

Eighth WPK Central Committee holds eighth Politburo meeting



Policymakers adopt decision on convening plenary meeting of WPK Central Committee, discuss issue of coping with epidemic crisis created in DPRK

KCNA

The Eighth Political Bureau meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was convened at the office building of the Party Central Committee on May 12.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, was present at the meeting.

Attending the meeting were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Present there as observers were officials in the state emergency epidemic prevention sector and some commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence.

The General Secretary presided over the meeting.

First, the Political Bureau discussed the issue of convening the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee.

Adopted at the meeting with unanimous approval was a decision of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee on convening the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee early in June to make intermediate summing-up of the execution of the Party and state policies in 2022 and discuss and decide on a series of important issues.

Next, the Political Bureau discussed the issue of coping with the situation of an epidemic crisis facing the country.

It recognized as follows:

The most serious state emergency incident has occurred that a hole was broken in our emergency epidemic prevention front which has firmly been defended for two years and three months from February 2020.

The state emergency epidemic

prevention command and relevant units deliberated over the results of strict gene arrangement analysis of the analyses collected from persons with fever of an organization in the capital on May 8 and concluded that it coincided with omicron mutated virus BA.2 which has recently spread worldwide rapidly.

The meeting notified the participants of the state of its spread across the country and suggested and deliberated urgent measures to hold the strategic initiative in the epidemic prevention campaign in the future.

The Political Bureau criticized the epidemic prevention sector for its carelessness, slackness, irresponsibility and incompetence as it failed to sensitively cope with the public health situation in which there is an increase in the number of those infected with all kinds of mutated viruses worldwide including the surrounding regions of our

country.

It admitted that it is necessary to switch the state epidemic prevention system to the top emergency epidemic prevention system to cope with the prevailing situation.

All measures were taken to ensure that the Party, administrative and economic organs at all levels, public and state security, national defence and all other sectors and organs of the country would establish a proper work system to make the state work done smoothly in line with the top emergency epidemic prevention system set in motion.

Adopted at the meeting was a decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK on switching the state emergency epidemic prevention effort to the top emergency system to deal with the prevailing crisis.

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Concluding the meeting, General Secretary Kim Jong Un laid down the principles to be thoroughly maintained in the emergency epidemic prevention work and tasks to be tackled for it.

He outlined and analyzed the current epidemic prevention crisis created in the country and noted that the top emergency epidemic prevention system is mainly aimed at stably containing and controlling the spread of COVID-19 that made inroads into the country and quickly curing the infected persons to eradicate the source of its spread in the shortest possible time.

Pointing out that the more dangerous enemies of us than the malicious virus are unscientific fear, lack of faith and weak will, he affirmed that we will surely overcome the current sudden situation and win victory in the emergency epidemic prevention effort as we have strong organizing ability with which the Party, government and people are single-mindedly united and high sense of political awareness and self-consciousness of all the people that have been fostered and cemented during the prolonged emergency epidemic prevention campaign.

He called on all the cities and counties of the whole country to thoroughly lock up their areas and organize work and production after closing each working unit, production unit and living unit from each other so as to flawlessly and perfectly block the transmission routes of the virulent virus.

Stressing the necessity to quickly organize a scientific and intensive examination and treatment campaign, he said that the Party and the government decided to take a measure to mobilize reserve medical supplies which have been stored up for an emergency like the current one.

He noted that the public health and emergency epidemic prevention sectors should strictly conduct intensive medical examination of all the people, take proactive measures for medical observation and treatment, intensify disinfection of all areas ranging from workplaces to living space and thus block and terminate the source of spread of the global epidemic.

Though the epidemic prevention situation is harsh at present, it cannot check our advance toward the overall development of socialist construction and nothing should be missed in the planned economic work, the General

Secretary said, stressing that the Cabinet and other state economic guidance organs and relevant units should organize, guide and command the economic work more carefully in conformity with the situation under which the state epidemic prevention system is to be switched to the top emergency epidemic prevention system to speed up the immediate farming work and the production at key industrial sectors and establishments to the maximum and flawlessly complete in time the projects to fulfil the cherished desire of our Party for the people such as the construction of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area and the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm.

The Party and power organs should take thoroughgoing measures to minimize the inconveniences and sufferings the people would face under the tight blockade, stabilize their livelihood and prevent any undesirable practices, he noted.

Stressing the need to more firmly build up the outposts of the state defence and guarantee the victory of the great epidemic prevention campaign with arms, he specially emphasized that guard duty should be further strengthened on the fronts and borders, in the seas and air and the most effective measures be taken

to leave no security vacuum in national defence.

The people-first politics of our Party and state that have displayed great vitality, overcoming all kinds of difficulties of history, and the strength of our people who are single-mindedly united are the most powerful guarantee to win victory in the current great epidemic prevention campaign, he said, adding that all Party organizations and power organs should prove in practice their loyalty to the Party and revolution, devotion to the people and responsibility for their duty at the present great epidemic prevention campaign to defend the personal lives and safety of the people.

He ardently appealed to all the people and officers and men of the People's Army to triumphantly conclude the great epidemic prevention campaign with firm confidence and great redoubled efforts and thus defend to the end our precious lives and future with our faith, will and unity.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK examined and approved the written emergency instructions of the Central Military Commission of the Party and the Cabinet and made sure that they are issued.

Decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea

May 12 Juche 111(2022)

On convening the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK decides to hold the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK early in June in order to make an interim summing-up of the execution of the immediate key policies of the Party and the state for 2022 assigned at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee and to discuss and decide on some important matters.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee

Decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea

May 12 Juche 111(2022)

On switching the state epidemic prevention work to the top emergency epidemic prevention system to cope with the prevailing situation

The Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee decides as follows as serious incident has occurred that stealth omicron mutated virus came within our boundary amid further aggravating global health crisis.

1. The state epidemic prevention work shall be switched to a top emergency epidemic prevention system.
2. The state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters shall take practical measures to switch the state epidemic prevention work to the top emergency epidemic prevention system and strictly control and command the overall epidemic prevention work of the country.
3. The Party, administrative and economic organs, public and state security, national defence and all other sectors and organs shall unconditionally accept and thoroughly carry out the order of the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters as the Party Central Committee's demand and make sure that a proper work system is established in keeping with the switch to the top emergency epidemic prevention system so as to prevent any small deviation in the overall state affairs.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee

General Secretary Kim Jong Un visits state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters



Kim Jong Un acquaints himself with epidemic crisis situation across the country

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters on May 12.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won and Pak Jong Chon, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

He was greeted by officials of the headquarters on the spot.

Making the rounds of the command rooms of the headquarters, he examined the epidemic prevention situation in a day after the state epidemic prevention work was switched over to the top emergency epidemic prevention system to cope with the prevailing epidemic prevention crisis, and learned about the nationwide spread of COVID-19.

A fever whose cause couldn't be identified explosively spread across the country from late April and more than 350 000 people got fever in a short span of time, of whom at least 162 200 have healed completely. On May 12 alone, some 18 000 persons caught fever nationwide and as of now up

to 187 800 have been isolated and receiving medical treatment. Six persons died (one of them tested positive for o mutated virus BA.2).

The General Secretary seriously noted that the simultaneous spread of fever with the capital area as the centre shows that there are vulnerable points in the epidemic prevention system we have already established.

He reiterated the importance of the work of all provinces, cities and counties across the country to take steps for isolating all working, production and residential units from each other while locking down their areas and providing their inhabitants with every convenience in curbing the spread of the malignant virus.

Noting that if we follow the spread situation to control and take measures against it in addressing the present crisis, in particular, we will always stand on the defensive in the epidemic prevention work, he said it is the top priority to block the virus spread by actively locking down areas and isolating and treating persons with fever in a responsible manner.

As he repeatedly stressed, the initiative in the epidemic prevention work is the life, he said, underlining the need to

immediately and thoroughly carry out the articles of the decisions of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee for actively and firmly taking hold of the good chance of winning the epidemic prevention campaign and thus quickly contain the spread of the epidemic.

The public health and emergency epidemic prevention sectors should closely observe the characteristics of the course of diseases of persons with fever, rapidly apply scientific treatment methods and tactics as demanded by the specialized directive and take additional state measures for supplying medicines, he said.

He called for offensively conducting the political information work to contain and stabilize the spread of the virulent infectious disease by strictly adhering to the state emergency epidemic prevention guidelines and make the people have a correct understanding of the state's emergency measures and display a high sense of self-consciousness in implementing them.

He specified detailed tasks to be tackled, including the issue of enhancing their operational and commanding capabilities for the epidemic prevention work of their regions and units at the emergency epidemic prevention units at all levels and making

full preparations for promptly coping with the situations facing them and the issue of scrupulously forming forces to ensure the promptness and scientific accuracy in the epidemic prevention work.

It is the most important challenge and supreme tasks facing our Party to reverse the immediate public health crisis at an early date, restore stability in the epidemic prevention and protect the health and wellbeing of our people, he said, clarifying the determination, will and strategy and tactics of the Party Central Committee to victoriously lead the epidemic prevention war.

He expressed the expectations and conviction that the officials of the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters would perfectly block and terminate the sources of spread of the malignant epidemic and take the lead in making a breakthrough for victory in the great epidemic prevention campaign with tremendous courage and practical ability as demanded by the spirit of the Eighth Political Bureau Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, fully aware of the solemn mission and responsibility and duty assigned by the Party and the revolution.

Efforts made to consolidate material, technical foundations of construction sector

By **Jong Hwa Sun** PT

The Ministry of Construction and Building-materials Industry is scrupulously organizing the work to consolidate the material and technical foundations of the construction sector.

Emphasis is placed on modernizing building equipment and relevant apparatuses and implements and introducing advanced methods of construction.

To this end, the Puryong Hydroelectric Power Station Construction Company has been turned into a standard one, and on the basis of its experience, efforts are being made to spruce up other construction enterprises.

And the development and production of building equipment and relevant apparatuses and implements are being pushed by setting the Hamhung Construction Machine Factory and the Tokchon Hydraulic Building Machine Factory as model units.

In keeping with this, the experience of the units benefiting from the introduction of advanced construction methods is being generalized and new building methods are being sought and applied.

The ministry is also putting in efforts to expand and strengthen the foundations for building material production. Last year some progress

was made in raising the level of self-reliance in providing such foundations.

The Suncheon Cement Complex increased its clinker production capacity more than 1.2 times, the Taean Friendship Glass Factory secured all sorts of refractories and steel frame structures necessary for furnace repair and the Suncheon Lagging Factory provided prospects for producing insulating boards using local materials.

On the basis of this the ministry is now meticulously organizing the supply of materials and equipment for finishing ahead of schedule the projects for expanding the capacity under way at the

Sunchon Cement Complex and Chonnaeri Cement Factory.

Besides, limestone mines are pressing ahead with the work to increase proved reserves, raise the operation rate of ore transport equipment, and produce quality fire bricks that are three times longer in durability than the previous ones by employing the technology of using limestone muck invented by the State Academy of Sciences.

Meanwhile, the Taean Friendship Glass Factory is giving precedence to the supply of raw and other materials for normalizing the production of glassware.



RI TONG MYONG / RODONG SINMUN

Cement production picks up at the Suncheon Cement Complex.

Tile factory offers guarantee for activating production

By **Han Jong Ho** PT

The Chollima Tile Factory is satisfactorily producing and supplying tiles demanded in major construction sites.

“Our factory exceeded the peak year level last year. Through last year’s production, we keenly realized once again that the guarantee for reenergizing production lies in the reinforcement of our technical forces and giving priority to science and technology,” said Ri Hong Rim, manager of the factory.

The factory, first of all, directs a great deal of efforts to reinforcing its technical forces.

It is well evidenced by the fact that the closest attention is paid to reinforcing forces of the industrial laboratory, which specializes in the research for tiles for outer and inner walls, marble tiles, artificial marble and printing process.

Meanwhile, the factory specially selected dozens of management, technical

and functional personnel and encouraged them to fully display their ability, thus promoting the development of new products.

In the course of this, it developed a new type of tiles whose width and length are 600mm and 1 200mm respectively in keeping

with the global trend of tile production advancing towards making large-sized ones, and moulding tiles effective in improving the modernity of buildings.

And the factory is giving spurs to research for solving the problem of almost all raw materials needed for

production at home.

Last year, it found out a mineral that could substitute a raw material necessary for the production of glaze and confirmed a reasonable rate of composition of different raw materials, thereby establishing a glaze production process based on local materials.



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Technicians discuss how to improve the quality of files at the Chollima Tile Factory.

Top inventor prize winner

INVENTOR MANAGER

By **Yun Kyong Il** PT



Kim Chu Nam, (pictured) manager of the Ponghwa Chemical Factory who is DPRK Labour Hero and PhD, is called the “inventor” by the factory workers.

Although he is busy managing business, he has made many inventions to make a great contribution to consolidating the factory’s foundation for production.

Previously, processing and turning naphtha, which was used as a raw material of the petrochemical industry, into fuel was a profitable fuel processing method. But it was possible only when the process for reforming naphtha was established with a huge sum of money.

The manager presented an idea that it would be possible, if only the problem of a material for reaction termination was solved in the catalytic cracking process, and strove to translate the idea into reality.

Through constant research, he determined the relevant nozzle structure parameter and completed the design for laying reactant pipes. And he accelerated the technical transformation of reaction facilities together with technicians and skilled workers.

Meanwhile, he speeded up production in line with newly-established production and technical indexes to produce chemical products of high value added with a cheaper material for reaction termination than the previous one while saving much of the fund for the construction of processes.

An ignition control system he invented for the waste gas combustion process ensures automatic ignition for burning the waste gas generated by fluctuation in oil processing and chemical processes, so it can be used as an ignition control system for combustion of waste gas at chemical factories.

To establish a new coaxial catalytic cracking process, he prioritized science and technology and creatively organized the economic affairs to the end.

In those days he made sure that the factory established a catalytic cracking process with annual production capacity of tens of thousands of tons by introducing over 20 methods of assembling and manufacturing equipment.

He also invented and introduced more than 100 new techniques, including those for ensuring domestic production of a metal oxidation inhibitor and combustion additive and establishing a distributed control system and a process for the production of an electrode adhesive binder, to turn production processes into labour-, energy- and cost-saving ones, thereby making a great contribution to the development of the national economy.

His inventions were highly rated at national sci-tech festivals and national exhibitions of inventions and new technologies.

Advanced techniques employed to increase vegetable production

By **Jong Hwa Sun** PT

The Mangyongdae District Vegetable Greenhouse boosts production by introducing advanced cultivation techniques.

Fresh green vegetables grow in more than 10 blocks of arch-style vinyl sheet greenhouses sprawling over a large area.

Nearly a decade has passed since the greenhouse was built, said its directress An

Song Hui.

In general, the quality of soil in greenhouses deteriorates year after year as it is affected by refracted sunlight and is not washed by rain.

Therefore, whenever planting seeds, employees remove a certain depth of upper layer of soil with the highest basicity before spreading humus and rice chaff to fertilize the soil.

They also apply a blue-green algae nutrient to improve the nutrition of vegetables when and after planting them.

Each block has a loach pond, in which crops are cultivated by a float-type method.

According to growers, loach excrement has increased the vegetable yield by 1.8 times.

Intercropping is also employed in a rational way.

“We plant cabbages between cucumbers and tomatoes and gather them before harvesting the latter. We also grow crown daisy in cucumber plots to prevent aphids from infesting cucumbers,” said grower Ri Yong Ae.

Soilless cultivation vessels are hanging on the walls and other space in layers in which grow lettuce, crown daisy and other dwarf leaf vegetables.

What is noticeable is that they ensure proper temperature for fruit-bearing vegetables, major crop of the greenhouse.

The directress attributed it to the use of locally-available materials in building the greenhouse.

Each block is designed to be covered with vinyl sheets double. One of its walls is a storage wall erected with the stones absorbing and releasing a proper

amount of heat. And earth has been piled up at the exterior of the storage wall. All this makes it possible to ensure a temperature of over 14°C inside even in freezing cold of dozens of degrees below zero outside.

The greenhouse gathers hundreds of tons of vegetables a year. Lots of visitors come to the greenhouse to learn profitable techniques.



Employees grow various kinds of vegetables at the Mangyongdae District Vegetable Greenhouse.



AN YONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Production of greenhouse vegetables on the increase

By **Kim Il Jin** PT

The Jungdan Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, increases the production of vegetables for citizens of the capital.

Such vegetables as bok choy, radish, cucumber and cabbage grow healthily at vegetable greenhouses covering an area of over 10 hectares.

“Our farm pushes ahead with the production of greenhouse vegetables in order to supply citizens of the capital city with fresh vegetables all the year round. This year we work hard to hit the higher target of vegetable production than before by introducing superior strains and further improving the method of cultivation,” said Jo Chan Sun, management board chairman of the farm.

The farm cultivates greenhouse vegetables in different stages according to their growth conditions and expands intercropping.

For example, spinach is cultivated as the main vegetable on the first

stage and cucumber and tomato on the second with bok choy, radish and red pepper as intercrops followed by cultivation of other vegetables on another four stages with scrupulous efforts put into manuring the soil and tending the vegetables, thus increasing the production of greenhouse vegetables.

Efforts are also put in to raising soil fertility so that the method of cultivating vegetables by stages proves effective. However scrupulous vegetable cultivation may be, it cannot bear due fruit without raising soil fertility. Therefore, whenever they plant vegetables, they dig deep holes like a trench along furrows and fill the holes with bio-active compost and other organic fertilizers so as to make soil fertile.

While introducing cultivation methods conducive to maximizing the effectiveness of fertilizer, they never fail to take thorough measures to exterminate harmful

insects in consideration of their biological characteristics. In order to prevent the damage by the insects, they use locally abundant materials to make by themselves and apply agrochemicals, including potassium polysulphide and solution of copper sulphate, and growth promoters.

The farm directs efforts to training agricultural workers into those possessed of science and technology.

According to Kim Kwang Myong, staff member of the farm, it organizes study in a diversified way to enhance the workers’ technical knowledge and skills at every morning meeting, during breaks and at every evening meeting for review.

It operates in a detailed way the agricultural sci-tech learning space by day and week so that all the workers can acquire advanced farming techniques.

As a result, their zeal for scientific farming has grown stronger, improving the quality of farm work.

Farm employs effective feed supply method to produce more animals

By **Chae Hyang Ok** PT

The Unjong Stockbreeding Cooperative Farm in North Hwanghae Province has adopted a rational feed supply method in goat farming.

The farm solves the goat feed problem in a diversified way by taking into full account the amount of feed consumption per goat and corresponding weight increment, the total amount and kinds of feed needed and other elements.

It increased the area of grass

fields in a short time by giving priority to the expansion of grazing land.

According to Jo Chol Song, chairman of the farm management board, it paid deep attention to reducing feed consumption unit in collaboration with related fields. As a result, it uses such agricultural by-products as beanstalk and maize plants as feed by treating them with bacteria.

During a general discussion of the farm on solving feed problem, farmers presented

a plan for widely growing sweet girasole, a crop for the production of sugar.

The cultivation of sweet increment was welcomed by many farmers, especially goat breeders, as it produces high per-hectare yield and is of good medicinal value.

The farm informed all farmers of its cultivating method in detail and encouraged them to grow it in large quantities.

This year the farm increases the number of goats over last year by producing more kids.



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A herd of goats graze on a hill at the Unjong Stockbreeding Cooperative Farm.

Development of pharmaceutical industry gains momentum

By Kil Chung Il PT

It is one of the major policies which has long been enforced in the DPRK that the state takes responsible care of the people's health.

This year, too, the public health sector of the country set it as its major task to bring about tangible achievements awaited by the people.

Accordingly, the public health sector pushes ahead in earnest with the work to bring about remarkable improvement in the pharmaceutical industry across the country.

Modernization projects are being pushed at pharmaceutical factories across the country.

Under the concern of the state, the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory pressed ahead on a full scale with the reconstruction project to turn itself into an exemplary and standard one in the pharmaceutical industry sector and thereby the project has entered the final stage, and Thosong and other pharmaceutical factories are also carrying on projects for sprucing themselves up and technically upgrading them.

Besides, efforts are being made to

normalize production by ensuring the domestic production of raw and other materials and recycling.

The Hungnam Pharmaceutical Factory is conducting the work to ensure the domestic production of dozens of kinds of raw materials and intermediates in contact with relative units and introduce into production several kinds of intermediates whose technical preparations have been completed while solving sci-tech problems arising in production by relying on its own technical force.

The Sinuiju Pharmaceutical Factory and Jongju preventive medicine factory have solved the problem of raw material and other materials, which had to be imported, with their own efforts and technology and are ensuring normal production while accelerating the technical renovation project to make production processes free from germs and dust.

Many other pharmaceutical factories including Mannyon and Sunchon pharmaceutical factories are pushing ahead with the work to increase output by using locally abundant medicinal herbs according to their plans.

Mannyon-brand medicines win popularity

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

The Mannyon Pharmaceutical Factory is not so big.

However, its Mannyon-brand products are winning favour as they are highly effective.

The factory, whose production lines meet GMP, has ensured a full hygienic safety by giving priority to the state standard and international certification for quality for over the past 30 years.

Tonic medicines of the factory are winning special popularity.

Over 30 kinds of those including Kyonggoko, Sipjondaebohwan, Ryukmigo, Kugijago, Wonhyongsam honey, Kaesong Koryo Insam broth and Yulmunchanghulgo are registered as famous medicines not only at home but also in many other countries.

These medicines are made from famous Kaesong Koryo Insam and other medicinal

plants in natural forests free from pollution.

What is special in production is that advanced technology is used to increase the content of Koryo medicinal extracts in the medicines.

The factory produces 100-odd varieties of modern and Koryo medicines of over 60 kinds for the treatment of various cancers and diseases in circulatory

and cerebral nerve systems.

It also pays attention to developing patent goods.

Several patent medicines of the factory including vitamin B₁₇ injection made from amygdalin extracted from apricot stone, a capsule tablet made from triterpenoid extracted from the bark and leaves of white birch and a gold zinc bronchitis capsule tablet

are winning favour with their users as they are based on natural Koryo medicinal materials and high in anticancer and antibacterial effects.

"We will put in all efforts to constantly increase the scale and range of medicine production so that the medicines become famous ones preferred by everybody," said Kim Jong Ryon, manageress of the factory.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Employees pack medicines at the Mannyon Pharmaceutical Factory.

Rural village unfolds new looks



AN YONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Oryong-ri of Mundok County, South Phyongan Province, has undergone a facelift.



Tube train of a new model

Rural area, magnet for urbanites

By Pang Un Ju PT

The *Bride from the City* produced in the early 1990s is one of favourite feature films of the Korean people.

It tells a story about an urban girl who falls in love with a rural young man making painstaking efforts to transform his native place and who is enchanted by the ever-changing looks of a socialist rural community and settles in his village to marry him.

Today, the story is becoming a reality also in Oryong-ri.

Lots of urban young people are going to Oryong-ri to settle there, dazzled by the rural community undergoing remarkable changes.

Among them are a woman university graduate who volunteered to come there instead of a town and a young demobbed soldier who came to the farm instead of his hometown.

"I returned to my native place of Oryong-ri after living in a city for more than 10 years. The country provided me with a new

house, though I had abandoned my home village out of an egoistic mind. I will repay the favour by reaping a good harvest," said Jong Myong Chol, farmer of the Oryong Cooperative Farm.

More than ten people came from urban areas or returned home in less than a year after Oryong-ri underwent a sea change.

Shortly ago, five orphaned young people had a wedding ceremony amid the warm blessings of the entire farm and received new houses.

"Although I have no parents, I have lived free from the sorrow of being orphaned. I cried a lot on my wedding day, overwhelmed by the great happiness of living under the warm care of the obliging villagers and such a good system," said Jo Jong Myong, another farmer at the farm.

The number of newcomers to the village is growing day by day, and all of them devote themselves to making the socialist rural community a better place to live.

Locals determined to bring their farm fame

The name "Oryong-ri" derives from a legend saying that a fish in a stream soared up to the sky to become a dragon.

As in the legend, a sea change has been made in the life of our residents.

No trace of the past is found from such public buildings as the hall of culture, agricultural sci-tech learning space and ri people's hospital, welfare and leisure facilities, dwelling houses and resting places, neat and tidy roads and other premises of our rural community.

This change has been brought about by General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

We will always cherish the gratitude toward him and return the favour with increased grain output.

We will continue to lead all others in the country in the efforts to reach the target of socialist rural construction for enhancing ideological consciousness of agricultural workers, rapidly boosting agricultural productivity

and effecting a radical change in living environment.

Ri Yong Sil, official of the Oryong Cooperative Farm

All the residents of the ri including hundreds of families of our farm have been provided with modern dwelling houses for free.

Previously, we envied different rural communities which underwent a radical change including the one in Unpha County in North Hwanghae Province, but as we have come to enjoy such dreamy benefits, we feel that we have gained undeserved advantages.

We are not meritorious persons who contributed to filling the country's granary with rice.

But the country provided us with wonderful houses gratis and a modern hospital and welfare service facilities and a splendid school and kindergarten for our children, so words fail me to express my

gratitude.

Jong Su Hyang, farmer at the Oryong Cooperative Farm

I am one of the first batch of students enrolling on the online university course in our farm.

Thanks to the nationwide online study-while-you-work system and sci-tech diffusion network, we can get access to various news and larger quantities of latest data including advanced farming technologies faster than before.

The farm has also become able to scientifically raise crops by putting agricultural production and business management on an IT basis.

We, agricultural workers, have made strides along with fresh changes of our farming village.

We will fully discharge our duty as masters of our native land.

Jang Sun Chol, farmer at the Oryong Cooperative Farm

Hospital gets proficient in heart operation on children

By Sin Pyol PT

Surgeons of the cardiovascular surgical department at the Okryu Children's Hospital have made remarkable successes in children's congenital heart operation.

By establishing a new surgical method for Ebstein anomaly, a kind of congenital malformation of the heart which is a matter of concern to the medical circles in the world, they reduced the treatment period and paved the way for the complete cure of such patients.

The results of previous operations for such cases

were so poor that surgeons avoided surgery as much as possible.

"We had a heavy heart whenever we sent back young patients, who came to our hospital with great expectation, unable to cure them. So our department pooled our efforts and intelligence to establish a new operation method of treating the disease," said Ri Chol Jin, chief of the department.

They conceived a method of closing the defect foramen by using a moulding material attached with valve in the operation for patients with ventricular septal defect complicated with severe

pulmonary hypertension.

The surgeons performed the first operation on a 12-year-old girl named Mun Jin Suk living in Sadong District of Pyongyang in August last year, and it proved successful.

The method made it possible to reduce the treatment period and save lots of medicines and labour.

On the day of leaving the hospital, she made an entry in the visitors' book: "For 12 years since I was born, I had been unable to play outside with my friends like a caged bird because of my illness. Now I have fully been cured at the Okryu Children's Hospital and become able to

go to school in a new uniform and shouldering a Sonamu satchel. I feel as if I'm in a dream."

At present the department is working to open up neonate heart surgery.

It is most desirable to operate on patients with congenital cardiovascular diseases when they are newborns and the surgeons carry out successful operations on three-month old babies.

They also developed over 60 kinds of consumables, which had been imported previously, like atraumatic needle and use them in heart surgery.



Biomedicines for the treatment of incurable diseases developed by the biomedical research institute.

Effective biomedicines for intractable diseases developed

By Ri Sang Il PT

The biomedical research institute of the Academy of Medical Science has developed different kinds of advanced biomedicines for incurable diseases.

According to Ri Chol Jun, the institute's deputy director for science, the institution as a biomedical engineering research centre has attained in recent years alone considerable success in the development of prophylactics, diagnostic agents and medicines for intractable and viral diseases.

The recombinant human angiotensin II immune injection can be cited as an example.

Around the world, patients with hypertension widely use medicines with remarkable antihypertensive effects, but their action lasts for only 12 hours in general and 48 hours at maximum, so the patients have to use them once to three times a day.

The research team including department head Ri Kyong Jin intensified research to develop the injection which helps lessen discomfort of such patients.

The injection was made by combining in a bioengineering method the human angiotensin II, which contributes to the contraction of blood vessels of organisms, especially arteriole, with the gene of a particle analogous to a virus with strong immunogenicity.

According to Ri Kyong Jin, the injection generates a special antibody that acts on angiotensin II. The antibody checks the action of the angiotensin II hormone existing in the systemic and local circulatory system so as to control the continuous and strong contraction of blood vessels, lower blood pressure and stabilize it, he said.

The antibody is generated for one or two months in organisms and therefore one injection can produce a therapeutic effect for at least one month without daily administration of it. Particularly, it can prevent

the danger of cerebral haemorrhage by suppressing the sudden rise and fluctuation of blood pressure, which are often seen among normal persons past middle age, and accordingly it can be used for both treatment and prevention.

The recombinant human angiotensin II immune injection, which obtained a patent of the DPRK, is winning popularity among users.

Hong Ju Hyok, another department head of the institute, said that the development of highly efficient and special immunity medicines has presented itself as an important matter as the case rates of intractable, chronic, infectious, allergic, autoimmune and cancerous diseases have recently grown worldwide and various existing medicines produce no remarkable effect.

To meet such demand, the institute developed the B-modulin injection after years of research. As a new highly-active immune modulator and potentiator, the injection produces remarkable effects in the treatment of intractable and chronic systemic psoriasis, hives, intractable skin infection and other autoimmune diseases.

A clinical test on over 1 000 patients with systemic psoriasis shows that the cure rate is as high as over 90 percent, and the relapse rate after a year is only 5 percent.

The institute also made Neutropin, a bioactive substance with the highest leukocyte count-increasing effects, in a bioengineering method to develop the Neutropin injection, which proved safe and effective in clinical practice. It is also popular among users for its marked efficacy in the treatment of leukopenia with different causes.

In addition, the institute developed preventive medicines and diagnostic agents and methods for various communicable diseases.

Protection of national heritage widely encouraged

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The DPRK puts much effort into national heritage conservation in spring and autumn, the periods for the protection of national heritage.

The National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage is working to add lustre to the treasures of the Korean nation during

this spring national heritage conservation month.

First of all, it has set out a plan for intensifying the protection of scenic spots and natural monuments and works to spruce up the scenic places and natural monument reserves.

In close collaboration with relevant units, it has improved the detailed regulations for the enforcement of the law

on the protection of scenic spots and natural monuments while pushing ahead with the projects for improving the features of famous scenic spots including Songam Cave.

It has conducted a survey into the ecological environment of scenic spots and natural monument reserves for better conservation.

It also gives further impetus to the efforts for the protection of historical relics.

After taking measures for the production of tanchong paints and preserving agents, which take an important part in the protection of historical relics, based on locally available materials, it has repainted and repaired over 10 historical sites across

the country in cooperation with provincial people's committees.

Especially, it planned a project for the restoration of a Koguryo tomb with murals in Wolji-ri, Anak County, and carried out preliminary works in close alliance with relevant units.

At the same time, it carried out an archaeological excavation at Koguryo

historical sites in Taesong District of Pyongyang, Manwoltae of Kaesong and the Kaesong fortress to collect valuable historical data.

It worked out an interior layout plan for the construction of the Rason folklore museum and spruced up history museums and history education sites in all provinces.

Thanks to surgeons' devotion

By Yun Ki Song PT

One day last March, an elderly man was rushed to the traumatic general surgery department of the Kim Man Yu Hospital after having an accident.

He is Jong Myong Su, a resident of Tongmun-dong No. 2, Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, and he is 67 years old. He was diagnosed with basal neck fracture.

According to Kim Yong Nam, head of the department, the man had a complication and is nearly 70, so an

operation on the basal neck fracture was quite dangerous to him because of great ensuing physical burden on the patient.

After several rounds of discussion, the department decided to perform a joint operation together with surgeons Pak Song Chol and Kim Yun Gon from Pyongyang Municipal People's Hospital No. 1.

Pak was awarded the February 16 Science and Technology Prize, for developing total hip prostheses.

Now the surgeons of both hospitals started treatment for one patient.

They pushed ahead with the work to improve the physical condition of the patient enough to be operated on and the work to make artificial bone capita to make him feel no inconvenience after surgery simultaneously.

"As the patient was an elderly man, the operation was quite difficult. However, the result was successful," said Pak Song Chol, operator of the surgery.

During the intensive

treatment, the medical workers took sincere care of the patient, checking his condition by hour to take necessary treatment measures and providing him with special dishes lest he should lose his appetite. At last he became able to walk again thanks to their sincerity.

"I will never forget over 60-day-long devoted efforts of the two hospitals' doctors for the recovery of my father. And my family once again keenly realized how good the free medical care system is," said Jong Il Myong, son of the elderly man.

Institute puts effort into developing monoclonal antibodies

By Jong Chol PT

The antibody engineering institute of the Academy of Medical Science performs a mission to develop antibodies by cell and genetic engineering methods for medical practice.

A kind of protein defensive substances created by organisms to protect themselves from such pathogens as viruses and bacteria, it was obtained by immunizing animals against

viruses, bacteria and other antigens until 1975.

Since the production of a monoclonal antibody (antibody created by cell groups originating from a plasma cell) based on cell fusion was put to practical use under experimental conditions, it has been regarded as an indispensable material for diagnosing and treating diseases and observing environment on a global scale. Research projects have been pushed

on a worldwide scale to make a singular monoclonal antibody to different antigens and apply it to practice.

According to director Kim Hak Chol, the institute staffed with PhDs in their 20s-40s and other outstanding figures set and intensified research into the development of a diagnostic reagent based on monoclonal antibodies to diagnose different diseases correctly.

It has developed more than 10 kinds of monoclonal

antibodies for diagnosing infectious and cancerous diseases and identifying stem cells in recent years, including the one to hepatitis B ectoplasma antigen, various kinds of monoclonal antibodies to typhoid and paratyphoid, another to human EGF receptor 2 and others to CD 34, 45, 71 and 105 antigens.

"The development of diagnostic reagent based on over 10 kinds of monoclonal antibodies has made it possible to improve the scientific accuracy of diagnosis and treatment of different diseases including hepatitis B, typhoid, paratyphoid and breast cancer," said section chief Sok Chol Nam.

The institute now puts efforts into the development of antibodies for medical purposes that can be directly applied to human body in keeping with the global trend of developing antibody engineering.



Researchers are engaged in a research project to develop a new diagnostic reagent at the antibody engineering institute.

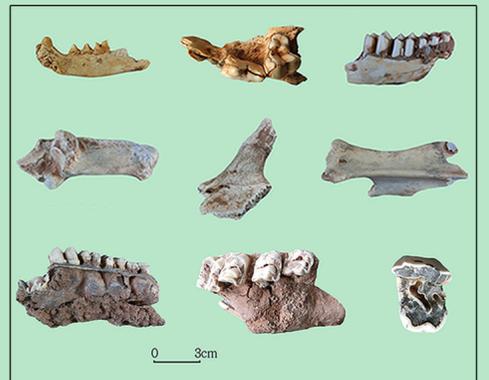
HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Mouth of the cave before unearthing.

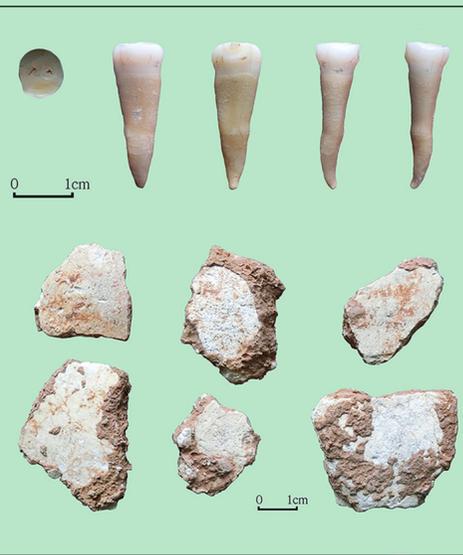


The interior of the cave after excavation.



Typical fossil mammals
Lower jawbone of a lynx, upper jawbone of a wolf, lower jawbone of a water-deer, heel bone of a roe deer, horn of a roe deer (unidentified species), shoulder bone of a deer (unidentified species), upper jawbone of a deer, upper jawbone of a red deer, tooth of a rhinoceros with two horns.

Cave relics of Palaeolithic age unearthed in Kangdong



Fossil human bones
Chewing, front, back, tongue and cheek sides, the second small molar on the right lower jaw and pieces of skull.



Typical fossil spores and pollens (Magnification 800 times)
A kind of pine tree, a kind of beech, a kind of hackberry, a kind of Sciadonites verticillata, a kind of willow in the aster family, a kind of elm, a kind of zelkova, a kind of brake, a kind of juniper, a kind of oak, a kind of goosefoot.

KCNA

A research group of the History Faculty of Kim Il Sung University have unearthed cave relics of the Palaeolithic era in Rimgyong Workers' District of Kangdong County in Pyongyang. They intensified research into the relics to scientifically illuminate the appearance of the relics.

They discovered seven human (neolithic man) fossils, over 300 animal bone fossils in nine kinds and 274 pieces of fossil spore and pollen in the cultural layer (second layer) of the Palaeolithic era.

The electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) measurement was conducted to confirm that the relics date back to the latter period of the Old Stone Age, or 23 000±3 000 years back, and human fossils (teeth and skull bones) were those of a 30-year-old woman in the latter period of the Palaeolithic age.

The DPRK Archaeology Society deliberated on the fossils discovered in the natural cave of the district and named it *Kangdong Woman* after the place name.

According to the deliberation of the non-permanent tangible cultural heritage deliberation and assessment committee and the Cabinet decision, the Rimgyong cave relics have been put on a list for preservation.

The discovery of *Kangdong Woman* in the Kangdong area, Pyongyang, where there is the tomb of Tangun, the founding father of the Korean nation, is of great importance in anthropologically clarifying that people had lived consecutively in the area since the dawn of human civilization to create time-honoured history and culture.

Provocative US racket over ‘cyber threat’

The US has intensified a “cyber threat” racket against the DPRK this year more than ever before.

From the beginning of the year, the White House, the State Department, the Defense Department, the Justice Department, the Department of Homeland Security, the Treasury Department and other federal government agencies have come out picking on the “cyber threat” from the DPRK and even offering prize money on it. In tandem with this, civil cyber security enterprises are jumping on the anti-DPRK bandwagon while circulating fabrications about the “cyber threat” from the DPRK.

Recently, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Treasury Department made public what is called a “joint alert” warning against the “cyber threat” from the DPRK. After that, an official from the spokesperson’s office of the State Department made a nonsensical remark that the DPRK is financing illegal

weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs through its cyber activities.

As already known, the word “cybercrime” was coined in the US.

The US has taken advantage of its hegemonic position in the IT industry to systematically conduct espionage activities against other countries since a long time ago.

It is the US which astonished the whole world by tapping the phone calls of leaders of its allies, to say nothing of its enemies. It also carried out more than 61 000 hacking operations under the internet surveillance program such as “PRISM”.

Recently, it was revealed that a hacker group under the US Cyber Command has committed hacking attacks termed “TV Screen Action” for the past 10-odd years against 45 countries and regions, including China, Russia, Japan, south Korea, India, the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Thailand, Egypt and Brazil, much to the

consternation of the international community.

In February, it was exposed that an American hacker publicly admitted to committing a hacking attack against our country to draw the attention of the media.

An anonymous hacker named “P4x” said that he hacked into north Korea’s internet homepages for external propaganda on January 26. He continued to blow his own trumpet that he is planning to steal and share information with direct penetration into internet homepages in the future, too, even though his act might have violated the US law on prohibition of computer fraud and abuse.

As he had admitted, hacking attack is against the US law, not to mention international law. Nevertheless, the US does not say a single word about the illegal hacking by its citizen. Instead, it is hell-bent on picking on the nonexistent “cyber issue” of other countries.

This is tantamount to the guilty party filing the suit first.

Crystal clear is the intention of the US which comes out with “cyber threat” from the DPRK at every possible opportunity.

It is to tarnish the image of the DPRK and maintain the international atmosphere of sanctions and pressure against it.

This is clearly proved by the fact that the US urges not only the government agencies but also civil organizations and individuals to kick up a row about “cyber threat” from the DPRK.

We flatly reject the baseless “cyber threat” spread by the US and brand it as a grave infringement on the sovereignty of our state.

The US should be well aware of the fact that the more desperately

it clings to the “cyber racket” against the DPRK, the more it will exert a bad influence on the already strained DPRK-US relations and the greater failure and frustration it will suffer.

Pak Song Il, researcher at the *Institute for American Studies, DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

OPINION

Extremely dangerous act of joining the war

Byu Om Ryong PT

China’s efforts for space exploration for peaceful purposes are increasingly the focus of international attention.

According to Chinese media outlets on April 16, an atmospheric environment observation satellite was successfully launched at the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre atop Long March 4C carrier rocket. It was reportedly the 90th launch of Long March 4-series carrier rockets.

The satellite will be used for the application of long-distance observation of ecological environment, weather, agriculture and other fields of China. It will be of great significance in enhancing the comprehensive application efficiency of satellite resources and improving environmental protection.

According to The Global Times on April 28, a total of 12 000 seeds completed the space breeding travel with the return of the crew of

Chinese spaceship Shenzhou-13.

On April 30, it also launched a satellite, Jilin 1 Gufen 03D(04-07)/04A, which will provide commercial remote sensing service to the fields of national land resources survey, long-term urban planning, disaster monitoring and measurement, in the East China Sea and put it into projected orbit.

Russia, which succeeded in the first manned space flight in the world, puts constant effort into space exploration for peaceful purposes.

It now focuses on localizing aerospace industries for sustainable space development for peaceful purposes.

On April 12, President Putin met the general manager of the state-run company Roscosmos to mark the Day of Cosmonaut and discussed various issues concerning the localization of aerospace industries and the development of the company.

Russia also pays attention to the joint development projects with other countries.

Racism—endemic disease of American society

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted on December 10 1948 at the Third Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) stipulates that “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

As has been written in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all the rights and freedoms

granted to humankind cannot be changed according to their colours.

However, there exists a barren land of human rights on earth where people must only submit tamely to severe racial discrimination and mental anguish and pains resulting from it, due to false “crime” of being a different race and non-white.

That is none other than the US.

Some time ago, AP of the US published an investigation report of a specialized agency which revealed that the police authorities of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was involved in all kinds of racial discrimination during the last ten years while discriminating against black people more than whites

during their law enforcement.

It also criticized the city police for failing to take any measures though the difference in race has a serious impact on law enforcement, saying that the police secretly watched black people and their social organizations that had nothing to do with crimes.

This shows that all sorts of racial discrimination by the police are committed under the protection of the police authorities and the tacit approval of the US government.

No wonder that even the US media outlets lamented that the ever-worsening racial discrimination by the police is its incurable endemic disease, exposing the dismal human rights situation in American

A dangerous move to bring terrible retribution

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, Finland and Sweden, neutral states situated on the coast of the Baltic Sea, have stepped up their moves to join NATO.

On April 13, the prime ministers of the countries said at a joint press conference that the invasion of Ukraine by Russia completely changed the security situation in Europe. Accordingly, they announced they would review their security policies and decide on the issue of joining NATO.

Media outlets reported that the two countries could simultaneously submit applications for membership of NATO in mid-May.

In the past, Finland and Sweden

were strongly opposed to their joining NATO, saying that it would have negative influence on the European security, but they have shifted their position. Concerning this, experts on international affairs are commenting they could surmise without difficulty that what lies behind this is the US pressure to drag these countries into NATO under the pretext of the Russian special military operation.

As if to prove it, the NATO secretary general openly declared that if Finland and Sweden apply for membership of NATO, all its member states would welcome them, and the procedure for their joining of NATO would be accelerated.

During the Cold War, Finland established good relations with the Soviet Union, its neighbouring

FOR PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF SPACE

On the same day, the Russian President held talks with the Belarus President at the Vostochny Cosmodrome in Amur region and agreed to work together with each other to push ahead with a plan for launching Lunar-25 interplanetary automatic space station. The plan is reportedly aimed at landing on the polar circle of the moon for the first time in human history.

Earlier on April 9, the Russian government approved the conclusion of an agreement on space exploration with Venezuela and officially announced that the two governments began preparations for launching a joint programme.

India, a main player in space exploration, is also pressing on with a plan for sending into space 75 small satellites made by its students on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its independence.

They are expected to be launched atop a rocket of the Indian space research centre between August 15 2022 and 2023.

Zambia also works hard to develop artificial earth satellite.

On April 23, the Zambian President set the government a goal of developing and launching an artificial earth satellite by itself within two years at a meeting of the leadership of the government party.

To attain the goal a technical committee for satellite development has been organized in Zambia, comprising the higher education committee, leading universities and defence science institute with the state scientific research institute as its parent body. Dozens of renowned professors and PhDs were appointed as its executive directors, with hundreds of scientists and technicians involved in the satellite development. They have already worked out a roadmap and action plans and entered into a full-scale development stage.

Positive efforts made by various countries for the development and use of space for peaceful purposes will surely bear good fruit and make a great contribution to promoting the wellbeing of humanity.

Most popular Party leadership

The leadership of the Workers’ Party of Korea is the most popular leadership. Popular leadership means solving all problems by relying on the masses of the people and by mobilizing them properly.

The WPK has long incorporated the will and desire of the people in its policies whenever it took a new course for the revolution since its founding.

All lines and policies of the Party, including those on democratic reforms set forth after Korea’s liberation from the Japanese military occupation, were on the revolutionary struggle for the independence of the masses.

The requirements and interests of the people were also incorporated in the Party’s lines and policies put forward in every stage and period of the revolution, including those on the postwar agricultural cooperation, socialist transformation of relations of production and

socialist industrialization.

The Party’s lines and policies could be successfully implemented in a very short period as they reflected correctly and most scientifically the will, desire, requirements and interests of the people.

The current tasks of housing construction for the people and new rural development to which the Party attaches importance, too, reflect the requirements and interests of the people.

The Party has achieved the first actual results of the tasks and will surely continue to achieve similar good results.

The Party has led the revolution and construction just along the road of victory without any trivial error or mistake in lines as it drew up the lines and policies by reflecting the desire and will of the people and organized and led them to implement them thoroughly.

The Party has regarded it as its most important affair and duty it cannot neglect even for a moment

to take full responsible care of the people’s political integrity and their material and cultural life.

Even when the country was in the worst ordeals decisive of the destiny of the country, the Party created precious seeds and socialist wealth for the happiness of the people and invariably enforced popular policies.

Even in the present difficult situation, the Party decided it as an important agenda item of the Party Central Committee to supply dairy products to children and set it as a policy of the Party and an eternal national policy of the country to provide schoolchildren with uniforms.

Early this year the country started the construction of flats for 10 000 families in the Hwasong area, the second project for attaining the long-term goal of housing construction in Pyongyang, and that of a large-scale greenhouse farm in the Ryonpho area of South Hamgyong Province under the leadership of the Party.

And the Party allocated to ordinary people gratis the luxury houses on the former site of President Kim Il Sung’s residence and modern apartment buildings on Songhwa Street, all built through last single year’s struggle.

Like this, the WPK has given top and absolute priority to the interests of the people, so the people have sincerely believed in and followed the Party as the beacon of their destiny and their mother. Thus the history of single-hearted unity came to flow on this land.

The Party has been able to steadily lead the socialist cause, taking firmly the helm of the revolution without vacillation in the face of all raging storms of history, as it has devotedly served only the people with its roots struck deep among them.

Kim Un Chol, researcher at the *Political Theory Study Office, the Academy of Social Sciences*

BYWORD

Juche-based view on people, people-centred philosophy

Korean socialism is a people-centred socialism embodying the Juche-based view on the people and the people-centred philosophy.

The view and philosophy carry the meaning that one should advance the revolution by relying on the inexhaustible strength of the masses of the people while regarding them as masters of the revolution, and devotedly

serve the people.

President Kim Il Sung said in his lifetime that when revolutionaries believe in the people and rely on them at all times, they shall always emerge victorious, but if they keep away from them and are forsaken by them, they will always fail, pointing to the need for them to let this be their maxim in life and struggle.

The crux of the Juche-based view on the people and the people-centred philosophy is the spirit of devoted service for the good of the people and the service is the expression of boundless love for and devotion to the people, which gives top priority to the realization of their demands and interests, grudges no wealth for the good of them and even

dedicate one’s life for them.

Every activity of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the state serves the interests of the people in the DPRK under the leadership of the WPK which defined the people-first principle as the essence of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, its guiding ideology, and takes it as its mode of existence to serve them.

Pak Hak Song, researcher at the *Institute for Studies of Japan, DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

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Briefly

China

President Xi underlines importance of strengthening anti-epidemic work

At the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on May 5, President Xi Jinping referred to the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 and constant mutation of its virus at present and said that neglect of anti-epidemic work would surely result in large-scale group infection and the appearance of lots of serious cases and deaths and seriously affect economic and social development and people’s life, safety and health.

He called on Party committees and governments at all levels to fulfil their duties by implementing the decisions and assignments of the Party Central Committee and consolidating anti-epidemic achievements with firm conviction.

Russia

President pays floral tribute at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Russian President Putin laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin walls in Moscow on May 9 to mark the 77th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War.

Putin observed a moment’s silence in memory of victims of the war and placed flowers at the monuments to hero city and soldiers.

That day the Russian President took part in a march of “immortal ranks”.

British newspaper *The Guardian* brought to light the fact that the US police have killed 1 100 people on an annual average over the last 10 years, citing the death of 1 136 people in 2021 and that of 249 from January to March 24 this year.

History will surely pass judgment on the US for its impudent human rights violations.

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Charismatic coach leads team to three consecutive wins



By Kil Chung Il PT

“I’d like to give this honour to all players and coaches of the team who overcame themselves as well as difficulties,” said Han Won Chol (pictured), football coach of the Kigwancha Sports Club, as he was chosen as one of the top ten coaches of the DPRK

for 2021.

His significant remark made the audience look back on the men’s first division football tournament of the Mangyongdae Prize Games in celebration of the Day of the Sun held in April last year.

Having notched up two consecutive victories in the

same events in 2018 and 2019, Kigwancha had many skilful and experienced veterans and talented newcomers as it attended last year’s event which was held after skipping one season.

It was no wonder the team was the odds-on favourite and the fans were in high spirits.

However, the result of the first round of the group preliminaries was completely beyond the expectations of many.

After revealing many defects like poor combination between players and failed fast breaks, it suffered a 1-2 defeat by Rimyongsu.

Though it scored a narrow win over the relatively inept Ministry of Light Industry team, it experienced a 0-2 defeat in the match against Ryomyong.

The team was utterly demoralized and lost confidence and experts and fans seemed not to expect Kigwancha would advance to the next round.

As he was deliberating to find the cause of defeat, Head Coach Han detected one problem.

It was the self-complacency of veteran players and its withering influence over new players that hampered their ability.

At that time, Han told a gathering of the team members:

“Past glory is nothing but the past. The team will concentrate its efforts only on future glory and each player must try to find their own places in the course of winning it. Those who fail to do that are ineligible to remain here.”

His appealing call roused the players and some veteran players who were not participating in the matches after injuries asked him to include them in the lineup.

“It was a crucial moment as the last two matches of the group preliminaries were to decide the fate of the team,” said Kim Kuk Jin, a member of

the Kigwancha football team. “It was really impressive when the head coach said we should choose between the honour of a three-time champion and the disgrace of a loser in the preliminaries.”

Han designed a new game plan so as to make the most of the team’s special techniques and also in accordance with the boosted morale of the players.

He let all players present their opinions open-mindedly at tactics discussion meetings.

Then he asked them to choose the most reasonable game plans by themselves and attain proficiency in them through training.

“As his approach was so inconsistent with the common practice of planning the tactics according to the coach’s subjective opinion that we were quite puzzled by his measure at first,” said Kim.

However, Han’s idea of making the team conscious of their duty and responsibility

from the time the tactics are worked out and inspiring their creativity produced the desired result.

As cooperation between players and tactical plays got more facilitated and the rate of successful fast breaks increased, the team got to hold the initiative in matches and restored confidence.

Having advanced to the knockout stage after taking the second place in its group, Kigwancha defeated odds-on favourites in the semi-final and final to lift the trophy in the tournament once again.

The team fully demonstrated its capability as a power in several competitions including the Hwaepul Cup men’s football tournament, and Kim Kuk Jin won the best player award of the 2020-2021 DPRK Premier League and Han Won Chol was chosen as one of the top ten coaches of the DPRK for 2021 for the third time after 2018 and 2019.

Kwangbop Temple

By Yun Ki Song PT

Kwangbop Temple, a Buddhist temple built during the reign of King Kwanggaetho of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668), is located in Taesong-dong, Taesong District, Pyongyang.

It was repaired in 1727, but was totally destroyed by US bombers on July 1952 during the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953)

and restored to its original state in 1990.

The temple consists of the Haethal and Chonwang gates, Tacung Hall and east and west Buddhist monasteries.

The buildings are arranged symmetrically with the axis going through a pagoda.

The temple’s main building Tacung Hall is a gorgeous and two-storeyed gabled house, which has three partitions at

the façade and another three at the side.

There are three Buddhist statues and one Buddhist painting in the hall which is gorgeously painted in different colours.

The temple has a lotus pond which existed from ancient times and the Monument to the Kwangbop Temple erected in 1727.

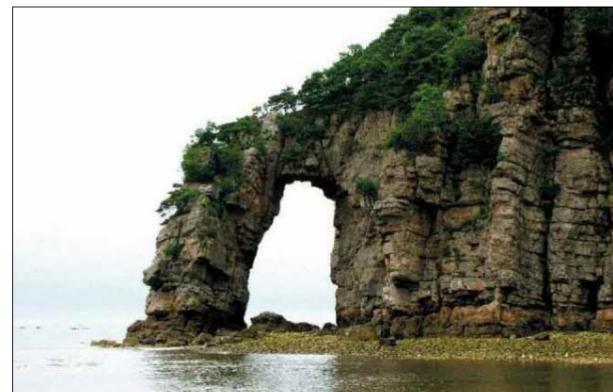
The monument records a legend about nine dragons

of Mt Taesongguryong and ninety-nine ponds.

Kwangbop Temple on picturesque Mt Taesong is a precious element of cultural heritage, which shows the advanced architecture of the Korean ancestors, and a source of valuable information for research into history and culture of Korea including those of Koguryo.



A panoramic view of Kwangbop Temple in Taesong-dong, Taesong District, Pyongyang.



Natural monument— Ocha Rock

By To Kyong Chol PT

Ocha Rock is a natural monument located in Ochajin-ri of Ryongyon County, South Hwanghae Province.

It is on the southwestern shore of Monggumpho which is some 20 km from Ryongyon county town.

Around the rock, mysteriously-shaped cliffs and rocks stand in various sizes, adding beauty to the seascape.

The rock is 12-15 metres high and 10 metres round at the bottom.

The rare rock of quartzite which formed as a result of erosion by the sea and weather is of academic significance.

