

Eighth Enlarged Meeting of Eighth WPK Central Military Commission held

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sets forth important principles to be consistently maintained by Party committees at all levels in army in implementing Party's military line and policies in conformity with their mission and duty as political general staff and supreme leadership organ of relevant units and all tasks facing them

KCNA

The Eighth Enlarged Meeting of the Eighth Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea was held at the headquarters building of the WPK Central Committee on May 28.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided the meeting.

Present there were members of the WPK Central Military Commission and, as observers, leading

commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, military and political commanding officers of the large combined units at all levels of the Korean People's Army and officials of relevant departments of the WPK Central Committee.

The meeting discussed the important issues of exercising tight control and guidance so that all military and political activities of the DPRK armed forces are thoroughly conducted as required by



the Party's military line and policies by further strengthening the functions and roles of the political organs at all levels in the armed forces organs in keeping with the new stage of the developing revolution and of establishing more firmly the revolutionary command system and steel-like discipline system.

Saying that only when the roles of the Party organizations and political organs at all levels which perform the functions of the helm in realizing the guidance of

the Party Central Committee over the army are steadily enhanced, can all the problems arising in the army building and military activities be successfully solved, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un set forth the important principles to be consistently maintained by the Party committees at all levels in the army in implementing the Party's military line and policies in conformity with their mission and duty as the political general staff and supreme leadership organ of the

relevant units and all tasks facing them.

The organizational matter was discussed at the meeting.

The WPK Central Military Commission appointed six commanding officers of corps-level units, the director of the Artillery Bureau and the director of the Security Bureau and dispatched some political commissars.

The meeting discussed the issue of powerfully pushing ahead with major construction projects of political and military significance and gave relevant assignments.

On the basis of an analysis of the situation related to the national security, it discussed and decided on military measures for

firmly maintaining the strategic and tactical superiority in all aspects.

It also approved and assigned a series of new construction projects in the fields of defence science and industry.

The meeting made an important conclusion on the orientation and immediate tasks for the enhancement of the national defence capabilities and for the military and political activities of the armed forces of the DPRK.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un oversees firing contest of artillery sub-units of large combined units of KPA

KCNA

A firing contest among artillery sub-units of large combined units of the Korean People's Army was conducted on May 29 amid the intensive combat training for implementing the line of the Workers' Party of Korea on building a powerful army in the new era, which is aimed at attaining the strongest military

People's Republic of Korea, oversaw the artillery firing contest.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

He was greeted on the spot by No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the



capability, being organized and enforced in the entire army.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic

DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the KPA, Jong Kyong Thaek, director of the General Political Bureau of the KPA, and other commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence

and military and political commanding officers of large combined units of the KPA.

The commanders of the front-line large combined units commanded the firing.

The artillery sub-units at all levels that participated in the contest fully demonstrated the skillful artillery firing techniques they have consolidated through intensive training true to the Party's training-first policy.

Kim Jong Un praised the artillery sub-units for demonstrating the perfect actual war capability of the artillery of the KPA, which is preparing itself in full combat readiness to be matchless combat ranks that can fight any time and surely win if they fight a war. He positively appreciated that a scientific combat training system has been thoroughly established in the entire army and qualitative changes are taking place in strengthening the war capability of the artillery in conformity with the developing aspects and changing trend of modern warfare.

He said it is very important to frequently organize firing contests in a simulation of an actual warfare in training the artillerymen into all-round and a-match-for-a-hundred ones capable of directly hitting the target at any time and in any situation. He stressed once again that prioritizing and intensifying training are an expression of absolute loyalty to the Party, the revolution, the country and the people and making the highest degree of demand on training is the shortcut to building up a powerful army.

He expressed expectation and belief that the units at all levels of the entire army would train all the service personnel into heroes in training and combat, possessed of strong spiritual strength, stubborn will, great ability and high qualifications for an actual war, by thoroughly applying the spirit of the seventh conference of the training officers in the military activities and thus firmly guarantee the comprehensive development of the DPRK by force of arms.

Kim Jong Un Let Us Write a New Great Chapter in the History of the Movement of Koreans in Japan by Carrying Forward the Patriotic Spirit of the Founder Generation

Letter to the Officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and
Other Compatriots on the Occasion of Its 70th Founding Anniversary
May 25, 2025

Esteemed officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon),
Dear compatriots resident in Japan,
Having traversed a road of patriotism with the

honourable appellation and dignity of being a prototype of overseas compatriots' organizations in the world, Chongryon has greeted the 70th anniversary of its founding.

Over the many decades since the day when it was founded, flying high the national flag of the Democratic

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People's Republic of Korea and demonstrating the spirit and mettle of indomitable Korea at the centre of a capitalist country, Chongryon has left indelible imprints in history, sharing its destiny with the motherland.

In the swirling vortex of history Chongryon and Koreans resident in Japan stoutly followed the road of the national movement of patriotism from one century into the next and from one generation into the next linking their destiny to that of their dear homeland. Their merits shine resplendently in the history of the Juche-oriented movement of overseas compatriots.

On this significant occasion of the founding anniversary of Chongryon I pay ennobling tribute to Comrades Han Tok Su, Ri Jin Gyu, So Man Sul, Ri Kye Baek, Ri Sim Chol, Yun Tok Gon, Kim Un Sun, Pak Jong Hyon, Ro Jae Ho and other first-generation officials of Chongryon and other known and unknown Korean activists in Japan, who founded the dignified entity—Chongryon—pioneering the thorny path of the Juche-oriented movement of Koreans in Japan in the vanguard under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

I also offer my warm congratulations and encouragement to Chairman Ho Jong Man, First Vice-Chairman Pak Ku Ho and other officials who, witnessing the historical development of Chongryon, have worked with devotion in the vanguard of its patriotic struggle, and to all the officials of its grass-roots organizations who, living most closely with our compatriots, have formed ties of kinship with them and are looking after them with sincerity by carrying forward the soul of the preceding generations.

My heartfelt thanks go to Chongryon's educationalists and all other compatriots who, without any selfish motive and without seeking any reward, are making earnest efforts to develop national education under the difficult circumstances in the alien land.

In addition, I extend my best wishes to the students at Korea University and our lovely schoolchildren in Japan, who are applying themselves to their studies as they cherish the mission and desire of adding lustre to the honour and history of Chongryon.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I express my deep thanks to the Japanese conscientious people and sponsors for actively supporting and sincerely helping Chongryon in its righteous activities.

I am pleased that in celebration of this day when Chongryon's history grabs the limelight, I, on behalf of the government of our Republic and the people in the homeland, extend congratulations to all the compatriots in Japan and look back upon Chongryon's proud path with deep emotion.

The fact is itself a miracle that over the past seven decades, following the same path as trodden by their beloved homeland, our compatriots in Japan have overcome the vicissitudes of history on an alien land where national discrimination and inequality are rampant.

This would be something of a surprise to the world, which is hardly believable, yet it has been possible because our compatriots in Japan have such a patriotic body as Chongryon.

Since the word diaspora was coined, there have existed overseas compatriots' organizations of all hues on this planet. However, there has been no body like Chongryon, a body which boasts its great ideas and traditions, solid organizational structure, masses of the patriotic compatriots and well-regulated system of national education.

The founding of Chongryon, which brought about a significant change in the life of our compatriots in Japan, was a historic event signifying that, having suffered a

miserable lot as people of a weak colonized country, they finally settled down in the embrace of their genuine homeland.

With the founding of Chongryon, they had a powerful organization which, on behalf of their homeland, defends their dignity, rights and interests on the alien land, and they also had the high honour of being members of the Republic's first Juche-oriented overseas compatriots' organization.

More precious than anything is the fact that the original ideals and spirit cherished by the founder generation at the dawn of the historic event—founding of Chongryon—are being faithfully carried forward by the later generations without the slightest vacillation.

The compatriots of the first generation have all gone, who, led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, blazed the trail in the movement of Koreans in Japan, and only a few of the second generation are alive, who, led by the great General Kim Jong Il, went against all odds to defend Chongryon.

The people of the third generation have already become grandparents, who were born in the heyday of Chongryon and added glory to their youth by enthusiastically working on the foreign land for the sake of their homeland that was overcoming difficulties in the 90s of last century.

Though many things may change with the passage of time, there is something that must never be weakened or lost; it is the original ideals and spirit that were held aloft in the initial days of Chongryon's founding and that must be unswervingly carried forward.

Even though time goes by, these original ideals and the exploits performed by the forerunners must never be forgotten and their patriotic spirit and mettle must be steadfastly carried forward.

The greatest of the exploits achieved by the founder generation of Chongryon is that they created the traditions of loyalty, unity and love for their country and nation on the alien land.

In retrospect, perhaps no overseas compatriots must have been as fervent as ours in Japan, in their wish for human dignity and a powerful nation.

The present-day generations can hardly imagine without the help of TV screens or books the misery the poor Koreans suffered during the years of national distress, the misery of the first and second generations of Korean residents in Japan who were taken to the foreign land and subjected to slavery, which they regarded as their inescapable fate even when they were faced with death for no reason—this was all because they were deprived of their own country.

That was why they put absolute trust in the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and followed him, regarding him as the peerless patriot and saviour of the nation, as he had liberated the country through an arduous 20-year-long struggle after he declared death-defying resistance against the Japanese imperialists.

As they kept such absolute trust in the father of the nation, the first generation of Chongryon courageously crossed the raging East Sea aboard a small boat to celebrate the founding of the DPRK; they did not hesitate to give up their lives to hoist our sacred national flag; and they readily chose to visit Pyongyang to get advice when the movement of Koreans in Japan was at the crossroads of rise and fall.

Under the care of the great leaders, the founder generation of Chongryon created the traditions of unity and patriotism, thus laying the foundations for a harmonious and powerful Korean community and ushering in a brilliant heyday of Chongryon.

What still vividly reminds the people in the homeland

of the image of Chongryon is the compatriots from Japan who were setting foot on the benevolent homeland with tears of excitement with the national flag in their hands, structures named after the patriotic-minded Korean businesspeople in Japan, and a stream of members of the Korean Youth League in Japan who were running with a red letter of loyalty to the homeland.

As the founder generation bequeathed their descendants such precious traditions as their spiritual heritage, Chongryon has been able to firmly maintain its intrinsic and original features for so long even in the face of all sorts of tempests.

The founder generation of Chongryon waged a courageous struggle to defend the dignity, rights and interests of the Koreans in the whirlwind of national chauvinism that was charged with hatred and prejudice against other nations.

As their dignity, rights and interests directly meant the national pride that was the last thing for them to concede, the preceding generations never stopped the struggle in defence of their rights and interests, and handed over bitter lessons and precious traditions as the heritage.

Recorded in the history of the movement of Koreans in Japan as laudable patriotic deeds are what the preceding generations performed to the admiration of all the people across the world, typically the April 24 struggle for education, the hoisting of our national flag at Sendai, the grand mass gymnastics performance—in which a huge national flag of the DPRK was flown—staged for the first time in the history of overseas compatriots' movement, and even the creation of an opera. This helped the unyielding and indomitable spirit of the Korean people be better known to the whole world.

The proud appearance of the sturdy and robust Chongryon with its organizations, ranging from the central to the lowest-level ones, mass organizations of different strata, affiliates, bodies and bases for national education, is a good indication of how indomitable the Koreans are.

The Korean compatriots are still continuing their struggle to instil the spirit of the Korean nation into the mind of their children, refusing to accept assimilation and naturalization.

Outstanding among the achievements made by the founder generation of Chongryon is that they created a model of history and tradition of national education.

The history of the movement of Koreans in Japan is that of national education, and the secure succession of the patriotic cause of Chongryon is unthinkable separated from the spirit of boundless devotion displayed by its founder generation for national education.

As they had cherished even in the rough storms of the time the dream of having their children go to school, the Koreans in Japan began to build schools after the liberation of their homeland before they engaged in the building of organizations.

The bell of our schools could be heard in different parts of Japan, instilling the Korean soul and spirit anew in the mind of the compatriots. It was the sound of patriotism that aroused national consciousness in them.

Chongryon's national education stands historic witness—through the substantial entities of the Korean schools as well as the students who are growing up happily and admirably as dignified Koreans even in the alien land—to what sort of legendary tales are written by those who love the younger generations and devote themselves to the good of the future.

Whenever I am told about Chongryon officials and other compatriots who, without vacillating in the face

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of difficulties and trials, dauntlessly push ahead with patriotic undertakings in capitalist Japan while building up its organizational foundations rock-solid, I am proud of Chongryon and, at the same time, feel my heart swelling with respect for the founder generation of Chongryon who unyieldingly cleared the path untrodden by overseas citizens in any other countries.

The brilliant history of Chongryon will continue forever, since the traditions established by the founder generation in the face of the worst-ever difficulties, not in a peaceful environment or under affluent conditions, serve as the invaluable paving stones on the road of patriotism to be followed by the coming generations.

Carrying forward the traditions means inheriting the spirit and creating a more wonderful history.

The patriotic traditions bequeathed by the founder generation of Chongryon are not merely recorded in history book; they are permeated in the spirit of their descendants who have assumed the mission of carrying them forward, and also mirrored in the appearance of the community of compatriots they are building up.

Steadily stepping up the education in the history and traditions of the movement of Koreans in Japan and prioritizing the training of the younger generations and making strenuous efforts to this end—these are all aimed at providing a sure guarantee for carrying forward the ideas and spirit of Chongryon.

Our Party and state, just as they have done in the past decades, attach importance to Chongryon and work to defend it and consolidate its position, maintaining doing so as an invariable strategic task and a consistent principle.

On the occasion of the Eighth Party Congress, in reflection of the will of the millions of Party members, we ensured that the items dealing with how to defend our overseas compatriots' national rights and interests are stipulated in the Rules of the Workers' Party of Korea. Also, for the first time in the legislation history of the Republic, the law on championing the rights and interests of overseas compatriots was promulgated. This is a manifestation of the unshakable will of our Party and government to remain faithful to their mission as eternal guardians of the Koreans in Japan and other overseas compatriots.

In the future, too, we will do everything in our power to defend Chongryon's legitimate rights befitting an overseas compatriots' organization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and bring greater dignity and glory to the Koreans in Japan.

As an authoritative overseas compatriots' organization of our Republic, Chongryon has a proud history spanning seven decades. However, it should not rest content with the strenuous efforts it has made so far nor mark time. Filled with redoubled courage and stamina, it should ensure that the glorious history of patriotism continues for a hundred, nay a thousand years.

With the coming decade till its 80th founding anniversary set as a new struggle period, it should achieve substantial progress in developing itself into a body that puts our compatriots first and serves them faithfully.

Chongryon, while steadily taking each year's development step in the new struggle period, should defend the rights and interests of the compatriots, bring up the new generation well and zealously preserve the national identity in the compatriots' community.

Defending the rights and interests, bringing up the new generation and preserving the national identity are the three major undertakings it should consistently hold fast to.

Setting it as a task of top priority to defend the national

rights and interests of the compatriots, it should wage a bold struggle and thus achieve successful results without fail.

Since the country's liberation, Koreans in Japan have waged a struggle without letup to defend their democratic national rights and interests, but still infringed upon are their core interests such as the rights to be educated, conduct business and travel freely to their homeland.

The persisting, heartbreaking situation is that our compatriots cannot travel freely to their homeland, and the remaining tragic hard fact is that though they fulfil their obligation to pay taxes like Japanese citizens, their sons and daughters are excluded from the application of such education systems as "free high schooling" or "programme for free education and upbringing of children."

We cannot leave their life and future threatened in this vicious circle of discrimination.

With its congresses as the starting points, Chongryon should expand its struggle stage by stage to defend the rights and interests, thus substantially providing the compatriots with more stable and improved rights to existence and development.

The first and foremost right and interest it should defend and expand is none other than the right to national education.

In view of the need to raise the quality of education and provide the sons and daughters of the compatriots with a stable educational environment, this right constitutes the supreme right and interest Chongryon must never concede.

It should continue to expand and develop its struggle for defending national education, which encapsulates the common interests of all families of compatriots and take measures for lightening the parents' burden of school fees for their children, so that there are no clouds in their young hearts.

It should regain all the rights plundered and infringed upon, including the right to national education, and, if it is an issue related to the dignity and life of the compatriots, it must resolve it without fail, in disregard of its importance, by waging an all-out struggle of the compatriots.

It should not make even a slightest concession to but resolutely oppose such infringements upon the right to business as unwarranted intervention, restriction and national discrimination imposed on the activities of the Korean businessmen in Japan, and steadily push forward with its work for promoting the interests of the compatriots' businesses.

Chongryon, as the forerunners conducted an unflinching struggle to open a sea route to their homeland and resolutely safeguarded it, should organize and wage an undaunted joint action and joint struggle involving all the compatriots so as to make sure that the vigorous whistle for travelling to and from their homeland resounds again across the East Sea.

It should make efforts to defend its legitimate and just national rights so as to rally more compatriots into the organization and deepen friendship and amity with the Japanese people, thus providing on its own initiative a favourable environment for its activities.

It should firmly guarantee a rosy future of the movement of Koreans in Japan by bringing up younger generations, who will carry forward the baton of its patriotic cause, to be lively, cheerful and upright.

Excellent as the history and traditions may be, if a generation is not prepared to take them over, the withering away of the organization itself is inevitable, not to mention their inheritance.

The homeland attaches as much importance to the Conference of Mothers and the Congress of the Korean

Children's Union as to the Party Congress just to bring up younger generations as reliable successors to the revolution and thus lay a solid foundation for its bright future.

Early in January I met members of the art troupe of Korean schoolchildren in Japan, who took part in the New Year performance. It was because I wanted them to be true successors to the patriotic cause in leading the coming generations of Chongryon, and to emphasize once again the importance of training of the new generation in this year that will constitute a watershed in the history of Chongryon.

Chongryon should put much effort in national education to bring up its next generation to be patriotic, excellent, sound and responsible.

What is important in national education is to enlist more children of the compatriots in the regular education network involving Korean schools, and help them learn our language, both written and spoken, and national culture to cultivate patriotism in their mind, and grow up soundly amid the concern of the compatriots' community.

In recent years, owing to the decreasing number of children caused by the falling birth rate prevalent in Japan, lack of funds and the like, not a few Korean schools are experiencing difficulties. Chongryon should acquaint itself in detail with the conditions of our schools and lend an ear to the compatriots' opinions to take appropriate and timely measures.

To turn every Korean school into an ideal learning space for the children of the compatriots and an excellent space for training men—this is an important goal to be attained by national education.

What is the main thing here is the strengthening of the foundations for education in Korea University.

Next year the university will greet the 70th anniversary of its establishment.

Chongryon should readjust and reform the system of education on a rational basis as required by the reality of the movement of Koreans in Japan and the global trend of educational development and bring about an eye-opening change in the efforts to create the student-centred conditions for teaching, studying and living. By doing so, it can develop Korea University into a prestigious university which every Korean student in Japan wants to enrol at.

Korean schools at all levels should pay close concern not only to education work but also to the edification of their students.

The edification of students for their sound development is more important than imparting knowledge to them, so their school life and activities in the children's union organization and in the Korean Youth League in Japan should be organized to provide them with active and positive opportunities for arousing and fostering love for their country and nation.

The organizations of Chongryon and our compatriots should put their heart and soul into training the new generations, regarding it as their principal task and part of their responsibility.

Whenever we provide all the schoolchildren here with new uniforms and schoolbags every year, and whenever we renovate schools in different parts of the country, we are reminded of the lovely faces of the cute Korean schoolchildren in Japan.

All the organizations of Chongryon and the community of our compatriots, as teachers, parents and sponsors, should take good care of these schoolchildren, who represent the future of the patriotic cause, doing their best to ensure that they grow up to be always dignified

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and courageous.

Maternal care is fundamental to building a rosy future for the organizations of Chongryon and the community of our compatriots.

I hope that, as befitting stout and upright mothers of Korea, our women in Japan brave all manner of difficulties and work hard for the rejuvenation of national education, thereby translating their children's beautiful dreams into reality and opening up a bright future for them.

We are planning to invite our Korean mothers and students in Japan to the upcoming Conference of Mothers and Congress of the Korean Children's Union, so that they can swap precious experience with the mothers and students here and discuss their work plans to map out a rosy future for Chongryon by themselves.

For the community of our compatriots, national identity is the common denominator in consolidating their harmony, unity and kinship and encouraging them to turn out in the patriotic cause.

Chongryon should ensure that all the compatriots, by carrying forward the excellent baton of preserving the Korean national identity, conduct a national cultural movement, so that all the places in which they live are pulsating with the soul of our nation.

This movement should, to all intents and purposes, focus on giving the new generations a better understanding of the time-honoured history and brilliant culture of the Korean nation and its ennobling manners and customs, and on encouraging them to add glory to them.

Chongryon should form an association for the dissemination of national culture and other non-permanent organizations by enlisting the compatriots who treasure our fine national traits. By doing so, it can expand the dissemination and propagation of our national traditions in an all-round way, and it can thus ward off national assimilation and reform, which are a hindrance to preserving the national identity, and strengthen the roots of the community of our compatriots.

The organizations of art and literature should be active in conducting creative and artistic activities, thus leading the community of compatriots in preserving their national identity.

The Kumgangsán Opera Troupe and the song and dance troupes in the regions, true to the intentions of the artistes of the preceding generations, should conduct creative and artistic activities to inspire their fellow compatriots with national feelings and rouse them to the patriotic movement. By doing so, they can ensure that all the places where our compatriots live are alive with our national sentiments.

Along with the activities of these art troupes, the activities of various literary and artistic groups and different styles of cultural and artistic festivals should be promoted. This will usher in a new era when the art and culture of Chongryon are further flourishing.

The mass-based cultural and sporting activities, which are a major factor in consolidating the unity among compatriots, should be encouraged to inject vigour and vitality into their struggle to preserve the national identity.

Chongryon should organize traditional sports games and other various sporting activities to strengthen the unity among compatriots. It should also be effective in training excellent Korean sportspersons in Japan to rank among the Republic's national team members, so that they can demonstrate the spirit of our nation and have our national flag hoisted in international competitions.

The new struggle period of Chongryon requires redoubled courage and firm resolve corresponding with it.

The masses of the compatriots are responsible for writing a new great chapter in the history of the movement of Koreans in Japan by carrying forward the ideals and spirit of the founder generation.

As the banner guiding Chongryon in its work, the compatriots-first principle highlights the need for its officials to work with devotion for the sake of compatriots, yet it also implies that compatriots themselves should be responsible for Chongryon's work.

Koreans in Japan are the foundations of Chongryon and a source of inexhaustible strength of patriotism.

Mindful of the fact that not only Chongryon officials but they themselves are responsible for its work, all the compatriots should play the role of masters in pushing ahead with the movement of Koreans in Japan.

Success in the new struggle period for strengthening Chongryon entirely depends on the role of its officials.

Chongryon officials experience more difficulties than anybody else in the Korean community, and this reminds me of the words hard-fought battle in spite of myself.

One step backward, and they can live for their own wellbeing, but true to the pledge they made to the homeland and organization, they are devoting themselves for the compatriots whether they are appreciated or not and even though they are sometimes misunderstood by the people closest to them. These patriots of patriots are our Chongryon officials.

Cherishing the expectations and trust of the homeland and organization, Chongryon officials should invariably follow the road of devotion for the compatriots, comparing themselves with the preceding generations who fought courageously without giving up their faith and principle on the road of patriotism.

The founder generation, who were infinitely honest with the compatriots and regarded resolving the difficulties facing them as their natural mission and pride, devoted their all for the latter's rights, interests and safety; they were their faithful and devoted servants.

Chongryon officials should embrace the compatriots of all descriptions and show them their sincerity with the ennobling moral traits, warm humanity and motherly love as befits officials of the Juche-oriented overseas compatriots' organization, which were possessed by the founder generation.

They should strictly guard against any slightest affectation or formalistic elements in their work with the compatriots, and become competent workers with novel and seasoned work method and style, wide-ranging practical abilities and activity.

I would like to request all Chongryon officials once again.

I hope that you will regard your lofty title of Chongryon official as the greatest honour bestowed on you and become genuine servants, blood relations of the compatriots, who devote your all for them and make tireless efforts for their wellbeing.

I also would like to make a request to the always grateful family members of Chongryon officials.

For our Chongryon officials who are working devotedly for the unity and interests of the Korean community with their family affairs left behind, warm support from their dear families is a great encouragement.

I ask you family members sincerely to take good care of their health on my behalf and share the same intentions and feelings with them, so that the words "It fares well with a harmonious family" in the Korean community sound in your families first.

Chongryon organization should constantly educate and lead all its officials and other compatriots to become genuine Koreans possessed of the spirit of patriotism and the Korean-nation-first principle.

As the strategic position of our Republic is rising

radically and the pride of our nation is being inspired more than ever before, it should push forward more effectively and proactively with education in patriotism in combination with the education in the Korean-nation-first principle.

It should arrange visits to their homeland on several occasions so that the compatriots including the rising generations can witness the development of their homeland with their own eyes. In this way it can turn the visits into an essential process in their mental cultivation and growth for training themselves to become perfect patriots.

The country we are going to build and defend is a powerful country, in which not only the people in the homeland but also the Koreans resident in Japan and all other overseas Korean compatriots live in comfort, harmony and good health, enjoying self-respect that no one would dispute.

Having always attached primary importance to the peaceful life of overseas Koreans, the government of our Republic will protect and defend all the Korean people on the strength of the sure guarantee for the defence of the national sovereignty and absolute mightiness, and on this road will perform its responsibility to the end.

Whoever are worried about their homeland and compatriots' community and care for them even a little, keeping in mind that they are Koreans by origin, we will embrace, defend and take care of them as members of our great nation irrespective of their nationalities, and ensure that they enjoy the same prestige and honour of the powerful country with us.

Mindful at all times of the fact that behind them is always their powerful homeland, the DPRK, Chongryon officials and other Koreans resident in Japan should pioneer their life and future proudly and imposingly with their heads held high and support their motherland and Chongryon organization with a pure mind.

Chongryon should pay special attention to ensuring that all its officials, compatriots and rising generations love and defend to the last the community of compatriots, organizations of Chongryon and Korean schools, the cradles of their life.

In particular, it should intensify education of the newly-emerging generation to train them as fully-fledged masters of the movement of Koreans in Japan in the new era. In this way, they can help them take a proactive part in defending the rights and interests of the Korean community and strengthening Chongryon organization with a deep attachment to them.

This year the Korean Youth League in Japan and the Association of Korean Young Persons of Commerce in Japan will greet their decadal anniversaries. These organizations should encourage the young compatriots to give play to their surging might and wisdom as befits the vanguard of patriots and young motive force and thus create a new model of love for the homeland and nation.

Considerable challenges and difficulties will inevitably crop up on the road ahead of Chongryon, but as there are the great ideas on the movement of Koreans in Japan, the powerful homeland and patriotic masses of the compatriots, the future of Chongryon its founder generation pictured in their mind will come true.

No force can check the vigorous advance Chongryon makes towards a rosy future sharing its destiny with the motherland, and its sacred journey will shine its brilliance along with the high prestige of our Republic.

Let our motherland and Chongryon strive to build a powerful Chongryon, the former always remembering the latter and the latter always thinking about the former.

I wish all the dear Koreans resident in Japan happiness and prosperity.

National meeting held to mark 70th founding anniversary of Chongryon

KCNA

A national meeting took place at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on May 25 to mark the 70th founding anniversary of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon). Present there were Kang Yun Sok, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Jon Sung Guk, vice-premier of the Cabinet, Ri Son Gwon, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Choe Hui Thae, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, officials of the working people's organizations, ministries and national agencies, officials concerned, those related to Chongryon and working people in Pyongyang.

Also on hand were members of the group of Koreans in Japan for expressing thanks to the homeland on the 70th founding anniversary of Chongryon led by Jong Song Han, chairman of the Hokkaido Metropolitan Headquarters of Chongryon, who are on a visit to the socialist homeland, and overseas compatriots staying in the DPRK. Kang Yun Sok made a report. He said that, along with the call of Chongryon, which arouses unusual attachment, May 25 is recorded in the history of the country as a significant day that inspires the pride of being the Koreans as all other anniversaries of our state. The General Association of Korean



A national meeting is held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on May 25 to mark the 70th founding anniversary of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon).

Residents in Japan guided by the Juche idea was formed 70 years ago in the centre of capitalist Japan according to the desire and general will of all the Koreans in Japan, he noted. In the past decades that were not smooth, the officials of Chongryon and other Koreans in Japan, true to the ideas and leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, have waged a dynamic struggle for the victorious advance of the movement of Koreans in Japan and the peace of the Korean community in Japan and

shared a destiny with the socialist homeland single-mindedly, despite the persistent suppression by and vicious moves of the hostile forces, he said, referring to the feats of the founder generation of Chongryon who created the traditions of loyalty, unity and patriotism in the alien land and bequeathed them to their descendants as fine spiritual heritage. He said that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who has warmly embraced Koreans in Japan as the great Korean people living in a foreign country, has set it as the

eternal national policy of the DPRK to attach importance to Chongryon and overseas compatriots since the first period of his revolutionary leadership and led the movement of Koreans in Japan to victory and glory, adding: The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a historic letter "Let Us Write a New Great Chapter in the History of the Movement of Koreans in Japan by Carrying Forward the Patriotic Spirit of the Founder Generation" to the officials of Chongryon and other Koreans in Japan on the occasion

of the 70th founding anniversary of Chongryon, thus giving them another strategy of sure victory for carrying forward the proud patriotic history of Chongryon for all ages. He called on all the participants to dynamically advance, displaying the stamina of the indomitable Korean people for the beloved homeland, for the future of Chongryon which will grow stronger and prosper and for the peace and happiness of the harmonious, affluent and powerful Korean community in Japan under the leadership of Kim Jong Un. Then, Jong Song Han, head of the group of Koreans in Japan for expressing thanks to the homeland on the 70th anniversary of Chongryon, made a speech. He said that Chongryon has been able to firmly sustain its proud original features even in the environment of the alien land, thanks to the loving care of Kim Jong Un who always remembers Chongryon and Koreans in Japan, though busy ushering in a new gigantic era of comprehensive national rejuvenation, and gives strength and wisdom if necessary. Saying that it is an extraordinary privilege and the highest honour to receive Kim Jong Un's important letter full of the idea of attaching importance to Chongryon and affection on the occasion of the 70th founding anniversary of Chongryon, he stressed that Chongryon officials and other Koreans in Japan are hardening their pledge of faith to hold him in high esteem and stoutly follow the long road of patriotism.

Respected Marshal Kim Jong Un receives letter of thanks from Chongryon Central Standing Committee

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un received a letter of thanks from the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) on May 25. The letter said that all the officials of Chongryon and other Koreans in Japan are deeply moved by the great loving care and solicitude shown by the respected Marshal, who sent the important letter "Let Us Write a New Great Chapter in the History of the Movement of Koreans in Japan by Carrying Forward the Patriotic Spirit of the Founder Generation" to glorify the 70th anniversary of the foundation of Chongryon on the highest level, though he is very busy energetically leading the great general advance in the historic year of

the 80th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea. It described the historic letter as the important guidelines and the banner of sure victory for the movement of Koreans in Japan in the glorious era of Kim Jong Un which comprehensively indicate the general orientation and main tasks of writing a new great chapter in the history of the movement and ways for carrying them out by inheriting the traditions of loyalty, unity and love for the country and nation started by the founder generation of Chongryon. The respected Marshal said that carrying forward the traditions means inheriting the spirit and creating a more wonderful history and the heritage of the founder generation is mirrored in the appearance of the community of compatriots built up by the descendants who have assumed the mission of succession, the letter said, adding: Regarding this instruction as a supreme order, we will wage a courageous struggle by setting the decade to the 80th founding anniversary of Chongryon as a new period of struggle for making sure progress in carrying forward the traditions with the 70th anniversary of Chongryon as a turning point. The Chongryon Central Standing Committee in the letter wished the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un good health for the victory in the revolutionary cause of Juche and the patriotic cause of Chongryon in reflection of the ardent loyalty and boundless reverence of all Chongryon officials and other Koreans in Japan.

SPA Standing Committee sends congratulatory message to Chongryon Central Standing Committee

KCNA

The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) of the DPRK sent a congratulatory message to the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) on May 25. The SPA Standing Committee in the message extended warm congratulations and compatriotic greetings to all the Chongryon officials and other Koreans in Japan on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of Chongryon, and went on: Chongryon has performed immortal feats for the country and history, trusting and following only the motherland single-mindedly, despite the complicated situation in

the foreign country, for the past seven decades since its birth as a creation of Juche and patriotism. In the past decades, Chongryon officials and other Koreans in Japan, true to the ideology and leadership of the peerlessly great men, waged a dynamic struggle for the victorious advance of the Juche-oriented movement of Koreans in Japan and peace of the Korean community in Japan, despite the persistent suppression by and vicious moves of the hostile forces, thus making an exemplary history and tradition that will be handed down to posterity forever. The course of the development of Chongryon has been a proud journey which powerfully proved that justice and truth and the genuine life of overseas compatriots lie in the patriotic path of following the leadership of the great leader. Only victory and glory are in store for Chongryon and Koreans in Japan advancing toward a rosy future, adding lustre to the invaluable name of overseas compatriots' organization of a great power under the eternal blessing of the peerlessly great men. The message expressed belief that all the Chongryon officials and other Koreans in Japan would add lustre to the proud history and tradition of the patriotic cause of Chongryon by carrying forward the loyalty and patriotic spirit displayed by the pioneer generation of the Juche-oriented movement of Koreans in Japan, the founder generation of Chongryon.

Choe Ryong Hae meets visiting group of Koreans in Japan



Choe Ryong Hae, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, meets the group of Koreans in Japan for expressing thanks to the homeland on the 70th anniversary of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.

KCNA

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee

of the Supreme People's Assembly, met and had a talk with the group of Koreans in Japan for expressing thanks to the homeland on the 70th anniversary of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) led by Jong Song Han, chairman of the Hokkaido Metropolitan

Headquarters of Chongryon, in a compatriotic atmosphere at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on May 29.

Officials concerned were on hand.

Meanwhile, the group toured the Korean Revolution Museum and other places.

DPRK SPA Standing Committee sends message of condolence to state funeral commission of Vietnam

KCNA

The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent on May 24 a message of condolence to the state funeral commission for former President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Tran

Duc Luong.

The SPA Standing Committee of the DPRK in its message expressed deep condolences to the government and people of Vietnam and the bereaved family upon hearing the sad news that Tran Duc Luong passed away.

Although Comrade Tran

Duc Luong passed away, the feats he performed for the cause of socialist construction of the Vietnamese people and the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the DPRK and Vietnam will remain forever in the hearts of the peoples of the two countries, the message stressed.

DPRK officials pay condolatory visit to Vietnamese embassy

KCNA

Officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of External Economic Relations and the Bureau for Affairs with Diplomatic Corps of the DPRK visited the Vietnamese embassy in Pyongyang on May 25 to express condolences

over the death of Tran Duc Luong, former president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Wreaths were laid before the photo of the deceased in the name of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of External Economic Relations and the Bureau for Affairs with Diplomatic

Corps.

The participants paid silent tribute to the memory of Tran Duc Luong who contributed to accomplishing the socialist cause of the Vietnamese people and developing the friendly relations between the DPRK and Vietnam and made entries in a condolence book.



Officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of External Economic Relations and the Bureau for Affairs with Diplomatic Corps of the DPRK visit the Vietnamese embassy in Pyongyang on May 25 to express condolences over the death of Tran Duc Luong, former president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Founding anniversary of Chongryon marked in Japan

KCNA

A meeting took place at the Korean Hall of Culture in Tokyo, Japan, on May 25 in celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon).

Present there were Ho Jong Man, chairman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, Pak Ku Ho, first vice-chairman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee and concurrently director of its Organizational Department, Nam Sung U, vice-chairman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, Pae Jin Gu, vice-chairman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee and concurrently general of its General Affairs Department, Jo Il Yon, vice-chairman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, Song Kun Hak, vice-chairman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee and concurrently director of its Education Department, So Chung On, vice-chairman of the Chongryon Central

Standing Committee and concurrently director of its Department for International Affairs, Kang Chu Ryon, vice-chairwoman of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee and concurrently chairwoman of the Central Standing Committee of the Korean Democratic Women's Union in Japan, Ri Myong Yu, chairman of the Central Audit Committee of Chongryon, Pak Chung U, chairman of the Korean Federation of Workers in Commerce in Japan, and Han Tong Song, rector of Korea University.

On hand were advisors and directors of the Chongryon Central Standing Committee, school inspectors, the director of the Research Institute on History of Korean Residents in Japan, chairpersons of Chongryon headquarters in the Kanto area, leading officials of major central organizations of Chongryon and its affiliates and compatriots of various strata.

The national anthem of the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea was played at the meeting.

First Vice-Chairman Pak Ku Ho courteously conveyed the letter "Let Us Write a New Great Chapter in the History of the Movement of Koreans in Japan by Carrying Forward the Patriotic Spirit of the Founder Generation" sent by the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un to the Chongryon officials and other Koreans in Japan on the occasion of the 70th founding anniversary of Chongryon.

Chairman Ho Jong Man made a report at the meeting.

Vice-Chairman Nam Sung U read out a letter to the respected Marshal from the Chongryon Central Standing Committee.

At the end of the meeting, the participants watched a video recording congratulations sent by the organizations in the homeland and another video produced in commemoration of Chongryon's 70th anniversary "Seventy years of indomitability, in defence of original idea and spirit".

People's Prize awarded to song 'Warm Is the Love of Motherland'

KCNA

The People's Prize was awarded to the song "Warm Is the Love of Motherland" on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan

(Chongryon).

The song ideologically and artistically represents the endless love and solicitude of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il Sung for Chongryon and the Koreans in Japan. It has positively contributed

to inspiring the compatriots to devote themselves to the prosperity of the socialist motherland.

A relevant decree of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK was announced on May 3.

Russian Ministry of Interior delegation visits DPRK

Talks take place in Pyongyang on May 28 between Ri Song Chol, vice-minister of Public Security of the DPRK, and Vitaly Shulika, vice-minister of Interior of Russia.



KCNA

A delegation of the Russian Ministry of Interior led by Vice-Minister Vitaly Shulika visited the DPRK between May 26 and 29.

Pang Tu Sop, minister of Public Security of the DPRK, met with the delegation who paid a courtesy call on him and had a talk in a friendly atmosphere at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on May 28.

Present there were Ri Song

Chol, vice-minister of Public Security, and Aleksandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

Talks took place in Pyongyang that day between Ri Song Chol and Vitaly Shulika.

Present at the talks from the DPRK side were officials of the Ministry of Public Security and from the opposite side members of the delegation and members of the Russian embassy in Pyongyang.

The talks discussed the issues of expanding the exchanges and cooperation between the security organs of the two countries.

The Russian delegation visited the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, the Tower of the Juche Idea, the Pyongyang Metro and different units of the public security sector and laid a wreath before the cemetery of fallen soldiers of the Soviet Army in Sadong District.

Children are regarded as 'king' of the country in DPRK

We Are the Happiest in the World

By Ri Sung Ik PT

There is a song which has been sung by all the Korean people, especially children, across the DPRK generation after generation for over 60 years. It is *We Are the Happiest in the World* which was created in 1961.

The song sings of the great happiness of the whole country in which all the people live harmoniously forming a large family in the embrace of the Workers' Party of Korea, holding President Kim Il Sung in high esteem as their father.

One New Year's Day morning, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that he would devote himself to making the era when the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* was sung the present reality, not a moment in the past history, and that it is the determination and will of our Party to make our children and people live happily with nothing to envy in the world so that their happy laughter and hurrah for the Workers' Party would resound loudly.

With the noble idea that our children come before and above the people whom our Party hold in high esteem as Heaven, he has always given precedence to the policy for children in formulating national policies.

The Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the

WPK, which was held under his guidance in June four years ago, set it as an important policy to supply the children across the country with nutritious foods including dairy products at state expense.

At the meeting he said that all the officials should have their loyalty to the Party, revolution, country and people verified by making a substantial contribution to implementing the Party's childcare policy. This request touched the hearts of the people throughout the country.

Afterwards, fresh dairy products were supplied to the children at nursery and kindergarten ages across the country at state expense every day even under difficult conditions. The Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK adopted a law to institutionally guarantee the Party's childcare policy.

The new smart school uniforms worn by all the students of the country are also associated with the meticulous loving care of him who is determined to make them the happiest in the world.

At the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, which was designed to discuss important affairs of the country, he said that it is a consistent policy of the Party and the state to provide the students across the country with uniforms and other

school things at state expense and put forward the task of supplying all students with new-style high-quality school uniforms and bags. And to this end, he ensured that an important measure of the Party Central Committee was taken.

When he was busy guiding the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK, he gave a precious instruction on Haebaragi-brand school things. On his visit to the Mindulle Notebook Factory, he said very happily that when the Mindulle-brand notebooks were produced, the bags, school uniforms and notebooks of our students would all become our domestically-made products and, if so, students would recognize that their own things are the best from their childhood.

Children are cultivating their talents and nourishing their hopes at the splendid children's palaces and camps built in different parts of the country under the loving care of him who saves nothing for them.

That is why all the Korean schoolchildren are growing up to be pillars of the country, singing the song *We Are the Happiest in the World*, and the people are convinced of the future of the country which will be more prosperous and powerful as they see the bright and cheerful looks of the rising generation.

Story of affection shown on journey of devotion

By Kim Kwon PT

Since the problem of pencil had been placed on the agenda at the first session of the power organ after the founding of the DPRK, state policies for children have been adopted and enforced invariably even in the face of manifold difficulties and trying ordeals.

Thanks to the adoption of the Law of the DPRK on Childcare, all the Korean children grow up healthily as they have nutritious dairy products on a regular basis under the close concern of the state.

The respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un said that there is no more important revolutionary work than to bring up children, the future of the country, healthily and properly and it is the most important policy and supreme cherished desire of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state to provide them with more improved conditions for the upbringing of them at any cost at the historic Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Afterwards he stressed once again the need to decisively increase the output of milk, develop the milk processing technique and thoroughly ensure the quality of dairy products in the historic policy speech delivered at the

Fifth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the letter sent to the participants in the Ninth Congress of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea.

He calculated the number of nursery and kindergarten children and the amount of daily milk consumption, took special measures for developing milk powder to be supplied to children and even tasted the milk powder made on an experimental basis. Thanks to the care of the benevolent father, the childcare law which can be found nowhere else in the world was adopted to legally guarantee the implementation of the Party's childcare policy.

He planned to build a modern school things factory on his long arduous journey to army units on the front line and gave instructions related to Haebaragi-brand school things by finding time in the busy days of guiding the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK. He also put his heart and soul into the normalization of production at the school things factory even on a New Year's Day when all the people were celebrating the holiday.

Thanks to such painstaking efforts, Korean children keep wearing a happy smile on their faces.

Child prodigies



Hwang Sin Hyok



Kang Ju Un



Kim Ta Hyon

By Pang Un Ju PT

The DPRK is producing many child prodigies thanks to the efforts of kindergarten teachers who value and cultivate the buds of natural talents.

Boy contributes to team's victory

The Moranbong district team came first in the boys' team event of the children's category of the 2025 Pyongyang municipal open paduk competition held from May 6 to 13.

In the competition, Hwang Sin Hyok, a six-year-old who attends Pipha Kindergarten

No. 2 in Moranbong District, made a decisive contribution to the victory of the team.

When the team's situation was unfavourable, Hwang boldly went into the opponent's base and destroyed the crosses and thus reversed the tide of the game by dint of strong offensive.

Even the coaches were struck with admiration by Hwang's bold and extraordinary move, said his teacher Ri Jin Ae.

According to her, Sin Hyok began learning paduk as he entered the kindergarten, but the intelligent boy turned out to be a fast learner.

He took the first place in the paduk competition

(individual event) held in the district last autumn.

His dream is to become a famous paduk player and exalt the honour of the country.

Kayagum prodigy

"Since my daughter was three years old, she would never drop her eyes from the screen when artistes or kindergartners were playing the kayagum on TV, even though she was in the middle of playing some interesting games," said Kim Hye Sim, mother of Kang Ju Un who is learning to play the kayagum at Sojang Kindergarten.

Kang's dream of playing

the national musical instrument is coming true at this kindergarten.

Teacher Jo Kum Song taught Kang different techniques of playing the instrument.

Jo said that when she teaches Kang one thing, she would realize more things and that is why the teachers are calling her a kayagum prodigy. Now that she has learned all the techniques of playing the kayagum to be completed at the kindergarten stage, her future development is really promising, Jo laddled.

"I love kayagum very much," said Kang Ju Un. "I will learn hard and become a good kayagum player."

Promising little pianist

Kim Ta Hyon is one of the children who are growing up to be future pianists at Sojang Kindergarten in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, which is dedicated to early art education.

According to teacher Pu Jin Mi, Kim is very smart and highly receptive to music.

As she has slender fingers and an excellent memory for musical notes, the teacher decided to train her as a pianist.

Thanks to Pu's high instructing ability and enthusiasm, Kim's playing skills improved day by day.

She is also receiving

education in singing, sound detection and rhythm from teachers specializing in these subjects.

"Whenever I see my daughter's skill developing conspicuously thanks to the good educational conditions and environment as well as the competent teachers, I feel really pleased and also very grateful to the socialist educational system," said Kim Hyo Jong, mother of Ta Hyon.

Ta Hyon was highly appreciated as a promising little pianist for her excellent rendition of compulsory and free pieces at a children's skill presentation recently held at the kindergarten.

Revolution in public health service put forward by WPK

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Workers' Party of Korea, which set it as the most urgent priority and the most honourable revolutionary duty to promote the people's health, set this year as the first year of the public health service revolution and is conducting enormous undertakings to develop the overall public health service of the country.

It is the view and stand of the Party that the public health sector should be developed ahead of the material and economic life in the present era when strengthening the foundation for public health service has risen as a matter directly related to the security and destiny of the state and the demand for life protection

and health promotion has rapidly increased. Therefore, the Party decided to make the public health service of the country most advanced, modern and world-class.

It has already paid close attention to the development of public health to ensure that the people and rising generations lead a happy life in good health, always enjoying advanced medical service under the care of the socialist health system. Modern hospitals, including the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital, Ryugyong Dental Hospital, Okryu Children's Hospital and Samjiyon City Hospital, have wonderfully been built and standard pharmacies have been built to further consolidate the foundation for the promotion of the people's

health. The Pyongyang General Hospital, a world-class medical service facility, is waiting for its opening and pharmaceutical factories, including Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories, and medical appliances factories across the country are making dynamic efforts to put production on a normal basis and develop new products.

The Party's plan to modernize public health service is to build a first-class general hospital in the capital city, which can be the centre of the country's public health sector, so that its technology, experience and example can rapidly spread throughout the country, and to build modern hospitals in all other cities and counties so that advanced medical service

bases are brought as close to the people as possible to enable everyone to enjoy the benefits of modern medicine with ease.

Thanks to the Party's plan and determination, the construction of medical facilities has been included in the regional development policy and big efforts are being made to build modern hospitals in cities and counties.

The work to consolidate the foundation for the public health service in the country is by no means easy as it requires huge efforts.

The construction of a hospital requires labour dozens of times as much as that for the construction of dwelling houses or an industrial building and high construction technology,

expensive materials and a large sum of money. Therefore, to build hospitals in all cities and counties of the country as soon as possible is unimaginable based only on economic calculation or with common sense.

As it considers the people's laughter as a criterion for assessing the national power and orients everything to improving the people's well-being, the Party is striving to bring about a revolution in public health service in the new era aimed at rebuilding the public health sector of the country on an advanced basis and radically promoting it.

In accordance with the Party's plan for modernizing public health service, good progress is being made in the construction of hospitals

in Kangdong County, Ryonggang County and Kusong City and preparations for their operation are being pushed forward effectively.

After the completion of modern hospitals to be substantially conducive to the promotion of the people's health, the people will be able to lead a civilized life, enjoying advanced medical service.

The public health service revolution in the new era is a gigantic revolution which can be carried out only by the Party which regards it as its primary mission to reliably protect the well-being of all the people and intends to bring them greater happiness without fail by putting in an unprecedentedly great deal of effort.

Advanced neurosurgical treatment methods developed



A surgical operation using cutting-edge technologies is performed by the research team of the neurosurgery department of Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences.
PAK KWANG HUN/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By To Kyong Chol PT

A research team of the neurosurgery department of Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences has recently established several new cutting-edge surgical methods, which are being introduced into clinical practice and education.

Among them is a new surgical method of removing pituitary tumours. In the past, pituitary tumour surgery was a major operation that involved cutting a part of the skull out and removing tumour tissues and, therefore, it was associated with a significant physical burden on patients.

This led to the advent of an advanced surgical method of removing tumours by inserting an endoscopic device into a small hole in the skull to look into the brain, but this technique was also unable

to avoid invasion of normal brain tissues during surgery.

"The surgical method completed by our research team is a medical technique of extracting tumours by inserting an endoscopic instrument through the nose without damaging the skull," said Kim Yong Dok, head of the department.

According to him, the core of this technique is how to precisely reach the pituitary tumour through the nose and remove it. The department has successfully solved this technical problem, raising the success rate of the surgical method to nearly 100 percent.

The research team also completed an advanced surgical method for eliminating the source of trigeminal neuralgia and introduced it into clinical practice.

After intensively studying the pathological relations of trigeminal neuralgia which

is caused when a trigeminal nerve sticks to an artery, the research team completed an operation method which can separate nerves from arteries endoscopically without damaging the skull.

In addition, the department developed a new surgical method of using a microscope in the operations on slipped disk and cervical spondylosis.

Especially, the operation of cervical spondylosis using a microscope was pioneered by the research team in the country.

According to the deputy director in charge of technical affairs of the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital, the surgical treatment methods completed by them are recognized as advanced medical technologies in the field of neurosurgery worldwide at present.

Hospital protects human life with practical ability and devotion

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Late last February an emergency case was brought to the Kim Man Yu Hospital. She was in a comma as the bones of several parts of her body were fractured in an unexpected accident.

The patient was Ryu Kyong Sun, a 50-year-old worker at the Taedonggang Lift Operation Company.

At that time she was suffering complications from compound trauma and no blood pressure measured.

Therefore, the doctors of the emergency department gave her intensive treatment to stabilize her vital signs through blood transfusion and oxygen therapy and therefore she could recover consciousness after two days of treatment.

Later, the medical workers of the resuscitation and intensive care department and the trauma surgery department held several rounds of consultations to find

out a rational surgical method for the fractured parts of the patient, and the nurses took devoted care of her, sitting up all night.

After a successful operation, not only medical workers but also officials of the hospital looked after her with fraternal affection for her rehabilitation.

Thanks to such warm love and sincere devotion, Ryu Kyong Sun could recover her health in a little over 70 days.

"I did not imagine that my health could be restored like this. I will work harder for the benevolent socialist country, always remembering the excellent medical workers of the hospital who devoted their all to my recovery," said Ryu on the day of leaving the hospital.

Shortly ago, 72-year-old Kim Jong Hwan, who had been driven to the hospital as an emergency case, was discharged from it after recovering his health through a 60-odd-day treatment.

When the old man living

in Taean District, Nampho, arrived at the hospital without consciousness, there was reportedly not a glimmer of hope for resuscitation.

The medical workers of the vascular surgery department, internal kidney department and general trauma surgery department pooled their minds and efforts to give intensive treatment to the patient in the jaws of death.

"At that time, the patient got blood transfusion ten times and was on kidney dialysis nine times. As he is in an advancing age, he underwent CT scans several times after operation," recalled Doctor Sok Tong Jun.

On the day of his discharge, the old man and his family member shed the tears of gratitude grasping the hands of the medical workers.

Whenever people leaving the hospital after recovering their health express gratitude, the doctors say it is the natural duty of medical workers to take responsibility for the life of human beings.

Doctors have a preoperative consultation at the general trauma surgery department of the Kim Man Yu Hospital.
WON TONG CHOL/THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Press statement by chief of Policy Office of DPRK Ministry of National Defence

KCNA

The chief of the Policy Office of the Ministry of National Defence of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on May 24 issued the following press statement, titled "The security guarantee of the US mainland lies in thoroughly giving up military threats and aggressive attempts against other countries":

These days, the US military is hell-bent on spreading the rumour of "threat" from the DPRK to its mainland while attempting to increase the arms buildup on the largest scale.

The Defense Intelligence Agency of the US Department of Defense on May 13 issued a report on the "missile threats" from the DPRK and other major nuclear weapons states. It also made public the "2025 Worldwide Threat Assessment" report on May 20 to talk about the improvement of the capabilities of the enemy states to strike the US mainland and the possibility of military cooperation.

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the commander of the Northern

Command, the commander of the Indo-Pacific Command and other officials concerned of the US military are picking a quarrel with the DPRK's self-defensive measures for bolstering up its nuclear force on several occasions, unhesitatingly making provocative remarks hinting at the possibility of outbreak of a war with the DPRK.

The US military's worrying remarks timed to coincide with the US administration's claiming of a military budget of an astronomical sum of more than one trillion US dollars and official announcement of the establishment of a new missile defense system are a revelation of its extremely hegemony-oriented and adventurous military attempt to create the environment and conditions necessary for the greatest-ever arms buildup lacking in validity and rationality under the pretext of the so-called "threats" from other countries.

After making public the establishment of a new mainland missile defense system which will bring about the imbalance of global strategic stability, the US

administration announced a plan for comprehensively updating the three nuclear strategic strike means in the coming decade. Along with this, it is making redoubled efforts to expand and update the nuclear arsenal

The US administration announced a plan for comprehensively updating the three nuclear strategic strike means in the coming decade. It is making redoubled efforts to expand and update the nuclear arsenal in a comprehensive way, including the first invention of new B61-13 nuclear gravity bomb and the rapid development and deployment of the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile and B61-12, a new variant of a series of nuclear bomb B61.

in a comprehensive way, including the first invention of new B61-13 nuclear gravity bomb and the rapid development and deployment of the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile and B61-12, a new variant of a series of nuclear bomb B61.

In April, the commander of the US forces in the ROK made public the existence of a nuclear war plan with the DPRK. Such arbitrary practices of the US to control the independent sovereign states with a nuclear-based

Command, while conducting the test-fire of the Minuteman 3 intercontinental ballistic missile, the second of its kind for this year, described it as part of regular and periodic activity aimed at deterring the "threat" of the 21st century and setting its allies at ease. This is just like a guilty party filing the suit first.

This is a gangster-like logic that an act itself is not a problem, but what matters is who the actor is. This is also a vivid manifestation of the illogical way of thinking that the US' demonstrative military actions are "defensive" and "deterrent" ones and that the DPRK's bolstering up of its self-defence capacity for legitimate self-defence is a threat and provocation.

The US large-scale moves to bolster up its military capabilities under the pretext of coping with the "threat" from the enemy countries are another danger signal in the aspect of ensuring peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, including the Korean peninsula, and in the rest of the world and herald a security environment that will become more

unstable.

It is none other than the US' unreasonable military threat and blackmail and military muscle strengthening that caused and have steadily escalated the "external threat" to the US mainland.

The sure way to guarantee the security of the US mainland is not to recklessly expand its military force, but to thoroughly abandon military threats to and aggressive attempts against other countries.

We are strictly watching the US nuclear arms buildup, which poses a grave threat to ensuring regional and global peace and security, and are making sustained and practical efforts to possess a war deterrent capable of actively coping with any security instability resulting from its nuclear arms buildup.

The DPRK armed forces will thoroughly contain and control all sorts of military threats from the enemy countries in the future, too, and faithfully discharge their constitutional duty to reliably defend peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in the region.

Quit smoking for yourself and family



Kim Ok Rim, section chief of the Tobacco Cessation Centre

Tobacco has long been used as one of men's luxury items and as a means of social intercourse.

However, its smoke contains lots of harmful chemical substances such as nicotine, carbon monoxide, ammonia, methyl alcohol and arsenic.

Therefore, smoking can be said to be a slow-death-causing suicide.

The problem is that most smokers do not give up smoking, although they know that it is hazardous to health.

There are several reasons for that.

One of them is that it is easily accessible anywhere.

The theme of this year's World No Tobacco Day (May 31) is "Unmaking the appeal: Exposing industry tactics on tobacco and

nicotine products".

Some tobacco producers keep producing tobacco that is harmful to human health and life, only prioritizing economic profits.

Therefore, different countries prohibit the patronage of tobacco producers. Measures are being taken to reduce purchasing power by systematically raising tobacco prices and taxes, while levies are being imposed on tobacco exporting countries.

It is becoming a social trend to provide various

special services for smoking quitters and to impose a lot of restrictions on smokers.

Steps are also being taken to help people quit smoking.

The no-smoking campaign has positively been conducted in the DPRK.

It has taken measures to restrict smoking in society since the late 1980s and waged a no-smoking campaign throughout the whole society since 2005, when it became a party to the framework convention on tobacco control of the WHO.

In 2020 the DPRK tobacco-prohibition law was adopted and its enforcement regulations and detailed rules were enacted.

Our Tobacco Cessation Centre puts up various printed matters and notices about the harmfulness of tobacco at places of its sale and smoking places across the country and conducts various information activities to encourage people to quit smoking.

It measures the nicotine accumulations in the human body using a nicotine-dependence test system program and biological quantum resonance analyzer and provides people with consultation to make them

take active part in the cessation campaign.

Such smoking cessation products as nutrition pills, nicotine-based pills, chewing gum and pipe are being produced, and books are published to help those who want to quit smoking.

The DPRK promotes exchanges and cooperation with the WHO to share experience in cessation activities.

It is a trend of the times to give up smoking harmful to health and live in a cultured way in a clean environment.

Smokers have to stop smoking for themselves and their families.

BYWORD

People-first principle

The slogan "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!" epitomizes the people-first principle of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government.

The people-first principle is an eternal national trait

of the DPRK.

The people's desires and demands are absolute standards when something is created or built and its results truly contribute to the wellbeing of the people, while the people's laughter is regarded as a criterion for

assessing the national power.

The people's dreams and ideals are translated into reality in the country as the genuine view on the people and the people-centred philosophy prevail in the overall social life, making selfless, devoted efforts

for the good of the people constitutes the mode of existence of the ruling Party and the people's government and there is the powerful strength that defends the people's dignity and rights and interests.

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‘America first’ in missile defense field causes global strategic instability and imbalance of power

KCNA

The Institute for American Studies of the DPRK Foreign Ministry on May 26 issued a memorandum entitled “‘America first’ in missile defense field causes global strategic instability and imbalance of power” to inform the international community that the US establishment of a new missile defense system is a very dangerous “initiative” aimed at threatening the strategic security of the nuclear weapons states that the US regards with hostility and facilitating the use of the offensive military muscle of the US forces.

According to the memorandum, the US plan for the “Golden Dome” missile defense system setting it as a goal to heavily defend the North American Continent from the ballistic missile, cruise missile and supersonic missile attacks by its strategic enemy states is a typical product of “America first”, the height of self-righteousness, arrogance and high-handed and arbitrary practice, and is an outer space nuclear war scenario supporting the US strategy for unipolar domination with the preemptive establishment of the space-based military substructure, not a “defensive measure” to cope with the “threat” from someone.

The memorandum disclosed the US offensive weapon system aimed at the preemptive strike at sovereign states.

The US, which defined outer space as a battlefield in future in its early years,

has been hell-bent on the moves to militarize outer space, claiming that those who dominate outer space can win victory in the future war.

The plan for “Golden Dome” being advocated by the present US administration is also the expression of another attempt to militarize space coming from the past strategies for dominating space and the epitome revealing the criminal past of the US which plunged the whole world into the nightmare of the outbreak of a nuclear war.

Down through history, the US has justified its moves for space militarization, arguing that the perfect interception of nuclear missiles fired by its enemy states at its mainland can be realized only by the introduction of the space-based interception system. Under the pretext of defending its mainland, it has been hell-bent on building a missile defense system targeting the independent sovereign states including the DPRK.

Clear is the reason why the US is scheming to freeze the so-called “threat” from sovereign states as a pretext for modernizing its missile defense system, persistently spinning out the time-worn sophism just like a guilty party filing the suit first.

It is to preemptively attain military superiority in an all-round way by justifying its hegemony-oriented moves for space arms buildup and accelerating outer space militarization behind the screen of “mainland defence” and to launch the

military strike at its enemy states at will by relying on it. This is the military strategic goal pursued by the US and the main goal of the “Golden Dome” project being prioritized by the present US administration.

The memorandum pointed out the malignant factor heating the strategic arms race worldwide and accelerating the potential danger of outer space war.

The US plan for building a new missile defense system is the root cause sparking off global nuclear and space arms race by stimulating the security concerns of nuclear weapons states and turning space into a potential nuclear war field.

Shortly ago, a US space company announced that the US Space Force is planning the design of a kind of orbit transporter called “space aircraft carrier” and will invest 60 million US dollars in it.

The reality in which the global concern over the fact that the advent of the “space aircraft carrier” will be a catalyst for aggravating military confrontation in space is growing is a typical example proving a catastrophic consequence to be entailed by the US moves to militarize outer space.

Another example of the US moves to militarize outer space is the development of the “X-37B” unmanned spacecraft being accelerated by the US Space Force.

It is not fortuitous that many space experts comment that the threat posed by the “X-37B” to the world is no less than nuke as the advent of the “X-37B” is an unpleasant

factor reminiscent of the actual possibility of space warfare that has been considered by mankind as only imagination.

The memorandum disclosed the US’ military gambling of betting the security of its satellite countries.

Since 2016, the US, together with Japan and the ROK, has staged all sorts of missile interception drills including missile warning drill, combined ballistic missile defense drill and naval missile defense drill by mobilizing Aegis destroyers and latest drones.

The US set up a space force unit in the ROK in December 2022. It established the US space force in Japan at the Yokota US Air Force Base in December 2024, and formally put into operation the real-time tripartite missile information sharing system among the US, Japan and ROK targeting the DPRK’s missile launch, in December 2023.

Clear is the aim sought by the US in its persistent attempt to build an integrated missile defense system with Japan and the ROK.

Lurking behind it is an attempt to further intensify their military subjugation to the US through the establishment of the integrated missile defense system with the satellite countries and to use their forces in the military operations of the US forces in case offensive actions against regional countries are launched.

The above-said facts prove that the US moves to build the integrated

missile defense system are the dangerous military gambling prompted by the ignorant and selfish intention of the suzerain state to use its satellites as the cannon fodder and bullet shield for serving its interests even by betting their security.

The memorandum pointed to the means of offering profits for ensuring the constant boom of the US munitions monopolies.

Today, the US military expenditure for the space field is three times the spending for civil space development, which corresponds to 95 percent of the total space-related expenditure of all countries of the world.

The present US administration claims that the establishment of the “Golden Dome” missile defense system will cost only 175 billion dollars, but the recent announcement by the US Congressional Budget Office that the building of the space-based interceptor missile system will cost 542 billion dollars to the maximum suggests that the plan for “Golden Dome” is the largest arms buildup plan in history.

The global security environment, which is becoming uncertain due to the US undisguised moves for space militarization, proves that the security of the state and the region can be reliably guaranteed only by the symmetry of the matchless power capable of firmly bringing under control not only the current challenges but also the coming challenges, the memorandum stressed.

Briefly

Russia

FM censures Europe for aggravating dispute

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov criticized European countries for exacerbating dispute at a recent press conference on May 23.

The remarks made by European politicians in official meetings show that they are trying to keep offering military equipment to the Ukrainian authorities while neglecting Russia’s assertion that Europe should remove the fundamental cause of the Ukrainian dispute in order to settle it, he said.

By doing so, they are going to further aggravate the dispute, he said, stressing that the European politicians would find it hard to evade the responsibility for worsening the situation.

China

FM spokesperson rejects EU’s sanctions

A spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry denounced the EU’s application of sanctions at a press conference on May 21.

Answering the question put by a journalist as to the inclusion of a Chinese enterprise in a sanctions list announced by the EU and the UK, the spokesperson said China expresses deep dissatisfaction at that and resolutely opposes it.

China will take necessary measures to defend its legitimate rights and interests, the spokesperson stated.

Iran

Army chief refers to readiness to deal decisive blow to Israel

The commander-in-chief of the Iranian army on May 26 said that the Islamic Republic of Iran will deal a decisive blow to Israel in case it attempts another absurd attack.

He said that the Zionist government is too frail to impair the dignity of Iran and that the might of the Islamic Republic will be a huge challenge to Israel and the countries behind it.

The Israeli officials also know that they cannot overcome this challenge, he noted, adding Iran is fully ready to deal a counterblow.

Africa

Unity and prosperity of continent called for

The chairman of the Commission of the African Union called on all Africans to endeavour for peace, prosperity and integration of the continent with united efforts in his speech delivered at an event to mark the Day of Africa on May 24.

Now, Africa works hard to solve the difficult political problems, disputes and youth unemployment and secure its rightful position in the international arena, he said.

Africa will not be bound by the past sufferings and the Africans should defend their resources and promote development, he noted, adding that everyone should exert all their efforts to build a united and prosperous Africa.

Massacre of civilians aimed at territorial expansion

By Choe Song Jun PT

Israel has come under strong criticism and rejection in different parts of the world.

The UN’s deputy secretary-general for humanitarian affairs denounced the Israeli blockade checking the delivery of humanitarian materials to the Gaza Strip as a “massacre”. He said that he was not a lawyer, but a humanitarian activist, and his job was to have the aid materials brought into the area and to call on the world to help provide aid materials as soon as possible before it is too late so that an environment would be created to save the lives of a

large number of people.

A spokesman for UNICEF on May 12 said that more than 800 children were killed in recent two months alone by the indiscriminate bombing by Israel. He noted that an armistice is needed to open the road to a sustainable political solution.

But Israel continues to expand its barbarous military operations despite the unanimous protest by the international community.

It is hell-bent on killing civilians because it tries to exterminate the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and occupy the area completely.

High-ranking Israeli officials have already issued an order to kill Palestinians,

irrespective of whether they are civilians or Hamas members. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu argued that his country plans to control the whole territory of the Gaza Strip and it is its goal. A spokesman for the Israeli army also said at a routine news briefing that they would divide the area and move the residents as part of the military operations so as to expand and tighten their control in the Gaza Strip.

To this end, the Israeli forces launched a large-scale ground operation on May 18 by mobilizing five divisions and reserve forces. The current ground operation is reported to be the largest-ever since the

Israeli warmongers broke the ceasefire last March and resumed the total blockade against the Gaza Strip.

That day, a spokesman for the public health authorities of the Gaza Strip said that at least 100 people lost their lives overnight and there are also families all of whose members have disappeared from the resident registration books due to the Israeli bombing.

The Israeli air force has recently killed 146 people and injured many others with air raids in a single day.

The number of Palestinians killed by Israel has increased to 51 000 and the number of those wounded to over 116 300 since October 2023,

according to the public health authorities of the Gaza Strip on April 15.

The number of casualties continues to rise now.

It is by no means fortuitous that the world is expressing concern that the Palestinians might be exterminated miserably if the Israeli massacre of them is not stopped.

Reality clearly shows that the indiscriminate destruction and bloody killings Israel has perpetrated in the Gaza Strip will go on until it swallows up the whole state of Palestine.

Israel’s genocidal massacre is never tolerable.

The mass murderers are bound to be punished.

School trains football reserves

By Kim Kwon PT

Pyongyang International Football School is situated on Rungna Islet of the picturesque Taedong River.

It was built under the state's concern and inaugurated on May 30 2013. All conditions are provided for the study and training by students at primary and senior middle school ages.

There are outdoor training grounds for playing the games at any time and a covered training ground for conducting training without interruption even in snowy or rainy days.

And the school has also a full education system aimed at purposefully conducting basic technical education of young students from the selection of reserves.

At the time of selecting students, the school's relevant instructors visit different parts of the country to select students with excellent intellectual conditions and physical preparedness and give them strict test.

All those who pass the entrance exam learn the basic football skills again, irrespective of their previous

education, and all the students live in the school dormitory to suit its characteristics.

There are two categories of teachers in the school, one is to teach students general basic knowledge and the other is to teach football techniques.

They give lessons by closely combining football and different subjects. For example, they teach in a physics lesson the method of mechanical calculation of the force, which is applied by a flying ball to a fast-running player when he heads it while jumping up, and in a biology lesson the function performed by each muscle of the body at that time. By doing so, they help students acquire the principles of football techniques along with general basic knowledge.

All spaces of the school are oriented to offering football knowledge. Instructors and students have access to up-to-date sports sci-tech data and information about the games of world-renowned teams and aces everywhere, in classrooms, the tactical training room, the e-reading room and bedrooms.

In a word, the school teachers and students are living in the world of football.

The school works hard to put teaching on a higher scientific level.

In close cooperation with researchers, students' nutrition is managed, fatigue recovered and psychology controlled in a scientific way and training equipment for increasing the accuracy of kicking, passing, heading and stopping of the ball are invented and used, thereby making the training more effective.

The success in the school education can be seen through the competition results of the players produced by the school in the past.

Students produced by the school in the past 10-odd years won trophies in various international football matches according to their age categories and were selected as the best players and several teachers won the best coach prize.

In particular, Choe Il Son and other graduates of the school played a key role in the 2024 U-20 Women's World Cup finals held in Colombia last year, and Choe was awarded the Golden Ball and Golden Boot by scoring six goals during the contest.

"The country has



Schoolchildren practice football skills at Pyongyang International Football School. RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES



provided all conditions for the development of football, which can be called 'heavy industry' and symbol of sports. It is our goal to

produce such excellent football talents as Choe Il Son. The gold medals and trophies won by our players will please our people

throughout the country and actively encourage socialist construction," said headmaster Ri Kwang Myong.

Newly discovered Iryong Cave

By Kim Hak Chol PT

A special natural cave was recently discovered in Iryong-ri, Kowon County.

The cave is located on a hillside in the eastern part of the Puktaebong Mountains.

The entrance to the cave is 1.5m wide and 2m

high. The inside of the cave is 15m wide at the maximum and 0.5m at the minimum.

A karst cave formed under the influence of groundwater in the limestone zone, it consists of a 240-odd-metre-long main cave, four short branch caves and three vertical caves.

Experts divided the cave

into five sections according to its narrowing and curving form.

Yellow, white and black stalagmites and stalactites in various shapes and sizes are concentrated in each section, unfolding spectacular scenery.

Stalactites in different colours and shapes attached to the ceiling and stalagmites

resembling the columns of a theatre look really mysterious.

Experts say that stalagmites and stalactites are formed by sedimentation and they become larger and larger and stick together to form stone pillars which indicate that the cave had been formed long ago.

Lecturers and researchers

of Kim Il Sung University, Kim Chaek University of Technology, the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and the State Academy of Sciences appraised that the cave might have greater ornamental and academic value than the Rakchon Cave in Kowon County and the Chonryong Cave in Yodok County which

were registered as natural monuments.

The newly discovered natural cave named "Iryong Cave" was registered as State Designated Natural Monument No. 256.

South Hamgyong Province and Kowon County are now taking practical measures to preserve the cave.



The Iryong Cave is located on a hillside in the eastern part of the Puktaebong Mountains.



The entrance to the cave seen from the inside.



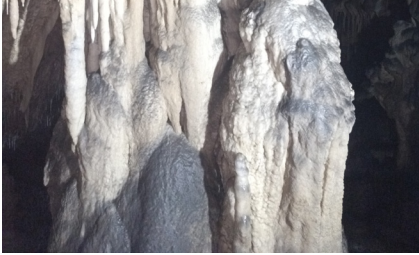
Stalactites at the entrance to section No. 5.



The "couple" stalagmite in section No. 5.



Stalactites in section No. 6.



Stalactites in section No. 6.

