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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un Visits Kumsusan Palace of the Sun

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on July 8, the greatest memorial day of the Korean nation.

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme sanctuary of Juche, was enveloped in a solemn atmosphere, in which President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, the eternal sun of Juche and great saints of revolution, lie in state.

Accompanying the Supreme Leader were senior Party and government officials, members of the Party central leadership body in Pyongyang, officials of the Party Central Committee, ministries and national agencies and leading officials of the military organs.

Kim Jong Un entered the hall where the statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il are standing.

Placed at the statues were a floral basket in the name of the

Supreme Leader, a floral basket in the joint name of the WPK Central Committee, the WPK Central Military Commission and the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, and a floral basket in the joint name of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

The Supreme Leader, together with the accompanying officials, made a deep bow to the statues and paid homage to the great leaders at the halls of immortality where they are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

All the participants made a firm resolve to accomplish the socialist cause of Juche by faithfully supporting the ideas and leadership of Kim Jong Un who is leading the Korean revolution along the road of victory and glory under the unfurled banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and by creditably performing their responsibilities and basic duty as the leading officials in the nationwide general advance, holding fast to the revolutionary line of independence and self-reliance strategy of the WPK.

Article: Choe Ui Rim

The national memorial service took place in Pyongyang on July 8 to mark the 25th anniversary of the demise of President Kim Il Sung.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the WPK, chairman of the SAC of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, took the platform of honour.

Present at the service were senior Party and government officials, leading officials of military organs, officials of the Party Central Committee, the Cabinet, working people's organizations, ministries and national agencies, service personnel of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Internal Security Forces, the teaching staff and students of revolutionary schools, officials of institutions and industrial establishments in Pyongyang, persons of merits, bereaved families of revolutionary martyrs, overseas compatriots, those who are related to the revolutionary activities of the President, diplomatic envoys, representatives of the missions of international organizations and military attaches in Pyongyang and foreign guests.

All the participants observed a moment's silence in memory of President Kim Il Sung.

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the SAC of the DPRK and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, made a memorial address.

He said that President Kim Il Sung, in his 70 odd-year career since he had embarked on the road of revolution, performed for the country and the people, socialism and global independence the most devoted and sacred achievements unprecedented in the biographies of the great persons of the world.

His whole life is highlighted as that of a revolutionary saint who braved the grave adversities for the freedom and happiness of the people and independent development of the nation and thus left an outstanding mark in the revolutionary history of the 20th century, the speaker noted.

He stressed that the revolutionary career and exploits of the President would last forever along with the prosperity of socialist Korea and victorious advance of the popular masses' cause of independence, and that he will always live in the hearts of the Korean people and minds of mankind as the sun of Juche.

All the participants were full of determination to display their patriotic loyalty in the effort to build a thriving socialist country by faithfully supporting the ideology and cause of Kim Il Sung and upholding the revolutionary line of independence under the leadership of Kim Jong Un.

Article: Kim Phil



National Service Held in Memory of Kim Il Sung

DPRK and US Leaders Meet at Panmunjom





A meeting of Chairman Kim Jong Un of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and President Donald Trump of the United States of America took place at Panmunjom on the afternoon of June 30 at the suggestion of Trump.

Chairman Kim Jong Un accepted the proposal of President Trump for meeting him in the Demilitarized Zone on the Korean

peninsula during his visit to south Korea between June 29 and 30 and went to the south side portion of Panmunjom to have a surprise meeting with him.

In a little over a day, from the moment when the suggestion was known to the public till the dramatic event happened, all eyes and ears of the world were on the Korean peninsula again and the entire global village was full of excitement and joy,

kindling great interest in and expectations for the news of the DPRK-US summit at Panmunjom.

Kim Jong Un came out of the Panmun House on the afternoon of June 30 and met with Donald Trump just before the demarcation line at Panmunjom, grabbing the worldwide attention.

In 66 years after the Armistice Agreement was signed in 1953

such an amazing event took place that the top leaders of the DPRK and the US held each other's hands and had historic handshakes at Panmunjom, the symbol of Korea's division.

Kim Jong Un gladly exchanged greetings with Trump for meeting him again after some 120 days and guided him toward the north side portion of Panmunjom.

The two leaders came up just in front of the Panmun House





in the north side portion of Panmunjom and held their hands again, recording a historic moment when a sitting US President crosses the Military Demarcation Line and sets foot in the DPRK for the first time in history.

Having a pleasant chat, they headed for the Freedom House in the south side portion of Panmunjom, the venue of the talks.

Kim Jong Un was greeted by south Korean President Moon Jae In in front of the Freedom House, and they exchanged warm greetings.

The historic scenes of the top leaders of the north and south of Korea and the US freely crossing the demarcation line and meeting each other in the DMZ along the Military Demarcation Line, the product of hostility and confrontation, made a great impact on the world, showing that a new history of reconciliation and peace has begun at Panmunjom, a testimony to the long-standing mistrust and misunderstanding, discord and antagonism.

Then there were a one-on-one chat and talks between the leaders of the DPRK and the US.

They explained the ways to ease tensions on the Korean peninsula, end the unsavoury relations between the two countries and make a dramatic turn in them and mutual fears which would be an obstacle to solving problem and issues of their concern, and expressed full understanding of and sympathy with them.

They agreed to keep in close contact in the future, too, and resume and push forward with productive dialogues for making a new breakthrough in the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and bilateral relations.

Kim Jong Un said that it was the good rapport with President Trump that made such a dramatic meeting as of today possible at just twenty-four hours's notice, noting that the bond between him and Trump would continue to produce good results beyond others' expectations in the future, too, and work as a mysterious force to overcome manifold difficulties and obstacles they would face.

Present at the talks from the DPRK side was Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho and from the US side Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.



The leaders of the two countries expressed great satisfaction with the results of the talks.

After the talks Kim Jong Un exchanged farewell with Trump.

Trump and Moon Jae In came up to the demarcation line at Panmunjom and gave him a warm send-off.

The bold decision of the leaders of the two countries, who

achieved an epoch-making historic meeting at Panmunjom, the symbol of DPRK-US confrontation and feud, created unprecedented confidence between the two countries steeped in discord and antagonism as old foes.

Article: Kim Hyang Mi



Magnificent Extravaganza at May Day Stadium

The grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *The Land of the People* is going on at the May Day Stadium in the picturesque Rungna Island of Pyongyang, drawing a lot of audience.

Through the prelude *Sunrise on Mt Paektu* and several acts and scenes including *Our Socialist Homeland*, the performance presented magnificent

artistic representations of the vigorous advance made by socialist Korea in its effort to realize long-cherished dreams and ideals of the people.

The May Day Stadium with 150 000 seats is packed with audience, who marvel at the beautiful and graceful rhythmic movements and dynamic gymnastic movements of performers, multifarious depiction of instrumental

music and songs, aerial stunts, kaleidoscopic background scenes unfolded with flash cards, and splendid stage effects.

The extravaganza that is performed by artistes from the country's renowned art troupes, and young people and students in Pyongyang, is rich in content and high in artistic levels, thus showcasing the excellent tradition and development

of the Korean culture and art.

The grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance will go on by October.

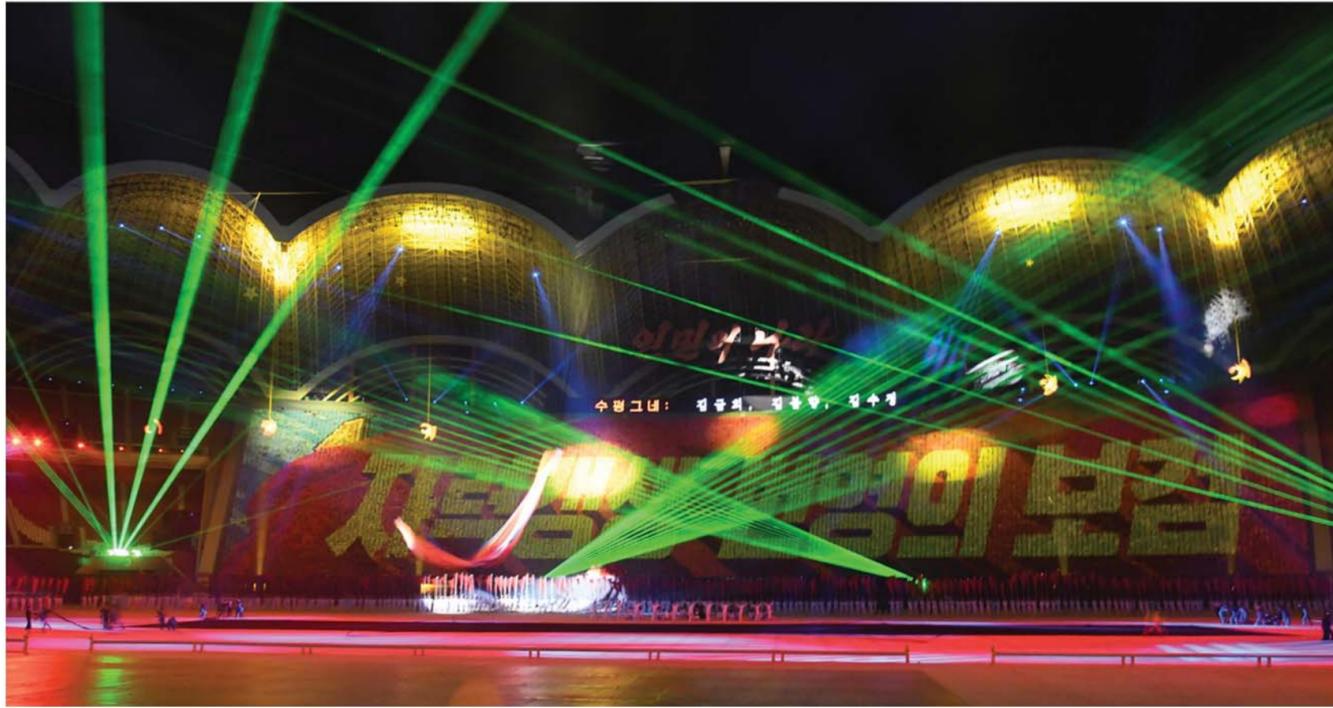
Article: Mun Kwang Bong

Photo: Ri Kwang Song, An Chol Ryong, Hong Kwang Nam



The performance brings spectators to a wonderland with beautiful and graceful rhythmic movements and dynamic gymnastic movements, kaleidoscopic background scenes and aerial stunts unfolded in the grand three-dimensional space.





The extravaganza enraptures the audience

Leading Iron Ore Producer



The Musan Mining Complex is located in the Cholsan Peak area of Musan County, North Hamgyong Province, Korea.

It was in early 17th century that a large mineral aggregate was found in the area and the exploitation began.

The present mine, which was developed in the mid-20th century, is prospected to have several billion tons of iron ore deposit with thick ore body rising to the surface of the earth.

The complex is known as a leading one across the country in view of its production, prospects for development, and mechanization.

As it is mainly engaged in open-air mining, it concentrates large excavators and rotary boring machines in the areas with rich deposits and ensures their operation at full capacity. At the same time, it properly organizes work to increase transport capacity of the iron ore and promptly remove overburden.

It is directing considerable efforts to modernize the ore-dressing process and introduce efficient dressing methods so as to improve the grade of concentrated ores.

Amid a brisk drive for putting business activities on a modern footing and revitalizing production on the strength of science and technology, the complex is stepping up the projects of optimizing mining process for cost-effectiveness and establishing an integrated manufacturing and controlling system for open pits.

The complex is making vigorous efforts to produce iron ores in larger amounts and supply them to metallurgical factories.

Article: Pak Yong Jo
Photo: An Chol Ryong



Taesongsan Spring Water Factory



The Taesongsan Spring Water Factory was erected in the picturesque Mt Taesong area of Pyongyang and inaugurated last May.

The factory is located near Kwangbop Temple erected in the period of Koguryo (277 BC – AD 668), and blends so well with the beautiful surrounding scenery, resembling a holiday camp.

The spring water gushing out in the area is widely known for its refreshing taste. It also contains ideal amounts of Ca, Mg, Fe, Na, carbonic acid and other minerals and ions beneficial to health. It is, therefore, good for promoting digestion and treating cardiovascular, digestive and women's diseases, arthritis and so on.

The factory is provided with modern

machinery and equipment for filtering, filling, testing and other production processes as well as for producing containers. Every workshop has a high level of absence of germ and dust to ensure hygienic safety of products.

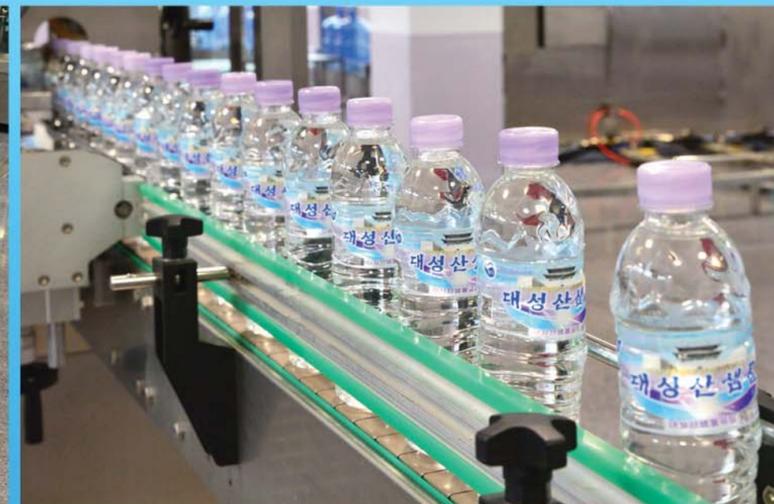
It has established an integrated system of administrative and production management and process control, and

installed 150 solar panels and several solar water heaters.

The factory is making strenuous efforts to produce and supply tasty spring water to Pyongyang citizens.

Article: Mun Kwang Bong

Photo: Choe Myong Jin



Underground Scenic Spot

SONGAM CAVE



The Songam Cave with the total length of 2 160 metres is located on the borders of Sonam-dong in Kaechon and Songam-dong in Anju in South Phyongan Province, and ranks in the famous underground scenic beauty in Korea.

As a natural cave with stalactites and stalagmites in various sizes and shapes, all formed in the centuries-old process of the dolomite being dissolved or eroded by underground water, it is an ensemble of fabulous scenes.

The cave is divided in 16 sections, including Pomuldong, Paekhwadong, Solgyongdong and

Ryonggungdong. They are made up of more than 70 scenic spots, such as 6-metre Tansim Falls, Pidanphokpho Rock, and Janggom Rock which is a stalactite 4.2 metres high and 1.9 tons heavy.

Conspicuous is Jangsudong with Jangsu Pool and the lotus-shaped stone flower on it.

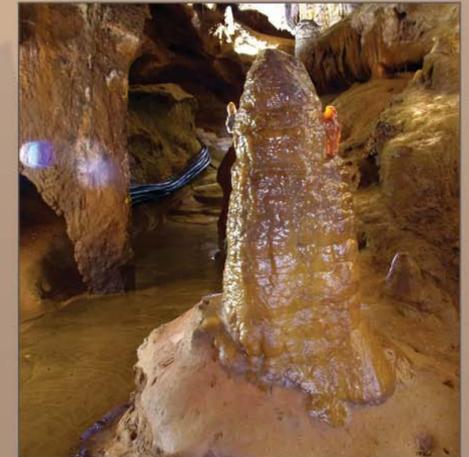
The Songam Cave that is laid out splendidly as a pleasure resort is reverberating with merry laughter of the people, who say they feel ten years younger.

Article: Kim Hyo Sim

Photo: An Chol Ryong



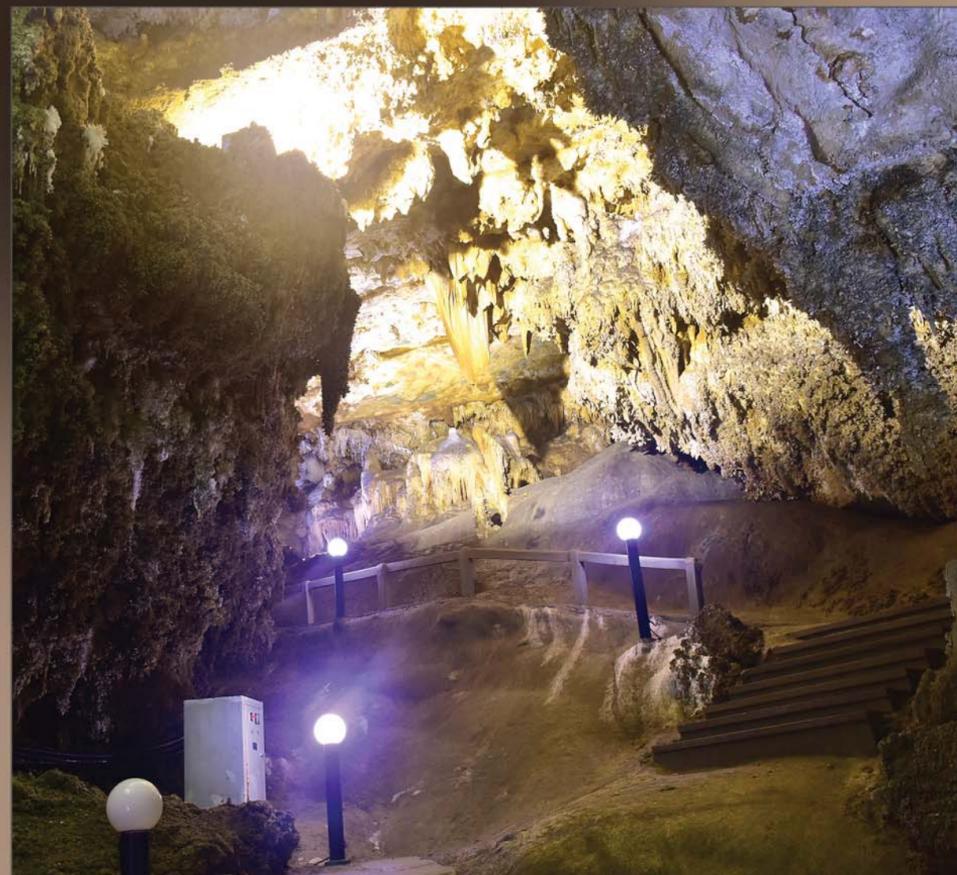
"Boasts"



"Guard of Kumgang"



"Mole couple"



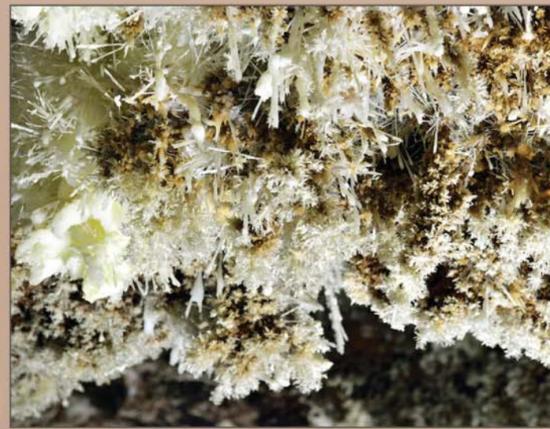
"Pigeon"



"Goose"



"Precious stones"



"Frostworks"



Solgyongdong



"Three white rabbits"



Rainbow trout in Unha Pond

Young Prize-winners

Kim Ji Won and his finalist diploma



Young pianists from the DPRK demonstrated their talents at the Third Vladimir Krainev Moscow International Piano Competition held in Russia last March.

Over 20 young pianists qualified in preliminary regional contests participated in its finals.

Among them were Kim Ji Won, 15-year-old student from Pyongyang Music School No. 1 of Kim Won Gyun University of Music, and Pae Yon Ju, third grader of Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

Kim Ji Won who took part in the second division (12-16 age group) was awarded a diploma of the finalist for his refined and skilled performance of the Korean song *Three-thousand ri of Taehongdan* and Tchaikovsky's ballet suite *Nutcracker*. Pae Yon Ju won a special prize in the third division (17-22 age group).

Kim learned the rudiments of piano at Kyongsang Kindergarten renowned for its early education in music and is rated as



Pae Yon Ju and her special prize award



the best student at the Pyongyang Music School No. 1. He impressed the jury and audience with dexterity and exquisiteness of performance.

Pae was good at piano since her childhood and people wished her promising future.

The young pianists say in unison that they will double their efforts to polish their techniques and live up to the expectations of their teachers, parents and peers.

Article: Mun Jin Yu
Photo: Hong Thae Ung

Hwangjin Spa Village



The residents of Hwangjin-ri, Myongchon County of North Hamgyong Province are very proud of their place widely known across the country.

As it is situated in the area of Mt Chilbo, one of the six celebrated mountains in Korea, and is by the East Sea of Korea, the place abounds with scenic views as well as agricultural and aquatic produces and medicinal herbs.

Among them all, it is particularly famous for having both mineral water and spa.

The mineral water springs at the foot of the picturesque and woody mountain in the Outer Chilbo area, and some distance away upward the spa comes out.

The Hwangjin spa is designated as a national living monument for its high efficacy.

The spa contains rich amounts of hydrocarbonate ions, chlorine ions, sodium ions and minerals and is 50°C in temperature. It is very effective in treating hypertension, rheumatoid arthritis, neuralgia, traumas, sequelae of operations, digestive troubles and so on.

Every house in the village is furnished for spa therapy.

Visitors to the village are unsparing in their praise, saying that they are struck by its scenic beauty and they feel rejuvenated after effective spa therapy.

Article: Kim Chung Bok
Photo: Kong Yu Il, Ri Jin Hyok



50-year Career as Illustrious Painter

Ri Chang was born as a son of Ri Yong Ak, poet, in Kyongsong County, North Hamgyong Province, in August 1942. Since his boyhood he showed an inclination to drawing and was good at it.

Following his father's advice, Ri began to take lessons in Korean painting at the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts. His teacher was Jong Jong Yo, the esteemed painter.

At 21, after graduating the university summa

cum laude, he took up teaching fine arts at Kim Chol Ju University of Education.

He established his fame with his maiden work *Old Boatman in the Raktong River*, the Korean painting which was set against the background of the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950 – July 1953) and highly appreciated in the 9th national fine arts exhibition held in 1966.

Ri recalled: "I got the idea of my painting from the story of an army officer about his experiences.

I had difficulties in portraying the hero, which irritated me at first. But I didn't give up and made tireless efforts. When I met an old boatman for my model in Turu Island on the Taedong River, I was very excited."

Then he realized that high artistry and techniques devoid of practical experience can never produce an excellent work.

In 1973 he was promoted to the Korean painting production company under the



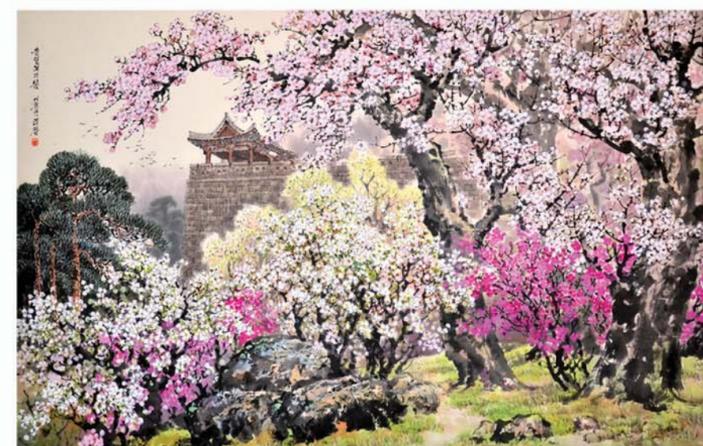
Ri's private show held in Beijing, China in 2012



Korean painting
Old Boatman in the Raktong River



Korean painting
Red Plum Blossoms



Korean painting Umlil Pavilion in Spring



Korean painting Mt Kumgang in Early Spring

Mansudae Art Studio, and began to produce a number of significant paintings on various themes.

He was awarded the titles of Merited Artist in 1976 and People's Artist in 1991, and won Kim Il Sung Prize in 2006.

He won "The Best Creative Award" at the 12th Beijing International Art Exposition held in 2009 and held his private show in Beijing in 2012.

He always tells his juniors to embed the conscience in their works.

At the age of 71 he obtained his doctorate in art. Many of his disciples are also famous painters.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Ri Myong Guk

Base for Training Practical Talents

Hamhung University of Chemical Industry was founded in September 1947 as the first technical college in the country.

It has performed outstanding exploits in developing the country's chemical industry by solving scientific and technological problems arising in the establishment of vinalon industry in the 1960s and the inauguration of the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex in the 1970s, as well as produced a large contingent of technological personnel.

Among graduates of the university are more than 40 heroes and twice heroes, 160 odd professors and doctors and more than 2 000 persons with academic degrees or titles.

All lecturers, students and other employees of the university are striving to translate into reality the intentions and plans of the WPK and the DPRK government to build an economic giant based on the chemical industry as one of the twin pillars.

The university has recently set up scores of new departments and chairs and made vigorous efforts to put teaching contents on a practical, comprehensive and modern footing.

More than 13 000 teaching plans for some 300 subjects were rewritten, and over 220 teaching methods and 15 600 teaching plans aided by multimedia presentations are newly applied to lectures so as to make students keep up with

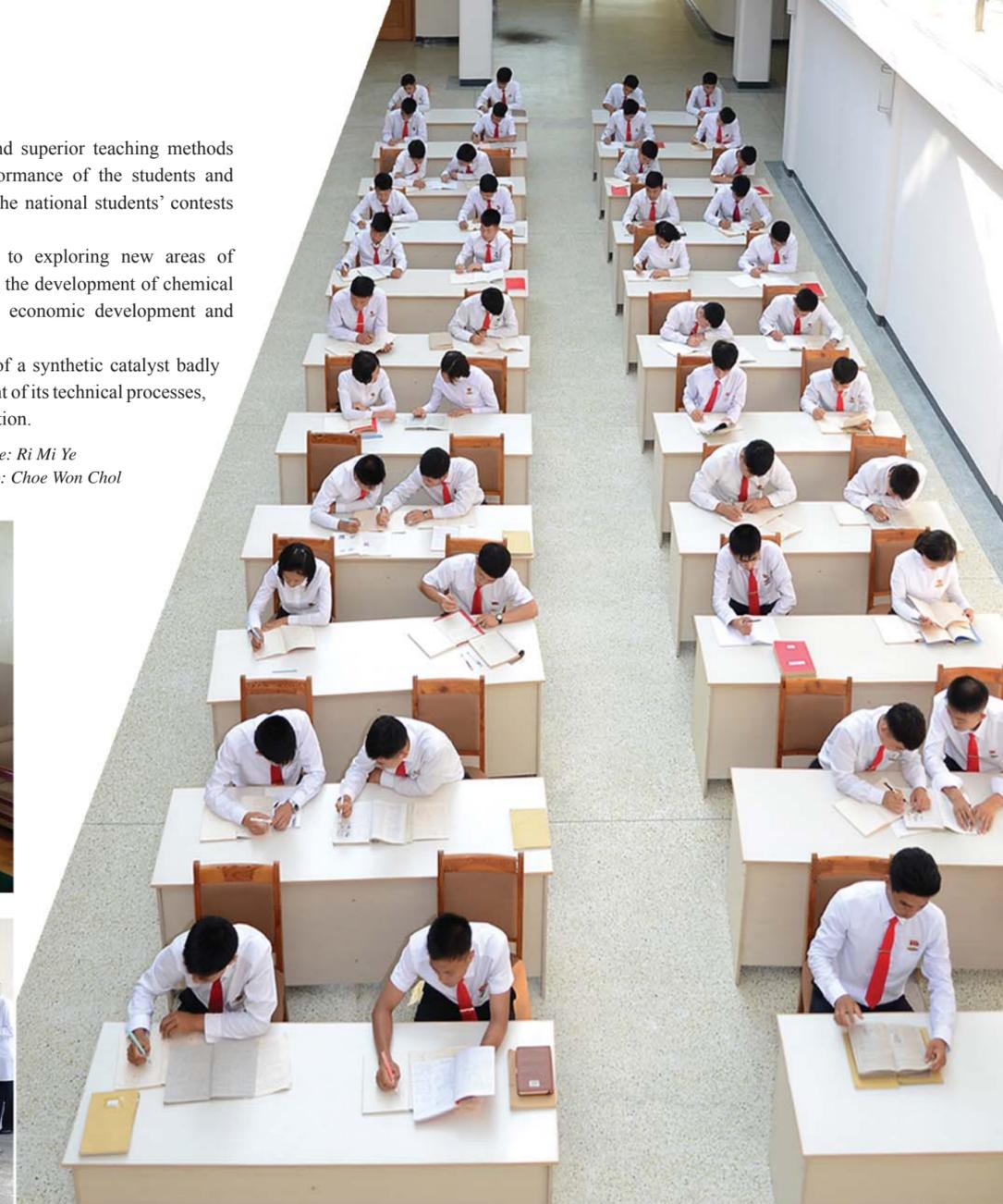
advanced and useful knowledge.

Endeavours made in creating profitable and superior teaching methods paid off greatly in improving academic performance of the students and demonstrating the ability of the university in the national students' contests and exhibitions.

The university also pays great attention to exploring new areas of science and technology of great significance in the development of chemical industry and solving problems arising in the economic development and improvement of people's livelihood.

It made a success in domestic production of a synthetic catalyst badly needed in methanol production and establishment of its technical processes, opening up bright prospects for its industrialization.

Article: Ri Mi Ye
Photo: Choe Won Chol





Budding Talents

Near the Taedong Gate, an old monument built in the period of Koguryo (277 BC – AD 668), is located Taedongmun Kindergarten.

The kindergarten was originally founded in 1957 for the children in the residential quarter in Central District of Pyongyang, but at present it is more known for training little musical talents.

Forty years ago it was designated as one of the bases for giving early education in music in accordance with a measure taken by the state, and since then it has admitted children from other residential areas in the city.

A number of kindergarten teachers are graduates from the art colleges as well as Pyongyang University of Education.



Recruiting appropriate children with natural instincts from nurseries is the foremost concern of the teachers.

The selected children are admitted after thorough deliberations by the

kindergarten's staff, and take lessons in Korean national and western musical instruments such as *kayagum*, *oungum*, violin and piano, and in singing.

The kindergarten teachers are well

aware that whether the children's native inborn talents are brought into full bloom or not depends on how they perform their roles and dedicate themselves, and they strive to introduce innovative teaching

methods.

The kindergarten holds a regular artistry presentation every month, and children's artistic performance every May to mark the anniversary of early music class. They serve as good opportunities for evaluating practical abilities of not only children but also their teachers.

"It is not long since my daughter Ji Un took lessons in piano at the kindergarten, but she is fairly good at playing it. And she develops a liberal character and good manners, and our neighbours praise her," says a mother from Sosong District.

A large number of graduates are recruited by Pyongyang Music School No. 1 under Kim Won Gyun University of Music and other art schools.

The kindergarten is proud of its graduates who are active in the country's prominent art troupes.



The children are cultivating their musical aptitudes



Article: Kang Su Jong

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam



Ko Haeng Bok and O Su Rim won medals at the Women's Canoe Cup held in Hungary



Aiming for Gold Medals

The ICF Women's Canoe Cup took place in Hungary last May, drawing more than 60 players from 16 countries and regions of the world. And the DPRK players Ko Haeng Bok and O Su Rim proved successful in the games.

Ko Haeng Bok snatched a gold medal in the senior women's canoeing single-seater 200m event. She and O Su Rim were placed second and third in the senior women's canoeing double 500m and 200m events respectively.

Though they were debutantes in the games, which was its seventh round this year, the DPRK players demonstrated their excellent abilities in terms of physique and technique, striking the experts.

It was seven years ago when Ko and O began canoeing.

The Asian Canoeing Championships held in 2015 was Ko's first international debut, and she won a bronze medal in the senior women's canoeing single-seater 200m event. Since then she was always in the top three in the games held in Asian regions.

Last year she won gold medals in the senior women's canoeing single-seater 200m and 500m events of the Asian Cup games held in Hong Kong, China.

O Su Rim placed second and third in the same events respectively.

At present Ko places ninth in world ranking.

The girls, not resting on their laurels, are exerting themselves to win more gold medals.

Article: Kim Son Gyong

Photo: Son Hui Yon



Sindo Migratory Bird Sanctuary



Chroicocephalus saundersi



Numenius madagascariensis



are growing year by year.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Ri Chung Song

In 1995 the Sindo Migratory Bird Sanctuary was designated, embracing territorial and water areas of Sindo County in North Phyongan Province. The sanctuary covers 2 500 hectares, including Pidan Island, Hwanggumphyong, and surrounding islands, rivers, sea and tideland areas.

The sanctuary, located in the course of migration of birds along the East Asian-Australian flyway, is fully provided with environment and conditions for the living of birds, such as woods, grasslands, tideland, marshes, reservoirs, rivers, sea, islands, and populated areas.

There are found many species of migratory birds, which favour the sanctuary as a habitat or shelter, and among them are those of rare or

endangered bird species.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea that pursues its policy on protecting ecological environment strictly prohibits clearing of land for farming and hunting in the reserve area.

It is accelerating the work of rehabilitating habitats damaged by natural disasters while propagating marine resources for feeding of the birds.

Researchers from the biodiversity institute under the State Academy of Sciences have set up observation stations at several places to protect and multiply migratory bird species.

They say many migratory birds flock to the sanctuary and their numbers



Snipes in flocks



Limosa lapponica



Haematopus ostralegus



Larus vegae



Cygnus cygnus



Anser cygnoides

Pohyon Temple, History Museum in Mt Myohyang





Taeung Hall and the octagonal 13-storeyed pagoda



of Koryo. It perched on a slope, and its front has two storeys and its back, a single storey. In the yard between Manse Pavilion and Taeung Hall stands the octagonal 13-storeyed pagoda built in the late Koryo period. Taeung Hall is the main building of Pohyon Temple, and is a gorgeous, gabled house erected on the

embankment of well-trimmed granites. Kwanum Hall was reconstructed in the early days of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392 - 1910), and Mansu Pavilion was built for the royal family in 1894. The storehouse for the 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures, which stands to the southeast of Kwanum Hall, was built in 1983 in the form of a gabled house in Koryo Dynasty.

Ryongsan Hall and Suchung Temple stand east of Kwanum Hall. Suchung Temple was built in the early 17th century in memory of Saint Sosan and Samyongdang, patriotic abbots during the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598).

Pohyon Temple, a valuable cultural heritage of the Korean architecture, is under good preservation and management.

Article: Pak Mi Ye

Photo: Kong Yu Il, Kim Song Chol

Pohyon Temple located at the foot of Mt Myohyang, one of the six celebrated mountains of Korea, boasts of a long history of nearly 1 000 years.

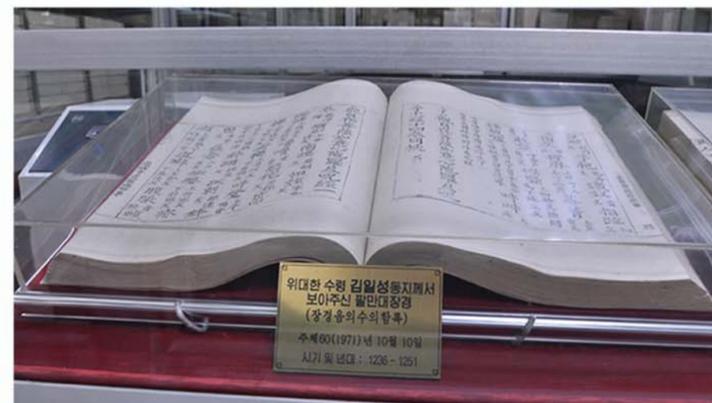
It was originally built in the period of Koryo (918 - 1392) and rebuilt on several occasions. The present buildings of the temple were reconstructed between 1441 and 1775.

The temple comprises Jogye Gate, Haethal Gate, Chonwang Gate, Manse Pavilion, Taeung

Hall, Kwanum Hall, Ryongsan Hall, Suchung Temple, octagonal 13-storeyed and rectangular nine-storeyed pagodas, the storehouse for the 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures, and other relics.

The rectangular nine-storeyed pagoda in the yard of Manse Pavilion is an exquisite granite pagoda built in the early period of Koryo.

Manse Pavilion, which had been burnt down, was restored in 1979 in the architectural techniques



The storehouse houses 81 000 wooden blocks used in printing the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures between 1236 and 1251.



Monument to Pohyon Temple erected in 1142 is 2.45m tall, 1.12m wide and 0.12m thick. It bears the inscription in more than 1 200 big and small characters.



Bell from Yujom Temple was cast in 1469 with 13.2 tons of copper and tin. It is 2.1m tall, 4.1m round at the mouth, and 7.2 tons heavy.



The rectangular nine-storeyed pagoda in the architectural style of the early Koryo period, is 6m tall. It was erected in 1044, according to the record carved on the back of the first storey of the body.



Dharani Pagoda, 5.94m tall, was erected in 1027 at Puijong Temple in Songdong-ri, Pihyon County of North Phyongan Province. It is now preserved as a national treasure at the History Museum in Mt Myohyang.

