine. It will not be long before his army storms into the country. Wait in arms to greet them. Only when we fight can we expel the Japanese ruffians and liberate the country!”

Whenever I think of my uncle

Hyong Gwon, I see before my eyes my innumerable comrades-in-arms who laid down their young lives without hesitation on the road to the implementation of the decision of the Kalun Meeting. Uncle Hyong Gwon had a daughter called Yong Sil. After liberation she attended the Mangyongdae Revolutionary School. I thought I would bring her up with all care to succeed her father. But his only child was killed during a bombing raid during the [Korean] war.

The feats performed by the members of the Korean Revolutionary Army who had opened up the path ahead of our revolution were truly great and noble.

Thanks to the active political and military campaigns of the Korean Revolutionary Army the hardcore backbone was trained for the armed struggle and broad sections of the people were firmly rallied for thoroughgoing preparations for organized armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists.

It was by drawing on the experience and lessons of their heroic struggle and at the cost of the precious blood shed by the members of the Korean Revolutionary Army that the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army came into the world as a permanent revolutionary armed force, which defeated the Japanese imperialists and brought the day of national liberation.

Choe Chol Jin

History Brimming With Noble Moral Obligation (2)

By I. Ya. Novichenko

AFTER PARTICIPATING in the operations to liberate Korea as platoon leader of the 34th Ussurian Mechanized Regiment, the 25th Combined Army Corps, the 1st Far Eastern Front Army in August 1945, my father was honoured to serve in the guard of General Kim Il Sung in Pyongyang immediately after the liberation. During the days his admiration for the Korean leader's commanding arts developed into an absolute worship of his outstanding leadership.

I heard that Korea was in a very complicated political situation following liberation. Seeing the heroic efforts of President Kim Il Sung to straighten out the situation to found a party, establish a people's state and build modern regular armed forces, father was very moved and excited. I'm sure he was deeply convinced that Kim Il Sung was the great sun of the Korean nation.

Hearing the story that night, I thought father's admiration and worship for the President had brought the motivation of his heroic feat later. He said to me and our neighbours, "It's natural that everything becomes dim in your memory with the passage of time. Four decades have passed, and yet President Kim Il Sung remembered me. It's almost a legend of kind-heartedness, which you can hardly suppose about any other persons."

Soon after the emotional meeting in Novosibirsk, we heard

the news that the title of the DPRK Labour Hero was conferred upon my father. As I knew later, President Kim Il Sung, on arriving in Moscow, had sent a telegram to Pyongyang to propose the awarding of the title of Labour Hero to my father.

High-ranking provincial officials came to see us, and journalists and reporters rushed to my village, featuring Ya. T. Novichenko, an old second lieutenant of the Red Army, throughout the Soviet Union.

Our honour was not limited to the story, for a world of a great sense of obligation was awaiting us. At the invitation of the President we visited Korea. My mother Mariya Novichenko, my sister Rarisa and I had the pleasure of stepping on the soil of Korea for the first time. The flagpoles at the Pyongyang International Airport had the national flags of the two countries at the top, as we could see slogans of welcome to us. Greeting us a family from Siberia, there were a lot of officials of the Korean Party and state, along with a huge crowd of people waving flowers enthusiastically. We knew we were being treated as guests of state.

During our stay in Korea we were honoured to meet President Kim Il Sung. He was away from Pyongyang for local guidance, and we went to see him. Welcoming us, he said that my father was a brave heroic soldier who had covered an exploding hand-grenade

with his own body and that he was very glad to see my father again. Then he gave us gold watches bearing his name.

Receiving the watch, I was reminded of a silver tobacco case which is kept on display in the Novosibirsk Museum. The case is inscribed with the President's writing, reading, "**To Hero Novichenko, March 1, 1946, Kim Il Sung, Chairman of the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea.**" It was a treasure the President gave to my father on his return home in 1946. The silver case and the gold watch were the sign of the sense of obligation of President Kim Il Sung towards my father, which had been carried forward as an epitome of obligation for scores of years, transcending the difference of nationality and contradicting the old statement that the lapse of time will bring the loss of friendship and that the staying apart will freeze the sympathy.

On July 31, 1991 father met the President on his sixth visit to Korea, and I was honoured to be present there. On the occasion the President talked a lot about my father for a good many hours.

Until that time, what I had known about my father's feat was no more than the fact that on March 1, 1946 when a hand-grenade was unexpectedly thrown to the platform at a celebration meeting held in the Pyongyang Railway Station square when President Kim Il Sung was de- ▶



► delivering a speech titled “**On the Occasion of the 27th Anniversary of the March First Uprising**” he snatched it and put it under his own belly before it exploded.

The President told us details about the feat of my father, sometimes making gestures, which even we, children of the hero, had had no idea of. He talked about the contemporary condition, the positions of the bodyguards, the movements of my father taking the grenade and throwing himself over it, and the rushing of him to hospital—it was so vivid a description that we felt as if we saw a picture of an old tale; when the sound of the grenade flying towards the platform was expressed I felt my hands sweating from nervousness; at the part in which the President continued with his speech without caring for the grenade, I felt my heart shrink from tension; thinking of my father taking the grenade and running away with it in hand I nearly held my breath; when I heard my father had a narrow escape from death I found myself breathe again.

Hearing the President I recollected the heroic image of my father. And I felt ashamed of my ignorance of my own father’s in-

tegrity. Looking around at my father and us, Kim Il Sung said, **“Nobody will believe this fact unless I attest it.”**

At his words my father suddenly became tearful. As a matter of fact, he had told about his experience in Korea from time to time after he returned home without an arm. But nobody would believe him, and some argued it was a lie. Saying they had also fought in the war, they had argued that a grenade exploding under a human belly would leave nobody alive. When even his neighbours would not believe him, my father had become angry, and now he had stopped talking of his story. Driving horses in the meadow was his only enjoyment.

The image of my father in my young eyes was an ordinary wounded soldier who had lost one of his arms in a foreign country in the peace time after the World War. Although he had performed a heroic feat at the risk of his youthful life, he had buried it deep in his heart all his life.

It was President Kim Il Sung who restored the heroic feat of my father which had been denied for many years, so that it was known to the whole world. I learned that once Kim Il Sung had said meaningfully, **“He threw himself down on his stomach with the grenade under his belly, but he survived the explosion miraculously. He was fond of reading, and as he had put a book in his breast pocket, he was fortunately protected from the grenade fragments. And yet he lost one of his hands, and his flesh was torn away in several places. Since he covered the grenade with his own**

body I was safe as well as other people around.”

If there’d ever been a miracle in the world, it must have been what happened to my father. He was born during the time of Czarist Russia and was a horse driver in his childhood after he was bereaved of his parents. He lived in the Travnoye village as a tiller of the land after the October revolution and after he was demobilized from the army, and he had never boasted of the act of bravery he had made in Korea at the critical moment. President Kim Il Sung, incarnation of the noble sense of obligation and humanity, put forward my father as the world-famous prototype of internationalist.

Though busy leading the building of a new country after national liberation and the Fatherland Liberation War and the socialist construction, Kim Il Sung did not forget my father and looked for him all the time until he had an emotional reunion.

Putting forward my father’s feat before the time and history, he made such a kind remark as, **“Comrade Novichenko is the only one still alive of those who saved me from the jaws of death. He is the flower of Korea-Russia friendship.”** It was replete with the sense of obligation.

It is truly an exciting event that my father still enjoys the honour of being a symbol of Russia-Korea friendship among the Russian and Korean peoples. This is inconceivable apart from the noble sense of obligation of the successive great leaders of Korea.

(To be continued)

Pyongyang Corn Processing Factory



THE PYONGYANG CORN PROCESSING Factory in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, went into operation in August last year. With an area of over ten and several thousand square metres and a big production capacity, it is a comprehensive processing factory which turns out noodles, riced corn, jelly, cake, fry, oil and steamed bread in the unmanned, dust-free and germ-free production processes ranging from material input to packing. It has rooms for comprehensive control, sci-tech diffusion, analysis, hygiene examination and samples, and a courtyard, bathrooms and a dining hall for the employees' convenience.

In its compound there are auxiliary buildings such as material silos, a transformer substation, a garage, resting places, and thousands of square metres of lawn. Nearly 20 kinds of fruit trees, flowering shrubs and other good species of trees growing on its ground strike one as a park or an orchard. Solar cells and solar water heaters are installed on the roofs of the buildings to turn the natural energy to good account.

With Their Own Efforts and Wisdom

Teachers and researchers of the Kim Chaek University of Technology, the Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and the Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering made painstaking efforts to equip the factory along modern lines as a corn processing base. Determined to erect a corn processing factory as soon as possible and go into production to help improve the people's standard of



living, they invented and manufactured scores of devices of more than 30 kinds and obtained by themselves more than 5 000 automation elements and materials of over 60 kinds. In this way they realized the unmanned operation of all production processes. They also made new blowing and filtering facilities and set them to successfully lay a germ-free production process. In addition, they established an integrated system of production, management and quality control and made laboratory analyses information-oriented. They furnished a sci-tech diffusion room for the workers to study under the distance-learning system. They worked hard to make the fry production process unmanned. In the past the employees worked manually with two packing machines. This could not fully guarantee the hygienic quality of products. The teachers and researchers pooled their wisdom and completed the unmanned corn fry production processes—corn feeding, making and feeding spicy sauces, folding and feeding of first- ▶

- ▶ packed bags, second packing and forwarding—to be automatically controlled by the computer of the process control panel. They also invented and manufactured scores of devices like a noodle cutting and forwarding robot.

Using Domestic Materials

The factory produces peculiar delicious corn foods entirely with domestic materials. All materials including corn, glucose, starch, milk, spices and colouring matters are homemade. It produces noodles, jelly, riced corn and other good foodstuffs with corn, glucose and starch. Milk from the Kubin Stock Farm in Kangdong County is used for making cakes and other delicacies, and home-produced spices and colouring matters go into the production of high-quality corn foodstuffs.



Sci-tech Diffusion Room and Analysis Laboratories

The sci-tech diffusion room of the factory has been furnished for the workers to read sci-tech literature, study technical know-how and get education in the distance-learning system. The computers of the room allow them access to the extensive materials for study of many educational institutions, the Grand People's Study House and the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology, and enable them to receive distance education. The analysis laboratories are capable of chemical and microbic analyses. The first analysis laboratory has enough facilities for chemical analysis of the quality indices such as water content, acidity and colouring of materials, semi-finished and finished products. The factory guarantees the quality of its products by establishing the system of chemically analyzing the physical and chemical indices of materials, semi-finished and finished products by means of various analyzing apparatuses such as protein and fat measuring instruments and automatic water content measuring instrument. The second analysis laboratory has installed microbe analysers in preparation for guaranteeing the products up to the hygienic standard. The analysts of the factory are constantly improving their skills with the technical assistance of the college teachers and researchers. The products of the factory are in good favour with the consumers.

Sim Hyon Jin



Home Production of Cutting Tools

RECENTLY THE RESEARCHERS of the Material Research Institute of the Kim Chaek University of Technology have realized home production of the fibre-reinforced ceramic tools. They had set a target of producing silicon carbide whisker which is the functional fibre-reinforcing agent of the materials for ceramic tools by using the abundant domestic raw materials. According to it, they newly built the production base of fibre-reinforced ceramic tools and verified the scien-

researchers made a study of the history of ceramic tool.

In this course, they learned that the silicon carbide fibre-reinforced ceramic tool, which was made by applying the cutting-edge technology, has improved its ductility further than ordinary ceramic tools and expanded its cutting sphere ceaselessly, and now it is the current trend of developing the materials for ceramic tools. Based on this, they intensified the study of enhancing ductility while taking

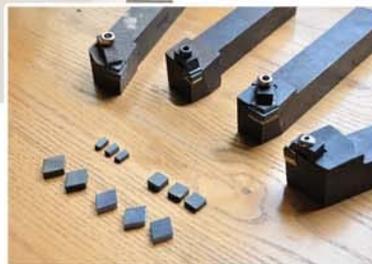
advantage of the hardness of ceramic tools whose raw materials are richer than the traditional materials for tools such as high speed steel and cemented car-

result, they succeeded in finding out the scientific guarantee to get primary materials for the production of silicon carbide whisker by processing agricultural by-products without using imported materials. Immediately they set up necessary equipment and conducted the work of establishing the process of separation and refining. Eventually, they succeeded in obtaining the silicon carbide whisker of high purity entirely from domestic raw material and with their own technology. Then they applied nanotechnology into alumina, the basic raw material of ceramic tools, and realized the silicon carbide fibre strengthening and particle strengthening while raising the ductility of the new material for ceramic tools by 1.7 times that of ordinary ones.

In this way they established the method of producing functional silicon carbide whisker and developed a fibre reinforced ceramic tool. All the technical indices of the flakes of the new ceramic tool including hardness, wear-resistance and ductility have reached a high standard and it is about a quarter of the cost in the developed countries. The new tool is the fittest cutting tool for the CNC machines which require high precision and purity of machine processing as well as a high speed. The users comment on it favourably, saying that the productivity has more than doubled because it has much less wear than the imported CVD tools.

Today the researchers of the institute are intensifying their study to improve the quality of the materials for the silicon carbide fibre-reinforced ceramic tool and develop different kinds of diversified ceramic cutting tools.

Ri Chung Ho



tific and technological cutting conditions of the relevant tools suited to different machines and materials including the CNC machine tools.

Along with this, the researchers pushed ahead with the studies for providing enough hardness of materials with high wear-resistance, the quality of resistance to physical blow and ductility. But actually none of the materials for tools such as high speed steel, cemented carbide, ceramics, cubic boron nitride and diamond were suited to those properties. The hardness and ductility, the main properties of materials for tools, were in inverse proportion that there were some obstacles in research and the practice of cutting. Now the

bide. When they met with many failures, Jo Chun Yong, head of the laboratory, would stress, "The researches for the development and introduction of silicon carbide fibre-reinforced ceramic tools that are monopolized by a few countries are not an easy job. But when we have the conscience and high spiritual strength of the scientist dedicated to the country, we can surely break through the obstacles."

After that, the research on the production of silicon carbide whisker got into its stride. As a

Sincere Tenders of Land

THE RESEARCHERS OF the Pedology Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science are making sincere efforts to solve the food problem of the nation. In the past they carried out researches on soil microorganisms and multifunctional micro-organic fertilizers, and scored many successes in the study of nutrition management and protection of soil and standardization of the *hukposan* fertilizer. They have also solved countless problems arising in the reality at different farms. So they usually go with the nickname of “sincere tenders of land.”

One year researchers of the institute including the veteran Ri Kun Haeng conducted the estimation of productivity of arable land in a certain region. The field consisted mainly of patches that they were often exposed to huge damage in the rainy season. As a result, the low fertility led to poor yield. Now the researchers began to improve the land themselves the next day. They dug ditches deep around the edges of the plots and laid drainage pipes. Hearing the news workers of the local sub-workteam in charge of the land rushed to see them. At that time Ri Kun Haeng said, “Our country is short of arable land. If we don’t protect and manage the land well, we couldn’t solve the food problem. We should take care of the land with sincerity.”

The earnest call of the ordinary researcher for patriotism came home to the heart of the workers. So, they put emphasis on land improvement and changed the submerged plots into fertile field. Taking it as a momentum the local workteam

waged a dynamic campaign to turn the land into fertile field. In a few years over ten hectares of patches of land changed into the one where the farming can be done with machines, and the workteam became the leader of the farm in maize growing on terraced land.

Several years ago land protection and improvement researchers including Hong Jong Chil stayed at a farm with some terraced land which had once yielded a good amount of crop. As the concern for the field receded gradually the soil was being washed away. Witnessing the fact the researchers decided to make grass ridges along the terraced field. First of all, they dug ditches to prevent damage to the field. As ditches were made between the upper part of the ridges and the field the soil which had been washed away by rain before piled up there, thus it protected the ridges and prevented the loss of soil. Then they covered the ridges with grass, and it pro-

tected the field from the heavy rain the next year. This guaranteed an increased output of crops. In this way the researchers regarded the land as part of their body and pooled their strength and wisdom to make it fertile.

They have obtained so many sci-tech successes, including a method of analyzing soil, a program of estimating the productivity of soil resource and a method of estimating the productivity of arable land. They also presented over a hundred and scores of relevant measures to increase the grain production, reference books such as *Soil and Its Fertility* and various essays on the pedological foundation of paddy field cultivation, thus rendering great service to the pedological development of the country. Through a dynamic research work to increase the per-hectare yield of potato, they developed a multi-element activator and applied it into potato cultivation which is conducive to increased potato production.

Sim Hyon Jin

Researches are made to improve the fertility of soil.



World-recognized Scientist in His 30s

DR. KIM KWANG HYON OF THE LASER Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences was born in a mountain village in Manpho City, Jagang Province.

His childhood was full of dreams. Sometimes he practised calligraphy with a brush, and sometimes he learned drawing from his teacher night after night. However, at the time he never imagined that he would get doctorate in his 30s.

When he was 11, he entered the then Kanggye Secondary School No. 1. Studying at the school, he nourished a dream of becoming a scientist. Though he could not fully understand the world of science, he wanted to earn a fame throughout the world like Ri Sung Gi and Kye Ung Sang, the world-famous scientists of Korea. Very fond of mathematics and physics, he distinguished himself in maths Olympiads and other contests.

After secondary school he was enrolled in the physics faculty of the University of Sciences. His parents, teachers and classmates were glad at the news. After graduation from the university, he became a researcher at the Laser Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences as he had wished.

In the field of laser that had been positively studied around the world, he played the central role in studying and introducing a laser-used three-dimensional shape-measuring instrument. In the course of this 18 of his papers were introduced by authoritative international scientific journals on laser and optical studies and collections of papers and abstracts of international scientific symposiums. Meanwhile, he read out more than 10 papers at international scientific forums.

In July last year Kwang Hyon received a notice from the World Academy of Sciences. It noted that after scrupulous examination, recommendation and election, Kwang Hyon was elected a Young Affiliate of the academy for the East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific regions for the term of 2015–2019. With a principled goal to improve the scientific ability and advantages of the developing countries for their sus-



tained development, the academy has five regional offices in several continents and each office has annually admitted up to five Young Affiliates who have distinguished themselves in scientific research since 2007.

That evening he lapsed into deep thought. He recollected the stories about Ri Sung Gi who had invented vinalon, a new synthetic fiber, for the first time in the world and Kye Ung Sang who had achieved a world-famous research success in the field of silkworm genetics. Like him, they were in their 30s when they earned celebrity before national liberation (August 15, 1945). Whatever significant successes they made, they did not belong to Korea. Their dreams of scientific studies came true with national liberation.

Referring to his impression from his fellowship of the academy, Kwang Hyon said, “I’m a scientist of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. This pride is greater than the delight that I am a scientist the world knows. Though science surpasses national boundaries, we scientists have our socialist motherland. With this faith I’ll add glory to my country with science.”

An international research institute with the world’s supreme authority in the field of theoretical physics admitted him in its fellowship. The young doctor’s story makes it clear that all dreams will come true in this land of Korea.

Kim Hyon Ju

Phyongsong University of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry

NOW IN KOREA THE campaign of livestock farming is in full swing true to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea to obtain meat from grass. As the existing animal husbandry bases are newly renovated and new ones are built, a great number of technicians and experts are needed.

In keeping with this the Phyongsong University of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry is working hard to train the students into talents with high ability. It puts much emphasis on the work of providing favourable conditions and environment of education suited to the requirement of the developing reality. First of all, it has arranged the computer rooms, the general auditorium and each classroom with modern means of education as required by the new century. The officials and teaching staff of the college as well as the students turned out as one to this end. And the state actively supported the work to lay the material and technical foundation of the college.

The college set a goal of building up the existing practice ground as a comprehensive centre of practice to be conducive to improving the attainments of the

cultural research establishments and secured all necessary things for the students.

Once the teachers of the grass cultivation department visited the Pyongyang Floricultural Research Institute and spent several days and nights to learn about the flowering plants bred by the institute. Moved by their zeal the researchers of the institute gave them unsparing assistance. Thanks to the effort of the officials and teachers the practice centre was rebuilt well to suit the practical purpose.

After school the students learn various kinds of grasses as well as specific characters of livestock at the centre. Besides, the teachers explain in plain words the characters of each plant and animal, and the future prospect of the stockbreeding development and the current global tendency of its development, thus giving much information to the students. As it serves two ends the centre is now well-known across the province, and the college has been chosen for demonstration several times. When officials of other universities visit the practice centre, they say that they will train their students as the college does.

The college has also well arranged the postgraduate school. In the modernized

school students intensify their research work for the development of the country's technology of stockbreeding. The research successes they made were appreciated highly at national sci-tech festivals and exhibitions of sci-tech achievements. In one year they received over 30 certificates including the certificate of invention and the certificate of introduction of sci-tech achievements.

The departments of poultry, veterinary science and animal husbandry are training talents needed for the improvement of the living standard of the people.

Now the students are working hard to possess the cutting-edge science and technology in the library with a collection of hundreds of thousands of books, the biology lab, the general experimental room, specimen room and other facilities equipped with modern experimental apparatuses.

The college is still pushing ahead with the work to provide more wonderful educational conditions to train a large number of experts of veterinary science and stockbreeding possessed of the cutting-edge science and technology and conducive to development of the country's animal husbandry.

Kim Hyon Ju



students. Kim Mu Song, a staff member of the college, says that the teachers and students learned many things while rearranging the practice ground. The centre had to be equipped with everything needed for improving the students' attainments. The officials of the college made the rounds of the stockbreeding bases across the country and even flori-



Who Will Be the Next Hero?

THE KIM CHANG BOK Senior Middle School in Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, is the alma mater of Kim Chang Bok, a Hero of the DPRK. Kim, who joined the Korean People's Army after finishing the middle school, died performing feats while carrying out his combat task. At the time he was less than a year in the army. He was awarded the title of Hero of the DPRK, with his old school renamed after him and his bust erected at the school.

When you left the school for the army, you were an ordinary student, and now you've come back as a Hero. Whispering to the Hero's bust, the teachers would determine to bring up all their students to be heroes.

Great efforts are made for the children to grow up learning the lofty spirit of the Hero. On the day when a new school year begins, its opening ceremony is started by the new students presenting bunches of flowers before the

Hero's bust and hearing the story of his heroic feat. This tends to imbue the students with a pride that they are going to get an education at the Hero's school, and it proves an important occasion for them to cherish a heroic spirit in their hearts.

The conversations with the Hero's mother on national holidays and the stories about his feats told by the teachers are kept deep in the students' minds. They come to realize that the feats of heroism cannot come from an impulse of the moment, but sprout up and grow from the love of every tree and every blade of grass of their country and tender care for their friends from childhood.

Now the poem written by the Hero before leaving the school is well loved by the teachers and students of the school.

*Trust me, my dear friends,
Wait for me, my dear
alma mater.*

*You Pyongyang,
my dear home,
I, an honourable son of you,
Will come back to you
With an unforgettable
memory,
...
Come back to you with a
golden star of great feats.*

Perceiving the truth that the life dedicated to the country and the people is a pride of the alma mater and the country and that his feats will shine forth for ever, the students before graduation have a meeting under the name of "The Hero and I" to renew their resolution. The spirit of the Hero is inherited to the younger generation. The school has produced another Hero of the DPRK and persons well-known across the country. Among them are eight soldiers, Ri Jang Ung and his seven brothers and sisters. They are now respected and loved by the people for their great exploits. One of them is the winner of Kim Il Sung Youth Honour Prize.

The school had the honour of earning gratitudes of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il twice.

Mun To Yong, mother of Kim Chang Bok, says, "Whenever I see the students who are determined to be the next Hero of the school, I am delighted as if they were my sons and daughters. I am sure that they will become heroes who are faithful to their duty and loyal to the country whatever they do." □



Devotion Is a Sovereign Remedy

“**D**OCTOR, DOCTOR!” Someone was calling at midnight in an urgent voice. It was the pediatric department of the Songyo District People’s Hospital. Woman doctor Ha Tong Bok woke up and got out of her bed in haste. A woman was standing in the passage with a baby in her arms. “Doctor, pray save my baby,” she said in a tearful voice. “As a child, I was also treated and saved from death in this hospital long ago. Please help me.” The woman doctor was surprised. The young woman was Tu Jin Ok whom she had saved 20 years before. Now she came back to her with her seven-month-old baby in her arms.

The doctor calmly began to examine the baby. The case was very serious, a complication of diarrhea with bronchitis. If treatment was delayed, the baby could lose its life. The child was treated at once, and in the morning its condition got much better. Soon, it recovered health. “We, mother and daughter, had a second birth here. I was struck at the high ability of children’s doctors of this hospital,” said Tu Jin Ok. But she was not the only person to express thanks and admiration for the medical team of the hospital.

One day many years ago, a school teacher rushed to the hospital with a pupil on his back. The boy’s blood pressure had fallen suddenly and all the ganglions of his body had already been blocked. His breathing stopped even before the examination was over. It was food poisoning. The department chief immediately applied artificial respiration with his own mouth to keep the patient’s heart pulsating and took measures to remove poisoning. When the boy’s mother arrived, her son was revived and undergoing intensive treatment in the children’s ward. “Rushing to the hospital after hearing that my son fell unconscious in the hospital, I

thought I would never see him again. It is said from of old that medicine is a benevolent art. I want to say my son Phyong Hwi’s revival is attributable to the doctors’ warm human love,” said she seeing the children’s doctors shedding tears of delight and embracing her son who came round after 12 hours.

Department Chief Ri Kwang Ho, a doctor of long clinical experience, is striving to make his department a team of high ability. He is trying to make the doctors’

febrile was administered. At the time, the child’s parents were sick and in hospital, too. Thanks to the doctors’ devoted care, the child left hospital. When his mother saw him quite well, she was filled with gratitude for the doctors and said in a tearful voice, “When my son was in the hospital, I was unable to go and thank them. But they restored his health. I am so grateful to them.”

The doctors wrote many papers and received certificates of invention, ingenuity and sci-tech



Medical workers devote their sincere efforts to treatment.

conference a good opportunity to exchange their experience and develop their creative faculty, and leading all his staffs to devote themselves to the treatment of patients. As a result, they have achieved great successes in bringing many patients back to life in recent years. Not long ago, a seven-year-old child was brought to the hospital for bronchitis with a complication of gastroenteritis. His temperature fell to below 35°C. He was a difficult case because his temperature rose to 39°C when he was dosed with an adaptable medicine and it fell back below to 35°C when an anti-

success registration. Doctor Ha Tong Bok who has worked in this hospital for 48 years says, “Treating so many children, I would often foretell what they would become in the future; a scientist, a soldier or an artiste. And my prophecies came true in many cases. I did so from my conviction coming from my observation and study of the children whom I looked after with parental care. We regard ourselves as the sick children’s parents before being doctors and feel deeply that devotion is a sovereign remedy for all maladies.”

Rim Ok

The Wedded Pair of Weightlifting Coaches



IM YONG SU AND KIM CHUN Hui, weightlifting coaches at the Kigwancha Sports Team, are a married couple. They were very busy, so this reporter of *Korea Today* had to meet them severally.

I Want to Win in Everything

I met the woman coach Kim Chun Hui at the Weightlifting Gymnasium in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. It was not the first meeting with her. She was the coach of Rim Jong Sim and Ryo Un Hui who had won the titles several times at the world championships, Asian championships and East Asian Games. So, we had previous acquaintance, but this was the first time to have a talk with her. Like most sports-persons, she was taciturn and would answer questions in monosyllables. To my question how she became a weightlifting coach, she answered that she did skating and athletics at first and began to learn weightlifting, and after graduating from the Korea University of Physical Education, became a coach as she had wished. But she was fond of talking about the people she had trained. Ryo Un Hui and Rim Jong Sim are her favourite pupils. She was convinced that success would be sure when she trained them strictly yet with motherly care, and she did so

in practice. Not only Ryo Un Hui and Rim Jong Sim but Kim Ok Byol and Kim Su Ryon grew up as stars of woman weightlifting under her coaching.

Kim Chun Hui has a four-year-old son named Im Yu Song. She married when she was over 30. About her future plan, she said, "I want to win in everything, whether in my work or my life. I'll try my best to attain the goal." She was a calm woman of few words.

I'll Become a Root

At a glance, Coach Im Yong Su of the Kigwancha Sports Team gave me an unmistakable impression of a weightlifter. A man of medium height and sturdy frame, he looked in his mid-30s and full of energy.

When I told him about my interview with his wife, he said, "She is a passionate woman. I think that's why I fell in love with her." His wife Kim Chun Hui was born in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, but Im came from a farm village in Chongdan County, South Hwanghae Province. From his childhood, he was fond of sports, and when he was defeated in a game, it is said he shed tears out of sight in his mortification. After he began weightlifting at the Kigwancha Sports Team, he made many good records in contests including the winning of

first place in the World Weightlifting Championships in 2002. When he was still an athlete, Kim Chun Hui was already a coach. Seeing her taking great pains to find out better training methods suitable to the physical constitutions and features, he thought he should help her by all means. His selfless assistance encouraged her greatly. Whenever Chun Hui was beside herself with joy at her pupils coming off victors at international games, he would swear within himself to be of permanent help for her success in work and life.

At last, they were married amidst the blessing of people. That day he told his wife, "You run forward, I'll always help you." To this Chun Hui answered, "Thank you. But I propose we compete with each other and see who'll be the first to achieve success." Now, they toed the new starting line in their life. After finishing the Korea University of Physical Education in 2014, Im became a weightlifting coach at the sports team and is now teaching young promising athletes. He says, "I think we'll be legitimately proud when we bring up more prominent weightlifters by joining our efforts. We'll be one for ever on this road. But in truth, I'll be the root that supports her always."

Yom Song Hui

Note of Visit to Pyongyang Paduk House

THE PYONGYANG PADUK House is located in Moranbong District, Pyongyang. When I visited the house, Ri Hyon Ok, an instructor, was the first to come out of a class to welcome me. She told me she had been working there for eight years since she finished the Korea University of Physical Education. She said, "According to *Samguksagi* and some other historical chronicles, paduk (go) was popular during the time of Three Kingdoms when Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), Paekje (late first century BC-660) and Silla (the early mid-1st century-935) were in existence. And the techniques were in a high level. The public interest in paduk is growing day by day and we have many visitors from around the city these days, particularly children."

I met a girl named Pak Yo Chong at a computer paduk game. The four-year-old was the youngest of the trainees at the house. Ri explained the girl was good at digesting the lessons and felt seldom tired of the instruction and that her technique was improving fast. She added that the house was aimed at training reserve paduk players and making the game mass-based, and that particular attention was being paid to the work of picking up children with aptitude and training them as reserve players. Then she advised me to go to see the assistant director of the house who had trained several young players.

The assistant director, Rim Hyon Chol, was a handsome man in his 30s. He was a Merited Athlete with the record of winning the 11th international amateur mixed doubles paduk championships. Having begun to learn paduk for pastime when he was 13, he, while perceiving the secret of paduk gradually, got a philosophical, logistical and mathematical reasoning power and finally took a gold medal at the international competition. Under his tutorship Son Sung Gwon developed into a promising player and

was employed by a professional sports team, while Han Ju Ye from the Minhung Senior Middle School in Moranbong District and Choe Jin Myong from the Kansong Junior Middle School in Phyongchon District are called national champions.

The assistant director said that instructor Pak Haeng Un of the school who won a good result in the 1st international Internet paduk contest had also trained competent players. He said, "Paduk used to be a favourite game of the men of military arts, they say. It was usually played in order to polish tactics. But now it is a popular pastime of the general public." Then the assistant director explained that his house often arranges elementary courses for the enthusiasts of paduk and that there is a professional researcher of paduk in his house.

I stepped into a room to find some players at game. I was particularly interested in a contest between a five-year-old child and a college student. There in the room I met Ri Se Chung who had been the founding director of the house. He retired a long time ago, but he still visits the house regularly urged by his ties with paduk. He said to me, "Paduk is really a pleasant game that needs original

and ingenious ideas and no restriction of patterns and forms. It helps you relieve the mental and physical fatigues and retards your aging. You'd better learn it for your good life and health." He recounted stories about his friends he had got acquainted with there in the house. He boasted that he had participated in all national amateur paduk contests to show off his techniques.

Hours passed, and I found the house crowded with more visitors after the day's work.

In the evening people came to bring their children back home. I happened to meet the mother of Ri Tan Ju, 7, who had won good results in a number of games. She said, "My daughter began to learn paduk when she was five years old, and she is getting a good deal from this. She is becoming able to concentrate all her attention on whatever she does; she is getting patient, persistent and competitive. And she is learning how to behave herself. I'm learning paduk myself."

The visit to the pleasant house convinced me that the citizens' recreational and entertainment activities are becoming more diversified and abundant.

Rim Ok

Deep attention is paid to the training of young paduk players.



The Old Artist

RI RYUL SON, LIVING IN Ryonhwa-dong No. 2, Central District, Pyongyang, is over eighty, but he often says, “My career is starting now.” He has been successively a teacher, a department head and a faculty dean of the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts. At the same time, he is a member of the Korean Painting Subcommittee of the Central Committee of the Union of Korean Artists, and the Chairman of the National Commission for Examining the Works of Art. He has been engaged in education for 43 years, and he is now intent on painting, inspired by a desire to create works worthy enough to round off his career. But still an old man, he sometimes indulges in retrospection.

It was May 3, 1933, when he was born in a poor peasant family in Anak County, South Hwanghae Province. Like all other people of Korea, he was unhappy, suffering from hunger and hard living under the military occupation of the Japanese imperialists. But he had a gift for painting by nature. He drew black-and-white pictures on the three folding screens he got from a neighbouring house, and this earned him the name of “boy artist” among the villagers. Though poor, his parents managed to send him, their only son, to school.

Then came national liberation (August 15, 1945), and it was an event of great joy to him. But the joy of liberation was short-lived. The US imperialists occupied south Korea soon after liberation and started a war against the young Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Ryul Son joined the army, but before long, he lost one of his legs in an artillery burst. He received treatment and



Ri Ryul Son is eager in his work.

had an artificial leg. In the late 1952, at the height of the war, he was admitted to the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts and studied in the pictorial art faculty. One day he read a newspaper report about the peasant Pak Je Gun who saved a soldier of the Chinese People’s Volunteers at the cost of his life. The fact that an ordinary simple peasant gave his life for the country, for saving a soldier from the neighbouring country, moved him deeply. That drove him to paint the picture of the peasant covering the Chinese soldier to protect him from the strafing of a US plane. The Korean painting *Peasant Pak Je Gun* was sent to the World Youth and Students Festival held in Moscow, the capital of the USSR. The *Pravda* carried a comment on the painting with a picture of many people looking round the art exhibition. Years later, he remembered that as a student of a higher learning institution during the horrible wartime, he became keenly aware of the mission of the art that reflects the phases of the

times.

After graduation, he became a teacher of his alma mater. While teaching, he struggled to discharge his responsibility as an educator rather than trying to succeed in his life of an artist. In the early 1960s, he went, with his students, to the Sinpho Fishing Station for on-the-spot practice. Most of the students went no further than painting the seascapes or working scenes of the fishermen. He said to the students, “What for have you come thus far if it is the utmost you can do to paint seascapes? You should grasp the reality of the country with political discernment and a correct aesthetic view and paint the most cardinal things. For this purpose, you should paint the figures of the fishermen who have risen in response to the fishery policy of the Party.” So such fine pictures as *Getting Ready for Sailing* and *At a Landing Stage* were produced by the students.

Remembering that he must have rich painting experience to teach efficiently with high au- ▶

► thorty over the students, he worked hard to develop his own skills. Korean painting *Tideland Reclamation* he created when he went out to the reclamation field with students for practice speaks volumes for it. It is one of his best paintings which portrays a young man and woman in padded winter clothes, gazing far out over the tideland with joyful expressions on the vast snow-covered-tideland under the dim whitish sky where tractors, bulldozers and excavators are rumbling along. The painting, done by the single stroke technique, shows the romantic life of the young workers of the Chollima era. Displayed in the National Art Exhibition, it was evaluated as an innovating work among the Korean paintings.

He has distinguished himself as a painter who has created real figure paintings by the single stroke technique, the pioneer who has developed the Korean painting in line with the modern aesthetic sense. Moreover, he has made a positive contribution to the development of the Korean painting and fine arts education by creating the pictures *Setting Sail*, *Prospects of My Home Village*, *The Building Site* and so on. He has also written many textbooks for teaching on the basis of his experience such as *The Art of Korean Painting*, *Elements of Korean Painting* and *Creation of Korean Painting*. He has many disciples. Among them are Twice Labour Heroes, People's Artists and Merited Artists.

Though old, he continues his painting with overflowing zeal. When a journalist visited him at his home some time ago, he was absorbed in painting *The Tiger on Mt. Paektu*. Before the easel, he was full of creative enthusiasm like a young man. He said, "Man does not live by age alone. When he has a clear goal in life and a strong will to gain it and his spirit

brims over with youthful passion, and vigorous strokes of the brush." he will get rich mental and artistic inspirations, brilliant ideas

An Nam Hui

Korean painting *Tiger*.



Affection and Devotion

GIRLHOOD IS FULL OF dreams and hopes. I had a lot of dreams myself as a girl. Sometimes I wanted to be a teacher, and other times I wished to be a scientist or an actress. One day my father, worker of the North Hwanghae Provincial Ceramic Factory, told me, “You know we have many laudable young people in our country. They adopt parentless children and marry honoured disabled ex-soldiers. They are performing feats in difficult projects. I want you to live as they do.” My mother always worried about the future of me, the eldest daughter, saying that I should work hard in the girlhood. Their advices helped me realize where I should be for society and the collective.

With an interest in the medical field, I became a nurse of the North Hwanghae Provincial People’s Hospital as I had wished.

One day an 18-year-old man who had saved his colleagues by checking the falling molten iron with his body was rushed to my hospital. As 70% of his whole body was burnt, he was unconscious with very little sound of breathing. Worse still, severe poisoning fell on him. Only a miracle could save him. At the time I volunteered to be his nurse. Many of my colleagues said it would be too hard for me, a novice with little experience. However, I took charge of the patient. One day when he was being treated, an unexpected bleeding occurred,

driving him to the crossroads of life and death. I rolled my sleeves up to offer him my own blood. My section chief and many other doctors and nurses dissuaded me roughly, saying, “You’ve sat up several nights attending to the patient. Your lips have blistered and your eyes are bloodshot.” Their words, however, could not suppress my urge to devote my all to the praiseworthy young man who had sacrificed himself for his comrades.

When I was leaving the treatment room after I gave my blood, the patient’s mother embraced me, saying with tearful eyes that I gave him blood instead of his kinsfolk. I told her that day that many people donated their blood.

With such a warm care and sincere devotion of many people including doctors and nurses, the patient completely recovered after the 350-odd-day-long treatment. Leaving the hospital amidst the seeing off of the medical staff, he suddenly turned back and rushed to me. Seeing him hug me in his arms warmly, the people around were moved to tears. I can never forget it.

Working as a nurse for a dozen years, I’ve looked after many patients, including two workers with burns and soldiers who had been wounded on duty. I have brought up a parentless boy since nine years ago.

The national leader Kim Jong Un appreciated my



deed that is usual with any young people in our time and saw to it that I made a speech at the Second National Conference of Model Youth of Virtue. When he had photos taken with the participants in the conference and called on us to become fine youth of the Songun era who have an attachment to styles and things of our own, cultivate attractive and noble traits and do more good jobs for the sake of society and the collective, I made up my mind. *I am a young girl in the Songun era when to devote oneself to others’ happiness is a virtue. I’ll work hard all my life for the people’s good health.*

I never expected that I would be elected a deputy to the provincial people’s assembly. Whenever I was congratulated, I said, “With us young people who have an attachment to our own things and devotion to our country and people, our country will always remain a youth power.”

*Song Yun Hui, doctor
of the North Hwanghae
Provincial People’s Hospital*

Natural Energy Tapped for Effective Use

A DYNAMIC CAMPAIGN IS GOING AHEAD in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to make positive use of natural energy.

The injection-and-circulation mode of geothermal extraction introduced by the Ministry of State Natural Resources Development and many other establishments is in great favour as it makes it possible to introduce a good air-conditioning system on the geothermal basis even in the places where there is no or little resource of water underground.

The Hamhung Woolen Textile Mill has developed a good mode of making use of the rich underground water resource in its vicinities for maximum effect of geothermal-based system of cooling and heating.

The Pyongyang International Football School is also using the subterranean water scores of metres deep underground to keep the room temperature at 18°C in winter and 15-20°C in summer.

The Yonphung Scientists Holiday Camp, the teachers' apartment houses of the Kim Chaek University of Technology, the Central Mushroom Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences, the Munsu Water Park, the Inphung Health Complex in Kanggye, the Hamhung Water Park and many other establishments and facilities are also benefiting a lot from the highly efficient geothermal-based air-conditioning system which relies on abundant water resources and smaller amount of electric consumption.

The Hoeryong College of Technology has set up four wind-driven generators which supply power for the lighting in the college buildings and dormitory as well as for the operation of scores of computers and other educational equipment. It also avoids the waste of electricity and saves power for effective use by means of a time relay.

In different places in Cholto-ri, Hwangju County, North Hwanghae Province, there are to be found fan-

driven generators, dozens in all in the community. The wind is now harnessed to generate electric power for the life of the local farm workers. The generators manufactured by the local farm itself are bringing benefit to the farm workers.

A new model of small-sized fan-driven generator developed by the Aeguk Magnet Factory is also drawing the public attention. Equipped with cone-shaped spiral fliers, this model has two times greater utility of wind force than existing ones; as it has little noise and vibration it can be set up wherever there is wind whose velocity is over 3 m/s. In addition, the Kaesong City Information and Communications Agency and many other establishments are also generating power by means of fan-driven instruments.

The Ryongnam Dockyard in Nampho City set up more than a hundred solar panels and a fan-driven generator, which produce hundreds of kilowatts of electricity a day in all. The factory is benefiting profusely from the fan-driven and photovoltaic power plant the factory erected by itself.

The Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm, Sadong District, Pyongyang, which has changed into a marvellous farming town of the 21st century, can be cited as a sample of the use of natural energy. In accord with the current trend heading for green energy the farm workers use the solar heat to warm water, use the solar light to have the lighting in the house, and burn the methane gas for cooking. In the evening solar lamps illumine the street beautifully, adding to the happy, civilized life of all the farm workers.

The number of establishments and communities solving the power problem by using solar light, solar heat, subterranean heat, wind force, hydraulic power and other kinds of richly available natural energy is increasing rapidly.

Pak Yong Il

Part of the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang.



Advanced Sci-tech Diffusion Base

SOME TIME AGO THE SCI-TECH accomplishment pavilion was opened in the Three-revolution Exhibition House. Ri Ok Hui, senior lecturer, said, "This pavilion is an advanced sci-tech diffusion base to establish the spirit of valuing science and technology in the whole society and make the entire people learn up-to-date science and technology."

On display in the pavilion are the sci-tech gains of scientific research and educational institutions, factories and other enterprises and also the cutting-edge technology and intellectual property, so that their sci-tech contents, technical and economic effi-

ciencies and experience of their introduction are propagated and that necessary technical exchanges are conducted. On show at the 17 exhibit stands are over 1 220 items of goods in 600-odd varieties resulting from the studies, investigations and patriotic zeal of scientists, technicians and working people. All of the exhibits had been rated high in national sci-tech festivals, exhibitions and shows. The semiconductor DC welding machine submitted by the electronic technical goods research institute of the Ministry of Electronics Industry is highly efficient and easy to use and so obtained a patent. It is now in great demand across the world.

On display is the screw rotor manufactured by the Ryongsong Machine Complex whose technicians and workers completed the geothermal pump in a year by finishing the processing of propyl with their own techniques. They did so in spite of some people's allegation that it would take several years.

Women crowd at the cosmetics stand where various kinds of cosmetics made of natural materials at the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory are on display. The medicine stand shows insam (ginseng) flour, insam complex condiment, biological beauty film, synthetic nutritional liquid, and so on produced by the Jangsu



▶ Insam Processing Factory of the Korea Jangsu Trading Company. The medicines are popular because they are good for promotion of people's health.

The "Dried flower decorations" made by the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection, too, catch eyes of visitors.

On display at the agricultural stand are corn seed coaters, natural biological activators, herbicides and insecticides and other fruits of researches. The agricultural chemicals dampeners produced by the plant protection research institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science draw the attention of agricultural scientists and technicians.

The visitors say what is noteworthy is the fact that new fruits of researches are constantly added to the exhibits and that parts made by new techniques predominate in the show heightening the exhibition efficiency in contrast to the past when most of the exhibits were finished goods.

Besides showing the new achievements of science and technology, the pavilion supplies technical data and plays the role of middleman in technical exchanges, too. At the salesroom of products of the cutting-edge technology and intellectual property opened here, goods including the products displayed at the pavilion are on sale. More and more people visit the pavilion amidst the growing interest in it.

Kim Hyon Ju



Animation *The Boy General*

THERE IS THE KOREAN April 26 Animation Studio in downtown Pyongyang. In the past the studio produced a lot of single-part animations including *A Butterfly and a Cock*, *The Story of Two Generals* and *The Hedgehog Defeats the Tiger*, and multi-part animations like *A Squirrel and a Hedgehog*, *The Boy General* (1-50) and *The Clever Raccoon Dog*, to meet the children's mind.

Recently the studio newly made the sequels of the multi-part animation *The Boy General* which had left deep impression on not only the children but also the adults. The animation was once finished in 50 parts, but later the studio decided to continue it up to the 100th part. The new sequels of *The Boy General* show how the fully-fledged young man Soeme, the past boy general, defends his country of Koguryo and the neighbouring tribes and displays his resources and gallantry to the full for peace and security in the region. The new sequels, showing many close scenes of complicated hardships that stand in Soeme's way time and again, alternately tighten and loosen the grip of the audience and arouse laughter and indignation, making a great sensation among people.

This animation shows well the Korean people's history and excellent tradition by representing the historical facts and environment in the period of Koguryo, the 1 000-year-long power in the East.

In fact, there were not a few difficulties in creating new sequels. To meet the demand of the audience, the producers had to make them fresh with a combina-

tion of classical and modern feelings, apart from the previous formula. They found out one by one the historical data in the Academy of Social Sciences and the Pyongyang Folk Park as well as the Grand People's Study House to know better the militaristic spirit, historical facts and incidents of the relevant society.

In this course they wove the story with the seed that patriotism for the country goes down generation after generation. With a story of the envoy, restoration of relations between Koguryo and the Kingdom of Tolthan, and

other materials, the new sequels show historical facts, drawing a great attention of people. In particular, the creators opened a new phase in animation making by widening the sphere of subject presentation and introducing various kinds of methods of depiction.

All the staff members of the studio are now pooling their wisdom to create many animations of various subjects including those of history, scientific knowledge and traffic rules.

Rim Hye Gyong



 조선만화영화
Korean Animation



소년장수

" Boy General "

Pyongyang, Cradle of Korean Nation (3)

Pyongyang Area as Centre of the Korean Nation's Evolution (2)

WITH PYONGYANG AREA as the centre, the ancient Koreans in the Neolithic era formed a homogeneous nation with the same blood, culture and language. They established a colourful culture with distinguished tribal and regional features.

By shapes of earthenware articles unearthed, the Neolithic culture was divided into the Kungsan type (the Neolithic culture found in the Pyongyang area centred on the remains unearthed in Unha-ri, Onchon County, Nampho), the Sophohang type (the Neolithic culture in the northeastern part of Korea centred on the remains unearthed in Sophohang, Sonbong District, Rason City) and some others. Korea's culture in the Neolithic era was also divided into the Unha culture, Misong culture and Sophohang culture. This shows that the Neolithic culture in Korea is distinguishable from region to region for the realm of distribution.

In the Neolithic era there existed the cultural community, or characteristics of the unique culture rising above tribal and regional differences. The Neolithic people made various kinds of earthenware vessels for different usages, and a typical and traditional shape was those with deep bottom. Many kinds of patterns were engraved on the vessel surface by several methods. The patterns of dotted line, fir leaf and oblique line were the traditional ones that can be found in vessels with engraved patterns in all times and regions of the Neolithic era. Therefore, the earthen-



Koryo celadon.

ware with engraved patterns constituted the main trend in the era.

With the passage of time, the Neolithic culture developed into multifarious one with more abundant content. However, the inherent cultural properties became consolidated, and thus gave a great contribution to the upkeep of the uniformity in the emotional and aesthetic aspect. This is evident in all aspects of the earthenware qualities including the decoration of earthenware surface, shape and ground clay. The typical example is the Koryo ceramics with extraordinary colour, pattern and shape. From of old, the Korean people were fond of elegant, decent, tender, soft, simple and delicate qualities. Such national fancies of the Koreans are fully reflected in the Koryo ceramics. Jade green celadon is the most famous of the Koryo ceramics. The Koryo ceramics are clear and beautiful like jade and are made by simple and elegant methods to engrave

cloud, crane, reed and wild goose as patterns to suit their shapes. That is why the Koryo ceramics are regarded as valuable treasure.

This aesthetic fancy of the Korean people comes from the earthenware of the Neolithic era. Giving soft, tender and comfortable feelings, the characteristics of the Neolithic earthenware with simple and clear decorations were handed down to the posterity as a traditional vessel shape and surface decoration.

In the Neolithic era the lingual community took shape. The same language made it possible to unite many primitive tribes as a nation and create a unified culture. Though each tribe had its special dialect, the same language was formed to incorporate them all. This gave a great stimulus to the establishment of the inherent and unified culture and gave rise to unique customs and tradition that went down in history.

(To be continued)

Ul Tu Ji's Wisdom

IN THE EARLY FIRST century Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668) faced a grave crisis. In the summer of 28, foreign aggressors came in great force to conquer it. The King summoned his chief vassals and consulted with them about how to defend the country against the invaders. Right Minister Song Ok Gu offered his opinion that the large troops of the enemy could be routed if the Koguryo forces, though small in number, took the vantage grounds of the steep mountains and made surprise attacks on the intruders. The King asked him to explain it in concrete terms. The Right Minister remained silent, merely glancing round at other ministers as if he wanted their help. But they kept silent, drooping their heads; it seemed that they, too, had no plan worthy of mention.

Displeased at this, the King rose from his seat and moved right and left, folding his hands behind his back. At this moment, Left Minister Ul Tu Ji moved a step forward and presented his opinion to the King, “The numerically superior enemy should be defeated not by force, but by wisdom, I presume.” At this, the King asked him what to do to beat off the enemy by wisdom. The Left Minister answered, “The enemy must have marched into our country with full preparation and in high spirits, so we should lure them deep into our mountainous land to make them dog-tired before we assault and beat them off without difficulty.”

The King made up his mind to follow Ul's idea. So, the enemy was enticed deep into the country, while all preparations were made to firmly defend the capital city. The enemy came forcing their way through to the capital of Koguryo,

leaving countless corpses behind, and laid siege and attacked it incessantly. Hearing that the capital city was in danger, Koguryo soldiers rushed to it from various parts of the country, but they could not enter it because of the enemy's blockade. For scores of days, the Koguryo army defended the capital city firmly, dealing heavy blows to the numerically stronger enemy troops. They waited for the enemy to be exhausted while fighting back their attacks, but the besiegers did not let up their offensive.

Meanwhile, the conditions in the city became worse. The long defensive battle wore out the soldiers and drinking water was running low. Even the water of the pond in the yard of the royal palace where carps were bred for ornament nearly dried up. The surviving carps were about to die. In this difficult situation the King summoned Ul Tu Ji and asked him in anxiety, “Wouldn't it have been better if we had gone out and engaged the enemy from the first? Waiting for them to be fagged out, we ourselves seem to be unable to stand the hardships any more. What should we do now?” Ul Tu Ji replied calmly, “As we decided to beat them off by virtue of wisdom, we must keep to it.”

To this, the King asked back, “The situation is getting worse and worse, and what is the use of wisdom?”

“When we are so tired while fighting in our own land,” Ul replied with composure, “the invaders must be more tired fighting in a foreign land far away from their home. If you give me some carps, I think I can get them to retreat.”

“Carps?” retorted the King in surprise.

“Yes,” Ul continued, “they are

now keeping up the siege stubbornly in the hope that we'll surrender in the end for want of water, aware that our capital city lies on a rock bed. Now, when I go to their quarters with these carps still full of life, they'll be frustrated in their hope and want no more to fight.” The King gave him a reluctant consent half in doubt.

Then, Ul Tu Ji went out to the enemy camp and met their commander. Presenting him with the live carps and a good wine, he said, “Our King, often looking out of the walls, felt very sorry for you suffering hardship far away from home and sends you these presents. So, please accept them for his good will.”

This flabbergasted the enemy commander who had expected that the Koguryo army would surrender after the long siege. In fact, he thought that in view of the lie of the land, the city had a meager source of water. So, he hoped that the lack of food and water owing to the long siege would make the Koguryo army surrender. But unexpectedly, live carps appeared. This meant there were ponds with plenty of water in the city. “Now that we have run out of provisions and our exhausted soldiers can fight no more,” he concluded, “it is as clear as day that any longer siege will lead us nowhere.”

That night the enemy began to withdraw. The Koguryo army lost no time in giving hot chase to the fleeing enemy troops cutting them down right and left. Less than half the enemy soldiers survived and ran away.

A military commander of Koguryo who routed the foreign invaders by dint of wisdom, Ul Tu Ji added a brilliant page to the Korean people's history of war against foreign aggressors. □

Idea of Unity and Reunification

THE KOREAN PEOPLE WHO HAVE suffered untold sufferings and misfortunes for scores of years since national division eagerly want reconciliation and unity between the north and the south, and peace and reunification of the country.

To open a broad avenue of independent reunification by making a great turn in the inter-Korean relations is the consistent standpoint of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. From this stand the DPRK has made all possible efforts to improve the north-south relations and achieve independent reunification under the motto of "By our nation itself."

The Korean nation became fully aware of the vitality of the motto as an accurate and just idea that makes it possible to solve the reunification issue of the country in accordance with the aspiration and desire of the nation and the common interests of the north and the south. In 2000 the north-south summit meeting took place in Pyongyang for the first time after division, adopting the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration. Afterwards, various kinds of talks including the north-south minister-level talks were held to solve practical problems in the spirit of trust and cooperation. Through the dialogue different methods were developed to promote reconciliation and unity, the way of cooperation and exchange opened, and relevant measures taken to ease the tension.

A big progress made in implementing the June 15 Joint Declaration ushered in the time of reconciliation and cooperation between both sides of Korea that had been harassed with confrontation, tension and mistrust for more than half a century, and a bright prospect was opened for national reunification. Between the north and the south, the barrier of misunderstanding and mistrust collapsed, severed railways and roads were reconnected, and air and sea routes opened. National independence and cooperation became the general trend and the north and the south of Korea pursued common interests from the stand of "By our nation itself." In the course of this, an epoch-making development was brought about in the inter-Korean relations. With the idea of "By our nation itself," the Korean nation pushed vigorously ahead with improvement of the north-south relations and the cause of independent reunification, filled with the enthusiasm for national reunification and firmly rallied as one with patriotism. Such events nurtured the confidence and optimism that when the Korean people join hands to solve problems of the nation, issues of the north-south relations, they can achieve independent reunification, peace and prosperity without difficulty.

The DPRK has spared no efforts to reject the

foreign forces that were and are trying to lay an obstacle in solving the Korean nation's internal problems and fish in troubled waters of fratricidal confrontation. It has worked hard to settle issues arising between the two sides with the nation's concerted efforts in an independent way. Last year alone, it put forth proposals to save the inter-Korean relations from the catastrophic situation and took a number of important measures successively. It called upon the entire Korean nation to turn last year marking the 70th anniversary of national liberation into a year of great change to open up a broad vista of independent reunification by turning out as one in a nationwide campaign to reunify the country—this appeal touched the heart of the whole nation. Then, by way of an appeal from the conference of the government, parties and organizations, it put forth broad-minded and unusual proposals for improvement of the north-south relations, and took relevant measures.

In August last year when the Korean peninsula was thrown into the worst situation over confrontation, the DPRK removed the hair-trigger crisis of armed conflict through an emergency north-south high-ranking contact, and thus defended the destiny of the Korean nation and peace and security of the country from the danger of the nuclear war and made an occasion of a dramatic turn to improved north-south relations.

In the present acute and complicated situation the only reliance is the fellow countrymen, and if the north and the south join efforts, they will be able to overcome whatever hardships and do whatever they want. It is unreasonable to think the Korean nation can solve problems of the inter-Korean relations or the issue of the country's reunification, an internal matter of the nation, by relying on foreign forces. The history of the north-south relations full of vicissitudes is riddled with interferences of the foreign forces that do not want the Korean nation to be reconciled, united and reunified independently.

Responsible for improved inter-Korean relations are the north and the south, and the Korean nation alone has the power to improve the north-south relations and achieve peace and reunification.

History has proved that dependence on outside forces leads the country to ruin. If the north and the south, on the basis of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and the October 4 Declaration, have positive dialogue, negotiation, exchange and contacts while giving priority to the nation's community and transcending differences, the inter-Korean relations will get on the track of improvement and head for national reunification.

Rim Hye Gyong

Denial of a Defeat Will Bring About Another Defeat

LAST YEAR THE MAN IN AUTHORITY in Japan made a statement on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat in the Pacific War, inviting strong displeasure and public censure from the world. In Japan voices rang out sharply referring to it as "a deceptive talk with no apology at all," "a statement concealing his own thoughts in quotations," and "a demonstration of his intention to change the understanding of history." Even in the United States, kin to Japan, comments of "inadequate apology" were overflowing, while the south Korean authorities denounced it as "a statement given to evading their responsibility with diplomatic rhetorics" instead of sincere apology for and self-examination of their aggression and colonial rule in the past.

Japan laid the legal foundation for overseas dispatch of the Self-Defense Forces by enacting the "law on contingencies in the vicinities," "law related to contingencies" and "law on special measures against terrorism" and constantly stepped up moves for militaristic reinvasion on the international scale such as advance to the oceans by striking forces of aircraft carriers, expansion of the operational sphere by means of the latest strategic air strikers, and worldwide advance in the name of "support to global peace."

In last century, militarist Japan seized the whole of the Korean peninsula and the vast areas of the Eurasian continent in an attempt to become the "leader of the East." Today they are obsessed with a desire to restore the war state and have gone to the length of aspiring after nuclear armament, discarding even the formal "three non-nuclear principles." In particular, Japan's sinister design to embark on aggression once again is plainly manifested in its ambition to grab Korea as the bridgehead for reinvasion upon the continent. Under the pretext of "the unforeseeable threat of nuclear-armed north Korea," the Japanese ruling circles framed up a new "Japan-US defence cooperation guideline" in April last year and thus provided themselves with justification and military conditions for interven-

tion in case of "contingency in the Korean peninsula" through the exercise of "the right to collective self-defence." This action of the ultra-right conservative forces in power arouse the indignation of the Korean people who suffered an indescribably huge loss of manpower and material and mental damages in the past.

Japan's unlawful occupation of Korea and heinous atrocities against the Koreans during its over 40-year-long mediaeval colonial rule can never be erased or covered up for ever. In spite of the lapse of time, the Korean people cannot forget Japan's high immoral crimes. The Japanese killed over one million innocent people of Korea, forcibly drafted over 8.4 million Koreans and put them to murderous slave labour; and abducted 200 000 young Korean women making them serve the Japanese army as sexual slaves. Japan's crimes were most barbarous and outrageous unprecedented in history: it enforced the vicious policy for the destruction of the Korean nation, trying to obliterate its time-honoured history and traditions extending over five thousand years and even to deprive its people of their family names, given names, written and spoken language, driving iron piles all over its picturesque land in an attempt to kill the soul of Tangun Korea, and robbing it of its standard time to tune it to the Japanese time. Japan committed heinous immoral crimes not only in Korea but in the vast land of China and many other places of Asia.

The past is often compared to a light which illuminates the present time and future. It is advisable to rectify the present mistakes in the light of the past wrongs and turn over a new leaf. Japan should stop its trick to avoid its responsibilities for the past wrongs done to the peoples of Korea and other nations of Asia, while glossing over its past crimes against the United States by making a pretence of apologizing for them. The militarist Japan is grossly miscalculating. They must know that the denial of a defeat will surely bring about another defeat.

Kim Yong Un

Obstacle to Korea's Reunification

OLD HABITS DIE HARD, AND THIS IS THE case with the United States. In the public it argues for peace in the Korean peninsula, but behind the scene it aggravates the inter-Korean relations and takes the situation to extremes. It is the main obstacle to Korea's reunification.

Since its occupation of south Korea the US, pursuing permanent division of Korea, has hampered reunification of the Korean peninsula. After liberation of Korea on August 15, 1945 the US stood unyieldingly in the way of the Korean people's effort to establish a unified democratic government and made up a puppet regime headed by Syngman Rhee in the southern half of the peninsula.

It blatantly violated even the international law by permanently occupying south Korea instead of drawing lessons from its defeat in the Korean war (June 1950–July 1953), in an attempt to use it to dominate the world. The US frustrated deliberately the political conference for peaceful settlement of the Korean issue stipulated in the armistice agreement, and the Geneva conference of foreign ministers to arbitrate the Korean issue by way of negotiation. Later, it ignored the UN resolution on withdrawal of the GIs from south Korea, checking Korea's reunification.

Whenever the trend towards reconciliation, cooperation and peaceful reunification mounted in the Korean peninsula, Washington intentionally deteriorated the inter-Korean relations. It manipulated the May 16 military coup to dampen the rising zeal for reunification of the Koreans of all strata in the wake of the April 19 Popular Uprising in south Korea in the 1960s. And when the nation's yearning for reunification got stronger following the publication of the July 4 Joint Statement in the 1970s, it threw a wet blanket over the enthusiasm through the "two Koreas" plot while asserting "cross recognition" and "simultaneous entry into the UN."

The American moves to interrupt the implementation of the historic June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and the October 4 Declaration are an unpardonable challenge to the unanimous aspiration of the Korean people working to achieve the country's reunification by national reconciliation and unity. When the June 15 Joint Declaration won strong support at home and abroad the US threateningly warned the south Korean authorities that "it is taboo to have an illusion about the north," and that "reunification is important, but interests of the US are of primary importance." Moreover, it blocked the implementation of the October 4 Declaration, asserting that "the approval of the UN Command is prerequisite to the issue of the Northern Limit Line," and that "the large-scale economic cooperation may weaken the six-party talks." It has also hindered every affair of the many-sided dialogue, negotiation, cooperation and exchange between the

north and the south of Korea.

Last year the DPRK, reflecting the nation's desire and will to put an end to the tragedy of national division spanning 70-odd years, made a positive proposal to bring about a great turn in the inter-Korean relations. The United States, however, forced the south Korean authorities to give up dialogue, openly putting pressure on it by arguing that "the US would not sit idle if there is an atmosphere of improving the north-south relations."

The US's moves for division of Korea find their expression in the fact that it brought the inter-Korean relations from bad to worse by the anti-DPRK "human rights" campaign. Having understood that the previous strategy to disarm the DPRK through nuclear abandonment first came to deadlock, the US launched a "human rights" campaign and systematically intensified it. It made frantic moves to internationalize the anti-DPRK "human rights" fuss; it made the "north Korean human rights act" by mobilizing Congress, and instigated the UN Human Rights Council to organize a coordination board in the UN which is said to manage the DPRK's human rights situation exclusively. In this, it incited the south Korean authorities to take the lead in the smear campaign.

The White House, officials of the US State Department and Defence Department and experts on Korean studies vyingly asserted that it was not the first time that "north Korea broke the promise" and that it was necessary to "wait and see." They held a "seminar on human rights in north Korea" on an unprecedented scale in the US in a bid to spread a negative opinion about the DPRK and drive a wedge between the north and the south. They egged the south Korean authorities on to resume broadcasting propaganda, asserting that it was the "best way" to change the north's attitude. Spreading the "theory of the north's provocation in October" they hurled a special warfare unit of the 10th Mountaineering Division of the US Army from the US mainland into south Korea in an attempt to escalate the military tension on the Korean peninsula.

Last year the US refused to accept the DPRK's reasonable proposal for the US to make a contribution to easing the tension in the Korean peninsula by halting US-south Korea joint military exercises in and around the southern half of the Korean peninsula. Instead it drew nuclear-powered submarine *Olympia* into the East and South seas of Korea to wage joint exercises. This clearly shows who is the culprit of the tension in the Korean peninsula.

The facts mentioned give tangible proof that the United States is the chieftain of Korea's division, root cause of the danger of a nuclear war in the Korean peninsula and main obstacle to improvement of the inter-Korean relations and reunification.

Kim Il Bong

The Full-service Ship *Mujigae*

THE SHIP CAN SEAT 1 230 CUSTOMERS at a time and serve them popular local and foreign dishes along with sightseeing of the picturesque Taedong River onboard. It is fully equipped with modern service facilities including a national dish restaurant, a soft-drink room, a party room, a banquet hall, a buffet restaurant, an open-air deck restaurant, a revolving restaurant and a shop.



