

Mausoleum of King Tongmyong, Founder of Koguryo

The Mausoleum of King Tongmyong (298 BC-259 BC) is located in Ryongsan-ri, Ryokpho District, 22 km south of downtown Pyongyang, the capital city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

King Tongmyong was the founder of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), the first feudal state and the most powerful country in the Korean history. His name was Jumong and he ruled the country between 277 BC and 259 BC.

A stone-chambered earth tomb, the mausoleum faces the south. Around the tomb are a stone altar, stone lamp-post, stone sculptures of tigers, sculptures of civil officials and military officers, memorial service hall, Jongrung Temple and other facilities, all reminiscent of the period of Koguryo.

The mausoleum occupies a total area of 170 hillock hectares including a pine forest of about 40 hectares which dates back to hundreds of years.

It was reconstructed in 1993.



Mausoleum of King Tongmyong in Ryongsan-ri, Ryokpho District, Pyongyang



Memorial service hall where sacrificial offerings to King Tongmyong were prepared



Some of the pictures of King Tongmyong in the memorial service hall



Stele dedicated to King Tongmyong, and a monument to his achievements standing in the lower part of the tomb section



Monument inscribed with handwriting of President Kim Il Sung (1912-1994), reading, “Monument to the Renovation of the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong”



Jongrung Temple where the people of Koguryo used to pray for the soul of King Tongmyong

Korean Painting *Ox Herder*

The Korean painting *Ox Herder* is a work by Kim Tu Ryang (1696-1763), a Korean painter in the first half of the 18th century. The painting is now exhibited in the Korean Fine Art Museum.

The painting portrays an ox herder sleeping under the shade of a willow tree on a hot summer day.

Through the detailed depiction of the herder sleeping soundly with his hand on his head and his belly peeping through his jacket, the ox tethered to a willow tree, the bottom part of the tree and its branches swaying in a breeze, and the grass on the ground, the painting vividly shows the idyllic life of the countryside.

For its truthfulness in reflecting everyday life along with its realistic merits, it is considered one of the typical masterpieces that show the progressive trends of Korea in the 18th century.



Korean painting *Ox Herder*