

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits monuments to pay tribute to anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs on National Liberation Day



KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong on August 14 on the occasion of the 81st anniversary of national liberation.

Present there were senior Party, government and military officials, including members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, leading officials of the WPK Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet, commissions, ministries and national agencies and commanding officers of the Korean

People's Army.

The KPA guard of honour lined up there.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

A wreath in the name of Comrade Kim Jong Un was placed at the wreath-laying stand of the cemetery amid the playing of wreath-laying music.

Also laid were wreaths in the name of the WPK Central Committee, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the DPRK SPA Standing Committee and the DPRK Cabinet.

Comrade Kim Jong Un, together with all the participants, paid a silent tribute to the memory of the revolutionary martyrs who devoted their precious lives to the sacred struggle for the independence and sovereignty of the country and its prosperity.

There took place a march-past of the KPA guard of honour.

Noting that the revolutionaries of the first generation fought a bloody war of resistance to save the country and the nation and regain the dignity as they burned with the noble sense of duty to bear the responsibility for the destiny of the country and descendants, Comrade Kim Jong Un said that their steadfast independent spirit and undying feats are the ideological and spiritual treasure and precious revolutionary legacy that should be inherited by all generations to come.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters' beautiful ideal of communism, transparent revolutionary faith and indomitable fighting spirit are injecting eternal viability into our people in their struggle to build

a prosperous and powerful country the forerunners desired, he said, affirming that the cause of the great Korean people will be ever-victorious as they carry forward the lofty revolutionary spirit and noble view of life generation after generation.

Then he visited the Monument to Fallen Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Fighters.

With reverence for the known and unknown anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs, who made a contribution to accomplishing the historic cause of national liberation, remaining faithful to the ideology and leadership of President Kim Il Sung, he placed a flower at the monument and observed a moment's silence in memory of them.

SEE PAGE 2

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits Liberation Tower on occasion of 81st anniversary of national liberation



KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, visited the Liberation Tower on August 14 on the occasion of the 81st anniversary of national liberation.

Accompanying him were senior officials of the WPK Central Committee and leading officials of the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK.

The Korean People’s Army guard of honour lined up before the Liberation Tower.

The national anthems of the Russian Federation and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea were played.

A wreath in the name of Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid amid the playing of wreath-laying music.

Written on the ribbon of the wreath were the letters reading “We do not forget the feats of the martyrs of the Soviet army”.

Comrade Kim Jong Un paid high tribute to the martyrs of the Soviet army

who bravely fought for the liberation struggle of the Korean people for freedom and independence of the country.

He looked round the Liberation Tower with those officials.

Looking back reverentially on the militant feats of the officers and men of the Red Army who dedicated their hot blood to the sacred cause of Korea’s liberation, he said that even after the lapse of time and even though one generation may be replaced by another, the DPRK people will always remember the noble soul of the martyrs enshrined in this land

and the heroic, self-sacrificing spirit displayed by them.

The excellent history, traditions and ties of blood between the DPRK and Russia now serve as a fundamental cornerstone and inexhaustible driving force of the bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation, he said, affirming that the great friendship and unity between the peoples of the two countries forged with the noble idea and genuine militant friendship would be steadily carried forward and developed generation after generation along with the new era of comprehensive efflorescence.

FROM PAGE 1

Looking at a group sculpture representing three soldiers of the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army fighting a heroic battle and a stone wall bearing many

martyrs’ names, he said that although the bodies of the fighters who dedicated their precious youth to the revolution to regain the dignity and freedom of the country and the people were buried in unknown mountains and fields,

their admirable images and feats are clearly recorded in the history of the country.

He hoped that the pioneering generation of the Korean revolution, who created the priceless revolutionary traditions of

Paektu and handed them down to the new generations, would always be remembered at the peak of the highest honour and dignity along with the advance and development of ever-victorious Korean-style socialism.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un receives greetings from Russian President

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, received a message of greeting from Comrade V. Putin, President of the Russian Federation, on August 14.

The message said:

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un,

I extend heartfelt congratulations to you on the occasion of Liberation Day, a national holiday of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

This holiday is symbolic of heroism and toughness of the

Korean patriots and soldiers of the Red Army who fought together to liberate your country from Japan’s colonial tyranny.

Created just at that severe time were the lasting traditions of militant friendship and mutual assistance that have served as foundations for the development of the friendly and good neighbourly relations between the Russian Federation and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

The ties between Moscow and Pyongyang have now been raised to the unprecedentedly high level of comprehensive strategic partnership.

Our states are actively cooperating in all the sectors while making concerted efforts to ensure the regional security and stability.

I am convinced that we would as ever conduct constructive joint undertakings on the pressing bilateral and international issues for the wellbeing of the peoples of Russia and the DPRK and for the establishment of a more righteous and genuine democratic world order.

I heartily wish you success in good health and all the DPRK citizens happiness and prosperity.

Yours sincerely.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un receives greetings from Russian party leader

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, received a message of greeting from D. Medvedev, president of the United Russia Party, on August 14.

The message said:

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un,

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on the occasion of the 81st

anniversary of Korea’s liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

In 1945, soldiers of the Red Army and patriots of Korea dealt an annihilating defeat to the Japanese occupiers and thus liberated Korea.

Still now, the tradition of sacred militant friendship handed down by our heroic preceding generations serves as a durable foundation for developing cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang.

I am convinced that to steadily deepen the bilateral

cooperation in all fields including cooperation between the United Russia Party and the Workers’ Party of Korea accords with the fundamental interests of the peoples of the two countries and contributes to consolidating stability and security in the Asia-Pacific region and establishing a just order of the multi-polar world.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un,

I wish you good health and fresh success and all citizens of the DPRK achievement and happiness.

Premier Pak inspects various sectors



Premier Pak Thae Song gives field guidance at the Kumsong Tractor Factory.

KCNA the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

inspected various sectors of the national economy. At the Kumsong Tractor Factory, he called upon the officials and workers to make redoubled efforts in order to attain the tractor and farm machine production goals decided at the Ninth Congress of the WPK, bearing deep in mind the great trust and expectations of the Party Central Committee which put forward the factory as a treasure factory leading the development of the farm machine industry of the country. Going round various production processes including the gear workshop, assembly workshop and standardized goods workshop, he called for further improving the accuracy of the processing of parts, reinforcing and perfecting measuring instruments and steadily increasing the efficiency and productivity of equipment. The field consultative meeting discussed the issues of ensuring the smooth and timely supply of products under contract and materials necessary for tractor production and actively developing efficient farm machines suited to the topographical conditions and actual situation of the country and took relevant measures. After acquainting himself with the farming at the Sosin Vegetable Farm in Ryokpho District and the Tanggok Farm in Kangnam County, he called upon the agricultural sector to cultivate crops in a more scientific way in conformity with the abnormal weather condition in which high temperature is persisting and the growth state of crops, and to widely introduce double and triple cropping methods based on first and second crops cultivation and inter after-cropping and thus raise the level of intensive agricultural production.

Many people visit Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong in succession

KCNA In the run-up to the 81st anniversary of Korea's liberation (August 15), the whole country is brimming with noble reverence of descendants for the revolutionary martyrs who dedicated their everything to the sacred cause of independence by national efforts while fighting their way through long bloody battles against the Japanese imperialists under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung. As an endless stream of ranks of successors flows to the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong where the busts of members of the first generation of the Korean revolution stand, it has been visited this August by lots of officials and working people of many units, including the Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea, the State Planning Commission, the Pyongyang Construction Commission, the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex, the Ministry of Public Security and Kim Chaek University of Technology, service personnel of the Korean People's Army, youth and students, who redoubled their conviction and will to step up the comprehensive rejuvenation of the country by dint of the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, the spirit of the anti-Japanese guerrillas. They climbed to the cemetery on Jujak Peak with the strong aspiration to follow the road of the revolution that had started on Mt Paektu to the last and paid heartfelt tribute to the martyrs, the revolutionary teachers and the first-generation seniors who created the great traditions of the Korean revolution, and laid the eternal cornerstone of their powerful country. The image of Comrade Kim Jong Suk, who led a brilliant life as a genuine bodyguard boundlessly loyal to President Kim Il Sung and devoted her everything to national prosperity, instilled into them the noble outlook

on life of a revolutionary who set a sacred and brilliant example of devoted defence of the leader. As they recollected the not-so-long careers of young communists like Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang Su, who held the President in high esteem as the centre of leadership and unity in the incipency of the Korean revolution, they keenly realized once again what added brilliance to the life of the revolutionaries faithful to their leader and what made them immortal. They remembered the matchless feats of the brave anti-Japanese generals in front of the busts of such fighters as Kim Chaek, Kang Kon, An Kil, Choe Chun Guk, Ryu Kyong Su, O Jung Hup, Kim Il, Choe Hyon, O Pak Ryong, Rim Chun Chu and O Jin U, who were boundlessly loyal to the President to the last moments of their lives since they courageously turned out in the great anti-Japanese war with ardent patriotism. Every visitor was



People from all walks of life and service personnel visit the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong.

determined to perform new miracles and feats for the implementation of the decisions of the Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea at their workplaces and posts by keeping the indomitable faith and the fighting spirit of self-reliance and fortitude cherished by the anti-Japanese forerunners who pioneered the Korean revolution at the cost of their blood with firm trust in General Kim Il Sung. While looking round the cemetery, they also vowed to steadfastly carry forward the revolutionary traditions of Paektu and fulfil their missions and duties in more dynamically ushering in an era of comprehensive prosperity for national rejuvenation under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

NEWS IN BRIEF

KCNA **Symposium on wheat cultivation technology held** A symposium on the breeding of high-yielding wheat strains suitable for double cropping and their cultivation technology took place at the Academy of Agricultural Science on August 11 under the co-sponsorship of the Agricultural Technology Association of Korea and the Breeding Society of Korea of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea. Attending the symposium were scientists and technicians from more than

During the symposium there was a lecture on cultivating high-yielding varieties of wheat. **Civil servants hold swimming contest** A swimming contest among officials of ministries and national agencies in the DPRK took place at the Swimming Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang from August 10 to 12. The contest brought together over 500 players selected from more than 90 units. Divided into four groups, they played matches in a team event. The players fully displayed the techniques they had practised in ordinary time. The State Planning Commission, the State Commission of Science and Technology, the Publication

Guidance Bureau and the Foreign Languages Publishing House came first respectively in their group matches. Medals were conferred on players of the teams that were placed in the top three. **National sports contest of university teachers and students held** The National Sports Contest of University (and college) Teachers and Students-2026 took place at Kim Chaek University of Technology from July 29 to August 9. The contest brought together more than 1 000 teachers and students selected from over 40 universities in the capital city and provinces. The players competed in the volleyball matches (students) and table tennis matches (teachers and students),

divided into categories of central-level universities and provincial-level ones. Kim Il Sung University and Phyongsong College of Medical Sciences came first in the men's volleyball matches, Kim Chaek University of Technology and Chongjin College of Medical Sciences in the teachers' table tennis matches, and Kim Il Sung University and Phyongsong College of Technology in the students' table tennis matches. Wonsan Jong Jun Thack University of Economics won first place in the women's volleyball matches. Successful units and players were awarded trophies, medals and commendations. **National schoolchildren's games close** The 2026 National Schoolchildren's Games,

opened in January, came to a close with due ceremony at the Central Youth Hall on August 12. The players competed in 18 sports events, including Taekwon-Do, basketball and speed skating. Sports group members from schools in Pyongyang Municipality, South Hamgyong Province and North Hwanghae Province proved successful in the games. Provincial standings were announced. Victorious teams were awarded citations, trophies and prizes and distinguished sports group members a prize for schoolchildren with special techniques. Paek Un Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, gave a closing address.



With all-people resistance against invaders

By To Kyong Chol PT

August 15 1945 is the day when Korea was liberated from the military occupation by Japanese imperialism. The national liberation was a historic victory which was achieved as a result of the anti-Japanese war waged through an all-people resistance with the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA) as the hard core. It is unthinkable apart from the leadership of General Kim Il Sung, the legendary hero of the anti-Japanese war and peerless patriot. From the early years when he set out on the road of liberating the country, he firmly maintained the stand that the Korean people are the masters of the Korean revolution and the Korean revolution should be carried out by the Korean people themselves to suit the specific conditions of the country. He formed the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, a permanent revolutionary armed force, steadily expanded and strengthened its ranks and laid the solid foundation for rallying the broad masses under the banner of anti-Japanese struggle, strengthening the mass basis of the Korean revolution and putting up an all-people

resistance. In order to expand the organizational network in the homeland, Manchuria and Japan, he dispatched many guerrillas as political workers and encouraged the masses to join the all-people resistance against the Japanese imperialists by enhancing their consciousness and sense of organization. The Korean people, who had bitterly experienced the pain of losing their country and ruthless suppression by the Japanese imperialists, joined the revolutionary organizations and actively turned out for the anti-Japanese struggle. They sent their sons and daughters without hesitation to join the guerrilla army and supplied it with cloths, foods and other necessities, though they were dressed in rags and suffered from hunger. General Kim Il Sung organized the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland embracing broad patriotic forces from all social strata in May 1936 and expanded its organizations. Under his wise leadership, the all-people resistance force grew rapidly. In 1942 the Japanese imperialists confessed that the anti-Japanese underground organizations in the homeland they detected numbered over 180 and the organized force over 500 000, claiming that the

overwhelming majority of political offenders believed in Japan's defeat and planned to get in touch with General Kim Il Sung and stage an armed revolt under his command. General Kim Il Sung advanced the three-point line of national liberation at the time when the final decisive battle for national liberation was being prepared. The line was designed to deal a crushing blow to the Japanese imperialist aggressor army with the general offensive of the KPRA, stage an all-people uprising in various places in response to the general offensive of the KPRA and conduct a combined operation in the rear of all-people resistance organizations in combination with the general offensive of the KPRA. On August 9 1945, on the order of General Kim Il Sung to start the final offensive for national liberation, the KPRA launched a general offensive and many all-people resistance organizations turned out for the fight all at once throughout the country. The Japanese imperialists suffered a decisive blow from the fierce attack of the KPRA units and active all-people resistance and declared their unconditional surrender on August 15 1945, a week after the start of the anti-Japanese military operations.

By retaining dignity, freedom and rights to independent development

By An Hyok Chol PT

The Korean people were all eager to build a new society after achieving the historic cause of national liberation, but they were at a loss what to do next and which path they would follow. Thus how to adopt the line of building a new country emerged as a vital issue for them. On August 20 1945, five days after the Japanese imperialists surrendered, General Kim Il Sung convened a meeting of military and political cadres of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and delivered a historic speech titled, "On Building the Party, State and Armed Forces in the Liberated Homeland". In his speech he laid down the line of building a new country which called for carrying out the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution by advancing the Korean revolution continuously on the basis of the victory already won and building a prosperous and independent sovereign state by the efforts of the Korean people themselves, and the three immediate tasks of building the party, state and army for putting it into effect. Later, he energetically led the work to fulfil all these enormous tasks successfully.

Under his leadership, the genuine Party, revolutionary armed forces and state of the people were founded in the country, democratic reforms were carried out to liquidate the colonial and feudal socio-economic relationship, and people-oriented and democratic educational, cultural and judicial and procuratorial systems were established in the country in a few years after liberation. At that time, local newspapers carried many articles dealing with the response of the Korean people to the changes brought about in their life by the introduction of democratic reforms. A peasant who had become the master of the land thanks to the Law on Agrarian Reform gave vent to his excitement, saying that now his family cultivated 2 400 phyong (1 phyong is 3. 305 9 square metres) of paddy fields, 3 000 phyong of non-paddy fields and 500 phyong of cotton, potato and other fields. All his family members worked together to do weeding one more time and harvested more crops than average, he said. "Now, nine of my family members are living a sufficient life and my brothers and I are studying at our leisure." Referring to the changes taking place in his life after the enforcement of

the Labour Law, a worker said that after he worked for eight hours and studied at the adults' school in the factory for two hours, he had enough time to manage the household affairs. "Thanks to the benefits of the social insurance programmes, I received kind medical treatment from doctors of the social insurance hospital for 20 days without paying money to cure my illness." A woman who was a deputy to the First Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK wrote in her memoirs: "As happy events took place one after another in the liberated country, my villagers continued to shout hurrah. The Law on Agrarian Reform was followed by the Labour Law. Some days later, the Law on Sex Equality was promulgated this time. We could not easily believe the law which gave us, women who had lived under the heavy pressure of double and triple feudal oppression and chains in the family and society, equal rights with men. Indeed, men, the earth and mountains and rivers changed thanks to the country's liberation." As seen above, the Korean people, who obtained dignity, freedom and the rights to independent development, enjoyed a genuine life and happiness while creating a new life.

Arch of Triumph

By Sin Pyol PT

The Arch of Triumph stands majestically in downtown Pyongyang. Unveiled in 1982 to mark the 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung, it hands down the immortal exploits of the President who accomplished the historic cause of national liberation. It is a four-storeyed monumental stone building, and a balcony forms the boundary between the ground and first floors with the first, second and third floors being divided by flat roofs with successive diminution. At the centre of each of its

four sides on the ground floor there is an arch. The archway is framed with 70 azalea blossom reliefs symbolizing the 70th birthday of the President, further enhancing the formative influence, symbolism and artistic quality of architectural representation. Engraved on the visual centre of the structure are the words of the immortal revolutionary hymn *Song of General Kim Il Sung*, the main theme of the Arch of Triumph, with the bronze relief "Bugler of Victory" carved on either side of it and the columns are embossed with the

years "1925" and "1945", which are suggestive of the President's 20-year history of bloody struggle and his exploits. The sub-theme group sculptures on the north and south sides of the Arch of Triumph show the Korean people's joy and jubilation of greeting General Kim Il Sung in the liberated country and their ardent desire for creating a new life. Built in a magnificent architectural style and consisting of clear-cut sculptures, the Arch of Triumph is a leading grand monumental edifice in the DPRK.

The Arch of Triumph stands at the foot of Moran Hill in Pyongyang.





The consumer goods on show at the exhibition attract the attention of many visitors.
KIM HYOK CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Substantial progress made in quality improvement and diversification of consumer goods

2026 National Exhibition of August 3 Consumer Goods held

By Kim Il Jin PT

The 2026 National Exhibition of August 3 Consumer Goods took place at the Pyongyang Underground Shop between August 4 and 11.

On display at the exhibition, which was held on the theme of "Improvement of quality and diversification of consumer goods", were hundreds of thousands of products of over 4 000 kinds made by more than 400 units across the country.

As in the past, most

attractive at the exhibition were local specialties.

The nine kinds of products of South Hamgyong Province, including salted Pollack entrails, pickled cod roe, pickled squid, salted anchovy and salted Pollack milt, were particularly popular with women as they build up the people's appetites with distinctive taste and are good for retarding ageing and convenient to store and use.

Various kinds of products made with agalmatolite and jade also attracted the interest of visitors. In the country the

craftwork of agalmatolite has been developed for a long time, and agalmatolite pots help cook foods for a long time without charring them while keeping their unique flavour. And the taste of foods boiled in them is particularly good.

Honey products and dried edible herbs from Jagang Province also won favour with the visitors.

Honey from linden flower and Amurchoke cherry flower enhances the resistance of the human body and helps contain bacteria, protect liver

and lower blood pressure. And dried wild vegetables like *Athyrium nipponicum*, bracken and *Inonotus obliquus* are also products with high pharmacological effects on the human body.

South Hwanghae Province presented various kinds of grasswork in different shapes and forms. They lured many visitors as they are light, refresh the viewers and help relieve fatigue in the human body, and more importantly protect the users from the heat in summer.

Various units in Pyongyang

presented products they had developed and completed in the course of diversifying consumer goods and improving their quality. Among them, a functional sofa presented by the recycling workteam of the Sadong District Direct Sales Shop was highly appreciated by experts.

The consumer goods cooperative production units in Tokchon and Kanggye cities and the recycling workteam of the Unsan County Direct Sales Shop also exhibited new kinds

of products like foldaway umbrellas and armchairs they had produced by making effective use of locally available raw materials and resources.

And liquid and powder soap favoured by housewives, quilts that give warm and soft feelings and other household goods also attracted the attention of many visitors.

During the exhibition there was a presentation of experience gained by exemplary units in the production of consumer goods.

'More wonderfully with our resources and technologies'

At the sci-tech achievements exhibition in field of furniture and finishing building materials

By Pak Song Min PT

The 2026 National Exhibition of Sci-tech Achievements in the Field of Furniture and Finishing Building Materials was held at the Sci-Tech Complex from August 4 to 14.

According to Ri Yong Il, section chief of the State Commission of Science and Technology, the exhibition held on the theme of "More wonderfully with our resources and technologies" was aimed at enabling furniture and finishing building materials production units to exchange and share the sci-tech achievements made in diversifying building materials in terms of kind, shape and colour and in ensuring the qualitative and quantitative growth of products so as to further heighten the enthusiasm for competition in ensuring domestic production of products and improving their quality between the units and make an active contribution

to the development of the country's building-materials industry.

On display at the exhibition were over 600 sci-tech achievements, more than 3 800 pieces of multipurpose furniture, finishing building materials and architectural lighting and electric lighting decoration products presented by officials, scientists, technicians and skilled workers from furniture and finishing building materials production units across the country.

Pyongyang Municipality presented many building materials with a very high proportion of domestic production and excellent technical specifications.

In particular, paints of different colours presented by the Hwasong District Urban Beautification Station were rated as good by experts.

The Chollima Tile Factory presented six kinds of products to the exhibition.

The dressed brick presented by the factory was praised by

experts as it is a new finishing building material which gives ornamental effects while retaining heat insulation and classic beauty.

The natural stone tile exhibited by Jagang Province also attracted the attention of visitors. This tile, which makes it possible to remarkably save fund and labour needed for the maintenance of a building by ensuring its beauty and solidity and increasing its durability, has enough conditions to be used as a

finishing building material.

North Hwanghae Province presented various kinds of decorative tiles which protect structures from the effects of different aggressive mediums while beautifying their indoor environments, household goods of value as handicrafts and stonecrafts and wooden craftworks that can be used as ornaments for indoor decoration.

Meanwhile, the Tacan Friendship Glass Factory presented ultraviolet screening glass, stained glass

and 3D curved glass.

The adhesive cement, coloured interlock tiles permeable to water and concrete heat reserving wainscots presented by the State Academy of Sciences were favourably commented upon by experts.

The infrared light sensing mirror and contact sensing mirror presented by a technology development company are very profitable products for indoor decoration as they need no auxiliary illumination and

are based on a sensor-based automatic illumination system and contact automatic illumination system.

Besides, TV tables, light burned magnesia furniture, doors, dressing tables and various other household articles, air column tents and beach tents newly presented by regional-industry factories also attracted the attention of visitors.

During the exhibition there were diverse technical exchanges between the participating units.



Visitors look round the venue of the exhibition. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Top enterprise with 30-year history

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The Thosong Pharmaceutical Factory, which was selected as one of the top ten enterprises of the DPRK for 2025, is a medicine manufacturer widely known both at home and abroad.

From scratch to the world level

The factory was built in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, 30 years ago.

At the outset, it was in a poor situation as it was organized at the hardest time for the country.

“At that time the factory had no proper building, its employees numbered only eight and that girls fresh from middle schools,” recalled Manager Kim Yong Gwon.

But the manager had a burning ambition to make the factory a world-level enterprise.

The small number of employees set about constructing a not-so-large production building to complete it in 70-odd days and then produced five kinds of Koryo medicines bearing the factory’s name by using two production facilities.

Though raw and other materials and everything were in short supply, Kim and his employees

persistently pushed ahead with production.

As the factory’s foundation gradually grew strong, he initiated the expansion of production capacity and organized work in a bold way.

He turned the factory into the one where all production conditions are put on an intensive basis with the cubic metre as a unit, not the square metre.

The factory increased the varieties of products by setting itself the goal of making every single medicine a popular one favoured by people.

It has now developed into a GMP-certified modern enterprise which produces highly-effective traditional medicines as it wants with more than 60 employees.

All employees become technicians

The factory has made steady efforts to modernize its equipment and expand its production capacity while overfulfilling its national economic plan every year.

“The secret of success is that all the employees have become masters of science and technology, regarding technical innovation as a matter of vital importance,” said Kim Yong Sim, a staffer of the factory.



Employees discussing how to improve the quality of products at the Thosong Pharmaceutical Factory(left) and some of its products. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



“When all the employees devote their sincerity to the development of the factory, it will be further vitalized.”

Kim Yong Gwon, manager of the Thosong Pharmaceutical Factory

The factory has established a system whereby each employee annually presents over one profitable technical innovation proposal for introduction, and enrolled its employees in the study-

while-you-work system.

As a result, last year alone, it newly made or upgraded equipment and production processes to further increase productivity. In particular, it made an automatic vacuum low-temperature extractor, which can produce five times more than before and maximize the extraction rate of medicinal herbs while reducing labour by half, and automated the feeding process of the liquid medicine production room.

From development to sales by its efforts

The products of the factory were highly appreciated at

several national sci-tech festivals and awarded the best prizes and trophies at international commodity expos and trade fairs held in Russia, China, Malaysia, Mongolia and Vietnam.

The medicines of the factory enjoy popularity thanks to the unusual enthusiasm of the officials and employees to do everything from development to production and sale by their own efforts.

“It is not easy for the factory to undertake all the processes of research, development and production of medicines. However, only the developer who has studied medicines can become the competent

producer of them and steadily improve their effectiveness to meet the opinions and needs of users,” said Kim Yong Gwon.

Workers of the factory take an active part in the development of new products.

In the past, the officials developed the medicines favoured by people, and now the workers are increasing the varieties of Koryo medicines in cooperation with the technicians.

“When all the employees devote their sincerity to the development of the factory, it will be further vitalized,” said the manager.

Products for intellectual development win popularity

“The products for intellectual development of our factory have a wide range of application such as the Korean language, mathematics, foreign languages, biology and music.”

Mun Hyok, section chief of the Mindulle Management Bureau

By Kim Il Jin PT

Various kinds of products for intellectual development bearing the “Mindulle” brand of the Mindulle Notebook Factory are gaining popularity.

The demand for tens of kinds of those products is increasing day by day as they help develop in a comprehensive way the intellectual faculties of children and students, including memory, observation and cognitive and analytical abilities, and greatly contribute to promoting their

spiritual growth.

“The products for intellectual development of our factory have a wide range of application such as the Korean language, mathematics, foreign languages, biology and music,” said Mun Hyok, section chief of the Mindulle Management Bureau.

Cards for learning the Korean language and the English alphabet and other products for intellectual development developed by the factory were highly appreciated at several exhibitions.

Cards for learning the Korean language help young beginners to have an intuitive understanding of the meaning of the language while practising reading and writing.

Cards for learning the English alphabet enable children to do alphabet learning, the first and most important process in learning English, as a fun to suit their juvenile psychology.

On the basis of the successes, the factory developed a new product for intellectual development for nursery children.

During talks with nursery teachers at different nurseries, the developers of the factory came to know that visual recognition is dominant



Products for intellectual development made by the Mindulle Notebook Factory. KIM HYOK CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

in cognitive abilities of children under three years of age.

So they newly developed point cards.

Infants do only right-brain thinking without logical thinking, and their total future IQs are determined by how much their right brains are developed in their infancy.

It is said that their right brains are stimulated in the process of memorizing the cards with randomly arranged red dots as images and their intelligence is developed as the process is

repeated.

“Generally, children’s concentration lasts for about 5-10 minutes, but they did not feel it boring to play with point cards even for over 30 minutes. And we repeated the process of showing them the cards and letting them memorize the number of points printed on them while gradually increasing the number of cards. Surprisingly, many of the children memorized all of 100 cards in a little over 20 days,” said Ho Chun Gum, a teacher of the Mirae-dong Weekly

Nursery in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

According to her, they showed babies who cannot yet talk 20 cards three times every day and after a month, when they showed the children different cards at a time and called the number of points printed on a card, they looked at the card with the matching number.

Now, the Mindulle Notebook Factory is also developing in succession the products for further developing the amazing image memory of nursery-age children.

Paper production foundation consolidated

By Yun Ki Song PT

The Unsan Paper Mill, which was newly built according to the Workers’ Party of Korea’s Regional Development 20x10 Policy, has further consolidated its production foundation.

The factory is pushing on a full scale the projects for expanding its capacity with the main stress on producing diverse products with locally-abundant raw materials and for setting up a process for the production of a new product, while constantly developing the Korean-style method and technique of making paper.

After finishing different construction projects in dozens of days, it made and installed new equipment, which can remarkably increase the actual output ratio in the pulp production process, by means of technical innovation.

Now it is accelerating the installation of various kinds of sensors and the making and introduction of new devices in close contact with a scientific research unit.

Small unit does great job

By Kim Il Jin PT

The architectural technology development centre of the Pyongyang railway building maintenance station was organized four years ago with only 12 employees. It is a small unit both in the building and production scale.

But it has developed practical technologies of great significance in developing the country's economy and improving the people's living standards every year in recent years to obtain three patents.

Once the small and unknown unit, the centre made a leap forward and established its presence. Whenever people asked him what the secret of its success was, Pak Kwon Il, director of the centre, answered that love for their own things and the desire to add lustre to them inspired the employees to invent new technologies.

Three years ago, the development centre set itself a goal to develop the Korean-style gypsum products production technology.

Products made of gypsum, also known as a green and health-protecting building

material as it has soundproof, fire-proof, heat preserving and other functional properties, are widely used in architectural decoration as they can improve the formative artistic value and qualities of structures while saving a great deal of manpower, time and materials.

Though they had no special knowledge about this field or guarantee of success, the employees of the centre started the development of Korean-style gypsum products.

What they had at the time was only patriotic fervour to proudly make everything needed for the country with gypsum abundantly deposited in the country.

On the strength of this unbridled enthusiasm, the technical group established a Korean-style gypsum products production technology in a short time and then developed various kinds and shapes of products in succession.

In those years the employees of the centre grew up to be owners of Korean-style die-making technology, artists, sculptors, designers and programmers and became talents who have

acquired various technical knowledge and skills.

In the course of it, a method of producing dome shell using gypsum was developed and registered as a practical technology and won the first patent. The technology is very popular with customers that introduced it as it is lower in production and construction costs, simpler in the working process and shorter in the construction period than the traditional wet construction method.

The centre developed a lift control system without rubber insulated wire, a cost-saving and energy-saving technical product, to get the second patent. Last year it developed a fixture board by using far-infrared radiation body and was awarded the third patent.

"When we work hard with patriotic fervour to contribute to the country's economic development and the improvement of the people's living standards and produce more creations with our own efforts, technology and resources, even a small unit can become a necessary unit which does a great job for the country, I think," said Pak Kwon Il.



Developers of the architectural technology development centre of the Pyongyang railway building maintenance station and some of its products. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Hammer crusher obtains practical technology patent

By Choe Song Jun PT

Researchers of Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering have recently developed a new high-performance hammer crusher.

Generally, there are two kinds of hammer crushers: horizontal and vertical ones.

A horizontal hammer crusher has a wide application for its simple structure and easy operation, but its sieve is often blocked during its operation, decreasing its utilization rate, and the utilization rate of crushing space is low.

Meanwhile, the vertical one is high in energy efficiency as its outlet is never blocked. But its structure is complicated, so it is difficult to disassemble and assemble it for maintenance.

Therefore, the researchers set a goal of developing a high-performance crusher free from such demerits and conducted research to that end.

In the course of this, they conceived of a kind of hammer crusher with a unique structure unlike horizontal and vertical ones, channelled efforts into optimizing the design of all its parts and properly solved different technical problems including



Researchers of Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering and hammer crusher developed by them. KIM HYOK CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

those of using no sieve and preventing the bearing section from being dusted.

All parts of the hammer crusher are installed at an oblique angle.

The hammer crusher,

which is high in crushing capacity and easy to repair, was registered as a practical technology patented one as it is widely used in different sectors of the national economy.

Efficient new technology introduced

By Ri Sang Il PT

The Urban Management Science Institute under the Ministry of Urban Management has recently developed new technologies in succession, rendering great services to the protection of ecological environment.

The researchers improved the performance of composite flocculant for water purification using locally-available raw materials, thereby opening up a bright prospect for solving scientific and technological problems for ensuring the quality of domestic water.

In general, water production units spray flocculant in the rainy season to settle soil components in the river water to the bottom before filtering and sterilizing water to get domestic water. An important thing here is to lower the water turbidity below the standard level.

Based on a general analysis of the features and merits and demerits of some conventional flocculants, the researchers set the target of developing a new composite flocculant capable of further increasing purification capacity with lower production costs as they

intensified their study.

In the course of this, they found out that a certain component in a kind of waste could be useful for settling some particles in the water with high efficiency. Based on it, they solved a problem of ensuring particle size of some materials to be added to a composite flocculant and confirmed the optimal mixing ratio that can be applied to objects with different degrees of water turbidity. They finally completed a method of getting the new composite flocculant and established an industrial production process for practical use.

The newly-developed composite flocculant for water purification was registered as a national sci-tech hit for its high utility in

production and use with low production costs and high efficiency of purification.

The institute also developed a new technology of making an organic fertilizer from domestic sewage in cooperation with a relevant unit.

They succeeded in turning deposits from a process of purifying domestic sewage with bioactive substances and tubificid into the organic fertilizer.

In addition, the institute established a monitoring and control system capable of automatically controlling the sewage treatment process.

Their achievements were introduced into many units including the Chilgol Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.



Researchers introduce a new technology for protecting ecological environment at the Urban Management Science Institute of the Ministry of Urban Management. JO CHOL JU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Paduk girl of marked individuality



Paek Ta Hyon, pupil of Pongnam Primary School in Phyeongchon District. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Hyon PT

The National Paduk (go) Contest in the Field of Education-2026 took place last May.

In the contest Paek Ta Hyon, a second-year pupil of Pongnam Primary School in Phyeongchon District, Pyongyang, won the girls' individual event, mixed doubles and team event of the primary school division.

When asked which one was the most difficult among the final matches, she answered it was that of the individual event.

Paek played the final match with a fifth-grade pupil of a primary school in Nampho Municipality.

The opponent played an offensive game from the beginning.

Players would generally put much strength in defence in such a case, but Paek responded with counterattack.

As they played a hard-fought match for a good while, the opponent gradually lost the initiative and the match thus ended in Paek's victory.

It is said that Paek began to learn paduk in her nursery days.

Her nursery teacher was very interested in paduk and began teaching it to Paek endowed with an open character.

Many children in the nursery liked to sit face to face over paduk board and lay stones on the board with vertical and horizontal lines to form various shapes, but Paek was very interested in capturing the opponent's stones.

Paek thus came to have attachment to the game and learned it hard in her kindergarten days, too.

In the course of it, she realized that paduk is a game requiring high intelligence and that the victory of the game may be decided by one stone.

As Paek improved her skills day by day, the kindergarten invited a paduk instructor and the primary school a member of the Korean paduk association to teach her how to read and use moves, judge the situation and see the whole thing in a big way.

After practising a lot of moves while honing basic skills, she won a gold medal at the National Paduk Contest in the Field of Education-2025 and two golds at the National Open Paduk Contest last year.

Whenever she won the match, all the players of her team as well as her parents shared joy with her and everyone at her school and in Pyongyang Municipality congratulated her on demonstrating the honour of the school and the capital city.

Residents feel proud of their own efforts

By Kim Yong Chan PT

A new resting place was built in Chilgol-dong No. 3 of Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

The passers-by take pleasure in dropping by the resting place as it is in a busy place.

"The residents are very enthusiastic to keep their village neat and tidy. It is also an expression of their patriotic spirit, I think," said an old man.

In the resting place a fence and slide were built in the shape of a flower blossom by taking advantage of the natural features of the area and spaces without using expensive materials and an open space was created by cutting the slope and then widened enough for visitors to do exercise and have a dance. Visitors can see at a glance the sincere efforts the villagers put into it.

It was this spring that the officials of Chilgol-dong No. 3 decided to build a new resting place.

At that time, all the residents were surprised to see its new master plan.

The officials of the dong office called upon them to build a wonderful resting place by themselves so that the old people and children can rest and play to their heart's content and the passers-by will be provided

with convenience. And all the residents eagerly responded to their call.

"Of course, drawing up a master plan and translating it into reality are two different things. But we solved knotty problems with the residents one by one," said O Yong Sim, head of Neighbourhood unit No. 12.

Many residents unsparingly donated money they had saved for their own families.

"Each time the officials of the dong office and heads of neighbourhood units dissuaded them, they insisted on donating, saying, 'Then we cannot use this resting place.' And on rest days they volunteered to help the construction, saying they could not sit idle when the resting place was being built for them," said O

Yong Sim.

Residents in one neighbourhood unit invited an artist to draw a splendid picture when the fence was completed, and those in another neighbourhood unit prepared good species of trees and beautiful flowers with the help of an expert to create a fine landscape.

Such joint efforts of the residents resulted in the construction of a splendid resting place, where a municipal demonstration was held in June.

"Playing *yut*, Korean chess, volleyball and badminton games between neighbourhood units and having a merry dance in the resting place on rest days and holidays, the residents feel proud of their efforts," said O Yong Sim.



Residents of Chilgol-dong No. 3 tend flowering plants and trees planted in the resting place. JO CHOL JU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Labour produces poems and songs

By Choe Song Jun PT

Risk mass literature creation activities are under way at the Kangson Vinyl Sheet Factory.

Everyone from the manager to the workers loves writing poems, words of songs, short stories for wall newspaper and other literary works which reflect what they have experienced in their working life. The works are full of their attachment to the factory and their pride in their jobs.

The poem "Our Factory's White Silk" tells that plastic

waste becomes "rolls of silk" after passing through a machine of the factory and the vinyl sheets produced by the factory become white "silk quilts" covering fields. The poem "Skilful Hands" says that the workers' hands are rough as they operate machines but people call their hands skilful hands as they make an active contribution to the work for recycling in the country.

Many works, including the poem "Where Does Patriotism Originate?" which says patriotism originates at one's workplace, were highly appreciated at a

national prize mass literary work contest. The factory takes unusual pride in having won national creative contests for three consecutive years from 2023 to last year.

The employees of the factory also conduct vigorous mass artistic activities.

Every number of their performances reflecting their working life, in which they help and lead each other forward, steadily creating new things and progressing, is invigorating and emotional.

They sing or play musical instruments during breaks in labour or in the evening after work and all of them have learned to play one or more musical instruments. Now workteams and workshops are as good as nice bands. Some of the employees learned magic tricks.

An art performance of the employees of the factory won the first place in the category of industrial establishments of the Ninth April Spring People's Art Festival held last year.

The mass literature creation and artistic activities which raise their cultural attainments are leading to a greater upsurge in production.



Employees of the Kangson Vinyl Sheet Factory make preparations for an art performance. KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Girl's dream



Kim Kyong Ae, student of Kwangmyong Senior Middle School.

RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Pang Un Ju PT

Kim Kyong Ae, a student of Kwangmyong Senior Middle School in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, won three consecutive victories by taking the first place in piano playing in the category of Western instrumental music of the 61st National Schoolchildren's Art Festival held this year.

According to Ri Song Juk, an instructor of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, the juries who saw Kyong Ae playing the piano in the contests held so far appreciated unanimously that she is well-grounded in piano playing and, in particular, she is able to play each music piece well by combining its meaning and the mood of its melody as one.

Kyong Ae began to learn to play the piano in her kindergarten days.

One day her teacher happened to read a poem she wrote. Though it was imperfect, the poem itself was poetic and sentimental.

The teacher thus began to observe her, paying special attention to her.

In the course of it, she found that the little girl has an aptitude for sound detection and sight reading and that she especially likes the piano.

Then she began teaching her hearing, sight reading and piano playing skills.

Before long, the girl became able to play any sheet music in any tonality on the piano and express her feelings by composing music for words she wrote.

Her skills have improved day by day in her middle school days after her primary school days.

She often plays the piano solo "The Blue Sky over My Country".

She played it at the 60th National Schoolchildren's Art Festival held last year to win first place.

She said that whenever she plays the melody, she inwardly pictures the clear blue sky over the country. She continued:

"My talents have been brought into full bloom thanks to the loving care of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un who ensures that we cultivate our talents to our heart's content while providing us with 'Sonamu'-brand schoolbags, 'Mindulle' notebooks and 'Haebalagi' school things. I will become a music teacher who trains art talents of the future under the blue sky of my country which will be everlasting thanks to the respected fatherly Marshal."

Lots of historical relics and data newly unearthed

By Ri Sung Ik PT

In recent years, many historical relics and data showing the time-honoured history and excellent customs of the Korean people have been newly discovered and ascertained.

A research group of the History Faculty of Kim Il Sung University newly unearthed cave relics of the Palaeolithic era in Rimgyong Workers' District of Kangdong County, Pyongyang. Among the remains discovered in the archaeological sites were seven fossils of Homo sapiens sapiens in the Palaeolithic age and many animal bone fossils and pollen fossils. The dating verified that the human fossils (teeth and pieces of a skull) belong to a woman who had lived in the latter part of the Palaeolithic age.

The Archaeology Society of the DPRK named the human fossils "Kangdong man".

The first-ever discovery of "Kangdong man" in the stage of Homo sapiens sapiens in the area of Kangdong County of Pyongyang is of great significance in anthropologically clarifying that people had lived consecutively in

the area since the dawn of human civilization to create a time-honoured history and culture.

A research group of the then Geology Faculty of Kim Il Sung University unearthed a bird fossil in the Mesozoic age in the Paektho-dong area of Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province.

The "Paektho bird" fossil is the fossil of a bird which existed about 130 million years ago. It is a rare bird fossil which vividly preserves head and toe bones, 11 primary feathers of the wings and small barbs.

The fossil is of great academic value as it makes it possible to prove that Korea is also the cradle of birds.

Researchers of the Archaeological Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences and the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency under the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage unearthed historical sites and relics in Kanggu-dong of Hyesan City, Ryanggang Province.

Over 260 relics of 17 kinds were excavated at two Neolithic dwelling sites and four Bronze Age dwelling sites.

Belonging to the latter part of the Neolithic age (6 000 years ago) and



A top-shaped vessel in the period of the Bronze Age (5 000 years ago) and its pieces (left) and a carved pattern vessel in the Neolithic Age (5 500 years ago) and its pieces (right).

the Bronze Age (4 000 years ago) in Korea, the sites and relics prove that the Korean ancestors pioneered the area of Mt Paektu and settled there from the Neolithic age.

Last year, a research group of the Archaeological Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences discovered a salt production site (brine-storing and salt-making facilities), the first of its kind in the country, in the area of Wonup Workers' District in Onchon County, Nampho Municipality.

The Archaeology Society of the DPRK deliberated on the analysis of it and confirmed that the upper cultural layer was the place where the Korean ancestors had made salt by boiling down sea water in the Bronze Age (5 000 years ago) and the lower cultural layer was where they did so in the Neolithic Age (5 500 years ago).

Historical sites and relics dating back to the period of Koguryo, widely known as a powerful state which existed in the East for nearly a thousand years, were unearthed and significant study findings on them were published.

An academic research group of the History Faculty of Kim Il Sung University conducted the excavation and historical study of the sites and relics dating back to the period of Koguryo in the Rimhung-dong area of Taesong District, Pyongyang, between 1991 and 2020. In the course of it, the group shed fresh light on the fact that Koguryo had taken the area as an important regional stronghold from the early 1st century and created a developed culture after moving its capital to the Walled City of Pyongyang.

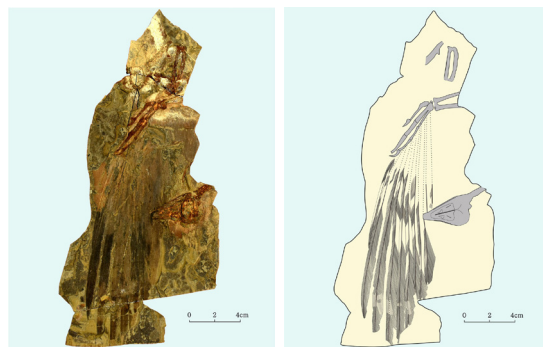
In the area the group found out parts of a building site, two wells (Wells Nos. 1 and 2), one underground brick structure, many pieces of roof tiles and earthenware, etc. of Koguryo.

It elucidated that the broken pieces of stone paduk(go) board discovered for the first time in Well No. 1 are parts of the paduk board with 19 lines belonging to the earliest period in the world and that the Koguryo paduk board with five starting points in one line was carried on to the later period through Koryo.

Researchers of the Archaeological Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences unearthed Koguryo tombs and relics in the Wolji-ri area of Anak County of South Hwanghae Province and, in 2021, discovered nine earthen tombs with stone chambers and many other relics dating back to the Koguryo period, thus enriching the treasure house of national cultural heritage.

Positive efforts were made to discover fine manners and customs of the Korean people and register them as intangible cultural heritage elements.

More than 10 objects including the custom of moving into new houses, legends of Mt Kuwol and folk instrumental music Sinau were inscribed on the list of national intangible cultural heritage. Coriander kimchi, pheasant meat boiled in water, the custom of using matrimony vine fruit in Kyongsong and others were registered as local ICH elements thanks to the efforts of the people across the country to preserve the excellent cultural traditions and their local characteristics.



A fossil bird which preserves its feather about 130 million years ago in the Mesozoic era (left) and the detailed drawing of its skeleton.

Grasswork

By Kim Hyon PT

Grasswork, which has so far been developed and carried forward continuously since ancient times in Korea, is a form of folk handicrafts.

The handicraft of making different kinds of necessities and ornaments with various grasses and stems, leaves and barks of trees not only has the longest history but also occupies the dominant position among folk handicrafts and has been developed and enriched in close connection with people's economic and cultural life.

In particular, it was spread among broad sections of people because there were rich raw material resources and it could be easily made without special equipment or tools and with comparatively less labour, and thus the relevant craftworks vary in kind and shape.

The main materials used a lot for grasswork include sedge, rushes, willow branch, bush clover, barks of linden, cherry plum and elm, reed,

flax, wheat and rice straw and corn shucks.

Grasswork is characterized by the fact that they are simple, beautiful, full of local flavour and attractive as in general, it is made by using vegetable materials with their unique features and colours left almost intact or is processed a bit on the basis of them.

Unlike ceramics and metalwork, materials for grasswork are so prone to rot that it is difficult to preserve. However, a piece from a reed mat unearthed in the Namgyong site in Honam-ri, Samsok District, Pyongyang, remains a very old historical relic.

From olden times, Korean ancestors built houses or made vessels by using rich plant resources such as grass and bark. Their application range was expanded in the period of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392).

The Koryo people used such materials as sedge, bush clover, reed, willow branch, rice straw and arrowroot to make such matting as mat and cushion and straw mat, such bags

as straw-net bag and basket, such fancy articles as hat and fan, such furniture and covering as chair and blind, wicker box, wicker trunk and so on.

In those days, the technology of making grasswork was further improved and refined, and grasswork from the country was praised by foreigners.

In the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910), grasswork made further progress thanks to the creative labour of the resourceful and talented masses, with the main emphasis put on sedge crafts.

The flower-patterned mat made of sedge was widely used not only as a practical craftwork but also as a decorative one as it was delicate, elegant and beautiful.

Today the DPRK's grasswork is making epochal progress on the basis of the regional industry with rich sources of materials and its kind is further varying.

Grasswork was registered as a national ICH element on November 1 2015.



Various kinds of grasswork.

Toffee making

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Korean ancestors realized that barley malt breaks down grain starch into sugar and, by applying the knowledge, added the malt to boiled rice or gruel to ferment it and put the fermented substance into a sack to squeeze liquid out of the sack, before boiling the liquid down into toffee.

According to ancient records, the toffee, which is made with glutinous rice gruel, malty powder, pepper, ginger, roasted sesame and the like, tastes best.

Toffee comes in various types according to additional ingredients or coating materials, such as pumpkin, jujube, chestnut, walnut, soybean and sesame.

It is also divided into liquid and solid ones.

The liquid toffee was used to add flavour to various foods in families and the solid one as a snack for children.

Different customs related to toffee came into being in the country in ancient times.

It was customary for Koreans to eat white toffee together with various other foods on lunar New Year's Day.

Among the manners and

customs related to toffee are the toffee-breaking game, the ballads by toffee peddlers and proverbs.

The winner of the toffee-breaking game is decided by the size of the hole in the toffee bar which is seen when it is broken. In autumn and winter, every family made toffees and children in the same villages would get together to see whose toffee bar had the largest hole in it. The child who had the largest hole in his toffee was declared winner and the one who had the smallest or no hole loser.

In the past, toffee vendors would peddle their toffees with wooden boxes containing toffees on their shoulders, singing ballads as they clinked large pairs of scissors, which were used to cut toffee bars.

Among the proverbs related to toffee, there are "You do as toffee peddlers do with their toffee" and "Did you put a toffee on your kitchen range?" The former is used for those who behave differently as they like and the latter is used for the guests who try to return home hurriedly.

The toffee making was registered as an element of national intangible cultural heritage in 2024.

Truth Koreans cherished through August 15, national liberation day

By Pang Un Ju PT

More than eight decades have passed since the cheers of hurrah for national liberation resounded throughout Korea.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary war veterans, who had fought for Korea's liberation, shrinking the distance across steep ridges and deep valleys, in the prime of their life under the command of General Kim Il Sung during the arduous anti-Japanese armed struggle, already passed away.

Many of them unsparingly dedicated their youth and lives, visualizing a Korea free from outside forces' rule and subjugation and a world where everyone is equal and all the people are masters. But the desire of the revolutionary forerunners has been fulfilled on this land.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has developed into a powerful socialist state over the past 80-odd years since liberation.

It is the precious truth the Korean people cherished through the change in their destiny which started with historic August 15, the day

of national liberation, that only when they are led by a great leader can they have a powerful country and lead a dignified life.

The five years after liberation, when they lived as masters of the country, fully enjoying the dignity and rights of human beings, thanks to the benevolent measures taken by the General, were a happy period as precious as jewel for them.

As they kept it as the immutable truth of their destiny that the embrace of President Kim Il Sung was the motherland, which could never be lost again and which was more precious than their lives, and their happy life and future, the people of the DPRK bravely fought against the arrogant US aggressors boasting of being the "strongest" in the world and won great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War in the early 1950s.

On the debris of war they displayed the mettle of Koreans and ushered in an era of Chollima, a legendary winged horse, with the conviction that nothing is impossible under the leadership of the President. They also carried out socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years, though

industrialization took others hundreds of years, thus working a miracle in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In the 1990s when the hostile forces went to extremes in their moves to stifle the DPRK, the Korean people firmly defended their socialist country with the unshakable faith that they would surely emerge victorious under the leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un has performed unprecedented miracles to be etched forever in the history of the country with the will to add brilliance to the DPRK.

According to his noble ideal and thanks to his devotion to national prosperity, the DPRK has brought about epochal changes racing against time and ushered in a new era in which the dreams and ideals of the people are translated into reality.

A large number of structures for the happiness of the people were built in the past ten-odd years.

The construction of dwelling houses for 10 000 families was completed respectively in the third and fourth stages of the

Hwasong area, precious assets contributing to the improvement of the people's living standards were provided, including the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm and the Samgwang Livestock Farm, and ceremonies for moving into new houses were held almost every day in the socialist countryside. And splendid regional-industry factories are being built in all parts of the country.

Last year, the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area was built in Myongsasimni of the Kalma peninsula, a scenic spot on the east coast of Korea, as a wonderful holiday resort for the people and it is now ringing with the happy laughter of the people enjoying a new civilization to their heart's content.

The ever-growing prosperity and strength of the country of the people is the precious fruition of the efforts and devotion of the General Secretary who is developing socialist Korea into a powerful country.

Witnessing the reality on this land, the Korean people are fully convinced that the DPRK will demonstrate its might as a country of the people as it is led by him.

'Land survey act' geared to seizing all farmland of Korea

By Choe Yong Nam PT

After occupying Korea by force of arms early in the last century, the Japanese imperialists resorted to every possible means and method to impose their colonial rule on the Korean people.

A typical example was the extensive plunder of land.

At that time, more than 80 percent of the Korean population were peasants.

The Japanese reckoned that it was necessary to dominate the peasants in order to strengthen their colonial domination over Korea and, to this end, it was important to seize land, the main means of production of the peasants.

They cooked up the "provisional regulations governing the organization of land survey bureau" in the government-general of Korea in March 1910 and appointed a Japanese as the survey department chief of the bureau to conduct a comprehensive survey of land in Korea.

In August 1912, they issued the "land survey act" and its "enforcement regulations" to establish a colonial system of plundering the rural areas.

On this basis, they declared the land ownership recognized previously by the feudal government of Korea null and void and legalized that land ownership would be "acknowledged" only as to the land reported to and approved by them.

Since the method and procedures for the report concerning land ownership were so difficult and complicated, the land of many Korean peasants

fell into the hands of the Japanese and pro-Japanese stooges.

The land Japan seized from the peasants through the "land survey" amounted to more than one million hectares and large Japanese landowners that accounted for 20 percent in 1911 increased to 54 percent in 1921.

Through the brigandish "land survey" the Japanese hindered the development of agriculture in Korea, reduced its countryside to their source of raw materials and food supply base and viciously exploited the peasants.

Japan charged the peasants high farm and land rents and all other kinds of exacting levies, forced them to do unpaid compulsory labour and got them to suffer untold hardships in life through severe usurious exploitation. It pursued such deceptive agricultural policies as the "increased rice production plan" and "rural development movement" in order to plunder larger quantities of rice and shipped away to Japan not only the peasants' food but seeds of grains on the pretext of "grain delivery to the government".

The plunder Japan committed after promulgating the "land survey act" was a hideous criminal act of mercilessly trampling on the right to existence of the Koreans by seizing the economic lifeline of their country.

The statute of limitations does not apply to the crimes the Japanese imperialists committed in the past and Japan's criminal past must be settled without fail.

Vitality of WPK's policies lies in their absolute people-oriented character



Kim Chol Won, department director of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee

The Workers' Party of Korea, which regards it as its mode of existence and revolutionary climate to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, has given top priority to and regarded as absolute the demands and interests of the people in all policy making and implementation.

The Party's policies are the people-first ones, whose starting point, formulation and implementation are thoroughly subordinated and oriented to the service for the people and whose vitality lies in their absolute people-oriented character.

Amid the transformation of the capital, provinces, towns and rural communities and a new revolution brought about in the sectors of education and public health, many changes have occurred in our

people's life. Still, the Party, not content with this, unveiled another grand blueprint for the modern transformation of the coal mining villages across the country.

What the Party is most interested in pressing on with its policies for the people is to create anything to be perfect enough to enable the people to enjoy greater benefits and the greatest pleasure.

Over the past five years alone, Songhwa, Jonwi, Hwasong, Rimhung and other new streets sprang up in Pyongyang to completely change the appearance of the city year after year. With the idea that there is no revolutionary work more important than to bring up children, the future of the country, healthily, the Party regards it as its most important policy and supreme cherished desire to provide them with

more improved conditions for their upbringing at any cost. According to the measures taken by the Party, the children across the country are supplied with nutritious foods including dairy products on a regular basis. And the Party's rural construction policy and regional development policy have resulted in the miraculous reality in which the countryside undergoes transformation.

Under the leadership of the Party which regards the appreciation by the people as the absolute standard and serving their interests and providing them with convenience as the supreme principle, a series of substantial changes and practical successes absolutely welcomed by the people have been brought about, making the people's laughter resound more loudly.

The Korean people are out as one for implementing the Party's policies, bearing in mind the ardent love

and sincerity of the Party which intends to take upon itself without fail and unconditionally do everything that is for their wellbeing before discussing the possibility.

The unbounded enthusiasm of the working people for implementing the Party's policies can be felt everywhere in the country, including the areas of grand construction such as the construction sites of regional development policy projects and those of dwelling houses in the capital city and farm fields seething with enthusiasm for implementing the rural revolution programme in the new era.

Thanks to the leadership of the Party which regards the people-first principle as its political ideal, the country is more splendidly turning into an ideal one for the people and the people are enjoying a more civilized and happier life to their heart's content.

Contact us

Address: Sochon-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang
Tel: 850-2-18111(8456)
Email: flph@star-co.net.kp
Fax: 850-2-3814598

URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp



Press statement of spokesperson for DPRK Foreign Ministry

KCNA

A spokesperson for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea released the following press statement on August 13:

The US and the ROK announced that they would stage the large-scale joint military exercises Ulji Freedom Shield from August 17.

The exercises are expected to involve tens of thousands of troops and combat equipment, including forces of the US, the ROK and member states of the "UN Command", and field manoeuvres such as Warrior Shield and various drills for real war simulating the environments for the ultra-

modern operations like drone, electronic and cyber warfare.

The US announced that the forthcoming exercises are quite different from the ones of the past five years and intended to master the ability of fighting a war on the basis of the new aspects of modern warfare. By doing so, it did not conceal their aim to complete preparations for the substantial military confrontation with the DPRK.

This is tantamount to an admission that the exercises, which the US and the ROK describe as "annual" and "defensive" ones, are in essence a rehearsal for an aggressive war.

Furthermore, the exercises are going to be

staged again at a time when the military and political situation is becoming more serious with each passing day in Europe, the Middle East and other parts of the world and the US' abuse of strength has become part of its daily routine. They are incurring the instability in the Korean peninsula and other regional countries, which is more serious than before.

The coordination of the US forces' offensive posture which has begun in earnest across the world, the expansion of strategic flexibility of the US forces in the ROK which is getting serious as part of it, the US-Japan-ROK tripartite military cooperation system which is turning into a nuclear alliance and the strengthening of the

military muscle by Japan and the ROK more clearly show how dangerous the said exercises involving all the military assets and war-fighting modes of the US and the ROK are.

The enemy states' exercises for an aggressive war which have more serious provocative nature and dangerousness than last year are posing a grave threat to the security sphere of our state and security environment in the region.

The US can never succeed in its attempt to seize military hegemony again and restore the unilateral threatening structure, which have become an irreversible thing of the past in the Korean peninsula, by steadily replacing the old war scenario with a new

one and holding rehearsals.

It is our consistent principle of ensuring security to respond to a new level of threat with a new level of deterrent.

The DPRK remains steadfast in its will to frustrate outsiders' hostile acts with the most powerful and overwhelming countermeasures and absolutely defend the supreme interests of state security.

The DPRK will not tolerate the grave confrontational situation which is being created by the enemy states but more clearly express its stance on the enemies to cope with any threats and challenges through the responsible and decisive exercise of the right to legitimate self-defence.

Japan's defense white paper is reinvasion-minded one for legalization of operation of war machine: international security analyst

Kang Won Chol, an international security analyst of the DPRK, issued the following article "Japan's defense white paper is a reinvasion-minded one for the legalization of the operation of war machine":

Japan has been rushing headlong into militarization, seized with an ambition for reinvasion. Against this backdrop, it issued the 2026 Defense White Paper.

In the white paper, which is being rejected as the one for aggression at home and abroad, Japan groundlessly described the DPRK and other neighbouring countries as a "serious and imminent threat" and the "greatest strategic challenge" in order to justify its reckless arms buildup.

It is nothing but an act of turning black into white that Japan stipulated the "threat" from neighbouring countries in the white paper although it has been putting spurs to the tightening of the alliance with the US and its followers after setting it as a "state policy" to negate its past crimes and realize its ambition to become a military

power.

As everybody knows, Japan, a war criminal state responsible for inflicting a great disaster upon humankind in the first half of the 20th century, refuses to discard the militarist ambition for reinvasion in the face of all the political and legal restrictions, and has been heading for its conversion into a military power out of vengeance for its defeat for over 80 years. This poses the most imminent and serious threat to the world at present.

Following the publication of the white paper, Defense Minister Koizumi stressed the need to beef up and renovate the military muscle with a sense of urgency and crisis in response to the escalating threats from the neighbouring countries. This clearly shows how desperately he is pushing Japan into following an extremely dangerous road in the vanguard for militarization.

The reality proves that Japan's political climate and true colours characterized by an aggression gene remain unchanged and mutate into more dangerous forms with each passing

day.

No matter how hard Japan tries to describe its real intention for aggression as "defense", it will never conceal its true colours as a root cause endangering the peace and escalating the tensions in the region.

To build up in every way an overwhelming and powerful war deterrent for self-defense capable of containing and frustrating the enemy states' ambition for reinvasion and their attempt to unleash an aggressive war serves as an indispensable contribution to reliably defending the sovereignty of the country and maintaining the regional peace and stability today.

Japan's frantic moves to turn itself into a war state and invasion-minded state will only further endanger Japan's future.

The international community should sharpen vigilance against Japan's neo-militarist move to seriously destroy the regional peace and security and turn itself into a more dangerous entity each day, and strongly condemn and reject it.

External interference and unilateral acts rejected

By Choe Song Jun PT

Chad recently decided to exit from the International Criminal Court, which is engrossed only in the selective investigation of African countries.

According to a statement of its Foreign Ministry, nine out of the thirteen investigations launched by the International Criminal Court are related to African countries.

Stressing that Chad's exit from the International Criminal Court does not mean its evasion of responsibility, the statement said that the country still devotes itself to prosecuting war and other grave crimes and expressed the conviction that the courts of African countries and African regional organizations will be able to achieve justice for victims.

It also called on the African Union and its member states to establish a "more equal, balanced, reliable and effective continental judicial system" that strengthens judicial organs and guarantees the sovereignty of Africa.

Meanwhile, Cote d'Ivoire decried the EU's financing of the separatist forces in the country as an act of prolonging the instability of the country and hindering the restoration of peace and economic recovery.

At a press conference, representatives of its government said that there is a possibility that the financial resources provided for "humanitarian aid" have been diverted to the armed organization through illegal channels, and demanded the EU conduct a thorough

investigation into this and tighten supervision over the financial assistance organization.

Burkina Faso recently declared the severance of diplomatic relations with France which supported the terrorists seeking government overthrow and Nicaragua also announced that it would sever diplomatic relations with Italy which accused it of being a shelter for terrorists.

Accusations are continuously being hurled at the United States as it uses tariffs as a lever for blackmail, violence and interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

As is known, the US imposed new tariffs on 60 countries most recently alone.

This has triggered a strong backlash from many countries.

The Canadian prime minister said that retaliatory measures to be taken in response to the US tariffs are being examined, adding that his government would do everything possible to defend the interests of the country and the Norwegian foreign minister condemned the US' decision to impose tariffs as a unilateral act and an unreasonable behaviour.

Australian government officials strongly demanded the US lift the new tariffs it announced on the pretext of "preventing forced labour", asserting they go against the trade agreement between the two countries.

The international trend of rejecting outside forces' arbitrary moves and interference in others' internal affairs is growing day by day all over the world.

Briefly

KCNA

Zimbabwe

President calls for striving for national prosperity

The Zimbabwean President called on all the citizens of his country to strive for the building of a modern and prosperous country as he addressed an event on August 10.

Referring to the need to learn the valour, fortitude and patriotism of the fighters who fell while fighting for the independence of the country, he said freedom, independence and sovereignty are not defended of their own accord, but can be defended by the awareness and responsible efforts of everyone.

The present generation has responsibility for preserving the heritage handed down by the former generations for posterity, he said.

Russia

FM censures European countries for committing hostile acts

A department director of the Russian Foreign Ministry criticized the hostile anti-Russian acts of the European countries in an interview with TASS on August 9.

The Greek authorities offered military assistance to the criminal Zelenskiy regime despite the opposition from almost all their citizens, thus injuring the prestige of their state by themselves, he said, noting that the weapons the country delivered to Ukraine are being used to kill peaceful residents and there are Greeks among them.

China

Japanese authorities urged not to go against public mindset

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry on August 7 answered a question put by a journalist as regards the fact that the public has further raised voices against the authorities' ambition for possessing nukes in Japan.

He said that nearly 80 percent of the Japanese citizens call for keeping to the "three non-nuclear principles" and oppose "sharing of nukes" and it fully shows their stand toward the authorities' moves for possessing nuclear weapons.

The Japanese authorities' attempt to destroy the "three non-nuclear principles" while openly talking about the "proposal for nuclear option" reveals the ever-expanding political and military ambition of the Japanese right-wing forces and is tantamount to gambling with the future of their citizens, he noted.

Georgia

His country suffers losses from anti-Russian sanctions, says ruling party leader

The general secretary of the Georgian ruling party asserted that the anti-Russian sanctions incurred a loss in his country in an interview on August 10.

As it enforces sanctions, Georgia has inflicted no damage on Russia, but caused a loss to itself and its people, those people who work diligently and do everything for the plentiful life of their families, he said.

The European Union is applying double standards, he noted, adding it forces other countries to sever economic ties with Russia.

Piano-shaped Rock in Mt Chilbo



Hwaeppul Cup football tournament kicks off

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The Hwaeppul Cup football tournament was kick-started. The participating teams have been divided into three groups respectively for men and women to play league matches first. Then the first- and second-placers of each group and two third-placers with higher scores will play on a knockout basis. This mode of competition, unlike the past ones, has given the relatively weak teams the possibility of entering the knockout competition, and therefore the fight has been very fierce since the first day.

In the men's event, the teams belonging to Group A for league matches strove to create favourable conditions for advancing to the top eight from the first matches. The Sobaeksu Team drew attention of experts and fans in the first-day match. The team has come up with a completely different mode of playing. It was known as a "team using strong-arm tactics" in the past, but this time it has left a strong impression that it "attaches great importance to technique". It ran the game flexibly by changing the playing formation during offensive and defence and presented

excellent scoring scenes through cooperation between players. After scoring the opening goal by kicking the ball at a distance of about 25 metres from the opponent's goal, the team made the second goal by penetrating the opponent's defence through the well-knit three-person combination and the third goal with a thrilling long-distance shot in first-half stoppage time. The spectators gave its players enthusiastic applause as they presented spectacular scoring scenes through amazing changes in position and bold shots. Meanwhile, the Naegohyang Team,

which had won the 2025-2026 AFC Women's Champions League, unfolded excellent playing scenes in the women's event. A back of the team, who blocked the Sobaeksu Team's attack in the midfield, saw the rival team's goalkeeper coming forward and shot the ball at a distance of about 40 metres to score a point. The Naegohyang succeeded in kicking the ball flying from the right half side at the left side of the goal area into the net in the 68th minute and the ball coming from the left side at the right side of the goal area in the 90th minute.



A scene from a men's group league match at the Hwaeppul Cup soccer tournament. PAE CHOL SU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Anguk Temple, a historical relic



The Taeung Hall of the Anguk Temple.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Anguk Temple is in Ponghak-dong of Phyongsong City, South Phyongan Province. Built for more than 20 years in the period of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668), it is one of the oldest temples still remaining in the DPRK. According to records, it was originally a large temple with dozens of buildings. Now remaining there are the Taeung Hall, the main building of the temple, the Thaephyong Pavilion, the Juphil Pavilion, a dormitory for Buddhist monks, a nine-storey pagoda and a monument. The Taeung Hall is a cultural heritage element of great academic and architectural

significance, which shows excellent architecture. The Thaephyong Pavilion, which stands face to face with the Taeung Hall with a yard in between, is a single-storey structure with a gable roof with double eaves. It is 19.25m at the façade and 6.8m on the flank. In front of the pavilion stands the nine-storey pagoda. The pagoda, which is mostly believed to have been built after the middle period of the Koryo Kingdom, is proof positive that the Anguk Temple was also run in the period of the Koryo Kingdom (918-1392) and a valuable heritage element in the study of the art of construction of stone pagoda and sculpture at the time. The ginkgo of the Anguk Temple, a natural monument, grows near the pagoda.

