

## Happy Korean Families with Several Children

In socialist Korea it is regarded as a patriotic deed for women to give birth to several children and bring them up admirably. A growing number of state measures are taken to give various preferential treatments to families with several children.

A number of policies have been in place to provide prolific mothers with food, houses and other living conditions, and their scope is further expanding

Tens of thousands of modern houses are now being built in Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, and provinces, to be gratis given to meritorious persons and ordinary working people. And here priority is given to the families with more than three children. For example, Choe Un Gyong's family is one of such blessed families in Pyongyang. Her family with six children was given a flat in Hwasong Street which has been newly built as an architectural masterpiece. Many other families with many children received new flats in the streets built in the Hwasong area.

According to the state measures, each woman with more than three children is given a special card for medical treatment. And their children are also preferentially treated in medical institutions.

Preferential treatment is also provided to other families raising more than three children including those who are related by blood or orphaned. The state registers such families as those with several children and issues relevant certificates while adopting other special treatment measures to provide them with better living conditions.

Children of such families are preferentially recommended to study at vocational schools and their mothers receive special subsidies newly instituted by the state until their youngest children graduate from senior middle school.

Besides, special state benefits are granted to the women who have given birth to more than three children and reached pension age, regardless of their service years, and to those who have given birth to more than two children and worked for over 15 years.

Indeed, socialist Korea is a country where the more children a family has, the more social benefits it enjoys.

But things in some countries are quite contrasting. There women are fired because they are expecting babies. That's why they say that it gives a comfort to them to have no children.



Choe Un Gyong and her husband and their children living in Kumnung-dong No. 2,  
Hwasong District, Pyongyang