

Golden Jubilee of the
Naming of Kimilsungia





Kim Jong Un looks round the modernly renovated Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory in January Juche 104 (2015)

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To Effect Radical Changes in Improving People's Living Standards

Under the energetic field guidance of the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un to several light industry factories from January to early February, fierce flames of improving the people's living standards were kindled all across the DPRK.

He gave field guidance at the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory.

Feasting his eyes on the overall view of the factory splendidly renovated as required by the new century, he was very satisfied to say that it underwent a great change beyond recognition. Adding that its production buildings and the surrounding environment were clean and looked wonderful, he said that he was pleased at the mere sight of the exteriors.

He made the rounds of injection-moulding workteam, uppers and shoemaking workshops and other production processes and cultural and public amenities to check the renovation and management in detail. He then stressed that the factory should strive hard to produce more quality and stylish shoes, in keeping

with the renovation of the factory as a model and standard of shoe makers in the country.

The supreme leader also visited the Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople in the biting cold of January. While looking round the factory, he set the task to make great efforts to develop and produce foodstuffs which are badly needed for the athletes and suit the physical constitutions of our people and ways to implement the task.

He provided field guidance to the Ryuwon Footwear Factory.

Saying that he visited the factory to acquaint himself with production and take measures, he instructed that more and better consumer goods should be supplied to the people by giving fullest play to the strong foundations and potentials of light industry the great Generalissimos had provided.

He called for the light industry sector to take the lead in the production and the whole country to keep pace with it so as to kindle fierce flames of producing consumer goods and thus bring



Kim Jong Un gives field guidance at the Ryuwon Footwear Factory in January Juche 104 (2015)



Kim Jong Un visits the Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople in January Juche 104 (2015)



Kim Jong Un visits the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory in February Juche 104 (2015)



about an epochal turn in improving the people's living standards in the near future. By so doing, he earnestly said, the cherished desire of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il should be translated into reality without fail.

Kim Jong Un gave on-site guidance at the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory.

Making the rounds of several places at the factory, he referred to the ever-increasing demand for cosmetics among the people and instructed that the factory should wage a dynamic campaign to produce in larger quantities the cosmetics greatly conducive to making the life of our women and other working people more beautiful, ennobling and cultured and promoting their health.

He then advanced detailed measures for carrying out the task.

Saying that the factory should be facelifted completely as a modern and flawless one to be boasted to the world and a model and standard of cosmetics factories in the country, he promised to help it with the project.

Stressing that this year should be a significant one in bringing about a turning point in developing the cosmetic industry, he

expressed his belief that the employees of the factory would perform their honourable duty with credit and had a photo session with them.

Buoyed by the visits of Marshal Kim Jong Un to several light industry factories, the whole country is seething with enthusiastic struggle to improve the people's living standards.

Article & photo: Kim Thae Hyon



Glorious 70-year History of the WPK

For the Building of an Independent National Economy

The Workers' Party of Korea has inaugurated the era of creation and changes unprecedented in the 5 000-year history of the Korean nation while leading the revolution and construction for 70 years.

The WPK has always set the unique lines and policies on economic construction advanced by the great leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il as its guidelines and instruments for developing the economy aimed at laying material foundations for national prosperity.

Already at the beginning of the building of a new society after Korea's liberation in August 1945 Kim Il Sung put it forward as the general line of economic construction to build an independent national economy and gave scientific elucidation of its essence, position, law-governed process and fundamental requirements. Based on his clarification he set forth strategic lines of building an independent national economy—to give priority to the growth of heavy industry while simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture and to put the national economy on a Juche-oriented, modern and scientific footing. He also advanced revolutionary and scientific lines and policies at every stage of economic construction, such as those of socialist

industrialization and the three major tasks of the technological revolution.

The WPK's efforts to build an independent national economy were not all plain sailing from its first step.

The economy left over from the old society was a dependent and backward one with colonial one-sidedness, and, worse still, was totally ravaged in the ensuing three-year war (1950-1953) unleashed by the United States.

The US imperialists claimed that Korea would not be able to rise on its own feet again in a hundred years.

But the Korean people carried out the postwar rehabilitation with success in a little over three years and fulfilled the historic task of industrialization through a 14-year sustained struggle.

The great Chollima upswing effected in the postwar years in the Kangson Steel Plant (now the Chollima Steel Complex), Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Works (now the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex) and the rest of the country, and the mass heroism and collective innovations displayed in performing tasks at every stage of socialist economic construction were the brilliant fruition of the Party's correct lines and its seasoned leadership.



Kim Il Sung gives on-site guidance at the Musan Mining Complex in August Juche 80 (1991)

With the self-supporting national economy relying on its domestic resources and technology and its people's efforts, the DPRK could overcome trying ordeals and hardships in the 1990s.

The WPK wisely led the work to implement the line of economic construction in the Songun era set forth by Kim Jong Il, turning adversity into prosperity and misfortune into blessing, and thus secured a solid springboard for building a thriving socialist country.

The self-sufficiency of the vanguard sectors, basic industrial sectors of the national economy like electric-power, coal-mining, metal and chemical industries, was bolstered and modern light industry factories were built in great numbers. As a result, the country could satisfy its needs for material means which were conducive to developing the national economy and improving the people's living standards by drawing on its own efforts and technology.

A strong wind of introducing CNC technology into production kindled





Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Un visit the February 8 Vinalon Complex in October Juche 100 (2011)

fierce flames of the industrial revolution in the new century throughout the country. Accordingly, a radical change took place in the undertaking of making the metal, fireproof-materials and chemical industries Juche-oriented; the construction project of a giant power plant was completed within three years, which others would take ten-odd years; and the tideland on Taegye Island was reclaimed and Tanchon Port built.

In the flames of the industrial revolution in the new century kindled by Kim Jong Il and firmly based on the solidly-built independent national economy, the Korean people are now making continuous leap forward and innovative achievements in building theirs into a socialist economic giant under the guidance of the WPK led by Marshal Kim Jong Un.

Article & photo: Choe Il Ho



Scientific research institutes and light industry factories are built in all parts of the country



Land of the country is realigned into standardized fields



Juche-oriented vinalon and fertilizer production bases are established



Many factories and enterprises introduce CNC technology into their production lines by raising fierce flames of the industrial revolution in the new century

The Flower Born of Fascination



Kim Il Sung receives a pot of Kimilsungia from Indonesian President Sukarno in April Juche 54 (1965)

This year marks the golden jubilee of the naming of Kimilsungia, the flower bearing the august name of Kim Il Sung, eternal President of the DPRK, who rendered undying services to the accomplishment of the cause of independence of mankind.

The following story illustrates the boundless reverence for and trust in President Kim Il Sung cherished by the world progressive people.

Among the many heads of state and prominent political figures, who were fascinated by his great personality, was Sukarno, first President of the Republic of Indonesia.

The Indonesian President was one of the founders of the non-aligned movement and an illustrious statesman in the international arena. When he had heard that Kim Il Sung of the DPRK led the Korean People's Army, two years old after its development into regular armed forces, to defeat the allied imperialist forces led by the United States, which had been boasting of being the "strongest" in the world, for the first time in history, Sukarno cherished high reverence for the latter as a great man.

When he visited the DPRK in November Juche 53 (1964), he witnessed that the country removed the vestiges of war in a short period after the war and was achieving constant progress by speeding up socialist industrialization. It evoked from him greater sympathy for the ideology and leadership of President Kim Il Sung.

When the DPRK President paid an official visit to his country in April Juche 54 (1965), he accorded the warmest welcome to him.

On April 13 he accompanied the Korean guest to the Bogor Botanical Garden.

While President Kim Il Sung was being shown around the botanical garden by its director and got to a display stand in a greenhouse, President

Sukarno took a pot of flower from the director and asked President Kim Il Sung how he liked it.

With a bright smile on his face, Kim Il Sung, feeling petals of the flower, appreciated it for a while and answered it was very beautiful.

The director of the botanical garden moved closer to his side and explained that it was a newly-bred flower.

Kim Il Sung expressed his thanks for showing him such a beautiful flower and congratulated the Indonesian botanist on his success.

At that time President Sukarno said:

"Your Excellency Premier Kim Il Sung, your idea is so great that it moves the world, and it is not too much to say you have the whole world. You are the sun illuminating the era of independence and the benevolent father of all the people. So I suggest this flower is named Kimilsungia after your august name."

The director was also pleased at Sukarno's suggestion and earnestly asked Kim Il Sung to accept the offer.

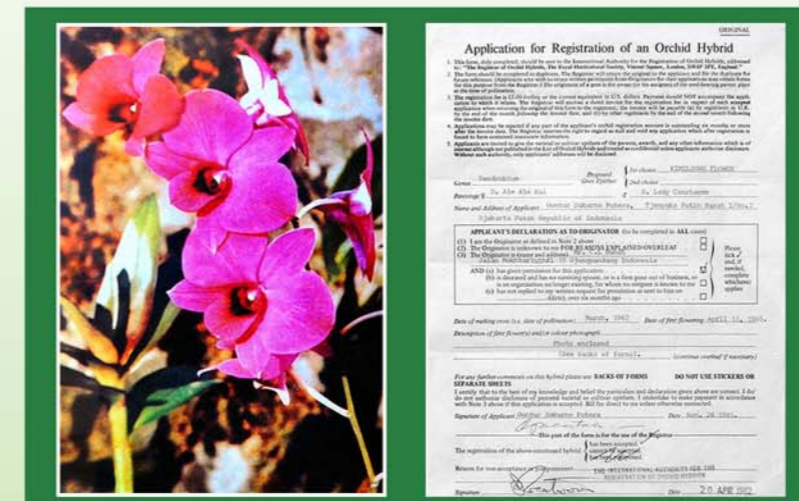
Kim Il Sung declined it, with words of thanks, saying that the flower should naturally be named after the botanist who bred it and that he had done nothing special to have a flower named after him.

Sukarno insisted that the former had already rendered so enormous services to mankind that he deserved such an honour.

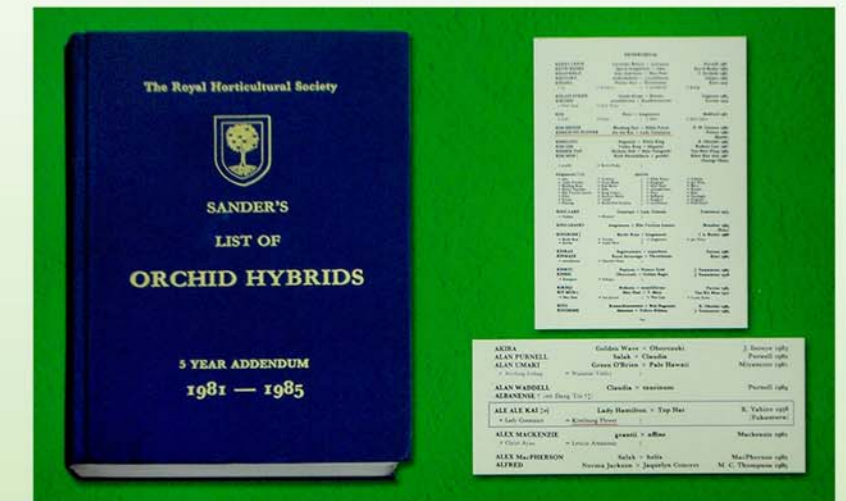
It was the genuine feelings of Sukarno who reflected the unanimous mind of the progressive people in high praise of him.

This is how Kimilsungia came into being.

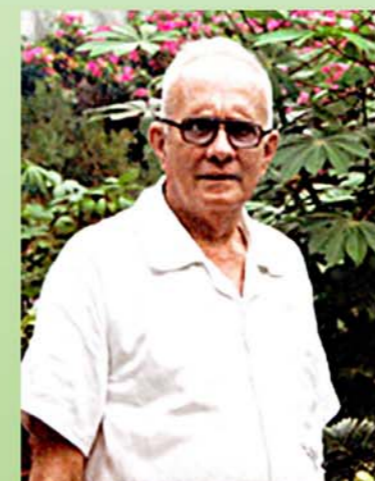
Article: Jong Ki Sang
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



Kimilsungia sent to the Royal Horticultural Society, England, for registration (left) and the original of the application for registration of Kimilsungia sent for reference to the International Authority for the Registration of Orchid Hybrids (right)



Sander's List of Orchid Hybrids, Addendum 1981-1985, introduces that Kimilsungia was registered by the International Authority for the Registration of Orchid Hybrids



C. L. Bundt, breeder of Kimilsungia



Guntur Sukarno Putera writes an application for registering Kimilsungia

Immortal Flower in Full Bloom across the World

There are many flowers in the world, which are loved by people for their respective beauties. However, none of them gives greater appeal to people than Kimilsungia for its significant meaning, unique beauty and charm.

The flower named after Kim Il Sung, eternal President of the DPRK, is loved by the progressive people of the world, who revere him as the sun in the era of independence. Now the celebrated flower is in full bloom all across the world.

The DPRK promoted cultivation and dissemination of Kimilsungia already in the mid-1970s. It organized Korea Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Committee as a specialized organ for disseminating the cultivation techniques of the flower and modern greenhouses sprang up in various parts of the

country, facilitating the work of dissemination on a national scale.

Since Juche 88 (1999) festivals and shows of the flower have been held in a grand style in celebration of the Day of the Sun (April 15, birthday of President Kim Il Sung), and on other major national holidays. Put on display are the flowers grown with sincerity by many organizations and individuals at home, foreign embassies and missions of international organizations in the DPRK, overseas Koreans' organizations and personages.

Kimilsungia greenhouses have also been built in several countries, and they propagate the flower.

Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia greenhouses and Kimilsungia greenhouses have been inaugurated in Indonesia, Guinea, Germany and other countries,

and the American Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia Association and other similar associations and societies formed.

The Association of Supporters for Propagation of Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia that involves prominent personages of the world has its branches in Indonesia, Japan, the United States and other countries and regions of the world and is actively engaged in propagation of the immortal flowers.

Kimilsungia has a sophisticated spatiality formed by two butterfly-shaped petals, a lip in the centre and three sepals.

The flower was officially registered by the International Authority for the Registration of Orchid Hybrids in England in April Juche 71 (1982). It was thus acknowledged as a celebrated



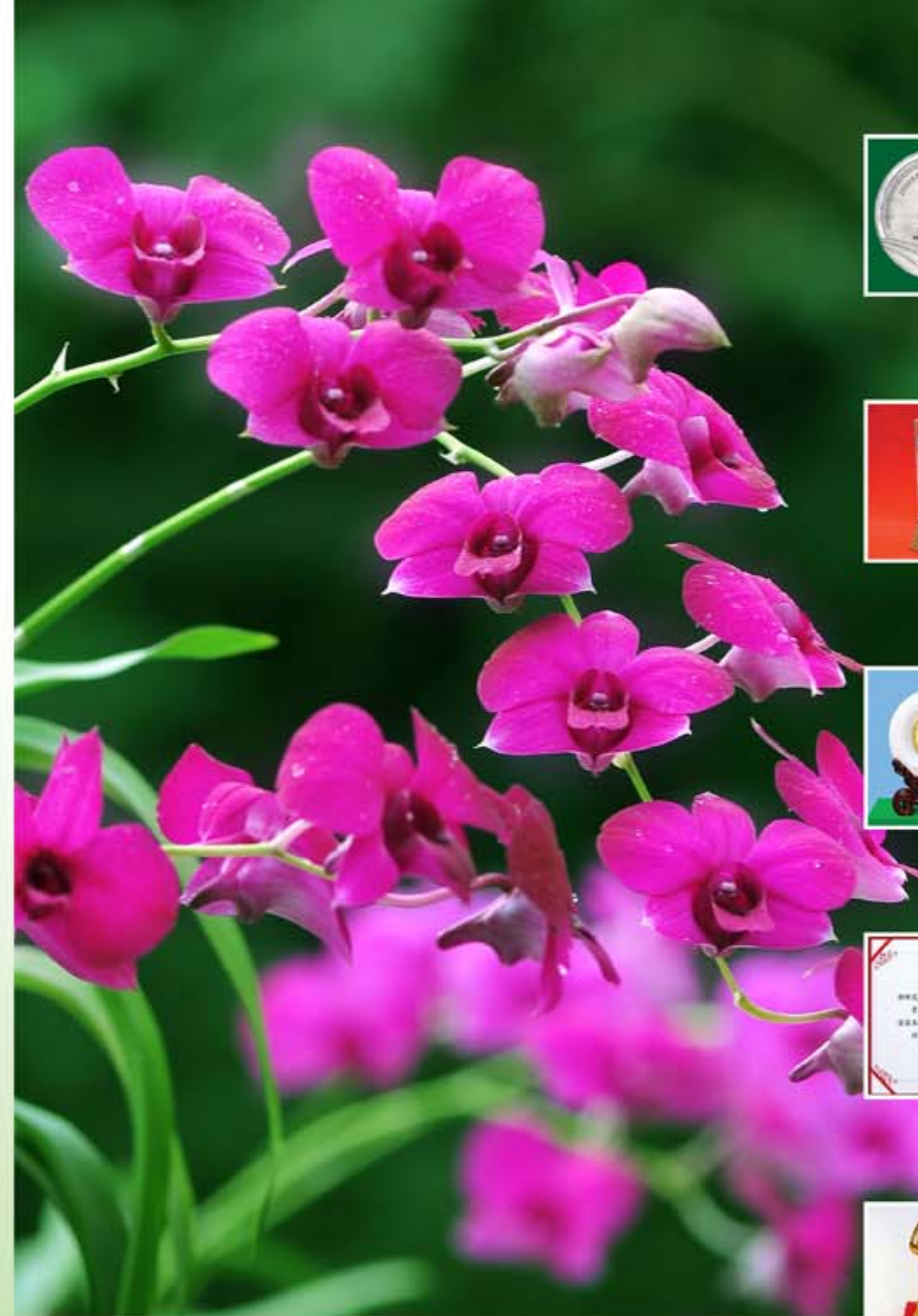
Kimilsungia Exhibition held in the Bogor Botanical Garden of Indonesia



Kimilsungia Exhibition of the West African region held in Conakry, Guinea



Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition held in Jilin, China, in celebration of the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung



Gold award and certificate awarded to Kimilsungia at the International Horticultural Exposition 2006 Shenyang, China



Gold award of international orchid competition and certificate awarded to Kimilsungia at the International Horticultural Exposition 2011 Xi'an, China



Gold prize and certificate awarded to Kimilsungia at the 11th Chinese Rhododendron Exhibition in 2013



Certificate of special prize awarded to Kimilsungia at the 8th Sanya International Orchids Exposition in China and the flower stands



Gold award and certificate awarded to Kimilsungia at the International Horticultural Exposition 2014 Qingdao, China

flower by international horticultural authority and a treasure common to mankind.

The International Horticultural Exposition 2006 Shenyang, China, called a horticultural Olympiad in the new century, awarded to Kimilsungia gold award and certificate.

The flower also won gold award, the top prize of international orchid competition, and certificate at the International Horticultural Exposition 2011 Xi'an, China, gold prize and certificate at the 11th Chinese Rhododendron Exhibition in 2013, certificate of special prize at the 8th Sanya

International Orchids Exposition in China, gold prize and certificate at the International Horticultural Exposition 2014 Qingdao, China.

Fascinated by the beautiful flower, many foreigners have expressed their admiration in the following way: "Kimilsungia is the celebrated of celebrated flowers, as its beauty grows on the people," and "Kimilsungia bears the benevolent image of President Kim Il Sung who is always with not only the Korean people but also progressive people of the world. There are many flowers in the natural world, but Kimilsungia has

become the most beautiful and charming flower beyond comparison, as it bears the august name of the greatest man."

The flower dedicated to a great man will be in full bloom all across the world for ever, enjoying boundless reverence and admiration of mankind.

Article & photo: Kim Son Gyong



Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition House

The Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition House on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River in Pyongyang was opened in April Juche 91 (2002). It reflects the sincerity of all the Korean people and the world progressives who are

desirous of bringing into fuller bloom Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia, immortal flowers named after the peerlessly great men.

Covering a total area of tens of thousands of square metres and a floor space of over 10 000 square metres, it has an architectural style of glass building with arch-type roof resembling an excursion ship on the river.

Hung on the wall in the foyer on the first floor are the portraits of Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il wearing a big smile against the background of the full-blown Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia and the immortal flowers are in front

of the portraits.

Various kinds of decorative and flowering plants and musical fountains that spout different heights of water add much to a splendid view of the hall.

Another wall of the foyer is dedicated to the stone slabs engraved with names and writings of foreign personages, overseas Koreans and the members of the Association of Supporters for Propagation of Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia, who rendered remarkable services to the cultivation and propagation of those flowers and to the construction of the exhibition house.

The two-storey hall plays host to the



Room for tissue culture of Kimilsungia and greenhouse



Foyer of the exhibition house

Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia festivals annually held to mark birth anniversaries of the great leaders—the Day of the Sun and the Day of the Shining Star—and on other major national holidays.

The house has a tissue culture room and a greenhouse covering an area of hundreds of square metres for growing young seedlings to be sent to other countries as well as all parts of the country.

There is also a room dedicated to the history of cultivation of the immortal flowers and the successes achieved in their propagation and flower festivals.

The lectures, workshops and practicals that are designed to improve the cultivating technique and share information and experience are held there on a regular basis.

The exhibition house has a constant stream of the Korean people at home and abroad and foreigners all the year round.

Article & photo: Choe Kwang Ho



Commemorative stone slabs sent by foreign personages



Kimilsungia Festival is held in the hall every year



Mangyongdae in April

Photo: Hong Hun

Creators of Speed of Korea



Munsu Water Park



Masikryong Ski Resort



The DPRK is now ushering in a new era of creation and changes in which the people's dreams and ideals are translated into reality.

In this era of a gigantic struggle to erect many monumental structures that demonstrate the national power of Songun Korea and provide people with more cultured life, the service personnel of the Korean People's Army are always standing in the vanguard.

With a patriotic determination to take upon themselves both national defence and socialist construction, they have performed brilliant feats of labour that

would go down in the national history. They are the standard-bearers in a thriving nation building and architects of people's well-being true to the Workers' Party of Korea's plan of building a prosperous country and its ennobling love of the people, while frustrating vicious machinations of the US and its followers to isolate and stifle the DPRK.

They displayed a revolutionary soldier spirit which makes everything possible and built power plants in steep mountains and deep valleys by erecting dams and drilling natural rocks to make waterway tunnels.

Gigantic projects of land realignment in Kangwon, South and North Phyongan and South Hwanghae provinces which facilitated the country, modern factories and livestock and fish farms built for the sake of the people's rich and cultured life, and recreation grounds laid out in Mts. Jongbang and Kuwol, the Kaeson Youth Park, and other cultural facilities are all invested with their creditable efforts.

Patriotic zeal and spirit the service personnel displayed in implementing the Party's plans to the death are being brought to fuller play with the respected Kim Jong Un at the helm of their

revolutionary forces.

In support of the leadership of Marshal Kim Jong Un who is energetically leading the country to carry out the plan of building a civilized socialist country where people live with nothing to envy in the world, enjoying all benefits, the KPA is taking the lead in creating the speed of Korea that is rushing forward with the fierce wind of making a leap forward, thus writing a new chapter of epoch-making changes in the national history.

True to the Marshal's plan to build a ski resort on Masik Pass in Kangwon Province into a monumental structure of lasting

value, the soldier-builders finished at the shortest period the mammoth project which others would take over ten years to complete, creating the Masikryong speed, a new word of the times.

They also built the Munsu Water Park, comprehensive and multifunctional wading pool, Mirim Riding Club, Okryu Children's Hospital and many other world-stretching edifices, fully demonstrating the mettle of Songun Korea that is making strides with its vigorous youth.

Despite the unfavourable conditions in cold winter, they finished the renovation project of the Songdowon International



Monumental structures built across the country represent the devoted struggle of the soldier-builders



Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum



Rungna Dolphinarium

Children's Camp, a Herculean task, in five months or more by performing miraculous achievements. Their distinguished services were also illustrated by the apartment buildings for educationists at Kim Chaek University of Technology, Pyongyang Baby Home and Orphanage which were built on the banks of the Taedong River at an earliest possible date and at the top level, and the Yonphung Scientists' Holiday Camp that was built in a little over four months.

In carrying out the construction project of the Wisong Scientists Dwelling District they erected framed structures for over 200 flats a day on average by displaying

the might of the great army-people unity.

Thanks to their death-defying struggle the October 8 Factory and February 20 Factory of the KPA were erected to become models and standards of the industrial establishments and the foodstuff factories, assuring the people of a brighter future.

The flames of creating the speed of Korea kindled by the KPA soldiers give an impetus to the vigorous advance of the Korean people, who have turned out to implement the Party's plan of building a thriving nation as soon as possible, to perform fresh feats.

Article & photo: Kim Chung Bok



Rungna Amusement Park



Mirim Riding Club



Apartment buildings for educationists at Kim Chaek University of Technology



With a patriotic mind to take responsibility for the safety of the projects and guarantee their absolute quality for all eternity



Samchong Mine

Towards the Venue of Grand October Celebrations

Leading Cement Producer

The Sangwon Cement Complex is a leading building-material producer with the annual production capacity of millions of tons of cement.

It has played a big role in erecting a lot of monumental structures in the era of the Workers' Party. And in this year of the 70th anniversaries of national liberation and Party founding, the complex is exerting great efforts to increase production so as to send more cement to the construction sites that are fanning the flames of creating the speed of Korea.

The Sangwon Limestone Mine and Samchong Mine that are in charge of supplying raw materials are overfulfilling their monthly production plans by giving precedence to tunnelling and increasing the operation rate of excavators and other machines in faces and stopes.

The officials and workers at the calcining workshop successfully completed the renovation project for production system No. 1 last year, thus improving the efficiency of machines. They are operating the machines and equipment at full capacity by sticking to their technical regulations and manuals.

Those at the control room, fully aware of the importance of their duty in producing high-quality cement in larger quantities, are also redoubling their efforts to increase the proportions of additive materials and put the comprehensive production operations on a more scientific basis.

The complex is pushing ahead with the work to update the production processes and introduce IT into them.

It has newly furnished a room for disseminating sci-tech knowledge among its employees from the management to the shop floor in order to encourage them to take part in a technical innovation drive.

In the flames of the drive in which they pool their efforts and wisdom, the raw material transportation system was modernized and the introduction of IT stepped up in calcining and some other workshops and major production processes.

The innovative success made in the complex is spurring the construction of monumental structures throughout the country.

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Ri Myong Guk

Technical regulations are strictly observed throughout the production lines so as to increase cement production



Towards the Venue of Grand October Celebrations

Feasting Sight of Seafood Products

The Pupho Offshore Seafood Farm is renowned as a seaweed farming base on the coast of the West Sea of Korea.

The sea off the Pupho Workers' District in Kangnyong County, South Hwanghae Province, the farm's location, has a high content of nutritious substances essential for the growth of seaweed and is a good habitat for shellfish. It is also surrounded by islets, offering very favourable natural conditions for seafood farming.

The farm has steadily explored the natural conditions for the buildup of material and technical foundations for cultivating brown algae, kelp and other seaweeds and various kinds of shellfish in

large quantities.

The farm puts greatest efforts into brown algae farming. With an insight into the growing demand for brown algae as a subsidiary food as well as a material for health food and medicines, its management officials and cultivators have pressed on with their production on a large scale every year.

This year, too, they expanded the farming beds and planted superstrains. They finished transplanting of the algae in proper time and continued the thinning process in accordance with technical regulations. Scientific cultivation methods are employed to ensure their process of photosynthesis

and prolong their period of growth. An emulation drive for increased production is under vigorous way between workshops and workteams.

All the cultivators keep the implements like ropes and floats under good management to raise the per-hectare yield in cold winter.

The farm is making efforts to develop shellfish culture by selecting shellfish beds as required by ecological features of the species and managing them in a technical way.

The farm staff are exerting tireless efforts to bring about a bumper harvest of seafood products and thus enrich the people's dietary life.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho

Photo: Kim Yun Hyok



Shellfish farming is brisk



Greenhouse Pays off

With the worldwide depletion of fossil fuels, attention on solar energy as renewable energy is increasing. To keep abreast with the world trend, Korea focuses its concern on using solar energy.

The Solar Heat Equipment Distribution Agency in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, manufactures over ten kinds of storage tanks of various shapes and supplies them, gaining growing popularity among their users.

The greenhouse the agency built by utilizing solar energy to the maximum is now paying off.

Covering a total area of 240 square metres, the greenhouse is a two-storeyed structure built in an area not affected by wind but favourable for getting sunlight by cutting a mountain slope.

In line with the characteristics of the mountain slope, the first floor is not heated as it is lower than the land surface. The second floor is designed to be provided with heat by means of solar-heated storage tank manufactured by the agency.

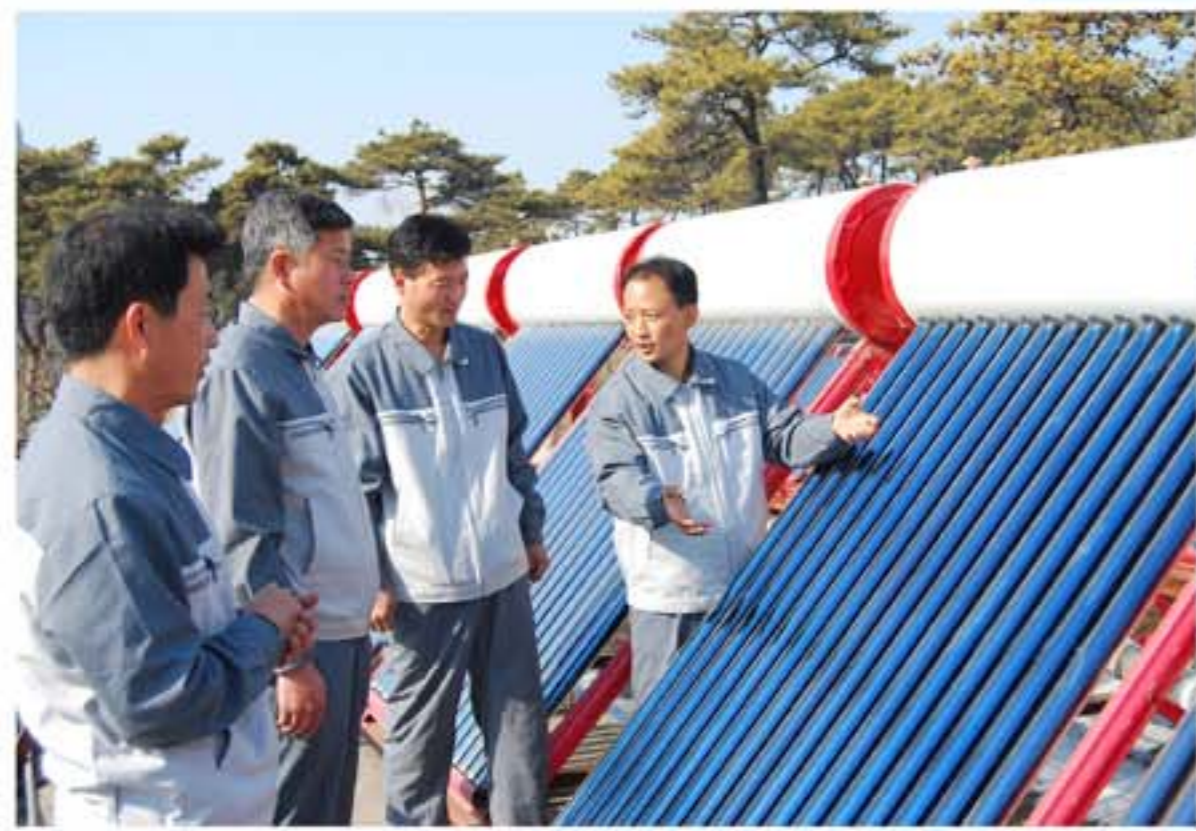
When building the greenhouse, the agency applied on the walls the pebbles that are good for conserving heat and available in the riverbeds and used lagging materials for heat insulation.

The agency cultivates green vegetables that require not a high temperature on the first floor, and fruit vegetables on the second floor.

As there is a structure on the first floor, the second floor is not covered with soil; hanging beds are installed to cultivate vegetables.

Different kinds of vegetables growing even in winter bring joy to the employees. They enjoy the full benefit of the greenhouse.

Article: Kim Chung Bok
Photo: Jin Yong Ho



The Solar Heat Equipment Distribution Agency manufactures an assortment of solar-powered water heaters

Symbols of Korea

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Jin Ju Dong



Magnolia

According to the old records, magnolia was called in Korean either hambakkotnamu, (peony-like flowering tree), or mokryonhwa (flowers blossomed on a tree). In summer the air was said to be fragrant with the aromatic smell of fully-blown beautiful flowers.

Generalissimo Kim Il Sung, seeing the beautiful flowers on the tree, said that the original name hambakkotnamu was not enough for describing the tree with beautiful flowers. Adding that the Korean people had given the name ran to fragrant and beautiful flowers, he renamed it mokran in Korean, meaning flowers blossomed on a tree. He continued that the flowers of magnolia looked not only beautiful but also strong and yet simple and elegant, and it looked like carrying the spirit of the resourceful Korean people.

It is a deciduous shrub or a tree that grows of itself or is cultivated in all regions of Korea except some of its northern areas.

It grows 2-5 metres tall and most of the buds blow between late May and mid-June. Flowers bloom at the tip of fresh branches in the order of their spreading, and each tree bears fragrant flowers for about 50-60 days. The corolla is 7-10 cm in diameter, the largest even measuring 15 cm. The oval-shaped leaves are 12-14 cm long and 5-10 cm wide, and some large one is 25 cm long and 15 cm wide.

Its fruit, 5-6 cm long and 3-5 cm across, is in oval-shaped pod. When they are ripened in autumn, pods become split apart, each producing two red seed balls. They hang pendulously by cottonlike threads before falling on the ground.



Goshawk

Goshawk is the national bird of the DPRK.

It propagates and winters in Korea.

Though fairly small in size, it has a sharp beak, strong talons, fast speed, clever and resolute spirit, well-balanced figure and sharp eyes. It has long been known among the Korean people and become familiar with them.

A male goshawk, when full-grown, weighs 500-800 g and measures 403-576 mm; its tail and beak are 149-285 mm and 18-22 mm long, respectively.

A female bird is larger than the male; it weighs 640-1 100 g, its body is 466-600 mm long, its tail 221-275 mm and beak 19-25 mm.

The goshawk breeds between late April and early May, and builds a nest on a high tree. It lays 3-4 eggs, each in one or two days, which hatch after 28-30 days. The newly-hatched chicks are tended for 35-37 days in the nest.

Normally the bird lives alone, and makes a pair only in a breeding season.

Phungsan dog

Phungsan dog is the national dog of Korea. It is so named after the place of its origin, Phungsan County (the present Kim Hyong Gwon County) in Ryanggang Province.

Its hind legs are thick and strong, enabling it to be a good runner in mountains, and its eyes are black- or grey-coloured. The ears are rather small, erect and in forward direction, and the thick and short neck is well developed. The female's stomach slightly sags but

the male's turns upward, making it very convenient to move with agility.

The tail is rolled above its rump; the hair white-coloured, but some are light yellowish brown.

The dog of sturdy and muscular build and with a pretty face is resistant to cold and various diseases.

It is widely bred as a hound for its brave, tenacious and clever features and a strong power to live. For their daring looks and strong disposition, Koreans have loved the



breed of dogs since olden times, and kept them in their houses.

The dog has been registered as a living monument, and is being conserved and proliferated amid nationwide interest.





Blessed Children

There is a children's palace on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River. It is the Pyongyang Orphanage, where children are growing healthily and happily.

The sounds of children reading are resounding in sunny rooms while the others splashing around in the wading pool and romping in the playrooms with a fine assortment of sporting and amusement facilities. Found in a game room are those who are absorbed in reading the books for the children's intellectual development and playing various games, as if they are dreaming of becoming scientists. Some are drawing pictures and learning

calligraphy according to their aptitudes and tastes.

"Those children with bright and cheerful looks are the orphans blessed by Marshal Kim Jong Un on New Year's Day," said Choe Song Ran, head of the orphanage. She continued that with fatherly affection, the Marshal, as their own father would do, looked round the dining hall, education room, wading pool, intelligent game room and bedrooms and embraced the children who were spending a happy time.

That day the children rushed to the Marshal, everybody trying to be nestled in him and calling him "father Marshal" and

"father."

They told him that they had a dream of singing in fine clothes before the Marshal, and that they had fish, meat, sweets, biscuits, bread, apples, peaches and honey.

They are laughing, frolicking and singing like that day.

Under the loving care of the Marshal, the children in the orphanage are nurturing their dreams and talents before they

grow in physical stature and mind, singing merrily the song We Are the Happiest in the World.

The people of the country feel pleasure and pride in seeing their happy and bright looks.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Ri Ta Jong



Great Humanity

In the DPRK touching stories of love for human being are to be heard everywhere one may go. Rim Hyon Dan, head of the plastic surgery section of the Korea General Red Cross Hospital, is one of those who enjoy people's respect.

A medical worker who has brought back the joy of life to over ten thousand people, who were suffering from obstinate diseases, with her sincere efforts and painstaking research for scores of years, she is now praised as a person of merit in the Songun era.

From her high medical skills plus utmost devotion she has displayed in their treatment, people who were under her medical care feel the gratitude of the socialist public health system enforced in the country.

Among them is Rim Song Mi, worker from an ordinary family.

It was nine years ago when the 19-year-old girl was taken to Rim's hospital in Pyongyang, the capital city, on hearing the news of the efficient surgeon.

Though engaged in many plastic surgeries, Rim had never seen such a terrible face as that of the girl—the eyelids, lips and nose had been burnt away and the cheeks and jaw were badly disfigured. As far as she knew, it was impossible for the science of medicine of those days to treat her burnt face and bring its



Rim Hyon Dan (third from the right) sees photos of her ex-patients, while reading their letters with other doctors and nurses



Rim Song Mi after four years of her treatment



After eight years

deformed features to their original state. She said to herself: If I give up treatment as a doctor, on whom the patient pins only hope, what will become of her life? For what have I become a doctor, then?

She chose her occupation for the sake of the grateful socialist system and people that had taken care of her, daughter of ex-soldiers disabled during the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953), and helped her study at a university.

Recalling the proverb that devotion may bring a flower into full bloom even on a rock, she made up her mind to perform her duty as a doctor and even spend the rest of her life improving her facial features.

She buckled down to treating her. The plastic surgery usually needs many processes; in case of the girl, she could not figure out how many operations would be needed.

If I fail to push back the frontiers in this field, the treatment is next to impossible—this tormented her more than challenging operations. Devotion and sincerity were not the only key to this point and she was a surgeon. But with a sense of duty that she should take charge of the destiny of such people as the girl, she began to blaze the trail of an unknown branch of the cutting-edge technology.

In this course she developed and employed new methods of conducting operations and reducing their duration. As months and years passed, not only the girl who had 100-odd small and big operations but other woman patients have regained the joy of life as well as their beautiful faces.

Still now, she is devoting her all to medical treatment and research to bring people the benefits of the socialist public health system which values them most.

Article: Kim Chung Bok
Photo: Jin Ju Dong

Korean Element on the World Heritage List

Korean folk song *Arirang* has been listed as an element of the world intangible cultural heritage in November last year.

Arirang is a typical folk song of the Korean nation, loved and widely sung by them.

Arirang arirang arariyo
I am crossing Arirang Pass.

The melodic and soft lyrics reflect the sentiment and soul of the Korean nation, and give a fine portrayal of the Korean history of the national sufferings and affectionate feelings for native places.

The folk song was widely sung by the Korean people and had much local variety, such as *Arirang of Northwestern Provinces*, *Arirang of Kangwon Province*, and *Arirang of Tanchon*.

Thanks to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea to attach importance to cultural assets of the nation and add lustre to them, the Korean folk song is fully retaining its unique features while being adapted for various genres of theatrical art, including song, orchestral music, instrumental ensemble, film music and dance.

Now in the DPRK there are many variants of the song, such as *Arirang of Prosperity*, *Arirang of Chol Pass* and *Arirang of Army-People Unity*, which reflect the stirring reality of the times and people's sentiment and add to the rich national emotion and optimism in the whole society.

Entering the new century, Chairman Kim Jong Il saw to it that a mass gymnastics and artistic performance was created on the basis of the song, so that the history of the Korean nation was portrayed in an epic style. The namesake performance won Kim Il Sung Prize and was staged for several years, commanding admiration of the world people.

The 9th session of UNESCO intergovernmental commission on intangible cultural heritage protection that was held in Paris, France, last November, deliberated on the issue of inscribing the Korean folk song *Arirang* on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The Korean song was officially inscribed on the list by winning unanimous support of the representatives from the parties to the agreement.

In an article on the news about its inscription, UNESCO introduced to the following effect:

Arirang is a popular folk song that is sung on many occasions including major events and holidays as well as among families, friends and groups. As it has been recreated through verbal transmission, *Arirang* exists in many traditional, orchestral music and contemporary music forms. It sings of separation and reunion, sorrow and joy, and happiness mainly in soft and lyric melody. It contributes to mutual respect and peaceful social progress by further consolidating social relationship.

Arirang has become famous worldwide as a symbol of the Korean folk songs.

Article & photo: Kim Mi Ye





Ice Sculpture Festival

Samjiyon County in Ryanggang Province plays host to the ice sculpture festival every February. This year marked its tenth round, which presented a splendid view and drew a huge crowd.

On show at the festival were over 1 000 ice sculptures of various themes which were profound in content and unique in portrayal.

The festival left a lingering impression on the viewers, for it reflected the lofty mental world of the Korean service personnel and people who are rushing forward towards final victory in the revolutionary cause of Juche, by dint of the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, the spirit of the blizzards of Paektu.

Article & photo: An Chol Won





Sister Gymnasts

Hong Su Jong, elder sister, won a gold medal at the women's uneven bars event of the 15th Asian Games, and is now a student at the Korea University of Physical Education



Younger sister Hong Un Jong, winner of gold medal at the women's vaulting-horse event at the 17th Asian Games

When Hong Su Jong and Hong Un Jong were often seen playing with sporting apparatuses at a children's park in Hasinhung-dong, Songchongang District of Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province, over 20 years ago, nobody thought that they would be known as sister gymnastic stars.

"At that time even we parents used to scold them for being far too engrossed in playing. The government, however, found the little buds of talent in them and cultivated them," said their mother Pae Mok Suk in gratitude to the country for having brought them up to be world champions.

Though their parents regarded their acts as childish the teachers from the Songchongang District Juvenile Sports School discovered an aptitude for gymnastics in the little girls—strong physical fitness, quick movement, stubbornness and strong sisterhood.

Thus, they started their career as gymnasts.

After a few years of training their skills at the sports school, they were both promoted to the Pyongyang Sports Team.

They trained hard with a determination to bring glory to the country by winning gold medals.

They achieved the difficult training targets without fail by helping and leading each other forward with sisterly affection.

In the course of this, Su Jong won gold medals at the 15th Asian and other international games while Un Jong becoming a champion in the women's vaulting-horse event by taking first places at the 29th Olympic Games, the 45th World Artistic Gymnastics Championships, and

the 17th Asian Games.

Merited Athlete Hong Su Jong is now taking a coaching course at Korea University of Physical Education while Un Jong, People's Athlete, still enjoying her brilliant career.

Article: Kang Kyong Ryong



At home

For Utilization of Natural Energy Resources



The Natural Energy Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences is an organ for comprehensive research of alternative energy. It is dedicated to developing and utilizing such energy resources as geothermal, wind and solar power and bio-organisms—the energy for the future.

Established last year in line with the requirements of the times and composed of 19 research rooms, 21 laboratories and e-reading room, it has made substantial contributions to developing natural energy that is of great significance in promoting the economy and people's standard of living while sustaining the eco-system.

It employs 7 doctors and 60 degree-holders, and other experienced scientists.

In the general geothermal power research room, general wind power research room, bio-fuel laboratory and all other sections in the institute, seminars and experiments take place.

The team of the general geothermal power research room introduced a heating system by geothermal energy in many buildings such as the workers' hostel of Kim Jong Suk Pyongyang Textile Mill and the Central Mushroom Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

The team has recently succeeded in developing a new way of exploration, thus putting the survey of geothermal energy on a firmer scientific footing.

It is now conducting a brisk exploration of the sources for introducing a geothermal heating system in the buildings under construction in Pyongyang and other places.

It also promotes research into interpretation of the outcome of exploration, methods of boring and pumping, and those of finding and utilizing underground heat where geothermal water is unavailable.

By designing geothermal heating system and surveying by boring as well as guiding the introduction of geothermal heating system, it ensures that introduced geothermal heating and cooling systems operate properly.

The research institute conducts the work of utilizing wind and solar power and bio-organisms as sources of energy in a planned way.

Its researchers journey all parts of the country in search of rich wind resources in favourable



The institute is exerting great efforts to improve the utilization of such energy resources as wind, solar and geothermal energy and bio-organisms



geographical regions and conduct experiments on site for developing and introducing various types of wind-driven generators and their control devices.

In the course of this, they have helped to install wind-driven generators in many places.

The institute applies new conceptions and methods in the research of power generation by means of solar energy, manufacture and installation

of solar-powered water heater, and production of methane gas from bio-organisms.

Thanks to the tireless efforts and patriotic devotion of the researchers, Korea's prospect for the natural energy development is bright.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon
Photo: Kim Chun Hyok



Future Taekwon-Do Practitioners



In the DPRK a big effort is being channelled into the education in Taekwon-Do, traditional martial art permeated with the stamina and spirit of the Korean nation, and development of its techniques.

The South Hwanghae Provincial Taekwon-Do Team is picking out students with more aptitude and hope for the event and training them into excellent players.

First of all, the team is making scrupulous plans of training based on the detailed analysis of the students' constitutions, psychological features and fitness.

Coaches are educating the players in fundamental techniques of Taekwon-Do, while ensuring that they keep synchronized and accurate movements in every pattern with the help of visual aids, video clips and demonstration of model movements.

They are putting efforts into training the players to be dexterous in various techniques and skills of sparring and get wider appreciation of every element and movement. They are also preparing them physically so as to play seven or eight rounds in match and raise the percentage of success in executing elements of difficulty such as jumping body turning kick.

The sports team is making strenuous efforts to train the reserves on the basis of correct methodology. To this end, it encourages its coaches to model after the innovative views and coaching experiences of those who achieved good results in international and domestic matches.

Coach Yun Hui Un, by delving deep into individual characters of the students, is developing rational training methods and applying them to training so as to make satisfactory results in the execution of elements of difficulty. Regular drills of sparring are conducted in different situations, thus instilling in students confidence in their technical skills and inspiring them to give full

play to their fortes.

Thanks to the efforts of the coaches, the team achieved victory in the 17th Jongillbong Prize National Taekwon-Do Championship and other games held last year.

Sa Ok Jin, Jin Hak Min and several others from the team are now active in the national team under the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, exalting the honour of the country in international games.

Article: Kim Chung Bok
Photo: Ri Kwang Song

Working Life of the Korean Nation



Working customs the Korean nation maintained from primitive ages to the feudal Joseon dynasty and the implements they used in working and farming

The Korean people have created brilliant culture and excellent traditions in the time-honoured history and developed them through generations.

The Korean Folklore Museum gives a glimpse of the working life of the Korean nation, such as farming, hunting and fishing.

Farming, which the Korean nation has regarded as the mainstay of all affairs from ancient times, has a long history of its development.

From the early primitive ages the Korean ancestors led a settled life and began farming: they at first did farming by using picks or hoes, and then invented spade and developed ploughing-farming.

Hoes made of deer antlers, farming implements used by primitive people over 8 000 years ago, were unearthed in the Kungsan remains in Onchon County, Nampho, and cereals such as rice, foxtail millet, sorghum, bean and millet at dwelling site No. 36 in the Namgyong remains in Honam-ri, Samsok District, Pyongyang, one of major remains representative of Taedonggang Civilization.

They all offer a glimpse into the farming practices of the times.

Since the ancient times they used draught animals in farming, and in the days of the Three Kingdoms (Koguryo, Paekje and Silla) such farming methods as irrigation and rice-transplantation were introduced to increase the crop yield.

Farming implements developed, as well.

Typical relic is the wooden plough in the period of Ancient Joseon that was unearthed in the layer of peat in Juui-ri, Yomju County, North Phyongan Province.

In the days of Palhae (late 7th century-early 10th century), Koryo (918-1392) and the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) new varieties of crops, including maize, potato and chilli, were cultivated and books on farming published.

Working implements were also detailed with the invention of one-bladed and double-bladed hoes and well buckets, scoops and water wheels for irrigation.

The Koreans developed the farming of industrial crops and fruit, animal husbandry and beekeeping.



Korean insam cultivation, in particular, was famous at home and abroad.

Koreans used insam as a remedy for preventing and curing illness since Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668) period. At first they used wild insam, and later began to cultivate insam and used both in medicine.

In the Koryo period the cultivation of insam flourished; the insam cultivated in the Kaesong area was exported to several countries, winning fame as "Koryo insam," "Kaesong Koryo insam" and "Kaesong insam."

Beekeeping in Korea has a long history.

Already in the period of the Three Kingdoms Koreans kept bees to get their honey for medicinal stuffs and dietary life.

Animal husbandry that had been developed from the ancient times had its breeding methods integrated in the days of feudal Joseon dynasty, and animals of good breeds were raised in larger amounts under the national concern.

Hunting methods got also diversified by employing the chase, pits, snares and various facilities, while using hawks and hounds as well as weapons,

including bows and arrows, spears, knives and rifles.

On display in the museum are the materials relating to fish catching and farming in rivers and seas.

They show pollack-catching was dominant in the East Sea of Korea, croaker- and gizzard shad-catching and shell and oyster gathering in the West Sea of Korea, and fishing by women divers in the South Sea of Korea.

Koreans caught fish in the rivers and streams by using hooks, nets and tridents. They also conducted fish farming on a large scale.

Working life of the Korean people, which had a long tradition and developed in conformity with the natural and geographical features of the country, constitutes a valuable heritage that instills national dignity and pride in the people.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Choe Won Chol



Hunting tools



Fishing in rivers and seas



