

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

Juche 108
(2019)

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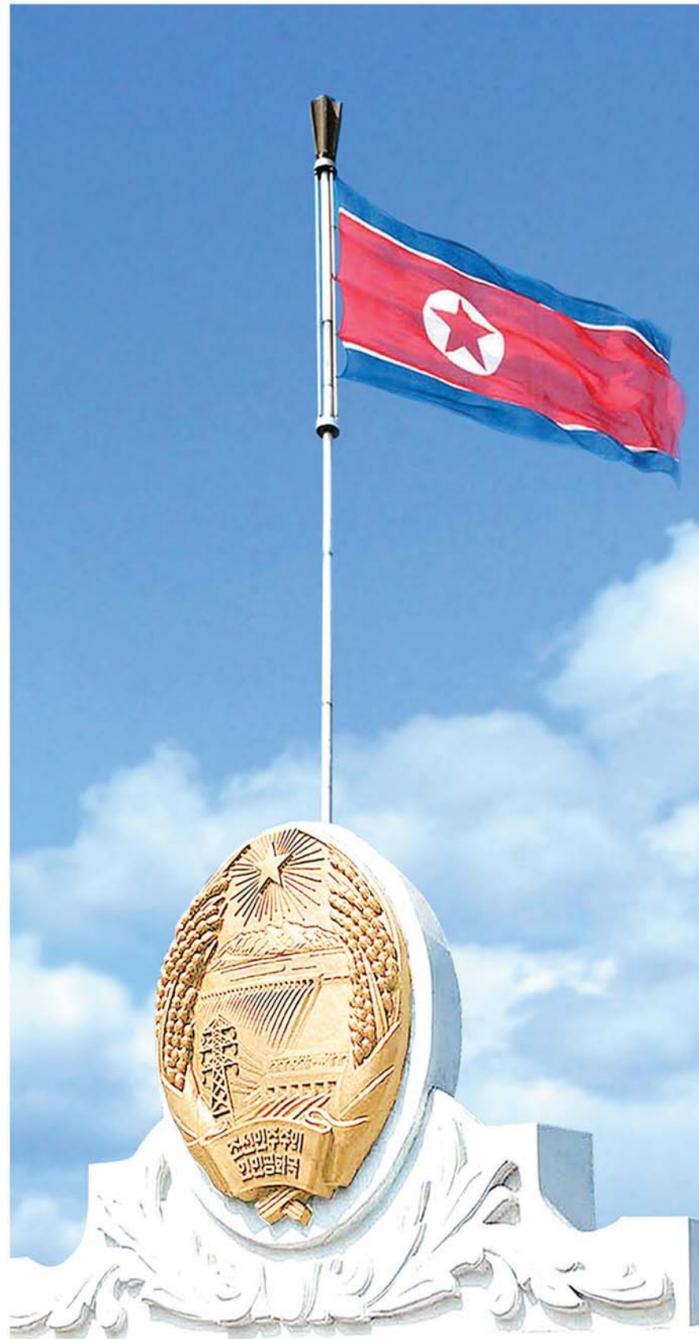


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FRONT COVER: Manifesting the might of Juche Korea
Photo: Kim Hyok Chol

Pictorial KOREA is published in Korean, Chinese, Russian and English.



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers’ Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, took part in the election of deputies to the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly at Sub-constituency No. 40 of Constituency No. 10 on March 10.

At 11:00 am, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un arrived at the polling station set up in Kim Chaek University of Technology and met with Hong So Hon, president of the university, and other officials.

The teaching staff and students of the university enthusiastically welcomed the Supreme Leader, offering the highest glory and warmest greetings to him, who is brilliantly carrying on the Juche-oriented state-building idea and exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, thus ushering in a new era of history for peace and prosperity of the country and the nation and bringing closer a bright future of a powerful socialist country.

He made his way to the polling station, waving back to the voters in



Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un Casts Ballot in Election of Deputies to SPA

acknowledgement.

He received a ballot from the chairman of the election committee at Sub-constituency No. 40 of Constituency No. 10 for the election of deputies to the SPA and cast it for Hong So Hon, candidate for a deputy to the SPA.

Saying to Hong that Kim Chaek University of Technology plays a very important role in all key sectors of socialist economic construction, the Supreme Leader encouraged him to work harder so that the university could fulfil its responsibility and duty as the eldest son most trusted by the Party in

making a breakthrough in invigorating science education and the economy and improving the people’s living standards, and as a locomotive leading science education and economic construction of the country.

Emphasizing once again the important position of the university in building a powerful socialist country, he clearly indicated the direction and ways it should follow and took measures to update the education of the university, its scientific equipment and information technology.

Article: Kim Phil



Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Donald J. Trump meet for the second summit

The Second DPRK-US Summit Meeting and Talks Held



Kim Jong Un and Trump pose for a photograph

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, met Donald J. Trump, president of the United States of America, for the second summit meeting and talks.

Hanoi, Vietnam, was thrust into the limelight of the global attention, for it became the venue for the DPRK-US summit that would render a great contribution to peace and prosperity of the Korean peninsula and the world, thanks to the ardent wishes, proactive efforts and extraordinary determination of the top leaders of the two countries to end the vicious cycle of confrontation and antagonism and keep pace with the era of peace and prosperity.

At 18:30, February 27, local time, the DPRK Supreme Leader and the US President met again in eight months and had a firm handshake, before having a photo taken against the backdrop of the national flags of the two countries.

The top leaders who had deepened their friendly feelings through the Singapore summit last year and on subsequent occasions including exchanges of several personal letters, greeted each other warmly and made well-wishing remarks.

They then had a one-on-one pleasant chat to have an open-hearted and candid dialogue.

After the one-on-one chat, they had a social dinner.

Present there from the DPRK side were Kim Yong Chol, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

Korea, and Ri Yong Ho, minister of Foreign Affairs, and from the US side were Mike Pompeo, secretary of State, and Mick Mulvaney, acting White House chief of staff.

At the dinner, which was held in an amicable atmosphere with the top leaders and personages of the two countries sitting at a round table in a friendly way, both sides highly appreciated the considerable progress made in the bilateral relationship after the Singapore summit and had an exchange of sincere and deep opinions with a view to producing comprehensive and epoch-making results at the talks in order to live up to the interest and expectations of the whole world praying for a successful Hanoi summit.

On February 28, the DPRK Supreme Leader met the US President again at the Metropole Hotel in Hanoi at 9 am local time and held one-on-one talks and extended talks with their aides attending.

Highly appreciating the remarkable progress which was made in the historic course of implementing the Singapore joint statement at the talks, the top leaders of the two countries had a constructive and candid exchange of opinions over the practical issues arising in opening up a new era of DPRK-US fence-mending on the basis of the progress.

At the talks they shared the common understanding that the efforts made by the two sides and proactive measures taken by them to defuse tensions and promote peace on the



One-on-one chat between Kim Jong Un and Trump

Korean peninsula and completely denuclearize it are of great significance in building mutual trust and radically turning around the decades-long relationship of mistrust and antagonism between the two countries.

The top leaders heard each other's views on the issues that should be resolved without fail at the present stage in order to achieve the common goals specified in the Singapore joint statement and had an in-depth discussion of the ways to this end.

They expressed the conviction that although the barrier of antagonism and confrontation, which was built up in the hostile relationship spanning over seven decades, is high and there may arise unavoidable hardships and difficulties in the course of writing a new history of the DPRK-US relationship, they could advance the bilateral ties significantly as desired by the peoples of the two countries if they make their way through, hand in hand, with wisdom and patience.

The top leaders of the two countries appreciated that their second meeting in Hanoi marked an important occasion for deepening mutual respect and trust and making the bilateral ties leap to a new stage.



Kim Jong Un and Trump sit together for a social dinner



Kim Jong Un and Trump meet again and have one-on-one talks

They agreed to keep in close touch with each other for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the radical development of bilateral relations in the future, too, and to continue productive dialogues for settling the issues discussed at the Hanoi summit.

Kim Jong Un expressed his thanks to Trump for making positive efforts for the successful meeting and talks while travelling a long way and said goodbye to him, promising the next meeting.

The second DPRK-US summit meeting and talks held amid the worldwide attention and expectation served as a significant occasion in developing the DPRK-US relations to meet the interests of the peoples of both countries and contributing to ensuring peace and security of the Korean peninsula and its region and the rest of the world.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho



Extended talks between Chairman Kim Jong Un and President Trump with their aides attending



DPRK Chairman's Official Visit to Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, paid an official goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un met Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at the Presidential Palace on the afternoon of March 1.

An official ceremony took place at the plaza of the Presidential Palace to welcome the DPRK Supreme Leader.

Talks were held between the top leaders of the two countries at the Presidential Palace.

At the talks both sides informed each other of the political and economic situations of their countries and exchanged opinions on boosting relations of friendship and cooperation between the two Parties and the two countries in various fields in line with the requirements of the new era and matters of common concern.

It is the consistent stand of the Korean Party and state to

carry on generation after generation the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and the two Parties forged with blood true to the intentions of the leaders of the elder generations, Kim Jong Un said.

The friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and the DPRK are the traditional ones provided and cultivated by President Ho Chi Minh and President Kim Il Sung and the Vietnamese Party, government and people always remember and are thankful to the DPRK for having rendered great support to the struggle for independence of Vietnam and its national liberation, Nguyen Phu Trong said. It is the steadfast stand of the Vietnamese Party and government to always attach importance to the bilateral relations and bolster up the relationship between the two Parties and countries for the interests of the peoples of the two countries and regional peace and stability, he noted.

The talks proceeded in a comradely, candid and friendly atmosphere.



Kim Jong Un meets with Nguyen Phu Trong



In the afternoon the same day Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un met with Nguyen Xuan Phuc, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan, chairwoman of the Vietnamese National Assembly.

Nguyen Phu Trong arranged a grand banquet at the International Convention Centre on March 1 to welcome

Kim Jong Un.

Nguyen Phu Trong delivered a congratulatory address and Kim Jong Un spoke in reply.

Warmly welcoming the Korean leader, the Vietnamese counterpart described his visit to Vietnam as the first one made 55 years after President Kim Il Sung's visit in 1964 and a





Talks held between Kim Jong Un and Nguyen Phu Trong





Kim Jong Un has a friendly talk with Nguyen Xuan Phuc



An amicable talk between Kim Jong Un and Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan



manifestation of the stand of the Korean Party and government valuing the traditional friendly ties with Vietnam.

He said the traditional friendship between the Parties, states and peoples of the two countries that President Ho Chi Minh and President Kim Il Sung had built and cultivated with much effort has been inherited and developed uninterruptedly in the face of enormous challenges, and expressed his conviction that current visit of Chairman Kim Jong Un made ahead of the 70th

anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries would greatly contribute to promoting the interests of the peoples of the two countries and global peace, stability, cooperation and development.

The Korean leader said it is quite natural, a due obligation, for him to visit Vietnam which is associated with the noble souls of the preceding leaders of the two countries and the common spirit of the martyrs of the two countries who made the history



of the bilateral friendship with blood, and affirmed his will to make joint efforts in the sacred struggle for further consolidating and developing the bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation as required by the new era and for bringing happiness and rosy future to the peoples of the two countries.

He said that through his first visit to Vietnam and the meaningful meeting with General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong he was convinced of the vitality and rosy future of the

ties of friendship and cooperation between the two Parties and the peoples of the two countries, which had been forged and consolidated by Comrade Kim Il Sung and Comrade Ho Chi Minh, and expressed his determination to firmly defend the bilateral friendship, a precious legacy left by the preceding leaders of the two countries, and add eternal brilliance to it generation after generation.

The reception proceeded in a cheerful, family atmosphere



A banquet arranged to welcome Kim Jong Un



Kim Jong Un and Nguyen Phu Trong express thanks to the performers and have a photograph taken with them



Kim Jong Un says goodbye to Nguyen Phu Trong





Kim Jong Un pays floral tribute to the Mausoleum of President Ho Chi Minh



Kim Jong Un lays a wreath at the Monument to Heroic Martyrs

brimming with the warm feelings of the DPRK-Vietnam friendship.

There was an art performance the Vietnamese artists had specially prepared to welcome the DPRK Supreme Leader.

Kim Jong Un expressed thanks once again for the sincere, warm hospitality shown by the Vietnamese Party and government before saying goodbye to Nguyen Phu Trong.

On the morning of March 2 the Korean leader laid a wreath at the Mausoleum of President Ho Chi Minh and observed a moment's silence in memory of Ho Chi Minh.

The next leg of his visit was the Monument to Heroic Martyrs where he laid a wreath and paid a silent tribute.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un left Hanoi on March 2 after rounding off his official goodwill visit to Vietnam.

His official goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam served as an epoch-making occasion of significance in fully demonstrating the traditional friendly and cooperative relations between the two Parties and the two countries, which had been forged and consolidated throughout the struggle to bring the common goal and ideal into reality under the banner of socialism, and promoting the friendly ties of the peoples of the two countries.

Article: Kang Su Jong



Kim Jong Un leaves Hanoi after rounding off his official visit to Vietnam



In Boundless Admiration for Kim Il Sung

Having authored the immortal Juche idea that occupies the highest and significant position in the history of human ideology and performed undying exploits for the country and people, the times and history through his gigantic revolutionary practice, President Kim Il Sung was held in high esteem by

state leaders as well as many prominent figures in the political and social circles of various countries in the world.

The International Friendship Exhibition House in Mt Myohyang, a celebrated mountain of Korea, houses a large number of gifts presented to him by them.



Comrade Kim Il Sung is a genuine proletarian internationalist and a paradigm of communist movement, who defended our Soviet Union at the cost of the blood, with arms, from the aggression of the imperialists in the East. Without the struggle of genuine communists like Comrade Kim Il Sung the Soviet Union is unable to carry on socialist construction in such a peaceful environment as today.

J. V. Stalin (1949)

An observation car and cars from J. V. Stalin, secretary-general of the CC of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks) and premier of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on December 30, 1948 and October 26, 1950



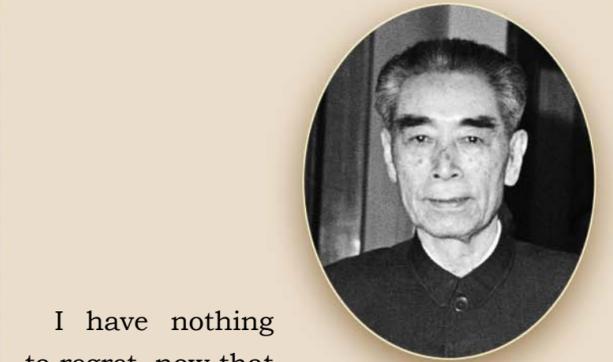
You are the only one that can look after the world revolution, Comrade Kim Il Sung. I request sincerely that you lead the world revolution and the international communist movement in the future, as well.



Mao Zedong (April 1975)



Embroidery *Tiger* from Mao Zedong, general secretary of the CC of the Communist Party of China and president of the People's Republic of China, in October 1953



I have nothing to regret, now that I have met you, Comrade Kim Il Sung. I wish you would lead the world revolution for the future of mankind.

Zhou Enlai (April 1975)



A Pavilion Floating on Water, bamboo work from Zhou Enlai, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, on August 2, 1958

It is not me, but Comrade Kim Il Sung, great leader of the Korean people, who deserves sincere respect from our Vietnamese people.



A silver tea service from Ho Chi Minh, president of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, on October 5, 1955

Ho Chi Minh



The Juche idea of Premier Kim Il Sung is so great that it moves the world, so it is not too much to say that you have the whole world.

Sukarno (April 1965)



A silver dinner service from Sukarno, president of the Republic of Indonesia, in April 1965



I wish you would believe that I respect President Kim Il Sung as a great statesman and I will always be on the side of the DPRK. He has indeed fascinated me. It is the first time in my political career that man is attracted by man.

Shin Kanemaru (February 1991)



A doll from Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister of Japan and a member of the Lower House, on February 26, 1991



Comrade Kim Il Sung is a wise man. He has done so much work in his time that future generations will have nothing to do.

Josip Broz Tito (1977)



A gold-plated cigarette box from Josip Broz Tito, chairman of the CC of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and president of the SFRY, on August 25, 1977



I am sure that I and my comrades will continue to give wide publicity to the revolutionary cause of Korea, courage and creativity of the Korean people, and wisdom and personality of Kim Il Sung, great and sagacious leader.

Fidel Castro Ruz (March 1986)



A crocodile-skin bag from Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the CC of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers, in March 1986



Your Excellency the President's teachings are absolute truth. I firmly believe in your prophecy.

Norodom Sihanouk (June 1986)



A silver pot from King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia on April 5, 1994



President Kim Il Sung is greater than George Washington, the first president of the United States of America, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln, the most illustrious early US presidents, all combined. He is the sun god of human destiny, far greater than the founders of state across the world and the sun god, put together.

Jimmy Carter (June 1994)



A copper plate from the former US president and his wife on June 17, 1994

Notable Increase in Generating Equipment Production



Profitable methods of processing are introduced to turn out more generating equipment



A leading producer of generating equipment in the DPRK, the Taean Heavy Machine Complex increases the production.

Officials of the complex impress upon the workers the importance of the task to be performed by the complex in hastening the construction of the Orangchon Power Station, Tanchon Power Station and other power stations and remarkably increasing the country's power production, thus encouraging their creative enthusiasm.

Amid the fierce flames of collective innovation and competition sweeping across the complex, profitable technical initiatives are actively introduced into production.

Rational moulding methods applied to raw materials processing greatly improved the quality of cast steel products.

The pipe-making sector established an automatic welding process and operated the equipment at full capacity to turn out sheet metal products in larger amounts.

Processing workshop No. 1, large machine workshop and other processing workshops have upgraded the software and hardware of the CNC machines. They also make effective use of all sorts of jigs and equipment conducive to accelerating the production and improving quality.

With a high sense of responsibility they assume

in completing the power-generating bases, the officials and workers of the ordered equipment assembly workshop and other units pool their creative wisdom and efforts in scrupulously organizing all the processes.

The complex, finding the master key to the technical development in updating the design and processing technologies, pushes ahead with the effort to develop modern generating equipment and introduce CNC technology into major processing machines.

Article: Choe Ui Rim
Photo: Ri Chol Jin





South Hamgyong Provincial Sci-Tech Library

A multifunctional sci-tech library was newly built at the foot of Mt Tonghung in Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province, thus providing ample conditions for scientists, technicians and working people from all walks of life, including students, in the province to gain an easy access to the latest science and technology.

As it is connected online to the Sci-Tech Complex and the Grand People's Study House in Pyongyang and all scientific research and educational institutes, factories and enterprises in the province, a great number of people visit the library for network browsing, Q & A services and online lectures of several universities.

Every space in the library, which is arranged for e-reading and academic discussions, is full of people. Among them are university students and scientific personnel questing for the advanced science and technology, with an ambition of surpassing the cutting edge.

There are also officials and working people engrossed in perusing new sci-tech data with a firm determination to put their factories and enterprises on a modern and IT basis.

The intellectual goods exhibition hall is another crowd-puller in the library.

In the reading spaces exclusively furnished for the primary and middle school students they consolidate what they have learned at school and prepare themselves as capable personnel for the future of the country.

The library has reading rooms for preschool children, areas for reading newspapers and magazines and for new

books, and a bookshop.

Everybody says that the South Hamgyong Provincial Sci-Tech Library will give a further stimulus to the effort

for making all people well versed in science and technology.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Ko Sung Hyok



E-reading space



Academic discussion hall



Foreign languages laboratory



Room for new publications



Reading spaces for students and children





Kim Hyong Jik University of Education

Kim Hyong Jik University of Education is located in Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang.

President Kim Il Sung, who had achieved the historic cause of liberating Korea from the Japanese military occupation on August 15, 1945, paid great attention to establishing a university for training teachers from the early period of building a new country.

Thanks to his close attention, Pyongyang Teachers Training College was founded on October 1, 1946, as the first of its kind in the country, and promoted in October 1948 to Pyongyang University of Education of four years.

During the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950 - July 1953), it moved to Chungnyol-ri in Pihyon County, North Phyongan Province, and continued its

work to train future teachers.

Later it was called Pyongyang University of Education No. 1. And in March 1975 it was named after Kim Hyong Jik, an outstanding leader of the anti-Japanese national liberation movement in Korea and a revolutionary educationist. Hence its name Kim Hyong Jik University of Education at present.

Its original mission was to train teachers for middle schools, and it was restructured as educational establishment for lecturers of teacher-training

colleges in June 1980. In September 1987 it was developed into a centre for training lecturers qualified for university education.

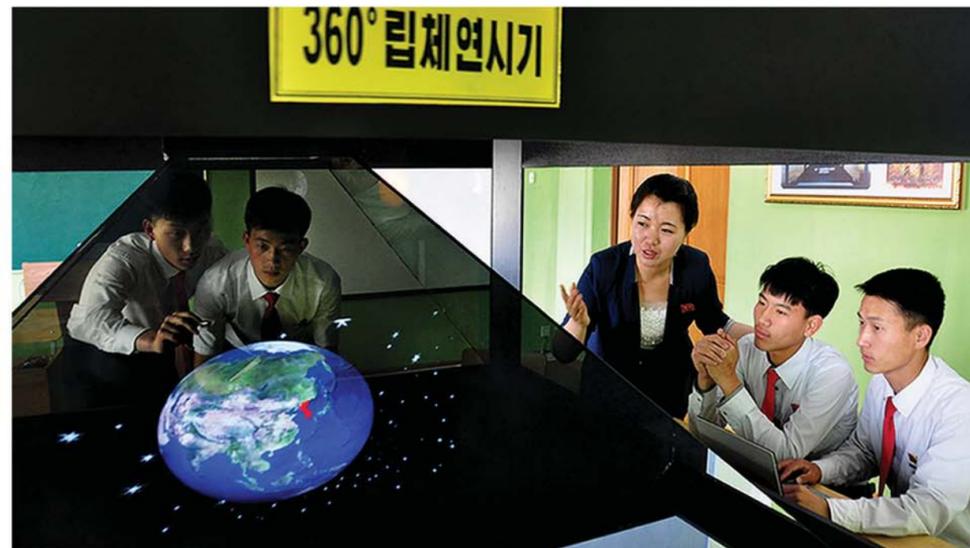
The entrance to the university bears a tablet inscribed with the handwriting of President Kim Il Sung in 1994 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kim Hyong Jik.

At present Kim Hyong Jik University of Education has been developed into a hub of education, information, data service and distance education in the country's teachers training sector.

Its staff are composed of several hundred lecturers with academic degrees and titles like candidate academician, professor and doctor.

Promising students selected from all parts of the country are enrolled at the educational science college and faculties of social and natural sciences, including philosophy, history, mathematics and physics, and are studying major subjects according to their hopes and abilities and on scholarships.

The university has recently developed new subjects in the fields of social, natural and cross-disciplinary sciences, several thousand online teaching plans, and effective education-support programs. All the lecture rooms are turned into multifunctional ones, and new teaching methods being applied as required by the current development of education, rendering a substantial contribution to



The university strives to bring radical changes to teaching contents and methods

improving the students' academic performance.

Its scientific research institutes, amply provided with material and technological foundations and competent personnel, are achieving remarkable successes in their efforts to go beyond the cutting edge, develop the country's economy and improve the people's living standards.

The university has so far produced among its graduates a great number of prominent educationists, scientists, artists, sportspersons and others, including the winners of Kim Il Sung Prize, and DPRK and Labour Heroes.

Kim Hyong Jik University of Education that has adorned its history with brilliant achievements in the country's history of education, is making strenuous efforts to implement the line of prioritizing science and education constantly pursued by the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK to make a leap forward by dint of science and guarantee the future by dint of education.

Article: Mun Kwang Bong

Photo: Ri Myong Guk



An emphasis is also put on education in art



Boost to the DPRK-China Friendship



Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



A DPRK-China friendship spring performance was given by the Chinese artists at the Ponghwa Art Theatre, jointly sponsored by the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the DPRK-China Friendship Association, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China and the Chinese embassy in Pyongyang to commemorate the first anniversary of the historic first visit to China paid by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.



The 2019 DPRK-China friendship spring gathering took place at the Taedonggang Diplomatic Club, jointly sponsored by the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the DPRK-China Friendship Association, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China and the Chinese embassy in Pyongyang.





Korean painting *Pine Tree and Goshawk*

Since he was a complete beginner to fine arts, he was intent on learning from the lecturers and his mates younger than him.

In order to attain mastery of fine arts he forgot Sundays, holidays and vacations during his university days, and such his intensity and enthusiasm did not fade away after his graduation.

After switching his special subject from oil painting to Korean painting, Ri produced excellent works and won the titles of Merited Artist in 1985 and People's Artist in 1997.

It is an accepted view that painters would stick to their unique modes of artistic expression after they have earned fame for their masterpieces.

But Ri made redoubled efforts to attain a new, higher level in his artistic description.

His creative activities developed further in his sixties. He produced successively such paintings as *Winter*, *Sangwon Valley in Mt Myohyang*, *Moran Hill in the Morning*, *Ever-green Pine Tree*, and *Pothong River in Winter*, captivating the

professionals and art enthusiasts with their fine artistic portrayal.

Conspicuous in his paintings is his excellent artistic representation of pine trees, magpies, persimmons and other objects familiar to the Korean people.

His Korean painting *Mt Paektu* won a special prize at the 12th international exhibition of watercolour paintings held in October 1990, in Rome, Italy, and he gave his one-man shows at home and abroad in 2005 and 2011.

Ri Kyong Nam is now acknowledged in the fine art circles as a masterhand at painting, calligraphy and coating.

Ri's life motto is: *Follow the path of virgin snow, and there will remain for sure your traces of efforts.*

Cherishing it in mind, he is devoting himself to creating excellent art pieces.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Choe Won Chol

People's Artist Ri Kyong Nam

Ri Kyong Nam from the Korean Painting Production Company of the Mansudae Art Studio enjoys the fame at home and abroad as a prolific painter, whose works demonstrate his fascinating and unique brush strokes and strong national flavour.

Ri was born in 1940 in Jongju County of North Phyongan Province, as the only son of an ordinary family.

Though he showed no particular artistic inclinations in his young days, his assiduous nature, keen spirit of inquiry about nature and phenomena, and hand dexterity attracted his villagers.

When he was over twenty, he took the advice of his relative and made up his mind to learn painting.

In 1963 he was admitted to the oil painting department of the pictorial art faculty at the Pyongyang University of Fine Arts.

His choice of subject seemed unsuitable for him, because it was a generally accepted opinion that those who were gifted for painting and diligently polished their skills would become painters.



Korean painting *Persimmon Tree at an Army Post*



Korean painting *Pothong River in Winter*

Mt Chilbo, Celebrated Mountain of Korea



Widely known as “Mt Kumgang in Hambuk (North Hamgyong Province)” from olden times, Mt Chilbo is one of the six celebrated mountains of Korea for its splendid and wonderful geographical features and unusual environment of nature.

It covers an area of several hundred square kilometres, including Myongchon, Hwadae and Myonggan counties and some regions of Orang County in North Hamgyong Province.

Thickly-wooded mountain with high peaks, deep ravines, clear water meandering through the valleys, spectacular waterfalls and pools, mysteriously-shaped cliffs and rocks on the coast—all these form a picturesque scenery of the mountain.

Autumnal scenery is excellent, but more spectacular is the wonderful landscape of snow-covered mountain in winter.

Mt Chilbo unfolds superb mountain-, ravine-

and sea-scapes, different by seasons. It is divided into Inner Chilbo, Outer Chilbo and Sea Chilbo, according to the regional features and tourist routes.

Mt Chilbo has a rich diversity of fauna and flora.

Over 1 300 species of plants growing in northern alpine and southern regions are found in the mountain. There are such medicinal herbs as wild insam, barrenwort and *Schizandra chinensis*.

In particular, songi mushroom growing on Mt Chilbo is the best among all mushrooms, for its unique flavour and aroma.

It is also inhabited by 80 odd animals including bear, roe deer, raccoon dog and badger, and many birds like eagle owl, thrush, starling and oriole. Abundant in the sea off Pochon are marine resources including pollack, crab, octopus, sea urchin, shellfish and seaweed.

What adds fame to the scenic beauty of the

mountain are many historical sites and relics showcasing time-honoured history and culture of the Korean people.

Unearthed so far in the mountain are remains and relics dating from the primitive and ancient times, walled towns, forts, buildings and monuments associated with the Korean people’s talents and wisdom and their history of struggle against foreign aggressors in the middle ages.

Typical relics are the walled town of

Myongchon, Jaedoksan Fort, Kaesim Temple and other Buddhist temples and their remains, and a monument dedicated to a young man surnamed Sin who opened a new road over a pass.

Mt Chilbo area was registered as a world biosphere reserve in 2014.

Article: Kim Chung Bok
Photo: Kim Jin Ho, Ri Chun, Hong Hun,
Jin Yong Ho, Kim Yong Nam, Kim Hak Myong



Nongbu Rock in Inner Chilbo



Hwaepul Rock on Kwanum Peak in Outer Chilbo



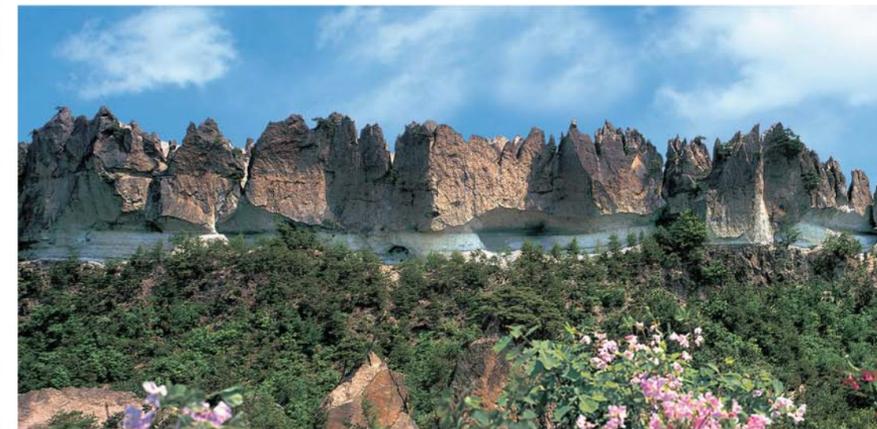
Tal Gate in Sea Chilbo



Snow-covered peaks in Inner Chilbo viewed from the Sungson Rock



Pae Rock and Sagong Rock



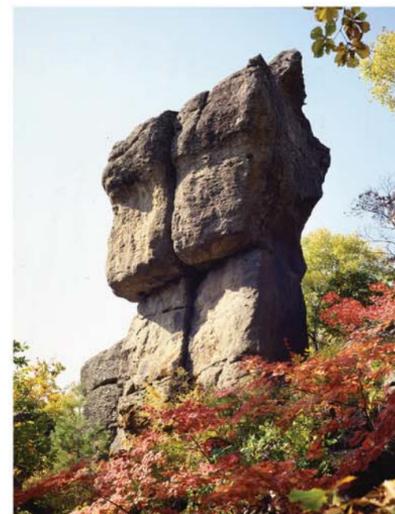
Hwin Rock



Kangson Gate



Pubu Rock



Sungjonthap Rock



Unman Rock in spring



Songji mushroom and other 1 300 odd species of plants are found in Mt Chilbo



National Musical Instrumentalists Are Growing Up

The New Year performance of schoolchildren for 2019, *Blessed Snow Falls on New Year's Day*, showed little musicians playing skilfully the

Korean musical instruments, in several numbers, including a solo and *oungum* ensemble *White Snowflake*, *janggo*-playing and dance *Pride of My Country Full of*

Laughter, national instrumental ensemble and song *Fruit Collected throughout the Year*, and *jottae* solo *We Are Also Boy Generals*.

Many of those talents are enrolled in the groups of national musical instruments at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, a comprehensive base for extracurricular

education of schoolchildren in Pyongyang.

Among the palace's groups in the sectors of science and technology, sports and art are those of such Korean musical instruments as bamboowind instruments, *taehaegum*, *jangsaenap*, *kayagum* and *janggo*.

After school lots of students visit their groups to practise how to play national instruments of their choice.

Their instructors are graduates from Kim Won Gyun University of Music and other universities, and have rich experience in stage performance and teaching.

They work out their teaching plans in detail to suit each member's aptitude and ability, and make sincere efforts to teach them collectively as well as individually.

Kye Hak Chol, instructor of the *taehaegum* group, trains the group members to be skilful at their special instruments and encourages them to play another instrument, *oungum*.

Pae Kum Suk and other instructors of *kayagum* group devote themselves to making students take a pride in learning the Korean musical instruments and improve their playing techniques.

Cherishing deep in mind the love for the national musical instruments, valuable wealth of the nation, the little instrumentalists are preparing

themselves excellently to carry forward the traditions of national music.

Article: Mun Jin Yu
Photo: An Chol Ryong



Jangsaenap group



Bamboowind group



Oungum group



Janggo group



Kayagum group



Sister Weightlifters

The list of top ten players for 2018 chosen in the DPRK was made public at the end of December last year, which included Rim Jong Sim and Rim Un Sim, sister weightlifters from the

Kigwancha Sports Club. Rim Jong Sim, the elder, had been on the list four times and Rim Un Sim, the younger, two times until 2018, but it was the first time that they were both chosen as best players

of the country.

Born into an ordinary worker's family in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, the sisters outdid boys in physical strength.



Rim Jong Sim, Labour Hero and People's Athlete, won gold medals at the 69kg category event in the 30th Olympic Games and 75kg category event in the 31st Olympic Games



Rim Un Sim, Merited Athlete, won the 69kg category event in the 18th Asian Games

Their mother who had been an acrobat in her girlhood took her 10-year-old Jong Sim to the then juvenile sports school under the Weightlifting Gymnasium on Chongchun Street.

At first glance, Kim Chun Hui, the school's weightlifting instructor, was attracted to the little girl with qualities appropriate to weightlifting—strength, speed and flexibility.

Two years later 9-year-old Un Sim followed her elder sister.

Everyday after school, they went to the sports school and trained hard to acquire various technical movements under the energetic guidance of Kim.

The sisters came under the public spotlight as they set new records in juvenile games. When she was 14, Jong Sim won the women's 48kg category event of the national junior competitions.

The sisters became the players of the Kigwancha Sports Club and Kim Chun Hui, their school instructor, continued to coach them. Setting up a

high goal of becoming world champions, they exerted persevering efforts.

Jong Sim was selected for the national team and snatched a gold medal at the 30th Olympic Games. Afterwards she achieved consecutive wins at many international games including the Asian and world weightlifting championships, and in 2016 became a twice Olympic champion.

Stimulated by her sister's records, Un Sim redoubled her zeal: she took three gold medals in the international junior weightlifting championships held in 2016 and won several other international games including the 29th Summer Universiad.

Last year both of them won gold medals in their respective categories at the 18th Asian Games.

Over 70 trophies and medals are on show in their flat of the apartment building on the bank of the Pothong River, which the Pyongyang citizens call Gold Trophy Apartment.

The sister weightlifters, not resting on their laurels, are steadily improving their techniques with a firm determination to bag more medals and trophies.

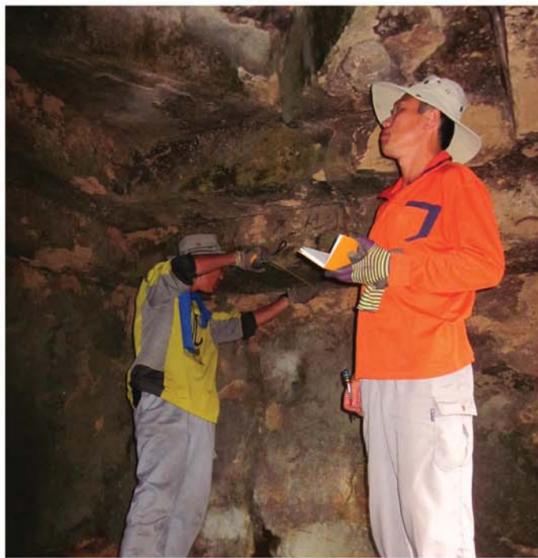


With coach Kim Chun Hui

Article: Pak Pyong Hun
Photo: Ri Chol Jin



Two sisters won 75kg category and 69kg category events respectively at the 18th Asian Games



Excavation of Namdae Gate in Kaesong jointly conducted with the French School of Asian Studies



Relics discovered are put into thorough examination

To Enrich Cultural Assets of the Nation

Among those who are devoting sincere efforts to tracing back the history of culture created by the ancestors, travelling across the country, are the members of the archaeological excavation team of the Korean Central History Museum.

They unearthed many tombs including Tomb No. 3 in Thaesong-ri and the one in Taesong-dong, and verified more than 10 000 relics, thus making a great contribution to the scientific explanation of the time-honoured history of the Korean nation who created their own history and culture from the dawn of human history.

In May 2017 the team launched an

excavation in Jangsuwon-dong, Samsok District, Pyongyang.

What stimulated the curiosity of the team was the fact that it was near the site of the Anhak Royal Palace of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC - AD 668) unearthed in Anhak-dong of Taesong District and several other tombs with murals from the same period were discovered in the Samsok area.

After combing the area several times, they located an estimated tomb on the eastern slope of a hill about 2km northeast of the seat of Jangsuwon-dong.

They buckled down to excavation, which went

on vigorously in sultry and humid weather and even in biting cold days. Thanks to their painstaking efforts, the remains revealed itself.

Though many parts of the tomb were damaged after the lapse of time, the picture of a tortoise-serpent painted on the northern wall of the chamber could be seen, and many flakes of mural paintings and bier were discovered in the course of cleaning out the floor.

In order to verify the finds, they worked scores of times with image processing and statistical analyses of the structure of the tomb and the mural paintings, and comparisons with the documentary sources.

At last they proved that the Koguryo mural tombs are distributed in a wider area of Samsok District, and ascertained their structural forms and the process of change.

The archaeological excavation team is continuing its efforts to enrich the national assets.

Article: Choe Ui Rim
Photo: Choe Myong Jin



Relics unearthed from Namdae Gate in Kaesong



Floor of the tomb's chamber



Ceiling of the chamber



Northern wall of the chamber



The tomb with mural paintings from Koguryo period is discovered in Jangsuwon-dong, Samsok District, Pyongyang

