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3





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# Kim Jong Un Looks Round the Youth Movement Museum

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, visited the Youth Movement Museum which was built in January on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League.

The museum was built splendidly in the stirring period when young people, who have grown up into dependable masters of the youth power under the leadership of the great WPK, were creating a legendary tale of heroic youth in all the sites for developing theirs into a prosperous country.

At the general review hall Kim Jong Un, together with officials, paid homage to the colour statues depicting President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il standing among youth and children.

After looking long at the smiling leaders guiding young people towards a bright future, he said that colour statues of the great leaders among youth and children were set up for the first time. He was very pleased that the statues vividly delineate the true appearances of the Korean society in which the leaders and the people have formed a harmonious whole.

He looked round exhibition rooms, the room where revolutionary relics are preserved, and other places. The photographs of the peerlessly great men of Mt Paektu, relevant materials and relics concerning the major periods of our revolution, displayed at the exhibition rooms, are revolutionary treasures of lasting significance and the most valuable of national assets, he said.

They defined the problem of young people as the one of strategic importance on which depend the rise and fall of the country and the most important of state affairs and set brilliant examples for the youth movement, he went on. He stressed that thanks to their wise leadership and undying exploits, the WPK could resolve the problem of young people perfectly and build a youth power without parallel in the world, adding that it is the source of great pride and glory for the WPK.

He underlined that in order to make the cause of the Juche revolution pioneered and developed by the great leaders advance dynamically along the road of victory and glory, it is necessary to cherish their ennobling views on the future and younger generation and uphold the idea of attaching importance to young people as an invariable strategic line.

He specified tasks to be tackled in conducting education through the museum and managing it.

Having learned the news about his visit to the museum, young people across the country hardened their determination to advance straight ahead, following the WPK all the time, under the leadership of Marshal Kim Jong Un who strives to train them into warriors for carrying out the cause of the Juche revolution, heroes of the times and masters of miraculous innovation and victory.

# Youth League Marks Its Anniversary

Now the service personnel and people across the country are determined to celebrate the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea as the apex of the revolution.

On January 17 Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League marked its 70th anniversary.

A national meeting was held in Pyongyang.

Read out at the meeting was the message of congratulations sent by the Central Committee of the WPK to the organizations, officials and other members of the youth league.

The message said that over the past seven decades since its establishment the youth league has advanced straight forward following the road of Juche under the great care and sagacious leadership

of the WPK and the leader, demonstrating its might as the most powerful force in the world in terms of organization and fighting efficiency and performing great exploits for the country and the revolution, the times and history.

To celebrate the Seventh Congress of the WPK, which will constitute a historic landmark in carrying out the cause of the Juche revolution, as a glorious meeting of victors is the ultimate goal of the WPK and the people for this year, and the WPK pins great hope on the role of young people in implementing this important task, the message stressed. It added that the WPK firmly believes that the organizations, officials and other members of the youth league will perform their revolutionary

duty with credit in the struggle to exalt the dignity of the great Paektusan youth power.

Jon Yong Nam, chairman of the Central Committee of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League, delivered a report to the effect that the youth league would strive to accomplish the cause of the Juche revolution under the leadership of the great WPK.

Also held on the same day in the plaza of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun was an oath-taking rally of the young vanguard, in which they expressed their determination to carry forward the cause of the Juche revolution under the Songun-based revolutionary leadership of Marshal Kim Jong Un. Those attending the rally pledged that, following the red flag of the WPK, they would

wage a dynamic struggle for final victory in the revolution, united rock-solid behind their supreme leader.

To mark the anniversary, a ceremony was held to present the Chongnyon Jonwi guns that had been prepared through the do-good-thing movement of youth and students.

Other colourful events took place.

The celebrations of the youth league's anniversary demonstrated the valiant spirit of the Korean young people who are resolved to rally themselves firmly around their leader and exalt the honour of the youth power.

Article: Kim Hyon

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



Fine art exhibition "Immortal scenes to be etched in the history of the youth power"



Photo exhibition "The sun and the youth power"



A national meeting held to mark the 70th anniversary of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League



An exhibition of sci-tech achievements made by youth and students



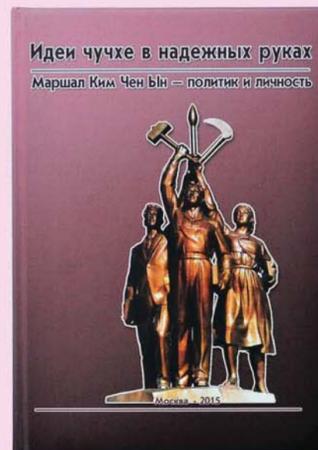
The young vanguard hold an oath-taking rally in the plaza of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun



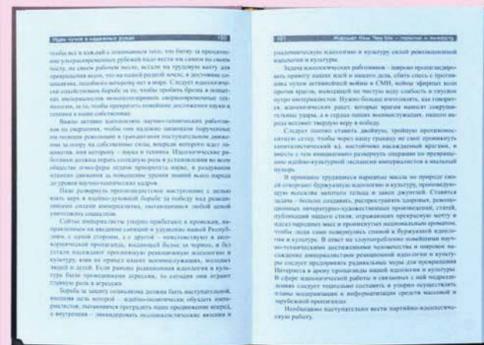
An artistic performance "The great sun and the invincible youth power" and a grand brass band march held by the young vanguard to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League



## Books off the Press



Reliably Carrying Forward the Juche Idea



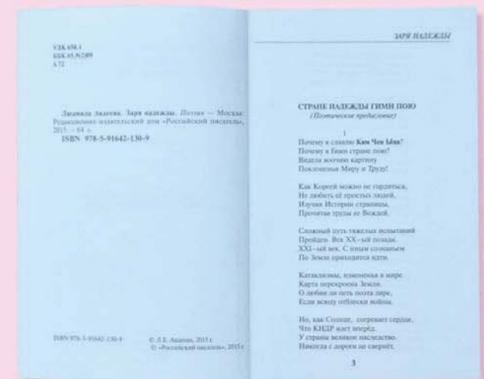
*Reliably Carrying Forward the Juche Idea* and *Dawn of Hope* were published in Russia, both books praising the exploits performed by the DPRK leader Kim Jong Un.

The former was written by Vladimir Sychev, director of the Forum publishing house. On the front cover of the book is a photograph of Kim Jong Un waving back to those attending the military parade held in celebration of the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung. The contents of the book are: preface, immortal classic

works by Kim Jong Un, history and the present times, building of a thriving nation, Korea's reunification and a short biography of the leader. It delineates the leader's outstanding political abilities and humane traits and the brilliant achievements made in the political, military, economic, cultural and other sectors of the DPRK.

*Dawn of Hope* is a collection of an epic and other poems by Ryudmila Abdeeva, a member of the Russian writers' union.

Article: Kim Son Gyong



Dawn of Hope



Kim Il Sung talks with peasants in February Juche 36 (1947)

## Masters of Land

Before Korea's liberation (August 15, 1945) Korean peasants had been subjected to feudal exploitation and languished under Japanese military occupation. Robbed of their own country they experienced every manner of maltreatment and grief. Their centuries-old desire was so simple: tilling their own land. To them, land was as precious as their lives.

Born into a poor peasant family, Kim Il Sung had felt their miseries to his marrow since his childhood. Though faced with numerous tasks after the country's liberation, he paid primary concern to realizing their desire and set agrarian reform as the top priority in carrying out the democratic revolution.

He often went to the countryside, having talks with the former landlords' servants and tenants. Based on an analysis of the feudal land ownership and complicated class relations, he promulgated the **Law on Agrarian Reform in North Korea** on March 5, Juche 35 (1946).

With the promulgation of the historic law Korean peasants became masters of land. It put an end to the exploitative land ownership that had been rooted in the countryside for ages and marked a milestone in the destiny of the peasants. As reflected in the slogan **Land to the tillers!** advanced by the leader, it opened a new chapter in resolving the problem of land.

Peasants welcomed the law and, shedding tears of gratitude and happiness, set up signposts bearing their names on the patches allocated to them.

Impelled by a stirring excitement, a poet said:

...  
Land!  
Given to me by General Kim Il Sung,  
Three thousand *phyong!*  
...

Oh, my mother lies on the ground  
As she cannot carry it on her back,  
Unable to hold it in her bosom,  
Unwilling to go back home without it.  
...

This poem is about a woman who lost her father, husband and three children because of the land. Indeed, it gives a vivid portrayal of the happy peasants who fulfilled their lifelong wish thanks to the

great leader's benevolent care.

Seven decades have passed since then and the generation of those peasants has been replaced by another. Although everything has been changed, their delight is still felt on this land and there remains unchanged the passionate determination of agricultural workers to repay the leader who provided them with a genuine life.

Now they devote themselves heart and soul to tilling the fields with an attitude becoming masters of the socialist countryside.

Article: Kim Chung Bok



Peasants celebrating the Law on Agrarian Reform in North Korea



Rejoicing over the land



The centuries-old desire of peasants has been realized





Kim Il Sung plants a tree on Munsu Hill in April Juche 36 (1947)



Kim Jong Il plants a tree in the park of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in April Juche 79 (1990)

## *Tell O Forests*

On March 2, Juche 35 (1946) Kim Il Sung climbed Moran Hill with young Kim Jong Il and the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk. Gazing painfully at the desolate landscape, he nurtured a grand plan to turn the country into a fairyland clad in thick forests by eradicating the after-effects of the Japanese imperialists' military occupation.

Now this day is observed as the Tree-Planting Day in the DPRK.

On April 6 the following year he planted trees on Munsu Hill to rouse all the people to the afforestation campaign. To him, forests were precious assets for posterity, as well as the building blocks of the country's economy.

During the fierce Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953) the Korean service personnel waged an all-out struggle to repulse the invasion by the US imperialists. Despite the critical situation Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung had thousands of





Kim Jong Un plants a tree on the occasion of the Tree-Planting Day in March Juche 104 (2015)

soldiers discharged and sent throughout the country as rangers to restore the forests that were severely damaged owing to the enemy's brutal actions. All human and material resources of the country had to be enlisted to achieve victory in the war, but he decided to divert numerous soldiers from the front line to the

tree-planting campaign. This was a bold measure unprecedented in the history of human warfare.

He would stress that ten trees must be planted after felling one, and "gold mountains" and "treasure mountains" should be handed down to the rising generations. Crossing rugged

mountains he led the people to cover the country with dense forests. His affection for the country was great, indeed.

True to the great leader's intentions Kim Jong Il planted trees on Mts Jangja and Jang during the war and in the period of postwar rehabilitation, so as to inspire the people including youth and students to turn out in the afforestation campaign.

Even during the Arduous March of the 1990s he, with unwavering confidence in national prosperity, paid constant concern to conserving and increasing forest resources, saying that the people of his generation might not benefit from them but they should strive hard to hand down bountiful forest resources to posterity.

He was most pleased to see the green mountains surrounding an army unit and highly praised the soldiers for their lofty sense of patriotism, calling their Patriots' Unit.

Admiring the scenery of a village overgrown with apricot trees, he called it Apricot Tree Village, and seeing many persimmon trees at an army unit, he named it Persimmon Tree Company to accentuate the national flavour.

The green woods all over the land were the fruition born of the great leaders' ardent patriotism.

In order to translate their ideals into reality Kim Jong Un is leading the nationwide tree-planting campaign.

With an unshakeable determination to turn all the mountains into thickly-wooded "gold mountains" and "treasure mountains" within a decade, he has called upon the service personnel and people to turn out as one in the forest restoration campaign.

Afforestation plans have been drawn up on the basis of a detailed survey of forests and practical possibilities and in reflection of the people's patriotic enthusiasm, and tree nurseries across the country have been expanded accordingly.

The social movements for winning the titles of Forest of Socialist Patriotism and Model County in Afforestation are going full steam ahead, and the service personnel and civilians work together to plant trees and conserve the forests.

Enjoying the ever-changing scenery, the Korean people take great pride in having Kim Jong Un, who is sagaciously leading the revolution and construction with noble moral

obligations to the great leaders and warm affection for his country and people.

Article: Kim Chung Bok  
Photo: Ri Hak Myong



The whole country turns out in the tree-planting campaign



Sapling production has been put on an industrial and modern footing



To Greet the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with Labour Feats

# Self-Development, Key to High Productivity

- At the Sangwon Cement Complex -

The Sangwon Cement Complex is widely known as one of the DPRK's largest building-materials production bases.

Last year, in order to celebrate the 70th anniversaries of national liberation and the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea as revolutionary, auspicious events, the workers, technicians and officials of the cement complex worked with devotion, thereby making an active contribution to building a number of monumental structures in the country.

In January this year Kim Jong Un sent a message of congratulations to the laudable people who, braving difficulties with an indomitable willpower, broke

the peak year level by tens of thousands of tons last year and thus rendered distinguished services to ensuring that the great heyday in construction continues.

In his message he highly praised them for having made a tangible contribution to implementing the WPK's grand construction plan through unprecedented success in cement production. Noting that the working class of the cement complex contributed greatly to ushering in a great era of national prosperity, in which they reduce ten years to one, making yesterday's appearance changed today and everything changed by morning and by evening, he expressed his



firm belief that they would become cornerstones that assure the rosy future of a civilized socialist country.

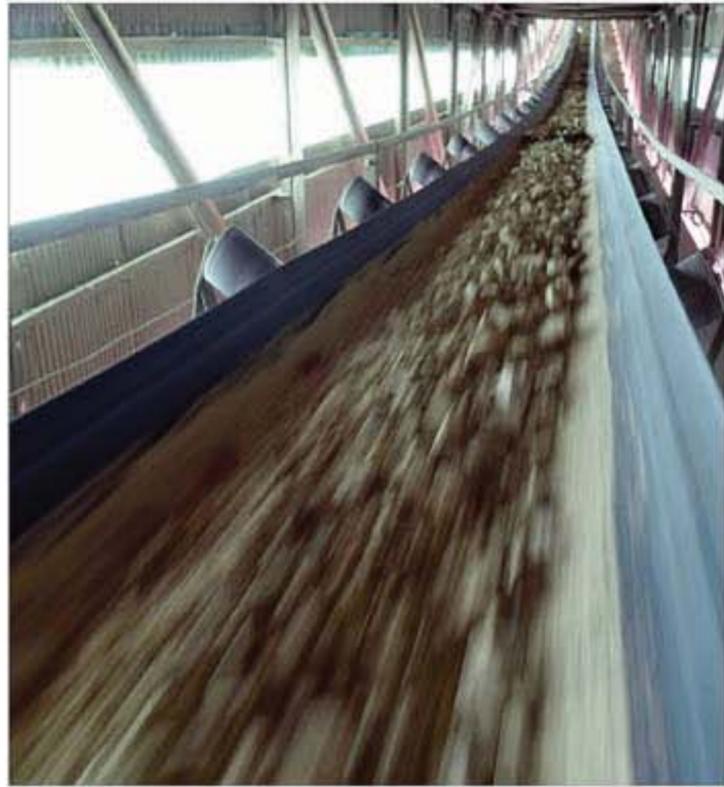
Cherishing the leader's great trust in them, the employees are making redoubled efforts to boost production on the principle of giving priority to self-development.

They rely entirely on their own wisdom, technology and efforts in running equipment at full capacity. They are also making effective use of the raw materials and fuel abundant in the country to produce high-strength cement.

The workers and technicians are intensifying the mass technical innovation movement to introduce advanced science and technology in production and put the production lines on a modern and IT footing.

They will raise the fierce flames of innovation in this year's worthwhile struggle to usher in a golden age in building a thriving nation.

*Article: Kim Jong  
Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA*



# In the Flames of Innovation



The employees of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex are making innovations in production after issuing an appeal to the heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il across the country to greet the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with labour feats.

Last year the iron and steel complex took great strides towards making the metallurgical industry Juche-based by completing the iron production

system of the Korean style using an oxygen-fed blast furnace.

The officials, workers and technicians of the complex carried out in a short period and in a three-dimensional way the gigantic tasks for manufacturing and assembling equipment and construction work, such as final-stage assembling of a large oxygen plant, disassembling of the old furnace, manufacturing and fixing of the new one,

installing of the air compressor, perfection of the water supply system and reconstructing of the power substation.

In close cooperation with the specialists in the scientific research sector they resolved numerous problems arising in the building of the oxygen-fed blast furnace, upgrading of the UHP electric arc furnace, introduction of high-temperature air combustion techniques, construction of a ferroalloy production base and perfection of the heavy rails production system.

Now the blast furnace, oxygen plant and UHP electric arc furnace are running under the careful observation in the general control room and other control rooms for production processes.

Having renovated the production lines in a splendid fashion, the complex gives definite priority to the supply of raw materials such as coal and concentrated iron ore and ensures that all the workshops strictly observe the set technical regulations.

As a result, the production volume is increasing rapidly.

*Article & photo: Pak Pyong Hun*

They strive to boost the output of the materials for heavy rails





# Wide Product Range, Better Quality

The Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory is boosting production according to the plan of the Workers' Party of Korea to usher in a golden age in building a thriving nation in this year when the Seventh Congress of the WPK is to be held.

After completing its renovation project last year, the factory has set it as an important policy-oriented requirement to put the production lines on a highly modern footing, improve product quality and rely on locally available raw and other materials.

The officials, including Jang Sung Ho and Jon Myong Hwa, work effectively at the shoemaking shop, injection-moulding and cutting workteams, and other main units, holding consultations with the workers and technicians on the shop floor and taking prompt measures for the supply of raw and other materials.

In January, by dint of creative cooperation between the management, workers and technicians, the factory introduced far infrared and other innovative techniques in the adhesion process at the shoemaking shop, thus halving electric power consumption and doubling the intensity of adhesion.

It prioritizes designing to gratify the customers' tastes and aesthetic senses and suit the features of their ages and psychology, maintaining it as an important principle to increase the variety of shoes according to seasons.

Last year the staff of the designing section invented a number of designs, contributing to producing a wide range of shoes (23 major items and 114 expanded items).

They are bending their energies on developing famous products which vary in kind, pattern and colour, and are light and long-lasting.

The sewers at the upper-attaching shop and the operators at the cutting and injection-moulding workteams are working in a meticulous manner and with a high sense of responsibility.

Thanks to the production zeal of the whole factory, its Maebongsan-brand shoes are enjoying great popularity for their smartness and wide variety.

Article & photo: Ri Kwang Song





## Sci-Tech Complex Attracts People



Suk Island on the Taedong River in Pyongyang has been transformed beyond recognition, the Sci-Tech Complex sitting on it to show off its magnificent appearance.

The public centre of learning, built in an architectural style that is representative of the 21st century, embodies the plans of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state to develop the country into a powerhouse of scientific and technological personnel.

Covering a total floor space of 106 600 sq metres, the complex is an atom-shaped structure composed of three elliptical bodies that are superposed in the orbit of electrons.

Ideal as an intelligent, energy-saving and green architecture, it is of a unique design that is reminiscent of the world of science.

It has been equipped with a natural lighting system for indoor illumination, a cooling and heating system powered by geothermal energy and an electricity generation system using wind and solar power.

Boasting a huge database containing hundreds of millions of advanced sci-tech data, it has thousands of seats for e-reading; there are halls for information service, e-reading areas, sector-specific sci-tech diffusion areas, children's and students' e-reading areas, reading area for the persons with disabilities, cyber lecture area, seminar hall, academic discussion area, question-and-answer area, technological exchange area, hall for self-study, etc.

Staffed with hundreds of specialists for database building, server administration, software development, computer network

management, information service and other purposes, it puts a focus on network services while providing ready access to books and magazines on latest science and technology at the hall for reading new books with over 100 seats and a collection of 20 000-odd books.

The sci-tech exhibition in the building comprises the hall dedicated to the history of sci-tech development where visitors can acquire a theoretical understanding of sci-tech achievements, laws of nature, physical principles and sector-specific knowledge; ten halls for sector-specific science and technology including hall for children's dreams, hall for scientific study and virtual science lab; and 4-D simulation cinema for science films.

In addition, there is a temporary exhibition for sci-tech festivals and fairs.

In front of the complex stands a tower symbolic of science and technology. Also on the outside are a fountain park, study sites and sci-tech exhibition. The bookstore, shop, restaurant and other facilities provide every convenience for the comfort of visitors. The 23-storey scientist dormitory with a capacity of 500 is connected through a corridor to the complex.

After its inauguration on January 1, the multifunctional hub of diffusing advanced science and technology is attracting an increasing number of visitors including scientists, technicians, researchers and students.

Article & photo: An Chol Ryong

Public centre for diffusing science and technology



Basic science hall



Hall for reading new books

Public centre for diffusing science and technology



Cyber lecture area



E-reading area



Hall dedicated to the history of sci-tech development



Hall for children's dreams

Public centre for diffusing science and technology



Academic discussion area



Frontier sci-tech hall



Applied sci-tech hall



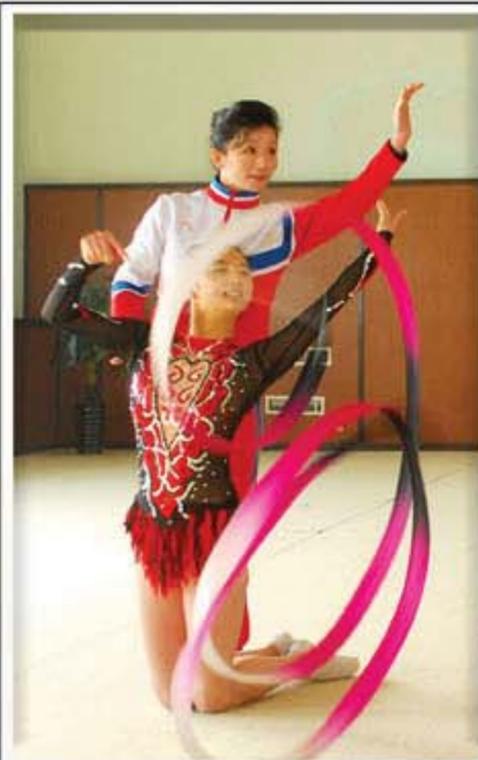
# Laudable Women Coaches

Today there are many sportspeople among the Korean women who display their fortitude and ennobling virtues in several sectors for building a thriving country. The women coaches and officials in the sports sector strive to train illustrious athletes with an eye on gold medals in international competitions, true to the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea

to develop the country into a sports power. As March 8 this year marks the 106th anniversary of the International Women's Day, some of its best women coaches are introduced below.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho

Photo: An Chol Ryong, Choe Sol Hui



Merited Athlete Pak Kwang Bok, a rhythmic gymnastics coach of the Kigwancha Sports Team

Pak Kwang Bok was the national champion in rhythmic gymnastics from the mid-1980s to the early 1990s. She bagged two gold medals at the 7th four-continent championships held in August Juche 79 (1990).

Subsequently, during her two-decade-long career as a coach, she has trained many national champions and other excellent athletes.

Last year her disciples snatched 11 gold medals at international competitions.

Never yield to a failure nor rest on your laurels—this is what she often says to herself and her disciples.

Now she is striving hard with a greater ambition.



Hwang Yong Mi, one of the country's first Taekwon-Do women players, was recognized as the reigning woman champion by snatching 11 gold medals at three rounds of the Taekwon-Do world championships.

Later, during her one-decade-long career as a coach, she took part in nine international competitions, and her team topped the total rankings each time. In particular, she obtained the top coach award at the 13th Taekwon-Do World Championships held in Juche 92 (2003).

Ten of her disciples are People's and Merited athletes.

Players are diamonds and the coach is a jeweler—this is her motto.

Labour Hero and People's Athlete Hwang Yong Mi, vice-chief of the Taekwon-Doists Team under the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee



People's Athlete Kim Chun Phil, an apparatus gymnastics coach of the Pyongyang Sports Team

Kim Chun Phil has rendered great services to raising Korean women's apparatus gymnastics to the world standard. One of renowned specialists in this event, she believes that players' performance in competitions depends on their coach's competence.

Her coaching career is characterized by energetic thinking and study and painstaking efforts. On the basis of a full understanding of the technical features of this event she trains her players in a scientific way as suited to their physical and technical preparedness and global trends.

During her 30-odd-year-long career as a coach, she has trained over ten specialists and many good athletes including world champions and Olympic gold medalists. Among her world-famous disciples are Kim Kwang Suk and Hong Un Jong.



Kim Chun Hui, a weightlifting coach of the Kigwancha Sports Team

Kim Chun Hui worked as a teacher at a juvenile sports school in Pyongyang after graduating from Korea University of Physical Education. In December Juche 97 (2008) she was posted as a coach of the Kigwancha Sports Team.

In Juche 101 (2012) she ranked among the top ten coaches of the year. Surprisingly, she retained the title the following year and regained it last year.

She has devoted her knowledge and passion to training her disciples, taking it as the source of her happiness and pride.

Moved by her enthusiasm and sincerity, most of her disciples including Rim Jong Sim won the Olympics and other international competitions, exalting the honour of their country.



People's Athlete Sin Jong Rim, a diving coach of the April 25 Sports Team

Sin Jong Rim claimed the women's 1m springboard title at the 1st World Military Games held in Juche 84 (1995).

Her fame was fading away in the memory of sports fans, until last year Kim Kuk Hyang won the women's 10m platform diving at the 16th FINA World Championships. Sin was appointed as a coach five years ago and the world champion in her teens, one of her disciples, took part in the international competition for the first time.

Sin is a very demanding teacher in training her disciples and a dear mother in looking after them. Last year she ranked among the top ten coaches of the DPRK. Her lofty spirit and virtues are a guarantee for new successes.



Huichon Power Station No. 3



Huichon Power Station No. 4



Huichon Power Station No. 8

## Power Output Soars

The Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK pursue a policy of increasing the generation of electric power with the main stress on tapping hydraulic resources.

Accordingly, last year the Korean people built the Chongchongang Power Station in Tiers along the 80-km-long course of the Chongchon River dividing the midwestern and northwestern parts of the country. They waged a heroic, devoted struggle with indomitable fortitude to dedicate their proud creation to

the 70th anniversary of the founding of the WPK.

The power station contributes greatly to expanding the country's power-generating capacity, protecting the nearby farmland, industrial districts and residential areas from flooding, and providing them with plenty of water for industrial use and irrigation.

The officials and workers of the power station, fully aware of the significance of the electric-power industry in effecting a turnaround in building

an economic giant, strive with great patriotic enthusiasm to run the power generators at full capacity while conserving water and maintaining equipment in a scientific and technological way.

Having perfected the power transmission system, the workers are concentrating efforts on boosting the output of every generator, pushing forward the socialist emulation drive between shifts. They adjust the load for each process effectively and keep the generating equipment in a good state of

repair and maintenance, so as to ensure maximum generation of power even in winter when the flow of water is not plentiful.

The officials and workers are raising the fierce flames of innovation in production with patriotic zeal to celebrate the Seventh Congress of the WPK as a meeting of victors.

Article: Kim Hyo Sim

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



Huichon Power Station No. 9

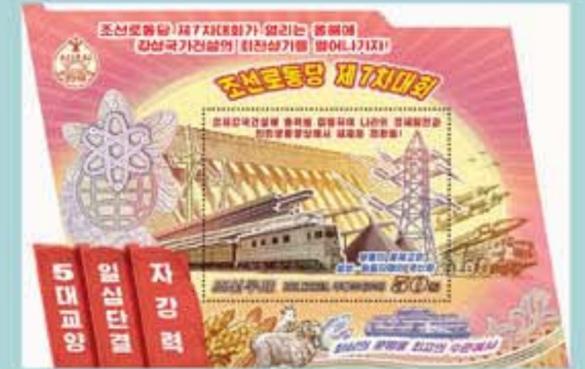


Huichon Power Station No. 11

Rose of Sharon and Samson Rock, the first stamps issued in Korea in Juche 35 (1946)



# Stamps Showcase 70 Years of the DPRK



Some of the cups, diplomas and medals won at international exhibitions and shows



Stamp designers



The officials and creative workers of the State Stamp Bureau of the DPRK strive hard to create excellent stamps that truthfully portray the stirring reality and give the people a broad knowledge of nature and society.

The DPRK acceded to the FIP on June 15, Juche 54 (1965).

Article: Choe Kwang Ho  
Photo: Kim Yun Hyok

On March 12, Juche 35 (1946) the stamps *Rose of Sharon* and *Samson Rock* were issued to mark the launch of stamp business in Korea after national liberation.

Since then Korean stamps have been used not merely to certify the payment of postage but also to widen the people's knowledge and contribute to their cultural and aesthetic life.

The Korean Stamp Museum on Changgwang Street in Pyongyang houses all sorts of stamps that have been issued in the country over the past seven

decades.

The first commemorative stamp of the country, issued to celebrate the first anniversary of its liberation, bears a portrait of Kim Il Sung.

Similar stamps have been issued to mark the Day of the Sun (the birthday of President Kim Il Sung), the Day of the Shining Star (the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il) and other national holidays. They showcase the immortal exploits of the great leaders.

There are also a wide variety of stamps dealing

with the successful achievements the Korean people have made in politics, the economy, science, sports and other sectors in different periods—the building of a new country, Fatherland Liberation War, postwar rehabilitation, socialist construction, Arduous March and forced march, and building of a thriving nation.

Numerous other stamps reflect the people's attachment to the national traditions and customs, world trends in the development of stamps and hobbies of philatelists.

# Growing Enthusiasm for Taekwon-Do

- At Kim Song Ju Primary School -



Stress is put on practising basic technical movements

Kim Song Ju Primary School on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River in Pyongyang is putting stress on Taekwon-Do training.

Its Taekwon-Do group, formed in Juche 82 (1993), has topped the medal table six times in the Taekwon-Do event of the primary school class at the Jongilbong Prize national schoolchildren's games, bringing to the school gold, silver and bronze medals, as well as trophies.

Many of its graduates took the first place at the international children's Taekwon-Do championships and held demonstration matches on dozens of occasions.

The school strives to steadily improve the teaching methods and training guidance as demanded by the developing reality.

It selects pupils on the basis of a scientific analysis of physical growth indexes and their constitutions. In teaching and training it focuses on correctly defining the order of priority according to their ages, physical conditions and psychological features.

Special emphasis is put on theoretical explanation and teaching by means of visual aids so that the pupils have a proper understanding of basic movements, cultivate courage and patience, and acquire ennobling spiritual and moral traits and fundamental techniques.

The school sets stage-by-stage objectives and specifies the standards and intensity of training in a reasonable way to ensure that its pupils perform various technical movements properly. In order to improve the quality of regular training it maintains close ties with the instructors and veteran coaches of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee.

Under realistic plans it endeavours to train promising Taekwon-Doists while inculcating in the pupils the advantages of the traditional martial art peculiar to the Korean nation.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun  
Photo: Hong Kwang Nam



# Blind but Brilliant



Merited Artist Kim Myong Suk at Kim Won Gyun University of Music



Discussing a work with some members of the disabled artistes society of Korea



During a foreign tour



Article: Kim Thae Hyon  
Photo: Kim Yun Hyok

The following happened more than 50 years ago. Every so often lights would flicker late at night at a flat in Jongno-dong, Central District, Pyongyang.

A five-year-old girl called Kim Myong Suk would pester her parents to buy her *kayagum* (a stringed instrument), before falling asleep. Though born blind, she had a flair for music and sang quite well. As they loved her most, they would not spare anything for their daughter. They could hardly go to sleep, presuming that playing a musical instrument was a pipe dream for the child.

Today she has grown into a popular *kayagum* soloist and is leading a worthwhile life under the free education system of the country.

Her parents were anxious about the future of their poor child, but she could develop her faculties at Taedong School for the Blind, learning to play the instrument at its art group.

She would win plaudits for her great skill at artistic performances and, at 14, was enrolled at the then Pyongyang University of Music and Dance. Under the close concern of her affectionate teachers and friends she contributed to performing modern music with the traditional instrument. Later, she spared no effort in training young musicians.

In appreciation of her active role in artistic activities and devoted services to the education of young people, she was honoured with the title of Merited Artist.

Last year she went for a foreign tour as a member of the handicapped artistes' troupe.

In the UK, after she and her disciple played a *kayagum* duet, the compere introduced them to the audience, saying that they were a blind teacher and her disciple, not ordinary instrumentalists, and she had spent two decades in training the excellent musician. Amid the thunderous applause from the audience, they were presented with bouquets.

That day the woman said: As a saying goes, a good mentor makes a man brilliant. I was brought up under the warm care of my socialist country. I, a blind woman, owe my happy life to the state that has done everything possible to translate my dream into reality. Over the past five decades there has not been a single moment of misery in my life.

She still enjoys playing *kayagum* to sing of her pride and glory.

# Young Paduk Hopefuls

- At the South Hwanghae Province Paduk Centre -

Since olden times paduk, or go, has been a favourite folk game in Korea.

Now in the DPRK the game is encouraged as one of the traditional sports events.

Paduk centres have been set up in all provinces, attracting an increasing number of the working people.

The South Hwanghae Province Paduk Centre in Haeju caters for the local residents, gifted children in particular; it runs a paduk group to train young ace players.

Last year those who have attended this group topped the total rankings at the national paduk tournament, winning the men's and women's singles and mixed doubles in the first category and the mixed doubles in the second category.

Paduk demands great skill, strategy and subtlety and is capable of infinite variety, so some people say that it is more challenging than janggi (Korean chess).

The laudable records of the paduk centre testify to the patriotic devotion of its staff who are making redoubled efforts to add glory to their country by producing promising paduk players in large numbers.

They have pursued scientific training methodologies as suited to the children's ages and psychology.

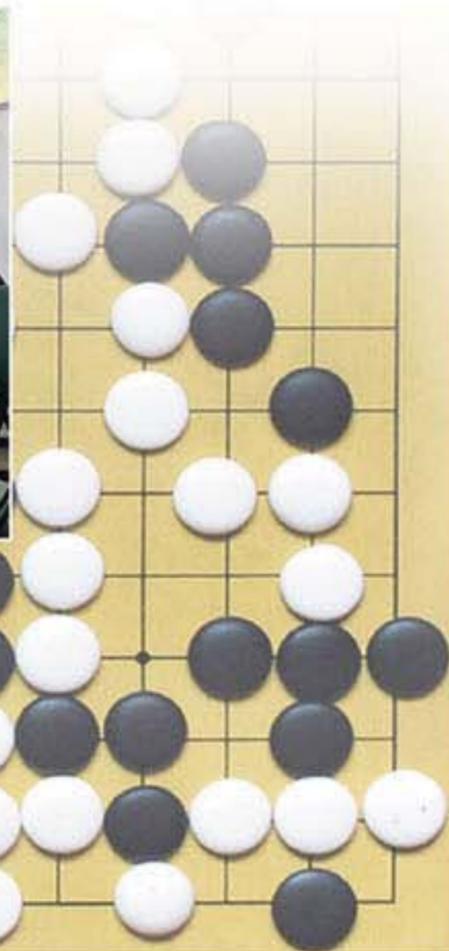
They set appropriate stages and objectives to help the latter acquire high abilities for basic training and understanding of moves and situations.

In particular, Kim Chol Bom has introduced novel ideas in coaching the children. His method with the main emphasis on judging moves and situations proves effective in developing the children's creative abilities and theoretical thinking power and in encouraging the habit of delving deeper into the problems. It helps fostering their responsiveness and competitiveness to cope with the opponents' moves.

The paduk centre often arranges matches among the children and with adults to rid them of their stage fright.

Enrolled at the group are many ambitious children selected from the kindergartens, primary and junior middle schools in several counties of the province, as well as in Haeju.

Article: Kim Hyon Hui  
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



# Japan's Ambition Grows

Japan is notorious for flatly denying its crime-ridden history of war and aggression, occasionally inciting territorial dispute and publicly uttering bellicose remarks.

Predominant within the political circles are ultra-rightist views calling for the revival of Imperial Japan. Under the cloak of safeguarding Japan and contributing its share towards the pacification of the world, the authorities adopted security-related laws legalizing overseas dispatch of the troops of the Self-Defence Forces and are hell-bent on arms buildup.

The security legislation, which was enacted according to the new Japan-US Defence Cooperation Guidelines, gives the green light to the SDF to travel all over the world. The role of the SDF was entirely limited to defence and internal security but, since long ago, it has acted as a regular army on the excuse of rendering military assistance to the allies. Already in the last century it acquired the main features of a large modern army.

Recently the government is revising the defence programme with the primary emphasis on increasing the mobile striking power of the SDF and improving its operational capability. It is also giving a strong push to establishing armed units like the US marine corps. This is proof positive that it is planning to launch a preemptive strike against other countries.

Obviously, reinvasion is the mission and character of the SDF.

*Hinomaru* and *Kimigayo*, legacies of Imperial Japan, are still held up as the national flag and song.

Talking about a switch-over from the exclusively defensive policy to the preemptive strike strategy, the authorities are pressing for the reorganization of the SDF into national defence forces and the revision of the Constitution, which lays an obstacle in the way of Japan's overseas expansion.

Though it has already built huge combat forces, Japan swells the defence budget. Worse still, it is growing more desperate in its attempt at adopting latest military technology and purchasing new types of military hardware. This is tantamount to a declaration to the world that the defeated nation is well on the road to overseas expansion, to rank among military powers.

The international community, neighbouring nations in particular, keep watchful eyes on militarist Japan. It is the only nation in the world that feels no shame and guilt for its heinous crimes of mass destruction and evades its moral obligations and responsibilities under international laws by means of base and cunning tricks.

Japan must not be allowed to exist on the planet as it has been swimming against the global trend to peace, clamouring for the revival of militarism over the past seven decades—this is the appeal of justice and conscience.

As a Japanese saying goes, misery awaits those who do not think of the future.

To the war maniacs, this old saying will be worth remembering.

Article: Kim Hyo Sim



