Grand Celebrations on Youth Day

Samjiyon, City in Northern Part of Korea

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

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FRONT COVER: Dancing party of youth and students held to mark the Youth Day
BACK COVER: Fireworks lighting up the nocturnal sky of Pyongyang on the Youth Day

Editors: Sin Jae Chol, Kim Jong Chol, Kim Kyu Song, Sung Ryong, Kim Kwang Chol

General Secretary Kim Jong Un Gives Field Guidance over Construction of Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District

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

He looked round several places of the construction site and learned about the construction of the district.

He said that the residential district, built with the land undulations left intact, looks nice, and that an example has been set in building terraced houses district with perfect architectural beauty on sloping ground. He added that this 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 our Party's policy of construction.

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

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 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.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un Has a Photo Session with the Participants in the Youth Day Celebrations

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, had a photo session with the participants in the Youth Day celebrations.

Present there were Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for organizational affairs of the Central Committee of the WPK, Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Tu Song, department director of the WPK Central Committee, and Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League.

The young people were overwhelmed with great emotion and joy of having a photo session with the respected General Secretary they had always missed.

When General Secretary Kim Jong Un arrived at the venue of the photo session amid the playing of the welcome music, they raised enthusiastic cheers for him who made sure that their deeds are known throughout the country and repeatedly showed great benevolence for them, sending a letter of congratulations representing loving care and trust, though their deeds are what should be naturally done by young people of the new generation grown up in the embrace of the socialist country.

He sent warm greetings of encouragement to the reliable young people who volunteered to the outposts of socialist construction with one dream and ideal for upholding the intention of the Party, and devote themselves with the mind of loyalty and patriotism.

Saying that the ideological and mental state of our

young people are very excellent as they always respond to the calls of the country with intense loyalty, and regard their devotion to the future as the greatest honour and pride of life, he highly appreciated the patriotic young people who are firmly carrying forward the revolutionary spirit and fighting traits created by the former generations.

Expressing the belief that the participants would bear in mind the valuable call as the dependable young vanguard of the WPK as the greatest treasure of their life and demonstrate their name as heroic youth the country and the people are proud of in the worthwhile struggle for hastening the bright future of our glorious country, he posed for a picture with them.

At the end of the photo session, the young people raised stormy cheers of "hurrah!" and shouted "Kim Jong Un" and "devoted defence".

The General Secretary extended militant greetings to the young people, waving for long to them who were cheering at the top of their voices with great emotion.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un Meets Young People Who Volunteered to the Difficult Sectors

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met young people, who volunteered to work at difficult and challenging sectors of socialist construction and started with a clean slate, and blessed them with bright future on August 30.

The respected General Secretary held hands of each of the young people and highly praised their deeds and mental world.

The production of lots of young people heartily responding to the call of the Party and the revolution in the era when an arduous struggle is being waged to bring about a new victory of the revolution is an expression of the advantages of the socialist system in our country, and a demonstration of the noble view on life and future of our youth, he said, adding it is the best pride, foundation and asset for the development for a party making revolution to have its reliable successors, reserves and promising main force.

He earnestly called on the young people to become a kindling spark and a great fire in the on-going gigantic general advance and to become youth heroes endeavouring to bring about prosperity and progress of the country with gem-like patriotism.

He had a photo taken with those greatly excited young people, wishing the bright future for the dependable youth who responded to the call of the Party in practice out of firm faith in socialism.

He expressed expectation and belief that all the young people who volunteered to the pilot sectors of socialist construction would glorify their precious youth with heroic feats for the Party and the country and keep to the path of patriotism to the last, true to the pledges they made at the new starting line of their lives.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un Sends a Letter of Congratulations to Young People Who Volunteered to Work in the Difficult and Challenging Sectors of Socialist Construction

Letter of Congratulations

To the Trustworthy Young People Who Volunteered to Work in the Difficult and Challenging Sectors of Socialist Construction

In the stirring period, when a dynamic struggle is being waged for the rejuvenation of our great state, our excellent young men and women volunteered to work in the difficult and challenging sectors of socialist construction, instilling a firmer confidence and greater fighting spirit in all other people and demonstrating far and wide the revolutionary character and fighting mettle of the Korean youth, who go through fire and water in response to the call of the Workers' Party of Korea.

With an ardent affection for and unshakable conviction in socialism, you have turned out to work bravely for the revolution, defying trials and sacrifice; I highly appreciate your laudable patriotic deeds, and extend warm congratulations and militant greetings to our young people.

My warm thanks go to the excellent parents and teachers, who supported the laudable determinations of their beloved children and students and encouraged them without hesitation, and to the organizations and officials of the youth league, who helped these young people's valuable decisions turn into patriotic minds and inspired them.

I also would like to extend warm congratulations to all other young people across the country, who have greeted Youth Day while demonstrating the stout mettle of the Korean youth with hot blood and soaring passion in every corner of the country.

Though your native homes and the dreams you nurtured in your minds are different, you, with the same dream and ideal of supporting the Party's intention, have settled in the workplaces, to which others do not dare to go, and in other places strange to you; you are a great pride of socialist Korea and source of its great strength, as well as young patriots of our era, beloved of your country and fellow people.

Your deeds are an expression of your thoroughgoing faith to share your destiny for ever with socialism, your ardent love for your state and your outlook on beautiful life of finding the honour and worth of life on the road of working for the Party and revolution.

Amid the remarkably soaring enthusiasm for volunteering by young people in response to the call of the times and their motherland in practice, not in words, the ranks of young people who volunteered to the difficult and challenging sectors have increased rapidly after the Eighth Congress of the Party; this fact showcases the wonderful ideological and spiritual state of our current young men and women.

Young people around the world are flowing into their capital and other cities in pursuance of their avarice and personal pleasure. Only the Korean young people who have grown up under the embrace of the socialist motherland unhesitatingly volunteer to exchange their cards of capital citizenship with notes of dispatch to coal mines, cooperative farms, grand construction sites and islands far from cities.

Our Party identifies, in your beautiful and laudable spiritual world, the patriotic soul and revolutionary spirit which remain unchanged and yet alive no matter how many generations have been replaced.

You volunteered for the posts at which, you knew, you would have to suffer extraordinary hardships away from your dear homes, brightly illumined cities and beloved families. Your lofty spirit is a splendid inheritance of the ennobling spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who fought shedding blood in the blizzard-swept wilderness after parting with their families.

The red blood of the anti-Japanese forerunners who pioneered the revolution under the leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung is now running through the veins of the rising generations, and this clearly proves that the lineage of the revolutionary cause of Juche which started in Mt Paektu is being stoutly inherited.

The enemies are now trembling with terror at this powerful current and spirit.

The imperialists' anti-DPRK attempt to degenerate and undermine the ranks of our young people by means of vicious sanctions and pressure and tenacious ideological and cultural infiltration has vanished like bubbles in the face of this strong current.

It is a wild goose chase to try to pull down the bulwark of socialism by breaking away our younger generations from the revolution.

The revolutionary advance made by you, hot-blooded young people, is heightening the morale of the ranks of the general onward march as the days go by and injecting confidence in sure victory and youthful vigour into the whole country.

To look back, every upsurge of our revolution has begun with the sweeping enthusiasm of the young people for volunteering, and this enthusiasm has always given rise to a revolutionary and patriotic zeal, resulting in a stirring era.

Thanks to the boundless loyalty and devoted passion of the young people, who had settled down on the rugged mountains and wild sea and shed valuable sweat true to the appeal of the Party that had called young people to the mountains, seas and development areas, monumental edifices of the era mushroomed in the desolate areas and a great heyday of the legendary Chollima era and WPK era opened on this land.

Young people courageously volunteered to work on the first lines designated by the Party and revolution when the country was going through trials and demanding another leap forward, and performed undying exploits, shaking the land and sky; these legendary tales are never a thing of the past, living only in memory; they now serve as a driving force that encourages our revolution to advance vigorously.

A state with a huge army of young people, who stoutly carry forward the revolutionary spirit and fighting stamina created by their preceding generations, advances by leaps and bounds full of youthful vigour without knowing any senility for ever.

The communist society, which the hot-blooded young revolutionaries pictured in their minds today 94 years ago at the beginning of the Korean revolution, is not a thing of a distant future, but will turn into reality without fail thanks to the unflinching struggle of the patriotic young people boundlessly loyal to the call of the WPK.

Now we are in the severest-ever trials since the founding of our state, and are overcoming the unprecedented difficulties with an indomitable spiritual strength.

In this situation, the news that our young people volunteered,

in groups and one after another, to work on the major fronts of socialist construction is more encouraging than that hundreds of thousands, nay millions, of tons of steel and fertilizer or tens of thousands of sets of machines have been produced.

What delighted me most is that the young people, who had been lagging behind others, reached an excellent decision to devote themselves to their motherland as befits members of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League that has been rallied on the strength of patriotism, and made a new start of their lives by volunteering to work at the difficult and challenging sectors.

When the youthful hearts burning with patriotism fire millions of others' and the fire burns up all sorts of feeble and impure elements that remain and are hindering our advance, the timetabled victory of the Korean revolution will be hastened that much.

The Party expects that you will further heighten the patriotic zeal and fighting spirit that are running high at the moment to become standard-bearers and fighters who achieve breakthroughs in the vanguard of the advancing ranks.

Many difficulties and trials may lie on the road you have to follow from now on.

Of course, you must have set out on this road with a mental preparation to brave difficulties; whenever you vacillate even for a moment, you should invariably follow the road of patriotism to the end, recalling the pledges you made on the day when you volunteered and reflecting yourselves on the spiritual world of your preceding generations.

When all of you transform the whole country including the remote villages on the communist lines by turning the outposts of socialist construction into theatres of struggle and feats and demonstrating the mettle of the youth shock brigade and youth death-defying corps, the speed of advance of our revolution will be further accelerated and our politico-ideological and class position will be further consolidated.

I am in belief that all the young people, who volunteered to work in the difficult and challenging sectors and are unsparingly devoting their loyal and patriotic sweats at early ages in order to ease the anxiety and agony of the Party and the state as much as they can, will exalt their honour of being heroic youth who are loved by their collectives and comrades as treasures of their workplaces and artists of great feats and who will remain in the memory of their motherland and fellow people.

As a saying goes that suffering borne in youth is more precious than gold, the worthwhile traces of our young people who devoted their youth, accepting trials with pleasure, in the difficult and challenging sectors will be their most valuable life-long wealth that cannot be bartered with anything else and a precious asset which they can proudly hand down to the coming generations.

Recently, the youth league officials are putting the main emphasis on the league's internal work and ideological education as intended by the Party, and are bringing about a turn in the spirit and manner of their work. As a result, visible changes are taking place in the political consciousness and mental state of our young people.

Youth league organizations and officials should further enhance the atmosphere of the positive begetting another positive by drawing on this experience, and conduct the work with the sentiments and feelings of young people in a substantial way. In this way, they can prepare the ranks of our youth into a collective of steadfast patriots, into a reliable special detachment of our Party, who work with devotion for the prosperity of our socialist motherland.

It is a firm determination of our Party to take each and every young man and woman born on this land to the communist society.

Party organizations should channel their particular efforts into the work with young people, regarding the work of the youth league as part of Party work, so that all the young people can display their youthful wisdom and courage in the struggle for fresh victory in socialist construction.

Party organizations should take maternal care of the work and life of the young people who volunteered to their relevant areas and units, and lead them to live with honour at every step on the road of loyalty to the Party.

They should also hold the families, which sent their children to the difficult and challenging sectors, as patriotic families, and take good care of them.

The millions of young people are a firm cornerstone, which our Party relies on at any time, and a strong force that demonstrates a more formidable strength the harder the times are.

The cause of our Party will win victory after victory by dint of the ardent loyalty of our proud and trustworthy young people and of the full support and trust of all other people.

My earnest request is that you, in good health at new workplaces in strange localities, should add brilliance to your beautiful life by creating new innovations and performing uninterrupted feats without betraying the expectations of your parents, siblings, teachers, organizations and comrades.

I wish a bright future of our beloved young people.

Let us all struggle dynamically for the fresh victory of our revolution and the bright future of our great state.

I firmly believe that you will fully demonstrate to the whole world the heroic mettle of the Korean youth as befits true sons and daughters of the motherly Party.

Kim Jong Un
General Secretary of
the Workers' Party of Korea
August 28, Juche 110 (2021)

LOVE YOUNG PEOPLE!

1991-2021

30th anniversary of the Youth Day

In the DPRK August 28 is celebrated splendidly as the Youth Day

Grand Celebrations on YOUTH DAY

Young people in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Youth Day on August 28.

10 000 young people across the country, including those who volunteered to work in difficult and labour-consuming fields after the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in January this year and exemplary officials of the youth league, took part in Youth Day celebrations.

They visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where the great leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance to pay noble respects to them on August 27.

The following day a meeting was held to convey the letter of congratulations sent by Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, to the young people who volunteered to work in difficult and challenging sectors of socialist construction.

All the participants in the meeting, upon receiving the letter of congratulations which put great trust and expectation in the young vanguards, raised thunderous cheers of "hurrah!" and shouted "Kim Jong Un" and "devoted defence," reflecting their firm resolve to become undying flames of struggle and enthusiastic vanguard fighters in the general onward march to implement the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress.

In the meeting, led by the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, they solemnly vowed to the respected General Secretary to fully demonstrate the mettle of the socialist patriotic youth at every worksite for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress.

Dancing parties of youth and students in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Youth Day took place in the plazas of the April 25 House of Culture and the Arch of Triumph in Pyongyang, and different parts of the country, including Sinuiju, Haeju, Kanggye, Hyesan and Chongjin.

On August 28 an evening gala of youth and students was held at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang.

Participants in the Youth Day celebrations enjoyed the gala.

Those participating in the gala danced, paying the highest glory and extending the warmest greetings of gratitude to the respected General Secretary who is ushering in a golden age of the Korean youth movement.

When the evening gala reached its climax, colourful fireworks were shot into the nocturnal sky.

A Youth Day celebration performance "We'll demonstrate the might of patriotic youth" was staged at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park Open-Air Theatre on August 29.

The entertainers sang highly of the faith and will of the Korean young people to glorify the proud history and tradition of the youth movement and perform miraculous feats in the onward march towards a fresh victory in the revolution.

Evening Gala of Youth and Students Held to Mark the Youth Day

청년절

Youth Day celebration performance

"We'll demonstrate the might of patriotic youth"

Granite sculpture
"Eighteen Steeds"

Gift to President Kim Il Sung from Managing Director of the Interchem Company, India, and Managing Director (Indian) of the Texchem Company, Hong Kong (April 1992)

Kim Il Sung proclaiming the political platform of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the First Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in September 1948

Looking Back on the Days of the Founding of the DPRK

The Korean people, who greet September 9, the founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, recollect with deep emotion the immortal exploits performed by President Kim Il Sung who made them genuine masters of the state and society for the first time in the 5 000-year-long history of the Korean nation.

A polling station for the election of deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly (August 1948)

Participants in the people's representative conference of south Korea for the founding of the DPRK

Kim Il Sung elected as Premier of the Cabinet at the First Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in September 1948

After Korea was liberated from the Japanese military occupation on August 15, 1945, the building of a new society was in full swing in its northern part under the leadership of Kim Il Sung.

Following the establishment of the Provisional People's Committee of North Korea and enforcement of such democratic reforms as agrarian reform and nationalization of major industries, the elections of members of the provincial, city and county people's committees of north Korea, the first of its kind in the history of the Korean nation, were successfully carried out. On the basis of the victory in the elections, the People's Assembly of North Korea was established in February 1947, followed by the inauguration of the People's Committee of North Korea.

However, the situation in south Korea was in stark contrast to that in north Korea.

At that time the US imperialists that set foot in south Korea on September 8, 1945 under the guise of "disarming" the defeated Japanese army enforced military administration and forcibly dissolved the people's committees organized across south Korea, thus trampling underfoot the Korean people's aspiration and enthusiasm for the building of a sovereign state.

Between the late 1947 and early 1948 the US imperialists became more brazen in their manoeuvres to perpetuate the Korea's division. They even went so far as to take the Korean issue to the United Nations.

To cope with the prevailing situation, the Second Congress of the Workers' Party of North Korea was convened in March 1948.

At the congress Kim Il Sung put forth a detailed plan and measures for holding a joint conference of representatives of all democratic political parties and public organizations in the north and south of Korea and hastening the establishment of a democratic, unified state.

In April that year the Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea announced its founding on September 9, 1948

was held with the attendance of 695 representatives from 56 political parties and public organizations in the north and south of Korea.

The joint conference adopted the "Decision on the Political Situation in Korea," which carried a resolution on establishing an all-Korea unified government, as well as the "Appeal to All the Korean Compatriots."

The leaders of political parties and public organizations in the north and south of Korea held a consultative meeting and published the "Joint Statement of Political Parties and Public Organizations of North and South Korea," which clarified such urgent problems as the withdrawal of foreign troops and the establishment of a unified central government.

Despite unanimous opposition and rejection of the Korean people, the US imperialists forced the separate elections in the southern part of Korea and rigged up a puppet government in May 1948.

In order to tide over the crisis of national division, Kim Il Sung convened a conference of leaders of political parties and public organizations in the north and south of Korea and set forth the policy of setting up without delay an all-Korea central government through a north-south general election.

Accordingly, the nationwide discussion on deciding the national name, emblem and flag and on the draft Constitution took place, and the north-south general election for the establishment of a unified central government was held on August 25, 1948.

In north Korea 99.97 per cent of the entire electorate participated in the election to elect 212 deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly. In south Korea, braving the US imperialists' harsh repression and violence, 77.52 per cent of the entire electorate took part in the election and returned 1 080 people's representatives, who gathered in Haeju and held the people's representative conference of south Korea to elect 360 deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly.

On this basis, the First Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was held in Pyongyang in September 1948.

The session adopted the Constitution of the DPRK and elected Kim Il Sung as head of state, in accordance with unanimous will and desire of all the Korean people.

On September 9 Kim Il Sung announced the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the whole world.

With the founding of the DPRK, the Korean people became the legitimate masters of an independent and sovereign state, and the DPRK could proudly proceed into the international arena on an equal footing with all the other countries of the world.

Text: Kim Son Myong

With the founding of the DPRK the Korean working people took a great pride in becoming masters of the government

Samjiyon,

City in Northern Part of Korea

A new day dawns in the city of Samjiyon in Ryanggang Province at the foot of Mt Paektu (2 750m), the highest mountain in Korea.

The Pegaebong observation platform in the western part of the city commands a panoramic view of the city which was reconstructed two years ago as a model of mountain city epitomizing modern civilization.

Over 4 000 low- and-storeyed dwelling houses and 380 odd public and industrial buildings were newly constructed, replacing old ones in the former county town area. The Samjiyon county was then promoted to the city.

The city of Samjiyon offers a fine scenery well blended with the far-stretching sea of trees at the background.

It is difficult to find similar apartments around the city: Kwangmyongsong-dong on Milyong Street is characterized by low-storeyed dwelling houses rich in national identity, while Pegaebong-dong on Rimyongsu Street by modern multi-storeyed apartments. Also distinctive are those at Ponnamu-dong on Chongbong Street.

Public and industrial buildings, such as factories and industrial establishments divided into production and public service sections, schools, hospital, library, hall of culture, gym, hotels and restaurants,

add more freshness and charm to the lush, verdant city thick with white birch, *Picea koraiensis* and other trees lining the streets.

And happy laughter and merry singing of the citizens, and youth and students ring out louder across the city.

Photo: Hong Kwang Nam, Kim Song Chol
Text: Kang Su Jong

Rural Village Good to Live in

Visit to Poman-ri, Sohung County, North Hwanghae Province

Poman-ri in Sohung County of North Hwanghae Province, whose name is derived from its topographical appearance resembling a wild goose just taking wing, has over a half of its area covered with mountains.

After Korea's liberation (August 15, 1945) from Japanese military occupation, Poman-ri underwent tremendous changes. Thanks to the agricultural cooperativization and projects of realigning land and obtaining new land, a hundred or more hectares of new land was brought under cultivation.

Formerly shrub-covered hills around the village have been turned into orchards of fruit trees, mulberry field and pasture conducive to pomiculture, sericulture and stockbreeding.

Amid the vigorous drive for socialist rural construction, dwelling houses, school, hospital, hall of culture and other buildings were erected, and water supply system introduced.

A small hydropower station was erected on the Sohung River flowing around the village in 2000, and, afterwards, a freshwater fish farm with an area of more than 20 hectares was built near the water spring in the vicinity of the seat of the village.

The water is recycled from the fish farm for the irrigation of paddy and other fields, thus contributing to the increase of crop production.

The village seated in a cozy way—with a fish farm in front and the low hills thick with fruit trees and flocks of grazing animals at the back—offers a picturesque scenery, attracting not only people from all across the country but also foreigners.

People in Poman-ri built new dwelling houses, ri people's hospital, a health complex and an agricultural sci-tech learning space.

Poman-ri is undergoing continuous changes.

Photo: Ri Song Ik
Text: Kim Son Myong

The Poman Fish Farm in Sohung County produces a lot of fish every year by breeding such warm and cold water fishes as sturgeon, rainbow trout, Ryongjong fish, carp and grass carp in a scientific and technological way

Cradle of Little Talents

Ponbu Kindergarten in Sinuiju

Ponbu Kindergarten in Sinuiju was opened in November 1954, for the preschool education of the children in the residential district. It has a long history compared to similar institutions in the country.

Since the early 1980s it has been engaged in early education of the talented children.

At first it taught children with aptitudes for music the rudiments of Korean musical instruments, such as *janggo*, *jottae* and *kayagum*, and later extended the scope of education to singing, writing, brush-writing and painting.

In recent years it has been teaching children with remarkable abilities in computer, *paduk* (go) and mathematics.

The kindergarten teachers are highly qualified to find out budding talents of the children, however trivial they might be.

Children with special talents and aptitudes are selected for the genius education through deliberation of the kindergarten teachers and then given compulsory and special education. They thus have teachers respectively for systematic education and special courses.

Those who are learning vocal and instrumental music receive exclusive lessons in sound detection and sight-reading.

The teachers spend most of their time with children to detect their characters, psychological features, aptitudes and intellectual development, and apply creative and reasonable teaching methods.

They have invented and manufactured hundreds of thousands of teaching aids, nearly 660 of which won certificates at the national shows of teaching aids.

More than 15 000 children graduated from the kindergarten and about 20% of them received specialized education in music, painting, brush-writing, composition, maths, computer and the like. And a lot of them became scientists and artistes well known across the country.

The Ponbu Kindergarten in Sinuiju was awarded Kim Jong Il Prize in 2015.

Photo: Pang Un Sim

Text: Kim Son Gyong

Blessed Triplets

Enjoying merry life and learning to their heart's content

Jo Pyon Hwa

Jo I Hwa

Jo Hae Gun

Pyon Hwa, I Hwa and Hae Gun, the offspring of Jo Kwang Bin and Choe Song Gum, are the 390th set of triplets born in the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

Jo Kwang Bin, the triplets' father, who was then serving as a driver at a central organ, says that he had never imagined that his wife's second pregnancy would double the family.

Choe Song Gum, mother, was diagnosed to be in multiple pregnancy in the third month of pregnancy and sent to the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital to give birth to triplets in her seventh month.

It is known that multiple births involve hereditary factors, and the triplets' maternal aunts are also twins.

The triplets and their parents were presented with silver daggers and gold rings by the state. And they moved from the one-storey house in Sosong District to a flat with four living rooms given by the state.

According to the state measure the triplets were looked after at the maternity hospital until they weighed four kilogrammes or more, and left the hospital for the Pyongyang Baby Home.

At the age of four, they returned home to live with their parents and attend the kindergarten.

They learned Korean alphabets and music at the kindergarten and entered the junior middle school after finishing the primary school.

Pyon Hwa studies assiduously with a hope of becoming a scientist, and I Hwa, family's "songbird", pictures her future as a famous singer. Hae Gun trains hard at the school's sports group to become a world table tennis ace and fly high the flag of the DPRK at international competitions.

They have their own doctor in charge since the kindergarten days, who visits them regularly for medical checkup.

The triplet's parents always tell them how great benefits the state has given to their family.

Pyon Hwa, I Hwa and Hae Gun are now first-year students at the Sangsin Junior Middle School in Sosong District. They will greet their 12th birthday in the coming December.

Photo: An Chol Ryong, Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong

Family That Cultivates 400-odd Plants

There is a one-storeyed house with distinctive features among similar houses in Kosan-dong, Taesong District, Pyongyang.

Surrounded by the rambler hedge, it has a courtyard densely covered with various species of flowers and well-trimmed ornamental plants, and a pond teeming with goldfish. The house resembles a cosy park, or even a little botanical garden.

The owner of the house is Ri Jin Ho, 43, working at the forest research institute under the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection.

Ri's father liked to cultivate flowers and trees, and his horticultural practice exerted great influence to his offspring, and Jin Ho, the second son, was more than enthusiastic about it.

Since he has been working at the forest research institute, he broadened his knowledge and experience in horticulture.

For four years since 2015 he planted nearly 30 species of plants in the yard and potted several hundred trees in the backyard.

He never skips tending the plants from early morning. And he says tending the plants demands not only scientific principles but also devotion.

His house is always crowded with people from nearby residential quarters and even far places in the city to secure flower seeds and tree saplings. It is also a favourite subject for artists.

Ri's wife's gardening skills are also not inferior to professional horticulturists.

Photo: Ri Myong Guk
Text: Kim Son Gyong

Silk Mill in Fresh Verdure

Harmonious combination of topography and plants

Diverse decorative effects

Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, situated on the picturesque bank of the Taedong River, is known across the country not only as a modern silk producer but also for its verdant landscape.

The compound of the mill is thickly covered with trees of good species and flowering shrubs. Their numbers total over a hundred thousand, i.e. one tree per one sq metre, so the mill looks like a botanical garden.

Trees of good species and beautiful appearances are distributed in a harmonious way to boost the decorative aspects.

Rare species of trees are planted around a fishpond. Over a thousand potted flowers are put on both sides of the bridge to a pavilion in the middle of the pond, and many vase-shaped stands and flowerpots are

placed in neighbouring rest places.

Landscape gardening of the mill is also profitably rewarded.

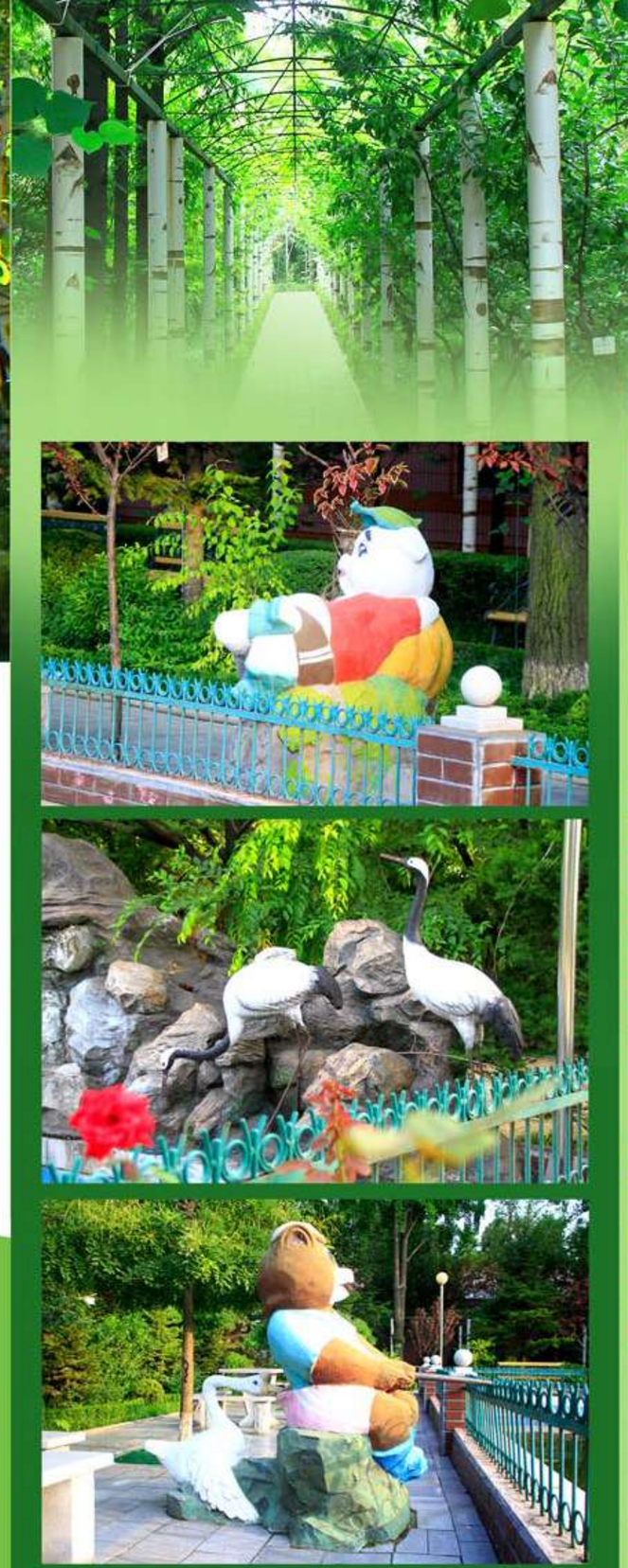
Fruits harvested from the trees in the compound are supplied to children of the mill's nursery and kindergarten, and fruits of *Aronia melanoncarpa*, gingko, and hawthorn and other medicinal herbs are used for health promotion of the employees.

All these are the fruition of scores-of-year-long strenuous efforts of its employees with a full awareness of the importance of afforestation and greening work.

Senior officials of the mill are well versed in landscape gardening and pay close attention to landscape design, afforestation and management.

And the workers tend the trees and flowering shrubs in leisure times to relieve stress and restore vigour.

*** Various growth effects**
*** Distribution of plants in consideration of biological features**
*** Choice of species by seasonal effects**

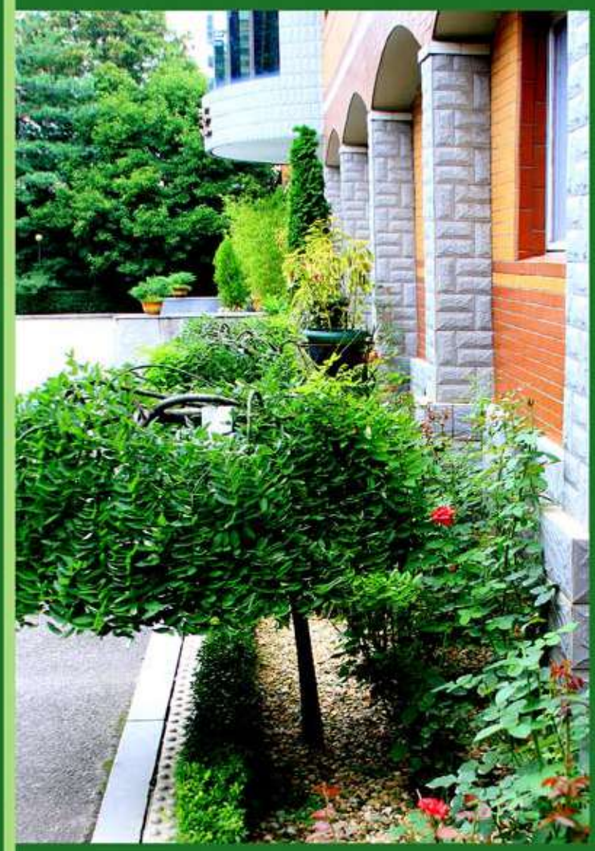


In a word, landscape gardening is one of the factors for the increased production.

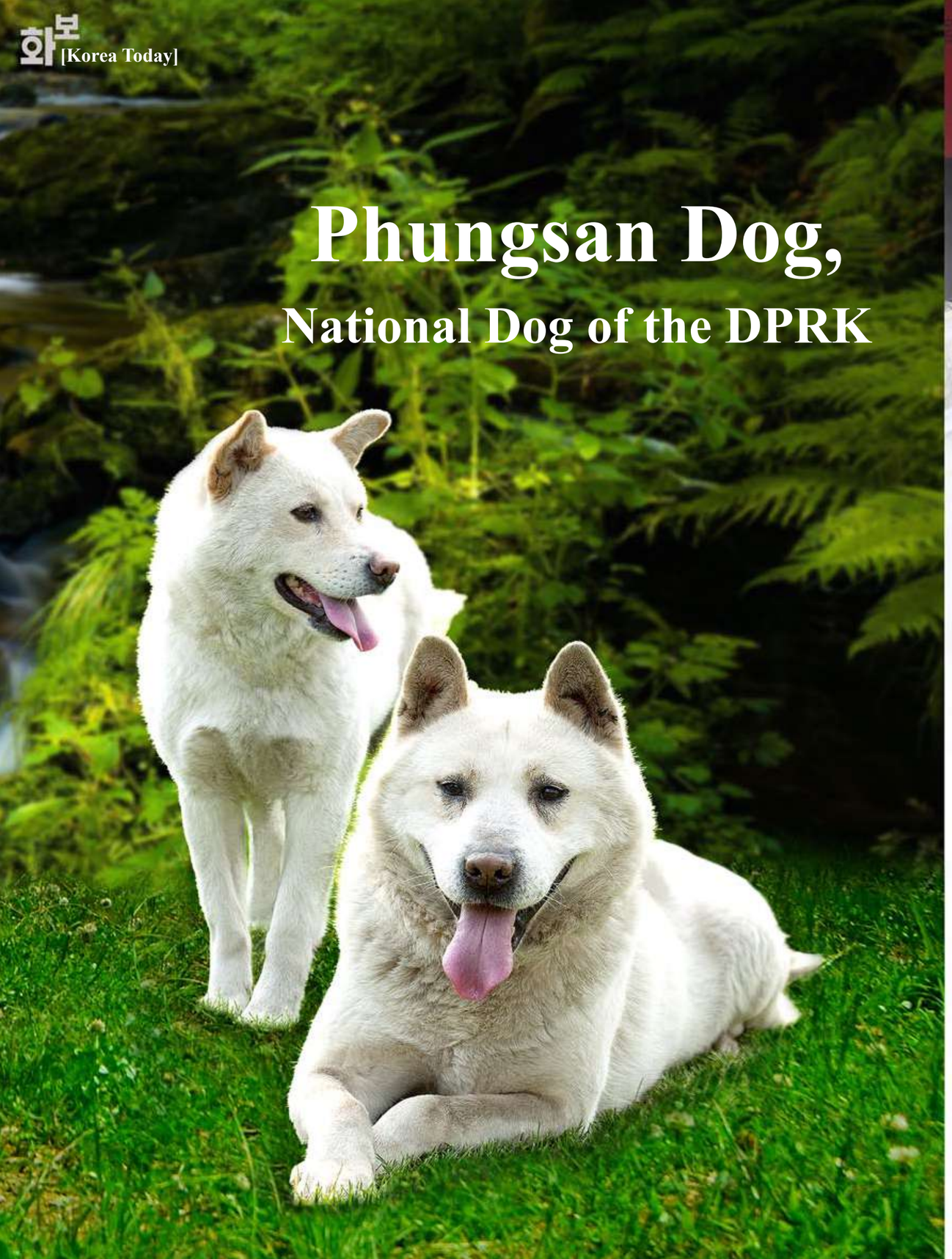
Landscape gardening of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill attracts growing public attention.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin

Text: Kang Su Jong



Phungsan Dog,
National Dog of the DPRK



Phungsan dog, a breed indigenous to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, originated in Kim Hyong Gwon County (formerly Phungsan County) in Ryanggang Province, hence its name.

Its eyes are rather small and the pupils are black or ash grey. Its neck is thick and short, and well-developed.

A female dog has a little sagged belly, but a male dog's belly is stuck upward, and the tail is curled over the back.

The fur is mainly white, and sometimes yellowish brown.

The dog looks robust, firm and cute, and is highly resistant to cold and diseases.

Brave, tenacious and clever Phungsan dog has been close to the life of the Korean people since long ago.

It has been under good protection as a natural living monument, and was designated as the national dog of the DPRK in 2014.

Text: Pak Pyong Hun

The Phungsan dog shows capture great attentions of not only zoologists but also many other people (A shot from the Sixth Korea's national dog of Phungsan show held in Sariwon of North Hwanghae Province)

Kumok Corn Products Exhibition House

Corn noodles

Cold noodles

Corn

Corn contains starch, protein, sugar, vitamins and minerals.

It is next to soybean in nutritional value.

Processed corn foodstuffs are acknowledged as health foods.

Corn satisfies thirst and is good for urination and detoxification.

Glutathione in corn has anti-cancer effect.

With the growing interest in corn products, the Kumok Corn Products Exhibition House has now become a crowd-puller.

Based in Munhung-dong No. 2, Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, the exhibition house was opened to public in July 2016, as a centre for development and exhibition of processed corn products as well as commercial service.

The four-storey building has a shop and dining spaces, and interior decorations in the shape of corn symbolize the characteristics of the house.

It usually has many visitors, and is especially packed out in the evening hours.

The shop on the first floor sells a wide range of processed corn products developed by the Chongnyu Economic Technology Company.

Corn noodles and other processed corn foodstuffs

Kumok Corn Products Exhibition House

Corn tea

Corn cake

Corn foods good for health enjoy growing demands

are continuously being improved in quality, thus enjoying growing demand from customers. People with obesity and diabetes frequent the shop to buy corn-processed sweets that are highly recommended as foods for health promotion and medical treatment.

Dining spaces on the second floor are full of people who come to enjoy various kinds of corn foods. The most favourite dish is warm corn noodles, appetizing and nutritious. With distinctive flavour and taste that differentiate them from other noodles, warm corn noodles are becoming very popular.

The exhibition house is directing great efforts to developing scores of processed corn foodstuffs by well preserving the features of corn effective in preventing diabetes, arteriosclerosis and aging. Those products are, therefore, favoured by middle-aged and old people.

Nutritive corn tea served on the fourth floor attracts customers with its unique taste and aroma.

Photo: Ri Kwang Song, An Chol Ryong
Text: Kim Son Gyong

Merited Sculpture Production Company

The Merited Sculpture Production Company of the Mansudae Art Studio was inaugurated on November 17, 1959.

Its predecessor was the sculpture department, staffed with some 50 sculptors, under the Central Committee of the Korean Artists Union.

The production company took its first step by creating a grand monumental structure, the Chollima Statue, symbolic of the heroic mettle and indomitable spirit of the Korean people, who were making unheard-of leaps forward and innovations in all sectors of socialist construction.

Sculptors completed within 36 days the execution of the bronze statue, which was the biggest equestrian one in the world at that time and would take more than six months to produce from a conventional viewpoint. The statue was erected at the foot of Moran Hill and was unveiled in April 1961.

The production company became the first winner of the title of Chollima workteam in the sector of art and literature.

Afterwards, it erected another grand monument in the city of Hyesan, Ryanggang Province, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the victorious battle of Pochonbo organized by President Kim Il Sung during the anti-Japanese armed struggle. The Monument to the Victorious Battle of Pochonbo was unveiled in June 1967.

With the production company as a parent body, the Mansudae Art Studio was organized in September 1970.

Since then the sculpture production company made further progress, blazing a new trail in the art of sculpture.

Sculptors created group sculptures and carved images in bold relief for Grand Monument on Mansu Hill, Wangjaesan Grand Monument, Monument to the Phophyong Revolutionary Site, Samjiyon Grand Monument, Tower of the Juche

The Merited Sculpture Production Company of the Mansudae Art Studio rendered contribution to the construction of many monumental edifices

Idea, Arch of Triumph, Monument to the West Sea Barrage, and other monumental edifices erected across the country.

They also produced a lot of ornamental sculptures to enhance formative and artistic features of the Mansudae Art Theatre, People's Palace of Culture, Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace and other buildings.

The production company was honoured with the title of the merited production company in October 2008.

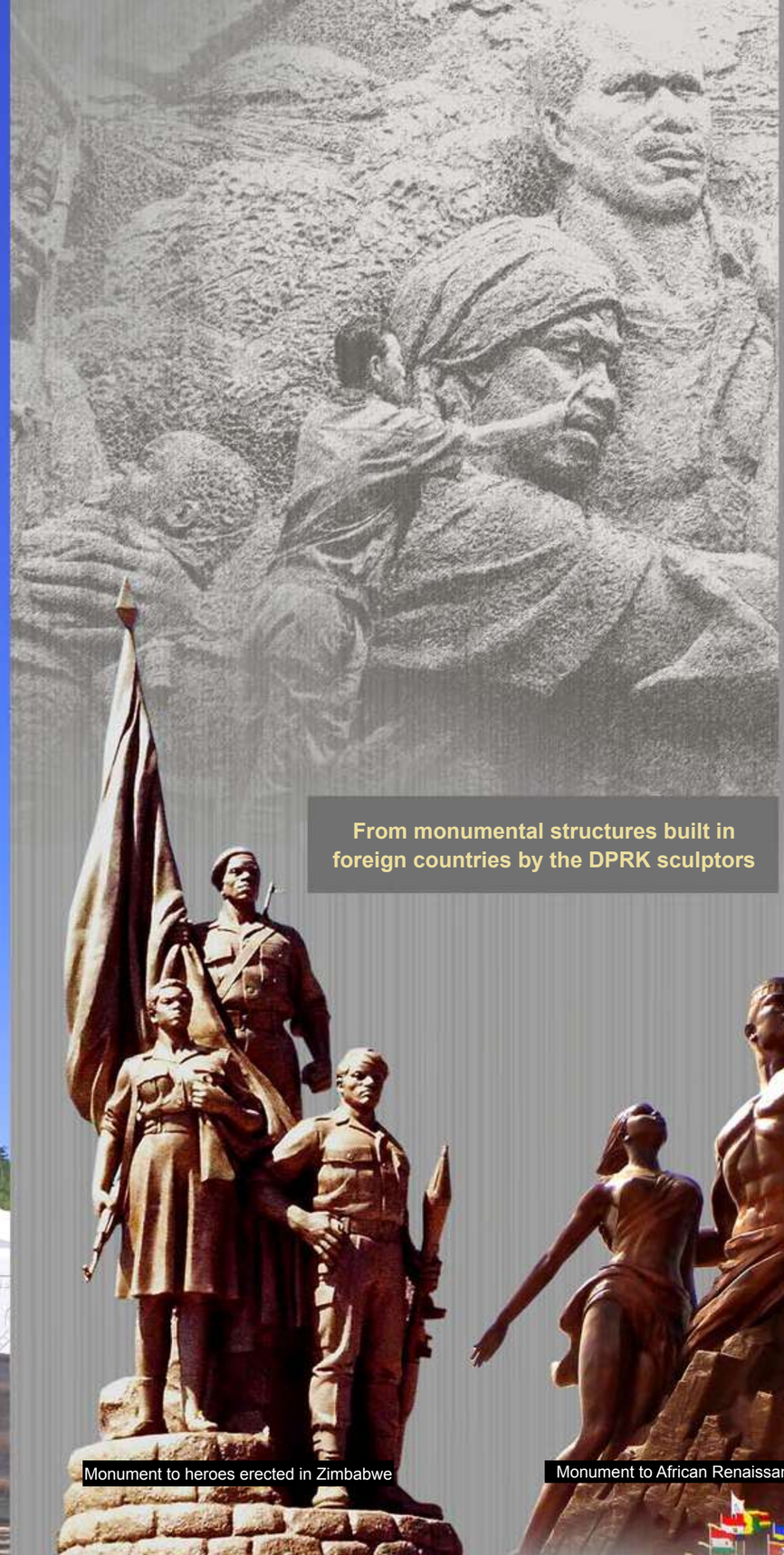
At present sculptors have doubled in number, mainly being graduates from Pyongyang University of Fine Arts. And they are creditably fulfilling the mission and duty of erecting the monumental structures of lasting value representative of the era of the Workers' Party.

In the last decade they rendered active services to the construction of Sinchon Museum, Central Class Education House, Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery, Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum and others.

The company's sculptors fully demonstrated the Korean sculpture art by building a lot of bronze statues and monuments in foreign countries.

The company has so far produced many title-holders, including Kim Il Sung Prize winners, Labour Heroes, People's and Merited artists.

Photo: Choe Won Chol
Text: Kim Son Gyong



From monumental structures built in foreign countries by the DPRK sculptors

Statue of the first president of Angola

Cemetery for heroes erected in Namibia

Monument to heroes erected in Zimbabwe

Monument to African Renaissance erected in Senegal

Kim Sung Il, violin maker of the Korean Art Association of the Disabled

I Hear Violin Sounds with All My Heart

Having a good ear for and excellent assessing ability of sound is the most important for the makers of the musical instruments. In particular, for those engaged in the making of such stringed instruments as violin, it is essential to have a keen ear as well as exquisite workmanship on wood.

Contrary to the preconceived notion, however, Kim Sung Il with hearing

disability is making violins at the stringed instruments manufacturing shop of the Korean Art Association of the Disabled.

The 36-year-old, born with deaf ears, began his social career at a public service unit in Sosong District, Pyongyang.

His parents were simply content to see their son winning applause on the stage as a dancer of the Korean Art Association of the Disabled.

When he was little, Kim got into the habit of making several objects by hand in leisure time, and frequented the Grand People's Study House to acquire knowledge in the field of handicraft.

Officials from the art association detected the talent of Kim and sent him to a vocational school for the disabled.

After finishing one-year study at the school in 2015, Kim began his new job of violin making at the stringed instruments manufacturing shop.

By pooling all skills and enthusiasm, Kim produced his first violin, which was judged to have a good shape but poor sounds. It was an enormous disappointment to him, who could not identify sounds by ear.

At that time Song Hak Mun and other colleagues encouraged him to overcome his physical disability and buckle down again to work.

Kim was again inspired, and he set about creating his own way of violin making, placing a main stress on developing his sense of touch to discriminate the vibrations of strings.

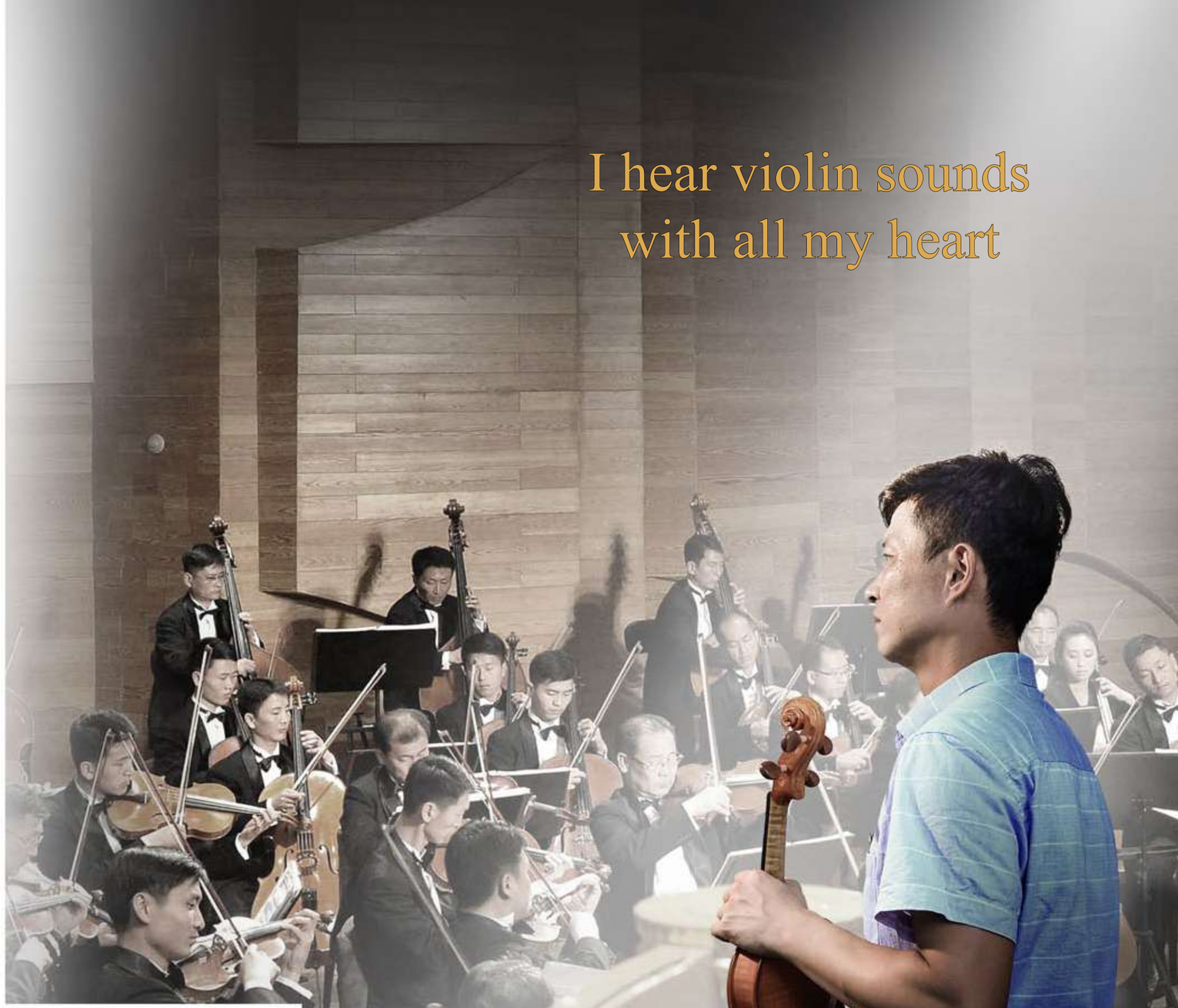
Despite repeated failures, he did not give up, but made persevering efforts. In the course of this, he also attained higher levels of workmanship.

His tireless efforts paid off; his violin was awarded a technical prize in the 9th Pyongyang musical instruments show in September 2017, and the people were greatly astonished to find the maker of that excellent violin was a man with hearing impairment.

A foreigner who visited the Korean Art Association of the Disabled admired Kim for having the courage to overcome his disability and wished he would make better violins with great attachment to his job.

Kim's violin won another sci-tech prize

I hear violin sounds with all my heart



in the 10th Pyongyang musical instruments show held two years later.

Photo: Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Kang Su Jong

Kanggye Winery

The Kanggye Winery, which started its work by processing wild fruits sixty-odd years ago, is now known across the country for its wine products.

It turns out red and white wines, Inphung Liquor (brandy) and other fruit wines.

The wine research institute under the winery conducts its researches into grape cultivation and wine aging, so as to retain the unique flavour of the wines which are made from grapes cultivated under the warm sunlight and in the fresh air of the Korean inland region and well blended with distinctive aroma of oak containers.

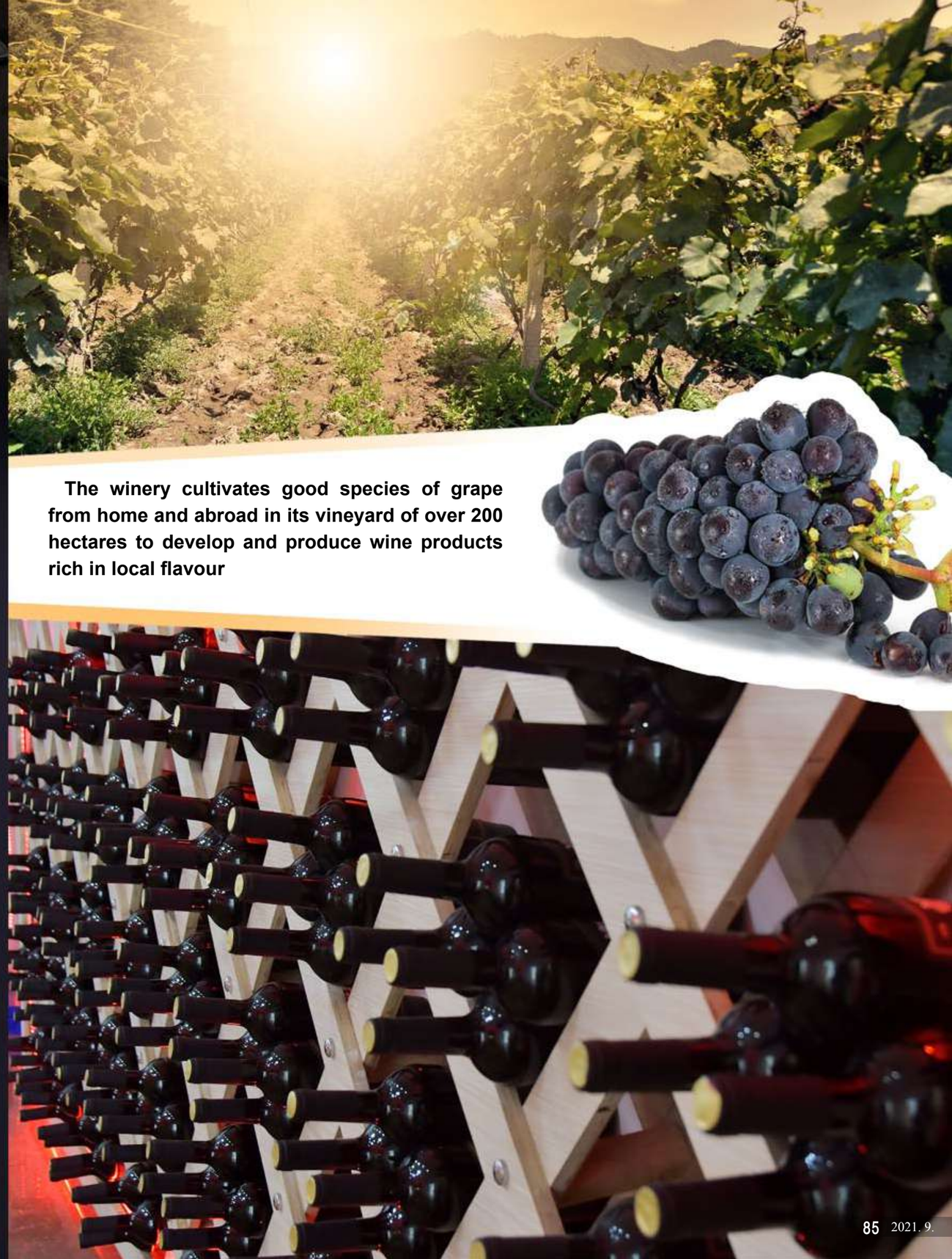
Kanggye Wine produced at the winery is recognized as one of specialties of Kanggye for the favourable medicinal properties as well as unique flavour and aroma.

In order to preserve the features of the Kanggye Wine, the winery is directing great efforts to the production of superior grape species by improving their seeds and ensuring good cultivation, and has established scientific winemaking methods.

The vineyard of over 200 hectares is created in the suburbs of Kanggye City to cultivate not only aboriginal species of grape but also world-famous species and varieties.

The winery is stepping up the development of new wine products rich in local flavour.

Photo: Jon Son Il
Text: O Hae Yon



The winery cultivates good species of grape from home and abroad in its vineyard of over 200 hectares to develop and produce wine products rich in local flavour

Unique taste and aroma of

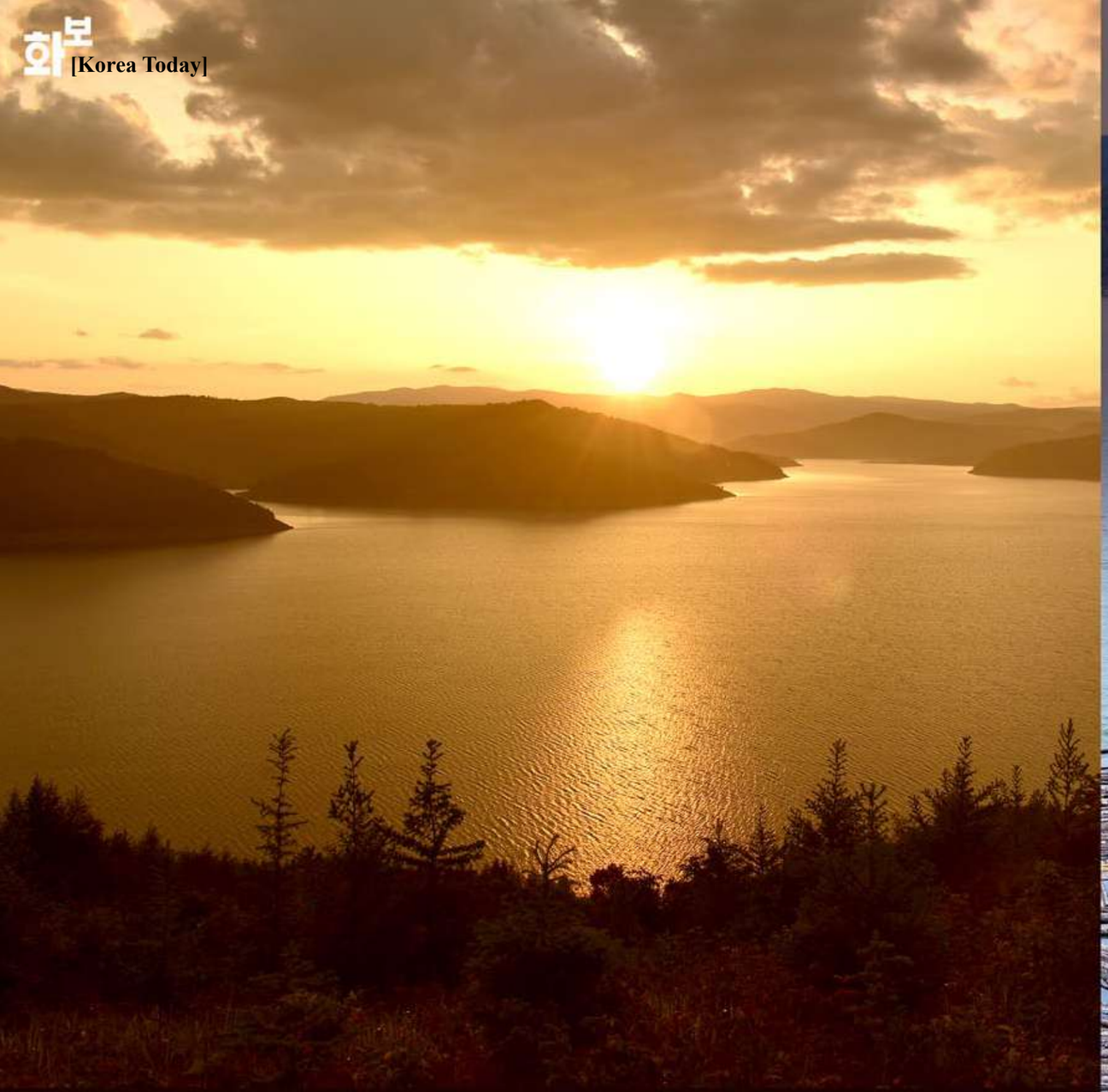
Kanggye Wine

Enjoying the Kanggye Wine, you can feel wonders of its peculiar flavour combined with fragrance of natural forest and sweet taste of grapes ripened under warm sunlight

Jangjin County in South Hamgyong Province is situated in the highlands of over 1 000 metres above sea level, and forests account for 90 percent of its area. These forests are thick with larch, *Abies nephrolepis*, spruce and other tall trees.

And there is the Jangjin Lumber Station with a history of over seventy years, which is responsible for timber production, and also afforestation and conservation.

It has five substations based in Memul, Kaljon, Paegam and other alpine regions.



Jangjin Lumber Station with a 70-odd-year-long history

Timber Rafts Float on Lake Jangjin

They carry out logging mainly in winter periods, and transport the felled trees to certain destinations and pile them up there. In spring the cut-over areas are cleared to plant new trees.

Each substation has a nursery for growing several species of trees suitable for alpine areas.

With a high awareness of being masters in expanding the forest resources, lumbermen plant ten trees after cutting one and devote their all to the cultivation of the trees.

The lumber station is actively employing profitable methods in transporting trees. The felled trees are transported by railway, truck and also raft.

The water-transportation substation conducts the lumber transportation by floating the rafts on Lake Jangjin in the central part of the county and adjacent streams and rivers. To this end, it is maintaining machines and facilities in good order and introducing efficient rafting methods.

The rafts floating down Lake Jangjin after the spring thaw add another spectacular scene to the area.

Photo: An Chol Ryong
Text: Pak Pyong Hun

Historical Remains in Mt Taesong

Mt Taesong, one of the favourite haunts for Pyongyang citizens, abounds with historical relics and remains which show the Korean nation's intelligence and talent.

Most of the relics date back to the period between the 3rd century and mid-7th century, when Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), the first feudal state of Korea, advanced to the Pyongyang area.

Since around the 3rd century Koguryo launched its advance southward and moved its capital to Pyongyang. Then it built the Taesongsan Fort as one of its bases for advance and as major defence facilities.

The Taesongsan Fort was built by making effective use of geographical conditions of Mt Taesong, linking its Somun, Ulji, Jangsu, Pukjang, Kuksa and Jujak peaks. It is therefore over 7 000m in circumference.

There are rugged mountains in the north of the fort, and steep slopes in the east and the west. In the southern part a double wall was built in the valley toward the Taedong River.

Discovered in the fort are the sites of more than 20 gates, 65 bastions, grain storehouse, military general's terrace, barrack and arsenal.

The 200-metre-long castle wall on Somun Peak and the Nam Gate are restored to their original state.

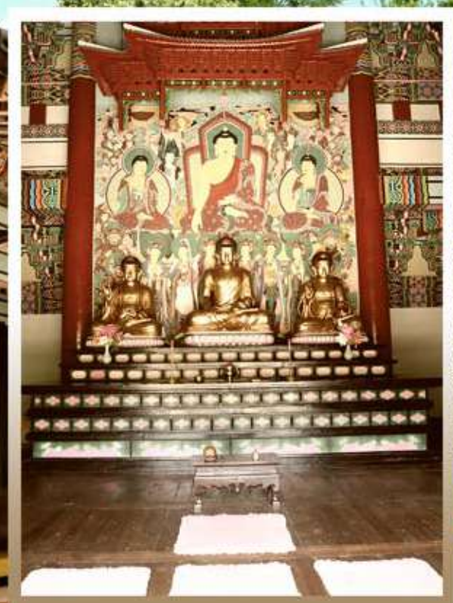
At the southern foot of Mt Taesong is the site of the Anhak Palace, a royal palace of Koguryo between 427 and 586.

The palace is surrounded by a square wall built with earth and stone, each side of the wall being 622m long. There are the gate sites in all four directions.

The palace had occupied an area of 31 458m^2, and there remain several thousand cornerstones and foundation sites.

Found in Mt Taesong is the Kwangbop Temple, a Buddhist temple built in the days of King Kwanggaetho (374-412) of

Nam Gate of Taesongsan Fort



Kwangbop Temple

Koguryo.

It was destroyed by the bombing of the imperialists in the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953) and restored to its original state in 1990.

More than 1 000 tombs in the period of Koguryo are in Mt Taesong. Most of them are earthen tombs with stone chamber and stone-piled ones, and some others are mural tombs with the paintings of persons, horses, wagons, tortoise-serpent, warriors on armoured horses and so on.

Besides, earthen walls, the site of the Chomsongdae Observatory, wells and other relics and remains of the Koguryo people are preserved in the Mt Taesong area.

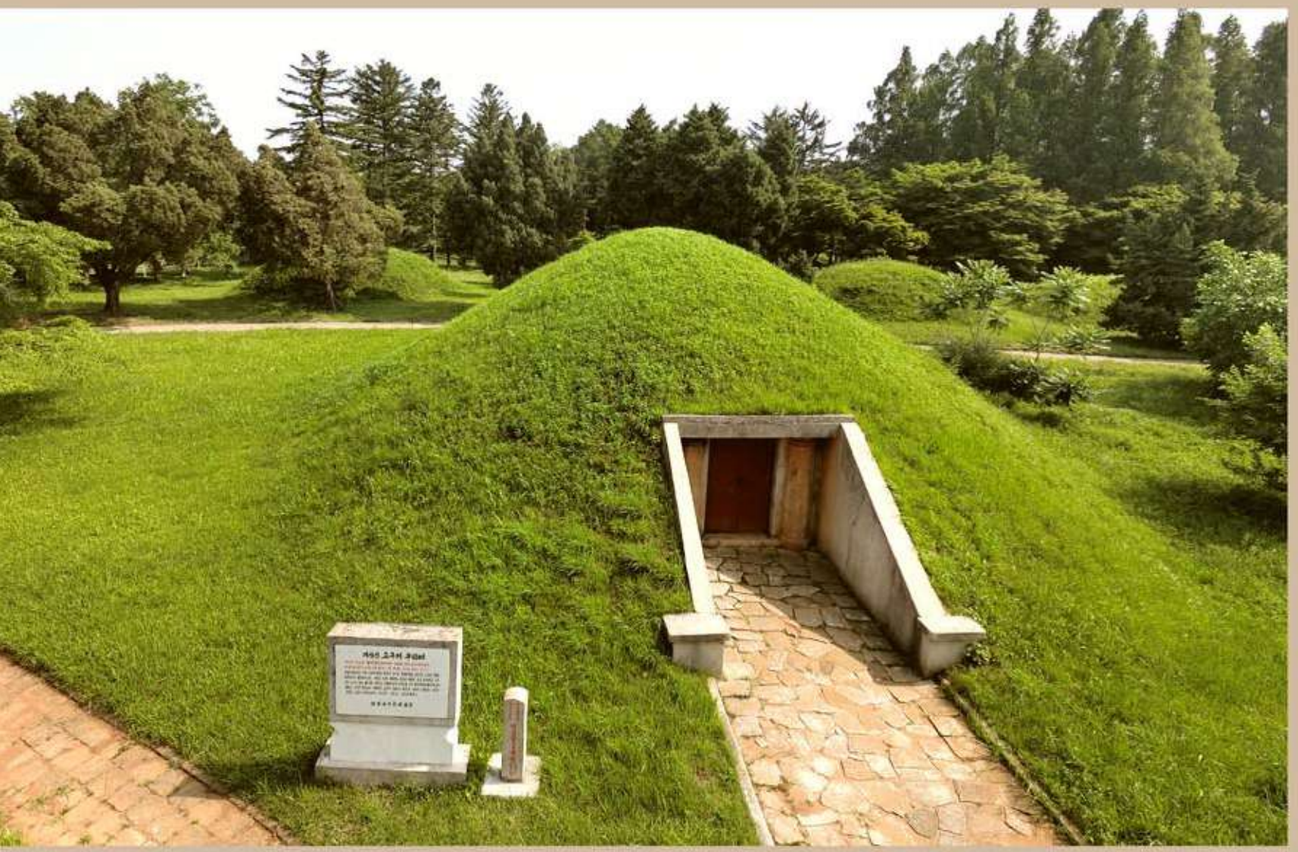
All of them are precious cultural heritage showing the social system and people's living customs of the Koguryo period and are under good preservation.

Photo: An Chol Ryong
Text: Pak Pyong Hun

Chonwang Gate in Kwangbop Temple

Five-storeyed octagonal pagoda in Kwangbop Temple

Site of Anhak Palace



Some of tomb clusters from the period of Koguryo

Jangsu Pond

Taesongsan Sports Goods

Pyongyang Sports Goods Factory, inaugurated in June 2016, is based in the sports village on Chongchun Street in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

It occupies a total building area of over 9 980m^2, and has put its production and management on a modern and IT footing.

It turns out various kinds of balls including those for football, badminton and table tennis, gloves for sporting events, nets and other sports goods.

The Taesongsan-brand sports goods of the factory are winning growing popularity.

Hamhung Pine

Hamhung Pine is a natural living monument found in Hungdok District, Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province.

Also called a spread pine, it is a variety of pine tree that grows almost level with the ground.

It is over 450 years old, 2.2m round at the bottom, 1.9m round at breast height and 4.2m tall.

At the height of 2.35m it has a branch that stretches out some 8m horizontally. The branch is then bifurcated, producing many branchlets forming a tray-shaped crown, 13.6m across from east to west and 13.8m across from south to north.

It is under good preservation for its peculiar shape and academic significance.

Photo: Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Kim Son Myong

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