Kim Jong Un with the delegates to the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Children’s Union [June Juche 105 (2016)]
A national meeting is held to mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KCU and photo exhibition. The anniversary was celebrated in other parts of the country. The celebration events held in the hope-filled period when the dawn of a bright future of a thriving socialist nation is breaking as envisaged in the blueprint advanced by the historic Seventh Congress of the WPK, demonstrated the revolutionary spirit of the children’s organization of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il that is advancing forcefully following the leadership of Kim Jong Un.

Article: Kim Hyon
Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA

A joint national meeting of the KCU organizations is held in celebration of the 70th anniversary of its founding. Delegates to the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KCU look round several parts of Pyongyang.

A ceremony is held for the donation of Sonyon (children) multiple-launch rocket systems to the Korean People’s Army.
All-People Resistance Set as Key to Korea’s Liberation

On August 9, Juche 34 (1945) Commander Kim Il Sung of the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army ordered his units to launch the final offensive for national liberation. According to this order, the soldiers of the KPA dealt a crushing blow to the Japanese forces of aggression as they were advancing to Korea.

The people’s armed corps, revolt organizations and broad sections of the masses responded by waging a dynamic struggle to harass the enemy’s rear, assaulting their organs for colonial rule all over the country.

In January Juche 32 (1943), with keen insight into the rapidly-changing situation, Kim Il Sung called a meeting of military and political cadres of the KPA. At this meeting he set forth the three-point line of achieving the historic cause of national liberation—launching the final offensive of the KPA, all-people resistance and combined operations in the enemy’s rear. Then he energetically led the struggle to this end.

In the latter half of the 1930s, he had secret bases set up in the vast areas including the Mt Paektu area. Then he had them strengthened as political and military bases for all-people resistance. He also sent small units, groups and political operatives of the KPA to establish temporary secret bases of various sizes and kinds in the depth of mountains in Korea. Subsequently, temporary secret bases sprang up in the numerous areas of strategic importance from the northern part of the country to its inland regions, as well as in the vast areas of Manchuria. This gave a strong impetus to the preparations for all-people resistance.

At these secret bases, which served as military and political bases for all-people resistance, in different parts of the country including Mt Kuwol, Yangdok, Mt Muda, Koksan, Mt Sari and Thachuek, the members of the resistance groups made preparations for the showdown with the Japanese imperialists, conducting such drills as file training, tactical training and shooting under the guidance of the small units of the KPA.

The members of the revolt organizations and other people in the country captured weapons from the enemy, at the same time as making rifles and bombs by themselves. They also worked hard to obtain food, clothes and medical supplies, as part of the preparations for the armed revolt.

Revolt organizations under various names were active in many areas including Pyongyang and Kyongsong. Among them were the National Liberation Corps organized in Pyongyang by Kim Won Ju and other revolutionary young people, and Kim Il Sung Corps based in Kyongsong, which branched out into other parts of the country and even Japan.

In this way the people’s armed corps, revolt organizations and broad sections of the masses formed a powerful resistance force. They assaulted the Japanese ruling organs in Korea under the KPA’s operational plan for the final offensive.

The KPA’s final offensive combined with the all-people resistance, led by Kim Il Sung, brought the ruin of Japan. Thus, on August 15, Juche 34 (1945) Korea was liberated.

Indeed, Kim Il Sung performed immortal exploits by inspiring the whole nation under the banner of all-people resistance to repulse the formidable Japanese aggressors and achieve the historic cause of national liberation. His exploits will shine for ever, along with the prospering country.

Article: Kim Kum Chol
Invincible Army

The DPRK August 25 is celebrated as the Day of Songun, the day when Kim Jong Il began his Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

To mark this day, upholding the spirit of the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea, the Korean service personnel and other people are redoubling their efforts in high spirits to step up the general offensive for developing theirs into a powerful socialist country. They recollect with deep emotion the exploits he performed by dint of his Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

Mt. Taedok is one of the meaningful places associated with his exploits.

On February 6, Juche 52 (1963), in company with President Kim Il Sung, he inspected the unit of the Korean People’s Army on Mt Taedok. It is within hailing distance from the Military Demarcation Line.

That day he climbed up to the observation post and gave a steady look at a pylon standing on the side of a hill on the Military Demarcation Line with the electric cables cut off southward. Then he told the soldiers that they should be determined to re-link the silverly high-tension cables, and stressed that they must do so by taking up the rifles their parents handed over to them.

These instructions implied that the soldiers on Mt Taedok and all other service personnel should be fully conscious of the historic responsibility they assume in achieving the cause of the country’s reunification, the long-cherished desire of the nation, by force of arms.

That day, President Kim Il Sung presented the militant slogan “A-match-for-a-hundred” for the KPA to uphold. To the officers, who were fully determined to carry out the task, Kim Jong Il said: the intrinsic requirement of this slogan is that each soldier should be prepared as a match for a hundred foes not only in defence but also in attack.

On March 18, Juche 85 (1996), 33 years after that, Kim Jong Il visited the unit again. For a long time he learned in detail about its combat preparations and the soldiers’ living conditions. He set out the operational and tactical measures to make the post impregnable. He stressed the need to intensify political and ideological education of the soldiers and take parental care of them. Then he gave them a submachine gun, an automatic rifle and a pair of binoculars as souvenirs and posed for a photograph with them.

Thanks to his 50-odd-year-long Songun-based leadership, which started on August 25, Juche 49 (1960), the KPA has been developed into the powerful revolutionary army of Mt Paektu. Prepared politically, ideologically and in military techniques, it has safeguarded socialism and the country reliably.

Now Kim Jong Un is adding glory to the immortal achievements Kim Jong Il, the brilliant Songun commander, made in building up the KPA as an invincible army by dint of his energetic leadership.

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Article: Pak Kwang Ok
Youth Movement Museum

The Youth Movement Museum, crystallizing the history of the ennobling love for the young people cherished by the peerlessly great persons of Mt Paektu, was inaugurated in January this year, marking the 70th anniversary of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League.

Built on Kim Jong Un’s proposal and under his meticulous guidance, the museum occupies an area of over 20,000 sq metres and a total floor space of more than 10,460 sq metres. It has a general introduction hall, 14 exhibition halls, a large diorama and an e-reading area.

In the general introduction hall are colour statues depicting President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il with young people and schoolchildren. Photographs of the great leaders and relics associated with their leadership of the Korean youth movement are preserved in the exhibition halls according to the important periods of the Korean revolution.

Displayed in hall 1 are materials that show that Kim Il Sung, trailblazer and leader of the Korean youth movement, entered Hwaung Uisuk School in June Juche 15 (1926) and formed the Down-with-Imperialism Union in October that year embracing hot-blooded young men of the new generation and indicated with foresight the goals of the Korean revolution and the road for the Korean young people to take.

Hall 2 is devoted to the period after national liberation, when Kim Il Sung founded the Democratic Youth League of North Korea on January 17, Juche 35 (1946) in order to rally the young people behind a democratic mass organization, and aroused them to actively turn out in the effort to build a new, democratic Korea.

Displayed in hall 3 are materials about the young people who, under the close concern of the great leader, left imprints of their worthwhile life in the development of the youth movement in the 1950s. In less than two months after the outbreak of the Korean war by the armed invasion of the US imperialists on June 25, 1950, over 1,300,000 young men and women volunteered to the front, and of the 600 war-time heroes, 400 were young people. After the war they played a vanguard role by volunteering to work in the labour-intensive, challenging sectors such as postwar reconstruction sites and coal and ore mines.

Displayed in the next hall are materials about the largest-ever torchlit procession of youth and students that took place in Pyongyang on November 4, Juche 45 (1956).

Halls on the second floor are devoted to the undying exploits performed by Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il in the periods of epochal development of the Korean youth movement.

With a deep analysis of the requirements of the developing Korean revolution and the prevailing situation in the first half of the 1960s, Kim Il Sung put forward the revolutionary line of reorganizing the Democratic Youth League of Korea into the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea at the Fifth Congress of the DYLK, and guided the work to this end.
Books off the Press

On the occasion of the Day of the Sun, the greatest national holiday for the Korean people, foreign presses translated, and published in pamphlets, the immortal classic works by Kim Il Sung, Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Un.

With the names of the great leaders printed in relief on their front covers, the books have prefaces that sum up their imperishable exploits in strengthening the Workers’ Party of Korea, achieving national reunification and promoting the cause of global independence.

Twenty-five countries, including Russia, India, Iran, Ethiopia, South Africa, Germany and Austria, published 19,170 copies of the works in 18 kinds and 13 languages.

To mark the Day of the Sun ceremonies were held in many countries for the publication of the books.
The Workers’ Party of Korea plans to turn the country into a socialist fairyland covered with forests in the near future by pressing on with the forest restoration campaign. According to this plan, the soldier builders, scientists and technicians built Tree Nursery No. 122 of the Korean People’s Army in a short period.

Covering a total area of hundreds of hectares, the tree nursery is situated in a valley surrounded on three sides by low hills. It is divided into three districts—forest district, production district and residential district for its employees; it also has office buildings, hall of culture, primary school, daily care centres and public service amenities.

Sapling production has been put on a scientific, industrial and intensive footing; this year the volume of production has increased 3.3 times. All the processes ranging from seed selection and treatment, planting and growing to packaging, as well as substrate production and sapling storage facilities, are distributed in an intensive way.

The most important of all are seven glass and hard plastic pane greenhouses. The saplings grow in these greenhouses that are equipped with such machines as sunshine screen, sprinkling and vaporizing devices, ventilator and observing machine. After a certain period of time they are transplanted to the outdoor adaptation area. In this way the tree nursery cultivates saplings twice a year.

Also, saplings and trees grow in the modernly-equipped outdoor cultivation ground, testing area for acclimatization and round cutting beds.

An efficient integrated computer control system has been established to provide the most suitable conditions for the cultivation of saplings including temperature, humidity, sunlight, content of carbon dioxide, ventilation, irrigation and application of nutritive solutions.

The tree nursery can be called a land- and manpower-saving plant that demonstrates the level of the country’s science and technology. This is testified by the fact that, in addition to the above control system, 80 per cent of the equipment such as those for judging gravity, removing blades of seeds and treating seeds, sowing assembly line and weather surveyor have been developed by Korean scientists and technicians.

The tree nursery boasts a research team that can lead the country in developing forest science and diffusing sapling-nursing technology. Its annual output is over 20 million saplings. It means that every year it can produce saplings for over 3,000 hectares; 6,000 saplings per hectare.

Today the tree nursery, as the “arsenal and outpost” in the forest restoration campaign, has a considerable role to play in covering the whole country with trees and flowers.

Article: Choe Ki Song
Photo: Ri Kwang Song
An efficient integrated control system has been established to provide the most suitable conditions for the cultivation of saplings including temperature, humidity, sunlight, content of carbon dioxide, ventilation, irrigation and application of nutritive solution.
The research team can lead the country in developing forest science.

Houses of the employees, educational and cultural facilities, and public service amenities have been built.
To Implement the Decisions of the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea

The Tanchon Smeltery, a nonferrous metal producer, is bringing about innovations in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development, now that the whole country, with great dignity and pride in having celebrated the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea as a glorious meeting of victors, is conducting a 200-day campaign to carry out the important tasks set out by the congress.

The employees are conducting a brisk mass technical innovation drive with the aim of putting the production lines and equipment on a modern and IT footing and using locally-available raw materials and fuel.

They have ensured full operation of equipment by building up the capacity for processing parts and accessories, particularly those related to the major lines for calcination and liquefying.

They have introduced a new automatic control system of feeding ore concentrate in the calcination process, so as to adjust the indices for technical processes in line with the scientific and technical requirements and thus increase the output of quenching agents.

They succeeded in renewing the duct line system to raise the rate of lixiviation while reducing consumption of electricity and resolved the technical problems in improving the efficiency of the wind-cooling tower, which is essential to the electrolysis process.

The wind-cooling tower, a product of the smeltery, is recognized as innovative; its performance is twice higher than the old one and it is free from corrosion.

The workers and technicians have newly built a zinc oxide process to ensure cost-effectiveness in zinc production.

This process helps a great deal towards mass-producing zinc oxide by reprocessing the sludge from the electric zinc production process.

In this way the smeltery has proved in practice that what is vital to increased production is the spirit of self-reliance and self-development and the scientific and technological foundations. With the main emphasis on technical innovation it is striving to maintain regular production.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Ri Myong Guk
Pyongyang Sports Equipment and Materials Factory

The DPRK set building a sports power as its important policy and has achieved many successes in this sector.

In June the Pyongyang Sports Equipment and Materials Factory was built in the sports village in Chongchun Street.

Covering a total floor space of 9,930 sq metres, the factory is well equipped to produce a variety of sports equipment and materials that are in great demand among the professionals, students and working people. It has put its production and business operation on a highly modern and IT footing.

The shop floor consists of the lines for preparations and production of balls and nets.

These lines have been put on an automated basis: automatic tube-moulding machine, tube vulcanizer, cup assembler, automatic spooling machine, rubber wrapping machine and many other machines have been developed by the scientists and technicians of the Controlled Machine Research Institute under the State Academy of Sciences.

The factory produces scores of kinds of balls, gloves, nets, sports uniforms, magnesium powder, auxiliary devices and others, all used for competition, teaching, exercise and physical protection by players and coaches.

It has set up a quality control system to satisfy international standards. It also has a R&D section for the development of new shapes, trademark designs and products and for the use of locally-available raw and other materials.

It produces various kinds of sports equipment and materials including balls and gloves for football, volleyball, basketball, hockey, tennis, boxing and shooting players.

Its Taesongsan-brand products are very popular among sportspeople, children and working people.

Now the employees are striving hard to boost production so as to implement the decisions of the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Article: Pak Yong Jo
Photo: An Chol Ryong
Aquaculture in Ongjin Bay

Ongjin Bay in the West Sea of Korea is well known for its favourable conditions for aquaculture. For a vast stretch of tideland, nearby islets, and optimal water quality and salinity, the region has long been an ideal habitat for shellfish and marine plants such as laver, sea tangle and seaweed.

The species of laver unique to Ongjin is relatively bigger, and it is widely known as a specialty of the region. For its peculiar quality and taste, it is conserved as one of the country’s natural monuments.

The Ongjin offshore culture station, by taking advantage of the natural and geographical conditions, has laid out an area of hundreds of hectares for raising laver, sea tangle, seaweed and other plants. The officials and employees of the station work in a responsible manner to keep the facilities in the area in a good state of maintenance, while striving to introduce advanced science and technology.

Having introduced superior species of sea tangle in close collaboration with scientific research institutes, the station has developed some innovative ideas including those for raising the productivity of sea tangle by buoyant force and artificial breeding of a species of seaweed.

It is increasing the output of the laver by providing favourable conditions for spores and making effective use of grids. It has also set up areas for shellfish farming, taking into account the ecological features of each species, and manages them in a scientific way.

A bumper harvest visits the bay thanks to the devotion of the workers who are resolved to enrich the people’s diet.

Article: Pak Hun
Photo: An Phyong Yon
The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station was built in the Paektu area as a monumental structure of lasting significance in the flames of creating a Mallima speed, a new speed of the era, on the general advance of Songun Korea for the final victory of the Juche revolution.

It was in October last year that units 1 and 2 of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station were built in over 120 days, an amount of work equal to what had been done in the previous ten years. Unit 3 of the power station was built in only half a year since then.

With the completion of the construction of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, dams, large artificial lakes like Paektu Hero Youth Lake and hundreds of houses made their appearances, presenting socialist scenery in the primeval forests of the Paektu Plateau along the tens-of-kilometres-long upper stream of the Sodu.

The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station is a crystallization of the deep trust and love of Kim Jong Un for the young people, whom he has raised as masters of the great Paektusan youth power.

In April last year he gave field guidance at the construction site of the power station, and spoke highly of the feats of labour performed by the young people, calling the country with a large contingent of such fine young people a youth power. In September he inspected the construction site again and gave instructions on how to complete the project as quickly as possible. The following month he attended the inauguration ceremony of units 1 and 2, and made a speech, in which he placed a great trust in the young builders—to complete unit 3 by the Youth Day (August 28) in 2016.

The measures he took for the construction project and the wintering for the young builders instilled in them fresh energy and passion.

Burning their hearts with a death-defying spirit, the young builders buckled down to their task. The construction of the power station was itself an unprecedented nature-remaking project that had to be conducted under the worst natural and geographical conditions in the country’s history of building hydraulic power stations. Unit 3 had to be built under the unfavorable conditions of the northern highland—the biting cold of around -30°C, heavy snow and inadequate conditions for transport. The builders faced trials that they had never encountered before.

But no difficulty could dampen the enthusiasm of the young people who had been trained to be strong in ideology and will and who had grown up into giants of creation in their leader’s embrace.

On hearing, by the end of last year, the news that the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea would be convened, they set an ambitious goal—to finish the construction of the power station in a shorter period and present it to the congress.

They covered thousands of sq metres of the concrete-placing sites including the core wall of the dam, surge tank and generator room, so that they could continue to push ahead with the construction inside. They thus put an end to the previous theory that construction of hydraulic power station could not be conducted in winter.

They completed building the dam in late March this year, less than three months after starting the foundation work, and declared the inauguration of unit 3 of the power station in late April.

By building the power station, called “Paektu Youth University,” at the construction speed of Mt Paektu, Mallima speed, the young people of Korea demonstrated the genuine features of the dependable reserve force, advance group and wing of the WPK, giving full play to their inextricable strength and wisdom.

The electricity produced at the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, associated with the ennobling feats of labour and patriotic spirit of the young people who created legendary tales of heroic youth, is now being used effectively for the improvement of the people’s living standards and development of the economy in Ryanggang Province.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: An Chol Ryong
The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station is associated with the ennobling feats of labour and patriotic spirit of the young people.

Modern houses have been built.
Warm Affection for Orphans

Thanks to the sincere efforts of the officials and working people in North Phyongan Province, who turned out as one to carry out the policies of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the state on bringing up the children with no one to look after them as treasures and dependable pillars of the country, the Sinuiju Baby Home and Orphanage were built side by side and the children moved to the new buildings in late April. The former is in the shape of a square and the latter, of a trihedron. The four-storey buildings are literally palaces for the orphans.

Inside the buildings are rooms for childcare and education, bedrooms, rooms for playing intelligent games, general recreation halls, general exercise rooms, dancing halls, nature study halls, paddling pools, bathrooms, doctor’s rooms and other facilities. In the yards of the buildings, carpeted with rubber, are playgrounds with facilities for sports and recreation and paddling pools.

Here orphans lead a happy life all day long with nothing to envy in the world under the warm and meticulous care of highly-qualified teachers.

Their daily routine, arranged with dancing, singing, playing intelligent games and others for their early years, promotes their physical and mental development.

The state is responsible for supplying foodstuffs, essential nutrients, clothing, toys and school things to the children. The smiling orphans, who grow up merrily in good health, and the beautiful buildings of a peculiar style present spectacular scenery in the Sonsang area, where the baby home and orphanage are situated.

People often stop and watch the happy children in these "palaces."

Article: Choe Kwang
Photo: Hong Kwang Nam
Rungna Dolphinarium Attracts Citizens

Laughter reverberates on Rungna Island on the Taedong River that flows across Pyongyang. The magnificent amusement park, 4-D simulation cinema, electronic recreation hall, laughing house and all other facilities in the Rungna People’s Recreation Ground are always crowded with beaming people.

Rungna Dolphinarium, built in July Juche 101 (2012), is the centerpiece of the cultural resort. The spectators are laughing all along, seeing dolphins swimming through the waves like torpedo boats and jumping seven metres high to hit the ball with their tails. In the tank overflowing with seawater the cute animals show off their ten-odd skills, doing simple arithmetic, shaking hands, standing on forelegs and kissing with the people. Their “whistling” or “singing,” revolving of rings and underwater performance arouse great interest among the spectators.

Famous actors as they are now, the dolphins were not so skilful. They owe their amusing stunts to the trainers’ painstaking efforts and research. Dolphins are said to have the same IQ as that of two- or three-year-old children. These mammals become familiar with people soon, but it is known worldwide that there is a special breed that can be trained to perform a variety of tricks.

The dolphins in the Rungna Dolphinarium do not belong to that breed. However, the Korean trainers worked with creative wisdom and enthusiasm to tame the animals. They studied the mammals’ ecological characteristics to develop novel taming skills and gave them intensive training to ensure that they could perform wonderful stunts. In this way they completed a new theory of taming the dolphins in a short period.

Today the animal stars bring great joy and pleasure to the spectators.

Article: Kang Su Ryon
Photo: Ri Myong Il

Trainers learn taming skills suited to the dolphins’ and seals’ ecological characteristics
Wisong Scientists Dwelling District

Wisong Scientists Dwelling District was built in Juche 103 (2014) in the Unjong science park in the northern suburb of Pyongyang. It was in accordance with a national measure to provide scientists and technicians with good living conditions.

In the district are 20-odd apartment blocks with some 1 000 flats that were erected in a matter of seven months, primary and junior middle schools and kindergarten, and other public service facilities, including Wisong Scientists Hospital, restaurants, shops and Wisong Health Complex, all blending well together.

The flats are furnished perfectly for the convenience of the scientists and their families, and public service facilities as well as sports parks laid out in the district are always crowded with the residents who are enjoying their sports and leisure activities.

The dwellers of the apartment blocks are scientists of the State Academy of Sciences. Seen among those who are on the way to work in the morning are a grey-haired scientist of the Mathematics Research Institute, the director of the Information Science and Technology Institute who was designated as one of the top scientists in 2015, a section chief of the Faculty of Dynamics at the University of Sciences and a researcher in his thirties at the Laser Institute who is TWAS young affiliate. They are either preoccupied in deep thought or having heated debates.

When the night falls, merry laughter and singing voices coming from the brightly-lit windows fill the district which has been vibrant with delight and optimism during the daytime.

The lighted windows that remain far into the night reflect the determination of the scientists to contribute to building a thriving country with greater successes in their scientific research.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: An Phyong Yon
In April the 18th International Festival of Detective Films was opened in Moscow, Russia. With over 400 films presented by 57 countries, the DPRK’s TV series Bulletproof Wall won the special diploma.

Made in Juche 104 (2015) by production company No. 3 of the TV Series Studio, the film was adapted from the long accounts written by a revolutionary veteran who took part in the struggle against the Japanese aggressors’ military occupation of Korea in the first half of the last century.

It is set in the first half of the 1940s, when the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army under the command of Kim Il Sung conducted positive activities in the homeland to actively meet the great event of national liberation, and in the period of building a new Korea following national liberation on August 15, Juhe 34 (1945).

Jong Ki Chan, the hero, who languished as a member of a ruined nation, has been trained as a special operative of the KPRA and struggles to frustrate the Japanese imperialists’ Arrows Operation targeted at the headquarters of the revolution. His daughter Jong Ok Gum follows in her father’s footsteps and defies death to defend the leader with firm conviction.

A dramatic conflict occurs between Jong Ok Gum and her father because of her misunderstanding. After learning that her father is a special member of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland, she decides to follow her father’s way. She joins the operatives’ group Pangphae (Shield) and distinguishes herself in foiling the Arrows Operation. The film is noted for its well-organized elements and unique features. It highlights its philosophical idea that defending the leader even at the risk of one’s life is the only way to protect oneself and the well-being and destiny of one’s own family.

At the festival there was an exceptional showing of the TV series, which won great applause among the delegates. Calling it the most impressive of all, they said that the Korean film drew the audiences into the world of cinema by sustaining its peculiar characteristics. They added that they were fascinated by the director’s delicate and peculiar dramatic arrangement, the attractive acting, excellent camerawork and image processing. In particular, they praised it for its national identity and clear theme.

The scriptwriter is Jong Yong Bom, the director Om Chang Gol and the main characters Ri Su Ryong and Ri Su Gyong. They have set an ambitious goal and are making painstaking efforts to produce more films.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Choe Won Chol
The lowest administrative unit in the DPRK is ri, which numbers thousands across the country. Ryongsan-ri in Junghwa County, North Hwanghae Province, is one of them. As it is a mountain village, it was not known to the many.

The village, difficult to pinpoint on the map, is now well known throughout the country as a village free from diseases, famous for traditional medicine. The credit goes to 54-year-old Choe Sun Ok, director of the people’s hospital in Ryongsan-ri.

The area is free from infant death, and the number of patients dispatched to hospitals of a higher level and the rate of death by diseases, were reduced to a considerable extent. Hundreds of patients were cured of obstinate diseases by traditional medical treatment.

During her 20 or so years of service, Choe devoted her everyday life to promoting the people’s health with ardent love and utmost sincerity.

Dissemination of knowledge for preventing diseases, treatment of patients coming regardless of the time and visiting far-away patients—these were challenging for her but she has never neglected her duty.

The local populace, from babies to the elderly, owe their good health to her sincerity.

In the course of making efforts to promote their health, she not only rendered an active contribution to developing her clinic into a hospital over ten years ago but achieved the remarkable medical success of treating obstinate diseases by means of Koryo medicine, traditional medical therapy of Korea.

A 3-year-old baby called Tae Hyon suffering from hemiparalysis by serious cerebral infarction was cured of the disease in 20-odd days. A 12-year-old boy called Yong Myong had not cried loudly when he was born and was suffering from dysphasia, amnesia and dyskinesia by cerebral palsy. Choe succeeded in recovering his health in three months.

In October last year the participants in a South East Asian regional forum of WHO on traditional medicine visited the hospital. Seeing Kyong Sil singing and roller-skating in front of them, the foreign visitors spoke highly of the traditional medicine of Korea.

With her high level of skills in the traditional medicine, Choe has successfully treated hundreds of patients suffering from obstinate diseases including cerebral thrombosis and haemorrhage, hypertension, sequelae of meningitis and high myopia caused by optic atrophy.

For the services she made for the promotion of people’s health and the development of Koryo medicine, she was awarded a watch inscribed with the name of Kim Il Sung and the honour of meritorious person in the Songun era, Merited Doctor and Famous Doctor. She is a deputy to the County People’s Assembly.

Choe is determined to continue to devote her all to promoting people’s health.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon
Photo: Jin Yong Ho

Choe Sun Ok disseminates medical knowledge among the residents in her spare time

Choe Sun Ok in a consultation about the ways of improving the efficaciousness of the traditional Koryo medicine (fourth from the right)
World’s First Metal Types Excavated

Recently, four metal types dating back to the 12th or 13th century were excavated in the DPRK. These metal types meaning flow, line, name and bright were unearthed in Manwoldae in Kaesong, the capital of Korea’s first unified country, Koryo (918-1392). Now the new discoveries arouse great interest among historians.

Manwoldae, the site of the palace of Koryo, has been preserved in its original state for about 700 years. In Juche 45 (1972) in Paris, France, as an event of the International Year of Books marked by UNESCO, the Buddhist scripture Jikjisimgyong printed in metal types in 1377 in Chongju, Korea, was recognized as the oldest book of its kind. It was created as the oldest book in the world. According to a record, metal types were first used in the Netherlands in 1423 and in Germany in 1450. However, the metal types unearthed in the DPRK proved to be 300 years older than the European ones.

The new discoveries have enriched the treasure house of Korean cultural heritage. They are significant in that they contribute to an extensive research into the form, kind, font style, casting method, material and other information about metal types. These metal types prove once again that Koryo is the first metal type inventor in the world.

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Indomitable Spirit

The 2015 World Weightlifting Championships, held in the United States in November last year, drew over 600 men and women players from 98 countries and regions including the DPRK, Russia, Kazakhstan, China and Japan.

Rim Jong Sim of the DPRK was one of those in the spotlight for her track record at the 30th Olympic Games and other international competitions. The 75kg-category player succeeded in the first snatch, lifting the barbell in a single, explosive movement. But she had her leg injured in the second lift. Doctors advised her to give up, saying that she could not compete any longer. Despite severe pain she came out for the third lift.

The spectators, as well as her coach Kim Chun Hui, held their breath, and when the jury announced the result, the whole stadium raised thunderous cheers for her success.

Though she finished runner-up, the injured girl amazed the audience by displaying her indomitable spirit. The gold medals she has obtained at international competitions speak for the iron-willed, patriotic-minded weightlifter, such as the 2011 World Youth Weightlifting Championships (jerking 128kg in the 63kg category), the 2013 Asian Cup Senior Weightlifting Championships held in September Juche 102 (2013) (topping the total rankings in the 75kg category) and the 2014 World Weightlifting Championships.

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She took up weightlifting at 10. While she was attending the then Mangyongdae Sunhwa School, coach Kim Chun Hui discovered a natural disposition in the young girl. The coach had her enlisted at a sports club for pupils in Chongchun Street and gave her specialized training.

Big hands, flexible body and persistence were her good points. A couple of years later, she won a gold medal at the National Schoolchildren's Sports Club Championships. Afterwards, she aroused great interest in the international arena. Cherishing the spirit of Korea of rising up no matter how often one may fall and fighting it out, the weightlifter, like other players in the country, is making redoubled efforts to add glory to her motherland.

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She was honoured with the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK in appreciation of these successful results. The source of her unyielding mettle and willpower at the above world championships is her ardent love for the benevolent country. Cherishing the spirit of Korea of rising up no matter how often one may fall and fighting it out, the weightlifter, like other players in the country, is making redoubled efforts to add glory to her motherland.

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Brief News

A meeting has been held in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the International Taekwon-Do Federation. It is attended by Ri Yong Sim, president of the ITF, Jung Ung, its honorary president, Taekwon-Do delegation headed by Leong Wai Meng, its vice-president, and others concerned.

The joint conference of the DPRK government, political parties and organizations has been held to implement the national reunification policy put forward by Kim Jong Un at the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. The joint conference has adopted an appeal to all the Korean people.

The 18th Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair has taken place, drawing 220-odd companies from the DPRK, New Zealand, Germany, Russia, Romania, Malaysia, Mongolia, Singapore, China, Cambodia, Thailand, Australia, Iran, Italy, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cuba and Chinese Taipei.

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