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Supreme Leader **Kim Jong Un** gives on-the-spot guidance to the test-fire of a new-type rocket
[May Juche 106 (2017)]

Epochal Event in Building a Nuclear Power of Juche

Scientists and technicians from the rocket research sector in the DPRK conducted a successful test-fire of a Hwasong-12 ground-to-ground intermediate-range strategic ballistic rocket on May 14, Juche 106 (2017).

Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and Supreme

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FRONT COVER: High-rise apartment blocks in Ryomyong Street demonstrate courageous spirit of Korea
Photo: Kim Song Nam

Pictorial KOREA is published in Korean, Chinese, Russian and English.

Commander of the Korean People's Army, gave on-the-spot guidance to the test-fire.

The Supreme Leader unfolded a plan of developing nuclear strike means, strategic weapons, in order to terminate the centuries-long confrontation with the US imperialists and win final victory, and wisely led the creative efforts for the implementation.

Officials, scientists and technicians in the sector, who turned out to implement the leader's plan with a determination to wage a death-defying struggle to perfect a new type of Juche-oriented intermediate-range strategic ballistic rocket, accomplished the task of manufacturing an excellent weapon system in a short period.

The Supreme Leader visited the venue where the rocket was being assembled, acquainted himself with the preparations of the test and encouraged the scientists and technicians. He was more than happy with the birth of another perfect weapon system, "Juche weapon," which meets the requirements of the WPK's idea on military strategy and the current times.

At the crack of dawn of D-day he came to the launch ground again to check the test-fire plan.

The test-fire aimed at verifying the tactical and technical specifications of the newly-developed capable of carrying a large-size heavy nuclear warhead was conducted at the highest angle in consideration of the security of neighbouring countries.

According to the Supreme Leader's order, Hwasong-12 blasted off at 4:58 am. It flew along the preset trajectory to climb up to 2 111.5 kilometres and fall on the target open waters 787 kilometres away from the launch site.

When the Supreme Leader concluded that the test was successful, a thunderous cheering of the participants in the test-fire burst forth, who shed tears of joy.

Noting that the "Juche weapon," a precious national treasure to be handed down to posterity, is permeated with the idea of single-hearted unity and the spirit of the harmonious whole in which the leader believes in scientists and the latter place absolute trust in and follow the former, the Supreme Leader gave his own special thanks to them in high appreciation of their efforts.

The successful test-fire served as a landmark in the history of building a nuclear power of Juche and greatly inspired the Korean service personnel and people to the building of a powerful socialist country.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon

Scientists and technicians in the defence science sector who have manifested once again the might of the self-reliant defence industry of Juche Korea enjoyed themselves in Pyongyang amid great concern of the Party and the state and hearty welcome of the people across the country

Supreme Leader **Kim Jong Un** sees the test-fire of ground-to-ground intermediate-range strategic ballistic rocket Pukkuksong 2
[May Juche 106 (2017)]

Another Success in the Upbuilding of Nuclear Forces

Last May when the whole DPRK was filled with great excitement over the successful test-fire of new-type intermediate-range strategic ballistic rocket Hwasong 12, another success in the test of ground-to-ground intermediate-range strategic ballistic rocket Pukkuksong 2 before deployment for action stirred the country once again.

Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, inspected the test on the spot.

The test was aimed at final verification of the technical indexes of the weapon system and thorough examination of its adaptability in various combat environment to be scheduled for deployment for action.

The Supreme Leader came to the observation post with the accompanying officials and gave an order to start the test.

Pukkuksong 2 blasted off with a thunderous boom, spouting a gush of flame. It left vapour trails behind in the blue sky, demonstrating the dignity, spirit and might of Korea significantly consolidated.

The test launch fully verified the reliability and accuracy of the cold launch system based on caterpillar self-propelled vehicle, the guide and stabilization system during the active flight, stage separation and starting and operation of high-thrust solid-fuelled motors. Remote measurement data revalidated all the technical indexes in the sections of middle control and terminal guide of the separated nuclear warhead, and images from a camera mounted on the warhead further determined the accuracy of the position control system. The test also fully checked the adaptability of the caterpillar self-propelled launcher and other overground equipment in a real combat environment.

Kim Jong Un examined the launch results with the officials at the observation post and called the test a perfect success.

Expressing his great satisfaction with the absolute correctness of the ballistic rocket, he said Pukkuksong 2 is a perfect weapon, before approving the deployment of the weapon system for active service.

He saw the images of the earth which were transmitted from the warhead-mounted camera in real time, and said he was pleasant to see them taken from the rocket and the whole planet looked beautiful.

He stressed the need to make the country's nuclear forces more varied and developed before the US imperialists and their vassal forces should brace themselves and specified the tasks to be tackled.

Successive achievements made in the upbuilding of the nuclear forces significantly displayed the ever-growing, invincible might of Juche Korea.

Article: Kim Hyon

Kim Il Sung visits Samjigang Cooperative Farm in Jaeryong County [September Juche 65 (1976)]

Indelible Traces Left on the Fields

Lanes in the fields are not marked on maps. However, the Korean people are hardly indifferent to the lanes in the vast stretches of plain fields or small patches in mountainous regions across the country, because they are associated with lifelong devotion of President Kim Il Sung.

When he was leading the building of a new country after liberation of Korea from the Japanese military occupation (August 15, 1945) he continuously walked through the fields of the country until the last day of his life (July 8, 1994), regarding agriculture as the great foundation of the country.

While enforcing democratic reforms in the liberated country, he ensured that the agrarian reform was carried out first to satisfy the centuries-old desire of the peasants to do farming on their own land, thus making the tillers masters of land.

In order to develop the country's agriculture and make his people lead a happy life without any worries about food he continued to visit cooperative farms across the country, rain or snow. His traces are left on the potato fields in Taehongdan Plain in the northern areas, paddy fields in Yonbaek Plain in the west coast and even small patches in remote mountainous regions.

He became an honour member of a cooperative farm, selected the site of a reservoir and discussed farming methods with the peasants, sitting at the edge of a field. In the course of this he created the Juche farming method that suits the natural and geographical conditions in the country and biological features of the crops and makes it possible to reap high and stable yields, thereby bringing about a fresh turn in agricultural development.

During the last days of his great life in Juche 83 (1994) he visited Kumdang Cooperative Farm in Onchon County and a farm in Taesong District in Pyongyang to take the measures of overcoming drought.

Bumper harvests and historic sea changes in socialist rural areas of the country are attributable to the lifelong devotion of the President and his continuous field guidance to cooperative farms.

That is why the Korean people recall with deep emotion the benevolent image of President Kim Il Sung.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon

Kim Il Sung talks with the farmers in Chongsan-ri, Kangso County [October Juche 47 (1958)]

Kim Il Sung gives field guidance at Jangchon Cooperative Farm in Sadong District [October Juche 58 (1969)]

Kim Il Sung meets a female tractor driver at Oeso Cooperative Farm in Kaechon County [November Juche 62 (1973)]

Kim Il Sung clarifies the three principles for national reunification [May Juche 61 (1972)]

By Elucidating the Three Principles for National Reunification

The three thousand *ri* land of Korea seethed with the ardent yearning for national reunification on July 4, Juche 61 (1972). The day that was characterized with an epochal event in the history of the Korean people's reunification movement was the brilliant fruition of the ennobling love for the nation cherished by President Kim Il Sung who made painstaking efforts to put an end to national division caused by foreign forces at the earliest possible date and make all the Korean compatriots live harmoniously on the reunified land.

Entering the 1970s the aspiration of the Korean people for the country's reunification mounted as never before.

With a deep insight into the aspiration of the fellow countrymen for reunification and its acuteness, President Kim Il Sung advanced a new policy of promoting the independent national reunification by means of negotiations between the north and the south. His policy of negotiation that the DPRK was ready to make contacts at any time with all the political parties, public organizations and individuals in south Korea enjoyed absolute support from home and abroad.

Thus inter-Korean high-level political talks took place.

When he met the south Korean delegate in Pyongyang on May 3, Juche 61 (1972), the President, with broad magnanimity, expressed his delight in meeting the fellow countrymen after a long separation because of the national division and warmly welcomed their courageous trip.

Noting that the north and the south could make joint efforts for reunification and solve all problems concerning it only when there were fundamental principles agreed upon by both sides, he clarified the three principles for national reunification that confirmed the reunification issue of the country should on all accounts be settled independently without foreign interference and peacefully on the principle of promoting great national unity.

He stressed that the national reunification should be achieved independently without dependence on foreign forces nor foreign interference and the great national unity should be promoted transcending the differences in ideas, ideals and systems. Saying that even the big powers of the world were trying to abstain from quarrelling and get on harmoniously with one another, he continued that, as the same nation, the Korean compatriots must not quarrel among themselves but reunify the country by peaceful means.

The south Korean delegate agreed with the President's instructions in all respects and pledged that he would take the principles as the basis for the future actions.

The three principles for national reunification that clarified the fundamental standpoint and ways to achieve the country's reunification in accordance with the desires and interests of the nation and by its own efforts in a peaceful way touched the hearts of all the fellow countrymen. And based on them the North-South Joint Statement was made public on July 4, Juche 61 (1972) in Pyongyang and Seoul.

The publication of the joint statement which the north and the south agreed upon for the first time and promised its implementation provided the entire Korean nation with the guidelines for opening up a road for reunification as desired by the whole nation.

The imperishable exploits President Kim Il Sung achieved in laying the cornerstone for national reunification will be etched in the history of the Korean people's reunification movement.

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

First session of the inter-Korean Red Cross talks was held in Pyongyang between August 30 and September 2 in Juche 61 (1972) amid the great expectation of the entire Korean nation

Second meeting of the north-south coordination commission was held in Pyongyang in March Juche 62 (1973)

A test call made after setting up the direct telephone line between the north and the south of Korea for the first time since its separation

Representatives from Japan-DPRK friendship association met to express their support for the historic July 4 Joint Statement and independent and peaceful reunification of Korea

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visits the Pyongyang University of Architecture [November Juche 102 (2013)]

To Build an Education Power, a Talent Power

The DPRK is dynamically pushing ahead with the building of an education power, a talent power, thanks to the sagacious guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who is laying a solid foundation for the prosperity of the country and nation.

The Supreme Leader, always paying close attention to the development of education, made public such works as ***Let Us Build Ours into a Country of Education, a Talent Power, by Bringing about a Revolution in Education in the New Century*** and ***On the Basic Tasks Facing Kim Il Sung University in the New Era of the Juche Revolution***. In his works he clarified the orientation and means for developing the country's education onto a new, higher stage as demanded by the era of the knowledge economy in the new century.

With an uncommon wisdom and great foresight, he set it as a major link in bringing about a radical improvement in education to intensify general secondary education. To this end, he ensured that the Sixth Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held in September Juche 101 (2012) adopted the law on enforcing universal 12-year compulsory education. He also provided energetic guidance to set up a rational course of general secondary education that suits the specific situation of the country and the worldwide trend and develop it by working out teaching programmes for the new compulsory education, improving the conditions and environment for education and so on.

The DPRK has, therefore, enforced the universal 12-year compulsory education in full measure on April 1 this year.

Higher education system which had been confined to stereotyped structures of universities and colleges in the era of industrial economy of the previous century has been perfected to train in larger numbers both academic and practical talents. Many universities in the capital city and other provinces have been promoted to sectoral and regional universities, and colleges to vocational ones, while education systems, faculties, departments and chairs being rearranged and new ones for cutting-edge science and technology instituted.

The Supreme Leader ensured that the distance education system should be further improved at leading universities so that all the people in the country would gain access to higher education and learn in the whole course of their life, thereby opening a broad avenue to making the entire people well-versed in science and technology.

Busy as he was with his Songun-based revolutionary leadership, he visited many educational institutions and extracurricular bases, including Changjon Primary School and Kyongsang Kindergarten in Central District in Pyongyang, Pyongyang secondary and primary schools for orphans, Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace and Songdowon International Children's Camp. While giving field guidance at the Pyongyang University of Architecture in November Juche 102 (2013), he said he would be its honorary president.

When he visited the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill in December three years ago, he said that providing schoolchildren with uniforms is a task we must perform at all costs, not a task we may do if we have money and may not if we do not have it, and took concrete measures for the purpose. He also unsparingly spent his precious time on solving difficult matters arising in the production of notebooks and bags for children and even guided their designs.

Cherishing deep in their mind the ennobling view of Kim Jong Un on the rising generation and the future, the Korean people make a firm resolve to turn theirs into a country of education, a talent power, faithfully supporting his leadership, and are raising the hot wind of studying across the country.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA

A universal 12-year compulsory education is introduced and radical changes have been brought about in the general secondary education

Many universities in the capital city and other provinces have been promoted to sectoral and regional universities, and the bases for the distance education system and sci-tech dissemination furnished creditably, being conducive to making the entire people well-versed in science and technology

Towards the Conference of Mallima Pioneers

Laudable Creation of Self-reliance and Self-development

Last year the Wonsan Army-People Power Station was inaugurated in Kangwon Province in the mid-eastern part of Korea.

As a large-scale counter flow change station, it generates electricity by changing the flow of the Rimjin River, the eighth longest in Korea, which rises in Mt Turyu in Poptong County of the province and flows into the West Sea of Korea. A gigantic dam built on the upper reaches of the Rimjin River stores water to change the flow to the East Sea and thus make a high head.

The dam is situated in the region whose annual precipitation is 1.2 times greater, providing it with rich water resources. It also has a solid ground to prevent the loss of water and ensure the dam's stability and security.

People in Kangwon Province set about building a power station by their own efforts.

The builders and volunteers of the province went to the uninhibited region with rugged mountains. Though everything was in short supply, they persistently carried out the projects of digging scores-of-kilometre-long waterway tunnel through the Masikryong Mountains, building the dam of nearly 2 000 000 m^3 and laying thousands-of-metre-long pressure iron pipeline. They also followed up the construction of the generator room and the assembly of generating equipment, setting up of electrical network, and building of over 100 dwelling houses for the station employees.

The completion of the gigantic construction project of the Wonsan Army-People Power Station with units Nos 1 and 2 provided satisfactory solutions to the electric power and water needed for people's life, industrial use and irrigation, thus contributing to the economic growth and the improvement of the people's living standards in the province and sprucing up the natural scenery of the region.

Officials and employees of the power station, with a firm determination to give full play to the spirit of Kangwon Province, the indomitable spiritual strength the provincial people created during its construction, are maintaining and operating machines on a regular basis to generate more electricity.

Article: Choe Ho
Photo: Ri Myong Guk

Electricity generated at the power stations is of great benefit to the economic development and the improvement of the people's living standards in the province

Quality Silk Cloth Is Produced

The Nyongbyon Silk Mill that was established in August Juche 37 (1948) is one of the leading silk cloth producers in the DPRK. It turns out various kinds of colourful silk cloth with beautiful patterns, including polychromatic silk and rainbow-striped silk, rendering a contribution to improving the people's livelihood.

At present it regards it as a key item for business strategy to produce cloth much favoured by the people and having a competitive edge in the world markets, and pushes ahead with the work to develop new goods.

A new production method has been introduced to increase the variety of goods, lowering the norm of materials consumption per unit of output to one fifth of the silk production while improving its quality. The new silk cloth looks elegant in colour, is soft to the touch, does not crease easily and washes well, thus becoming a favourite item of people.

The new kind of silk cloth, Ryuksungdan, is very popular among women for their traditional costumes in spring and autumn.

In the past it produced mainly satin and some other traditional silk cloths, but now it has expanded the range to more than 20 kinds.

The mill exerts itself to develop more goods that meet the people's tastes and aesthetic sensibilities of the times.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Ri Kwang Song

The mill is making strenuous efforts to establish a new method of silk production and make the products better and various

Silk quilts are produced

Immortal Works of the Korean Leaders Published in Many Countries

Marking the 75th anniversary of the birth of General Kim Jong Il, 14 countries, including Russia, Cuba, Algeria, Indonesia and Germany, published the immortal works of the Korean leaders. 5 050 copies of the works in eight kinds, including General Kim Jong Il's works ***On the Juche Idea*** and ***Socialism Is a Science*** and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's works ***Let Us Add Eternal Brilliance to Comrade Kim Jong Il's Great Idea and Achievements of the Songun Revolution***, were published in seven languages.

They carried on the upper part of their front cover the august names of the Korean leaders and prefaces explaining the significance of the publication.

Book-launching ceremonies took place at the publishing houses in several countries.

The publishers concerned and personages from the friendship and social organizations and Juche idea study groups were present at the ceremonies. Extending their warmest congratulations to the General's birth anniversary, the speakers highly praised the General as the great leader who had devoted his whole life to the prosperity of his country and the happiness of his people.

They also noted that the General had firmly safeguarded the national sovereignty and turned the DPRK into a socialist country powerful politically, ideologically and militarily in the 1990s when the reckless moves of the imperialists to stifle it went to extremes, by dint of his Songun-based revolutionary leadership. At present, the Korean people are waging a dynamic struggle to carry out the lifetime instructions of His Excellency Kim Jong Il under the guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, and the DPRK is demonstrating its might as a nuclear power, missile power, in the East, the speakers praised.

Article: Kim Ok Gyong

Towards the Conference of Mallima Pioneers

Technical Reconstruction Pays Off

Several production lines and equipment underwent technical reconstruction, thereby turning out medicines in larger amounts

The Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory was established in May Juche 35 (1946) and made an active contribution to the pharmaceutical industry of the country by steadily expanding its production capacity and remodelling equipment.

In recent years the factory made remarkable progress in modernizing the production processes in hearty response to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea to put the national economy on a modern and IT basis with the spirit of self-reliance and self-development and by dint of science and technology.

It reconstructed by itself the production building with a total area of several thousand square metres and thus provided the production environment with dust- and germ-free conditions.

It also actively collaborated with the researchers from the State Academy of Sciences in newly manufacturing several production lines and equipment for Western and Koryo medicines workshops.

They mapped out countless plans for a single design, and made painstaking efforts to establishing flow-line processes.

Thanks to their burning zeal for invention and creation, over 190 machines and equipment were either newly manufactured or remodelled. Among them are those for shaping pills, coating sugar on them and pulverizing raw materials furnished at the Western medicine workshop, and for producing extracts of Koryo medicines and essential oil through extracting, drying and thickening in a vacuum condition, and for packing liquid medicines.

A general analysis room was also furnished at the factory to ensure the scientific quality inspection of the medicines and thus improve their hygienic safety.

It has also developed new Koryo medicines from the medicinal materials abundant in the country.

All the production processes conform with GMP standards and its production capacity has increased 2.5 times greater. The Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory is playing a considerable role in health promotion of the people by turning out basic medicines in greater amounts.

Article & photo: Kim Hyon Hui

Some of the products

Ryomyong Street,
Encapsulation of Socialist Civilization

Energy-saving and Green Street

Ryomyong Street which has soared magnificently demonstrating the national strength of socialist Korea is introduced with the advanced energy-saving and green architectural techniques in conformity with the worldwide architectural development.

All the apartment blocks are furnished with the heating system capable of saving over 30 per cent of overall heating energy, and geothermal cooling and heating system. Solar panels attached to the buildings make it possible to cut the power consumption of the residents.

Various other energy-saving technologies, including those of reducing the air-conditioning load by employing shade-type screening in summer, utilizing geothermal and waste heat from ventilation, and recycling rain, are introduced to the schools, kindergartens and nurseries in the street, thus providing better environment for education and upbringing of children.

Solar panels and solar water heaters are attached on the walls of the apartment buildings and to lamp posts, and installed on the rooftops of the public buildings in order to make effective use of natural energy resources

Green architectural techniques, including the greening of rooftops and walls of the apartment and public buildings, are widely applied and the street landscaping realized with its own distinctive features

The street covering a total area of over 900 000 m^2 is covered with 30 000-odd flowering and other trees in 56 species, 200 000 flowering plants including 4 000 roses, and green lawns. It means over 200 000 m^2 of the street are comprised of green areas. Besides, greening techniques are introduced to roofs and walls of the apartment and public buildings accounting 75 per cent of the former and 70 per cent of the latter in building areas. Flowering stands set up in the verandahs of the flats are about 32 kilometres in length.

The residents are very proud of the modern street in good combination of cutting-edge science and technology of architecture and that of protecting ecological environment.

Green Architectural Technology Company

Street with the Maximum Convenience

Ryomyong Street embodying the plan of the Party and state to provide the people with the highest quality and standard of civilization has a lot of modern service facilities.

More than 130 establishments for public services are located in the area with a density higher than other areas. Among them are such imposing buildings as the Green Architectural Technology Company, Ryomyong General Store and Ryonghung Sambang Shop, as well as other shops, restaurants, cinema, hotels, post offices, etc.

The residents are provided with the utmost convenience in life, as there are various commercial, public catering and welfare service facilities, including branch Tongchonho Restaurant, Ryomyong Noodle House, Kumsanpho Specialities Shop, a tailor's shop for teachers, bookshop, chemists, and others.

Service networks are distributed in harmonious arrangement on the ground floors of the buildings in varied architectural styles, some of them on corridor-type floors linking skyscrapers. They add conspicuous features to the street.

Their interior decorations sustain practical, formative and artistic features according to their missions.

Children's parks, volleyball and badminton courts, a roller rink, and various places for cultural and leisure activities laid in the residential areas of the street occupy a total area of over 57 000 square metres.

The street is as bright as day at night, boasting of its magnificent appearance and resounding with the merry laughter and singing of the residents.

Article: Jong Ki Sang
Photo: Ri Myong Guk, An Chol Ryong, Hong Thae Ung

Kindergarten and nursery in the street

Ryomyong Hotel

Ryomyonggori Cinema

Ryomyong Primary School in Taesong District

Commercial, public and welfare service amenities in the street provide the residents with the maximum convenience

General commercial outlet furnished on the ground floors linking the 70-storey skyscraper with the 55-storey one

Kim Pom Ju, Professor and Doctor, lecturer at Kim Il Sung University

My family and my daughter's have moved into new flats in Ryomyong Street on the same day.

That I have so far received countless benefits from the Party and state during my lifelong career as a lecturer at Kim Il Sung University, the highest institute of science and education, is more than I deserve, and this time I can hardly express my heartfelt gratitude for the great favour bestowed on us.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un puts forward us lecturers as genuine patriots and revolutionaries and bestows on us a privilege to enjoy the socialist civilization before others.

Cherishing his love and trust deeper in our minds, we will add continuous honour to our family of educationists by carrying out the Party's plan of bringing about a radical change in education in the new century.

Kim Kwang Hyok, lecturer at Kim Il Sung University

Our couple are both lecturers at Kim Il Sung University. We are married for less than two years, and this time we moved into the new flat provided with excellent living conditions and environment.

There are many countries and educationists in the world; however, there is none like ours in which educationists like us enjoy the supreme happiness free of charge.

We are determined to devote all our wisdom and energy to training able personnel to support this grateful socialist system with cutting-edge science and technology, and also prepare ourselves as competent educationists.

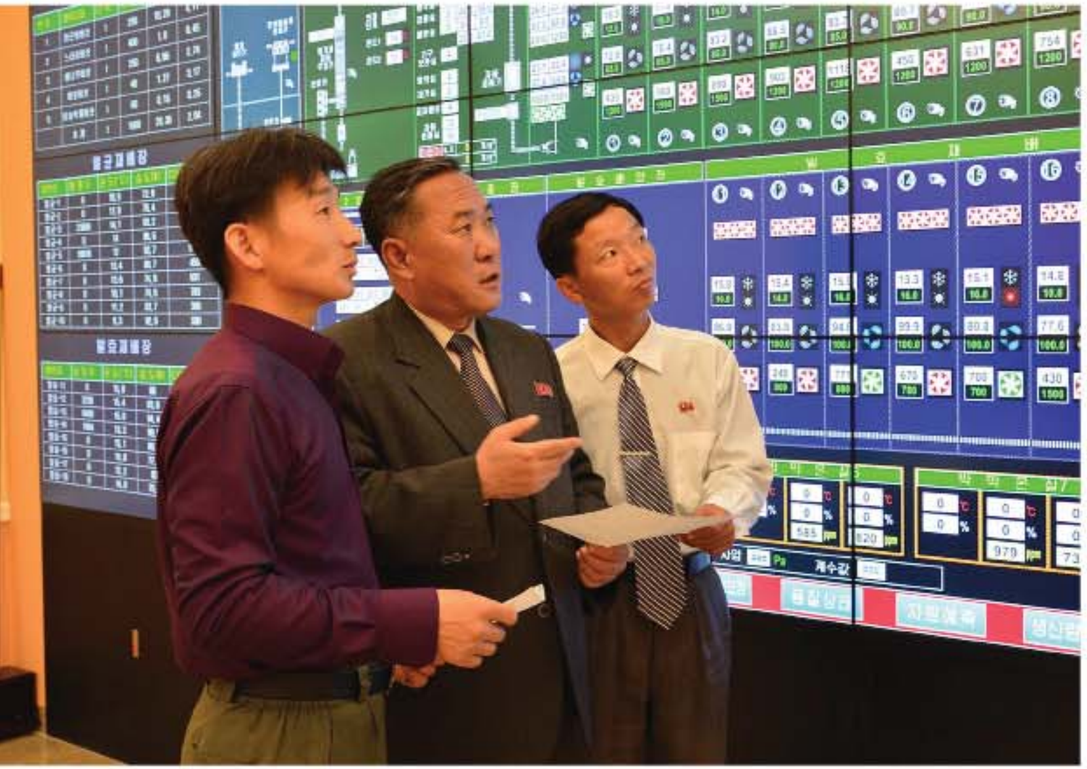
Sincere Gratitude for Benevolent Country

It is as if I were in dream. Only a year ago my family had lived in a flat with a single room, and now we are provided with this palatial house free of charge. The moment I stepped into the house, I felt so grateful to the country that I was moved to tears.

I am well aware that it is absolutely impossible for ordinary workers like us in other countries to get such a wonderful house as ours however hard they would toil and moil throughout their life.

Now I am burning my heart with ardent zeal to devote my strength and wisdom to my country that takes care of all the families and spares nothing for their happiness.

Kim Kwang Chol working at the Western District Public Building Construction Company



In the days when the acrylic acid production process was being established at Sunchon Chemical Complex

In the Vanguard of Surpassing the Cutting Edge

The Automatic System Research Section under the Automatics Department at Kim Chaek University of Technology ranks with other units across the country that are enjoying fame for rendering tangible contribution to put the national economy onto a modern and IT basis. Ever since its establishment in September Juche 88 (1999), it has helped 40 odd organs and enterprises in several sectors with their modernization.

This authoritative research team is headed by Jong Il Chol, Doctor and Associate Professor.

Jong had grabbed the limelight with his excellent academic performance already in his university days and become a lecturer at his alma mater in Juche 75 (1986). His practical abilities fully demonstrated not only in education work but also in solving scientific and technological problems arising in actual conditions. Thanks to his meritorious work, he was promoted to chief of the automatic system research section newly established in the department.

His section took part in the assembling of the baby powder production line at the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory and succeeded in its trial operation. Afterwards, the section also modernized production lines of several factories and enterprises, and that at one try, which instilled in it a firm confidence in its ability. It thus set a high goal of opening a new page in the industrial modernization in the new century by its own effort and made redoubled efforts to this end.

Jong worked out an ambitious plan of developing a new control system suited to actual conditions to replace the previous program logical regulator in worldwide application. His persevering efforts paid off, and his new control system provided a sure guarantee for modernization and automatization in the industrial sector with the minimum cost. His success attracted the admiration of the experts in the field. The new control system was applied to the technical reconstruction projects under way throughout the country, including those of Hamhung Timber Factory, Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex and Kanggye Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory. Through the application many units of the country increased the ratio of income to investment several times and even scores of times greater.

Two years previously Jong and his team developed an automatic system of acrylic acid synthesis process, which had been known as the exclusive by three developed countries, in such a short period of only 70 days and succeeded in its test-run in one swift sweep.

They also concluded in July last year that this process could be run safely under the maximum load. It marked the cutting edge in chemical industry, and opened a new chapter in establishing a C1 chemical industry in the DPRK.

Not content with their success, they creditably established the integrated production systems at the Taedonggang Pig Farm and Pyongyang Mushroom Farm, fully demonstrating their prestige of taking the van of sci-tech competition.

To develop one's own strength and give fullest play to it is the very key to all successes—this is what Jong has confirmed in his career. Cherishing it as his firm conviction, he is devoting all his wisdom and efforts to modernization of the national economy.

He was honoured with February 16 Sci-Tech Prize, top prize in the relevant sector, on two occasions for his distinguished services to the country's scientific and technological development. Last year he was awarded the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK and chosen as one of the best scientists and technicians for the year.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: Choe Won Chol

Jong Il Chol and his team members strive to solve scientific and technological problems arising in reality by relying on collective wisdom

Always Living in the Days of War

Ri Kye Sim, war veteran, living at Wolhyang-dong, Moranbong District, Pyongyang

Small Spring is a favourite with the Korean people, young and old alike, after a lapse of many years since its publication.

The medium-length novel depicts truthfully the noble and beautiful mental world of heroic soldiers of the Korean People's Army displayed during the Fatherland Liberation War (June 25, 1950 - July 27, 1953). The KPA soldiers fought unto death in defence of their country and dear home against the US imperialists that unleashed a war of aggression against the young DPRK.

The author of the book is Ri Kye Sim who was a war correspondent.

In June 1950 when the US imperialists made an armed invasion, Ri joined the Korean People's Army.

In the fierce flames of the war she always remembered the past five years she had spent after national liberation (August 15, 1945).

Those were such happy times that she could never forget them: her imposing tile-roofed house not inferior to that of landlord, straw sacks of rice heaped up in the yard, her mother who was elected a first woman deputy in the county, her entrance to Kim Il Sung University after graduation of Sariwon Girls' Middle School, and so on.

Together with her comrades-in-arms

Ri was born on April 8, Juche 20 (1931) into a poor farmer's family in Pongsan County, Hwanghae Province, and suffered all sorts of misfortunes under the Japanese military occupation of Korea. At that time she was called Munyo, a nameless girl. Therefore, the happy time she spent for five years after liberation was so dear to her that she fought bravely to defend her grateful country.

With a firm determination not to be called Munyo again, Ri cared for the wounded, braving the fierce flames and wrote poems to encourage the combatants.

After she became a chief editor of her corps' journal, she never hesitated to rush to the fields of decisive battles, herself fighting bravely while writing articles and editing.

The journals issued in the flames of war sparked off the spirit of defending the country and mass heroism in the service personnel.

After she was promoted to the *Joson Inmingun* in December Juche 41 (1952), she continued her news coverage as a war correspondent until the V-day. In the postwar days acting as a poet she led a passionate life just as she did in the days of war.

Living in the mind of an eternal woman soldier, her collected poems, carries medium-length novels, poems and essays based on the wartime life, which makes an active contribution to hardening the spirit of defending the country unto death as the faith and will of all the Korean service personnel and people.

Publications carrying Ri's works

Ri and other war veterans relive the days when they braved the flames of war

That's why she is still called "our chief editor" and "woman war correspondent" among her comrades-in-arms and readers, even though scores of years have passed after the war.

Ri Kye Sim, far advanced in age, continues to create literary works just as she did in the days when she inspired the soldiers to fight in defence of the country.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Hong Kwang Nam

Three Magicians in a Family

Kim Thaek Song, father

Kim Chol, the eldest son

Kim Kwang Chol, second son

Lively discussion about new magic art pieces

Father Kim was awarded the grand prix and the title of world magic king at the 16th international magic festival held in Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia, in Juche 70 (1981)

The sons were awarded the top technical prize at the international magic festival held in Monte Carlo, Monaco, in Juche 85 (1996)

The National Acrobatic Troupe of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has three famous magicians, father and his two sons, who have made a considerable contribution to the development of magic art of the country.

Father Kim Thaek Song has a good reputation at home and abroad.

Some 50 years ago he worked on the lathe at a machine factory. In the embrace of the socialist system that treasures the people's talents and brings them into full bloom he grew into a magician.

He thought constantly and passionately to create novel magic works that reflected the people's life, and put them on stage. His illusionary and functional magic pieces, such as *Silk Cloth Cascades*, *A Rich Harvest of Apple*, and *Floral Basket*, captivated the audience with their novelty and vivid portrayal of happy life of the people, and they are still well remembered by the people.

He was awarded the titles of world magic king and twice world magic king in the 16th and 20th international modern magic festivals respectively and won in several international magic festivals. He is a winner of Kim Il Sung Prize, Labour Hero, and People's Artiste.

Kim's two sons followed in his wake and practiced magic art under their father's guidance. They devoted their zeal to creating excellent magic pieces and began to cut conspicuous figures in the magic world since 1980s.

Illusionary magic pieces *Warriors* and *A Girl Reflected in the Mirror* are typical works of Kim Chol, the eldest son. Novel conceptions and ingenuity are his specialities, and his works always arrested public attention.

Second son Kim Kwang Chol always vied with his elder brother to prepare himself as a promising magician. Illusionary magic piece *Two Adventurers* the two brothers performed together led the audience to the mysterious wonderland.

Soon after they began their careers as magicians, they took part in international festivals and were awarded the grand prize and technical prize in magic festivals held in Monte Carlo and Karlovy Vary.

The brothers, like their father, are winners of Kim Il Sung Prize and People's Artistes.

The father and sons have so far put on stage more than 100 magic pieces including illusionary, functional, ordinary and other juggleries. They have performed on several thousand occasions, making people pleasant and optimistic and featuring the rapid development of the country's magic art.

Kim Thaek Song, 83 years old, is the head of magic art department at the Pyongyang Acrobatics School under the National Acrobatic Troupe. And Kim Chol and Kim Kwang Chol, section chief and producer respectively, are acting as magicians and devoting their wisdom and zeal to creating magic pieces conducive to the national magic art development.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Kim Yun Hyok

New Scenery of the Taedong River

Solar-powered pleasure ships that started service in the Taedong River of Pyongyang delight the Pyongyang citizens.

They use no fuel oil but the solar heat, thus keeping the river and the city fresh from pollution.

They shuttle between Kim Il Sung Square and the Tower of the Juche Idea in the rush hours and provide sightseeing tour services along the courses between Okryu and Taedonggang bridges, between Kim Il Sung Square and May Day Stadium and between Kim Il Sung Square and Sci-Tech Complex.

Their unique illuminations which add beauty to the ornamental effect and scenery of the river seem to herald the green environment of the city in the future.

Photo: Kim Yun Hyok

My Country Is Best

Ri Un Gyong and her daughter Han Song Gyong

As it is said from olden times that children are the pleasure of the family, my daughter, Song Gyong, was the joy of my family. But when she was about one year old, she had breathing difficulties and blue face. When other children were frolicking, she was just looking at them with envy.

We lost laughter in agony with the worry about her, and always saw in our dreams my daughter playing merrily.

One day our section doctor visited us and suggested taking her to the Okryu Children's Hospital.

When Song Gyong was diagnosed as having a congenital heart disease at the hospital, I was greatly distressed. Then Kim Chol Jin, deputy head of the cardiovascular surgery department, consoled me, saying: "You see the picture in the foyer of the hospital. Among the children, laughing heartily and running cheerfully with nothing to envy in the world, is your daughter, too."

From the day when she was admitted to the hospital Song Gyong was put under intensive treatment and had to undergo an operation after repeated medical consultations.

Waiting outside the operation theatre, I was so impatient that it seemed time dragged on.

Even at present I can hardly express my feelings when I heard the operation was successful.

Later I have come to know that the cardiovascular surgical department is well staffed by competent surgeons with excellent techniques as well as rich experience in the operations of atrial and ventricular septal defects, Fallot tetrad and other congenital and complex heart diseases.

Treatment of Song Gyong continued even after the operation. The doctors paid close attention to her, sometimes staying up all night beside her bed.

When she got well, Song Gyong learned the Korean letters and numbers at the education room for kindergarten children furnished in the hospital.

Appreciating the sincere devotion of the medical workers for the recovery of my daughter and looking at her getting healthier and laughing cheerfully, I once again felt grateful for my socialist country and its free health care system that spares nothing for the health improvement of the people.

My daughter has been born again thanks to the devotion and high skills of the medical workers at the Okryu Children's Hospital associated with the great love of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un for the rising generations. She is now growing up healthily and cheerfully at the Tongsin Kindergarten in Tongdaewon District.

I will do my best to bring her up into a dependent pillar of my grateful motherland.

Ri Un Gyong living at the Neighbourhood Unit No. 16, Tongdaewon-dong No. 1, Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang

Photo: An Chol Won

Woman Football Referee

There were two women referees from the DPRK who captured the attentions of the football experts during the women's events in the 31st Olympic Games held in Brazil last year.

Head of the FIFA referee's department and other figures, lavishing unstinted praises on veteran and skilled refereeing of the DPRK women in the games, expressed their pride in having such excellent referees and wished that they would present themselves as a model of excellent refereeing.

Hong Kum Nyo is one of the two women referees who displayed great practical ability in the matches.

Though she was in her 40s, she ran like players and controlled the matches fairly based on her intensive power of attention and prompt and accurate judgements and decisions.

She played as a forward for the first women's national football team in her 20s until she was married and left the pitch.

Five years later, in Juche 90 (2001), she entered the Korea University of Physical Education to study football refereeing. Though she was a married woman with a daughter, she, buoyed by her resumed career, studied zealously to possess high practical ability and thus live up to the trust of the country.

After she finished her course, she applied for the certifying examinations for a woman football referee and passed them successfully. Since Juche 92 (2003) she acted as an international football referee for women's football games.

Her abilities were fully manifested in such international games as the Women's World Cup in 2015 and the Olympic Games in 2016, and she won medals awarded to excellent referees by FIFA on two occasions.

She is now a coach for the Naegohyang Women's Football Team and exerts herself to the country's football development.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon

Photo: Choe Myong Jin

Hong Kum Nyo proves her high abilities at international matches

Bright Future for Children with Disabilities

State and social interest in the protection of the persons with disabilities are increasing in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and it is paying close attention to the rehabilitation of the children with disabilities.

The Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities that was founded in March Juche 101 (2012) is carrying out the early discovery of the handicapped children, their rehabilitation and education in a scientific way as required by the developing reality.

It is collaborating with the people's government organs at all levels and public health establishments to detect the physically challenged children in their early stages so as to increase the recovery rate.

The centre's medical workers are introducing into the rehabilitation of spastic, autistic and deaf and dumb children various therapeutic methods, such as occupational, sensual and speech therapies, in accordance with the types of their disabilities. They are also inventing and applying apparatuses and equipment appropriate to the therapies.

The centre has laid out a playing area to suit the mental qualities of the children and furnished it with playthings good for intellectual rehabilitation, and is continuously improving the teaching methods of preschool children with disabilities.

Thanks to warm affection of the centre's staff devoting themselves to a bright future of the country, many achievements are made in the rehabilitation of the handicapped children.

Article: Kim Jong
Photo: Ri Hak Myong

Rehabilitation facilities and apparatuses for various types of disabilities help the disabled children

Natural monument

Songgyungwan Gingko Trees

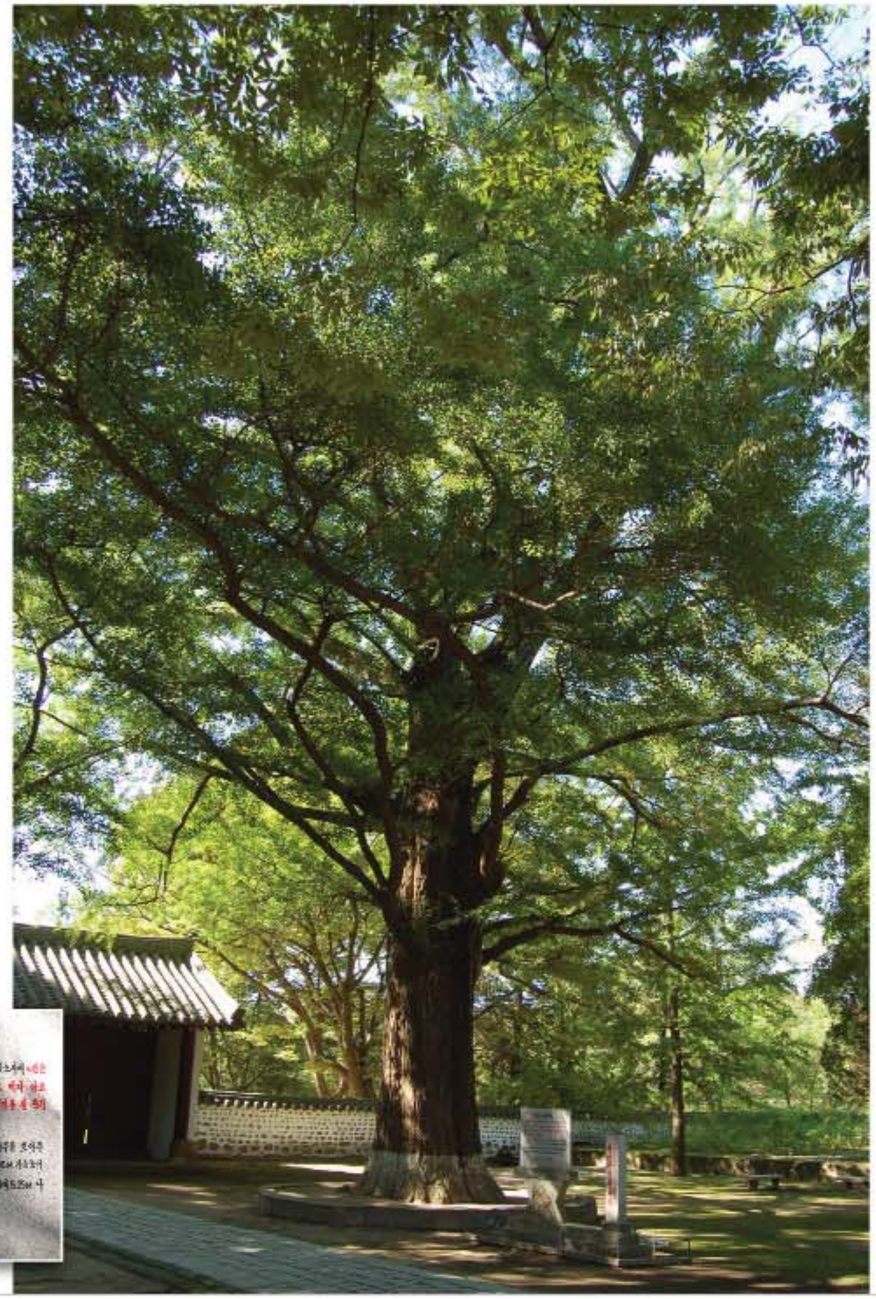
About four kilometres northeast from Kaesong Railway Station is Songgyungwan, a famous historical building in Korea, and in its yard are two gingko trees. They are valued as precious natural wealth of the country, as they are among the oldest gingko trees.

Among them the east tree is 30 metres tall, 6 metres and 5.2 metres round at the collar and the chest height respectively. At the height of about 2.8 metres it divides into two boughs and has the crown of about 20 metres across.

The west tree is 31 metres tall, 6.45 metres round and 2.6 metres across at the collar, and 5.25 metres round and 1.7 metres across at the chest height. It divides into two boughs at the height of four metres and its crown is about 27 metres across.

Designated as a natural monument in January Juche 69 (1980), the gingko trees are under good preservation, because they are of great academic significance and add beauty to the natural scenery.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Pak Chang Bok



Brief News

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA

International seminar held at Kim Il Sung University

The 17th round of May 21 Architectural Festival

The 19th round of Pyongyang Medical Science Symposium of Korean medical workers at home and abroad

The 2017 spring table tennis competition of persons with disabilities and amateurs

The 20th round of the Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair

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BACK COVER: Mt Chilbo in summer
Photo: Kim Yong Nam