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Gold Star of Friendship Order



Chairman Kim Jong Il received the Gold Star of Friendship Order from the Federation of Mongolian Peace and Friendship Organizations, the highest order newly decided by the federation, in February 2007.





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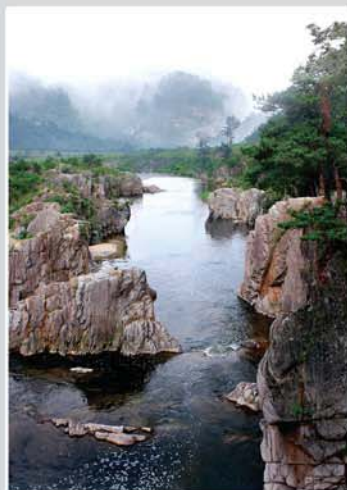
16 August 15 and Korean People





Front Cover: Young people learn from the exploits of the heroes who sacrificed themselves for the country

Photo by Ra Phygong Ryol



Back Cover: A ravine in Haonpho

Photo by Kim Chol Jun

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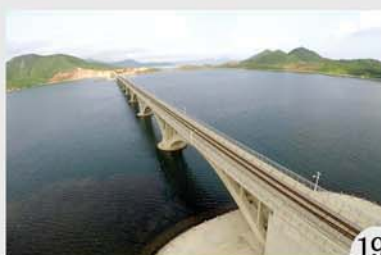
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To Solve the Problem of Youth

IN ANY ERA OR ANY country there are young people, but no country has solved the youth problem perfectly, except for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Young people in the DPRK are held dear as the flower of the country and nation, the most vigorous force in the society and the masters of the future.

Irrespective of Established Theory

Kim Il Sung embarked on the road of revolution in his teens, having felt the sorrow of the ruined nation more keenly than others, and devoted his heart and soul to pioneering the Korean revolution. He strove to solve the problem of youth as part of the endeavour. Until that time the preceding revolutionary theory narrowed the movement of youth and students down to the role of a bridge to enlighten and lead the popular masses to the revolutionary movement, and defined youth and students as the auxiliary force of the revolution.

But the March First Popular Uprising (1919), the June 10th Independence Movement (1926) and other struggles of the Korean people against the Japanese imperialists' military occupation of their country showed that youth and students did not play such a role alone. Rather, they fought courageously against the Japanese imperialists with empty hands in the van of the ranks.

From this point of view Kim Il Sung concluded that not only workers and peasants but also youth and students constitute the main force for the revolutionary struggle of the working class. And he was convinced that he could develop the Korean youth movement in a new way if he armed the young people of the new generation, who were not affected by flunkeyism and dogmatism,

with the revolutionary ideology of the working class, and organized and led them to a genuine path of the revolution. So, he rallied the progressive young people who ardently aspired to a new trend and were full of enthusiasm to go with him to the last for the Korean revolution, and formed the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU) in October 1926. The formation of the DIU was a historic proclamation signalling a new start of the Korean revolution and, at the same time, a great event marking the beginning of the Korean youth movement advancing on the principle of independence.

When broad sections of young people and students became conscious and organized, Kim Il Sung, in August 1927, formed the Young Communist League of Korea, a powerful vanguard organization which could rally young people of Korea organizationally and control them in a unified manner and lead their struggle, thus boosting the Korean youth movement onto a new, higher stage. Later, he organized an anti-Japanese guerrilla army, the main force of the Korean revolution, with patriotic young people of all strata including those of worker and peasant origin as its backbone while organizing and waging the armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists.

After liberation of Korea in August 1945 he set forth the slogan **"Patriotic youths, unite under the banner of democracy!"**, rallied patriotic youths of all strata without omission irrespective of political view, affiliation and religion, and dynamically aroused them to the endeavour to build a new country.

Under his leadership young people of the country always played a leading role in the building of a new Korea, the grim Fatherland Liberation War (1950–1953) and the postwar socialist construction. Especially the

war produced over 530 DPRK Heroes and 10 Labour Heroes, and most of them were members of the Democratic Youth League. After the war young people of Korea demonstrated their mettle in reconstructing the country reduced to ashes although the imperialists claimed that Korea would not be able to raise its head above water again even in a hundred years. In the days of the socialist construction they erected many structures named after their noble title of *youth* in various places including coal mines and power stations.

President Kim Il Sung said, **"I have always regarded the young people as the vanguard of the revolution. They were the vanguard, the main force, the backbone force which took the brunt of the revolutionary struggle and the social movement and shouldered the destiny of the future. This was fully verified in reality. Even today, in my eighties, I do not change this view about the position and role of young people as the vanguard of the revolution."**

Problem Related to Rise and Fall of Nation

Entering the 1990s the international situation changed rapidly. The former Soviet Union and other socialist countries in Eastern Europe collapsed owing to the continuous anti-socialist schemes of the imperialists and the renegades of socialism—this left valuable lessons. The problem of youth was a serious question decisive to the rise and fall of nation.

When the socialist revolution emerged victorious, the imperialists doggedly resorted to the ideological and cultural offensive to degenerate the young people, successors of the revolution, into mental cripples paralysed in their consciousness of independence and class. As a result, a tragic

- event took place in the 1990s that those degenerated young people took the lead in collapsing socialism their forerunners won at the cost of their blood.

So Chairman Kim Jong Il saw to it that the whole Party and the entire society further strengthened the education of the young people to make them cherish firm belief in the victory of socialism.

Regarding the youth as the valuable flower of the country and nation, the most vigorous force

reared greeted the New Year in bitter tears at the sudden demise of President Kim Il Sung, Kim Jong Il said that the Party always trusted the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) to a great extent, that the Party, the army and the LSWYK were the main force, and that if the Party, the army and the youths were strong, they could do anything and smash any powerful army. And at the evening gala and 100 000-strong torch-

people of Korea added lustre to their youthful days by completing grand projects such as that of the Pyongyang-Nampho Youth Hero Road during the most difficult Arduous March and the forced march.

By Relying on the Strength of Youths

Once Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said that he would build a prosperous nation by rely-

- ing on the strength of youths as he believed in them.

In April 2015, during his first visit to the construction site of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, the Supreme Leader highly appreciated what the young builders there had done, and said: The youth league has done road and railway construction projects a lot, but this would be the first time for the league to take upon the construction of a large-size hydropower station as a whole. So they might find it very difficult to build the power station. But only the young people can build such a huge and gigantic power station as the Paektusan Songun Youth Power Station (called so at that time).

He went on to say that the prosperous future of the country could be hastened only when the youths took steps faster, and that they should become a standard-bearer, vanguard and shock force in the struggle to open up the gate to a prosperous socialist nation.

The young people proved them-

selves worthy of his trust in them through practice. Despite the worst physiographical conditions and unfavourable climatic conditions the young builders displayed all their energy and wisdom with clear conscience, thus completing the construction of Paektusan Hero Youth Power Plants Nos. 1 and 2 by the 70th founding anniversary of the WPK (October 10, 2015), and built the third one in a short period of less than half a year.

The Supreme Leader referred to the feats of labour the young people performed for construction of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station as the valuable asset to be handed down proudly in the history of the Party, and saw to it that the gold star-bearing Monument to the Feats of the Hero Youth and the Exhibition Hall of the Feats of the Paektusan Hero Youth were built. And in April 2016 when the third power plant was completed, he visited the site for the fourth time. The young builders had finished the project four months ahead of

schedule by which the project had been slated to be finished by the Youth Day that year. So he said that the revolutionary soldier spirit and the Kanggye Spirit had been created during the Arduous March and the forced march, and now the Paektusan Hero Youth Spirit was created.

As he trusted in the strength of the 5 million Korean youths who had advanced straight forward under the leadership of the Party, the Supreme Leader sent them his autograph which reads, **“A prosperous tomorrow will be achieved earlier by young people taking vigorous steps. Always march straight ahead, following the Party!”**

Kim Jong Un
January 26, 2012”

Today young people of Korea are displaying all their energy and zeal to implement the new strategic line put forward at the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee.

Kim Ye Ryong



Young people played the role of the standard bearer, vanguard and shock force in the socialist construction, performing miracles and feats.

in the society and the masters of the future the Chairman said: We should give full play to all the talent and zeal of young people, and give wide publicity to and appreciate highly the merits and feats achieved by them so that they take full pride in being the masters of the era. And we should boundlessly love the young people. Put forward the young people and love them to the maximum—this is the most correct attitude and standpoint we should have towards them.

Especially, he had the whole society establish the habit of attaching importance to youths, and encouraged them to take a great share in national defence and socialist construction. And he saw to it that August 28 was designated as the Youth Day, and put forward the slogan “Love the youth!”

In January 1995 when Ko-

light procession of youth and students held in Pyongyang in celebration of the 50th birthday of the Workers’ Party of Korea the Chairman handed a torch over to them to the effect that he wanted the young people, successors to the revolutionary cause of Juche, to advance staunchly along the long journey of the revolution under the leadership of the WPK.

His love for and trust in the young people of Korea encouraged them to turn out as one to be 5 million human bullets and bombs to guard him when a semi-war state was proclaimed in the country to cope with schemes of the imperialists in March 1993. In those days over 1.5 million youths volunteered to rejoin or join the People’s Army. After finishing the railway construction project in the northern part of the country in the 1980s the young



The Whole Country Will Become Astir When Young People Are in High Spirits

THE FOLLOWING IS PART OF THE anecdotes created by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's policy of attaching importance to and loving young people.

Annual Youth Day Celebration

In March 2012 the Supreme Leader gave a meaningful instruction on Youth Day. He said that Youth Day should be celebrated on a large scale in the future and that the Youth Day celebration should be organized in such a way as to make it an important opportunity to demonstrate the organizing ability, united force and combat efficiency of the Korean youth. In August of that year he wrote on his congratulatory message to the participants in the Youth Day celebration, **"If the hot-blooded young people march forward in high spirits, blowing bugles and beating drums, the whole nation will be inspired, the hot wind of a leap forward will sweep across the country and a prosperous future will be brought closer."** And he set tasks to the youth.

He also had a souvenir photograph taken with the participants and saw a concert together with them. Since then Youth Day celebration has been annually held in a grand manner, the whole country being characterized by wonderful scenes of the celebration in August.

Girl Mother

In May 2015 the Supreme Leader appeared in a site where he was to have a souvenir photograph taken with the participants in the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue. He met the models among them before the photographing, and encouraged them while listening to what they said about their good deeds. Among them was Jang Jong Hwa, a 20-year-old girl. Hold-

ing her hand warmly, he exclaimed, **"I know you are bringing up seven orphans."** Jang shed tears with emotion. Patting her back, he called her "Girl Mother" and rated her deed highly. In his letter of thanks to the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue, he said, **"In particular, the laudable deeds of the 20-year-old girl mother, who is looking after seven orphans with maternal affection in the prime of her life, move all the people."** And he made sure that she was awarded Kim Jong Il Youth Honour Prize and held up as a model of the exemplary youth of virtue. Then a feature film about the girl was produced, and young people of the whole country were filled with enthusiasm to learn from her spiritual world.

If They Lift the Earth

In April 2016 the Supreme Leader visited Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station No. 3 after its completion. Seeing writings, sketches, picture albums and visual picture albums created by the young builders of the power station, he said that a picture of the visual picture album titled *We can lift even the earth with the Marshal's trust in us!* was impressive. Then a young official told him that the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade members had built the power station with the belief that when they are trusted by the Supreme Leader they can lift even the earth though in the biting cold of the north. Then the Supreme Leader said in an optimistic tone that in that case there was nothing impossible for them to conquer as they have such youth, and that if the youth lifted the earth he would turn it.

His words were full of his trust in youth and his confidence that he can do anything together with them.

Rim Ok

Young People in the Lead



RECENTLY A KOREA TODAY REPORTER interviewed Kim Un Chol, department head of the Central Committee of Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League. Excerpts:

The Korean young people are playing the leading role in the building of a powerful socialist country. Their role is particularly distinctive in economic construction, I think.

Young people are in the vanguard of economic construction as they were always in the past. Their work and life are full of vigour and enthusiasm befitting young people.

In any field and at any unit you can see the young people in the lead in carrying out arduous and difficult tasks. At all factories and enterprises, especially at mines which are the most labour-consuming workplace, they fulfil their assignments of the national economic plan through an energetic campaign of socialist emulation. Agricultural farms have workteams and sub-workteams of young people. Fisheries stations on the Korean East and West seas are enlivened by young people who are zealously launching into the sea to make upsurges.

Young people built the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station successfully withstanding the rigours of nature, and, by emulating the spirit and manner of work, are now leading major state projects such as the renovation of Samjiyon County, the construction of the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area and the Tanchon Power Station. Their innovative efforts day after day are to be found in the campaign to implement the decisions of the Third Plenary Session of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on directing an all-out effort to socialist economic construction and on developing science and education.

We can notice the spirit of young people in other fields as well, I believe.

Sure. Under the banner of "Go beyond the cutting edge!" young scientists and technicians are waging a brisk mental war, a technological war, in the research field while looking out over the world with their feet planted firmly on their land. Everybody knows the world was caught unawares by the successful research of our young scientists to conquer the outer space. In 2015 a young Korean was admitted into the World Academy of Sciences for the first time in our country, and a young Doctor of Physics of Korea in his 30s was appointed as member of an international research institute which has the world's top authority in theoretical physics. Korean university students cut a figure not only at national exhibitions of young people's sci-tech achievements and national programming contests of university students but also at international programming competitions on the Internet, displaying their wisdom and talent. Also, young people are developing themselves as masters of ingenious conceptions and technical innovation leading the effort to make all people well versed in science and technology. They are also playing a big role in modernizing production processes.

This year provincial, city and county youth league committees have given a strong impetus to the campaigns called young people's sci-tech march and movement for the title of student's scientific research prize. As a result thousands of valuable items of research have been presented to a number of exhibitions of technical innovations and hearings of experience in technical innovation, which have been introduced into practice extensively.

Our young people are also leading the effort to create the highest quality and standard of civilization at a super-fast speed. Earlier, they established the culture of heroic youth while spearheading the general march for the building of a powerful socialist country. Beefing up the spirit they are now playing a noteworthy role in all fields of the effort to develop a socialist culture, including education, public health, art and literature, and sport.

Their role in building a sports power is fairly admirable. Over the past three years alone the sportpeople have brought a great honour to our country by winning a lot of international competitions such as the 31st Olympics and the 46th World Gymnastics Championships. In particular, Rim Jong Sim, competing at the women's event at the World Weightlifting Championships 2015, fought it out even though she got wounded seriously, thus demonstrating the indomitable sportsmanship of the Korean contenders

► to the world. Her Russian and Kazakh rivals, helping her to approach the dais of honour, said that it was their honour to have had the competition with her and that she was a heroine. An American weightlifter remarked that Rim's struggle needed huge courage. A lot of sportspeople have won international competitions this year, too, thus adding to the honour of their country.

A lot of young people have displayed noble moral qualities since the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue 2015.

Our young people are voluntarily doing a lot of good things for the sake of society and collective keeping the laudable and noble moral qualities. Since the abovementioned conference tens of thousands of youth league workers, young people, students and pupils have performed praiseworthy deeds. Kim Song Hyok and Kim Kyong Ryol who used to work at the Central Committee of the youth league, and youth league workers at provincial, city and county levels and other young people from different parts of the country volunteered to work in the difficult sectors, and many graduates from normal colleges have gone to solitary islets and mountain villages to teach local children. Many young people marry disabled ex-soldiers to become their lifelong companions, when many others take good care of war veterans and disabled ex-soldiers and adopt orphaned children.

Young people of different countries admire Korea for its young people exalting their nation as a youth power.

That's clear when we look back on the 19th World Festival of Youth and Students held in Russia last year. During the festival delegates of youth and student organizations of various countries and representatives of international organizations attended

the international forum on solidarity with the Korean people and youth in their struggle for independent and peaceful reunification of their country. On the occasion they expressed their admiration of us young Koreans because we are under the guidance of our respected Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who puts forward young people as masters of the youth power by carrying forward President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il's idea of giving importance to the young people.

The vice chairman of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation said that Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il are the eternal leaders of the Korean people, that he admired the Korean young people who are under Kim Jong Un's leadership, and that he would like to pay homage to the great leaders of the Korean people who trained excellent young people.

Looking round the pictures of our young people working hard for the building of a powerful socialist country, the delegates of youth and students from Russia and different countries said deplorably that the young people in their countries were busy with money making alone without any interest in political engagement, thus causing troubles in social progress by involving themselves in all kinds of crimes and social evils. They were excited to learn that the youth problem has been brilliantly solved in our country thanks to the politics of attaching importance to the youth and loving them enforced by President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

Also, youth and student organizations of Cuba, Laos, Syria, Venezuela, Russia and many other countries and regions are extending invariable support and solidarity to our young and other people in our just cause of peace and reunification. □

AS A GROUP OF THREE islets, Hongwon Sol Islets lie in a line from east to west in the sea about 2 kilometres away from the seat of Hongwon County.

The islets have long been called Songdo (pine islet) in Korean as lots of pine trees grow there. The first islet is the largest of them, which is 0.54km in circumference, while the second and the third are 0.15km and 0.34km round, respectively.

The first and third islets are

Hongwon Sol Islets



nearly oval, and the second (the middle one) is quadrangular.

The islets came into being when the area of the East Sea of Korea sank in the Tertiary

period of the Cenozoic era. They are land islets of granite-gneiss with steep cliffs.

Hundreds of pines grow in thick verdure on the islets, and the sea off them is rich in varieties of fish, seaweeds and shellfish.

The islets visually show the crustal movement and change, so they are of considerable importance in research. They are preserved and managed as Natural Monument No. 279 as they are objects of scenic importance in the East Sea of Korea. □

Fruit of Boldness



Young scientists carry on a research project to actively break into the world's artificial intelligence market.

THE IT INSTITUTE OF the academy of advanced sciences, Kim Il Sung University, developed an intelligent face-recognition system, which ranked among the top three winners in the world artificial intelligence market. It was developed by young scientists in their twenties and thirties. At first they were hardly aware of the system, for they could not obtain detailed relevant data except for general introduction about such a system from foreign technical documents. However, they never gave up.

Let's do it in our own way. Help from others makes us dependent on them and fall captive to the tendency. Any developer who doesn't have his or her own things can't hold supremacy, and can't make his appearance with dignity at home and abroad. With this thought, they started the research from nothing. They chose functional indices necessary for all different faces so as to recognize

different people. They needed pictures of faces of different people by age, sex and race. So they visited crowded places including theatre, cinema, school, hospital, airport and photo studio. Based on this, they set up data bases and comprehensive projects, but the system's performance did not improve. Especially when faces were partially hidden by glasses and masks and turned at some angles the system hardly recognized them. They tried to find a solution to the problem but in vain.

One day the institute held a sci-tech seminar. Researcher Ri Kum Hyok who participated in the seminar fell in thought while listening to what a researcher was talking about. Ri thought of dividing 3D changes in face positions and their structural positions and analysing covered special points like eyes, nose and mouth against profiles. He discussed his idea with other

researchers. They supported him referring to it as a good idea. Then they restarted the research. Taking into consideration of 3D changes in face position, they compared special points in structural positions, and tried to obtain partial, characteristic amounts from the analysed special points—it was really a difficult job. Especially, it required much efforts to make the system designed to reflect more detailed special points instead of general ones for the purpose of distinguishing between similar characteristics in certain faces. Still, they set up necessary data bases again. If necessary, they tried out the system so as to improve the performance of the system gradually.

Finally, they made a breakthrough in the research, and the system was introduced in practice. The system took first place in a national IT achievements exhibition held last year. Not content with this they made another exertion, and thus further improved the technical performance of the system by employing the worldwide deep neuropile learning technology. At last the system ranked among the top three winners in the world market.

Kang Chol Su, head of a laboratory, says, "We boldly developed the proprietary technology and fairly ranked among the top three. This boosts our confidence. We'll actively advance into the world's artificial intelligence market."

Kim Ye Ryong

Treasures of Factory

RECENTLY I VISITED THE Sariwon Textile Mill where innovations were brought about in production. I arrived at the entrance to the mill, which was resounding with buzzing sound of looms, when its general manager greeted me. When I told him that I was there to collect data on young labour innovators he said with joy that I made a timely appearance, and told me that they were just going to hold a meeting to congratulate labour innovators. I stopped at a billboard for the honoured on the way to the venue for the meeting. While I was looking at photos on the billboard the general manager said with a smile, "They are those we are proud of. Especially those girls are treasures of the factory." Then I was guided to the aforesaid venue.

Spinner Won Tae Hyang.



The general manager stood at the speaker's table and called innovators by name. "Spinner Won Tae Hyang in spinning workshop No. 1, spinner Ri Un Sim in spinning workshop No. 2, weavers Kim Un Hui, Jo Ok Hui and Kwon Chol Gum in the general weaving workshop ...". The innovators appeared on the stage one by one, and other workers put garlands around their necks and presented them with bouquets. Most of the innovators were girls in their twenties who had begun to operate their machines merely a few years after graduating from middle school.

Ri Un Sim made a speech on behalf of the other innovators. She said, "Standing here now I remember my early days at the factory. Seeing weavers walk-

Spinner Ri Un Sim.



ing all day between buzzing machines to connect broken threads, I doubted if the job would be worthy of youthful energy. I was really tired with walking all day long between my machines every day. So one day I asked my work-team leader who was a Labour Hero spending all her life working at the factory from her girlhood. 'How did you become a hero here?' Then she said, 'I never dreamed of becoming a hero. I only strove to weave even one more metre of cloth.' Her simple words made me realize that the worth and honour of youth depend not on a certain workplace or a special position but on one's pure love for one's workplace. Now let me thank the weavers of the previous generation who unselfishly have led and held us dear."



Weaver Kim Un Hui.



Weavers Jo Ok Hui (left) and Kwon Chol Gum.



► All the participants in the meeting gave her a big hand. After the meeting the girl innovators gave their garlands and bouquets to elderly weavers of their workshops.

I met the innovators. Told of the purpose of my visit, they recommended the elderly weavers. This struck me dumb, and they all said that they had more things to do than what they had done, and asked me to meet the elder workers before hurrying to their workplaces. They were all simple, honest and beautiful girls.

The elder weavers they had recommended to me were Paek Sol, deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly and spinner of spinning workshop No. 1, and Ri Ok Son, Labour Hero and leader of spinning workshop No. 2. Seeing the girls hurrying away, they said, "They are just our girls," and told me the following story.

The girls made strenuous efforts to learn the method of connecting broken threads from their skilled senior workers. Some of them were scolded by their parents for practising connecting broken threads even at the dining table. They strove to find out a rational method of walking between the machines while doing so between trees in the factory compound after work so as to operate even one more machine. Finally they invented such a method based on combination of both-sided and zigzag circling methods. And they made preparations for the next shift. They helped and led those backward in work. They gathered even a piece of thread and a ball of cotton in their front pockets.

The elder weavers' talk about the girl innovators knew no bound. Listening to them,

I looked round different parts of the factory including weaving and spinning workshops. On walls of the workshops were put up the slogans "Time, follow me!" and "More cloth for my prosperous country!" and the workplaces were resounding with songs such as *My Place to Stand* and *Song of Spinner*. Girl weavers smilingly greeted me and kept walking between machines while singing to the melodies. They said nothing about their deeds. However, I did not want to take up their time. Their time meant their conscience and worthwhile moments of their youth devoted to their country. I saw in them their true love for their workplaces and their factory. I left the mill believing that they would always remain labour innovators and treasures of the factory.

Kim Ye Ryong



Green Bamboo

LABOUR HERO RI PHYONG Gyu, 72, was stroking several times a book brought by young saleswomen of the Pyongyang Shop. It was about him. The saleswomen were frequent visitors to his house. And they had intended to have a book written about the hero, and visited writers to ask for their help. Now the book was completed.

He had seldom talked about himself. But as the girls had followed him like their own grandfather, he had told them a lot of stories about himself.

Ri could hardly take his eyes off the title *Green Bamboo* of the book. The title just reflected the whole life of the elderly man who despite his paraplegia knew no pessimism but followed the patriotic road helping repair a lot of lorries. Turning pages of the book, however, he recollected how the connection between the girls and him was formed rather than reading it.

One day three years ago, Paek

Un Hui, one of the saleswomen, heard a lorry driver of the shop say that he had his lorry's imperfect starter repaired by a disabled elderly man.

That day the driver happened to stop the lorry by the elderly man's house. He was doing something without stopping the engine as the starter was imperfect, when a child from the house told him that his grandfather called him. When he entered the house the grandfather said, "I called you because the fuel was wastefully burned as the running engine was not stopped." Then the driver noticed that the elderly man was repairing a lorry engine, which required a high skill while lying on bed because of his paraplegia.

That night, even in bed, Paek tried to imagine the image of the disabled elderly man working. The next day she suggested to her colleagues that they visit him, and they agreed with her. When they visited his house Ri was working as ever. They were sorry

to see him working in bed with his chest depending on a pillow. They asked him why he did work even in that bad condition. He said, "The State affords convenience in my everyday life as I was injured a little while working. How can I enjoy the benefit without doing anything? I'm not tired at the thought that I can contribute even a little to the State." The girls were impressed by his clear civic conscience.

Later they visited him frequently. They would become "nurses" for him when he was ill with the aftereffect of contusion, and act like "thoughtless girls" badgering him to tell them about his experience so as to get him to rest. Then he was moved to tears, reading their good intention. In those days, he came to consider the girls to be like his own granddaughters.

In 2016 Ri received the title of Labour Hero for devoted services to the socialist construction. Then his wife said to people around, "The Gold Star Medal is for our *granddaughters* as well."

Ri put the book down, and picked up a photo he used to place near his bed. It was the one he had taken together with the girls on the day he received the title. *In fact you are like the green bamboo*, he said inwardly. *You helped and supported me.* Then he remembered what Un Hui had said while planting bamboos in the yard of his house. "Bamboo is said to withstand any rainy storm. We're planting them in order to show you our will to live like them.

Ri Kum Chol



Saleswomen talk with Ri Phyoung Gyu and his wife.

The Young Communist League of Korea



THE KOREA TODAY EDITORIAL BOARD introduces excerpts from President Kim Il Sung's reminiscences *With the Century*.

With the rapid dissemination of Marxist-Leninist ideas through the activities of the members of the DIU and secret reading circles a qualitative change began to take place in the thinking of the young people and students. The progressive ideas gradually made them understand the tasks set before them by history and the nation.

We united the young people and students into various organizations, while continuing to awaken them ideologically. Only through organizations was it possible to disseminate Marxist-Leninist ideas wider and train hardcore forces more rapidly.

I started my revolutionary activities in the youth and student movement. I attached great importance to this movement partly because I was a student and particularly because it played an important role in and had an important influence on awakening and organizing workers, farmers and other broad sections of the masses.

The Association of Korean Children in Jilin was the first organization we formed there....We formed the Association of Korean Children in Jilin, a legal organization, in April 1927 at Son Jong Do's chapel.

The Children's Association embraced all the Korean children in Jilin, including the children of workers, peasants and small and medium manufacturers and merchants, as well as of nationalists. The aim of the Association of Korean Children in Jilin was to educate children in the anti-Japanese idea and bring them up to be reliable reserves for the revolution.

In its programme the Children's Association made one important task for its members to be to study the new progressive ideas and explain and propagate them to the broad sections of the people.

In May that year we reformed the Ryogil Association of Korean Students in Jilin into the Ryugil Association of Korean Students in Jilin.

The Ryugil Association of Korean Students in Jilin, on the surface, professed itself to be an organization for promoting friendship among

Korean young people and students but, in fact, it acted as a revolutionary youth and student organization for implementing the ideas of the DIU. The change in the name of the Ryogil Association of Korean Students in Jilin and the reformation of it from a fraternity organization into a revolutionary one were a great experience for us in the youth and student movement.

Influenced by the activities of the organizations we formed the tide in Jilin began to turn.

The daily routine of the young people and students changed beyond recognition. The young people and children within the Children's Association and the Ryugil Association of Korean Students in Jilin met by districts every morning. On Sundays all members used to go to Beishan Park in a column, march through the streets singing or hold an athletics meeting in the playground at the foot of Beishan Park.

In working among the young people and children, we applied different forms and methods to suit their tastes and ideological levels.

The Children's Association and the Association of Korean Students arranged an excursion to Mt. Lungtan, a picnic in Jiangnan Park, visits to sites of historical interest, public lectures, discussions, study sessions, debating contests, readers' meetings, singing lessons, art performances and other extracurricular activities.

While attending school in Jilin, I gave lectures on many occasions. At times I delivered speeches at discussion meetings arranged by the nationalists.

At the symposiums and readers' meetings held in Jilin in those days questions relating to practical aspects of the Korean revolution were often discussed.

We fixed the first Sunday of May for Children's Association Day and created an atmosphere of unity by holding an athletics meeting attended by the Korean young people and students, their parents, influential figures and independence champions in Jilin on that day every year.

By uniting the children in this way we ensured that they took part in the work of educating and enlightening the people. Even the members of the Children's Association who were only ten years old went out to Jiangdong, Liudamen, ►

- Xinantun, Dahuanggou and other rural villages nearby in their holidays and enlightened the peasants there, while helping them in their work.

With the activities of the Association of Korean Children in Jilin, the Ryugil Association of Korean Students in Jilin and Marxist-Leninist reading circles proceeding briskly, a revolutionary force from the new generation grew rapidly in the Jilin area with the members of the DIU as its backbone.

The news that a new movement had been launched in Jilin spread not only to different parts of Manchuria but also to the homeland and to China proper. The news was spread mainly by the students studying at schools in Jilin and their parents.

Many young people flocked to Jilin from the homeland, Japan, the Maritime Province of Siberia and Manchuria to join our movement.

We admitted them to the DIU after educating them and extended our organization to the various schools in the town.

In the course of this we came to believe that it was necessary to create an organization which was bigger than the DIU and capable of embracing more people. Out of this necessity we reformed the DIU into the Anti-Imperialist Youth League (AIYL) on August 27, 1927 and the next day formed the Young Communist League of Korea (YCLK) from the core elements of the DIU. The AIYL was a mass illegal youth organization which was anti-imperialist and took over the aims and programme of the DIU. It was basically composed of young Korean people but we also allowed young Chinese people with a strong anti-imperialist stand to join.

The AIYL made a great contribution to rallying the anti-imperialist young people into the revolutionary ranks and to strengthening the mass foundation of the anti-Japanese struggle.

The organization spread to all the schools attended by Koreans in the town including Wenguang Middle School, Jilin Middle School No. 1, Jilin Middle School No. 5, Jilin Normal School, Jilin Girls' Middle School and Jilin Law College and struck root in Jiangdong, Xinantun and other rural areas around Jilin and in Liuhe County, Huadian County and Xingjing County. It spread to every place where there were Korean young people.

We reorganized the DIU into the AIYL and, following it, founded the YCLK because, since various organizations embracing young people and students in the Jilin and Fusong areas had been formed in a little over six months, an organization capable of leading these organizations in a unified manner was badly needed.

The formation of a new vanguard organization for the young people was a necessity for the development of the youth movement in those days.

The formation of a new vanguard organization was also an urgent need in the light of the prevailing situation.

At that time the Japanese imperialists were hastening their invasion of Manchuria. They ran wild to suppress the anti-Japanese feelings of the Korean and Chinese peoples, in collusion with the reactionary warlords in Manchuria, while intensifying their oppression of the Korean people.

The Korean youth rose in a widespread struggle against the Japanese imperialists and the reactionary Chinese warlords. This required a powerful vanguard organization to rally the young people and students organizationally, to control them in a unified manner and to lead their struggle.

Many fine young communists developed in the course of the struggle to implement the ideas of the DIU. A new type of young communists immune to factional strife, flunkeyism and the lust for power and untainted by the past developed into genuine core elements capable of leading our youth movement and communist movement along a new path.

We acquired a guiding theory for the Korean revolution in the course of studying the new trends in Huadian and Jilin and paving the way for the struggle in the DIU.

Having decided to found the Young Communist League as a vanguard organization with a guiding theory, I set about to draw up a programme and rules for it.

With these preparations as our basis, we held a meeting to found the Young Communist League of Korea (YCLK) beneath the Yaowang Shrine in Beishan Park on August 28, 1927.

That day we sang the Internationale side by side as we had done when founding the DIU.

The YCLK was an underground youth organization fighting against imperialism and for national liberation and communism, and which was formed by seasoned and tempered young people from different revolutionary organizations, the core elements of the AIYL forming its backbone.

The YCLK, the advance detachment of the Korean young communists, was the vanguard of the various mass organizations.

After founding the YCLK, we went among the masses quietly and without a fuss.

The YCLK played a glorious role in promoting the organizational unity of young people, training hardcore elements and strengthening the internal forces of our revolution. The founding of the YCLK was a great impetus to the work of the young communists to found a new type of party and played a pivotal role in expediting it. Most of the members of the first party organization formed in the summer of 1930 were vanguard young fighters trained through the YCLK.

Recently we have fixed August 28, the day of the foundation of the YCLK, as youth day. □

Songun and August 25

SONGUN WAS A PRINCIPLE THAT governed Chairman Kim Jong Il's revolutionary ideology and practice and his political idea and mode.

On August 25, 1960, the Chairman inspected the Korean People's Army (KPA) Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division, starting his Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

That day, spending quite a few hours with the officers and men of the unit in the sultry weather, he gave important instructions that reflected his political faith and Songun-based will. He said: The KPA should regard it as their general task to defend their leader (President Kim Il Sung) and their Party (the Workers' Party of Korea) with their lives; the unit should conduct combat and political training as the anti-Japanese guerrillas did so as to increase its combat efficiency in every way; the defence industry of Korean style should be developed; and the People's Army should play an important role in the socialist construction.

His instructions served as a vital guiding principle to be consistently held to in army building and defence upbuilding.

Once, during a talk with KPA commanding officers, he recollected the WPK's history of Songun with deep emotion.

During the Arduous March and the forced march decisive to the destiny of the country, he continued his inspection of the defence line posts of the country like Chol Pass, Mt. Osong, Hill 351, Height 1211, Panmunjom and Cho Island. Each of the faraway rough posts is associated with legendary stories of his love for soldiers.

One day over twenty years ago, he inspected a frontline post. Having climbed up to an observation point where an enemy post was visible to the naked eye, he gave important instructions and had a souvenir photograph taken with the soldiers there. Then he said: Lots of my sons and daughters are now defending the country in the frontline, and I should acquaint myself with their life in and out of service and encourage them. This requires me to go to the frontline.

Regarding all the soldiers on the frontline as his sons and daughters, he continued the Songun-based

revolutionary leadership out of parental affection. Whenever he visited army units, he looked round their barracks, kitchens and wash-cum-bathrooms, storehouses and sideline fields in detail and even had a taste of their dishes.

When he saw soldiers having a meal in darkness during his inspection journey, he had the headlight of his car lit for them though he was very busy. And he went to meet soldiers at a frontline post as he had promised their parents, and had a photograph taken with them. When he visited an army unit, he waited outside in a cold wind for a long time lest he should wake up soldiers at dawn although he had travelled by night.

With such warm love for soldiers, he led the KPA to fully display its might as the architect of people's happiness in the socialist construction as well as in national defence. During his continuous inspection of army units, he often said that the soldiers should continue to love and help the people and make breakthroughs in all difficult fronts for the building of a powerful nation by displaying the traits of army-people unity.

He dispatched soldiers to the difficult and labour-intensive projects such as the construction of a large-size power station and a motorway, large-scale land realignments and waterway projects so that they performed labour exploits.

True to his intention, KPA soldiers made breakthroughs in those projects for the socialist construction under the slogan "Let us take upon ourselves both national defence and socialist construction!"

Thanks to the Songun-based leadership of the Chairman who created the new mode of regarding the People's Army as the pillars of national defence and socialist construction and vigorously accelerating the overall socialist construction on the strength of the army's spirit and mettle, the solid foundation was laid for the building of a socialist power.

Recollecting his history of Songun-based revolutionary leadership with deep emotion, the Korean people are now full of fierce determination to keep upholding his intention.

An Chol Ho



A large-size commemorative mural depicts Kim Il Sung delivering a historic speech on his triumphant return.

August 15 and Korean People

ON AUGUST 15, 1945 THE Japanese imperialists who had occupied Korea militarily were finally defeated. That day the shouts “Long live General Kim Il Sung!” and “Long live liberation of Korea!” went up everywhere in Korea. In October 1945 a mass rally was held in Pyongyang to celebrate the historic triumphal return of the General. He warmly returned the salute of the cheering crowd and made a historic triumphal speech that clarified how to build a new Korea. Looking up to him, the welcoming crowd shed copious tears of joy and emotion. The Korean people had lost their country to the Japanese imperialists for over 40 years. They had been like fallen leaves in late autumn and gravel stones by the roadside and trampled by the Japanese aggressors, deprived of not only their national dignity but

also their language and even their Korean names.

Early in the 20th century Japan occupied Korea militarily. At the time Korea was not strong enough to check the Japanese imperialists invading the country firing bullets and guns. The country’s total industrial power was as good as only 227 hp and its army was too small to check the aggressors’ invasion.

After their military occupation of Korea the aggressors maintained that Koreans must obey Japanese law or die and that they would be satisfied with killing Koreans like Ainu in Hokkaido, and manoeuvred viciously to stamp out the Korean nation.

During the whole period of their occupation of Korea the aggressors took away 8.4 million Korean people by force, slaughtered over a million and forced 200 000 Korean women into sexual slavery

for their army. Coal mines, mines and power plants proud of modern civilization in Japan were created at the cost of blood and sweat of Koreans and associated with their resentment.

And the Japanese imperialists plundered whatever they could lay their hands on. A lot of Koreans staged demonstrations shouting, “Long live independence of Korea!” But the aggressors put down the demonstrations by arms. And Koreans waged volunteers’ struggles and the Independence Army movement but in vain.

When the destiny of the country and the nation was at stake there was a man who declared an all-out war against the Japanese imperialist gangsters. He was General Kim Il Sung. Having deeper experience of the sorrow of ruined people than anyone else, the General had embarked on the

Juche Idea, Revolutionary Doctrine of Independence (8)

Illuminating the Era

TODAY THE JUCHE IDEA is arousing absolute support and sympathy from the world progressive peoples for its universal truth and perfection. Now in the world the activities of regional Juche idea study councils and Juche idea study groups in various countries, are getting brisker day after day under a well-or-

ganized system with the International Institute of the Juche Idea as the centre. And the students of the idea are on the increase continuously.

The Juche idea is the ideology President Kim Il Sung created in his practical struggle to lead the Korean revolution. As for its history only 90-odd years have passed since the emergence of the idea.

The greatness of an ideology is neither defined by the size of the country where it was born nor the passage of time after its creation. It is only defined by the idea’s universal truth and perfection.

The scientific accuracy and greatness of the Juche idea are firmly guaranteed by the universal truth of its ideological theory, the perfection of its constitution and content as a guiding idea of

road of revolution. Now he called on all the Korean people to launch all-people resistance against the Japanese imperialists.

The Koreans turned out as one in the struggle against the aggressors under the leadership of the General. Many Koreans joined the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army (KPRA) to fight with arms in hand against the Japanese imperialists. Among them were women who joined the KPRA with rifles they had wrested from Japanese imperialist army soldiers and policemen, and children who had lost their parents to the enemy. Many Koreans of all ages and both sexes fought against the imperialists, and the other people gave sincere material assistance to the KPRA.

Various struggles and subversive activities took place against the aggressors across the country. Patriotic youth and people formed anti-Japanese underground organizations, and made efforts to go to see General Kim Il Sung or made preparations for launching an armed uprising in response to his starting to make a march into the homeland. Young people of Taedong County in South Phyon-

gan Province formed the National Liberation Corps, prepared an armed uprising and made a detailed action plan to attack and destroy the enemy’s organs like police station and military police station. The young Koreans in the Japanese imperialist army including those drafted into the Japanese Marine Corps in Jinhae, and those in Tokyo, where the highest authorities of Japan were entrenched, were preparing an armed uprising. In Pyongyang, Pusan, Kongju, Haeju, Sinuiju, Seoul and all other parts of Korea people of all strata including workers, peasants, youth and students prepared a life-and-death struggle against the imperialists while revering the General as the sun of the nation, despite being in difficulties owing to the worst oppression by the imperialists who were on the verge of defeat.

At last the General gave an order of general forward march for national liberation, and the Korean people across the country swept away the remnants of the enemy while destroying colonial ruling organs in keeping with operations of the KPRA units. The

KPRA’s resolute offensive operations and the entire Koreans’ struggle compelled the Japanese imperialists to surrender to the nation on August 15, 1945.

As they were waiting so eagerly for the day of their liberation the Korean people listened to the General’s speech shedding tears. He said, **“To contribute positively to the work of building the State, let those with strength give strength; let those with knowledge give knowledge; let those with money give money; and all people who truly love their country, their nation and democracy must unite closely and build an independent and sovereign democratic state.”** His speech fired all the people with an enthusiasm to build a new democratic Korea.

For the Korean people, August 15 is really a significant day that heralded the springtime of their liberation and rebirth of the nation, and a historic day when a broad avenue for the building of a new country and the creation of a new life was opened up.

Kim Ye Ryong

► revolution, and its invincible vitality.

The Juche idea originated by the President is a man- and people-centred ideology which clarifies the scientific and universal principle in carving out man's destiny by correctly reflecting the independent requirement of man, the popular masses. The reason why the Juche idea becomes a revolutionary idea which elucidates the profound principle in hewing out man's destiny is that it is a scientific idea unfolded and systematized with man, the popular masses, put on the centre of philosophical consideration. He set it as an important philosophical issue to clarify the intrinsic attributes of man, the position and role of man in the world, and the inherent law of social movement, and settled the issue perfectly.

The principles of the Juche idea on the world outlook he newly clarified by centring on man constitute the universal and just truth which most scientifically elucidates the main principle in carving out the destiny of man, the popular masses. This is the key reason why the Juche idea is a great ideology anyone can accept and worship, and needs.

The Juche idea gives perfect answers to all theoretical and practical problems arising in the revolutionary struggle and construction. In view of the practical requirement of the Korean revolution he gave answers to many problems arising in the revolutionary practice. In the course of this, he comprehensively developed the Juche-oriented revolutionary theory and method of leadership.

He created the Juche idea not for the purpose of putting forth a certain ideological and theoretical system like in purely academic study. On the basis of principles on the world outlook for carving

out man's destiny he gave answers to the issues arising in the revolutionary practice including those of the revolutionary strategy and tactics, and relevant principles and methods. In this course he pursued, established and systematized the Juche idea. Thus, from the early days when its foundation was proclaimed, the idea was unfolded with essential components made of the revolutionary theory and method of leadership the popular masses should adhere to in the revolutionary movement and construction to carve out their own destiny.

While organizing and leading the revolutionary war against a powerful imperialist force to achieve the independence of the country and the post-liberation building of a new society to liquidate feudal fetters he put forward the theory of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution. And while leading the vigorous struggle to carry out the gigantic tasks of socialist revolution and construction, he developed the Juche-oriented theory of socialist revolution and construction in a general way. In those days the Juche-oriented theory was enriched and developed into the revolutionary theory which comprehensively crystallizes all practical issues for successfully carrying out the historic tasks of national liberation and class and human emancipation, and the theoretical issues on transformation of nature and society and remoulding of man.

The Juche idea gives answers to all the theoretical and practical issues arising in the struggle to solve the issue of destiny of man, the popular masses. The idea makes it possible to solve all problems arising in the struggle for not only national independence and the building of a new society but also transformation of nature

and society and comprehensive remoulding of man.

What firmly guarantees the universality and immortality of the Juche idea is the fact that it comprehensively developed into a perfect revolutionary theory which generally crystallizes all theoretical and practical issues arising in the popular masses' endeavour to carve out their own destiny independently.

While creating the Juche idea Kim Il Sung solved the issue of the Juche-oriented method of leadership perfectly. In the early days of his revolutionary activities he, with deep insight into the significance and importance of leading the masses, gave classic explanation of pending problems on leading the masses. Thus, the Juche idea became a revolutionary idea with the issue of method of leading the masses as one of its important components from the early days when its creation was proclaimed.

Besides, during the long period of his revolutionary practice he extensively solved all theoretical and practical problems arising in leading the masses, including those on the principle and system of leading the masses and the revolutionary method and style of work.

The history of the great victory of the Korean revolution and relevant great change that started from the early 20th century and lasted until today is, in essence, the one of the sacred struggle by which the popular masses have taken responsibility for and carved out their own destiny under the banner of the Juche idea. Today the torch of the Tower of the Juche Idea, symbolic of the greatness of the Juche idea and the vibrant spirit of the Juche era, is shining invariably.

Ri Jong Nam

A Railway Bridge Built Newly in the East Sea of Korea



Key to Growth of Production

RECENTLY, THE RAGWON MACHINE Complex is increasing the production of hydraulic shovels and other heavy machines needed by the important sectors of the national economy. This is attributable to the technical modernization of the production processes done by the scientific and technical personnel of the complex.

The complex has made much progress in techni-

cally improving the performance of the products as well as further perfecting the process for assembly-line production of hydraulic shovels of 1 m³ capacity scientifically and technically.

Technicians of the complex invented and introduced a new braiding technique in making high-pressure hose, confirmed the reasonable proportion of oil-resistant rubber and improved the structure of joint head, thus enhancing the performance of hydraulic system more than twice. And they improved the quality of shovelling bucket and newly solved the problem of geometric curve, thus making efficient bucket capable of withstanding any working conditions.

The new shovels from the complex have more merits than the previous. In particular they are characterized by the turntable's smooth motion.

A number of successes have been made in the production of major parts and equipment by dint of science and technology.



► In addition, the complex is bringing about many achievements in the production of other important components and equipment needed by several sectors of the national economy. Having transformed the previous air-lubricated turbine blades of large-sized oxygen plant into the oil-lubricated, they increased the working life of the blades and made it possible to use less equipment and labour in the preparatory process. This is favourably commented upon by several production units such as the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex and the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex which have large-sized oxygen plants. Not content with this, the technicians of the complex are further accelerating the technical modernization of the process for making efficient turbine blades, and increasing the production.

The complex serializes the production of tens of kinds of other equipment to be sent to several sectors of the national economy. The equipment include submersible pump widely used in coal mines, mines and construction sites, and concrete delivery pump and vacuum pump that help increase the speed of construction.

An innovation has been brought about in bearing production, which previously depended on imported materials. Now it is possible to produce various bearings for the production of submersible pumps using industrial by-products as raw materials. And designers of the complex designed concrete delivery pump



A hydraulic apparatus workshop.

in a unique way by themselves. The pump can deliver per hour tens of cubic metres of concrete mixture up to the top of a building hundreds of metres high.

With the beginning of the farming season, it started to produce tractor-based shovels of 0.1 m³ capacity. The shovels, which can be mounted on Chollima tractors, were designed to suit the rural conditions of the country by some technicians of the complex who had graduated from its own college. The shovels are very popular with farms for their simple operation and high efficiency in digging and loading compost.

The complex is accelerating the integration of science and technology and production by relying on its own technical development force so as to produce more and more equipment needed to carry on the socialist economic construction.

Kim Chol Ung





The sci-tech learning space.



The pasty finishing process.



The pancake production line.



The skewered meat production line.

Masters of Factory

KOREA HAS MANY FOOD-stuff factories whose products are popular with the people for their good tastes and high nutritive value. Among them is the Kumsong Foodstuff Factory.

When asked about the secret of its success, every worker of the factory says, “We are the masters of the factory in charge of the improvement of the people’s living standards.”

“For the Future!”

Last April there took place the 3rd Sugar and Cake Sculpture Show in Pyongyang. Kim Un Ju, workteam leader of the aforesaid factory, presented over ten kinds of sugar sculptures, which attracted the attention of spectators for their high nutritive value and formative and artistic features.

In particular, the sculptures which depicted the leads of animations and animals and plants were so vivid that they were very popular with children. Kim took first place at the exhibition again, winning three consecutive victories.

When asked about her impression from the last victory, she

said, “I’m more pleased to see the children’s happy smiles than the honour of my victory.”

She has been working in the sugar production field for over 20 years. Now she is a mother with two children. But aware of her duty to children for their bright looks, she often says inwardly, “I’ll keep working hard for the future.” All her colleagues have the same mind as her.

Single Mind

Among the innovative workers of the factory are Song Il Nam and his wife Jong Sun Hui, members of the pasty workshop. They are taking the lead in technical innovation, thus taking a large share in making the production facilities modern and Juche-oriented. The couple is also well known to the factory for their duet.

They often sang together on the stage of art performances and were introduced together in the noticeboard. In the course of this they fell in love and married.

Last year Il Nam developed and introduced in production an automatic skewered meat oven

while his wife did a vegetable peeler. Thus they received certificates of registered sci-tech achievement at the same time. They say, “Not only at home but also in the workplace, we share a single mind and thought. We always think how to modernize the factory and produce more delicious pasties. In the future, too, we’ll be one for ever in working for the country and the people.”

Guide to Science and Technology

Jo Hak Nam is a science and technology disseminator of the factory. He is known as a guide to science and technology among the workers.

His duty is to quickly inform the workers of the trends in the development of the foodstuff industry and help them learn modern science and technology. He does not merely stay in the sci-tech learning space, but goes to workshops to help solve sci-tech problems.

Though it is only three years since he began to work at the factory after graduating from univer-

sity, he has helped many workers become inventors. Among them is Kim Un Jong, worker of the bread workshop, who developed seven new kinds of bread and was awarded a certificate of new product.

Over ten workers won certificates of invention and certificates of sci-tech achievements at several festivals and exhibitions including the national invention and new technology exhibition and the national consumer goods exhibition.

Jo is not content with this. He says, “In the near future I’ll help all the other workers of the factory become inventors. This is just my goal.”

Choe Sol Mi

The sugar processing line.



Researchers' Goal

RECENTLY, THE MINING MACHINE research institute of the State Academy of Sciences developed a new-type scroll compressor.

Two years ago, Ri Sang Hyok, a section chief of the institute, went to a coal mine and came to know the fact that face saws and air filters used in small pits failed to fully display their efficiency because the compressed air, their main power of the pits, grew weak while passing through the long pipe from the pit mouths to working sites.

After returning with a determination to improve the compressor's performance, he soon held a meeting to discuss the problem. The researchers suggested two options—one of improving the existing compressor and the other of developing a new one.

Then Ri stood up quietly and read a paragraph of a technical book, "Compressed air accounts for 20 percent of power in the modern industry.... Scroll compressor, which makes it possible to raise the

Efforts are directed to development of new products.



productivity of compressed air and compression efficiency, gives a perfect answer to this question. The scroll compressor..."

Everyone watched him with a new look for he had looked forward to the future of their own creation. They realized that their task was not merely to raise the efficiency of a machine.

Now they started to develop the most advanced scroll compressor to suit the actual conditions of the country. First they conducted the basic research on the technical procedure for making its parts. Many knotty problems faced them. They set a bold goal of manufacturing the scroll compressor in an innovation-oriented way without relying on the established data.

But it was not an easy job to interpret the complicated structure of curve profile which produces compressed air by means of interaction between a fixed scroll and a mobile scroll. They finally made clear the curve profile equation of the scroll compressor and developed the optimal design system of its working part in an original way.

And they solved difficult technical problems by introducing CNC-based method of processing the fan groove of the working part, thus making it possible to fully satisfy various technical indices. And they conducted several on-load and no-load test runs of the compressor, the result of which proved the birth of a new-type compressor with remarkably high performance.

Unlike the imported integral and stationary one, the new scroll compressor was easy to handle as the electric motor is separated from the working part, and could be used in any working conditions as it is small in size and simple in structure.

In particular, its compression efficiency was very high because it is very airtight. As compared with the imported one with the same output, the compressor consumes less power while working very efficiently, and its small size and light weight made it possible to install it close to the working site.

The merit and effectiveness of the new-type scroll compressor were fully proved in not only coal and ore mines but also other units like the Pyongyang Building Materials Factory where the compressor was applied to a pneumatic grinding process.

Sin Se Gwang, the researcher who developed the program for determining the parameter of the structure of the working part, says, "Different point in question produces a different result. I'll redouble efforts to always get findings which I can refer to as our own."

Kim Chol Ung

Duty of Citizen

SCIENTISTS AND TECHNI-Scians of Korea are now devoting their wisdom and energy to the prosperity of their socialist country. Among them are researchers of the resource development machine laboratory of the resource development mechanical engineering faculty, Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering.

Four years ago Kim Su Gwan, head of the laboratory, was aware of the fact that a thermal power plant produced less electricity as compared with its coal consumption while studying into the amount of coal consumption at the plant. It was because they did not introduce a technical method based on modern science. Kim fell in deep thought. Of course his laboratory's mission was not directly related to the electricity production of the power plant, and it was not his field of specialization. But now that he knew why the electricity production of the power plant was decreasing he could not neglect the matter.

Back at the laboratory he told his researchers about the fact, and went on to say, "I suggest we take upon ourselves the matter as we know about it. Anyone should solve the problem. We should become true citizens of the country before scientists."

His words touched the researchers' heartstrings. They turned out to solve the problem by themselves. They pooled their wisdom to study relevant bulky documents, and strove to have an understanding of high speed rotary machines. In the course of this, they all agreed with one another that they should not estimate the stability of vibration of rotary machine by means of the previously established method but using new diagnosis method based on modelling and a dynamical balancing method based on a nonlinear model.

However, it was not an easy job. The data on the methods of some countries and it was not introduced in any documents.

Intensifying the research on steam-electric generating sets, the researchers including Kim found that the most important reason for the breaking of shafts and the destruction of bearings in high-speed rotary machines

of rotators in turbine generator and feed pump, they developed a measuring device to estimate the optimum faired curve of rotation axis. In the meantime they perfected the system so that it could correctly judge the mass disproportion and position of rotator, and invented and introduced a new dynamical balancing technique, thus making it possible to increase the rotation



Researchers push ahead with a project by pooling their wisdom.

including turbine generator and feed pump was the vibration due to deflection of rotating shaft. And they concluded that they can control vibration severity if they change the mounting height of axle journal to suit the deflection curve of shaft. On the basis of the conclusion, they buckled down to development of a program to model motion of such rotary machines mathematically and ensure the stability of the mounting height of axle journal in accordance with faired curve.

After their painstaking efforts for several months, they finally succeeded in systematizing a new stability estimation scientifically and theoretically.

And in the course of measuring the angle and natural deflection of axle journal and unstable states

speed 1.2 times higher than the declared speed.

The new system introduced in many thermal power plants, including Chongchongang Thermal Power Plant, helped increase the cycle of repair and raise the electricity production level safely.

The prospect for wide introduction of the new stability estimation system is remarkable as it is based on a technique good for improving equipment management in different sectors of the national economy.

Now the researchers are continuing scientific research projects to fulfill their duty, conscious that they are citizens supporting the country with science.

Sim Chol Yong

Faster and More

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS the most critical matter in educational work at present?

To this question officials and teachers of the Phyongsong University of Medicine say in unison, "It's the time. It never awaits us."

They are concentrating all their speculation and efforts on bringing up more able talents faster. A histology lecture, which

is a basic special subject, can be taken as a good example. The teacher's explanation lasts only 30 minutes in a relevant lecture of 90 minutes. This does not mean a decrease in the content of the lecture. On the contrary, the students have a lot to grasp.

In the past a teacher's explanation covered the greater part of the lecture. So the relevant de-

partment saw to it that the time of teacher's explanation was decreased and that teachers created methods of making it possible for students to digest contents of lecture better. Several deep points, for example, were raised in such a way that students found out commonness and difference between muscular tissues of human body. Thus the rest of the lecture

►



Students work hard to become competent medical workers.



was dedicated to discussion and argument between students, and their cognition and thinking faculty greatly changed for the better.

The same is the case with the lecture on otolaryngology and head and neck surgery. In the past it was difficult to make students have a vivid idea of relevant things. Only words and pictures, for example, failed to help students have a correct understanding of motion of the eardrum and combination of the eardrum and the auditory nerve. Problems arose in places for practice as well. With no clinical experience, the students failed to judge accurately lesions though they looked into the examination instrument after listening to the relevant doctor's explanation.

The teachers then made an original program that shows how vocal cords move and vibrate when a person speaks. The program makes students feel as if they were in an ill part. This enables them to instantly grasp what illness affects which part of the vocal cords of people like singers who have much strain on the part, and positively deal with patients different in occupation and condition. Thus, the relevant practice now takes only three days instead of previous 12 days.

Foreign language education is no exception. The university regards the education as the essential one. Pong Kwang Chol, foreign language teacher, radically improved students' relevant ability in an incomparably shorter period than ever by intensifying their foreign language functional training for the purpose of enhancing their comprehension and listening faculty. Students Ri Pom I and Kim Mil Rim, who took first place and won special prize respectively at the third national foreign language contest of students from universities of technology, say, "People often say that foreign language learning bear as much fruit as the time spent on it. We, however, learned how to advance the time."

Kim Yong Ik, president of the university, says, "Now the amount of new knowledge is increasing explosively. The speed of the increase is faster in the sector related to human life and health. It is a pressing issue facing us to make students grasp the relevant knowledge better and faster. The more we advance time in education the faster we will hasten the better and more civilized future."

Chae Kwang Myong

Songi Mushroom Good for Health

SONGI MUSHROOM IS A SPECIALITY of Korea along with wild insam and Koryo insam.

The mushroom contains crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre, coarse ash, carbohydrate, various kinds of essential amino acids and different vitamins including vitamin C, vitamin B group and vitamin E. And it also contains rich essential microelements including phosphorus and calcium good for health.

The fungus helps you strengthen the body harmoniously, digest food well and stop pain. And it is effective in checking viruses, decreasing cholesterol in blood, modulating immunity and promoting urination.

The mushroom grows in clusters and widely spreads forming groups in certain areas in autumn on the soil into which granite, quartz trachyte, sandstone and quartzite disintegrate, the sunny and sterile soil of pine forests with poor humus in which water drains well and that of mixed forests of pines and broadleaf trees.

As it is peculiar in fragrance and uncommonly tasty, the mushroom can be used raw. Its powder is used as spices. And it can be pickled with salt, canned or processed in other ways.

Kim Un Jong



With One Mind

A FEW DAYS AGO I GOT ON a train for Sunchon City to go to Su Bok Senior Middle School in the city for news coverage as I heard it was registering many successes in improving its educational conditions and environment.

When the train was going to start, an elderly man and a young man entered the coach with a heavy pack. They sat opposite me, wiping perspiration from their foreheads. "I always take off my hat to your strenuous efforts for the sake of students," the young man said, taking reference books and multimedia DVDs out of the pack.

Out of curiosity I had a talk with them.

The elderly man was Chae Tong Il, head of the aforesaid school, and the young man was Pak Kum Song, mathematic teacher of the same school. They had obtained the books and multimedia DVDs from Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 during their visit on business to Pyongyang.

I introduced myself as a

journalist, and told them I was going to the school. Then Pak told me about the achievements of the school. The school had annually produced six or eight winners of the title of the July 15 Honour Student Prize, and the ratio of its graduates enrolled at schools of higher grade was higher than others' in the city. And among its graduates are five doctors, over 50 scientists, over 20 artistes, and over 30 sportspersons.

When I asked them how they could make such achievements, Chae answered, "You see, beautiful flowers are inconceivable apart from fertile soil. All the teachers strove with one mind to improve the educational conditions and environment, and raise their own qualifications so as to bring up the students into reliable pillars of the country." And he told the following story.

The Sixth Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea held in September 2012 adopted an ordinance on enforcement of the universal 12-

year compulsory education.

At the news of the ordinance Chae was lost in thought. *The universal 12-year compulsory education is aimed at bringing up the rising generations into those possessed of secondary school knowledge, modern basic technical knowledge and creative ability. And the educational environment and conditions should be improved in order to radically improve the quality of education as required by the developing education in the era of knowledge-based economy and the relevant global trend.*

Then he held a consultative meeting of teachers, and called on them to bring about innovations in the school affairs with concerted efforts as required by the new century without only depending on the State.

This sparked a campaign to renovate the interior of the school building including classrooms and laboratories. Many teachers strove to attain their goals without fail, and parents of their students actively helped the teachers. Thus the appearance of the school began to change for the better. This inspired all the other teachers, who had been hesitating, to join the campaign with confidence.

The central entrance hall was upgraded; classrooms turned into multifunctional ones; and physical, chemical and biological laboratories were refurbished wonderfully.

The school pushed ahead with the work to improve the qualifications of teachers at the same time. It organized a meeting for discussion about education methods by department once a week, and a meeting to discuss school education methods once a month. The meetings consisted of teaching ability presentations



► and simulated lessons which helped the teachers improve their qualifications.

Meanwhile, the school organized the operation of its IT studying room and sci-tech learning space on a regular basis, and promoted the contact with Kim Il Sung University, the Grand People's Study House and Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 to develop new teaching methods of education. In the course of this scores of teachers received the title of October 8 Model Teacher, and Pak Thae Suk, one of the teachers, was awarded a special prize at a national teaching contest held last year.

The head of the school said that greater success was gained as the teachers encouraged the students' self-consciousness and activeness and introduced the heuristic method of teaching with emphasis put on ensuring logicity, systematicness and sequence of the teaching contents.

His words convinced me that the concerted efforts of teachers can make a leap forward by dint of science and guarantee the future by dint of education.

Rim Hye Gyong



Teachers discuss how to improve their ability.



It's No Longer Incurable Disease

HAN HYE GYONG, doctor of the Hamhung Railway Bureau Hospital, succeeded in her research on an advanced cure for aseptic necrosis of caput femoris, which is regarded as an incurable disease around the world. This makes it possible to completely cure the disease.

Crutches Discarded

Jon Il, worker of the management board of the woodwork producers' cooperative under the Sinhung County People's Committee, suffered from the disease for the last four years. He got all kinds of treatment in different hospitals, but in vain. His agony was indescribable while living with the help of his wife and children. During this period, he had to walk with the help of a pair of crutches.

One day, he heard that there was an able doctor—Han Hye Gyong—in the Hamhung Railway Bureau Hospital. So he went to see the doctor. Surprisingly, after getting her treatment three times, he became able to walk again. He felt like he was having a dream. Only three injections enabled him to get on his feet by himself, which was a miracle.

Looking at him who fully recovered, his family members, relatives, neighbours and friends praised Han as a competent doctor. After the fourth treatment, he became able to walk. He says, "I discarded my crutches after the fourth treatment."

Disabled Man Stood Up

Ill for three years for an unknown reason, Yun Jong Gil, worker of the Quality Office of



Kilju County, became unable to get on his feet.

When he was diagnosed with aseptic necrosis of caput femoris in a special hospital, he was in despair that he would never be able to walk again. Some people advised him to go to the Hamhung Railway Bureau Hospital.

Consequently he was attended to by Han Hye Gyong. Unbelievably he was able to stand up by himself after a single treatment, so he got confident of his recovery. And he began to practise walking every day. After the second treatment, he felt his legs stronger, and the third treatment enabled him to walk and work freely.

His neighbours were surprised to see him walking and said, "We've never seen such a miracle. As you got a good treatment in a really good social system, you've become able to get on your feet again."

Now I Can Play Football

Ri Yong Nam, officer of the Kyongsong Cocoon Processing Factory in North Hamgyong Province, managed to walk with the help of others, because of the same disease.

It took him an hour and

a half to walk from the Hamhung Railway Station to the abovementioned hospital, which takes a normal man seven to ten minutes to do.

He was very disappointed when he got no better after his four similar treatments in the hospital. He was afraid that he might not walk again for the rest of his life. But witnessing other patients get better, he kept getting treatment with conviction. He began to feel better after the 8th treatment. After the 14th treatment, he fully recovered.

He said, "I can't express my excitement at that time. I was so happy. Now I am able to play my favourite sports such as football, volleyball and table tennis. I would like to express my thanks to our Party that has brought up such excellent doctors."

Han's treatment is a method of helping a relevant patient preserve his or her own caput femoris without using imported artificial one. The treatment costs low and can be applied at any medical institutions. It also needs no special medical facilities and can be applied to any cases irrespective of age and period. Moreover, the treatment is simple and takes only five to 20 minutes, making special rest unnecessary.

Now, aseptic necrosis of caput femoris is an incurable disease no longer in Korea.

Han began to give the treatment over 20 years ago and has since brought thousands of cases back to normal state so that they have become able to go to work again.

She is still busy treating patients with a sense of honour as a servant for the people.

Sim Chol Yong

Rehabilitation Develops

SEVERAL YEARS HAVE passed since the Munsu Rehabilitation Clinic was opened. During the period its orthopedic rehabilitation department freed a lot of people from their physical disturbances.

In treating musculoskeletal disturbances the department put the main emphasis on exercise and combined different treatments scientifically, thus raising the rate of amelioration of the disorders and advancing the convalescence.

In January 2014 a patient was carried on a stretcher to the clinic. He could not turn on his side himself after getting an operation for multiple fracture caused in an accident.

Then a treatment group was formed with a doctor in charge and other doctors. They had him do exercises by stage and employed functional treatments at the same time so as to restore the functions of his muscles and joints. Thanks to their painstaking efforts, he recovered in a year.

Scientific exercise technique was introduced in treatment of slipped disk. The disturbance causes great inconvenience in relevant patients' life and is high in rate of return, so it is regarded as a typical chronic disease.

The department tried and employed McKenzie technique, which proved effective. The technique is

the one to treat the disorder by teaching patients the orientation of their exercises and having them do appropriate exercises according to changes in their symptoms. It is a medical technique based on mechanical principle by which the slipped disk go back into place by dint of physical strength. Patients, who had had difficulty doing exercises, experienced treatment based on exercises, and they were glad that they became able to prevent the relapse of the disease through treatment they could do by themselves.

The department also made success in treatment of degenerative joint disease caused by aging. In the course of getting the relevant exercise treatment by which to strengthen muscles to the maximum, to weaken strain imposed on knees and reduce friction of joints, the patients discarded dependence on medicines.

It is putting rehabilitation on a more scientific basis by developing and introducing a lot of medical appliances like lumbar vertebrae traction bed and treatment programs.

The department is striving to actively introduce advanced techniques of rehabilitation and to develop orthopedic rehab treatments and techniques suited to the constitution of Koreans.

Rim Ok



First Step

IN MARCH LAST THE 11TH FIG World Cup was held, and a new star Kim Su Jong, 18, from the DPRK drew the attention of the judges and spectators by performing correct and refined movements in the event of free exercises of the individual apparatus competition.

When Kim Su Jong studied at the Sonnae Primary School in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, she was out of others' attention for her small stature. She was calm and reluctant to join in a debate with her fellows. What was extraordinary in her was that she did anything in a responsible manner and liked to act rather than speak.

One day, during a sports lesson, the teacher led the pupils to a climbing bar. Some pupils boasted that they could climb highest. But the one who climbed higher than others was Su Jong who was waiting for her turn without saying a word. She composedly used the strength of her arms and legs harmoniously, climbing up to the top

of the bar. Kim Un Ju, coach of the Pyongyang Sports Club, who was in the school at that time for selecting reserve sportspersons, saw the scene, and asked her how she could climb up to the top of the bar.

"Actually I used to climb the climbing bar in my after-school hours," Su Jong said.

"Why did you do so?" the coach asked again.

"I wanted to demonstrate that I do what I can do. My maternal grandmother said one's strength relies on one's mind. She said that if I want to outdo others in physical preparedness, I should try untiringly, stressing that 'A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step,'" she replied.

Su Jong's maternal grandma, who was an ex-gymnast, advised her to practise climbing the climbing bar. So, she started to do so a year before when other children played at housekeeping.

The coach then encouraged Su Jong, saying that it was a valuable first step, and that if she kept training hard, she would become

a sports ace adding lustre to the honour of the country. And the girl said she certainly wanted to be so.

That is how Su Jong began to do heavy gymnastics. As she was young and lost her father in her early years, the coach had to take warm care of her everyday life. But when she found the girl lazy in training, she would make exact demands on her, asking, "How many steps have you taken in the long journey for success?"

Then Su Jong would strive again, overfulfilling her task of daily training with set teeth. This enabled her to gain successes consecutively in many domestic competitions.

At last Su Jong made her debut in the aforesaid international contest. On the floor she performed a consecutive turning movement and other artistic movements harmoniously with good landing. She thus got top scores, winning first



place.

When Su Jong ran up to the coach with the gold medal, the latter said, "I felt as if I saw a baby who toddles for the first time. Well done!" Then the girl, with a blush, replied, "Thank you. But it is still the beginning."

Kim Chol Ung

Over Twenty Years for Future



ONE DAY IN JUNE, I WAS PASSING BY Kim Song Ju Primary School near the Taedong Gate situated on the picturesque bank of the Taedong River, Pyongyang.

At the time I saw pupils in sportswear coming out of the school. They looked like new pupils. One of them was carrying a table tennis racket in his hand. I asked the boy if he was learning table tennis. Then he answered, "Yes, I am, but I am not good at it. My seniors play it very well. Last year, too, they won first place in the national contest."

Then he guided me to the table tennis room in the school, where I met Ri Yong Ryol, headmaster of the school. She said, "Our pupils won victory several times in the national primary school sports classes' sports meeting. Last year, too, they got a trophy in the men's table tennis team event and won three gold medals, three silver medals and two bronze medals in singles and doubles."

The pupils' table tennis ability had improved thanks to the sincere efforts of Kim In Suk, a sports teacher, she mentioned and told the following story.

Over twenty years have passed since In Suk began to teach pupils how to play table tennis. She had attended the Sunhwa Primary School. It was when she was eight that she had a chance to learn table tennis. When she was 14 she took first place in a national schoolchildren's table tennis contest.

After graduating from Kim Chol Ju University of

Education, she became a sports teacher.

Though she could have joined a sports club at that time, In Suk decided to work as a teacher like her class teacher in her primary school days, who taught her how to play table tennis after noticing her aptitude. But it was not easy for her to do. She started her work as a teacher with collecting pupils who wanted to play table tennis. Those pupils numbered scores. She, however, began to train them without any hesitation.

In the daytime she taught them the ABC of table tennis in detail and helped each of them perform relevant movements correctly, and at night she studied to invent training methods suited to their individual characters.

Several days later, some of them became able to play at the table fairly well to the delight of the teacher. But as they were little the pupils often got bored with training and amused themselves. This reminded In Suk of her primary school days when she started to learn table tennis. *I should not have them train long but combine training with rest to suit their juvenile mind*, she thought.

So she fixed the time of their training as an hour and trained them intensively within the time. And as their ability improved, she organized matches to decide their rankings so as to inspire them to redouble their efforts to further improve their ability.

Like this, she dedicated herself to improving their ability as soon as possible. Though she was a mother of children, she would return home late at night and spend even public and other holidays training them. Sometimes she broke down from exhaustion while guiding them in training despite her illness. But she made exact demands on herself taking delight and pride in seeing the pupils improving in ability.

More than 200 of the pupils she has trained for over twenty years act as members of sports clubs. Among them are two Merited Athletes and three aces.

In Suk is still busy training her pupils to win at the 12th national primary school sports classes' sports meeting.

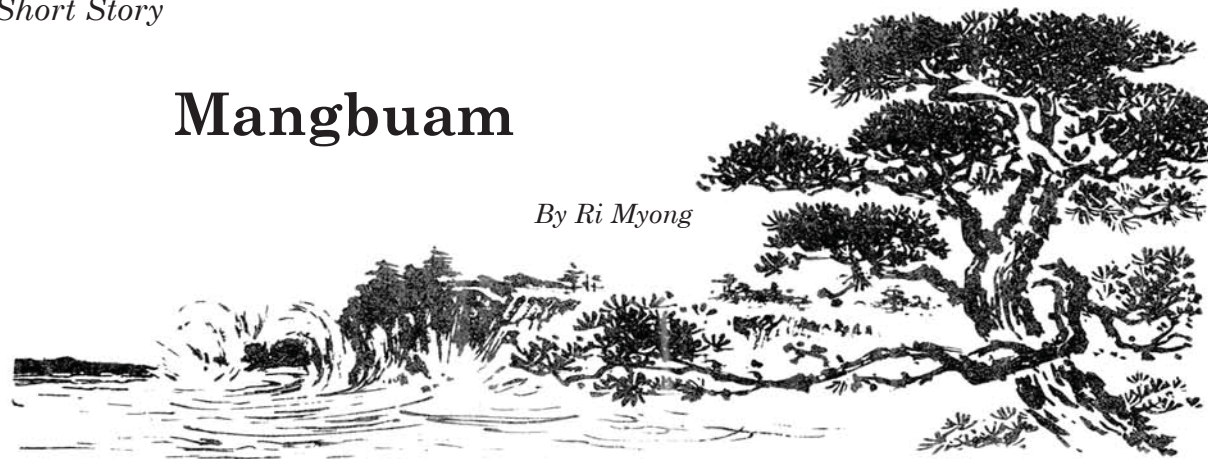
Pak Un Yong

Kim is under the coach's technical guidance to perfect the angle of movement for floor exercise.



Mangbuam

By Ri Myong



(Continued from the last issue)

“I WANT TO SING ON THE central stage,” Ye Rim began to explain, “for the new opera to be created. And I wish to become a fine artiste. I want you to show concern for me and our family’s affairs as well as for yourself. Let’s go together, darling. You don’t need to take a difficult path when you can choose an easy one, do you? I know it’s painful, but what has the rough land brought you when you have always lived alone like a lonely wild goose away from home?”

“What?” U Jin growled. His shadowy cheeks twitched with excitement, and his chest was bulging while drawing a deep breath as if the air were rare. Panting for breath, he said, “To you the Mangbuam area might mean only harsh wind and cold, salt water, the smell of slime, the tragic legend and endless agony. I’m afraid you have no idea how much all of them have brought me up. I thought you understood them all and took the same road with me. The belief has enabled me to walk across the rough land free from care and unaware of the difficulty. Well, do you believe that I can do my duty only when I work at the main institute and that you can become a fine artiste only when you perform on the central stage? You must have already chosen a

different path in your mind. Oh, I never imagined that we two would become the couple of a modern Mangbuam legend, following different paths!” exclaimed U Jin.

“My God, how can you say such horrible words?” Ye Rim reproached angrily while shutting her eyes upon welling tears.

That night Ye Rim wet the cover of her pillow with tears of sorrow while lying alone on the unpartitioned part between the kitchen and the living room. U Jin also tossed about in the study unable to go to sleep until daybreak.

In the early morning U Jin left for the Mangbuam area by the commuter train. He was away from home for over a month. Only the day before a national holiday did he return. Ye Rim felt ill at ease a little, and yet was glad to see him.

4

The holiday found the theatre enlivened, and it was already filled to overflowing. Ye Rim’s heart throbbed unusually. While paying close attention to the preparation of the performance such as costume and makeup, she thought of her husband who must be sitting in the audience.

Earlier after the end of the daytime performance, Ye Rim had gone home bringing an evening

ticket with her. U Jin was sitting sideways on a sofa reading a book in the study. Ye Rim put the ticket on the desk. U Jin took his eyes off the book. Ye Rim found his look the same as usual. Rather, his bright and soft eyes wore a smile of joy as if nothing had happened between them.

“Oh, thank you for the ticket! In fact I was about to ask you for a ticket,” U Jin said with joy.

“Is that so?” Ye Rim wondered. Now she felt awkward to have been worried unnecessarily. And she, with inward joy, felt that U Jin was concerning himself with her performance.

“You wear the light gray suit. I ironed and put it in the wardrobe. And put on the new shoes. Don’t wear spectacles. Your seat is in the middle of the front rows,” Ye Rim emphasized.

“I see. I’ll surely go together with the son,” U Jin assured her.

Their life seemed to be back on the right track. Ye Rim could hardly calm herself at the thought of the harmony permeating their home again and at her expectations of a new life.

“Ye Rim, a letter arrived for you in the daytime,” a guide of the theatre unexpectedly called coming into the makeup room. She put the letter on the front casing of Ye Rim’s mirror. Ye Rim glanced at the envelope of the letter. It was

from Choe Il. She put it into her bag as she was in no mood to read the letter.

After a little while, the bell rang for her turn. Calming her rather trembling heart Ye Rim took the stage. It was brilliantly lighted, and a clap arose at her appearance. The clap sounded very loud as never before. Thinking with joy that U Jin also would be clapping, Ye Rim looked at the area of the front rows where he must be seated. Then she could not believe her eyes. Now she looked round the area once again, but U Jin’s seat was empty. Only the soft brown back of the seat was conspicuous in the dim light.

The very lyrical prelude was played enthusiastically, but Ye Rim felt a little chilled. *What happened?* She wondered overwhelmed with disappointment. Almost by rote she began to sing to the prelude.

As she kept singing Ye Rim felt her tone gradually wavering. And she gradually breathed with difficulty. She managed to finish singing, and cold sweat stood upon her brow. Vaguely conscious of an unwilling clap she left the stage as if dismissed. White with embarrassment she entered the makeup room and collapsed on her chair with her heart throbbing for a good while. She felt reproachful towards U Jin at the thought of her failure on the stage.

Ye Rim returned home in a flurry, but U Jin was not at home. The son was peacefully asleep at full length. She gave vent to a faint sigh. After adjusting the son’s pillow protruding out from beneath his head, she hung her satchel on a branched hook when she thought of the letter from Choe Il. Sitting on the floor she opened the envelope and read the letter.

“A few days ago I visited the botanical institute under the assignment of our Ministry of Culture and Art. You are to play a part in the new opera, so we had to push ahead with your transfer

and the recall of your husband to the main institute at the same time. The senior official of the institute had already known about the issue of his recall to the institute through our ministry.

“We were just about to inform your ministry today. It is difficult to recall U Jin. It will be impossible,” the official said.

“I was struck dumb. *How could they say so?* I thought. *Of course U Jin had no research findings. But how could they refuse to recognize the sincerity of the man who has been spending many years trying to pioneer the unknown seashore like this?*”

“I had wanted to have a sincere talk with the official. But now I scornfully and formally said to him, ‘I know the breeding work can be done here in the main institute. Furthermore, U Jin’s wife is a valuable talent of the country we all should hold dear.’”

“The official looked startled at my gentle anger. After a while of silence he smiled and said, ‘Then what do we have to call U Jin? Look, we occasionally see scientific inventions or valuable treatises unapplicable to practice. Life and practice are sometimes faced with unexpected adverse conditions. So to speak, something completed in the worst condition bears fruit. U Jin set such an adverse condition and unfavourable criterion, and have developed different species of trees over the past years. The species of trees he developed a few years ago have already taken root firmly and multiplied forming thick woods in several areas on the east coast. Recently he sent a hybrid species of alpine and lowland larches to the academy of sciences for examination. The culture experiment of the species proved that it can grow fast in the central part of our country and even in the coastal soil at a very low temperature. It is truly a Korean kind that can be used for a forest of economic value as well as a windbreak. Yesterday the state deliberation for academic degrees

and titles began to deal with U Jin’s paper for a doctorate. I believe it will be decided sooner or later. And his recall here is nothing new. We already advised him. But he... Well, how can I explain it? By the way, here’s a letter from him.”

Ye Rim trembled feeling a dull ache as if something solid and heavy fell on the head. Calming herself for a while, she began to read the rest of the letter.

“The following is part of the letter.

“Mr. Director, the saplings, which overcame the severe winter, sometimes do not bear the salt water advancing to the wet land. And those which survived salt water wither in a hot wind that blows irregularly. This makes me feel exhausted. And I soon feel lonely. At first this loneliness seemed to drive me mad. I missed my warm home, my wife and my son very much. And I was dying to go to the main institute to have debates and conduct experiments together with my colleagues. So I packed up more times than I can count at the strong temptation. Deep at night, however, the loneliness, together with the raging waves, seem to sing to me a sad song of a woman, that is, the crying of Mangbuam on the tragic separation. To me this patch of land in our country sounds like wailing over the darkness while looking for its master. And it gets the strong temptation out of my head. It seems to say, ‘If you vacillate, then the plan of windbreak and land development will also shake.’ Nowhere can I hear such earnest words that always give a stimulus to my skin and my whole body, that always admonish me and that always make an impact on me. But they are not enough to enable me to know all about this country and land where we live. When will it be for me to do? Then, I think, I will be able to fulfil my duty.”

Ye Rim could not read any more, her heart leaping hard.

(To be continued)

Dream of Korean Costume Expert

IT IS SAID THAT PEOPLE often recall the past in the old age of their life. But Dr. and Prof. Ri Yu Mi, Merited Artist of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, is living with a dream of her childhood though she is now 71.

I'll make national costume suited to the modern sense of beauty for the younger generations. To realize this dream, she is now engrossed in national costume research as well as the education of the rising generation.

The following shows how she got interested in Korean costume.

Yu Mi was born in an alien land. She grew up wearing Korean *chima* (skirt) and *jogori* (jacket) her mother had prepared. Her mother made various forms of Korean *chima* and *jogori* for her, telling her not to forget that they were Korean though they were far away from the motherland.

So she participated in an artistic performance wearing such Korean *chima* and *jogori* and received loud applause. In those

days, her dream was to make beautiful national costume by herself.

Her dream began to come true only after she was taken into the embrace of the motherland. As she was unusually fond of drawing the State had her enrolled at the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts so that she could realize her dream.

After graduating from the university with the highest distinction, she became a teacher with a determination to dedicate herself to the education of the rising generation. Since then she exerted herself to implant the national pride and self-confidence in the students.

She always says to them, "The national costume we make is not merely clothes. They reflect the time-honoured history and culture of the Korean nation, its soul and its pure sentiment and emotion. We should develop our national costume better so that the whole world envies it."

She always read relevant books to get a broad knowledge of Korean folk costume. And she would sit up all night to make national costume suited to both the traditional and modern aesthetic tastes. Sometimes, she conducted national costume research through several days together with relevant specialists from the Korean Central History Museum, and returned home at dawn with books she had obtained for making national costume. The other day she went to look round places of natural beauty and historic interest in an effort to deepen the relevant research. Therefore, all the other teachers of the university and her disciples call her ardent woman. The everyday, holiday and wedding dresses she presented at a Korean costume show were popular with the visitors for their graceful colours and refined pattern decorations. They expressed unstinted admiration for Korean costume for men and women including jacket

Ri Yu Mi (third left) devotes her wisdom and energy to the study, making and dissemination of the national costume.



Brisk Industrial Design Information Exchange

TODAY KOREA WITNESSES not only the fast development of the economy but also that of industrial design. Recently the units which require new industrial designs have increased explosively. And public interest in industrial design is increasing. In 2010 the Korean Industrial Design Information Exchange Centre was established so as to study into development of industrial design, pioneer its new domain and promote relevant exchange. The work of exchange is based on the principle of developing the design which should combine practical and aesthetic sides to suit national emotion and sense of beauty. The centre regularly gathers and studies international standard data about the trend in the development of the world industrial design and trademarks, and spreads international usage, detailed rules and data of national standard related to industrial design.

The centre undertakes active exchange by means of multimedia and publications on the industrial design. It published the picture album *A New Sphere in the Industrial Design Development*, and made an electronic media on data of industrial designs highly appreciated at national industrial design exhibitions. It printed a second edition of the notice book *Furniture and Room Decoration* (volumes 1

and 2) that contains information of furniture and room decoration at home and abroad as architecture rapidly develops at home and the level of domestic demand for architectural decoration rises. And it is requested to create architectural designs of buildings and public ser-

design. Thus it has designed a lot of elements—they are never used in previous programs—including interfaces and configuration of programs to suit psychology of people who require new and peculiar 3D industrial design designs. Cellphone programs *Liter-*



A new domain of industrial design is explored.

vice amenities, designs for interior and exterior decoration of houses and designs for marks and various trademarks of different units.

As the days go by the centre has more and more things to do. It set up a new industrial design development office as advanced techniques are introduced for industrial design. The office is conducting a research project to pioneer a new domain of industrial

ary Works and Korean Cuisine are typical products which enjoy popularity. Everyone likes the programs as they feel as if they were really opening pages when reading books through the programs.

The industrial design information exchange that promotes a civilized life is becoming brisker in close connection with the life of people.

Kim Chol Hyon

► and waistcoat elegantly decorated with harmonious colours and patterns and children's clothes like a coat with multi-coloured sleeves.

Over twenty reference books she had written made a contribution to the development of the national costume and are popular with the students and relevant experts. The dress samples she

made are widely used in relevant tailor's shops in Pyongyang and provinces. All the national clothes she had developed and improved for scores of years were just like flowers adorning this land, in which she found pleasure.

Now Yu Mi's daughter is following in her footsteps, and Yu Mi is still devoting all her wisdom and energy to the study, mak-

ing and spread of neat, plain and graceful Korean costume associated with the soul and mettle of the wise and courageous Korean nation.

At present Pyongyang and all other cities and villages in Korea catch your eyes with more and more people in national costume.

Pak Yong Il

Son of Ragwon

WHEN YOU GO TO THE Ragwon Machine Complex situated north of Korea, you can see a man whose nickname is *Golden Leaf* and *Steel Bolt*. The man is Kim Jin, a worker poet of the complex.

He was born in Ragwon which produced the Ten Party Members of Ragwon well known across the country. Among them was a woman. When President Kim Il Sung visited the factory during the fierce Korean war, the woman told him not to worry too much, saying that if the war ended, they would carry out the reconstruction.

To keep their promise, the Ten Party Members and other workers of the factory broke through all difficulties and bottlenecks by themselves and performed miraculous exploits in every stage of the socialist construction.

Hearing the story of their exploits like a legend in his childhood, Kim Jin fostered love for his native place.

When the country had to undergo the Arduous March in the latter half of the 1990s, he just became adolescent. At that time, the country called on young people to go to work for the construction of large power stations. This inspired the hot-blooded young man to do so. Now, seven years after starting his working life, he volunteered to work at the construction site of the Thaecheon Power Station.

One day there was a poem recitation during a break. Many young builders from different places vied each other to recite poems different in style and content. He also recited a poem about the spiritual world of the working

class of Ragwon who had turned out as one to support the country whenever it was undergoing difficulties and about the pride of the younger generation who had grown up educated in their predecessors' spirit.

The title of the poem was *I Am a Son of Ragwon*. It was just like a life story of its writer who grew up seeing his father and mother very glad at increased iron production. The poem reads: When I was making an advanced machine in a fine workplace I always thought of the Ten Party Members who had turned out molten iron by operating the cupola with the power obtained by putting the belt of its motor on a truck wheel to make hand grenades; their spirit by which they had neither asked for a helping hand nor yielded to difficulties still remained on this land where I, before I knew, came to value even a single small bolt, feeling as if I had had a pain in my skin and bone if it was scratched or broken; indeed the native place was not only the land where the ancestors lie buried but the place where their spirit and pledge were inherited; so I take pride in the story of the Ten Party Members who had exerted themselves to make grenades and water pumps true to their pledge to the country and in the fact that I have worked hard as befits one of their descendants; and I am a son of Ragwon who cannot live otherwise but will readily become molten iron if the country wants it.

His poem appealed to the hearts of all the participants, and thus inspired them to make unprecedented innovative achievements. Recollecting the day, he



Worker poet Kim Jin.

says that he didn't expect his simple poem to impress all the audience. Indeed, a nice poem was in one's life in which one kept pace with the times every day and every moment.

Later, back to the enterprise, he used to translate into a poem what inspired him in spare moments from work. Even a single golden leaf of a ginkgo, which covers the root of the tree even when it falls, reminded him of the way their predecessors had supported the country with clear conscience. Tightening even a single steel bolt (he would do hundreds of them a day), he found himself firmly connected with the country by the job, and made a determination to harden his conviction and will lest he should make a mistake in what he would do every day.

Thus, he has written hundreds of poems concerning his working life, and *Golden Leaf, Steel Bolt* and other 10-odd poems were highly appreciated at a national literary works prize contest.

Now he is over 50. Still, he is writing poems as enthusiastically as in his youth.

Whenever he is advised to work as a professional writer, he says, "I'll live like a steel bolt. Originally I am a son of Ragwon. This is why my poems could appeal to the hearts of people."

Kim Un Jong

Impressive Performance

IN MARCH LAST THE 11TH International Festival of Circus Art was held in Izhevsk, Udmurtia, Russia. Over 200 famous acrobats from 17 countries including the DPRK, Russia, Romania, Italy and France took part in the festival. It was in 2008 that the festival began to be held every year in the city, and only those acrobatic pieces highly appreciated at other international acrobatic festivals can be put on its stage.

The DPRK acrobats participated in the current festival with the physical acrobatics "Iron Barre and Russian Swing." The work was performed at popular international acrobatic festivals including the Monte Carlo International Acrobatic Festival, receiving the top award twice. The Korean acrobats led the audience into the wonderful world of acrobatics by performing difficult movements, and well-organized ensemble pieces using a horizontal bar.

All the movements of the nine acrobats aroused admiration from the audience. They flied a distance of four metres between the horizontal bar and trapeze in a blink, and landed on the floor correctly and smartly. Choe Un Hwa, a woman acrobat,

wonderfully performed two horizontal forward rotations followed by two cartwheels struck the audience with admiration. As the time passed and the acrobats did more difficult stunts, the atmosphere of the theatre grew tenser. Merited Artiste Chae Song Il and Hwang Sang Hyok flied a distance of 12 metres while flawlessly performing five and four somersaults respectively, captivating the audience. The act reached the climax when Kim Ui Chol did two somersaults while flying from the trapeze, and passed through a ring fixed at the height of ten metres with his eyes blindfolded. The act ended in ten minutes and 50 seconds, and an enthusiastic cheer and thunderous applause and voices of admiration filled the theatre.

The president of the National Circus Company of Russia, who is the chairman of the organization committee of the Izhevsk festival, said: This festival made me know once again that the acrobatics of the DPRK is the best. The act done by the Korean acrobats is perfect and flawless in technique, rhythm and music. I sincerely thank the Korean acrobats for their wonderful performance.

The vice-chairman of the

organization committee of the Monte Carlo International Acrobatic Festival, after seeing the performance, said: The acrobatics of Korea, which crowned the festival brilliantly, fully demonstrated the indomitable spirit and mettle of the Korean people who are advancing vigorously towards the world while resolutely breaking through the imperialists' sanctions and blockades. The Korean acrobats are matchlessly strong mentally and morally and technically.

The audience said: We are captivated by the physical acrobatics of Korea. We congratulate the Korean acrobats who showed the genuine feature of acrobatics. The country's acrobatics are the best as they consecutively win the top prizes at international acrobatic festivals.

At the Izhevsk festival a gold prize, its top prize, was awarded to the Korean acrobatics. When a journalist asked Kwon Jong Hyok, head of the production team, about the secret of their success, he said, "We've strived to make our work reflect the mettle of our courageous and resourceful people. We are satisfied that our intention has come true."

Ri Song Chol



The golden prize and the certificate won at the 11th International Festival of Circus Art held in Izhevsk, Russia.





Mt. Myohyang

MT. MYOHYANG STANDS in the middle of the Myohyang Mountains in the northwestern part of Korea. It is 375 km² in area, over 120 km in circumference and 1 909 m above sea level.

The mountain began to be explored long ago, and in the early 11th century it began to be called the present name for its wonderful scenery and fragrance. The Korean people have long regarded the mountain as one of the eight scenic wonders in the country, and selected eight spots of the mountain as its eight scenic wonders.

Meanwhile, Mt. Myohyang

boasts lots of cultural heritage expressive of the Korean people's cultural and artistic attainments and their creative ability. It became better known for its monumental structures including the International Friendship Exhibition House.

Developed as a mountain-climbing resort and a tourist attraction, the mountain has safety arrangements going well with the surrounding scenery and convenient for sightseeing, resting spots, pavilions and hotels.

A sight-seeing road links the capital city of Pyongyang and the mountain.

Nature of Mt. Myohyang

Covering a vast area the mountain has various, magnificent and beautiful landscapes. Geographically the mountain consists of lots of ridges and valleys between the ridges surrounding Piro Peak, the highest in the mountain.

The mountain is mainly composed of granitite, the oldest rock in Korea. Unlike granite common in other areas, its rocks are mostly white quartz into which pararock in the Archaeozoic era turned through granitization at a high temperature, and also contains feldspar and biotite of different

► colours. Therefore, rocks in the mountain are clean, beautiful, unusually white and even in quality. And water flowing through gaps of rocks and through valleys in the mountain is very clear and clean thanks to rich silica ingredients of the rocks.

The region of the mountain is free from strong winds and relatively warm because it is surrounded by high mountains. The average temperature is 11.6°C below zero in January, and 23.7°C in August and the annual average temperature is 8.3°C.

They have rather a lot of rain in the region compared to the typical Korean regions. But it seldom rains all day long even in the rainy season. Usually it is fine in the morning without a speck of cloud, but it rains at noon with the sky beginning to cloud up in the Piro Peak area. After rain it is often misty. The annual average precipitation is over 1 300mm, 60 percent of which falls between July and August.

The mountain has Myohyangsan mineral spring, and streams flowing into the Chongchon River that has long been famous for its unusually clear and blue water.

Typical of the streams is the Myohyang Stream. Rising from Kangson Peak of the mountain

the water flows into the river in Hyangam-ri. The stream is 16.5km long, and its basin 71.8 km² in area.

The mineral spring rises by the side of the aforesaid stream between Sangwon Valley and Manphok Valley. And the spring is situated by the mountain-climbing route to the mountaineers' convenience. It is good for the treatment of chronic gastritis, gastric ulcer, duodenal ulcer, chronic enterocolitis, cholangitis and chronic cystitis. Long use of the spring keeps the skin soft and fair.

Various species of plants are distributed in the mountain. The colours of the plants vary season after season, and their flowers are in bloom in different seasons, thus beautifying the mountain all the year round.

On top parts of Wonmang, Piro and other peaks over 1 800m above sea level are distributed various alpine plants. Near the top of Piro Peak in particular grow Sargent juniper, dwarf Siberian pine and arborvitae that make mountaineers laugh as they are associated with a legend which has it that the trees grew while spreading their branches only sideways in order to welcome fairies from Heaven with empressment, and rhododendron which blooms even in the snow, fiveribbed thyme with conspicuous fragrance and so on.

The ridge spreading from Piro Peak to Chilsong Peak is covered with dwarf Siberian pines.

The mountain is rich in medicinal herbs, and wild fruit trees such as wild vine and tara vine.

Meanwhile, the mountain is inhabited by a great diversity of animals, birds and fishes. In its forest live over 30 species of wild animals such as bear, antelope and musk deer, and over 130 species of beautiful and rare birds such as pheasant, migratory grosbeak, lark, black-naped oriole and cuckoo. In the Myohyang Stream live rainbow trout, char, sweetfish, minnow and other fishes.

(To be continued)

The International Friendship Exhibition House.





Site of Temple from Koryo Unearthed

RECENTLY THE SITE OF KWANGBOK Temple, remains from the period of Koryo (918–1392), was excavated in Sadong-ri, Phangyo County, Kangwon Province, Korea.

Researchers from the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences had intensified the relevant survey and excavation together with the staffs of the Kangwon Provincial National Heritage Protection and Management Station and the Kangwon Provincial National Heritage Preservation Office. In the course of this they discovered a large-scale site of the temple in a basin 2 kilometres northeast of the seat of Sadong-ri. It is over 17 000 square metres in the main area.

The site consists of two sections in the east and the west, and each of them is surrounded by a gallery site.

The east section, along the north-south central axis, has sites of gate, pagoda, Kum Hall which housed the main Buddha, and a lecture hall where Buddhism was practised.

The Kum Hall site is 21.1 metres in width and 12.7 metres in length while the lecture hall site is 52.4 metres in width and 11.9 metres in length. The sites are much larger than the similar sites found in Ryongthong Temple in Kaesong City, a temple known as the biggest one in the Koryo dynasty.

The west section is divided into the southern and

northern parts with an in-between gallery lying in the east-west direction. In the centre of each part is a site of a building.

The general layout of the buildings is similar to that of Ryongthong Temple except the position of the central area of the temple.

Unearthed there were various relics including pieces of roofing tiles inscribed with “Kwangboksa,” “Kwangbokdaesa” and “Hogukgwang,” antefixes of hemispheric, lotus and peony patterns, bronze spoon, and pieces of Koryo ceramics. “Kwangboksa,” “Kwangbokdaesa” and “Hogukgwang” mean the name of the temple, another name of the temple in the meaning that its scale is very large and a temple to defend the country respectively.

The History Society and the Archaeological Society of the DPRK in their joint meeting scientifically proved that Kwangbok Temple was built around the 11th century by the Koryo dynasty, on the basis of the layout of the buildings and the relics and historical data found during the excavation.

The excavation of the temple site long buried in oblivion through history helps explain the course of cultural development in Koryo, the first unified state of the Korean nation, and enrich the treasure-house of the nation’s cultural heritage.

Ko Chol Su



A fragment of a concave roof tile inscribed with the character “Kwangboksa.”



A fragment of a concave roof tile inscribed with the character “Hogukgwang.”



A bronze spoon.



Pieces of Koryo ceramics.

Three-colour Ceramics of Palhae

PALHAE (THE LATE 7TH CENTURY–THE EARLY 10TH century), the successor to Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668), developed the ceramic technique by continuing the tradition of Koguryo.

Three-colour ceramics of Palhae were made by firing clay objects after coating them harmoniously with glazes of three colours. They were widely known to other countries as special products of Palhae in those days.

They were generally characterized by simple decoration, natural and elegant shape, bright and soft colour, lightness and solidity.

Especially, Palhae people used glazes of different colours a lot. They combined deep and light colours appropriately to produce delicate colours, which were so clear and soft as to help the ceramics look graceful and refined. And the works coated with glazes of different colours were decorated with patterns, thus looking more beautiful.

The accomplished application and combination of coloured glazes and the combination of patterns and glazes can be said to be Palhae’s achievements in the field of ceramics, and show how much their ceramic workmanship and technique of making glazes developed.

Three-colour ceramics of Palhae were extensively exported to other countries, and the users of the ceramics said in admiration that “they were light like a feather.”

Kim Un Jong

Sinpho, Weapon for Military Signal Communication

THE ANCIENT TIMES AND MIDDLE AGES WITNESSED ceaseless wars in Korea to repulse foreign invaders. The wars were accompanied by the development of position warfare tactics, and the situation required the country to further develop the technique of building fortifications, signal communication means for military use and the system of signal communication.

So the Koreans decided to use firelight, smoke and sound as military communication signals. *Sinpho* came into being with the development of the means to send firelight, smoke and sound signals.

Sinpho was a kind of gun dedicated to signal communication. Posted on a fortress or a beacon lighthouse in those days, the gun was used as the main means of signal. It ensured three kinds of signals, that is, firelight, smoke and sound.

The gun consisted of a muzzle section, a wood block chamber and a powder chamber. It produced sound as the wood block was shot out of the muzzle by explosion of powder in the powder chamber with both smoke and flame spouting out of the ignition chamber.

Sinpho sent signals by light at night, black smoke in the daytime and sound in a cloudy day, all produced by black gunpowder.

The gun was made of iron, and weighed 45.6 kilograms.

Ri Song Chol

Silk Production Technique

DR. KIM KUM SIL, A workshop leader of the Nyongbyon Silk Mill, says, “Silk is lighter, more durable and graceful and softer than other kinds of cloth. And silk is characterized by elasticity and rustles. So it is called queen of fabrics. And it is very good for health, that is, it adjusts temperature and humidity of human body and is effective in retarding the aging of skin.”

The Korean people began to produce silk from ancient times (early 3000 BC—the early 3rd century BC). With the beginning of the 20th century many silk relics of 2 000 years ago were unearthed in the Pyongyang area centring on Rangnang District, Pyongyang. Among them are embroidered silk and the other patterned with colourful threads similar to those found in Sogam-ri Tomb Nos. 205 and 214.

In the period of the Three Kingdoms (Koguryo, Paekje and Silla) the kinds of silk numbered a dozen including five-coloured silk, and its colours and patterns developed in a diverse way. From then on Korean silk was exported. In the period of Koryo (918–1392) the cloth was exported to its neighbouring countries and the Middle and Near East, becoming widely known as *Koryo Pidan* (Koryo silk). It was because Koryo’s technique of weaving silk including patterned silk was developed so much as to produce beautiful silk at that time.

In the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910) famous silk producing bases appeared across the country. Famous in particular was silk from Nyongbyon

and Songchon of Phyongan Province; Kumya, Jongphyong, Kowon, Hongwon, Riwon, Pukchong, Tanchon, Kilju and Myongchon of Hamgyong Province; Cholwon of Kangwon Province; Suan of Hwanghae Province; Raju of Jolla Province; and Andong of Kyongsang Province.

At present, the Nyongbyon Silk Mill in Nyongbyon County, North Phyongan Province is a leading high-grade silk producer in Korea. Famous kinds of silk from the mill are *Yaksandan* and *Kuryongdan*. Yaksandongdae rises in Nyongbyon, and there grow many azaleas in Yaksan. So, the silk embroidered with azalea patterns is called *Yaksandan*, and the silk with gentle patterns resembling flowing river water is called *Kuryongdan* after the Kuryong River skirting around Yaksandongdae.

How deep the fabric has struck root in the life of the Koreans can be known by the fact that Korea is called a silk-embroidered land of three thousand *ri* (ten *ri* equals four kilometres). The maximum length from north to south of the Korean peninsula is 2 100 *ri* and that from east to west 900 *ri*, totaling three thousand *ri*. The territory of Korea is so beautiful as if it was embroidered with silk that it is called a silk-embroidered land of three thousand *ri*.

The Rungna Islet on the Taedong River was named in connection with the fabric. It is said that low-hanging twigs of weeping willows on the islet resembled a roll of silk unfolding on the crystal-clear water. Hence the name with the letter *run*g meaning silk and

the letter *na* meaning cloth.

In Mt. Myohyang there is Pidan Falls the name of which was derived from the fact that the waterfall looks like two unfolded rolls of silk.

And Korea has many proverbs related to the beauty of silk, for example, *A flower on the silk*.

After liberation of Korea from the Japanese imperialists’ military occupation on August 15, 1945, the silk weaving industry was established in the country, propelling the development of the traditional silk production technique. Modern silk mills in the country produce silk threads through such processes as cocoon sorting, cocoon boiling, reeling and rewinding, and textile mills use those threads to produce different kinds of silk fabrics. They produce varieties of silk cloths different in properties by employing different processing methods, for example, *saengpidan* woven with raw silk that contains sericin, a colloidal substance covering fibroin, the main ingredient of cocoon; *sukpidan* woven with raw silk boiled in lye to remove sericin and dyed; and *champidan* woven with raw silk boiled in lye and dyed.

Saengpidan is a bit stiff, light and cool, so it is used to make summer wear. *Sukpidan* and *champidan* are gracefully lustrous, soft and warm, so they are used as material for spring, autumn and winter wear.

Korea’s silk production technique with a long history and tradition is registered as national intangible cultural heritage.

Rim Ok

King Puru

PURU WAS BORN AS THE ELDEST SON OF Tangun, founding father of Ancient Joseon, the first slave state in Korea early in 3000 BC. Tangun expanded the territory of his country by integrating the neighbouring tribes while developing the country’s economy and culture. Ancient Joseon, founded as a small state in the Pyongyang area, gradually conquered the neighbouring minor states to expand its territory, developing into a great power occupying a vast expanse of land.

After the death of Tangun, Puru succeeded to the throne, and maintained and developed his father’s cause of building up the state. When abdicating in favour of the son Tangun instructed him as follows:

“Be a man of virtue at home and be on your dignity abroad in governing the country... Attach importance to north and west rather than south in defending the country... To keep the country in peace, give great benefit to people.”

Keeping the instruction in mind Puru the Great did his best to carry on his father’s intention invariably. What he did first as the king was to establish a strong centralist ruling system. The urgent task facing the country as the first slave state was to set up a strict ruling order by which districts under the direct control of the state, marquisates and dependencies scattered here and there would be put under one centralistic system.

At that time the centralistic power of Ancient Joseon was relatively weak because of its immature social development. And because of the then poor communication and transportation it was a custom to entrust the control of faraway regions and marquisates to their heads or lords. For this reason, some heads and lords of local areas beyond direct reach of royal authority overtly inclined to form their own individual states free from the central power.

In order to correct the inclination and establish a powerful centralistic ruling system Puru pushed ahead with the work to rearrange such districts and reorganize the marquisates and dependencies and set up a ruling system to connect them closely with the central government. In the course of this he elim-



inated the vices of decentralization, and established a strong centralistic ruling system.

The king also put emphasis on encouraging agriculture and developing manual industry. During his reign a lot of barren land turned into farmland, and domestic and governmental manual industries developed remarkably. Meanwhile, he regarded it as most important to build up the military. As he had witnessed his father safeguarding the country by dint of the powerful military strength, Puru constantly carried on the work to consolidate the country’s military power. In those days he annexed several neighbouring tribes to expand the territory, raising the prestige of the country. With the expansion of the territory he made marquisates and dependencies of the annexed tribes and appointed their heads as lords to rule over their land and people. At the same time he dispatched able officials to help the lords.

As a result, the territory of Ancient Joseon was expanded greatly towards north and south, and the country distinguished itself as a powerful slave state rich in products and strong in the military.

Choe Sol Mi

Problem to Be Solved without Delay

IN MARCH THE WORLD Meteorological Organization (WMO) reported that last year global warming caused the greatest economic loss worldwide worth US\$ 320 billion. The global average temperature in 2017 rose 1.1℃ more than that before the Industrial Revolution, and the temperature did continuously from 2015 to 2017, the WMO mentioned and asserted that the phenomenon has led to a rise of seawater level, a decrease in the area of sea ice and acidification of seawater, thus causing meteorological disasters such as hurricane and flood.

In recent years many countries and regions across the world suffered human and material losses because of varieties of natural disasters including sultriness, severe cold, drought and flood due to the climate change caused by global warming.

Meteorologists have long commented that abnormal climatic phenomena turned into the commonplace worldwide and stressed that if the fact was neglected it would cause an unimaginable disaster. In 2014 they reported: Owing to climate change the economic growth rate fell, causing a loss of US\$ 1.2 trillion every year and in 2030 the loss will double. And in 2100 more than half of the world population will face the difficulty of obtaining food.

Relevant experts are loudly voicing concern that damage by

global warming will surpass that by war.

As seen above global warming is dreadfully threatening the existence of humankind and the development of civilization. To protect the global environment is becoming a vital problem whose solution brooks no further delay.

So, most of the countries in the world are taking active part in trying to save the earth, the base of human life, from the misfortune of environmental destruction. This can be proved by the fact that over 190 countries have signed the Paris agreement on climate change adopted in December 2015. The agreement which substitutes for Kyoto Protocol of 1997 is mainly aimed at making sure that all countries cooperate in cutting sharply emissions of greenhouse gas such as carbon dioxide and methane which causes global warming so as to prevent the average temperature of the earth from rising by more than 2℃ until 2100 than that before the Industrial Revolution.

A large sum of money should be expended in reconstructing the present industrial structure that depends on fossil fuels in order to reduce emissions of greenhouse gas. A lot of countries are manifesting their intention to prevent global warming at any price for the sake of themselves.

It has become an unstoppable trend to take active part in

preventing global warming. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is undertaking projects for prevention of global warming. It has already declared a campaign to restore its mountains, and a lot of people plant trees in mountains and around their villages on Tree-Planting Day and in spring and autumn days for land management. The forest restoration campaign was planned to be accomplished in a decade. A lot of successes were made in 2017 when the project of the campaign's first stage (2015–2017) was to be completed. Several billion saplings were produced and planted in mountains across the country.

This year all provinces, cities and counties are maintaining the principle of planting the right trees on the right soil in the right season while creating forests of economic value, reserved forests, scenic forests, forests of wild-fruit trees and forests for firewood to suit their actual conditions. Factories and enterprises, as required by the developing realty, are making relevant successes by carrying out research projects to solve the problem of global warming while accelerating their modernization.

Meanwhile the DPRK is undertaking diversified projects to solve the same problem in cooperation with the international community.

Kim Hyon Ju

South-South Cooperation Gets Brisk

MANY COUNTRIES IN the world are now making efforts to promote mutual cooperation and unity.

The foreign ministers of Venezuela and Ethiopia agreed to develop bilateral relations. The Ethiopian foreign minister said that they agreed to cooperate with Venezuela in many fields including aviation, tourism, oil industry and education, and stressed that the agreement could pay off only when they gave full play to the spirit of South-South cooperation.

South-South cooperation is an international movement for the developing nations to achieve economic emancipation and national sovereignty after having achieved political independence.

The developing countries are promoting economic and technical cooperation between themselves on the principle of collective self-reliance while relying on their own strength and resources in building the independent national economy.

At the beginning of this year Tanzania and Rwanda agreed to jointly build a 400km-long railway to link the two countries. Foreign media reported that the agreement would greatly help the countries solve their problem of transport in their own interests.

Morocco and Malawi conclud-

ed two agreements to strengthen bilateral cooperation in agriculture.

What catches the eye is that South-South cooperation is under way extensively and in depth as well as many-sidedly. An example is the fact that last year the Dubai International Financial Centre of the United Arab Emirates established a foundation for financial technique. It is aimed at assisting the developing countries in financial development including development of electronic payment system and the information and cyber security for investors. Foreign media commented that the Centre would help strengthen South-South cooperation between the developing nations in the field of finance.

There is a strong movement on foot to conduct South-South cooperation purposefully through regional or continental organizations, not with each nation as unit. The Ugandan president, in his speech delivered at a summit of the East African Community, called on its member nations to play the pivotal role in developing public health. East African countries are now wasting a great deal of money as they are importing pharmaceutical materials and sending patients abroad for medical treatment, he said stressing the need for them to cooperate in

developing the medical sector to cope with the prevailing situation in which infectious and non-infectious diseases—including AIDS, malaria, hypertension and cancer—are sweeping.

African countries suffered more from aggression and plunder than those in any other continents, so they are maintaining the spirit and stand of cooperation, which is giving a great impetus to the development and prosperity of the continent.

Last January the African Union held a summit of heads of state and government on the theme of struggle against illegality and corruption and invariable route for change of Africa. The summit discussed the need to make efforts to liquidate illegality and corruption and poverty in African countries as soon as possible, quickly implement 2063 Roadmap for the future development of Africa and, to this end, further strengthen unity and cooperation of the member nations and establish a free trade zone in the continent.

The active struggle of the developing countries to build a new righteous and prosperous society by displaying the spirit of unity and cooperation will vigorously promote the current towards an independent and multipolarized world.

Kim Il Ryong

What Makes International Community Worry?

IN RECENT YEARS JAPAN'S moves to distort history and militarize itself are daily becoming undisguised, giving rise to serious concern of the international community. Japan is a major war criminal state and a defeated nation in World War II. Its ultraright forces are holding important posts in the government, making a desperate attempt to beautify the country's blood-stained history of aggression.

Every year the Japanese political figures throng to the Yasukuni Shrine, where the name tablets of Tojo Hideki and other A-class war criminals are kept, to pay tribute to them. As the head of Japan's militarism during the Pacific War Tojo was the chief of the general staff of the Japanese army from early 1944, and made a last-ditch effort to realize a wild dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere." After Japan's defeat he was tried as a top war criminal at the International Military Tribunal for the Far East and hanged in December 1948.

The history curriculum in Japan disguises the country as a "victim," not a war criminal, and the war criminals who died to no purpose in the battlefield as the "heroes who sacrificed themselves for the nation." Besides, the Japanese authorities decided that the educational institutions can judge and use the "useful and appropriate" contents from Hitler's autobiography as teaching materials. And people were shocked by the disclosed fact

that the Moritomo School had its pupils sing the "war song" of the former Japanese aggression army and learn by heart the former Japanese king's "education re-script."

Beautifying and embellishing the crime-woven history just means an intention to follow in the same wake. In other words, moves for total distortion and denial of the past crimes mean that militarism, which plunged the Asia-Pacific region into a tragedy of bloodshed in last century, is reasserting itself. As for Japan, it is a criminal state which was defeated while indulging in the aggression and plunder of Korea and other Asian countries. During their 40-odd-year-long military occupation of Korea the Japanese imperialists forcibly took away over 8.4 million Koreans, killed more than 1 million and took and used 200 000 Korean women as sex slaves for their soldiers before mercilessly killing them.

Scores of years have passed since then. But Japan is beautifying and justifying its war crimes, far from making apology and reparation. This is led by Abe, descendant of a war criminal. He systematically took over the poison of militarism from his maternal grandfather Nobusuke. On the pretext of a "beautiful country" he tried to turn Japan to the Right during his first term of office as prime minister only to be deposed. With the beginning of his second term of office as prime minister in December 2012, he, under the

slogan of "a new country," began to make desperate efforts to turn Japan into a normal state capable of going to war.

Outwardly Abe is talking about "threat" by someone but inwardly he is intending to realize the desire of his maternal grandfather and other top war criminals by translating the old dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" into practice. This is just why he is attempting to forcibly propel the revision of the constitution aimed at stipulating the existence of the "Self-Defense Forces" to legalize the overseas aggression while declaring, "At last it is high time to revise the constitution." With a sinister intention to lengthen their declining destiny at a ruling crisis he is seeking to create a favourable environment for them by straining the situation of Northeast Asia and inspiring apprehension among the citizens.

The international community, which aspires to peace and stability, comments that such acts of Japan will bring ruin upon itself. Nothing can justify Abe and his ruling circles' attempt to realize the old dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" by enforcing aggression of Korea again while denying and distorting the historical facts without making sincere apology and reparation for extra-villainous inhumane crimes their predecessors committed during their military occupation of Korea.

Kang Chol Jin

Woljong Temple

WOLJONG TEMPLE IS SITUATED IN Woljong-ri, Anak County, South Hwanghae Province. It was built first by Saint Woljong in 846, and later repaired several times. The present buildings of the temple were those rebuilt during the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910). It consists of Manse Pavilion, Myongbu Hall, Suwol Hall and other annexes with Kungnakbo Hall as the centre. And with its central axis lying from south to north linking Kungnakbo Hall and Manse Pavilion there are Myongbu Hall in the east and Suwol Hall in the west.

Kungnakbo Hall is a double-eaved gabled house with a curved roof. Its pillars are potbellied. What characterizes the architecture of the hall is that it has unique bracket decorations which cannot be found in other buildings. Generally, bracket decoration in the Korean architecture is done the way the interior of a bracket has the same number of cow's tongue patterns with the exterior's or larger than the latter's. But the brackets of the hall each has five similar patterns in the interior and seven in the exterior. And the structure and form of brackets in the front, side, rear and interior of the hall are clear and simple, thus being free from useless complexity and leaning only on style. The eaves protrude 2.5 metres long and the angle rafters are supported by props. Inside, the ceiling is set as low as the height of the beams so as to make one feel at ease.

As a gabled house, Manse Pavilion is five bays (11.72 metres) in facade and two bays (6.02 metres) in side. Built on a slope, it is a loft-like building with its floor supported by stone pillars (1.2m high) in front. The front and each side of the building are walled with wooden boards while the rear is opened.

The temple is now well preserved as a historical cultural relic which shows the Korean people's excellent architecture and talents.

Ri Kyong Chol

Kungnakbo Hall.



Manse Pavilion.



Myongbu Hall.



Suwol Hall.



