

DPRK TEAM WINS 2024 FIFA U-20 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

KCNA

DPRK women footballers defeated the Japanese team in the final of the 2024 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup held in Colombia and lifted the trophy.

After chalking up successive wins in the group league matches, they beat the Austrian team in the last 16 and the Brazilian and American teams, the odds-on favourites, in the quarterfinals and semifinals. And they played the final match with

the Japanese on September 22 (local time).

They played the game full of confidence in sure victory, holding the initiative from the beginning and pressurizing the opponents with positive tackles.

In the 15th minute, number 15 Choe Il Son successfully scored a goal with her strong left-footed shot after skilfully deceiving the Japanese players on the right side of the attack area.

In the second half, the Korean players continued

to threaten the opponents in the goal area with side and half-side breaks based on one touch pass, surprise counterattack and other tactics without slowing down the attack speed.

The Japanese players made desperate attempts to make up for the loss, but in vain in the face of the strong defence of the DPRK eleven.

After all, the Koreans overpowered the Japanese with high team spirit and great mental strength,

beating them 1-0 in the final match.

The winners celebrated their victory flying the DPRK flag as they ran around the stadium full of great pride of having reported the news of victory and joy to the motherland and people. It left a deep impression on many football experts, fans and audience of the world.

The DPRK women footballers recorded all wins in seven matches from the group league matches to the finals, scoring 25 goals in

total.

Choe Il Son, who made a tangible contribution to the team's victory by making decisive goals in the semi-final with the US team and the final with the Japanese, scored six goals in total to become the top scorer of the 2024 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup.

A trophy and gold medals were awarded to the DPRK players and the most valuable player and top scorer awards went to Choe Il Son at the awards ceremony.

The DPRK women's football team fully demonstrated its features as the strongest team by winning victory again in the contest after the 2006 and 2016 events.

The proud success of the football players gives great encouragement to the people across the country who work hard to make a turning point in the overall development of the state, while demonstrating the dignity and prestige of the DPRK as a powerful country.



DPRK women footballers celebrate their win at the 2024 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup held in Colombia.

Press statement of Deputy Department Director of WPK Central Committee Kim Yo Jong

KCNA

Kim Yo Jong, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, released on September 24 the following press statement, titled "An abnormal object appears at Pusan Port: US strategic assets will be unable to find haven on the Korean peninsula":

The Aerospace Reconnaissance Agency, an independent intelligence organ directly under the head of state of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, detected an abnormal object at a wharf, a subject of its constant attention at Pusan Port of the ROK, at 10:03:10 on September

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Press statement of spokesperson for DPRK Foreign Ministry

KCNA

A spokesperson for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

released on September 24 the following press statement "The signboard of 'maintaining peace and stability' can never be a lever for the US to justify

its policy of inter-camp confrontation":

Recently, the US slandered the DPRK's exercise of its righteous and legitimate sovereign rights with the

QUAD summit meeting as an occasion and perpetrated a grave political provocation of inciting the atmosphere of

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Pyongyang undergoes tremendous changes

By Kim Rye Yong PT



The appearance of Pyongyang is changing year after year.

In recent ten-odd years, new streets and monumental structures

have been built one after another in different parts of Pyongyang. Even its citizens cannot believe their eyes as they witness and experience the city's remarkable changes.

Pyongyang, in which

buildings rise up every day and new streets spring up every year, has undergone a total change as they are so magnificent and beautiful and built so rapidly.

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An abnormal object appears at Pusan Port: US strategic assets will be unable to find haven on the Korean peninsula

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23 and reported its reconnaissance data.

A nuclear submarine appeared on the wharf where a US aircraft carrier used to moor at.

The latest nuclear submarine, which has never appeared openly since it was commissioned in 2020, made its appearance at the Pusan operation base for the first time in history. It can be hardly regarded as a "sightseeing voyage".

Given the US has been demonstrating its overall strength recently while making public the "might" of its nuclear strategic assets in order, one can easily guess the true aim of the open call at port of the nuclear submarine which should have been concealed under the "surface of water."

In June the US forces launched Minuteman-3 intercontinental ballistic missiles twice and on September 18 they opened to the public the test-flight image of B-21 Raider, a next-generation stealth strategic bomber, for the first time.

The US let the latest nuclear submarine of the US Navy anchor in Pusan Port of the ROK, thus taking out all its cards called "three nuclear strategic assets".

This clearly reveals the frantic military and strategic attempt of

the US hell-bent on intentionally demonstrating the "superiority of strength" before the world.

The US is now experiencing unprecedented strategic inferiority in the Korean peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region and is very afraid of the reality in which the entity of the strong power of independence against the US and the fortress for defending justice is beginning to make its appearance in the region.

Therefore, it is deploying all nuclear strategic assets in the Korean peninsula and its vicinity while cooking up various large and small military blocs in the region to contain the DPRK and independent sovereign states by force of arms and to "bind" the group of its followers that feel uneasy and impatient.

The Wilmington Declaration making the "nuclear threat" from anyone the subject of discussion was fabricated at the QUAD summit meeting held in Delaware, the US, some days ago and the promise for the US-Japan-ROK cooperation to cope with the so-called "ever-increasing nuclear threat" was made at the US-Japan summit held on the same day. They are also typical products of the US sinister geopolitical intention to politically and militarily encircle and stifle the DPRK and regional countries.

The US latest nuclear submarine's visit to the port of the ROK is a proof that the US ambition to often take up nuclear strategic assets, boast of its strength, increase its threat to the rival and "enjoy" its hegemonic privilege by dint of its malicious strength at any cost is getting ever more extreme.

No matter how the US may demonstrate its "overwhelming capability" by bringing to the surface even a submarine whose mission is to mount a final nuclear strike under the sea, nothing will change.

The DPRK's nuclear war deterrent to cope with and contain various threats from outside is bound to be bolstered up both in quality and quantity continuously and limitlessly as the security of the state is constantly exposed to the US nuclear threat and blackmail.

The US nuclear submarine's call at Pusan Port may be a break time for the US seamen and a comfort for the US' stooges, but it can never be an object of fear for the super-powerful entity the US is standing against.

The US strategic assets will never find their haven in the region of the Korean peninsula.

We will continue to inform that all the ports and military bases of the ROK are not safe places.

The US is by no means a "synonym for security".

DPRK foreign minister attends Fourth Eurasian Women's Forum and First BRICS Women's Forum

KCNA

strength.

Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, attended the Fourth Eurasian Women's Forum and the First BRICS Women's Forum held in St Petersburg of Russia from September 18 to 20.

Present at the international forums were high-ranking women politicians and representatives of business, academic and social circles of over 120 countries including the DPRK, Russia, Vietnam, Laos, Belarus, Uzbekistan, Serbia, Uganda and Qatar.

Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui made a speech at the meeting of women's dialogue on the theme of "Diplomacy and Geopolitics of 21st Century: Women's Viewpoint on Solving Global Tasks" held at the Fourth Eurasian Women's Forum.

Today geopolitical confrontation and conflict do not cease in different parts of the world and global peace and stability are seriously threatened, the foreign minister said, and went on:

This is ascribable to the high-handed and arbitrary practices of the US and its followers seeking hegemony and self-interest and attempting to incite a showdown between camps and separate countries into groups, running counter to the desire of the international community.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea will never tolerate any hostile acts threatening the sovereignty and dignity of the state and the security of the people but defend peace and security on the Korean peninsula by its just struggle and powerful

The foreign minister said that the Ukrainian incident, one of the geopolitical crises facing the world nowadays, is a direct product of the confrontation policy of the US and West against Russia which have systematically violated the legitimate and reasonable security interests of Russia for the past several decades, expressing invariable support for the just sacred war of the Russian army and people to firmly defend their sovereignty and security against the hegemonic policy of the hostile forces.

She said that the DPRK will as ever develop good-neighbourly relations with all countries aspiring after justice and independence under the banner of independence, peace and friendship and fulfil its responsible mission for building an equal multipolar world and ensuring global peace and security.

Meanwhile, the foreign minister, who took part in the strategic meeting on the theme of "BRICS in Future: Cooperative Prospect" held at the First BRICS Women's Forum, said that the forum was a significant political gathering for further enhancing the role of progressive women in promoting friendship and cooperation between the nations and states aspiring after independence, peace and justice. She expressed belief that the forum would enjoy positive sympathy and support from all the participants and achieve good results amid the great interest and expectation of the international community rejecting unilateralism and aspiring after multilateralism.

The signboard of 'maintaining peace and stability' can never be a lever for the US to justify its policy of inter-camp confrontation

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collective pressure on the DPRK.

The White House is claiming that the meeting targets no specific nation, but the "joint statement" fabricated and made public this time shows that QUAD is nothing but a political and diplomatic tool serving the implementation of the US strategy for unipolar domination.

The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses serious concern over the fact that the US has become more brazen in its most hostile confrontational attempt while wantonly violating the DPRK's rights to sovereignty and development, and strongly denounces and rejects it.

Today, QUAD, the end product of the US Cold War mentality and policy of

inter-camp confrontation, has become a dangerous factor that deepens mistrust and antagonism between countries in the Asia-Pacific region and causes international instability.

The US tried to cover up the confrontational colours of QUAD with such rhetoric as "tightened cooperation" in climatic change, food security and public health, but it is a well-known fact that its justification for existence and main object are to establish a US-led "rules-based international order."

This time the US turned QUAD into a de facto international "maritime police organization" under the pretext of "freedom of navigation", terming sovereign countries' exercise of legitimate rights "threats." This clearly proves that the entity is just an appendage of Washington's Indo-

Pacific strategy.

The current US administration further sticks to the anachronistic "minority" politics, but it only proves that its high-handed and arbitrary practices no longer work in the international arena and its diplomatic platform is narrowing.

The US policy of fomenting inter-camp confrontation that challenges justice and goes against the trend of the times is a harmful root cause of exposing world peace and security to the most serious threat.

The DPRK will never tolerate any hostile acts of encroaching upon its national sovereign rights, security and interests, but as ever make responsible efforts to establish a multipolarized international order based on independence and justice.

National exhibition of plants opens

KCNA

resources in the DPRK", are rare and special plant species and pot plants and over 130 achievements.

A national exhibition of plants "Plants in DPRK-2024" opened at the Central Botanical Garden on September 25.

Presented to the exhibition, held on the theme of "Plant

The exhibition will be held, divided into indoor and outdoor areas for the exhibition of successes and special and rare plants.

Regional development policy expanded and enriched

Construction of public health facilities, sci-tech dissemination bases and food management facilities is pushed with that of regional-industry factories simultaneously

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Another page telling about the great devotion of the Workers' Party of Korea has been recorded in the history of the sacred service of the WPK devoting all its sincerity and enthusiasm to the people. On August 31, a consultative meeting on

industry factories now under construction.

At the meeting the General Secretary said that the regional development policy of the WPK in the new era should not be confined to the construction of regional-industry factories, but become a comprehensive policy embracing public health, science and education, and

Gigantic projects have been undertaken on a full scale in the DPRK, including that for completing the irrigation system of the country in the main in the coming few years and radically raising the proportion of mechanization in agricultural production, that for drastically improving the people's dietary life by changing the structure

and a textbook-like entity.

Under the circumstances the regional development policy has been expanded and enriched and strong measures have been taken to implement it. It is a manifestation of the great ambition of the WPK to bridge the gap between the capital and regional areas and correct the imbalance between regions and bring

on scientific calculation and that it is the demand of the Party Central Committee that they should be carried out at such a high level that the regional people can benefit from them even after 100 years.

Referring to the importance and significance of the three construction projects newly added to the Regional

in cities and counties bases that not only are equipped with modern IT means for sci-tech learning but also serve multifunctional and complex cultural purposes, so that local residents can see films or play sports and amusement games there; and commercial outlets and various other welfare facilities with satisfactory hygienic environment and



regional development was held under the guidance of General Secretary Kim Jong Un. It indicated a new direction of stepping up the historic cause of regional development by simultaneously pushing ahead with the building of public health facilities, sci-tech dissemination bases and food management facilities together with that of regional-

that only then, can it truly contribute to the improvement of the material and cultural life of the regional people and radically enhance the efficiency of regional development. And he clarified all the principles to be adhered to in building advanced city and county hospitals, scientific and technological dissemination centres and food management facilities.

of grain production, that for building 50 000 flats in Pyongyang and building all rural villages in a modern way, that for building up the security guarantee of the country to the maximum without limits and that for not simply restoring the flood-hit areas, but turning them into a model of urbanization, modernization and civilization of the rural areas

about a marked change and a brilliant efflorescence in all fields of socialist construction.

Referring to the essential three-point construction tasks for regional development at the consultative meeting on regional development, the General Secretary earnestly stressed that these gigantic tasks undertaken by the Party are an important matter based

Development 20x10 Policy, Kim Jong Un said in his speech to mark the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK, *Let Us Make Redoubled Efforts for the Prosperity of Our Great State*: "We are going to build the sci-tech dissemination bases, which are intended as an additional project, into comprehensive bases for cultural life. We should build

conditions are also to be furnished in them."

When the comprehensive regional development policy in the new era, which embraces not only the construction of light industry factories but also public health, science and education, is carried out, the mountains and rivers of the DPRK will change beautifully and spectacularly and the people as well.

By relying on their own efforts

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Pyongyang Grain Processing Machine Factory has made a modern wheat processing machine.

"In early February, a consultative meeting was held to manufacture wheat processing equipment with a capacity of thousands of tons. In fact, the factory's foundations were poor, and it was not easy to make a decision on manufacturing the unfamiliar machine while carrying out the factory's quota under the national economic plan," said the factory manager, recalling those days.

Our factory is faced with the task of providing the people with quality processed wheat as soon as possible, explained the manager, calling on the workers of the factory to find

a way with a determination.

There can be no other option and we should not import it, but make it by our own efforts—this was a unanimous opinion of those attending the meeting.

A campaign was launched to make the machine.

The factory gave precedence to the supply of materials needed for the manufacture of the machine on the basis of the design completed by the Grain Processing Institute, and encouraged the employees to present technical conceptions for making a wonderful one with less cost.

As a result, problems that were thought to be difficult were solved one by one, and the making of an efficient machine was pushed forward.

But, many difficulties arose. It was a generally accepted idea that vibrating motor should be installed on stone

separator in the grain cleaning process. The problem was that most employees thought that this vibration motor could not be produced by the factory.

"We could not tolerate it," said senior engineer Ri Su Jin. "Technicians and skilled workers of the factory pooled their wisdom with researchers of the Grain Processing Institute, and found a way of solving the problem."

They changed designs for more than 20 days and changed their motors with different capacities, thus finally making a stone separator.

Such spirit was also displayed in the days of making a roller mill.

According to the design, the mill frame was to be made by casting. At that time, the factory was repairing the medium-frequency induction furnace, and had to wait 40

days to get necessary casting.

The factory decided to make the frame with iron plate without waiting for conditions to be created. In the case of steel sheet, several problems had to be solved, including vibration, noise and sealing.

But the skilled workers of the factory, based on their rich experience, found a reasonable way of manufacturing the frame with iron plates and presented an innovative way of adjusting the axis of the driving roller.

In the final analysis, the roller mill frame revealed its impeccable appearance in more than ten days.

"Our own efforts produced novel ideas and, as a result, a modern wheat processing machine, of which we can be proud, was successfully made," said the manager.

The machine was installed in Pakchon County.

Material and technical foundations of fishery units boosted in Kangwon Province

By To Kyong Chol PT

Material and technical foundations of the fishery sector have been strengthened in Kangwon Province, which is situated on the coast of the East Sea of Korea.

The Songdowon Fishery Station has built up its technical force, conducted a vigorous mass technical innovation movement and stepped up the construction of all-purpose fishing boats equipped with modern fishing implements, while maintaining and repairing the engines, hulls and fishing gear of

fishing boats in a three-dimensional way.

The Thongchon Fishery Station has been remodelled and modernized.

The Wonsan General Fishing Implements Factory is accelerating preparations for its operation at the final stage, while the Jangjin Fishery Station and other units are directing main efforts to improving the performance of fishing boats, expanding their capacity and sprucing up the fishery units according to ship repair plans and wharf construction projects.

Rich harvest of APPLES



Women farmers gather apples in joy at the Onchon Fruit Farm. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



By To Kyong Chol PT

Apple harvest is in full swing at the Onchon Fruit Farm, which has the vast stretches of orchard.

Trucks carrying apples are seen at the pavements traversing fields.

Farmers are engrossed in carrying gathered apples to

storehouses.

Happy smiles are seen on every face of farmers picking apples and drivers busy with carrying them.

President Kim Il Sung visited the farm eight times including in January 1966 and Chairman Kim Jong Il dropped in on it on five occasions including in April 1966 to stress

the need to spruce up the farm into a model one of the country.

The farm won the 2023 socialist emulation drive in the field of fruit farming last year and was awarded a citation and rotating pennant in the joint name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Cabinet.

According to Rim Myong Chol, deputy manager of the farm, the farm has directed efforts to manuring and cultivating fruit trees on a scientific basis this year, thus bringing about a bumper harvest despite unfavourable weather conditions.

The farm conducted a soil analysis in detail and applied scarce nutritive elements to fruit trees scientifically according to fields.

And it has constantly improved soil fertility by establishing a

food production cycle based on fruit farming and animal husbandry.

It also put the system of monitoring and forecasting blight and insects on a more scientific and detailed basis and prevented the per-hectare yield reduction by way of controlling diseases with less cost.

As a result, the per-hectare yield this year seems to grow much more than last year, said An Jun Hyok, manager of the farm.

The apples produced by the farm are fast-ripening and large and have high sugar content. Among them are "Sukchon", which is favoured by children and elderly for much juice and high sugar content, and "Kumgang" which contains sweet taste and less sour taste.

This year, the farm built scores of hectares of new orchards.

Farmers move into new houses across country

KCNA

New villages have been built at Sinjidong and Sinsong farms in Hoechang County, South Phyongan Province.

Present at the ceremony for moving into new houses were Kim Man Jo, secretary of the South Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials, builders and agricultural workers in Hoechang County.

Jang Myong Il, vice-chairman of the South Phyongan Provincial People's Committee, made an address there. Then licences for the use of houses were conveyed amid the warm applause of the participants.

When moving into new houses began, the villages were wrapped in a festive mood with pleasure and dancing of agricultural workers and inhabitants.

Agricultural workers moved into modern houses at the Ryongdu Farm in Tongchang County, North Phyongan Province.

Present at the ceremony for moving into those houses were Kim Chol U, secretary of the provincial committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials, builders and agricultural workers who would move into the houses in the county.

Choe Yong Man, chairman of the provincial people's committee, made a congratulatory speech. Then licences for the use of houses were conveyed.

When moving into new houses began, the villages were wrapped in a festive mood with pleasure and dancing.

Officials visited the families of farmers who moved into new houses to congratulate them.

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By Kil Chung Il PT

In the DPRK, there are dedicated vans for children and such vehicles continue to grow in kind as children are given top priority.

Recently, there came into being the vans for the delivery of school uniforms.

They transport the tailored uniforms with name tags of each student and they neatly hang in the vans without any crease.

"Uniforms are carried to students by the dedicated vans. Parents do not need to give finishing touches to them, as they were made according to the guidelines on the body measurement of students," said Kim Sol Hong, headmaster of Tongsang Primary School in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

There are also dedicated vans for delivering dairy products and popcorn for children of nurseries and kindergartens.

A kindergarten teacher in Taesong District, Pyongyang, said that various nutritious

Vehicles for children keep increasing

foods made at state expense are transported to her kindergarten by a dedicated van every day.

People can often see on Pyongyang streets such vehicles delivering fermented bean, fish and dried persimmon to the Pyongyang Baby Home, Pyongyang Orphanage, Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans and Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans.

The state ensures that students of those schools are provided with a variety of fermented bean products of the Pyongyang Condiments Factory on a regular basis and that a fishery station dedicated to supplying them with fish put fishing on a normal basis.

In addition, dried persimmon workteams were newly organized in persimmon-growing areas to send dried persimmons with high nutritive value to those children by the dedicated vehicles.

All these policies were adopted thanks to the meticulous guidance and concern of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who spares nothing for children, calling them the "king" of the country.

The benefits the state bestows on children across the country with motherly affection and efforts continue to grow, regardless of whether the conditions are favourable or unfavourable.

Factories that do not seek profits

School things factories are run by state investment

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Generally, factories seek profits and there are fierce competitions to that end.

But there are factories in the DPRK which do not seek profits.

They include factories that produce uniforms, bags and other school things.

The goods produced at these factories are supplied to students at the price next to nothing.

Korea like the dedicated school bag factory built in each province, and school uniforms and footwear factories are being built in each province.

Until the end of last year, school uniform factories were built in every province to supply smart and quality school uniforms to students across the country on a regular basis.

The construction of a school shoes factory was completed in Pyongyang

of such factories devote themselves to every product with motherly affection for their children.

Then, why does the DPRK build such factories in different parts of the country, which impose a burden on it and do not bring any profits to the state, and continue to make great efforts?

Herein lies the love of the Workers' Party of Korea for rising generations.

The WPK, which has set it as a consistent policy

in the implementation of this year's socialist policy is to decisively improve the quality of school uniforms, bags and shoes as the Party Central Committee had strongly reviewed and declared at the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee. He also said that he, on behalf of the Party Central Committee, defined the happy laughter of our people and younger generation as a symbol of the socialist



Uniforms to be supplied to students are produced at the Pyongyang School Uniform Factory. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Satchels to be supplied to students of primary schools (left). Shoes for students are produced at the Ryuwon Footwear Factory (right). WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The DPRK has already enforced universal free education on April 1 1959 and provided free education and school supplies for the students. In recent ten years, modern school thing factories have been built in succession.

The construction of new factories specializing in the production of school uniforms and shoes was discussed and decided at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

this year, and that of the school shoes factory has been completed or stepped up at the final stage. And the work is going on to provide modern equipment to the factories producing daily necessities of students.

If these factories, which are not small in number or are more modern, do not seek profit, how do they operate factories and pay workers' wages?

The answer is that the state fully covers the expenses.

Therefore, employees

and eternal national policy to ensure the supply of essential goods to students in a responsible manner, is unsparingly devoting even millions of money to the children.

This is evidenced by the 10th Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said in the important policy speech at the meeting that the matter that we should bring about a particular improvement

system, the mightiness of Korean-style socialism and the criterion of deciding the status of a great, prosperous and powerful country.

Thanks to his noble outlook on the rising generations and the future that we should pick up a star in the sky for the bright and happy laughter of younger generations, all the Korean students are growing up to be pillars of the country, being provided with clothing, footwear and school things by the state.

By Kim Il Jin PT

A well-regulated system has been established in the DPRK for decades to supply nutritious foodstuffs to children at nurseries and kindergartens. A series of state measures have been taken one after another in addition in recent years to provide children with better upbringing conditions.

"Dairy products are supplied to children every day according to the childcare policy of the Workers' Party of Korea adopted in 2021. The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK stressed that it is a matter of great importance in implementing the childcare policy to perform the nutrition management of children in a scientific way. Accordingly, the standard table which had been set several decades ago was reviewed and scientifically redefined to suit the constitutional features of the children," said Pak Chun Sil, head of Sohung-dong Nursery in Moranbong

Nutritious foods for children grow in kind

District, Pyongyang.

The nutrition standard per child increased, she said, adding that the basic principles of child nutrition management are adequacy, balance and diversity and many nutritious foods were added by largely classifying them into protein, sugary, fatty and vitamin and mineral ones.

According to Choe Ju Hyok, an official of the Ministry of Commerce, the state takes charge of bringing up children at nurseries and kindergartens and supplies them with dozens of kinds of nutritive foodstuffs at its expense.

Now nutritious foodstuffs are mass-produced across the country under the national production and supply system of nutritious foodstuffs for children and they are supplied to all children every day through the supply stores of goods for nurseries and kindergartens.

"According to the nationwide survey of the growth and development of children conducted last year, it was estimated that the overall immunity of children has been boosted and the nutrition of children in rural areas has been improved day by day," said Jang Chol Hun, director of the Children's Nutrition Research Institute under the Academy of Medical Science.

A sea change in

PYONGYANG

Pyongyang has undergone tremendous changes beyond recognition

By Kim Rye Yong *PT*

Today, Pyongyang has undergone tremendous changes beyond recognition.

Jonwi and Rimhung streets were built in the northern part of the city this year alone, Hwasong Street and houses in the Taephyong area last year and Songhwa Street and Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District which is called a gem terrace in the previous years. Going back to the past decade, streets like Ryomyong and Mirae Scientists streets and such monumental structures as the Sci-Tech Complex, Munsu Water Park, Rungna People's Recreation Ground, Mirim Riding Club, Mirim Aviation Club, Central Zoo and Natural History Museum sprang up in the city one after another.

Pyongyang citizens always repeat the word "dreamlike" as they can hardly believe the reality.

What are surprising are not confined to the number of structures and construction speed.

Every street and structure show the specific aspect and appearance, which could not be seen in the past, and their modernity, formative arts and the level of introduction of advanced technology are the world-class both in name and reality. In other words, a Korean style has properly been combined with that of the world.

For example, Jonwi Street, a grand monumental edifice of youth whose construction was fully undertaken by young men and women, shows the great, daring and vibrant spirit peculiar to the Korean youth with an architectural group of high-rise apartment houses, skyscrapers and public service buildings that can be claimed to be flourishing quarters of the world.

Rimhung and Hwasong streets, which completely spruced up Hwasong District in Pyongyang,

successfully embody the development aspect of the global architecture to meet the aspirations and sentiment of the Korean people in the shape and colour of buildings and the layout of streets.

Meanwhile, Songhwa Street situated in the gateway to the east of Pyongyang is conspicuous for a petal-shaped 80-storey apartment building soaring high representing fireworks and for an overhead bridge crossing over a road, and Ryomyong Street located near the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance is featured by solemnity felt throughout the street for the Korean people's absolute loyalty to their leader and the successful introduction of modern architectural technologies like energy-saving one and green architecture.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un has brought about all these changes.

It is his ideal to turn Pyongyang into a world-class city and provide its people with civilization of the highest level. Unimaginable miracles have been performed in succession under the outstanding leadership of him who carries out what he is determined to do for his people perfectly and without condition regardless of whether the condition is favourable or not.

In those days, he saw innumerable mock-ups, designs and bird's eye views of streets and structures and his speeches made at groundbreaking ceremonies touched the heartstrings of all the people.

Under his leadership, Pyongyang has greeted a new era of development of Juche-oriented architecture and that of prosperity of Pyongyang and the capital city changes its appearance as socialist flourishing quarters peculiar to Korea and a world-class city as the days go by.





Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District



Songhwa Street



Hwasong Street



Jonwi Street

Pongsan famous for mask dance

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Pongsan County in North Hwanghae Province is famous for mask dance.

When they talk about the special features of the Pongsan area, the locals first refer to the Pongsan mask dance with a long tradition.

This mask dance is widely spread and frequently performed all across the areas of the province and, particularly, Unjong-ri has a special connection with the dance.

It is several kilometres away from Pongsan County Town.

According to a ri official,

Pongsan County had been called the “home of mask dance” since olden times and its people regarded themselves as born performers of the Pongsan mask dance.

And he told me about how the Pongsan mask dance came to be widely known.

In ancient times, mask dance was in vogue all across the Hwanghae provincial area and therefore the area earned the name of “home of mask dance”, while that of the Pongsan area was the most famous.

It became popular not only because it has the longest history but also because it pungently satirized and

ridiculed the dissolute life of monks and noble ruling circles in the feudal society by dint of the distinctive type of dance.

The Pongsan mask dance was constantly supplemented and perfected thanks to the creative wisdom and efforts of working masses and obtained favour in all other parts of the country for the popular content and form. And it has been representative of Korean mask dance as it is progressive in terms of theme, idea and artistic features.

It is a comprehensive national artistic form employing various means and techniques of

representation, such as song, instrumental music, dance, speech (pantomimic acting), masks, costumes and props, with dance constituting the principal means of portrayal.

It was on the verge of extinction due to Japan’s policy of obliterating the Korean culture during its military rule. It was only after President Kim Il Sung liberated Korea that the Pongsan mask dance came to shine again as an element of the precious cultural heritage of the nation.

Chairman Kim Jong Il visited Unjong-ri some 20 years ago and saw the mask dance performed by the local farmers.

The dance has been adapted to suit the modern aesthetic taste and performed continuously, enjoying public favour.

Pongsan County gained fame for the mask dance also for the locals’ strong attachment to the national dance heritage element.

In this locality, the mask dance is inherited generation after generation and its costumes and props keep developing distinctively amid the close concern of all the locals pooling good ideas for that.

In the provincial peasant dance performances, the Pongsan mask dance continues to win huge popularity.

World intangible cultural heritage—ssirum



By Yun Ki Song PT

Among the cultural heritage of Korean nation is *ssirum*.

Since olden times, Koreans enjoyed playing the game on the edges of fields, in the grass, and on the sand at the riverside or seaside during breaks in labour.

A mural painting from the period of Koguryo (277 BC - 668 AD) portrays true-to-life two men, wearing shorts and thigh bands, holding each other’s thigh band and displaying their strength.

What is peculiar in *ssirum* is the use of thigh band unlike

wrestling in other nations.

One is declared a loser if any part of his body above his ankles touches the land first.

The folk game, which has developed for over 1 000 years, is flourishing and developing while sustaining its peculiarity as a characteristic national sport well-preserved under the national heritage protection policy of the state.

It was inscribed on the list of national intangible cultural heritage on November 26 2013, and on the list of world intangible cultural heritage in November 2018.



Farmers perform a folk dance Pongsan Mask Dance in Pongsan County of North Hwanghae Province. JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Aquarium helps understand aquatic animals



Total floor space
of the aquarium
Over 5 300m²

By Pang Un Ju PT

People stream into the Central Zoo nestling at the foot of Mt Taesong in Pyongyang.

The first eye-catcher at the zoo is the aquarium.

According to Rim Chol Yong, senior engineer, the aquarium covers a total floor space of more than 5 300 square metres and has more than 30 water tanks, with the total water amount being 2 000 cubic metres, including sea water.

There live thousands of fishes including sea fish, amphibians, reptiles and invertebrates in hundreds of kinds, he said.

After passing through the entrance to the zoo, visitors to the aquarium cross a bridge over an artificial pond.

While crossing the bridge,

they see sturgeon and other kinds of fish swimming in the pond, and are drawn into the world of water as they sense the spray from a fountain spouting water like the shower of confetti.

The visiting route in the aquarium leads you from the freshwater section to the sea world.

In the freshwater section, you can see such rare fishes as piranha and Amazonian butterflyfish and amphibians.

"It is the first time for me to see piranhas, which are said to eat up a buffalo or a crocodile, leaving their skeletons, in a few minutes by attacking them in shoals. As I saw their strong chins, sharp teeth, ferocious eyes and stout bodies, I thought it is natural for them to achieve notoriety as a horrible fish," said Ri Chol Gwang living in

Taesong District, Pyongyang.

According to Rim Chol Yong, visitors have photos taken against the backdrop of fishes in the natural landscape area in the aquarium.

The aquarium's sea world gives you greater excitement.

You can see beautiful and rare sea fishes including various kinds of sea breams in the water tank and there is a feeling-type water tank where you can touch asteroid, shellfish and other fishes.

At the end of the aquarium there are sea turtles.

When turtles weighing over 100 kilograms with the hard 1-odd-metre-long shells dabble their legs as if giving a warm send-off to them, visitors wave back to the animals before leaving the aquarium with a feeling of satisfaction.

Flower-shaped boats add decorative touch to scenery of Taedong riverside

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

The circular sightseeing boats floating on the Taedong River, which meanders through the capital city of Pyongyang, draw special attention of passers-by.

The new-type circular boats have roofs to give boaters cool

shade unlike ordinary boats and remind viewers of lotus flowers in full bloom.

Designed to seat 12 persons, each boat has seats around a table and therefore people can enjoy boating as they have soft drinks.

For such characteristic features, it lures people more than other boats.

"We started service with the boats last April when spring fairly set in everywhere. People continue to come to enjoy boating," said Kim Yong A, manageress of the sightseeing circular boat management station.

On holidays and Sundays, in particular, visitors should wait

for a while to enjoy boating.

"Our family members often come to the Taedong riverside to have a picnic. It is nice to make a picnic by the riverside, but it is really breathtaking to relish the beauty of Pyongyang aboard a circular boat while having a soft drink in the cool river breeze," said Jang Jin Guk living in Phyongchon District in the capital city.

According to keeper Ri Yong Sim, the boating ground is frequented especially by educators and researchers, as it is located in the riverside along Mirae Scientists Street.

They say that when they take a boat for 30 minutes in the river where lots of anions are emitted, they are relieved of all mental fatigue and feel refreshed and good ideas come into their mind, adding they frequent the boating ground, as they feel as if it was built for themselves.

Boaters can have traditional charcoal roast meat according to their demand.

The manageress added that everyone can easily control the circular boat which is not so fast and it is environmentally-friendly as it is powered by battery.



The citizens of Pyongyang spend a good time on the circular sightseeing boats. PAK KWANG
HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Factory under green roof

By Kim Hak Chol PT

On the roof of the Pyongyang Electronic Medical Appliances Factory, there grow in good harmony different kinds of ground-covering and flowering plants, trees, flowering shrubs and vines.

According to Ham Hyon Chol, staffer of the factory, there are more than 300 plants in over ten kinds on its roof.

Generally, roof greening adds beauty to cities, reduces noise pollution and makes it possible to use space on roofs in an effective way, thus being widely introduced.

The factory created a garden on the roof to fuse the building and nature into one in order to enhance the cultural and emotional life of employees.

Many employees have a rest there at break.

"I love flowering plants. At break, I

always come up here to admire various plants. Then, I am buoyed up and become eager to work," said Cha Sol Hwa, an employee of the factory.

It was some years ago when the factory introduced roof greening.

In the beginning, only some employees who are fond of growing flowering plants and cultivating gardens were interested in it. But more and more employees got interested and enthusiastic in it, resulting in the present park with a beautiful landscape.

Grape vines giving them cool shade, flowers giving off various good fragrances and luxuriant trees in various shapes are associated with the good care of the employees.

The factory is planning to build an artificial waterfall and pond on the roof for more distinctive roof greening, said Ham.

Schools cultivate sense of patriotism among students

By Pang Un Ju PT

Units of general education are directing efforts to the education of schoolchildren in patriotism.

"Love for the country does not come of its own accord. It blossoms and grows from valuing and loving even a tree and pebble of the native village while receiving education in patriotism from childhood. The school turned several spaces of the campus into places for education in patriotism and gave education in various ways to help students cultivate the mind of knowing the country first before acquiring knowledge," said Ri Il Sim, Children's Union instructor of Ryomyong Primary School in Taesong District, Pyongyang.

The school put up visual aids showing the name of the country, national emblem, national flag and other symbols of the DPRK in

several halls in the campus so that students could know well about the national symbols and value them.

Also seen there are other visual aids introducing such juvenile heroes and heroines as nine-year-old Kim Kum Sun and Mok Un Sik, who sacrificed their lives to keep the secrets of the guerrilla army during the anti-Japanese armed struggle, and the struggle of the children's guards and the children's guerrilla units who fought bravely against the enemy during the Fatherland Liberation War. Seeing the visual aids, students make up their mind to copy the noble spiritual world of the young revolutionaries and patriots who made their name in the history of the Korean children's movement.

At the school, students who were exemplary in study and Children's Union activities in the previous week are honoured to raise the national flag at the national flag

hoisting ceremony held on every Monday morning.

According to Ri Il Sim, it meets with a favourable reaction from students and their parents as well.

According to Ri Il Sim, it meets with a favourable reaction from students and their parents as well.

"Seeing the flag of the DPRK I raised with my own hands amid the solemn playing of the national song, I hardened my resolve to study harder and become a scientist who supports the country with science," said Hong Yon Jun, a fifth-year pupil.

June 9 Ryongbuk Senior Middle School in Taesong District, Pyongyang, directs efforts to education through the room for education in Kim Jong Il's patriotism, gives wide publicity to the laudable deeds performed by schoolchildren to encourage its students to follow their examples.

Reading sessions of books, presentations of

compositions and poetry recitals on the theme of patriotism often organized by the school are important occasions for cultivating love for the country and the spirit of devoting oneself to the organization and collective and encouraging students to put them into practice.

In the course of it, the number of students helping and leading one another forward and doing good things for the school and class voluntarily and those planting and tending trees of good species in the campus by themselves is increasing day by day, said Song Jwa Hyok, Children's Union instructor of the school.

Through their visits to the homes of DPRK Hero Kim Song Dok, a graduate of the school, and honoured disabled soldiers in the dong, they also feel respect for the revolutionary forerunners and renew determination to dedicate themselves to the country.

Music prodigies grow under advantageous early education system

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The April 13th issue of Rodong Sinmun carried a news that Korean children and students had created a great stir again at the 33rd international children and schoolchildren's art work festival held in Khabarovsk of Russia, to the pleasure of the Korean people.

In the new century of the Juche era, children fully demonstrated their talents at an international piano contest, international piano music contest and festival and international charitable production festival.

Such successes are unthinkable apart from the advantageous socialist educational system and excellent early music education system.

An official of the Ministry of Education

new music classes at kindergartens for the training of music expert reserves in Pyongyang, clarifying problems arising in standardizing education and improving the educational level. Under such meticulous care of him, our early music education has been able to steadily follow the road of development, the official added.

Situated in the centre of the capital city, Taedongmun Kindergarten in Central District is well-known as a prestigious early music educational base in the country along with Kyongsang Kindergarten.

Director Kim Hyong Ae, meritorious person of socialist patriotism and Merited Teacher, said that the state sends university graduates in special fields and excellent experts in major

Efforts directed to improving quality of genius education

Teaching methods, contents improved

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Middle schools No. 1 across the country are making innovations in their teaching contents and methods to improve the quality of education of talents.

Their officials and teachers work hard to raise the level of education as they actively explore and introduce advanced teaching methods and apply modern educational means.

Moranbong Middle School No. 1 is exploring more effective teaching methods for boosting students' abilities.

It completed the establishment of a database containing huge volumes of data on rich experience, including model lessons and

new teaching methods, thus making teaching contents and methods more concrete, diverse and practical and making it possible to improve the quality of lessons.

Specialized subject classrooms are furnished with relevant reference books and full sets of experimental apparatuses according to the contents of subjects, and they contribute to improving the students' abilities.

According to Principal Kim Yong Sik, the school has more than 50 classrooms for different subjects, including mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology and foreign languages, and for each school year, and developed and introduced dozens of new teaching methods suited to the characteristics of the subject

classrooms, which have proved their worth.

Ri Jin Mi, a second-year student of senior class, said after getting a lesson in prism in the math classroom:

"I could have a correct understanding of prism after learning its definition from the teacher and in the course of finding out its models from among over 30 different models on display in the subject classroom. Some classmates picked wrong models, but came to correctly understand prism through discussions."

The school increases the density of instruction by using the education support program, which analyses students' performance of their preparatory tasks, and has put on a regular basis the operation of research and

practical training rooms into which modern educational technology and means have been introduced.

East Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 also makes positive efforts to foster the creative application abilities of students.

It completed many videos of demonstration lessons embodying heuristic and search- and discussion-based teaching methods, backed up by the enthusiasm for creating new teaching methods, and is widely using them in teaching practice. It also developed and introduced programs for improving students' self-study abilities, which have proved helpful to improving their abilities.

Haeju Middle School No. 1 channels efforts into enhancing students' foreign language conversational skills.

With the help of a study support program helpful to enhancing their conversational abilities, students get the knacks of pronunciation by themselves and do self-learning by means of teaching materials, cartoons and videos.

It is popular with students as it enables them to improve their speaking and hearing abilities by evaluating their own abilities through self-test.



A little girl learns to play the violin at Taedongmun Kindergarten in Pyongyang. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

said that although many countries attach importance to preschool education, it would be hard to find a country where the state gives compulsory and free education as it takes full responsibility for it.

He noted that in the country, genius education including early music education takes an important position along with general education aimed at preparing children in an all-round way and that the state spares nothing in the efforts to give full play to the excellent artistic talents of children.

According to an official in the artistic educational sector, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un stressed several years ago the need to newly set up music classes in kindergartens in the areas near art schools in every province and provide them with necessary conditions well, and later gave an instruction to establish

art organizations to those educational facilities in order to find out and bring into full bloom the artistic talents of kindergartners, which constitutes an important guarantee for enhancing the qualitative level of education.

Teachers of the kindergarten go to nurseries every year to select kids with good memory and great musical aptitude and give them professional education in kayagum, violin, oungeum and piano.

Under the early music education system whereby the state takes full responsibility of the whole process of education and enforces it free of charge, three kindergarten teachers take care of one child.

After graduating from kindergartens, children can receive professional education of a higher stage.

Many kids who finished the kindergarten have now grown into veteran artistes loved by the people.



Students consolidate what they learned in lessons through an experiment at the chemistry laboratory at Moranbong Middle School No. 1 in Pyongyang. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

National prestige and people's dignity of a powerful country

Jang Kil Sok

The desire for a powerful country is the common aspiration of all countries.

But it is not fulfilled of its own accord though they want it.

Independence is the most important criterion of a powerful country.

A genuine power is a country which dynamically advances along the road chosen by itself despite any ordeals and difficulties while administering independent politics that conforms to the will and demand of its people and suits its actual conditions.

The whole course of the DPRK's over 70-year history is consistent with independence.

Since President Kim Il Sung defeated the Japanese imperialists and founded the DPRK under the banner of independence by Koreans' own efforts, the country has put forward the principle of independence in politics, self-

sufficiency in the economy and self-reliance in national defence as an immutable principle of state building and never allowed any concession and deviation on the way.

In the spirit of independence that the country is the master of its destiny and it has the power to shape its future, the DPRK defeated the US imperialists in the fierce three-year Fatherland Liberation War in the 1950s, which marked the beginning of their downfall for the first time in history and demonstrated the spirit of heroic Korea with miraculous creations in the period of postwar reconstruction.

During the Arduous March in the 1990s, when the imperialist allied forces made desperate attempts to strangle the country in all directions, Chairman Kim Jong Il firmly defended the destiny of the country and its people and socialism with his unique Songun politics and

Songun-based leadership, which identified the Korean People's Army as the main force and pillar of the revolution, by making an independent decision under the rapidly changing situation. With this indomitable spirit of independence, the Korean people learned how to live on their own, how to win the enemy and overcome difficulties, and dynamically stepped up socialist construction on the strength of self-reliance and self-development in the face of the imperialists' frantic moves to isolate and stifle the DPRK persisting for decades.

In the international arena, too, the DPRK has been the focus of attention of the international community for its strong defence of independence and justice and its steadfast and responsible stand and efforts for peace and security.

Independence is guaranteed by strong military muscle.

The present reality, which is rife with the imperialists' high-handed

practices based on power-almighty thinking, further proves the truth that national security and dignity should be defended with powerful military capability and that this leads to peace and future.

With the iron will that there is no powerful country without strong army, General Secretary Kim Jong Un steadily built up the military capability of the country.

Last year, the military parade in celebration of the 75th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army, the parade for celebrating the 70th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, the parade of the paramilitary forces in celebration of the 75th founding anniversary of the DPRK and latest military hardware demonstrated once again to the world the rapid development, advanced character and modernity of the DPRK's defence capability.

Thanks to the devotion and untiring efforts made by the General Secretary to turn the

DPRK into a powerful country which no formidable enemy dares provoke, the KPA has grown into an invincible army and invincible revolutionary armed forces fully prepared to meet the requirements of any modern warfare. The DPRK emerged as a world-class military power with the building of powerful war deterrent and the irreversible military and technical edge of build-up of self-defensive military capability.

As the leader is strong, so are the country and the people.

The DPRK has ushered in a new era of a prosperous and powerful country independent in politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in national defence, though it is not large in territory and population. The reality further convinces the Korean people of the truth that the prestige of the country and dignity of its people will shine on the highest level as they are led by the outstanding leader.

Water control is weather control



Han Kwang Thaek

Head of a department of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection

Water is the source of all lives and a precious resource indispensable to the daily and economic life of people. It is used in all places and fields including industrial establishments, cities, hydropower stations, farms, river transport, fish farming and landscaping.

This product of nature brings fortune, if it is well controlled, but unimaginably great disaster, if not.

That is why forest and water conservation has been called the mainstay of everything since ancient times.

Floods have caused catastrophic consequences among many natural disasters on the earth and drought and flood have hit the DPRK one after another in recent years, thereby creating difficulties in economic construction and improvement of the people's living standards.

The damage from floods is, of course, an inevitable natural disaster, but we have a clear strategy to win the battle against water.

In his work "On Bringing about a Revolutionary Turn in Land Management in Line with the Demands for Building a Thriving Socialist Nation", General Secretary Kim Jong Un stressed the need to strengthen river improvement and other water control work. He underlined the importance of water conservation, saying that as the country has many big and small rivers and reservoirs and is therefore blessed with water resources, if water is managed properly, the demand for water of the country and its people can be fully met, the damage from flooding and drought can be prevented and the landscape of the country can become more beautiful.

The solid material foundations, including reservoirs, barrages, large-scale gravity-fed waterways and irrigation systems built in different parts of the country, are another precious asset for beating the sky.

It is not easy to control water. But it is the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to tame the sky and transform the land for the people.

A new national water management system should be established and professional bodies set up to establish an integrated water management system for enforcing, operating and implementing an integrated water management policy in various fields, ranging from the provision of water for daily use to flood, drought and disaster response.

A medium- and long-term water conservation plan should be worked out correctly and pushed ahead steadily.

It is necessary to draw up a 100-year plan for banks and embankments on the basis of careful understanding of the situation of all rivers and

streams across the country and, at the same time, work out scientific long-term, phased and yearly plans for river improvement and afforestation for erosion control.

Bringing about an improvement in ensuring scientific accuracy, precision and promptness of weather forecasting is also an important factor in achieving success in water conservation.

The ever-accelerating global warming has a seriously negative impact on global climate change and consequently the world has witnessed ever-more disastrous climate more frequently.

Due to the consequences of world-sweeping disastrous climate, we cannot predict what disaster will hit our country again.

The Workers' Party of Korea is unshakable in the determination and will to provide the people and beloved children with the cradle of happiness, free from natural disaster forever, by pushing ahead with the struggle against water to the last.

'Tourism and Peace'

By Pak Song Min PT

September 27 is World Tourism Day.

Tourism not only provides people with adequate rest and physical training, but also gives them a deep understanding of politics, the economy, history, culture, geography and others of each country.

The 3rd General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization held in 1979 set September 27 as World Tourism Day to encourage public awareness of the importance of tourism.

The purpose of the designation of WTD was to raise public awareness of the role and importance of tourism as well as its impact on the overall social and economic life including politics, the economy and culture.

For this reason, the World Tourism Organization has set a variety of themes to mark the WTD every year, holds various events and conducts activities to boost tourism.

Major cities and scenic

spots have been developed into tourist resorts and projects are in full swing to promote tourism in the world. Ecotourism is gaining momentum as people's interest in the protection of ecological environment and nature is growing.

The DPRK joined the WTO in September 1987.

Under the ideal of independence, peace and friendship, the DPRK puts efforts into the development of tourism to encourage cooperation and exchange with the peoples of many countries in the world and provide the people with a civilized cultural and emotional life.

The capital city of Pyongyang, the coastal city of Wonsan, the world-famous Mts Paektu, Kumgang and Myohyang and other areas and scenic spots have been built up wonderfully.

Many cultural and tourist facilities sprang up in different parts of the country.

The theme for this year's WTD is "Tourism and Peace".

BYWORD

Watchword "continuous innovation, continuous advance" is often seen in the workplaces in the DPRK.

It reflects the aspirations of Korean working people.

The five-year plan for national economic development is being

successfully carried out and an era of rural development ushered in in the country. At the same time, such major policies as the Regional Development 20x10 Policy are dynamically

pushed forward to bring about a great change in the people's living standards.

As their dreams and ideal really come true and the Party and state consistently pursue all policies and measures to serve the people,

the working people make continuous innovations and advance without resting on their laurels.

Continuous innovation and continuous advance is a mode of struggle of the Korean people.

Continuous innovation, continuous advance

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Powerful strength absolute guarantee of peace and prosperity

By Choe Song Jun PT

It is the common and consistent aspirations of humankind to pursue independent development and prosperity in a peaceful and stable environment free from aggression and interference. But they are now facing serious challenges.

In the present world where only the strong can defend its dignity and honour and only victory can prove the validity of its cause, peace and prosperity are nothing but a mirage, if they are not on the firm basis of powerful military strength.

If you do not want to be the slave of the imperialists who are growing more outrageous, you must build your great military strength.

Aggression and war are an indispensable companion of imperialism and as long as imperialism remains in the world, the danger of war will never

disappear.

The imperialists are apt to mobilize huge armed forces to put military pressure on small and weak countries. They do not hesitate to trigger wars and armed conflicts against the weak. And they try to threaten the great powers that they think would be a challenge to them by enlisting the force of alliance.

Their main purpose is to bring other countries under their control with the help of their military strength and dominate the world.

American history shows that the word "war" has long coexisted with the word "hegemony". Even after WWII, the US staged many big and small wars, including those in Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq. War has become the primary means of the US that aims to plunder and dominate the world.

For the world supremacy, the US operated the huge military industry and formed an extensive

network of military bases throughout the planet. Since 1945, it has built hundreds of them in over 80 countries and regions. And it deployed lots of forces and weaponry for attack such as aircraft carrier, stealth fighter and strategic nuclear submarine across the world. Also in the Asia-Pacific region it reinforces its troops and rallies vassal forces to pose military threats to the regional countries.

Weak military strength cannot prevent aggression and war moves by the imperialists. It was proved by the invasion of Grenada and Panama in the 1980s, air raid on Yugoslavia in the 1990s and military invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq in the first decade of the 21st century all committed by the US.

It is as good as inviting self-destruction to try to defend yourself by pinning hope on the "good will" of the imperialists or by depending on other's strength.

In the present world where strength violently crashes into one another and victory and defeat are decided by strength, a country with feeble military strength becomes the weak and a target of aggression and plunder by the imperialists.

The imperialists neither present peace and prosperity to the peoples of other countries nor want them to live freely. They only try to force them into doing what they want.

There are such examples in the present as well as in the past. We should not think that today's indiscriminate ravages of war in the Middle East are a matter of no concern to us.

Only when they build up their own strength and fight against the imperialists, can countries and nations defend their sovereignty and dignity and achieve economic growth.

Great military strength is the genuine peace and the absolute guarantee of prosperity.

'International judge' criticized for impudent interference

KCNA

The US is paying a high price for its impudent interference styling itself "international judge" which no one recognizes.

On September 12 the US imposed new sanctions on close confidant officials of President Maduro on the pretext of "disturbing election and violating human rights" in Venezuela.

The sanctions list reportedly involved 16 officials including the president of Supreme Court, leaders of national security forces and prosecutors.

This is not all.

Earlier, the US unhesitatingly seized a Venezuelan plane in Dominica on a charge of "violation of sanctions".

Lurking behind all these acts is the sinister intention to dominate Latin America by stamping out the Bolivarian revolution in Venezuela which advances under the banner of independence against the US and setting up a pro-US government.

Since an opposition party candidate lost and President Maduro was re-elected in the presidential election of Venezuela in July this year, the US has made desperate moves to spark anti-government violent demonstrations and isolate and stifle the country, groundlessly denying the election results.

Shortly ago, the US revealed its inveterate habit again when a Honduran military delegation visited Venezuela.

Referring to the talks held between the defence ministers of the two countries, the US ambassador to Honduras told TV journalists that he was surprised that the Honduran military officials met "drug traffickers", expressing his "concern".

This is a clear revelation of the American-style gangster-like doctrine that the "superpower" can interfere in the internal affairs of a small country and infringe upon its sovereignty.

No matter how desperately the US resorts to pressure, threat and blackmail while interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, it can never suppress the aspirations and demand of mankind for dynamically advancing along the road of independent development and prosperity.

Denouncing the US for resorting to brazen-faced and illegal interference and sanctions in utter disregard of the right to self-determination and democratic will of its people, the Venezuelan government expressed its will to get a compensation for the damage caused by the US sanctions.

The Honduran government also strongly reacted to the US interference in internal affairs.

The president of the country said that he could not tolerate the US meddling and interventionism and its attempt to control Honduran politics, while its foreign minister stated that it constitutes a direct threat to the independence and sovereignty of the country to besmirch its dignity by connecting it with drug smugglers or having a sly dig at it.

The Honduran government clarified its stand to resolutely abrogate the treaty on the repatriation of runaway prisoners with the US which gives it an excuse for interference in internal affairs.

The US deserves the sound slashing of justice of the international community as it pursues the daydream of the bygone days when it fattened on aggression and plunder, in disregard of the present era aspiring after independence.

Nose tomb calls for revenge

By Choe Yong Nam PT

There is a nose tomb in Kyoto, Japan.

Coming into being in September 1597, the tomb reportedly contains the noses of 214 752 people.

The tomb shows a distress-torn history of the Korean people caused by brutal atrocities committed by Japan in the period of the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598).

The Japanese, who had long stepped up preparations for an aggressive war against Korea, invaded the country all of a sudden by committing huge troops in April 1592.

Toyotomi Hideyoshi, chieftain of the invasion of Korea at that time, ordered troops to cut the necks of other peoples, ranging from young and old, men and women, to monks and send them to Japan, saying that he wanted to make a neck tomb of other nations in a seven-point notification. And later he made sure that ears or noses were cut, saying the head is too heavy.

Toyotomi told his henchmen: "Each soldier should cut the nose of Koreans in place of their heads as every human has two ears and one nose. I allow each soldier to capture enemies alive only after collecting a doe (about 1.8 litres) of noses."

Accordingly, the Japanese aggressors recognized the military exploits of their soldiers with the amount of noses cut from the Koreans.

According to historical records, in the early winter of 1592, the first year of war, the Japanese invaders sent the left ears and noses of more than 70 Korean soldiers in Kangwon Province to Toyotomi in Japan and received a letter of thanks, and in July 1597 when they occupied Sachon, they cut 38 717 ears or noses of the Korean people and sent to Japan by containing them in ten-odd wooden boxes. There is a historical record that a Japanese general called Nabeshima and his son cut some 4 660 ears and noses of the Korean people.

The Japanese murderers killed all the Koreans they met and cut their noses to send them to nose collecting officers in order to perform "distinguished military exploits". They even cut noses of live Koreans. As a result, there were reportedly many noseless people in Korea after the Imjin Patriotic War was over.

Even today, this nose tomb is being used as a means of heightening a sense of superiority of the Yamato nation, national chauvinism and wild ambition for overseas aggression.

The Korean people sternly watch Japan which behaves impudently buoyed by the wild ambition for the reinvasion of other countries, far from making an apology and reparations for its sinful past, and harden their will to take vengeance on it without fail.

Briefly

Russia

President underlines importance of women's role

Russian President Vladimir Putin referred to the issue of women's role in his speech at the Fourth Eurasian Women's Forum held in St Petersburg, Russia, on September 18.

He said that women, who have reached a high level in creative, business, intellectual, humanitarian and enlightenment activities, are now present in the forum and the prestige of the forum continuously gets higher as their experience is of great significance in the world.

The state policy is being established in Russia on the basis of the strategy of state activities for the interests of women and necessary measures are being taken to make women succeed in their work and, at the same time, become guardians of families and genuine centripetal points of their large families, he said.

Iran

Islamic revolution leader calls for severing ties with Israel

Seyed Ali Khamenei, leader of Iran's Islamic revolution, called on Islamic countries to cut off economic relations with Israel on September 21.

Criticizing Israel for committing brutal crimes in the Gaza Strip, West Bank and Lebanon, he asserted that they could overthrow the Zionist regime and remove the US interference in the area, if the Islamic countries enlist internal forces.

Lebanon

Prime Minister calls for controlling Israel's aggression

The prime minister of Lebanon at the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 19 called on the UN to take a firm stand and impose restraint in order to put an end to Israel's aggression and technical war against his country.

He said that a UNSC meeting will be convened at the request of the government of his country, stressing the need for the UNSC to take a firm stand to stop the Israel's war aimed at the extermination of Lebanon.

The primary duty of the international community is to deter Israel from its acts of aggression, he said, declaring that this is related to not only Lebanon but also the whole mankind.

UN

Resolution adopted at UN General Assembly to end Israeli occupation of Palestine

A resolution was adopted on September 18 at the UN General Assembly to demand the end of Israeli occupation of Palestine within 12 months.

The resolution reportedly won overwhelming support at the 10th emergency special session of the UN General Assembly on Israel's wrongdoings in the occupied Palestinian territory including East Al-Quds.

The resolution demanded Israel fulfil its legal duty assigned by international law.



A visit to Mt Myohyang, a superb scenic beauty

Fantastic rocks, spectacular waterfalls and fragrant foliage lure tourists

By Pang Un Ju PT

Mt Myohyang is not only a celebrated mountain of Korea but also a world-famous mountain. With unique and graceful physical features, it is blessed with many trees giving off lingering scent all the year round, as its lovely name suggests.

Shortly ago, I visited the mountain along with tourists to cover its charming scenery.

Our cicerone said the mountain, which has been called Eighty-Four Thousand Peaks from ancient times, evokes pleasant mood as everything there goes well with each other, ranging from the magnificent and curious-looking peaks to delicate rocks, deep valleys, high cliffs, crystal-clear

water and waterfalls, thick forests, beautiful autumnal tints, murmurs of streams and chirps of birds. Listening to her explanation, we headed for the area of Sangwon Valley.

We went through the Sangwon Gate, which was said to have come into being as a rock rolled down on an existing rock in the rainy season over 40 years ago, and climbed up for a while and there appeared the Sangwon water site.

According to the cicerone, in the place where a poet of old days composed an impromptu poem as the water was so clean, a foreign businessman said that there he was relieved of all fatigue and aftereffects of pollution he had suffered from for more than 60 years, adding

that if the clear water and air were sold in his country in plastic bags, it would bring in handsome profits. Her remarks provoked the laughter of all tourists.

After a long climb through forests, we arrived at Inho Rock commanding a breathtaking view which is known as one of the eight scenes of Mt Myohyang.

The cicerone told us that it is rare in the world to find such a place which commands the scenery of peaks and valleys of Mt Myohyang and three different waterfalls.

On the rock, everything looked like a picture, ranging from Ryongyon Falls, which look like a dragon wriggling up to the sky, to Sanju Falls, which pours down millions of pearl-like water drops, Chonsin Falls, which remind you of the silk raiment of fairies from heaven, Pobwang, Oson and many other peaks, which are called Myriad-shaped Peaks of Mt Myohyang, and many other things at the foot

of the mountain including the International Friendship Exhibition House.

Opposite Inho Rock is Sangwon Hermitage.

Built in 1580, the hermitage boasts of not only the long history but also the surrounding scenery which has been referred to as "Golden Palace in Heaven".

The following day, we went to Manphok Valley renowned for waterfalls.

The valley was named in the sense that it has as many as ten thousand waterfalls since crystal-clear water from Hyangro Peak forms so many waterfalls and ponds as it strikes rocks and cascades down.

There are Sogok Falls named thus meaning the prelude to a "symphony" of ten thousand waterfalls, Murung Falls which were named by comparing it to an earthly paradise alive with peach blossoms, Pison Falls which rock the valley with the sound of millions of "beads" flowing down

vertically and Kuchung Falls cascading down the nine tiers on the rock lying obliquely, where the scenery contest between the waterfalls comes to a climax.

While trekking around Manphok Valley, we also relished the challenge of climbing steep cliffs and rocks.

As I passed below a large rock whose one side is raised like a hat, while stepping on rock grooves holding on to safety chains, I felt a thrill as I feared that the rock might collapse in an instant.

The following day, my fatigue vanished without trace, thanks to the clear water and air of Mt Myohyang and we hiked to the area of Hyangbiro Peak which is the highest in the mountain.

The cicerone said that the trek to Hyangbiro Peak might be an impressive long tour which we could savour the real taste of sightseeing because the terrain there is the most steep and rugged in the mountain.

After passing through the primitive forests, the Piro Gate resting place, Turtle Rock and Sochon Falls, we toured the area of Chonthae Valley. We felt the fantastic pleasure of floating on clouds on Paegun Rock, the best place to have the sight of peaks in the mountain, and enjoyed the exquisite view of "scarlet-tinged leaves from Paegun Rock", one of the eight scenes of Mt Myohyang.

There, we scaled precipitous cliffs to reach the top of Jingwi Peak where rare alpine plants are said to grow in large numbers, before reaching the summit of Hyangbiro Peak 1 909 metres above sea level.

We could feel once again the beauty of Mt Myohyang blessed with unsurpassed scenery on the peak offering the superb view of the magnificent and graceful mountain boasting many picturesque peaks.

The days in the mountain will remain as a lingering fond memory.

DPRK players win two bronze medals at acrobatic gymnastics world championship

KCNA

DPRK players Ri Hyo Song and Ro Hye Song took third place in the mixed

pair balance and the mixed pair combined of the 29th FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championship held in Portugal.



Ulmil Pavilion

By Choe Yong Nam PT

There are a lot of famous historical relics in Moran Hill, a scenic beauty of Pyongyang.

Among them is the Ulmil Pavilion.

In the mid-6th century Koguryo, the first feudal state of Korea that existed between 277 BC and AD 668, built the keep of the Walled City of Pyongyang, and the pavilion was constructed as the general's terrace at the northern wall.

On the pavilion, you can see the beautiful scenery of Pyongyang.

