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- ★ Brilliant Victory Achieved
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DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

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Brilliant Victory Achieved by Great Korean People

Kim Jong Un Guided National Meeting of Reviewing Emergency Anti-epidemic Work



A national meeting of reviewing the emergency anti-epidemic work, convened by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, took place in the capital city of Pyongyang on August 10.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, guided the meeting.

The meeting was attended by senior officials of the Party and the government, officials in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors, the Party representatives and members of the Party guidance teams dispatched to border areas, commanding officers of the army units performing the blockade duty, members of the emergency anti-epidemic commands at all levels, the volunteers who contributed

to the emergency anti-epidemic work, officials of the relevant departments of the Party Central Committee and those in the emergency anti-epidemic sector of the Ministry of National Defence.

Kim Jong Un made an important speech at the historic meeting declaring the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

After making a general analysis of the anti-epidemic situation that has been encountered since the operation of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, he, on behalf of the Party Central Committee and the government of the DPRK, solemnly declared the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign for exterminating the novel coronavirus that had made inroads into our territory and



protecting the lives and health of the people. He also offered warm congratulations and greetings of thanks to the people and service personnel of the People's Army across the country who successfully concluded the great anti-epidemic campaign.

Affirming that the priceless victory gained by us constitutes the victory of our Party's anti-epidemic policy, the victory of our state's

crisis management strategy, the victory of the tenacity and the single-minded unity peculiar to our people and the great victory brought by the advantageous Korean-style socialist system, he highly praised the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors across the country and army medics for having dedicated all their strength, wisdom and sincerity to the hard and active work for bringing earlier

the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign for protecting the security of the state and wellbeing of the people from the grave health crisis.

Analysing and reviewing the invaluable successes, experience and lessons gained and drawn in the efforts for ceaselessly carrying out this year's plans in agricultural, construction and key industrial

sectors and for maintaining smooth progress in the overall state work under the emergency crisis situation, he clarified the principles and important tasks to be fulfilled in further consolidating the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign, while maintaining the steel-strong anti-epidemic barrier and intensifying the anti-epidemic work until the end of the global health crisis.

Calling on the participants to creditably guarantee the security of the state and the people and dynamically accelerate the great historic cause for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism with firm conviction and optimism about our struggle and future, he wished all the most esteemed and beloved people good health and all the families across the country wellbeing.

The meeting heard a report made by Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet. Speeches were then followed.

Saying with pride that the country had prevented the inroads of the malignant virus for two years and three months to set a new record in the history of the anti-epidemic work despite the global health crisis and that it restored the complete stability in the anti-epidemic work in a short period, the reporter and speakers stressed this is a miracle unprecedented in the world's public health history.

They recalled that immediately after the outbreak of the most serious emergency in which the malignant virus made inroads into the country the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee led by the General Secretary, in its capacity as the de facto general headquarters for the anti-epidemic work, had led the anti-epidemic war to a great victory by focusing all the manpower, materials and sci-tech forces of the country on the anti-epidemic work after turning it into a sacred war for protecting the people.

Noting that the remarkable success in the great anti-epidemic war is the brilliant victory of the Party Central Committee's outstanding and seasoned guiding ability and of the people remaining faithful to the Party's idea and leadership, they extended warmest thanks in reflection of all the people's unanimous desire to the General Secretary who has defended the security of the country and the people's wellbeing in the unprecedented health crisis.

They expressed their resolutions to demonstrate the dignity and might of the state to the full by thoroughly translating into practice the new orientation of the anti-epidemic policy and tasks set forth by the Party Central Committee and putting spurs to the struggle for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialist construction, keeping in mind the unshakable faith that only victory and glory are always in store on the road of following the General Secretary.

Let Us Guarantee More Reliably the Safety of the State and People by Following up the Successes We Have Achieved in the Anti-epidemic War

Speech delivered by Kim Jong Un at the National Meeting of Reviewing the Emergency Anti-epidemic Work

August 10, Juche 111 (2022)



Workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors across the country,

Party delegates and army officers who are dispatched to the border, frontline and coast areas,

Commanding officers of the State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters and the epidemic prevention divisions, regiments and battalions,

Those who have made contributions to the anti-epidemic work,
Dear comrades,

The anti-epidemic war, which has been so arduous, is over and

today we proclaim our victory in it.

Over 100 days have passed since Covid-19 made inroads into the territory of our Republic and 91 days since we switched the national prevention work to a top-level emergency anti-epidemic system against the rapid spread of the disease nationwide.

In these days the entire Party, the whole country and all the people have overcome the serious crisis and achieved a great success in stabilizing and restoring the anti-epidemic situation with an indefatigable will and desperate efforts.

Our Party and government estimated the prevailing anti-epidemic

situation and, on the basis of the detailed analysis submitted by the scientific research sector, reached the conclusion that the epidemic crisis that was prevalent in the country has completely been tided over.

To review the situation until today after the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system was put in place, the daily number of fever cases that recorded hundreds of thousands in the early days of the spread of the malignant disease decreased to less than 90 000 one month later; the number then continued to decrease, and since July 29 no suspect case has been reported.

Those who have died in this period number 74 in total, a record low, which would be called an unheard-of miracle in the world public health circles in terms of the fatality rate.

Until yesterday no case has been reported nationwide for 12 consecutive days, and seven days have passed since the report of the last recovery was made.

Thus the goal of our anti-epidemic struggle to turn our territory into a clean one free from the virus in the shortest period has been attained.

Conditions have been created to basically prevent the recurrence of the disease in the country. This is also a trustworthy source of our conviction in the end of the crisis.

First, the disease was eliminated by its source with the last patients recovering their health and being confirmed to be negative at the nucleic acid test. A climate of observing the regulations of the epidemic prevention work has thoroughly been created, and the disinfection work further intensified across society. The various channels, through which the disease could be spread, were blocked.

And on the basis of a scientific and final confirmation of the channel of the inflow of the stealth omicron virus into our country, the work of checking, blockading and watching has been further intensified, and the order of collecting and burning or burying refuse immediately after they have been discovered and the work of guaranteeing the virus-free features of imports has been strengthened so as to ensure that no mutated virus from outside can make inroads into our country. This is another important source of our conviction.

All the cases reported in this period being found to be infected by the stealth omicron variant BA.2, it has been confirmed that no new variant or subvariant of the virus occurred or made inroads into our country.

All the facts give us a full conviction that an end was put in our country to the crisis caused by the malignant virus.

At this moment, when we are confirming with happiness that our state and people have overcome the unprecedented public health crisis and recovered their stability and peace at last, I, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of our Republic, declare that we have achieved victory

in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic war of exterminating the novel coronavirus that made inroads into our territory and of defending the people's lives and health.

That we have reliably defended the safety of the state and people from the most dangerous crisis in the global public sector, which has driven the whole world into a catastrophic situation, and eliminated in such a short period the gravest and most threatening challenge that faced us is another brilliant victory and a historic event that demonstrated to the whole world once again the great strength of our Party, state and people.

In relation to this, our Party and government will lower from today the grade of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, which was put in place on May 12 last, to that of an intensified and reinforced normal epidemic prevention work system.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I extend warm congratulations to all the people and service personnel across the country, who have defended themselves, the safety and peace of all others and the health and laughter of our children from the crossroads of life or death with an indomitable faith, unyielding perseverance and genuine unity and thus brought the anti-epidemic war to a victorious conclusion.

Comrades,

Though we are now filled with an ineffable delight and dignity, I do not know why but I am once again reminded of the indescribable stress and sense of responsibility that have weighed on me so heavily so far.

The past 91 days were never a long period in the realm of our struggle, but they were days of a continuation of choking tension and a grave war in the true sense of the words, in which I felt the each passing day as if it were one, nay, ten years.

Frankly speaking, I was tormented by various thoughts when the malignant virus made inroads into our country which had remained safe for more than two years by building a super-level emergency epidemic prevention barrier and making persevering efforts since the initial days of the pandemic.

It was because I had a people whom I must defend without fail even at the cost of my life.

They supported me both in good times and bad; they encouraged me and lifted me up when the times were hard. For me, every one of them was part of my flesh and blood, which I could, and must, never lose.

The unfolding crisis in which the number of new daily cases jumped by hundreds of thousands was a very pressing, severest national crisis which compelled us to be alert to the maximum and exert ourselves with a do-or-die determination, anticipating even the worst case scenario that the country might perish.

The foundations of our anti-epidemic work and public health sector were weak and we were inexperienced in this work. In this

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situation, we were faced with the heavy historic tasks of deciding what to do to win in the war against the raging malignant virus which was directly threatening the safety of the state and the lives of tens of millions of the people, how to make the state organs lacking in the ability to respond to the war move sensitively and perform their correct functions and role in the campaign in which every minute and second counted, and what to do first and how to do it in order to reverse the tide of dire trials cropping up in the overall state affairs and the people's living. These tasks were virtually a stern touchstone for testing our Party's leadership ability once again.

In the face of this first-ever national crisis, however, our Party was deeply mindful of the great trust of the people and remained faithful to its inherent stance and attitude of serving them. By correctly displaying its unique resolute and powerful political leadership abilities, it intensified the state's anti-epidemic discipline and organized and led to victory the campaign for stamping out the virus.

Comrades,

The firm belief of the Party and people linked by ties of blood

gave birth to a great miracle.

The stark reality of today when we are declaring victory in the anti-epidemic war clearly proves that our policy was right and our struggle principles were correct.

In other words, the invaluable victory we have achieved is the victory of our Party's anti-epidemic policy, the victory of our state's crisis management strategy, the victory of our people's fortitude and single-hearted unity unique to them, the great victory brought about by the superiority of our style of socialist system.

I can confirm it proudly and with dignity.

It is the consistent principle in the activities of our Party to adopt and implement its policies in the interests of the people, with their viewpoint and on their stand by always placing them first in its consideration.

With the establishment of a top-level emergency anti-epidemic system as soon as the malignant disease made inroads into our territory, our Party and government adopted appropriate and optimum policies in time to overcome the crisis, including the management of the situation of the outbreak of the infectious disease, blocking of the

source of its spread and stabilizing of the people's livelihood.

However, even a correct policy cannot expect its perfect result without a high sense of organization, voluntary unity of action and purposeful enthusiasm on the part of the entire population, which can guarantee its implementation.

Whenever I think of the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign, which could never be achieved easily, I am reminded first of all of the efforts of our people who absolutely supported and empathized with the anti-epidemic policy of our Party and government and implemented it with single-minded unity.

Under the emergency situation, in which a breakthrough was made in the rings of anti-epidemic barrier we had so far established in every possible way, even experiencing a big loss, and the malignant virus made inroads into our territory and spread, the most urgent thing was to immediately eliminate the source of the spread in the shortest time possible by putting the situation of the spread under stabilized control and management and quickly curing the infections.

So we could not but take strong measures of locking down every region and every unit across the country, while simultaneously pushing ahead with the work of locating, quarantining and treating the fever cases to the last one through a strict and intensive screening and examination of the entire population.

It meant hardships and difficulties many times greater than those of the past for all the families and citizens, to say nothing of the state affairs, as all visits and movements had been prohibited throughout the territory, not just in some parts or regions of the country, and the rhythm of normal work and activities had been destroyed.

However, our people displayed an excellent trait of accepting as the intention of our Party all the regulations and directives issued in relation to the emergency anti-epidemic work, observing them voluntarily and conscientiously and executing them without fail, regarding doing so as a patriotic undertaking for the country and as a natural duty and mission for the sake of their families and for themselves.

All the citizens willingly put their personal and family affairs off and displayed more clearly the formidable spirit peculiar to them, full of confidence in and optimism about victory in the war without the slightest vacillation, weakness, pessimism and fear.

In order to rescue these people from the malignant disease at the earliest possible date and without any delay, the Party and government urgently propelled on a top priority basis the work of releasing the reserve medicines of the state and supplying them to every part of the country so that necessary medicines could reach all the fever cases, and ensured that scientific treatment tactics and methods were established and applied.

As a result, from the fifth day since we had put the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system in place we reversed the nationwide

spread of the disease to a containable, manageable and stable phase, and thus firmly stood a good chance of winning in the anti-epidemic war.

The Party and government also conducted in a proactive and coordinated way the work of readjusting the anti-epidemic policy and guidelines to relieve the people of their inconveniences and sufferings and reduce the negative impact on the state affairs and economic activities according to the changes in the anti-epidemic work situation.

To look back upon the days of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic work, we can say that it was of great significance in minimizing the damage by the virus and bringing earlier the great victory in the anti-epidemic war that we pushed forward in parallel the efforts for blockade and stamping out, adopted strong state measures of producing and supplying medicines, combined strictness with scientific accuracy in the anti-epidemic work and took positive measures for the provision of the people's livelihood.

But what is more important is that the high sense of organization and voluntary unity of action peculiar to our people led to the thoroughgoing implementation and perfect fruition of the correct anti-epidemic policy and guidelines of the Party and government.

There are no other excellent people like ours in trusting their Party and government, in understanding the situation of the country, in remaining sincere to their civic duty and in overcoming difficulties with perseverance.

We have curbed in such a short period the violent spread of the virus and restored stability in the anti-epidemic work, thus making the whole country, which was not vaccinated even once, a clean, virus-free zone. This is a miracle noteworthy in the world's healthcare history.

This is definitely a great victory of the people-oriented and scientific anti-epidemic policy of our style and of the joint efforts of all the people who unanimously responded to the policy in an endeavour to implement it.

The victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign is inconceivable also without the advantages and might unique to our socialist system.

As our country has an ideological and volitional unity of all the people, masters of the state and society, it is possessed of an inexhaustible strength with which it can powerfully counter an outbreak of any crisis with the whole country and all the people rising up at the same time.

It is the most important political and institutional superiority unique to our society that all the sectors and units of the country absolutely uphold the decisions and directives of the state and keep in step with them in perfect order.

In addition to this, the collectivist spirit of one for all and all for

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one and the tenderness and human feeling of sharing sorrow and caring for one another more, the harder the times are, permeate the whole society, which enables our system to display an invincible might that others can never possess.

As we have this institutional background, immediately after the issue of the decision of the Party and government to switch over to the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, strict measures were taken to blockade the whole country city by city and county by county and to cut off the work, production and living units from one another, and more intense anti-epidemic regulations, order and discipline were established, ensuring that we can take the strategic initiative in the following anti-epidemic war.

And all the Party organizations and government organs turned out to take care of the fever cases by supplying medicines even to the out-of-the-way posts and families and to ease the inconveniences of the people as much as possible by organizing various types of mobile service groups during the blockade; this is also unthinkable separated from our system.

This time the public health system of our country has displayed its people-oriented character and vitality to the full.

Even though the material and technological foundations of our public health sector are weak, the existing medical service system of our own style was put into effective operation, and so the formidable anti-epidemic and treatment tasks could be carried out with success.

Based on the district doctor system, emergency medical service system, telemedicine system and other people-oriented and advanced

medical service systems, the identification of fever cases, screening and examination of the entire population were undertaken every day and quarantine and treatment were conducted in a correct way. This has been a great factor in achieving stability in the anti-epidemic situation and eliminating the source of infection on a nationwide scale.

It is the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors who took the greatest trouble and performed feats in bringing about the victory in the anti-epidemic war.

Even though it is their natural duty, the burdens and pains felt by those who are standing in the first-line trench in the fight with the dangerous malicious infection can be said to have been most enormous.

Our anti-epidemic and public health fighters never hesitated to devote themselves in the anti-epidemic campaign for safeguarding the lives of the people entrusted to them by the Party and the state. None of them shrank back nor gave up but remained faithful to their duty to the end.

The spiritual strength with which they supported, devoted and exerted themselves in the fight with the virulent disease was warm love for human beings, spirit of boundless self-sacrifice for patients, a high sense of responsibility for the revolutionary tasks and sincerity.

During the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period, more than 71 200 public health workers and over 1 148 000 hygiene activists were mobilized across the country every day for screening



and examination of families and employees and identifying and recovering of fever cases while thousands of former public health workers volunteered for this effort. All of them strived hard with the above-mentioned spirits.

In particular, the Korean People's Army medics who were seconded to the capital city on the special order of the Central Military Commission of the Party have performed outstanding feats on the front of defending the people.

Thanks to the devoted efforts of these medics, who were filled with loyal passion to live up to the Party's trust and expectations at any cost and ardent love for the people, not only the supply work of medicines in the capital city was put on a stable footing and the epidemic situation was reversed but also the people's absolute trust in the Party and the precious traditions of army-people unity were defended.

I feel very satisfied with the fact that the medics have creditably carried out the order of the Party Central Committee by working day and night and that the citizens of the capital city regard our army as savers of their lives and as their own kith and kin.

In the recent public health crisis, the number of deaths in the country is particularly small as compared with the number of infections. It is because our anti-epidemic and public health workers have defied death to carry out the anti-epidemic and public health policies of the Party and government with an endeavour and devotion that are beyond the limiting point.

The anti-epidemic and public health workers across the country have devoted their heart and soul without leaving their anti-epidemic posts and treatment places 24-7, despite the burdens scores of times heavier than usual.

Among our medical workers faithful to the Party and people, there are many doctors and nurses who have devoted themselves to the residents and patients under their charge before taking care of their own husbands and children who were in sickbed, and other medical workers who have given strength and courage to the patients by preparing the medicines that were in short supply and even daily necessities for them.

What is more impressive is the deeds of the anti-epidemic and public health workers, who devoted even the last energy of their

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life for victory in the anti-epidemic war and complete recovery of patients thinking their mission and duty first as defenders of human life though they knew they themselves were suffering from illness.

They are genuine public health workers and patriots in our era, who are not different from the frontline doctors and nurses in the days of the Fatherland Liberation War and the red public health workers in the Chollima era.

Our Party and government always remember the devotion and exploits of the combatants, who are reliably defending the anti-epidemic posts across the country, including those in the frontline, border and coast areas not only during the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period but also from the first days of the anti-epidemic war.

With the full awareness of the sense of their responsibility and duty that they are defending the safety of the state and people, delegates and guidance team members of the Party, who have been dispatched to the emergency anti-epidemic front on the special order of the Party and government, a large number of soldiers of the KPA, officers of the public security and state security organs and members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards who have been enlisted for the duty of checking and blockading, and members of anti-epidemic posts in various parts have made great contributions to consolidating the anti-epidemic wall and establishing the social climate of observing the anti-epidemic regulations, overcoming all the difficulties under severe heat and heavy rains.

The self-sacrificing spirit displayed by workers in the public health sector and combatants in the anti-epidemic first-line posts in the recent top-level emergency anti-epidemic period will be proudly recorded in the history of our Party's struggle and of our country.

The advantages and vitality of our style of socialist system were displayed in a concentrated manner through the communist virtues and traits which our people demonstrated more warmly and ardently in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period.

At the grim moment when the whole country faced the threat of the virulent disease, the greatest anxiety of the Party and government was not only the health of the tens of millions of people but also the inconveniences and difficulties they had to experience inevitably owing to the intensive checking and blockading measures.

So the Party Central Committee, regarding our society's tenderness and human feeling of helping and caring for one another in the face of hardships as a key, more powerful than any state-of-the-art medical science and technology, to a great victory in the anti-epidemic work, called on all the Party members and other people to give fuller play to our most excellent communist virtues and traits.

It is commonplace for our people to conduct beautiful deeds for they have cultivated collectivism and love for human beings as they breathe air, in the embrace of our Party and the socialist system. Yet, the moving stories born of the recent anti-epidemic campaign made

us feel more keenly the warmth and preciousness of our society.

It is very regretful that I cannot mention here the so many beautiful moving stories and noble personalities one after another.

To cite some typical examples, the employees and officials of some factories worked day and night to provide medicines and foodstuffs to those suffering from the malignant epidemic, some people unsparingly spent their family property to prepare goods necessary for those in hostels, students' dormitories, orphanages and baby homes, and still some others selflessly shared food grains, subsidiary foodstuffs and daily necessities with the needy families and neighbours.

Such benevolent supporters are everywhere—in the capital city and provinces, in factories and rural and fishermen's villages—and include the broad sections of society, ranging from respected war veterans to ordinary working people, heads of people's neighbourhood units, housewives and even children's union members.

Thinking of comrades, neighbours and the collective before oneself and devoting one's all for them despite one's own hunger in the difficult situation like now—this world of beautiful virtues showcased the harmony and bonds of human feelings of our society, the true value of which can never be measured by money or wealth.

I derived great encouragement incomparable to anything else from our people, the most excellent people in the world, who share the same intentions and feelings with the Party Central Committee and regard it as a source of pleasure and pride to devote themselves for others, and further hardened the conviction that we can surely emerge victorious in the face of any crisis and trial as long as we have such a people.

The whole country moves as one united in one mind and one will behind the Party and government and tenderness and human feeling based on collectivism are a national trait—this is the superiority and might unique to our style of socialism, and so we could break through with ease such an unprecedented anti-epidemic crisis and win a great victory.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Party and the government of the Republic, I highly appreciate the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors across the country, who have exerted themselves and taken an active part, devoting their strength, wisdom and sincerity, in hastening victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign to safeguard the safety of the state and people from the tremendous public health crisis, and extend warm thanks to all the service personnel, officials and workers who have gone to great pain in defence of the anti-epidemic wall and the supporters who have encouraged the anti-epidemic work both materially and spiritually.

Comrades,

This time we have achieved victory not only on the emergency

anti-epidemic front but also on the economic front and in overall state affairs.

The malignant epidemic situation was created after several years of the epidemic prevention work, making matters worse; this was a huge obstacle and a disaster that might cause an extreme confusion in the state and social life and economic construction, but we tenaciously overcame this and ensured without a hitch the expected speed of development while maintaining the normal state of affairs—this alone constitutes a great victory.

When declaring the upgrade of the national epidemic prevention work to the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, our Party decided to push forward with both the emergency anti-epidemic campaign and the tasks planned to be done this year without interruption with a belief in the indomitable spiritual strength and creativity of our people; this decision has been carried out.

The most important farming processes in agricultural production, which was designated as a pressing task for the economic work for this year, were satisfactorily carried out in time.

As the recent top-level emergency anti-epidemic war started in spring, a crucial period for farming in a year, it posed a direct obstacle for the production activities of the agricultural workers and created a situation in which nationwide labour assistance could not be arranged as planned in the rice-transplanting season, which is the busiest farming period.

However, our agricultural workers, full of determination and enthusiasm to fulfil their responsibility and duty without fail in this year, the first year of implementing the new rural revolution programme, overcame the febrile disease and achieved such a remarkable success of finishing the enormous rice-transplanting task ahead of schedule entirely through their own efforts by displaying an unyielding spiritual strength which could not be imagined in the past.

This greatly encouraged all other working people across the country and became happy news for the people who were waging an arduous anti-epidemic campaign.

Although demands for anti-epidemic work became stricter and transport and supply of materials were not smooth, all the builders who are engaged in the major projects including the large-scale housing construction in the capital city and the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm construction perseveringly pushed ahead with the project processes as planned, thus providing a firm guarantee for completing them within the set dates.

Such key industries as metallurgical, chemical, electric power, coal and machine-building industries, and rail transport and light industry have mostly carried out their daily, ten-day and monthly production plans, although they faced difficulty twice greater than before in the provision of labour and materials, and thereby prevented

the stagnation of the economy as a whole and made remarkable progress towards the achievement of the goal for this year.

It is another precious success that we have ensured the smoothness of overall state affairs even in the emergency situation.

Party, administrative and economic organs, the judicial and prosecutorial sectors and the public security, state security and national defence sectors accumulated practical experience in carrying on their work in a flexible and efficient manner, while promptly establishing the work system in emergency, identifying defects, gaps and deviations and taking measures against them in keeping with the operation of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system.

In particular, I think it is very good that officials of Party organizations, government organs and all other sectors and units realized what embodying the people-first politics and serving the people unconditionally mean in the course of unquestioningly obeying the directives of the Party and government and thoroughly implementing the people-oriented policies.

While undergoing the recent unexpected public health crisis, we made mistakes and learned lessons in our work, and these constitute a precious asset in efficiently coping with various crises we may face in the future.

The lessons we have drawn can be condensed into two in general.

One is that we should keep up a high degree of tension without permitting any slight carelessness and slackness as the anti-epidemic work drags on, and the other one is that we should scrupulously build the national crisis response capacity, anti-epidemic capacity, at any cost.

As a matter of fact, if we had observed the anti-epidemic regulations and guidelines we had already adopted, we could have well prevented and contained within the area the occurrence of fever cases on the frontline in Kumgang County, which served as the starting point of the recent anti-epidemic crisis.

But the malignant epidemic which affected two persons in the beginning penetrated even into the capital area through the gap of carelessness and slackness latent in the epidemic prevention sector, creating a grave situation of nationwide spread.

Some people thought that there could be no gap for the malignant virus to make inroads since a tight blockade network was set up on the frontline, border and coast areas by committing a large number of people and an anti-epidemic situation involving all the people was created, and such self-conceit, carelessness, seeking of consolation and relaxing of grip can be said to have created such a serious challenge and crisis as the recent ones.

Intoxication with self-complacency, idleness and indolence and a proclivity to thinking bad things would not happen mainly clouded correct judgment on the initial inroads of the epidemic.

Its nationwide spread might well have been avoided if responding

Let Us Guarantee More Reliably the Safety of the State and People by Following up the Successes We Have Achieved in the Anti-epidemic War

capability was demonstrated instantaneously while considering any subtle abnormal signs in direct connection with the destiny of the state from a viewpoint of “if,” instead of “would not,” and if work was conducted confidently while maintaining composure and a sense of responsibility in the face of the unexpected situation.

In the recent anti-epidemic war, we have keenly realized that if we keep clinging to the formalistic and mechanical work attitude and way of work, departing from a scientific way of thinking and action, we are destined to suffer in any health crisis that may erupt in the future.

We must never forget this lesson.

As everyone witnessed in the initial period when the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system was put in place, even the easily preventable loss of life occurred and we could not promptly contain the spread of the epidemic in the country since we failed to establish and carry out the test for the malignant virus, diagnosis and scientific treatment tactics correctly in time, and even superstitious rumours went round, causing considerable confusion in the anti-epidemic work and medical treatment.

We worked mechanically by clinging to physical blockade alone, failing to get at the roots of all links of the anti-epidemic chain according to scientific principles, to estimate and predict results and to take active and flexible measures, aggravating the living of the people and stagnation of the economic work, and we were compelled to straighten out what we could prevent beforehand.

In addition, there are various other problems: the state of our public health and anti-epidemic work, or to be more specific, our public health and anti-epidemic infrastructure and technical and material preparedness have failed to develop in line with the public health and anti-epidemic policies which our Party and state have pursued consistently since the founding of our Republic, and they are not ready to promptly respond to sudden events.

As all of us experienced, we should engrave deeply in our mind how urgently and badly the essential response capability on the part of the anti-epidemic and public health sectors are needed once fever cases are reported here and there.

In the final analysis, the anti-epidemic capability is synonymous to the national security capability and the capability to defend the lives of the people.

To review the things so far, we can classify into three types the objective crises that we should always prioritize and foresee in promoting national development and stepping up socialist construction.

War, epidemic and natural disaster—these are the three major crises that we should surely cope with in a responsible manner for the existence and development of the state and the wellbeing of the people.

As far as the war deterrent is concerned, our Party and state have long directed strong primary efforts to it and are building the mobilization capability and potentials with vigilance to minimize the damage from natural disasters.

The most important problem is to build the anti-epidemic capability for coping with the global health crisis.

Therefore, the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee set forth the state anti-epidemic capability building as an urgent task facing us.

As the major policy-oriented tasks concerning the state anti-epidemic capability building have already been decided and assigned, I would like to emphasize some major points.

We have declared victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign, but it does not mean that there is no danger of epidemic spread or the state emergency anti-epidemic effort has ended.

As the mass media introduce every day, now the public health crisis in the surroundings of our country and the rest of the world has not yet passed, and it is too early to feel relieved and loosen the anti-epidemic measures.

Over a dozen subvariants, which are stronger than the stealth omicron variant, which spread in our country, in terms of transmission and immunity evasion and which have not changed greatly in severity and fatality rate, break out in succession across the world, resulting in a rapid increase in the number of infections and a continued rise in the number of deaths.

To make the matters worse, a public health emergency of international concern was declared as highly dangerous monkeypox spread to dozens of countries, and possible outbreak of various infectious diseases owing to climate change also arouses anxiety of humankind.

It shows that there is no reason whatsoever for us to be intoxicated with the desired results achieved and feel conceited or relaxed, and it highlights the necessity to steadily step up the anti-epidemic campaign to thoroughly defend the security of the country and the wellbeing of the people.

We have to maintain the anti-epidemic wall impregnably and invest high-intensity anti-epidemic effort till the global health crisis ends, while following up the achievements and victory in the recent top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

First of all, due attention should be paid to maintaining the all-people anti-epidemic awareness and vigilance.

As the broad sections of the masses are masters of the campaign and victory in it is decided by their self-consciousness, it is essential to intensify anti-epidemic information work and education in every way so that the society-wide anti-epidemic atmosphere would never be weakened or dampened.

We should spare the word victory today when we have won victory for a greater victory of tomorrow, and more importantly pay attention to vigilance and practice.

When we will be congratulating ourselves soon on our victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic war, there is room for slackness, carelessness and inattention to raise their heads again. Therefore, all Party and working people’s organizations, administrative and economic sectors and law-enforcement organs should be awakened and direct their efforts to maintaining the public awareness of the anti-epidemic work and crisis.

However high the intensity of anti-epidemic information work and explanation may be, they would rather cause boredom and be taken as routine if stereotyped phrases are repeated.

Therefore, the information campaign and ideological campaign should be intensified actually to consolidate the anti-epidemic awareness and improve the habit of observing anti-epidemic regulations among the people on the basis of the data changing according to the worldwide anti-epidemic situation and the analysis of the actual state of our anti-epidemic effort.

At the same time, organizational, administrative and legal measures should be taken against the practices of violating the anti-epidemic guidelines and order to make our anti-epidemic work become a sure and reliable undertaking supported by the self-consciousness of the masses plus a strong legal guarantee.

Next, we should continue to concentrate on maintaining and consolidating the impregnably built anti-epidemic wall to prevent any malignant virus from infiltrating into the country again.

It is important to ensure perfection of blockade by re-examining the overall multiple blockade wall in the border, frontline and coast areas and in the seas and air, reinforcing what is needed according to the varying characters of the pandemic and newly shutting off where it is needed.

And here, too, primary attention should be directed to the provision of service and living conditions along with ideological mobilization and encouragement for those who perform the duty for blockade at check points so that our anti-epidemic first line would not only be perfect ideologically, spiritually, operationally, tactically and epidemiologically, but also maintain the highest level both in terms of responsibility and vigilance.

As I have mentioned above, it is one of our important tasks to give a spur to the building of the anti-epidemic capability of our state.

The public health emergency of international concern is serious now, but more challenging health crises are expected to occur periodically and repeatedly.

In the future, too, there is no reason at all for us to come to a conclusion that there will be no danger that such a public health

nightmare would recur and to feel at ease.

It will be foolish of us to neglect or slow down the anti-epidemic capability building for the reason that we have won the recent anti-epidemic war and the current situation is very difficult, and it will bring about irrevocable consequences.

In view of the demand of the people-first principle, the political ideal of our Party, the true nature of our system which values the people most and the bitter lesson taught by the recent public health crisis, it is necessary to forcefully forge ahead the anti-epidemic capability building to raise it to the world level without fail.

This is the steadfast will of our Party and government.

We should comprehensively systematize the anti-epidemic policy and guidelines we have creatively enforced and the experiences and lessons we have gained and, on the basis of this, continue to intensify research into theoretical and practical, scientific and technical problems arising in perfectly developing our anti-epidemic work into a more advanced and people-oriented one.

We should further perfect the national anti-epidemic system and order and push ahead with the efforts for preparing adequate anti-epidemic forces and material and technical means in a foresighted and realistic manner.

Special attention should be paid to directing untiring and planned efforts into training professional anti-epidemic workers and improving their qualifications, developing and providing scientific testing and measuring equipment and establishing specialized quarantine and treatment facilities in various parts of the country.

As already pointed out, Koryo medicine and other pharmaceutical factories and medical appliances factories in various places should be renovated, their production capacities expanded and the construction of medical consumables and anti-epidemic medical supplies factories stepped up.

We should also be effective in conducting by stage the projects for modernizing the hospitals across the country and bringing pharmacies up to standard so that they can provide the people with a high level of medical service.

In this way, we can make our people lead a happy life in good health free from any disease enjoying the substantial benefits and protection of the best public health system and anti-epidemic system under the most advantageous socialist system.

Comrades,

In implementing the crucial policy-oriented tasks facing the anti-epidemic and public health sectors, the red anti-epidemic and public health workers of the Party, who are in direct charge of it, have a very important role to play.

Going through the recent worst health crisis and witnessing their selfless struggle, our people came to see medical workers in a fresh light and regard them as guardians of their best social system in the

Let Us Guarantee More Reliably the Safety of the State and People by Following up the Successes We Have Achieved in the Anti-epidemic War

world and as reliable protectors of their lives.

The anti-epidemic and public health workers should cherish such trust and appreciation by the people as the most precious wealth that cannot be bartered for anything and make redoubled efforts to continue to live up to it.

They should become genuine communists who are imbued with infinite loyalty to the mission assigned by the Party, warm human love and sincere devotion to patients and put their heart and soul into thoroughly applying the advantages of our social system to anti-epidemic and healthcare practices.

Comrades,

We have become strong once again while tiding over the trials and, even if more challenges and difficulties stand in our way, we will become stronger while resolutely overcoming them.

No one could imagine that today's event would come so early when the fact that the malignant virus made inroads into our territory was made public three months ago.

Thanks to the benevolent people, who placed their hope only on our Party and turned out staunchly with boundless loyalty to it and indomitable will to overcome any trials cheerfully, and to the might of their single-minded unity, we have become able to advance towards a greater victory by making the recent health crisis a chance for development and a leap forward, not regarding it as a period of despair and frustration.

I sincerely appreciate the trust and encouragement of our people who always give me infinite strength and courage, and harden the resolve to make strenuous efforts even at the risk of my life for the safety and happiness of this excellent people.

We should work hard to achieve greater successes not only on the emergency anti-epidemic front but also in all fields of socialist construction by fully demonstrating our limitless potential displayed clearly in the recent event.

If we further mobilize and promote the strength of the indomitable spiritual strength of our people who have courageously overcome the worst-ever crisis, we can successfully attain the goals of the five-year plan indicated by the Eighth Party Congress as well as the fighting goals we set forth for this year.

Let us all reliably guarantee the safety of our state and people with firm conviction in and optimism about our struggle and future and dynamically step up the great historic cause of achieving comprehensive development of our style of socialism.

To conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to extend greetings once again with a feeling of humble reverence to the most respected and beloved people.

I sincerely wish all of you good health and all the families across the country peace.

Long live our great people!



Kim Jong Un Met and Congratulated Officials and Scientists in Anti-epidemic and Public Health Sectors Who Contributed to Winning Victory in Top-level Emergency Anti-epidemic Campaign



Kim Jong Un Had Photo Session with Participants in National Meeting of Reviewing Emergency Anti-epidemic Work

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, had a photo session with the participants in the national meeting of reviewing the emergency anti-epidemic work on August 10.

When the General Secretary arrived at the plaza of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche, thunderous cheers of "Hurrah!" burst out.

Looking up to the General Secretary with tears of great excitement in their eyes, all the participants paid the highest tribute to him, recollecting the painstaking efforts he made to firmly defend the dignity and security of our state and people, continuing his great journey of devoted service at the forefront for protecting the people out of his noble sense of duty and intense love for the country and the people, and with his great foresight, iron will, extraordinary decision and outstanding guidance.

The General Secretary extended his warm militant greetings to the participants who have put the idea and determination of the Party Central Committee into thorough practice in the van of the all-people anti-epidemic front, upholding the Party line and policies as absolute truth and heartily responding to them.

Saying that the victory gained by our people is a historic event that once again showed the world what the greatness of our state, the indomitable tenacity of our people and the beautiful national trait we are proud of are like, he stressed that the strength of the unity of the Party and the people in one idea and faith and the bonds of kinship serves as the invincible revolutionary asset of Juche Korea that no other country can ever have or imitate and as a powerful treasured sword for breaking through any unprecedented hardship.

Expressing expectations that all the participants would consolidate the might of the most advantageous Korean-style socialist system in every way by turning the priceless victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign into new source of energy for redoubled efforts to accelerate the state anti-epidemic capacity building, he had a photo taken with them.







Kim Jong Un Met KPA Medics Who Performed Distinguished Feats in Top-level Emergency Anti-epidemic Campaign and Delivered Congratulatory Speech

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, on August 18 met and congratulated the medics of the Korean People's Army who fulfilled their sacred duty of defending the capital city and the people and performed undying feats in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

The KPA medics, who gathered at the April 25 House of Culture on a special order of Kim Jong Un, were filled with great emotion and joy, awaiting the time of honour and happiness when they would meet with the General Secretary whom they had wanted so eagerly to see even once while conducting the fierce war to exterminate the malignant virus with readiness to sacrifice themselves.

When the General Secretary appeared on the platform of the house, the stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" reverberated through the venue.

The medics discharged their bounden duty as the army of the Party and the people, but the General Secretary highly praised their efforts and struggle as heroic feats to be specially recorded on the militant course of the KPA. And to give more love to them, he called them to the significant venue so as to put them forward again before the eyes of the whole country and the whole world and congratulate them again. So, all the participants were replete with boundless gratitude to him.

Kim Jong Un made a congratulatory speech.

Noting that the army medics took the greatest trouble to defuse

the anti-epidemic crisis in the capital city, he gave warm thanks, on behalf of the Party, the country and the people, to them who displayed the indefatigable spirit and the invincible combat strength of our army and the noble traits and fidelity of the Party's army by dedicating themselves with firm confidence and courage in the anti-epidemic battlefield of the capital city, the key combat zone decisive of the victory in the national anti-epidemic struggle.

He said that the bravery and self-sacrificing spirit shown by the medics in the anti-epidemic campaign in the capital was a spiritual characteristic deriving from the exceptional loyalty of our servicepersons who know best the true heart of their commander and carry out his intention without hesitation.

Saying it was the true picture of the army medics printed in the mind of Pyongyang citizens during the sacred combat of 91 days that they are revolutionary soldiers boundlessly faithful to our Party and sons and brothers of the people, he gave a high appreciation of the brilliant merits of the medics who displayed the militant features of our army going through thick and thin to carry out the Party's orders and reliably defended the priceless revolutionary asset of great army-people unity, the root of our society.

Noting that it is our Party's great pride and honour to have the reliable revolutionary army which has always been honourable to be called the people's army, the sacred and glorious name, he earnestly called on all the participants to faithfully serve for our great state,





Party and people and for our great dignity and honour in the future, too.

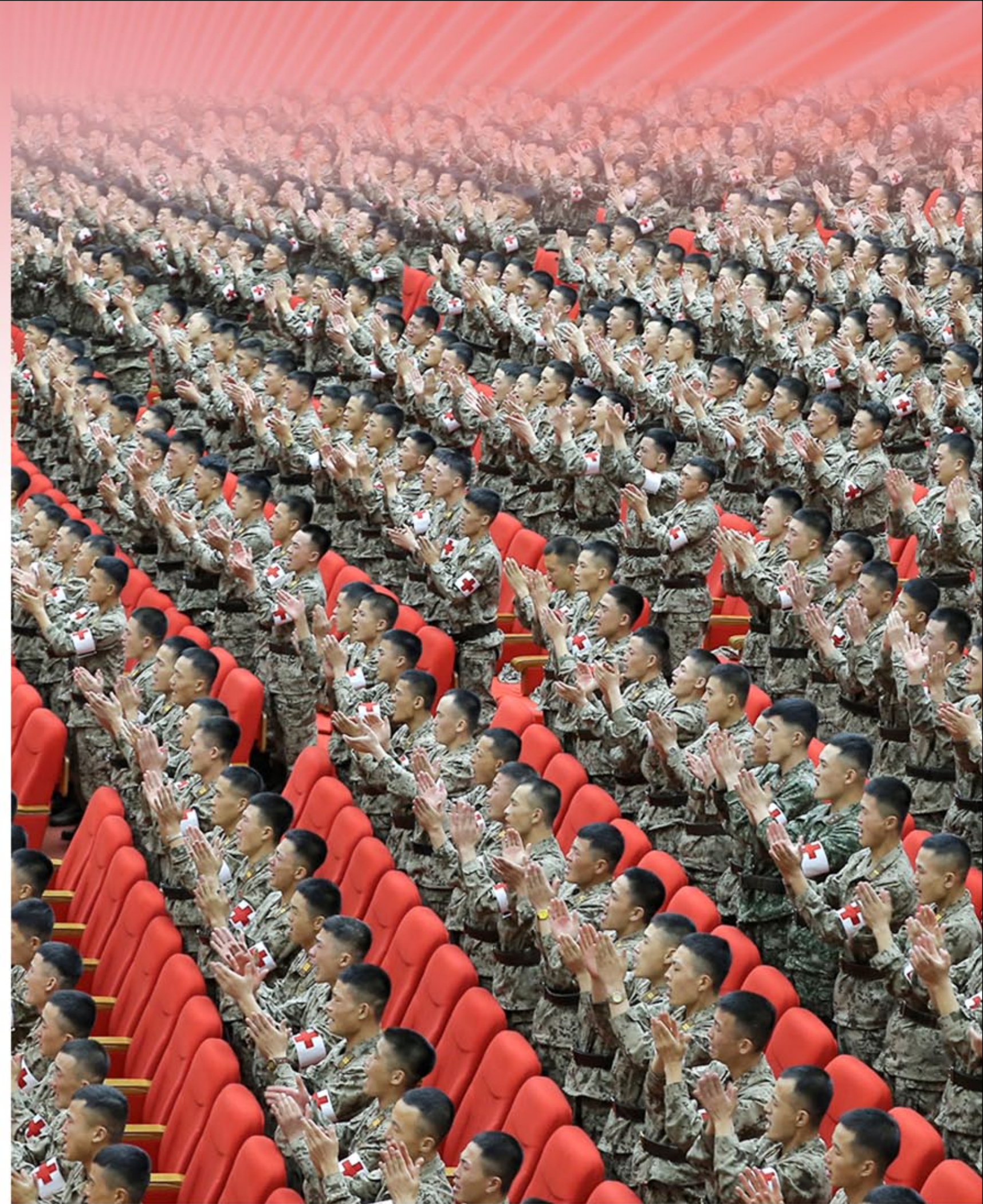
The moment Kim Jong Un concluded his passionate speech full of love and affection for his revolutionary soldiers, all the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers with tears of emotion in their eyes, looking up to him who put ordinary combatants forward as frontline medics and combat heroes of today and repeatedly showed benevolent affection to them.

The General Secretary specially called and congratulated the

medics who performed distinguished feats in the anti-epidemic campaign in the capital.

He shook hands with them one by one and recognized their services. They greatly contributed to further stirring up the fine communist virtues and traits throughout society by devoting themselves to the protection of the citizens' lives and health with absolute loyalty to the order of the Party Central Committee and unconditional love and dedication to the people.

He had a photo session with them, hoping that they who



performed brilliant merits at the forefront of the campaign for defending the people would continue to work faithfully as able field medics and renowned field doctors reliably defending our precious socialist country where our people live in good health free from any disease.

The General Secretary had a photo session of victory to be specially recorded in the history of our Party and state with the KPA medics at the plaza of the April 25 House of Culture on August 18.

When he arrived at the venue of the photo session, all the participants raised thunderous cheers of "Hurrah!", paying the highest tribute to him who performed undying great exploits to shine forever in the history of the country by shouldering the fatal national crisis in the unprecedented great turmoil and leading the grave anti-epidemic war to great victory with his extraordinary wisdom, superhuman energy and distinguished guidance, but bestowed all laurels on the people and officers and men of the People's Army.

He warmly waved back to the reliable and stout frontline medics,

the combat heroes who demonstrated to the world their heroic stamina in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign for protecting the precious life and existence and future of our people.

Expressing the conviction that the brilliant merits of the detached corps members of the Party Central Committee, who defused the unprecedented health crisis in the van and devotedly defended our people's trust in the great Party and the precious tradition of army-people unity, would remain forever in the memory of the country and the people along with the history of victory in the great anti-epidemic campaign, he had a photo taken with them.

All the participants hardened their firm will to fulfil their honourable mission and duty as the revolutionary army medics of the Workers' Party of Korea in the struggle for prosperity of our great state and welfare of our great people with the same spirit and stamina as they won a victory in the anti-epidemic campaign in the capital city, cherishing deeper in their mind the immutable truth that we have nothing to fear and are sure to win as there is the invincible leadership of the great Party Central Committee.





Kim Jong Un had a photo session with the combatants who performed distinguished feats in the anti-epidemic campaign in the capital, hoping that they would continue to work faithfully as able field medics and renowned field doctors reliably defending the precious socialist country where our people live in good health free from any disease.



90-odd Days of Great Leadership in Sacred Struggle to Defend People

For over 90 days since the outbreak of the most serious state emergency incident in our country, which had prevented the inroads of the malignant virus for two years and three months despite the unprecedented global health crisis, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, clarified principles, tasks and ways to thoroughly cope with the health crisis and visited the sites of the anti-epidemic front to take prompt emergency measures.

During those days he examined 1 772 documents of 22 956 pages to give guidance to the country's anti-epidemic work.



Eighth Political Bureau Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK Held

May 12, 2022

Adopted at the Eighth Political Bureau Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, which was attended by Kim Jong Un, was a decision on switching the state emergency epidemic prevention effort to the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system to deal with the prevailing crisis.

The General Secretary advanced principles and tasks to be held fast to in the emergency anti-epidemic work and called on all the cities and counties of the whole country to thoroughly lock up their areas and organize work and production after isolating working, production and living units from one another so as to flawlessly and perfectly block the transmission routes of the virulent virus.





Kim Jong Un Visited State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters

May 12, 2022

The General Secretary examined the epidemic prevention situation in a day after the state epidemic prevention work was switched over to the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system and learned about the nationwide spread of the epidemic. He underlined the need to immediately and thoroughly carry out the articles of the decisions of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee for actively and firmly taking hold of the good chance of winning the anti-epidemic campaign and thus quickly contain the spread of the epidemic.





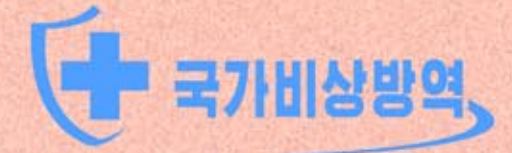
Consultative Meeting of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee Held

May 14, 2022

The General Secretary called upon all the Party organizations to scrupulously conduct the organizational and political work so that our best communist virtues and beautiful traits, which no one on earth can possess or imitate, are given fuller play in the present difficult and rigorous anti-epidemic campaign, noting that the virtues and feelings of helping and taking care of each other which prevails our society in any adversities are the key to and guarantee of a great victory in the campaign which is more powerful than any latest medical science and technologies.

Saying that our Party will bravely discharge its important responsibility and duty and take full responsibility for the security and wellbeing of the country and people by displaying infinite loyalty and devotion, he repeatedly expressed his determination and will to win a great victory in the anti-epidemic campaign without fail.

He said that he was donating reserve medicines prepared by his family to the Party committee of the headquarters of the WPK Central Committee with his resolution to always share his destiny with the people and with a fervent prayer that peace and laughter would settle again in all families across the country at an early date, and suggested that those medicines be sent to a family in difficulty.



Consultative Meeting of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee Held Again

May 15, 2022

The General Secretary issued a special order of the WPK Central Military Commission for immediately stabilizing the supply of medicines in Pyongyang by committing the powerful forces of the medical sector of the Korean People's Army.

On the basis of the detailed analysis of the present anti-epidemic situation of the country, he discussed ways for enforcing the anti-epidemic policies more efficiently and indicated the orientation and goal for the immediate struggle.



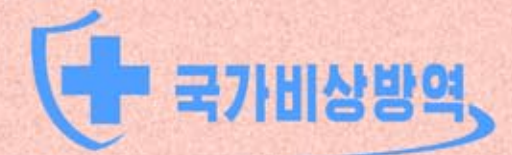


Kim Jong Un Visited Pharmacies in Pyongyang

May 15, 2022

Just after ending the consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, the General Secretary visited pharmacies in Pyongyang. He acquainted himself in detail with what kind of medicines were supplied to them after the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system was in operation, whether medicines were kept as required by regulations, whether the pharmacies were turned into a 24-hour service system, whether they held consultations with patients, what kinds of antipyretics and antibiotics they had, and what kinds of medicines inhabitants demanded most now and how much they cost.

He repeatedly stressed the need to correct the vulnerable points in medicine supply system and take strong measures for transporting medicines.

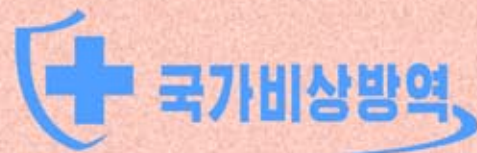


Meeting of Presidium of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee Held

May 17, 2022

At the meeting the General Secretary made an important conclusion in regard to the implementation of the Party and state anti-epidemic policy at present. He underlined the need to concentrate efforts on the prevention of the spread of the malignant infectious disease and medical treatment for the present under the state emergency anti-epidemic situation and simultaneously push ahead with the material and technological preparations to cope with the future threats and challenges in an all-round way.

Saying that redoubled efforts should be made to stabilize the people's life, he stressed the need to more scrupulously organize the work for providing living conditions and supplying daily necessities and make every effort to meet the inhabitants' demand for medical treatment and ensure the conditions for it as much as possible.





Consultative Meeting of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee Held

May 21, 2022

The General Secretary convened the consultative meeting, and outlined and analysed the results of the anti-epidemic work in the past nine days after the start of the anti-epidemic war.

He stressed the important tasks and ways for reliably safeguarding our public health defence line by continuously pushing ahead with the work for containing the spread of the epidemic to the maximum and improving medical treatment of the persons who have fever and are tested positive for the epidemic and by consistently holding fast to the overall anti-epidemic principles and measures taken by our Party.

Saying that the struggle to implement the Party's line for the comprehensive development of socialism should constantly be pushed ahead without interruption together while continuously waging the high-intensity state emergency anti-epidemic campaign, he said that the practical guidance teams should be organized for surveying, according to each region and sector, the execution of the Party and state policies assigned at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK with members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.





Consultative Meeting of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee Held

May 29, 2022

The General Secretary guided the consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee. The meeting made a positive evaluation of the epidemic situation being controlled and improved across the country and discussed the issues of continuously stabilizing and improving the overall anti-epidemic situation while further consolidating the experiences gained in the early period of the anti-epidemic work.

The Political Bureau deliberated on the issue of effectively and promptly coordinating and enforcing the anti-epidemic regulations and guidelines in keeping with the current stable situation as to the epidemic spread.



Enlarged Meeting of Fifth Plenary Meeting of Eighth Central Committee of WPK Held

June 8-10, 2022

The General Secretary made a report clarifying the strategic and tactical plans for finally defusing the malignant epidemic crisis, restoring the stability and vigorously promoting the building of the state anti-epidemic capability and its capacity to cope with crisis.

He said that under the current situation in which the state anti-epidemic work entered a new stage of turning into prevention work based on blockade and eradication of the epidemic from the blockade-based prevention after the unexpected serious crisis, the urgent task facing the Party and state is to immediately remedy the shortcomings and evils in the anti-epidemic work and take decisive steps for building up the country's anti-epidemic capability.



Kim Jong Un Sent Medicines Prepared by His Family to Haeju City Committee of Workers' Party of Korea of South Hwanghae Province

June 15, 2022

Handing the medicines over to the Party committee of the headquarters of the WPK Central Committee, the General Secretary asked it to send the relief medicines to the Haeju City Party Committee and make sure that the city Party committee concretely grasps the households suffering from the epidemic and hands the medicines over to them as soon as possible to contribute to their treatment even a little.



Pyongyang Citizens Will Never Forget

KPA medics who won victory in the anti-epidemic front of the capital city returned to their units



On May 16 the medics of the Korean People's Army were urgently dispatched to the emergency anti-epidemic front of the capital city on the special order of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Cherishing deep in their hearts the great trust and expectation of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who wanted the KPA to play the role of the main force in defending the security of the state and lives of the people, the KPA medics spent every minute and second of the 90-odd-day campaign to exterminate the malignant virus, devotedly upholding the leadership of the Party Central Committee to guide the grave anti-epidemic war to great victory.

They were seconded to pharmacies in the capital city and treated the citizens with sincerity.

On August 14 the KPA medics returned to their units.

At early dawn when the streets of the capital city were still in deep silence, they packed themselves for departure and left the pharmacies quietly.

On the order for the departure, the medics, who had been so tough in the 24-7 treatment campaign, and the pharmacy employees, who witnessed their selfless devotion for the safety of the citizens, shed tears all alike.

At the news of their departure citizens showed up in the streets and were very reluctant to part from the medics so quietly. To them those military medical workers were their own kith and kin who performed



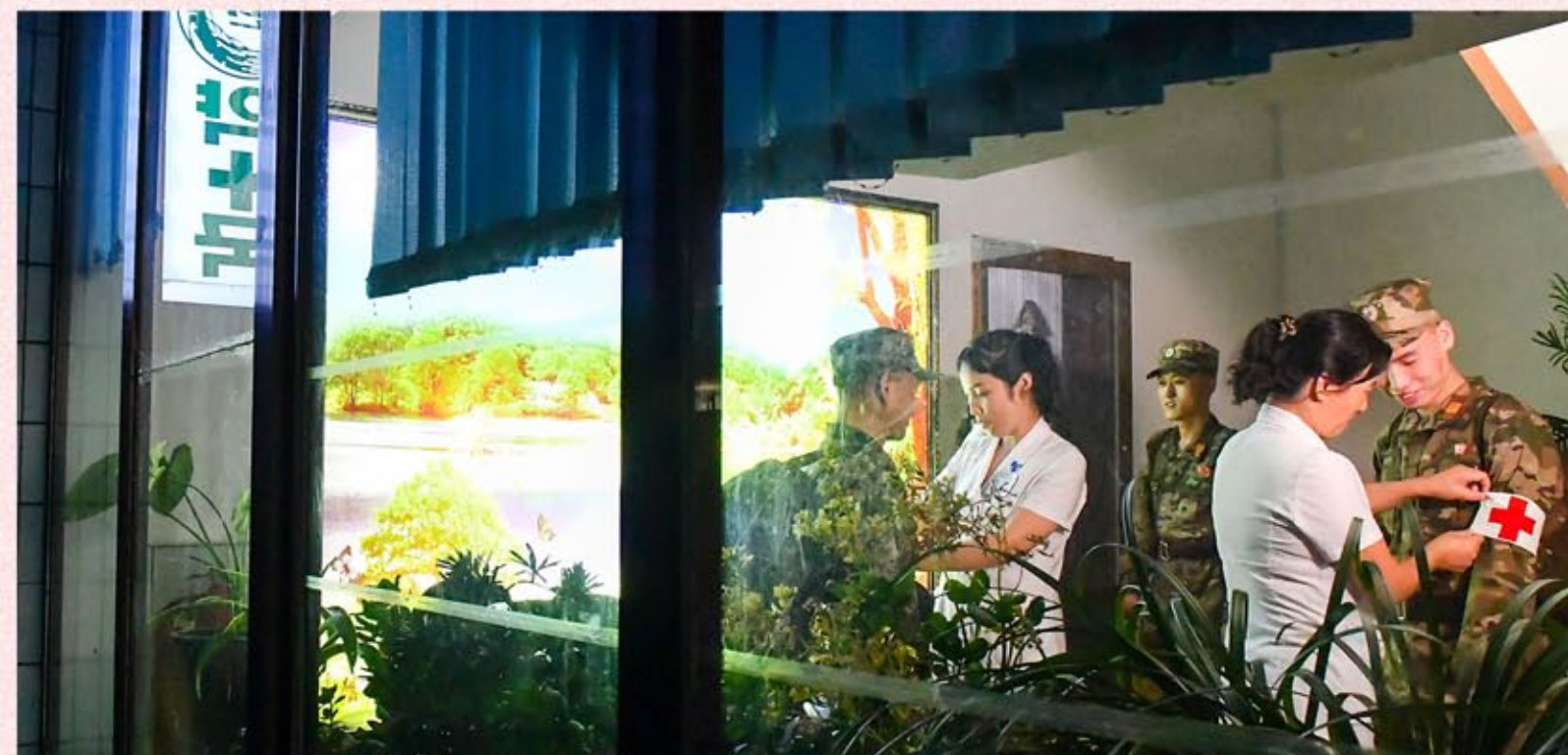
Combatants of the medical sector of the Korean People’s Army who have fulfilled their mission of safeguarding peace and security of the capital city during the grave anti-epidemic war left for their units at midnight and dawn without any official farewell ceremonies.

brilliant feats in the struggle to defuse the health crisis in the capital city and defend their lives and safety.

The citizens gave their warm send-off to the medics, and the medics acknowledged the citizens’ farewell with militant salutes of defenders.

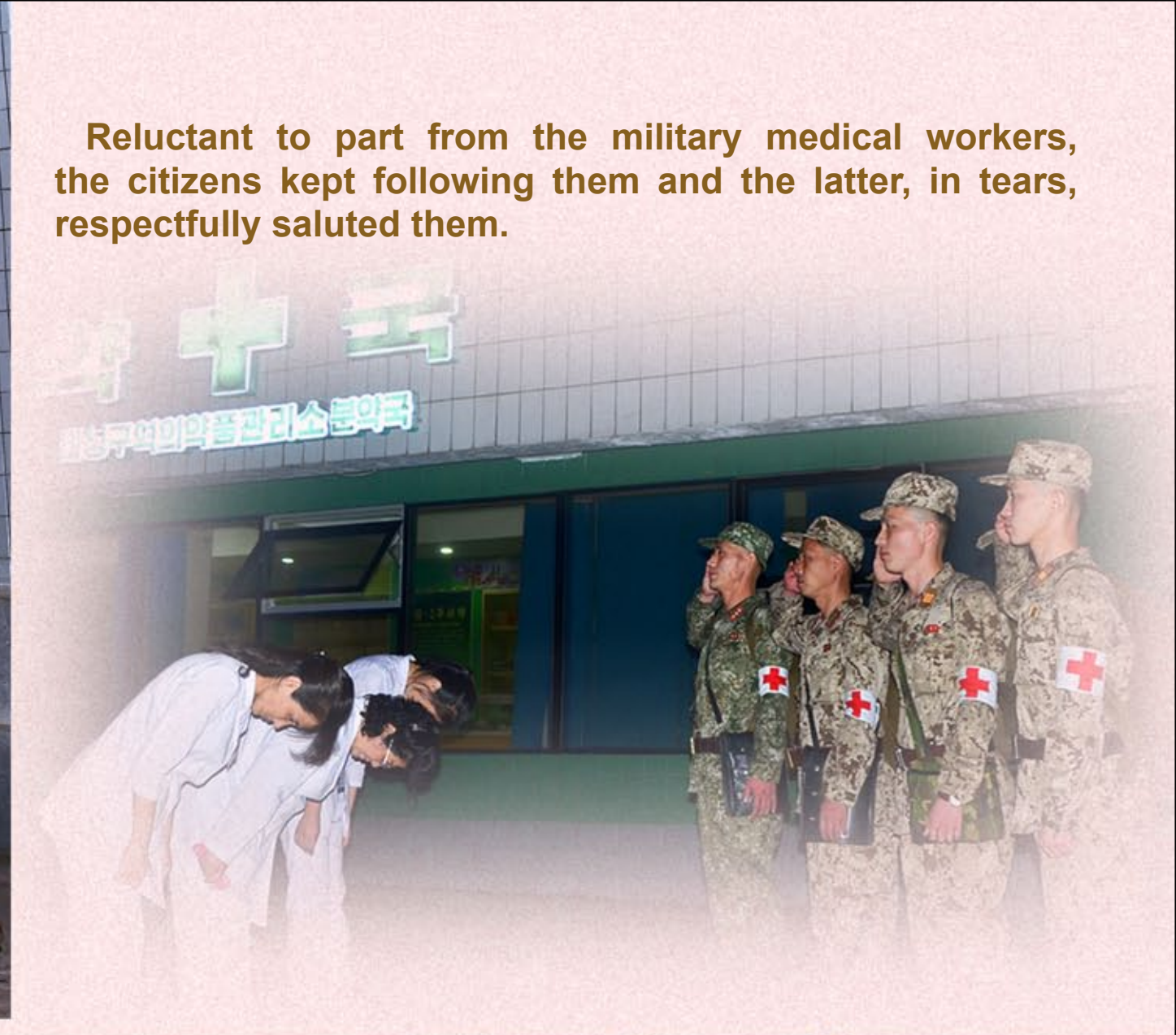
The KPA medics, who safeguarded the absolute trust of the people in the Workers’ Party of Korea and honourable tradition of army-people unity, left the capital city without even a simple parting ceremony.

*Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA
Text: Pak Pyong Hun*





Reluctant to part from the military medical workers, the citizens kept following them and the latter, in tears, respectfully saluted them.





Ushering in New Era of National Prosperity

Under the sagacious leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who creates an immortal history with his unexcelled ideas, outstanding leadership and gigantic revolutionary practice, numerous eye-opening events have been made in the DPRK in the worst trials when others would have already collapsed and a prospering people's paradise is being built on this land.



Kim Jong Un on his field guidance trip for the prosperity of the country (May 2018)

Today the Korean people have greeted a new era of prosperity worthy of note in the history of development of the DPRK.

It is a valuable outcome of the unshakable faith of independence and energetic leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, another peerlessly great man whom the Korean nation acclaimed in its history.

Kim Jong Un regards it as his grand ambition and ideal to raise the status of socialist Korea to that of a powerful state respected by the world and provide the people with the highest dignity and the happiest life.

He set forth the idea of our-state-first principle on the road of the onward march in the new century of the Juche era and wisely led the

entire people to turn out in the effort to build a powerful socialist country under the unfurled banner of self-reliance.

He advanced revolutionary lines and policies for the development and prosperity of the Republic, such as the line of building up the self-reliant national defence capability and the idea of radically increasing the driving force and the internal motive force holding



Kim Jong Un at the Sci-Tech Complex (October 2015)

Kim Jong Un clarified the role and importance of science and technology in the building of a powerful socialist country and tasks and ways for its rapid development, and gave wise leadership to open up a broad avenue for prosperity by dint of science and technology.



Kim Jong Un at Kumsong Tractor Factory (November 2017)



Kim Jong Un looking at a new subway train manufactured by Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex (October 2015)



Kim Jong Un at Farm No. 1116 (September 2016)



Kim Jong Un at Kwail County, South Hwanghae Province (September 2017)



Kim Jong Un inspecting the construction site of Yangdok Hot Spring Resort nearing completion (October 2019)

high the banner of self-reliance.

At the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea held in 2016 Kim Jong Un said in the following vein: Today we have nothing but our own strength to rely on. It is only when we are possessed of the spirit of self-reliance and self-development that we can go through any trials and hardships and achieve the greatest success even in the worst conditions.

Always regarding the spirit of self-development first as the very

core of the revolution and construction, he continuously gave on-site guidance to implant deep in the hearts of the people the truth that self-reliance is the only way to live.

When the people in Kangwon Province completed the gigantic project of constructing a power station on their own efforts, though everything was in needy and difficult conditions, he highly praised them as indomitable fighters who proved in practice the great vitality of the principle of self-development first and created the spirit of



Kim Jong Un looking round the Mirae Scientists Street (October 2015)



Kim Jong Un inspecting construction sites in Samjiyon County (October 2019)

Kangwon Province, and saw to it that the whole country should learn from their fighting trait.

Unshakable faith and energetic guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un were the banner of struggle, which brightly illumined the way ahead of the Korean revolution to advance undauntedly braving trials and hardships and thus opened up an era of prosperity by dint of self-reliance in which ideals of the people were translated into reality even in the difficult conditions.

Monumental edifices and model and standard factories in the era of knowledge economy sprang up and the eye-opening reality of the whole country turning into gold fields, gold seas and gold mountains was unfolded, even though the hostile forces grew more desperate in their moves to obstruct independent development of the Republic.

Kim Jong Un developed socialist Korea into a self-reliant power which no force of aggression dares to treat lightly, thus providing a sure guarantee for achieving the wellbeing of all the generations to

come and the prosperity of the nation.

With an unshakable determination and will to build a powerful socialist country while safeguarding the national sovereignty and security by relying more firmly on the arms and building up the indefatigable military capability, as long as there exists threats of aggression from the enemy, he continued his army inspection tours and strengthened the Korean People's Army into an invincible army capable of defeating any aggressor forces at a stroke.

He built up the greatest national power in a very short period, thereby resolutely frustrating the reckless moves of aggression and war by the hostile forces and reliably defending the security of the country and wellbeing of the people.

In order to further consolidate the foundations of the national defence he inspected army units day and night, and bestowed infinite affection and trust on the national defence scientists and gave them inexhaustible strength and courage to achieve remarkable successes.

Sci-Tech Complex, a centre for disseminating science and technology



Passenger transport means manufactured by the efforts and technology of the Korean working class running on the streets of the capital city



Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm and Tree Nursery built in the northern part of Korea



Bumper crop on the field





Bases for cultural and leisure activities, such as Mirim Riding Club, Masikryong Ski Resort, Munsu Water Park, and Yangdok Hot Spring Resort, have been built all across the country thanks to a far-reaching plan and wise leadership of Kim Jong Un.





Part of Songhwa Street built within a year as an ideal street for people in the Songsin and Songhwa areas of Pyongyang

Under his leadership of patriotic devotion, the national strength of the DPRK has soared to a new high, and the Korean people have achieved one great victory after another which served as landmarks in the nation's history spanning 5 000 years and infused them with the pride and dignity of being the people of a powerful country.

At the Eighth Congress of the WPK held last year Kim Jong Un declared with pride that the WPK organized and waged indomitable offensive struggle for turning every obstacle into great victory and the victory won in this course could be characterized by that it opened up an era of fresh development, an era of our state-first principle.

Indeed, thanks to the outstanding leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who, with his thoroughgoing faith of the national self-esteem, is demonstrating the dignity and might of the country and providing the people with worthwhile lives and happiness, the DPRK has greeted a new era of fresh national development, an era of self-dependence and prosperity.

Text: Pak Ui Chol



Partial view of Samjiyon City facelifted as a socialist mountain city encapsulating modern civilization

National Flag Dear to Hearts of People

The flag of the DPRK with a history of over 70 years symbolizes the independent dignity and mettle of the powerful state, infinite pride and wellbeing of the people.

The national flag will flutter high along with the prosperous socialist Korea.





9 It is an eternal symbol of socialist Korea which is imperishable by dint of great affection.

With the approach of September 9, the founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people look up at the national flag fluttering in the clear blue sky.

The red and blue flag beaming with the five-pointed star is adorned with the proud 70-odd-year history of the DPRK which has advanced along the road of victory and glory, overcoming innumerable ordeals and difficulties.

Holding high the flag, the Korean people turned out in the building of a new, democratic Korea and achieved a miraculous victory in the arduous Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953).

Firmly united under the national flag, they established a socialist system that is independent, self-supporting and self-reliant in national defence on this land, where once worship of big countries and national ruin, backwardness and poverty prevailed, and formed a great socialist family which is happy and harmonious.

The three-coloured national flag is fluttering high in the DPRK which invariably pursues the policies for the safety and wellbeing of its people.



It is a symbol of invincibility of the DPRK which is righteous and powerful.





Thanks to its people-oriented policies enforced under the present difficult conditions, new streets and villages with splendid dwelling houses are being built across the country and given to the people free of charge, every one of the schoolchildren has been supplied with new school uniform every season, and the younger generation provided with better conditions for their growth.

And the recent great upheaval caused by the inroad of the malignant virus, the first in the history of the DPRK since its founding, was immediately and powerfully countered to reliably safeguard the people's lives.



It reflects the will of the indomitable and stout people of the DPRK who are determined to add glory to and support their socialist country.





The DPRK flag is everlasting on the strength of love and justice.

That is why the DPRK citizens are regarding the national flag with rising emotion and cherishing it deep in their mind.

All the Korean people, whether they are at factories and farms, schools and

villages, are dedicating their patriotism with an ardent affection for the national flag.

They are fully convinced that as long as the national flag flutters high, their workplaces and homes exist and their

beautiful dreams and promising future will be realized.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin, Pang Un Sim

Text: Ri Jin Bom



Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace is a comprehensive base for extracurricular activities of the schoolchildren. It has rooms for nearly 150 groups with a daily accommodation capacity of over 5 000.

Building area: 214 000 sq metres
Total floor space: 105 000 sq metres



Palace for Children

Children in the DPRK, who are regarded as kings of the country, are bringing their talents and hopes into full bloom and growing up as dependable pillars of the country.

Since the declaration of the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign in August, the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace became animated again.

The palace located on Kwangbok Street

in Pyongyang runs nearly 150 groups for students of primary and middle schools in the western part of the city.

After school students come to the palace to broaden the scope of knowledge and develop their talents at the groups they

have selected according to their hobbies and aptitudes.

Students involved at the basic science groups are known across the country to possess high abilities.

And those of art groups, including



instrumental and vocal music and fine art, have shown their outstanding talents in the annual schoolchildren's festivals and exhibitions. Fine art works which were highly appreciated in international fine art shows are now on display at the handicraft exhibition room.

Sports groups of the palace are proud of having produced such famous athletes as Ri

Artistic group members of the palace are improving their artistry under the active guidance of instructors.





Se Gwang, three-time world champion in artistic gymnastics.

Remarkable achievements of the palace's group members are attributed to personal qualifications and careers of instructors.

Instructors should not only possess high abilities but pass the six months' teacher training course run by the palace. Those for art groups should also have careers as professional entertainers.

The method of evaluating their qualifications is getting further improved.

According to Jo Hye Yong, head of group management section, the palace organizes visits of parents to the groups and evaluates instructors' abilities twice a year.

Since 2015 when the palace was reconstructed on a modern basis, a growing number of schoolchildren have entered its groups and are preparing themselves as competent personnel.

*Photo: An Chol Ryong, Pang Un Sim
Text: Kang Su Jong*



Schoolchildren are broadening their knowledge on astronomy, basic science, electronic appliances and other spheres.



There are a 2 000-seat theatre, a swimming pool with ample conditions for international games, Taekwon-Do room and other rooms for sports groups.



Merry Laughter Reverberating through Rungna Island

At the Rungna People's Recreation Ground

Rungna Island has long been famous as one of the scenic spots in Pyongyang, for it resembles a roll of silk cloth spread over gem-like water of the Taedong River, and the Rungna People's Recreation Ground adds charm to its scenery.

The Rungna People's Recreation Ground was opened to the public in July 2012 for cultural and leisure activities of Pyongyang citizens. It comprises a water park, amusement park, dolphinarium and mini-golf course.

The Rungna Water Park at the entrance of the recreation ground is always swarming with the citizens, young and old alike.





Enjoying leisure activities

It is fun to disport in water pools of different types, take showers and play basketball, volleyball and beach ball in uniquely furnished courts; however, what attracts people most is to take water slides.

It may be a never-to-be-forgotten experience for everybody to ride the steep water slide nearly 20 metres high.

As soon as the dusk sets in, a dazzling world of illumination unfolds in the amusement park, and merry laughter of the people enjoying amusement facilities never dies down till late at midnight.

The most popular amusement in the park is Riding on Hawk. When it either rotates in a 360-degree or halts topsy-turvy for a while, both riders in the air and onlookers on the ground hold their breath, keeping their eyes shut.





When riding the hawk they feel dizzy and make a firm determination not to ride it again, but after landing on the ground, their determination gives away to a temptation to enjoy other amusement facilities with redoubled courage.

That's why they are reluctant to leave the amusement park.

In the hall of laughter people hardly keep back their laughter, seeing their funny images reflected in the mirrors, and those inside the mirror cage lose themselves in a labyrinth of passages. The electronic entertainment hall and 4D simulation cinema house are also nearly packed with people, who soon forget the lapse of time.

Pyongyangites, who are proud of being citizens of the DPRK that achieved miraculous victory in the war against the malignant virus in such a short period, are enjoying the cultural and leisure activities to their heart's content. Their merry laughter resounds throughout the Rungna People's Recreation Ground along the picturesque Taedong River.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin, Ri Jin Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong



Laughter and optimism overflowing in the recreation ground



Coasting down the steep water slides and disporting in pools give more pleasure to people.



Bathing Beach Teeming with Holidaymakers

Majon Bathing Resort is famous in the country for its dense forest, clear sea and refreshing air.

Towards the end of this summer “seismic waves” of people flood into the Majon Recreation Ground in the city of Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province, along the east coast of Korea.

Since the opening of the bathing resort in the recreation ground in mid-August, several tens of thousand people surged to the beach every day.

For over a week the attendants of the resort has not been able to accept reservations, as all the accommodations have been fully packed with holidaymakers and a growing number of them are prolonging their stay.

So many people are seen camping in the tents set up in the pine woods contiguous with the beach measuring 50-100 metres in width.

Now the 6km-long sandy beach is covered by merry bathers day and night.

Since the people from not only Hamhung but also other parts of the country stream into the bathing resort, it is not known when these “seismic waves” will subside.

Photo: Ri Myong Guk

Text: Choe Kwang Ho





Bathing in clear, blue seawater and riding horse along the sandy beach attract many people.





Textile Production Increases

At the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill

Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill is a large textile producer in the DPRK. It is fully equipped with production lines, ranging from spinning, silk-spinning and weaving to dyeing.

It has so far produced 17 women Labour Heroes.

Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, a leading textile producer in the DPRK, is putting production on a normal track.

Its officials and workers are fully aware of their important duty in implementing the decision of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on bringing about a substantial change in the consumer goods production.

They are building up the ranks of technicians and skilled workers and proactively transferring and sharing advanced technologies and experiences, thus increasing the production in terms of both quality and quantity.

Labour innovators who have overfulfilled the national economic plans every year are taking the lead in the drive for increased production.

Exemplary workers at the general weaving workshop are operating

machines under their charge at full capacity and overfulfilling their daily quotas by actively applying rational methods of piecing and turning around the machines. They are also helping their fellow workers so that all the weavers of the workshop are carrying out their quotas without fail.

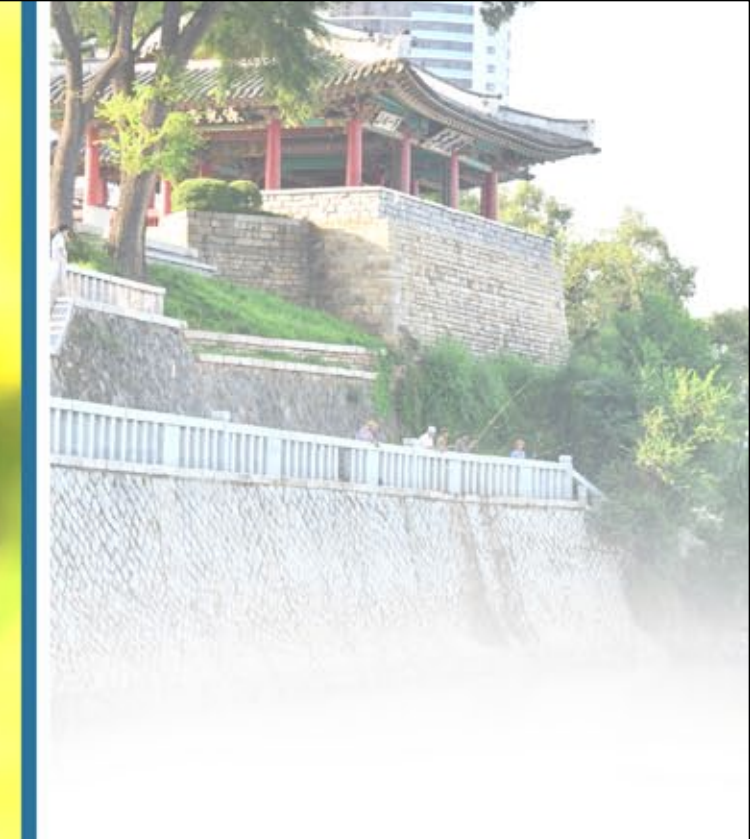
At the general spinning and silk-spinning workshops the skilled workers are encouraging novices in their effort to make labour feats by tending more looms, thus increasing the production.

Workers at the general chemical fibre spinning workshop are also overfulfilling their daily quotas by ensuring checkup and repair of the machines in a responsible way and waging a multi-spindle tending campaign more vigorously.

Photo: Ra Pyong Ryol
Text: Pak Pyong Hun

Workers are making innovations in the production of school uniform cloth and other textiles, true to the decision made at the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.



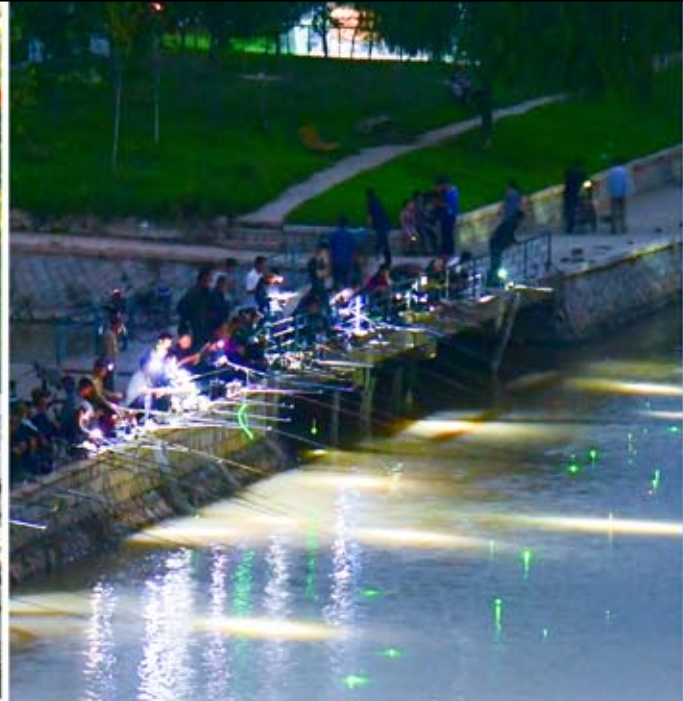


Angling enthusiasts are seen on the pavements along the Taedong and Pothong rivers and the lakes in Pyongyang. They present quite a scenery, adding charm to the picturesque surroundings and attracting passers-by.



Angling Enthusiasts





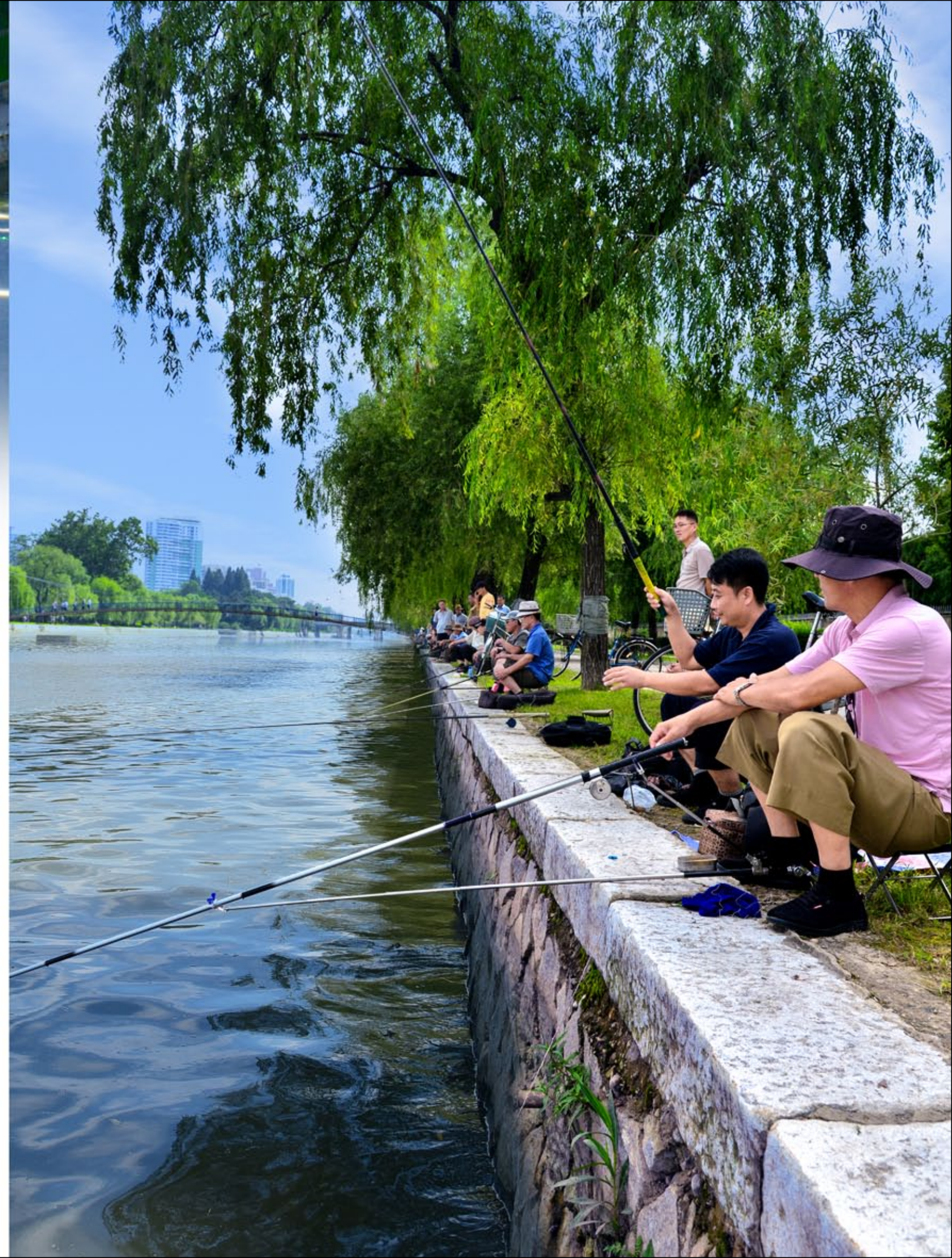
Anglers, sitting squatted and looking steadily at the floats on the water, all look alike.

Yet, before long, a middle-aged man is beaming with a smile, as he has just caught a huge fish and put it in a net bag. Meanwhile, a young man, being impatient, is repeatedly shifting places. And an old man with his little grandson is eagerly imparting to the youngers knacks of catching fish.

When anglers are hooking fish competitively, a crowd of onlookers gather around them, rejoicing at the catch and congratulating them.

Though the dusk shades into night, anglers are still absorbed in fishing, adding charm to peaceful scenery of Pyongyang.

*Photo: Choe Won Chol, Hong Kwang Nam
Text: Pak Ui Chol*





World Table Tennis Queen

Pak Yong Sun

Pak Yong Sun (August 22, 1956-July 14, 1987) was a Labour Hero of the DPRK and People's Athlete.

During her playing career she won 37 medals, including 15 golds, and became the twice world table tennis champion and world table tennis queen.



Gold medal at the 33rd World Table Tennis Championships



The Korean people remember Pak Yong Sun, who won the reputation of a world table tennis queen in the 1970s.

Born in August 1956 as the only daughter of a worker in Sakju County, North Phyongan Province in the northern part of Korea, Pak was very clever and tenacious.

She joined the table tennis group of her primary school and learned the playing techniques, and just after two years she began to draw the attention of experts.

In 1968 she was selected as a player for a sports club based in Pyongyang, and several years later she took part in the national competitions.

As a left-handed penholder gripper, she had knacks for backhand serve and third ball drive.

What was remarkable in Pak's playing activities was her calm and bold way of playing to the last of the game without being confused or impetuous.



Gold medal at the 34th World Table Tennis Championships



After she became the twice world champion, Pak worked as a table tennis coach for an army sports club and devoted her wisdom and zeal to training the reserve players.

Though she lived a short life, she left indelible traces in the world table tennis circle.

She made her international debut at the 33rd World Table Tennis Championships in 1975 and she was the only woman player from the DPRK.

She had to challenge world aces from the start in the singles event, until she went on to the quarterfinal. After a 2-2 draw she entered the fifth round and she fell behind her rival with a score of 15-19. She continued her offensive in a daring way, but the score was 18-20, leaving her opponent with a set point.

In such case most of the players usually refrain from offensive and play with utmost prudence so that they would convert the set point in their favour.

However, Pak did not slacken her offensive, but made consecutive hard strokes, thus reversing the tide of the game and winning it by a score of 23-21.

It was said that even other players suspended their games to watch her.

In the final Pak gave fullest play to her unyielding offensive spirit and willpower. At last she won the championship and the title of the world table tennis queen.

At that time she was only 19.

Her story of fighting perseveringly at the set point is widely known among sportspersons and ordinary people until today.

In 1977 Pak snatched another gold medal in the women's individual singles at the 34th World Table Tennis Championships and became the twice champion.

During her playing career Pak won 37 medals, including 15 gold medals. Since 1980 she worked as a coach for the April 25 Sports Club and produced a lot of table tennis aces.

She was the Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, Labour Hero and People's Athlete.

Pak receiving hearty welcome from the people



Foreign personages congratulating Pak on her successes

Text: Pak Ui Chol

Four Seasons of Mt Kuwol

Mt Kuwol in **autumnal tints**

One of the six celebrated mountains in Korea

Mt Kuwol, which was named so for its picturesque scenery in September with autumnal tints, was also called *Sohae Kumgang*. It is numbered among the six celebrated mountains in Korea.





Mt Kuwol in **spring**

Mt Kuwol, which borders Unnyul, Anak, Samchon and Unchon counties of South Hwanghae Province, is numbered among the six celebrated mountains in Korea. It is also called *Sohae Kumgang*.

With an elevation of 954 metres (Sahwang Peak), it is noted for its autumnal tints in September, hence the name of Kuwol.

Cone- and pyramid-shaped peaks and steep cliffs that were formed

in the highest region of the local province through weathering and erosion over a long period present spectacular beauties of mountains and valleys.

There are ponds and falls, including Ryongyon and Samhyongje falls, in the thickly-wooded valleys.

The mountain has many pools on the northern and western slopes, and among them is Sok Pool halfway up the northern slope of

the mountain which is famous for having survived the long drought in the past.

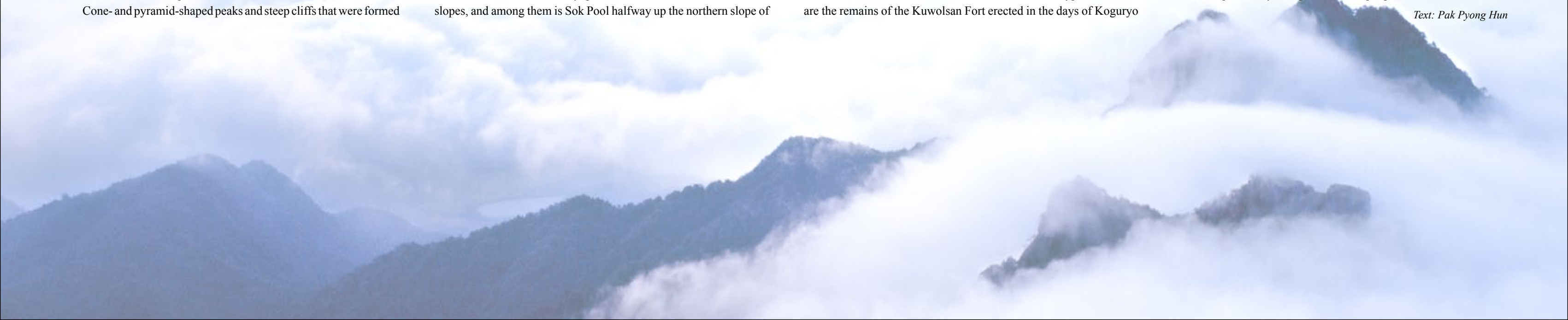
Seen in the valleys are such animals as roe, water-deer, badger, fox, pheasant and owl, and many medicinal herbs including insam, astragalus, forest asiabell and *Angelica gigas*.

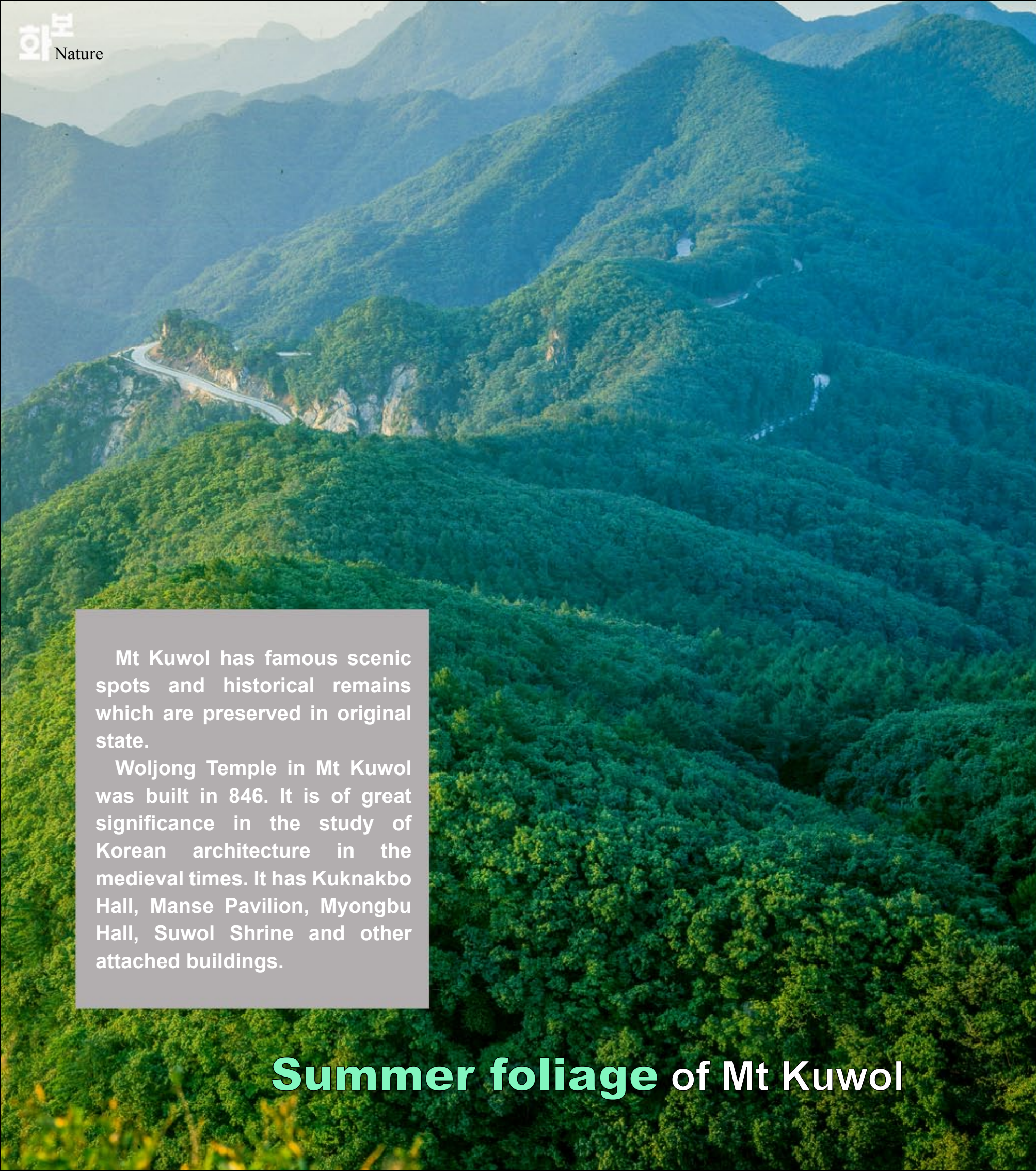
It also abounds in historical sites and remains. Typical of them are the remains of the Kuwolsan Fort erected in the days of Koguryo

(277 BC-AD 668), a kiln site for producing ceramics in the days of Koryo (918-1392), the site of Phaeyp Temple, which is said to be built in the early 9th century, and Woljong, Hungryul, Raksan, Talma and other Buddhist temples and their sites.

Mt Kuwol has now become the best scenic spot in the province, and is frequented by a large number of people.

Text: Pak Pyong Hun





Mt Kuwol has famous scenic spots and historical remains which are preserved in original state.

Woljong Temple in Mt Kuwol was built in 846. It is of great significance in the study of Korean architecture in the medieval times. It has Kuknakbo Hall, Manse Pavilion, Myongbu Hall, Suwol Shrine and other attached buildings.

Summer foliage of Mt Kuwol



Woljong Temple, stupas and many other historical sites showing a time-honoured history and brilliant culture of the Korean people are preserved in the mountain.



Hoar frost in Mt Kuwol

Mt Kuwol has been famous across the world for its fine scenery and clear water.

Majestically soaring peaks and cliffs, mysteriously-shaped rocks, deep ravines with dense forests, clear and limpid streams, waterfalls, pools and rapids in the mountain blend well to present a fantastic view.





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