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General Secretary Kim Jong Un gives field guidance over riverside terraced houses building project

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, gave on-the-spot guidance over the construction of the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District.

He was greeted on the spot by Jong Sang Hak, Jo Yong Won, Ri Hi Yong and other senior officials of the Central Committee of the Party and commanding officers and leading officials of the units involved in the construction.

He learned about the construction project as he looked round several places of the construction site.

He said that the residential district, built with the land undulations left intact, looks nice, and that an example has been set for a terraced houses district that is built on sloping ground perfectly in architectural aesthetics. He noted that such experience is of great significance in developing architecture under the specific conditions of the country where lots of dwelling houses have to be built nationwide and the most parts of which are mountainous areas, and in implementing the Party's policy of construction.

The residential district should serve the main purpose of ensuring the convenience of residents of each dwelling house, not just meeting the aesthetic requirements, he said, adding that paths should be arranged and transport means should be allocated rationally so that the residents can walk straight down to use them without going round the residential district.

He emphasized that it is important to ensure a high level of afforestation and greening in and around the residential district while giving final artistic touches to the retaining walls for the terraced houses district after carefully considering them from the



viewpoint of architectural beauty.

He said that the project should be pushed as scheduled by taking timely measures for the supply of equipment and materials in keeping with the rapid progress of the project.

Saying that it is necessary to pay close attention to further sprucing up parks on the Pothong River banks, he stressed the need to take thoroughgoing sci-tech measures in order to improve the quality of the river water.

Emphasizing that the construction project is of importance in making Pyongyang more modern and civilized, he called for speeding up the construction qualitatively to make it a model of urban housing construction.

Calling for carefully making and implementing a plan for urban construction for raising the level of modernization and civilization of the capital city and local cities and towns, he underscored the need to plan and arrange buildings, facilities, roads, green spaces and all other elements from the viewpoint of interconnection so that the

a radical change has been brought about in the riverside area to leave no traces of some 140 days ago, despite lack of everything and difficulties, thanks to the builders' patriotism and loyalty, and highly appreciated the labour feats of all the builders.

most convenient and hygienic environment can be provided for the people. He also pointed to the need to make the configurations of cities and towns diverse, attractive and unique so as to create features peculiar to each of them.

Saying that it would be good to give the district the administrative division name "Kyongru-dong" meaning a beautiful gem terrace, he gave an instruction for the relevant sector to deliberate on it.

He expressed great satisfaction over the fact that

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ANNIVERSARY

Long journey remembered for promoting ties with neighbours

Chairman Kim Jong Il devoted tireless efforts to consolidating and further promoting the DPRK-Russia and DPRK-China friendship in 2011, the last year of his life.

He visited Russia's Siberian and Far Eastern regions from August 20 to 25 2011 at the invitation of Russian President Medvedev.

The Russian president and government and the people in Siberian and Far Eastern regions welcomed him, who visited Russia again after nearly 10 years to further consolidate and develop traditional friendship between the two countries, as the most honoured state guest.

Chairman Kim Jong Il held talks with President Medvedev on August 24 in Ulan-Ude, the capital of the Buryat Republic of Russia.

At the talks the leaders of the two countries informed each other of the situations of their countries, satisfactorily appraised the DPRK-Russia relationship which was developing well, exchanged opinions related to the development of bilateral relations and reached a consensus of opinion on all discussed issues.

They also emphasized the need to expand and strengthen the bilateral ties of friendship,

equality and equally beneficial cooperation on the basis of the spirit of the DPRK-Russia Joint Declaration in 2000, the DPRK-Russia Moscow Declaration in 2001 and the Treaty on Friendship, Good-neighbourliness and Cooperation between the DPRK and the Russian Federation.

The Chairman's visit to Russia's Siberian and Far Eastern regions was an epochal event which marked a watershed in the development of relationship between the two countries and a historic long journey which contributed to defending peace and security in Northeast Asia and the rest of the world and advancing the cause of independence against imperialism.

After visiting Russia's Siberian and Far Eastern regions, he chose the route home along Northeast China and paid a historic visit to it between August 25 and 27.

Hu Jintao, the then general secretary of the Communist Party of China, specially dispatched the head of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee to Manchuria, border city between China and Russia, to receive the Chairman courteously and accompany him all the way. And he personally sent a

member of the State Council to Heilongjiang Province to kindly greet the Chairman.

The foreign media commented on it, saying that it was the first time in the history of Chinese diplomacy to send a member of the State Council and the head of the International Liaison Department of the CPC to the relevant area to greet a foreign leader who passed through China after visiting other country and it showed well the high prestige of National Defence Commission Chairman Kim Jong Il and the closest attention Chinese party and government direct to strengthening and developing the traditional DPRK-China friendship.

The distance of the course of his visits to Russia's Siberian and Far Eastern regions and several cities in Northeast China totals over 8 000 kilometres.

The immortal exploits of the Chairman who made a great contribution to the development of friendship with Russia and China by conducting energetic external activities are still remembered by the peoples of the three countries and will shine forever along with the inheritance and development of the DPRK-Russia and DPRK-China friendship.

By **Om Ryong** PT

DISASTER RELIEF

WPK CC officials help flood sufferers in South Hamgyong

Officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea provided a large amount of food and funds needed for stabilizing the living of flood victims in the afflicted areas of South Hamgyong Province as soon as possible.

The relief supplies were delivered to residents of Sinhung County who had greatly suffered from floods on August 15.

Party Central Committee officials told the residents that the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un fails to go to sleep at the thought of the flood sufferers and is putting his heart

and soul into the relief effort and called on the local officials to share joy and sorrow with the residents of the stricken areas and relieve them of difficulties in life in time. Acquainting themselves with the living conditions and health of flood victims who are now living in the office building of the county Party committee, they called on the locals to build new houses by pushing ahead with the rehabilitation campaign and significantly greet the founding anniversary of the WPK.

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RECONSTRUCTION

Disaster recovery pushed in South Hamgyong

Transport routes have been reopened in some ten days, housing construction of hundreds of families pushed and damage to crops in scores of hectares repaired in Sinhung County, South Hamgyong Province, which was worst hit by heavy rain and flood.

Units of the Korean People's Army restored dozens-of-metres-long banks with thousands of cubic metres of earth and stones and opened transport routes. Builders of the province and other working people in Sinhung County are pressing on with the rebuilding of embankments extending for hundreds of metres along the Songchon River after repairing roads damaged by landslides.

Soldier builders have buckled down to the building of walls and floors after carrying out the foundation work at the construction site of multi-storey apartment houses in the county town area, and the provincial working people have carried out their daily assignments over 1.2 times at apartment house construction sites.

In farmland in inundated areas, drainage and digging of drainage canals have been carried on and various germicides and liquid nutrients sprayed to promote the growth of crops and minimize damage to them.

The Pyongyang Railway Bureau scrupulously organizes the transport of cement, structural steel and other materials needed for the relief effort in South Hamgyong Province.

It ensures that engines pull more cargo than the standards every day and schedules processes in a well-knit way so as to send trains carrying cement and steel materials in time.

It strictly examines the technical conditions of engines and wagons, directs transport meticulously to raise the traffic capacity and concentrates efforts and means on restoration of railways to ensure on-schedule arrival of trains at afflicted areas.

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Nationwide

Railroads reconditioned in Jagang

Jagang Province has repaired over 2 340 square metres of retaining walls along the rail lines, supplemented the railway bed with over 23 900 cubic metres of gravel and produced many railway fixing parts and sleepers.

Meanwhile, many trees of good species were planted around railway stations and along railroads.

Highly-efficient compound nutrient developed

The industrial crop institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science developed Kaengsaeng 1, a new generation of compound nutrient.

The nutrient is mainly composed of various amino acids, enzymes and fulvic acid and rationally contains microelements and different kinds of rare-earth elements, and makes it possible to increase grain and vegetable outputs per hectare by over 10 and 30 percent respectively in the barren land.

Sci-tech presentation held in

power industry sector

The Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea hosted a national sci-tech presentation in the field of electric power industry through videoconferencing between August 16 and 18.

The presentation on the theme of maintenance and reinforcement of production foundation and optimization of operation of power station was aimed at exchanging rational sci-tech plans for generating more electricity and widely introducing and generalizing them to sufficiently meet the demand of the national economy for electricity.

Over 60 sci-tech hits were presented by scientists, technicians and members of the three-revolution teams from over a dozen units.

Youth shock brigade activities gain momentum

Over 200 000 young people have joined the youth shock brigade activities throughout the country up to now since the 10th congress of the youth league held at the end of April this year.

Members of the Kim Jin Youth Shock Brigade at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel

Complex have carried out the plans for each process ahead of schedule by waging a 24-7 campaign at the construction site of an energy-saving oxygen blast furnace.

Members of youth shock brigades in coal mines have dynamically waged such mass movements as the helping of next shift to fulfill their yearly production plans ahead of schedule.

Amid the brisk youth shock brigade activities, nearly 2 000 young people have carried out their two-years' or yearly national economic plans and over 15 300 fulfilled their first half-yearly national economic plans ahead of schedule.

Technical innovations for increased cement output

The Chonnaeri Cement Factory is stepping up the technical modernization of its overall production processes, while implementing its cement production plan at over 105 percent every month.

It is now solving technical problems arising in the operation of the fire brick burning process based on a new combustion technology and the coal pulverization process.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Visitors look round fine art pieces at the Okryu Exhibition Hall in a show held to mark the 74th anniversary of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts.

Rabbit rearing carried on, yielding solid results

Good breeds raised

The breeding stock farm built in the Pyongyang Municipal Rural Economy Committee has rabbit hutches covering several hundred square metres and is equipped with feed processing and anti-epizootic facilities. Growing there are hundreds of mother rabbits of good breeds that are high in meat and fur productivity, breeding rate and disease resistance and low in feed consumption.

“Most important is to provide them with adequate nutrition during and after the breeding period,” said Rim Myong Il, an official of the livestock farming department.

The farm raises the fattening rate of rabbits by feeding them on the lumps of a mixture of boiled ground bean, rice bran and grass and improves their nutrition by giving them a swelling feed.

It pays particular attention to anti-epizootic work especially in summer season.

It regularly sterilizes rabbit coops with flame, ultraviolet rays and indigenous microorganisms and takes thorough anti-epizootic measures by applying preventive medicines made by



Rabbit-raising is in vogue across the DPRK at farms, establishments, families and schools.

itself.

Young rabbits of good breeds produced in the farm are supplied to several stockbreeding units.

Healthy rabbits reared with help of microbe

“In the rainy season, rabbits are highly vulnerable to various diseases including coccidiosis. So we are trying hard to put rabbit breeding on a scientific basis so as to prevent such diseases,” said Pak Yon Ho, headmaster of Paegyang Senior Middle School in Ryongsong District, Pyongyang.

The school is well known across the country as a leading unit in rabbit rearing.

Its rabbit house is equipped with all necessary facilities including a hygienic passing room and sterilizing room as well as rabbit hutches.

They raise different varieties of rabbits, some of which weigh over 5 kilograms when fully grown.

What is noticeable in their rabbit breeding method is the application of indigenous microorganisms.

“In the past, we purchased rabbits of good breeds and built fine hutches but we still had difficulties in increasing the number of rabbits due to the effects of seasons and various diseases,” said Pak. “At that time, we had a

chance to visit a unit and learn from its experience in rabbit rearing such as reducing the death rate by using indigenous microorganisms.”

On that basis, the school purchased necessary substrates and confirmed the composition rate of fermenting agent and substrate.

“Since we started using the indigenous microorganism, rabbits grow well free from disease,” said teacher Kim Sun Hyang.

According to her, it is also very effective in the rearing of breeding rabbits in winter.

Covering the floor of hutches with the substrate treated with indigenous microorganisms ensures an appropriate temperature in them and removes the smell of excrement.

As substrates are made from fallen leaves easily obtainable in surrounding hills, the school never runs out of material but makes profits with little labour.

While breeding rabbits, students cultivate a patriotic mind that they give the country what little help they can offer, said Pak.

A family good at rabbit rearing

There is a family good at raising rabbits in Sinmiri, Hyongjesan District, Pyongyang.

It is the family of Pak Yong Min, farmer at the Sinmi Vegetable Cooperative Farm.

The family has dozens of hutches in which over 100 rabbits are growing.

“It was a few years ago when my family started to raise rabbits on a large scale,” said Pak.

As the number of rabbits increased from the initial ten to twenty, his mother found

pleasure in rearing them and decided to do massive raising.

The family secured good seed rabbits and multiplied them every year.

They use as feed the grass from their kitchen garden, by-products from cooking and the like.

They pay special attention to preventing the animals from catching diseases.

Pak said rabbit diseases can effectively be prevented by feeding about a-month-olds antibiotics and cleaning hutches and drying them up every day.

Hutches are fully dried in the yard by avoiding direct sun every day, except on rainy days.

In the evening ash of coal is spread on the floors of hutches to sterilize them.

“Leverets grow healthy and strong when they are given an appropriate amount of milk according to the standard chart indicating the daily quantity of milk and fattening rate,” said Sok Yon Ok, mother of Pak.

“Rabbit breeding is very helpful to enriching our life and I can frequently prepare rabbit dishes for my grandchildren. It’s beneficial, indeed,” she added.

Pak’s family produces over 1 000 young rabbits a year with some 30 breeding rabbits.

Restaurant lures customers with signature rabbit dishes

Rabbit dish is widely known as good for health.

“Demand for rabbit dishes is on the rise as research into traditional national dishes is intensified and the medicinal effects of rabbit dishes are scientifically ascertained,” said Ri Yu Mi, chief of the Taesong Rabbit Restaurant in Taesong District, Pyongyang.

The restaurant has been specializing in rabbit dishes for decades and the menu includes over ten categories of dishes.

Among them, the rabbit soup, registered as a famous food of Korea, is rated as the best health-promoting food.

“What is important in preparing a nice rabbit soup is to butcher the animal properly not to burst its bladder and completely remove its blood. When a certain amount of radish slices are put in the pot before boiling the meat, there will be no impure taste and the meat is fully boiled and good to eat. The flavour of the soup is enhanced as the original taste

of the meat blends in well with those of dates, ginkgo nuts and chestnuts,” said chef An Hyang Mi.

The rabbit soup which has remarkable tonic effects after illness is also good for the treatment of heart and circulatory diseases.

“The mouth-watering rabbit soup is good to eat and very digestible as the meat is soft and it is best for recuperation,” said Choe Chon Su, resident of Ryomyong-dong, Taesong District.

The restaurant was highly appreciated for the soup at different cooking festivals and competitions.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

AFFORESTATION

Rangers tend green forests to benefit locals

The forests throughout the country are getting greener thanks to the patriotic mind of forest rangers who devote their sincerity while regarding every single tree and every single blade of grass like their own flesh.

The chief of the Jongdong branch forest control office at the Phyonggang County Forestry Management Station, who has grown hundreds of hectares of Korean larch and pine-nut forests for 20 years together with his family members, has sent wood which was produced at the woodland in his charge to the construction sites in the province and county, and contributed greatly to protecting useful animals as well.

The wild fruits collected from over 900 hectares of forests created by the forest ranger of the Maun branch forest control office of the Junghwa County Forestry Management Station prove effective in the improvement of the county people's livelihood.

A forest ranger of the Kacchon City Forestry Management Station planted different kinds of wild fruit tree forests while manuring and tending trees in a responsible manner.

The ranger in Ungok-ri of the Chongdan County

Forestry Management Station, who has tended green forests through generations, planted mixed forests in the section in his charge, made different vegetable growth accelerators and microbial agrochemicals that meet geographical characteristics by his own effort, used them to create and protect forests and laid a foundation for the settlement of firewood problem for the life of locals.

Among the patriots who have devoted their whole lives to protecting forests while taking preventive measures against the destructive elements of forests including wildfire according to a well thought-out plan, there is a forest ranger at the Kwangyang branch forest control office of the Yonsa County Forestry Management Station.

The forest ranger of the Tachon branch forest control office of the Kowon County Forestry Management Station has made strenuous efforts for over 20 years to grow tens of millions of tree saplings while putting main stress on improving the rooting rate of young saplings.

The ranger of the Chongsu branch forest control office of the Sakju County Forestry Management Station turned the forests in his charge into wild

fruit tree forests as he led locals to fulfil their responsibility and duty as the performers of afforestation.

The ranger at the branch office for the control of reservoir forest reserve under the Sijung County Forestry Management Station, who has steadily pushed the planting and management of woodland for the section of reserved forests near reservoirs, produced over ten tons of wild fruits last year to benefit the county population.

The chief of a post at the Ryanggang provincial forest management bureau has planted pine-nut trees and other species of wild fruit trees in the forests in his charge and produced many saplings in the tree nursery built by his own effort.

Many forest rangers turn the forests in their charge into "gold and treasure mountains", including those at the Sugu branch forest control office of the Kujang County Forestry Management Station and the Yangsung branch forest control office of the Toksong County Forestry Management Station and the chief of the Sajong branch forest control office of the Singye County Forestry Management Station.

By **Jong Chol** PT

FOODSTUFF

Factory improves quality of sugar

The Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory in Songyo District, Pyongyang, introduces various technical innovation plans to improve the quality of sugar.

The factory developed an enzyme essential for *oktang* sugar production with domestic raw materials and established a technique for culturing the enzyme.

It also developed techniques to use domestic raw materials in

making the reagent and sodium carbonate needed for glucose production.

The introduction of these techniques has halved the sugar production cost as compared to previously and ensured its quality indexes.

"Now that we can turn out sugar, our main index, as we like, we have a solid foundation for activating the production of confectionery," said Jon Tong

Chol, staffer at the technical department.

In addition, the factory upgraded different processes including production processes of various highly nutritious instant grain foods and a glucose packing process.

By **Jong Hwa Sun** PT



Two technicians test enzyme activity at a lab of the Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory.

RYU KWANG HYOK

PROFILE

Woman ensures domestic production of insulating bricks



There is a woman who strives to ease the strains on electric power supply in the country. She is Hyon Ok Ju (pictured), manager of the thermal insulation building materials branch factory of the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station.

Earlier, she worked as director of an analysis station.

Though insulating brick was not her major, she set foot on the area under the influence of her father.

"My father had long researched insulating brick. He would say that if insulating brick consisting of thermal insulating materials is applied to the boiler, combustion efficiency would be enhanced and environmental pollution prevented," recalled Hyon.

She succeeded to her father's research project.

During her study she drew a conclusion that insulating brick could be made from white soot from a thermal power station and locally-abundant clay with no additive.

At the beginning, some technicians regarded it as a fancy. Though many research

findings on insulating brick were issued, its mass production based on domestic materials had not been realized.

After painstaking quest and efforts, she established an insulating brick production process based on white soot, before making trial products and going to the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station so as to introduce it.

"Every sci-tech research finding would be impractical and empty talk, if it is not introduced into reality no matter how valuable it may look. I wanted to prove my research success in reality," said Hyon.

The old insulation walls of a boiler were pulled down and the walls were built with newly-made insulating bricks, then the combustion efficiency of the boiler began to rise.

"I was very happy to see electricity production increase. At the thought that I did something helpful to relieving power shortage in the country, the pains I had taken so far seemed to turn into a happy memory. And I felt an urge to dedicate my all to this place," she added.

Therefore, Ok Ju became an employee of the power plant and afterwards an insulating brick workteam was set up there before being expanded into a branch factory.

She went to other thermal power stations to help them build insulating brick production processes.

Hyon Ok Ju is continuing her research to improve the technical specifications of the insulating brick.

By **Kim Il Jin** PT

BAG

Technical innovation campaign becomes mass-based

The Sinuiju Bag Factory in North Phyongan Province has led others in the annual national bag exhibition for several years.

"All the employees take an active part in developing new technologies and introducing them into production. This is how we can set the pace for others in bag production throughout the country," said manager Pak Jong Chol.

According to him, the factory has encouraged not only technicians and skilled workers, but all other employees to join the technical innovation drive.

The subjects of such plans cover every domain of work from production to business management, including making

of new designs, improvement of the quality of products, lowering of costs, training of skilled workers, domestic production of equipment and raw and other materials and recycling.

The factory ran its sci-tech learning space on a regular basis to encourage technical study and diffusion, made sure that each experienced worker took charge of a novice to train them and quarterly arranged an examination to assess the state of training skilled workers.

"In this course, all the employees improved their technical knowledge and skills," said workteam leader Sin Kwang Suk.

In the past, bag production was carried on according to

the designs presented by some technicians at the technical preparation department, but now good designs created by other employees are applied to production, she added.

Through the mass technical innovation drive, the factory produces more than 10 kinds of consumer goods with scraps and makes plastic core needed for bag production.

"We now have many things to do including the establishment of a process for producing compressed sponge and the work to increase the varieties of consumer goods by using various by-products," said the manager.

By **Ri Sang Il** PT

GREENING

A city in the park

Pyongyang is now in green foliage.

Wherever you go, roadside trees line the streets, providing passers-by with cool shade with their green leaves, and flowers are in full bloom on flower beds and flowerpot stands and in the middle of green areas, giving delight to the viewers.

Up on Choesung Pavilion at the top of Moran Hill covered with flowers you can command a bird's eye view of the greenbelts, parks, the fountains spewing out water into the sky from the Taedong River and thickly wooded Mt Taesong, experiencing unusual feeling about nature.

The beauty of Pyongyang thick with luxuriant foliage in midsummer differs from one street to another with their unique charms.

Along the Changgwang food alley line zelkova trees widely spreading out their leafy branches. Chollima Street has an impressive array of ginkgo trees with countless small fan-shaped leaves "fanning" themselves uninterruptedly, the branches of willow trees on the banks of the Pothong and Taedong rivers droop over the water and Moran Hill boasts the features of traditional natural scenery of the nation. Other streets, parks

and recreation grounds are also adorned with various species of trees and flowering shrubs.

Pyongyang has favourable conditions for landscaping as Mt Taesong, Moran Hill, Mansu Hill, Mt Changgwang, Namsan and Jangdae hills, Mt Haebang and other mountains and hills adjoin the other along the Taedong River which flows through the city centre.

But the beauty of green Pyongyang is not merely the provision of nature.

As he assigned designers the task of drawing up the master plan for the reconstruction of Pyongyang in 1951 in the thick of war, President Kim Il Sung said that the capital city has many scenic places for building parks and pleasure grounds, emphasizing the need to create greenbelts in a large area and plant many trees of various species.

Later, Pyongyang has actually been turned into a city in the park.

Rungna and other islets were developed into parks and cultural and recreation grounds of the people and a series of landscaping projects were undertaken continuously to go well with streets.

As he looked round the construction site of the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District last March, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that landscaping around the residential district should be designed well and parks on the banks of the river built more wonderfully to provide residents with great convenience in their life and improve the natural environment. And he specially emphasized the need to set

new standards for urban and environmental management and pay close attention to cultured environmental management including landscaping.

According to information available, more than 400 000 trees and lots of ground-cover plants were planted in a large area and millions of flowering plants produced to decorate flowerbeds and flowerpot stands in the urban management sector this year.

Pyongyang Municipality is now putting efforts into the greening of roofs of dwelling houses and planting of street trees and hedges.

By **Ri Sung Ik** PT



A panoramic view of Rungna Islet from Pyongyang's Moran Hill in luxuriant foliage.

RI KWANG SONG / PICTORIAL DPR KOREA

Theme parks attract visitors

The Mansudae fountain-flower park located in the centre of Pyongyang now draws lots of visitors as it is thick with foliage with flowers in full bloom.

The park consists of different types of rest sections, a flower garden, flowerbeds and flowerpot stands centring around a rhythmic fountain.

Visitors seat themselves in resting places shaded by coloured glass and wisteria to enjoy the view of the rhythmic fountains throwing up a spray of water and beautiful flowers.

There are dozens of such parks in Pyongyang.

Each one varies according to theme. As seen above, the Mansudae fountain-flower park is a combination of the features of the fountains and flowering plants. There are also a flower park which provides a variety of relaxing environments in resting places with only greens and flowering shrubs and a sports park in which various sporting apparatuses and resting sites go well with the green environment.

Such parks provide

people with a more wholesome ecological environment for a life full of cultured emotions and feelings.

"Urban schoolchildren who have less contact with nature become familiar with plants and insects as they see flowers appearing according to seasons, bees and butterflies in such parks and recreation grounds," said Kim Pom Sun, teacher at Okryu Primary School in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang.

By **Sin Pyol** PT

Flower arrangements add beauty to streets

Pyongyang streets are now decorated with distinctive flower beds and flowerpot stands, bringing joy to citizens.

What are eye-catching are baskets arranged with various flowers to go well with the surrounding environment, mobile flowerpot stands, large flowerpots and floral decorations made by applying plastic arts.

"Our floricultural farm made over 80 special flowerpot stands in a

distinctive style this year," said Sin Jong Nam, manager of the Phyongchon District Floricultural Farm.

Streets have been brightened by the hexagonal flowerpot stands put up in the Puksong-dong area in the district and the flowerpot stands made of plant parts at the roadsides.

The hexagonal flowerpot stand has a magnolia, the national flower of the DPRK,

at the centre and it is surrounded by various kinds of flowering plants. And the flowerpot stand made by weaving willow branches has unique decoration effects.

Streets of Ryokpho District have also been decorated with flowering plants in a novel, distinctive style.

In Mangyongdae District a flower garden is being remodelled afresh.

By **Ri Myong Jun** PT



From left: Mansudae fountain-flower park. Roses in full bloom add more beauty to Pyongyang.

EATERY

Changgwang food alley still draws many citizens



PAK KWANG HUN

Diners have lunch at the Zhajiang House in Changgwang food alley.

Over 20 restaurants stand side by side on both sides of Changgwang Street of Pyongyang, which serve different kinds of dishes including traditional and world cuisines.

"Decades have passed since they opened and now many famous restaurants cater to the citizens in all parts of Pyongyang. But still there is no other street with restaurants, each specializing in one cuisine, standing in rows on both sides," said Ryang Yun Mi, a service staffer at the Changgwang Public Catering Service Management Agency.

Though more than 10 years have passed since they were modernized, the restaurants preserve their original architectural styles and charming features.

"Still vivid in my memory is the time when I came here for the first time. I wanted to visit all the restaurants here because their styles made me feel as if I could savour the pleasant and sweet flavour of all the dishes. Since I tasted the dish of the Rice-Cake Soup House on lunar New Year's eve, I have become a regular of this food alley," said Yang Chol Ryong living in Ryonhwa-dong No. 2 of Central District, Pyongyang.

The restaurants in the Changgwang food alley mainly serve traditional foods including uncurdled bean curd soup, entrails soup, catfish soup, rice-cake soup and mung-bean pancake.

At the outdoor stalls, customers are served different foods made on the spot, and green tea, black tea, fruit punch,

apricot seed tea and sunflower seed tea of the Unjong Teahouse are very popular with a wide range of customers.

The restaurants specializing in Chinese and Western foods also draw many diners.

The Zhajiang House specializing in Chinese cuisines serves over a dozen kinds of foods like chow mein, broiled jiaozi and roast duck and its service environment is also special.

Celebrating lanterns, lighting, kitchen utensils, dining tables and all other interior designs and environment are provided in Chinese style and waitresses also serve the diners, wearing cheongsam, traditional Chinese women's dress.

According to Ryu Kum Sun, manageress of the restaurant, customers came to have knowledge of the food culture and dishes of China as they enjoyed Chinese cuisine.

Dozens of kinds of dishes are served in the Western food house, including pizza, pickled seafood, fried drumstick, steamed calf of pig, broiled celery with minced beef and seasoned potato with mayonnaise.

Ri Il Sim, resident of Yokjondong in Central District, Pyongyang, said that her whole family often visit it to enjoy traditional Korean and world cuisines in the restaurants of the Changgwang food alley on holidays or Sundays.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Hamgyong Provincial People's Hospital donated their skin for a dying patient and a workteam leader of the August 28 Youth Shock Brigade sacrificed herself to save a shock brigade member under her charge from an unexpected danger.

A switchman at the Tanchon railway branch bureau jumped into the river to save a drowning student and an employee of the North Hamgyong provincial medical source mobilization company unhesitatingly leaped from an elevated bridge into the water to rescue a drowning child.

Players of the Suyangsan Sports Club rushed without delay to extinguish the forest fire which broke out in a forest reserve around Mt Suyang during their training in the mountain.

They were in their teens and twenties.

All the heroes of these laudable deeds have one thing in common—that they take them as a matter of course and do not think of them as something self-sacrificing or heroic.

By Kil Chung Il PT

EDUCATION

Teacher devotes herself at remote mountain village

Ro Yong Bok has been teaching for 16 years at Yaksan Senior Middle School in Nyongbyon County.

She made remarkable educational successes even old teachers would be surprised at, though her career was not longer than that of those who devoted their whole life to education.

She created dozens of new educational methods, delivered scores of county-level demonstration lectures, earned the title of central October 8 model lecturer, first-class teacher's qualification and so on.

Such successes are attributed to her painstaking speculation and efforts.

"In fact, I had no idea to become a teacher after graduating from a university. But I came to this remote mountain village following my husband after marriage and I took it as my duty to become a teacher," said Ro Yong Bok.

Ro graduated from Kim Il Sung University.

She teaches natural science

including physics that students find it hard to understand.

"Practice makes perfect. So I usually organize experiments and practical training by bringing teaching contents closer to the reality so as to make students experience what they have learned at lessons," she said.

To fully understand students' psychology is one of her priorities.

She always places herself into students' position to make students have interest in lessons to suit their psychology.

Always making exact demands on herself, she has never neglected attention to education and edification for students even when she got sick.

Thanks to her efforts, the class in her charge has always won good results at the school-wide academic contest.

"My desire as an educationist is to teach students to give satisfaction to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un," said Ro Yong Bok.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



KIM RYE YONG

Ro Yong Bok, teacher at Yaksan Senior Middle School in Nyongbyon County, helps students study during an extracurricular lesson.

Programmes upgraded for postgraduates

"One of important things in building up the ranks of teachers at universities of education and teachers training colleges is to boldly innovate the teaching programmes of postgraduate courses," said an official of the Education Commission.

The contents of postgraduate education have been further subdivided.

Teaching contents have been expanded so that new subjects in the fields of pedagogy can be created, cutting-edge and cross-disciplinary sciences can be pushed back and postgraduates in the teacher training sector can acquire appropriate political and theoretical, scientific

and practical and teaching qualifications.

To this end, the universities that play the role of the hub of learning in the teacher training sector are fulfilling their responsibility and duty, while developing new subjects of educational science including educational comparative science and decision-making theory.

Universities of education and teachers training colleges across the country pay constant attention to supplementing the latest scientific achievement data to the teaching programmes of special and selective subjects.

By Pang Un Ju PT

ALTRUISM

Virtues widely promoted

Noble virtues and traits have become commonplace in the DPRK.

Shortly ago, an old woman living in Sojang-dong, Pothonggang District of Pyongyang, celebrated her birthday amid the blessings of many well-wishers.

She had devoted herself to taking good care of her husband, an honoured disabled soldier and writer, for dozens of years and done a lot of good things for society after his death.

"Though I lost my husband who was the main support and pillar of my life and have so far lived without children, I have never felt lonely or unhappy," said So Jae Ryol in her eighties. "Because many people have become my family members and children and grandchildren and showed love of my own flesh and blood to me."

Among the many well-wishers

were the couple who serve her as their own mother at home, those who have taken good care of her for dozens of years since they formed connections with her, disciples of her husband, a general of the Korean People's Army and meritorious persons. It really touched the heart of all to see them call her "mother" with warm affection and say happy birthday to her.

All the Korean people regard their society as a large harmonious family.

All of them share a common idea that there must never be a man who live in gloom in it.

Therefore, young men and women happily marry special-class honoured disabled soldiers and help others sincerely despite their own difficulties, feeling their sufferings as their own.

This year alone over 140 doctors and nurses of the North

CHILD RIGHTS

Child protection, shared responsibility for international community

According to foreign media, 100 children were recently killed by an armed attack on refugees in a public health facility and school in northern Ethiopia and over 160 000 children are suffering from hunger on their way to refuge from disputes.

In South Sudan one in ten children lose their lives before five due to the protracted dispute, coupled with natural disasters, and about 1.4 million children are expected to suffer severe malnutrition this year.

The reality urgently demands children's rights be fully guaranteed and their living conditions improved.

In early August, Uzbekistan and Russia signed a protocol on mutual understanding and cooperation in the field of protection of children's rights and interests.

The Russian presidential envoy for the rights of the child said all issues concerning children require urgent solution and practical measures, adding that the document will be helpful in resolving specific problems concerning all children.

The Uzbek chief delegate for the rights of the child noted that the protocol is an apparent legal document in solving the problem of protecting the rights and interests of the children of immigrants.

The Ugandan government expressed its will to study effective joint measures for the prevention of violence against children, work out a new strategic plan for providing safe educational environment and implement it in cooperation with several international organizations including UNICEF and UNESCO.

On August 3, Uzbekistan approved as a cabinet decision the regulations on running preschool educational courses by mobile groups by bus free of charge and introduced them into several regions of the country.

In the DPRK, it is one of the most important Party and state affairs to protect the children's rights and improve their living conditions.

A crucial decision on feeding dairy products to children across the country was made in June and it is now being implemented dynamically on a nationwide scale.

In the past ten years alone, the universal 12-year compulsory education was introduced in the DPRK and childcare facilities sprang up in succession throughout the country including orphanages, primary

and middle schools for orphans, Okryu Children's Hospital and schoolchildren's palaces.

And children in the northern flood-stricken areas of the country enjoyed camping as a state measure and teachers training colleges were wonderfully upgraded.

The Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities was established and projects are under way to get disabled children ready for receiving school education like normal children under the state concern.

The Korean children are now leading a happy life free from worries at nurseries, kindergartens and schools under the care of the state despite the worldwide public health crisis and natural disasters.

By Min Chol PT

Briefly

Iran

President calls for regional cooperation

Iranian President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi at the talks with the Iraqi foreign minister on August 10 called for enhancing dialogue and cooperation between countries in the region.

Collective cooperation is a prerequisite to achieving security and peace and promoting the welfare of the people, he said, urging regional countries to solve complex problems through dialogue and improve relations.

Palestine

Israel's settlement project denounced

The Palestinian presidential office published a statement on August 12 to condemn the Israeli plan for building Jewish settlements.

It said that the Israeli authorities now plan to build 2 200 new houses in the West Bank.

Zimbabwe

President calls for united efforts for national development

The Zimbabwean President in a speech delivered on the occasion of hero's day on August 9 appealed to his countrymen to make devoted efforts for the development of the country.

The heroes of the past generation fought to the death for national liberation, he said, adding all the people should build a modernized and developed country in order to glorify their noble spirit.

China

FM decries Japanese politicians' shrine visit

A spokesman for the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on August 15 dubbed the recent Japanese Prime Minister's offerings and some cabinet members' and dietmen's visit to the Yasukuni Shrine as a disgrace to history and justice.

He said that the behaviour of Japanese politicians concerning the shrine issue showed their wrong attitude toward the history of aggression.

Kenya

Afforestation underway

Kenya is channelling efforts into implementing the strategy of increasing the forest cover rate by 10 percent till 2022.

The government is taking steps to lay foundations for producing 2.5-3 billion saplings a year at a forest research institute and provide necessary funds.

It called on all residents to turn out in afforestation.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

JAPAN

Exhibition accentuates diametrically different approaches to sinful past

An exhibition was recently held on the theme of history of war or violence at the national museum in Dresden in eastern Germany.

On display were materials on damage from war or violence around the world, including the holocaust by the Nazis in Dresden during the Second World War, and a monument dedicated to the memory of victims of sex slavery for the Japanese imperial army.

It is said to be the first time for the monument to be displayed in a public museum of Germany.

It is a reflection of the aspiration of the international community toward atoning for the past wrongs, drawing a lesson from them and building a peaceful society free from war and violence.

Japan, however, applied pressure on the museum both overtly and covertly to remove the monument during the exhibition by running counter to the aspiration of the international

community.

According to the curator of the museum, the minister in charge of culture of the Japanese embassy in Germany sent a letter to the museum asking it to withdraw the monument one day before the press conference for the opening of the exhibition was held. This was followed by the coming of over a hundred emails containing similar message a day, the head of the museum said.

So the museum side requested the local authorities to conduct an investigation and asked the Japanese embassy to discontinue sending emails repeatedly. But the embassy replied they did not send them every time. Only with the help of the German Foreign Ministry did the email influx discontinue.

It is a typical example showing Japan's approach to its sinful past.

During the exhibition, the museum invited Japan to a round table conference and forum for discussing the culture of memory, but was refused.

Both Germany and Japan are war criminal states of WWII.

But they have completely contrary views on the past history. Germany admitted the crime it committed during the Nazi period and made an apology and reparations to the international community on several occasions. However, Japan has not admitted its crime, but tries to distort history as it imbues rising generations with a wrong outlook on history.

It shamelessly justifies its past history of aggression, saying there is no need to feel guilty about the bygone and insists that the Japanese should not be destined to keep apologizing as 80 percent of its population are the post-war generations.

And it insults the victims of the sex slavery as "prostitutes" and argues that the wartime rape does not constitute a war crime or an unethical crime.

It has gone to such lengths as to forbid the use of the expression "sex slaves" and is now trying to remove the word

"their service in the war".

The sex slavery crime is not what fades away and alters as a result of negation or evasion of responsibility.

Underlying Japan's perverse view is the pining for the past when it ruled other countries and nations by occupying them and the sinister design to repeat the history of aggression.

"Through the exhibition I keenly realized the importance and difficulty of maintaining a right attitude under pressure. Many visitors said they came to know the 'comfort women' issue for the first time and sympathized with the victims. The display of the monument brought about great changes and continues to produce changes," said the curator.

Japan ought to make a sincere apology for the past unheard-of crimes with a guilty conscience and atone for them, instead of negating the clearly evident and undeniable fact.

By Song Jong Ho PT

RECYCLING

Nations direct efforts to recycling

Proactive efforts are being made around the world to convert different kinds of waste into resources.

Beijing of China built over 1 200 refuse heaps and set up or remodelled more than 60 000 dustbins from May last year to date to collect and reuse large

quantities of waste.

Shanghai increased the number of factories that collect cloth scraps to make various kinds of goods including clothes, scarves, pouches, pillows and gloves.

In Istanbul, the largest city in Turkey, about 80 garbage trucks

carry 500 tons of household waste to a recycling factory every day.

The factory turns the waste into 70-75 tons of organic manure and 15 tons of useful materials.

A waste incinerating facility that is now being built in the

city will be able to daily treat 3 000 tons of waste to produce electricity when complete.

Austria recently succeeded in making trainers with waste. More than 90 percent of their materials are said to be plastic waste from the sea, scrapped shoes and recycled cloths.

An electronic waste treatment facility was inaugurated in Uganda.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Time-honoured city of Kaesong preserved in original state



Kaesong, which is about 160km south of Pyongyang, is a city with a history of over 1 100 years.

Well over a hundred historical sites have so far been surveyed and registered in the city and those from the period of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392), the first unified state of the Korean nation, take a larger proportion of them. The city had been the capital of Koryo for nearly 500 years.

Koryo was remarkably advanced in handicrafts and commerce and Kaesong was a hub of trade in East Asia.

The historical relics preserved in the city provide a window of opportunity for an in-depth study of the ancient civilization of the Korean nation.

There are the mausoleum of King Wang Kon (877-943), the founder king of Koryo, that of

King Kyonghyo (1330-1374), the 31st king of Koryo, and Manwoltae, royal palace site of the kingdom.

The walled city of Kaesong is comprised of the palace, keep and outer castle. As the castle to defend the capital, the city walls were erected between 1009 and 1029 and the South Gate was built when the keep was constructed between 1391 and 1393. In the gatehouse of the South Gate there is the famous bell which had hanged at the Yonbok Temple.

The Seven Tombs Cluster at the foot of Mt Mansu are tombs from the Koryo period. The owners of them are known as related to the royal family at the close of the Koryo period in the light of their scale and structure and the relics discovered in them.

Especially in the city there is

Songgyungwan in its original state. It was the highest educational institute of the Koryo feudal state and it can be claimed to be one of the oldest universities of the world.

Sungyang Confucian School was built in 1573 at the site of the house of Jong Mong Ju (1337-1392), a high ranking Koryo official and competent military strategist and diplomat.

There are many other historical sites in Kaesong, such as the Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory, Sonjuk Bridge, Monuments to Fidelity of Jong Mong Ju and Myongrung Cluster. Twelve of them were inscribed in the world cultural heritage list in 2013 as representative heritage elements testifying to the culture and history of Koryo.

By Min Chol PT



1. Mausoleum of King Kyonghyo. 2. South Gate in Kaesong. 3. Koryo Songgyungwan. 4. Part of walled city of Kaesong. 5. Sungyang Confucian School. 6. Sonjuk Bridge. 7. Monuments to Fidelity of Jong Mong Ju.

ICH

Folk songs with distinctly national flavour

Among the invaluable spiritual and cultural assets of the Korean nation are folk songs.

The northwestern provinces of Korea consisting of today's North and South Phyongan, Jagang, North and South Hwanghae provinces are widely known as the place where folk songs have fully developed from olden times in Korea.

Yangsando is a typical folk song of the northwestern provinces of Korea.

Yangsang here is the abbreviation of such places as Yangdok and Maengsan.

The song graphically describes the beautiful scenery of Yangdok, Maengsan and Moran Hill in Pyongyang along the Taedong River.

Folk songs in the region are generally soft and beautiful in melody and bright and lively in emotion.

The song is still performed in different forms to meet the modern aesthetic taste.

Ryonggangginari is one of typical Korean folk songs reflecting the diligent working life of its people.

With excellent features of folk

songs in the region, the song was widely sung in rural areas where local farmers were busy with rice-transplanting, weeding, grass cutting and other farm work.

A story is still told in Ryonggang and Kangso areas about "ginari" that the song sung by two weeding girls part by part was so pleasant that even passers-by stopped to hear it without noticing that it got dark.

Ballad of Phyongbuk Nyongbyon is a folk song which sings of picturesque Yaksandongdae in Nyongbyon County of North Phyongan Province.

There is a beautiful mountain in Nyongbyon, called Yaksan, round which the clear water of the Kuryong River meanders. Yaksan is said to be derived from the fact that many species of medicinal herbs grow and mineral waters gush out there.

The song sings of the beauty of Yaksandongdae covered with light-pink azaleas.

Today it is mostly sung as a solo by female folk singers.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

CULINARY

Famous dish of Pyongyang Hotel

Pleurotus eryngii boiled down in soy sauce seasoned with oyster is particularly favoured by clients at the Pyongyang Hotel.

The dish, which left a deep impression on diners for its special taste for many years of service, was recently registered as a famous dish of the hotel restaurant.

Cook Ham Jong Ho explained its recipe, saying that *Pleurotus eryngii*, which is widely used in the dietary life of people, contains many different nutritive components including proteins.

At first, prepare *Pleurotus eryngii* and soy sauce seasoned with oyster as the main materials, and use dark soy sauce, salt, Welsh onion, black pepper, monosodium glutamate, oil, sesame oil, chicken broth, rape, potato starch and ginger as auxiliary food materials.

After cleanly washing the mushroom, cut it into slices and scald them in the boiling salt water of 0.1 percent. Clean the rape and then scald it.

Put oil in a frying pan, which has been heated to the temperature of 150°C, roast peeled ginger slices and Welsh onion cut into 1 cm sizes on it and then take them out. Put soy sauce



AN YONG CHOL

Pleurotus eryngii and oyster boiled down in soy sauce.

seasoned with oyster into the pan to go on with roasting, pour the dark soy sauce and chicken broth and boil it down for 15 minutes together with the mushroom. And then season it while putting farina solution, sesame oil and black pepper into it.

Meanwhile, parch rape in the heated frying pan after applying oil and then improve flavour by adding salt, monosodium glutamate and farina juice.

It is served when it is hot after putting the boiled mushroom on a plate, before sprinkling it with the starch juice and putting rape around it.

The dish in red brown colour makes diners' mouth water as it presents savoury taste plus chewing taste with the harmony of little fishy soy sauce seasoned with oyster.

By Yun Ki Song PT

