

# **Journey of Devotion for the Good of the People**

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## Preface

More than ten years have passed since Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, began to lead his country and the Workers' Party of Korea.

Ten years can be seen as a moment in the history of the Korean nation, which spans five thousand years.

In those years, an era of great change has been ushered in.

Bases for cultural and leisure activities, recreation grounds, monumental edifices and modern streets and factories have been built in different parts of the country.

These eye-opening transformations have been brought about not with the help of others nor under exceptionally favourable conditions or circumstances.

The hostile forces have resorted to more vicious aggressive schemes and intensified blockade and pressure to deprive the Korean people of their rights to existence and development. The repeated natural disasters and a global public health crisis have also posed serious challenges to them.

However, these could not check their steady development.

The realities which unfolded in the country over the past ten-odd years vividly show not only its inexhaustible potential for development but also the great viability of the ideas and leadership of Kim Jong Un, who has raised its strength to a remarkable level.

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# 1. Ideals of the Workers' Party of Korea

Every political party has its own political ideals, which define the character of its activities and the politics it pursues.

The guiding ideology of the Workers' Party of Korea is Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, whose essence is the people-first principle. This principle demands that the WPK regard the masses of the people as masters of the revolution and construction, rely on them and make selfless, devoted efforts for their good. It embodies the Juche-oriented revolutionary philosophy, which raises man as the most precious and powerful being in the world; it also reflects the thoroughgoing stand of the WPK and the government of the DPRK, which hold the people dear and are ready to realize their demands and interests to the full.

The WPK has continued to enforce people-oriented policies and steadfastly undertake projects aimed at promoting the people's wellbeing even in difficult situations as it has applied the people-first principle in the state's and in its activities.

This has led the Korean people to absolutely trust and follow the WPK, and unfolded a great garden of single-hearted unity between them.

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## **People-oriented Motto**

Today the Workers' Party of Korea is making its appearance more vivid as a party of the people, continuing to write the history of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people.

This is associated with the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un, who regards it as the most important affair to meet the demands and interests of the people and spares nothing for them.

By defining the most distinguishable feature of the Party as a party of the people, he clarified that the WPK is a motherly party that truly serves the people and makes selfless, devoted efforts for their good. At the concluding speech he made at the Second Conference of Secretaries of the Primary Committees of the WPK held in February 2022, he said that the Party Central Committee regards what the people desire as its policy and a state policy and that the primary organizations of the whole Party should thoroughly implement them and make the people enjoy benefits from them, stressing that this is the unique mode of activities of the WPK and the theory of the role of primary Party committees, the theory of attaching importance to these committees, advocated by the Party Central Committee.

The WPK has performed its role as a party of the people since the first days of its founding.

In the early days of his revolutionary activities Kim Il Sung,

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eternal President of the DPRK, cherished as his maxim in life and struggle the truth that if one believes in the people and relies on them, one will always emerge victorious, and that if one is forsaken by them, one will always fail, and devoted his all for the people till the last days of his life since he embarked on the road of revolution.

In his treatise *The Great Comrade Kim Il Sung Is the Eternal Leader of Our Party and Our People* published in April 2012 on the occasion of the centenary of the birth of Kim Il Sung, Kim Jong Un wrote that Kim Il Sung's was a noble life of a people's leader, who regarded "The people are my God" as his motto, applied it to his ideas and leadership and turned it into reality, adding: For him, the masses of the people were always a teacher, and he was their loyal son. He began his revolutionary activities by going amongst them. He conducted his revolutionary activities always by relying on them, and he dedicated them, from beginning to end, to defending and achieving their independence. Thanks to these activities, the masses' demand and aspiration for independence became ideas, theories, lines and policies, and the most revolutionary and scientific guidelines were set out which were easily understood by them and which indicated the true road for them to take to shape their destiny.

As they were led by Kim Il Sung, the Korean people, once an object of history, could usher in a new era of history, the Juche era, when they were shaping their destiny by their own efforts.

The ideal of "The people are my God" kept by him all his life was the lifelong motto of Kim Jong Il, eternal Chairman of the National

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Defence Commission of the DPRK, as well.

In a talk *Let Us Step Up the Building of a Thriving Country by Applying Kim Jong Il's Patriotism* to senior officials of the Central Committee of the WPK in July 2012, Kim Jong Un said that Kim Jong Il's patriotism is based on a noble view on the people—of believing in them as in heaven, adding: “The people are my God” was General Kim Jong Il's motto throughout his life. He said that if there is an omnipotent entity in this world, it is the masses, not any god; it was his patriotic creed that the country exists because the people exist. His patriotic mind was always filled with the word *people*. If it is the wish of the people, I will pluck a star from the heavens or grow flowers even on a rock—this was the noble expression of his affection for the people, and his will. Even now, whenever I listen to *Song of Affection for the People*, describing how the General's lifelong exploits that are as wide as the sea and as high as the sky were for the people alone, I cannot help shedding tears as I recall the benevolent image of the General who valued the people all his life.

One day Kim Jong Un said: Our people have believed that what the Party wants to do is absolutely correct and faithfully supported its leadership with the conviction that if they followed it, the day would surely come when they would be well-off. During the Arduous March, when Kim Jong Il visited her house and opened the oven, a child covered the grass gruel in the oven with her small palms; there were those who moved closer to his embrace, determined that they would never take shelter under the eaves of others' houses even if



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they were to die of cold. They were just our people.

This was a recollection of the genuine image of the Korean people and the blood-sealed ties between the WPK and the masses that can never be separated.

At the Fourth Conference of Cell Secretaries of the WPK in January 2013 and on several other occasions, Kim Jong Un said that it is the firm determination of the Party to respect the people and devote everything to them as it holds the leaders in high esteem, stressing that all the officials and Party members should become true revolutionaries who steadily follow, together with the Party, the road of love for the people covered by the leaders all their lives. He also said that it is the Party's outlook on the people to hold the people, whom the leaders regarded as their God, in high esteem as much as it does the leaders, and support them, and that the officials, sharing the intentions and destiny with the Party Central Committee, should make the Party's outlook on the people their own creed and soul, and make it an iron rule in their work and life to give top and absolute priority to the interests and convenience of the people and make selfless, devoted efforts for their good.

On the founding anniversary of the WPK in October 2016, too, Kim Jong Un clarified once again the outlook of the WPK on the people.

That day he said to the officials: The core of the Juche-oriented view on the people, a people-oriented philosophy, is the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people. This spirit is an

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expression of the boundless love for and devotion to the people, with which to regard satisfying the demands and interests of the people as the most important thing, not to spare anything for them but even sacrifice one's lives without hesitation for them.

His Juche-oriented view on the people, a people-oriented philosophy, has served as guidelines for establishing across the WPK the climate of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people and as sustenance for enhancing the people-serving spirit of the officials.

He encouraged officials to become true servants of the people, finding what they could do for their good and carrying them out, and led them to faithfully serve them.

He stressed now and then that officials should devote everything for the people with the view that they exist for the people, not vice versa, and set personal examples.

Greeting the Day of the Shining Star (birth anniversary of Kim Jong Il) in 2012, people in the city of Manpho presented to Kim Jong Un a proposal that they would send 100 tons of rice to the service personnel who were mobilized for the project of erecting a statue of Kim Jong Il.

Kim Jong Un sent his hand-written reply to relevant officials: I am very grateful to them. I accept their sincerity but I decline their proposal. I will convey to General Kim Jong Il the sincere devotion with which our people support their leader maintaining close ties of kinship with him. I advise that true to the noble intentions of the General, who loved his people and devoted his life entirely to their

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interests and well-being, the officials of the provincial and city Party committees apportion the whole amount of the rice among the local people and their children as a token of his affection for them.

He made sure that the revolutionary spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people was thoroughly established throughout the WPK so as to further consolidate the harmonious whole of the Party and the masses.

In January 2012, he said that he had laudable people and a revolutionary army whom Kim Jong Il had trained with all loving care and benevolence, and that all the people, as well as the officials who had worked near Kim Jong Il, shared their intentions with him. In his speech at the military parade held in celebration of the centenary of the birth of Kim Il Sung in April 2012, he said that it is the firm determination of the Party to ensure that the people, who are the best in the world and who have remained faithful to the Party in the face of all manner of difficulties, do not have to tighten their belts again, but enjoy all the benefits of socialism.

When visiting the newly-built Medical Oxygen Factory in September 2016, he said that the factory encapsulates the WPK's outlook on the people and the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people—that even a star in the sky should be plucked and flowers brought into bloom even on a rock if it is for the good of the people.

In his speech at the military parade held in October 2020 to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the WPK, he said that he

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extended his thanks to the people across the country with humble reverence from his own heart, and from the hearts of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, and solemnly declared that it is the Party's and his own duty and steadfast resolve, first and foremost, to firmly defend the people, hold them in higher regard, and ensure that they lead a happy life with nothing to envy.

Having put forward the slogan "Let the whole Party make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the great people!" he repeatedly stressed in several works that officials should work hard for the people, and that when they, who have to serve the people, run until they drop, shedding their sweat, to make the country prosperous and provide the people with abundance in life, the people will cheer the Workers' Party from the bottom of their hearts at all times, wherever they may be.

In late August and early September 2016 a heavy rain, the first of its kind since the meteorological observation had started after the country's liberation, fell in the area along the Tuman River in the northernmost part of the country, causing huge disasters. At that time Kim Jong Un said: We should concentrate all our efforts on removing the flood damage and turning the afflicted area into a fairyland in the era of the Workers' Party; through the rehabilitation campaign in the flood-hit area we should show once again that making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people is the WPK's trait.

The days from the beginning of 2020, when the global health crisis was rapidly worsening and unprecedented natural disasters hit the country, were, indeed, a very difficult period for the WPK and the

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DPRK government, as well as a period when the stand of the WPK and the state, which regard making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people as the basic principle of their activities, was demonstrated more fully.

In anticipation of the catastrophic consequences of the outbreak of the pandemic, the state emergency epidemic prevention system was declared nearly a week earlier than the day when the World Health Organization declared an international emergency, and the state maintained a stable epidemic prevention situation by taking super-level anti-epidemic measures.

The first months of the year saw a series of meetings, especially those held by the Political Bureau and the then Executive Policy Council of the Party Central Committee, with checking the influx of the malignant virus as their major agenda item, during which relevant decisions and proactive measures were adopted to this end.

While the Party and the government were focusing on the intensive emergency epidemic prevention work, devastating natural disasters swept several regions of the country.

Kim Jong Un gave on-site guidance at several flood-hit areas to learn about the situation and take positive steps for their restoration.

As many people were left homeless after the flooding and moved to temporary lodgings, he stressed, the Party should go deeper among them and relieve them of their suffering on its own responsibility.

Soon afterwards, the affected areas were transformed beyond recognition, and the flood victims moved to new houses.

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In May 2022, two years and three months after the onset of the global health crisis, the malignant virus made inroads into the territory of the country. With the declaration of the highest-level national emergency, Kim Jong Un affirmed his determination to lead the country to win victory in the anti-epidemic campaign, calling upon the people to defend their own lives and future on the strength of their conviction, commitment and unity.

After the Central Military Commission of the WPK issued a special order on promptly seconding the medical personnel of the Korean People's Army to the anti-epidemic work in Pyongyang, he took proactive steps to release medicines from the state's reserves as an emergency measure and supply them to the people as soon as possible.

He repeatedly said to the officials that the ongoing anti-epidemic campaign should be one for the people and by the people, urging them to make selfless, devoted efforts for their good with a resolve to take full responsibility for the country's security and the people's health.

In overcoming these indescribable hardships and trials, the Korean people became fully convinced of the validity of the politics and policies pursued by the WPK and the government, whose mode of existence is to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, and realized once again that their country and its system provide a sure guarantee for their present and future; the Party and the people strengthened their ties of kinship, and the people's confidence in the Party grew stronger.

In his October 2015 speech at the military parade and public

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procession of the Pyongyang citizens held in celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the WPK, after reviewing its glorious history, Kim Jong Un said:

I appeal to all Party members. Let us all make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of our great people.

In the course of establishing throughout the Party a revolutionary climate for making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, the harmonious whole of the Party and the people has become rock-solid.

## **Among the People**

The days Kim Jong Un has spent on his on-site guidance trips are wholly devoted to the people's wellbeing.

During his June 2014 trip to the Jangchon Vegetable Farm in Sadong District, he went into a greenhouse. Seeing his sweat-soaked clothing, an official of the farm urged him to go out as the indoor temperature was 43°C.

Kim Jong Un dug in his heels, saying that he would stand anything worse if he could secure plenty of fresh vegetables for the people in the capital city in all seasons. Then he specified how to turn the farm into a model of greenhouse vegetable farming.

On a sultry summer day in August 2016, while visiting the Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm, he praised, time and again, the

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scenery of heavily laden apple trees. He then got closer to one of them, saying that if he posed for a photo against the background of those trees and had it shown to the people, they could see the bumper harvest at the farm.

On another day during the height of summer he went to the Kosan Combined Fruit Farm. Wiping the sweat off his face, he said that the farm should tend all its orchards well to make a sea of apple trees at the foot of Chol Pass and fill the air with a sweet fragrance.

During his visit to the Ryugyong Health Complex he even went into a sauna with a temperature of 90°C.

And looking round the full-service ship *Mujigae*, he told officials that the floating restaurant could be likened to a grain of sand when it was compared to what he had to do for the wellbeing of the people, and that they should amass such grains to make a big mountain.

One January day several years ago, despite the severe cold and heavy snow, he visited a new factory in the western coastal region with a view to turning it into an exemplary seafood-processing unit. When he arrived at their factory, the officials were moved almost to tears at the sight of his car with frosty windows.

In October 2019, while going round the Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm in North Hamgyong Province, he was very pleased to see the new houses for the farm's employees. As dusk fell, he said that he felt like dancing to think of the farmers who would move to those excellent houses, adding that it would be great if he could have such a night at least each month, and that he wanted to spend that night there.



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The 2015 campaign for restoring flood damage in Rason showcased the essential features of the WPK as an organization making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people.

Late in August 2015 some parts of Rason were hit by unusually heavy rainfall.

Upon learning about the severe damage caused by the ensuing flooding, Kim Jong Un, at an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the WPK to discuss important strategic issues related to national defence, set the restoration work as the first agenda item. He then issued an order in the name of the Supreme Commander on assigning the whole of the restoration project to the Korean People's Army to complete it before the 70<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the WPK.

Later, when inspecting the affected area, he told officials that they should regard the people's trust as the most precious of all for them and make devoted efforts to live up to this trust with the attitude that they had nothing more to wish for than doing so.

In October 2015, some days before the 70<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the WPK, he visited Paekhak-dong in Rason again. He told officials that after being reported about the completion of the restoration project, he came there as he thought he would feel relieved after looking round the new houses before doing anything else. He gave advice on the interior decoration of the new houses under construction, stressing that whatever they were doing, they should always be attentive to the people's opinions and regard them as the yardstick.

For the Korean people, 2020 was a year of trials as the onset of

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the COVID epidemic was followed by destructive typhoons and heavy flooding that hit the country. However, they could remove the after-effects of these calamities in a short span of time under his wise leadership.

The 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh Party Central Committee was held in August 2020 to discuss the problem of focusing on promptly eliminating the aftermath of typhoon No. 4 and stabilizing the victims' living.

At this meeting Kim Jong Un told officials that they should focus on stepping up the restoration work in order to demonstrate once again the advantages of the system of the country and the revolutionary character of the Party, which devote themselves to defending the people while sharing with them and removing their misfortunes and sufferings. He called upon the Party to perform its sacred tasks so as to live up to the people's trust and expectations without fail. Then he pointed out that the pressing task was to complete the restoration work in the main and stabilize the victims' living by October 10 that year, by giving full rein to the great unity of the service personnel and other people faithful to the Party and through their joint operations. For the implementation of this task, he proposed issuing a resolution of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and a joint order of the Central Committee and the Central Military Commission of the WPK and the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK.

Accordingly, the restoration work proceeded rapidly as a campaign involving the whole Party, the entire country and all the people.

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Still vivid in the people's memory is the day when Kim Jong Un came to the flood-hit area in Taechong-ri, Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province.

It was early in August 2020 that a days-long heavy rainfall ravaged the area, inundating hundreds of houses and again hundreds of hectares of land under cultivation.

Kim Jong Un came to the site and adopted immediate measures, such as assigning the departments of the Party Central Committee and families of its headquarters with the task of securing food, daily necessities, medicines and other supplies for the flood victims, arranging for those victims to be quartered in the offices and other public buildings of the county-level organs, particularly those of the county Party committee and the county people's committee, as well as other residents' houses, and consoling the victims and providing every convenience for their living.

According to these measures, many victims, including the children and old people, moved to the buildings of the county Party committee and the county people's committee, and the officials of the committees, to the makeshift tents nearby.

The following month Kim Jong Un came there again and said: Now the flood victims can turn to none but our Party and government. As its motto is "The people are God," our Party's primary aim is to prove itself worthy of the people's trust. It will not do to make the victims feel despair or inconvenience in their living even for a moment. The ongoing restoration work is a large-scale, challenging project, but it is

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part of our important work to consolidate the single-hearted unity of the Party and the people. The last thing we may lose in this ennobling work is our people's trust and confidence in the Party.

In early September that year, when a downpour of rain and strong wind caused by typhoon No. 9 hit South and North Hamgyong provinces, he made the rounds of the affected regions and learned about the situation there, before sending an open letter to all the Party members in Pyongyang.

Thus set as the Party's and the state's top priority were the restoration projects in the affected regions, the immediate goal of which was to build new houses for all the flood victims before the cold weather set in.

A host of construction teams, including those consisting of service personnel and hardcore Party members from the capital city, were immediately dispatched to these regions, and building materials were transported on a priority basis through land and sea routes.

Across the country, industrial workers burned the midnight oil to increase the output of building materials and daily necessities, and other people rendered both moral and material support to the flood victims.

The residents in Komdok, South Hamgyong Province, seeing their locality being transformed beyond recognition day after day, still recall Kim Jong Un's visit in October 2020.

In September 2020 he learned about the flood damage in the area and reviewed the scale of the restoration work, before signing an order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK on assigning the project

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to the Korean People's Army, and he went to the site in October.

Upon being informed that he was about to arrive there, the local officials grew anxious about the safety of a railway bridge that stood on his route.

After the piers of the bridge were swept away by the flooding, the locals set up a bridge on the piers made of frames of logs instead as a stopgap measure for urgent transport of building materials. But as it kept sinking, the makeshift structure had to be reinforced on a regular basis. Worse still, the log bridge was located near a ravine and there had been no test-run of a passenger train across it.

Regardless of the danger involved, Kim Jong Un arrived through this rickety structure and crossed a cliff pass with numerous bends to inspect the residential area under reconstruction.

The officials got almost teary-eyed when they greeted him with gratitude for his deep concern about the victims.

While being shown around the flood-stricken districts, he gave detailed instructions on how to repair the damage and turn Komdok into a mining city in mountains that is unique in the world.

Thereafter, the housing project went full steam ahead, to the great delight of all the people across the country.

His unshakable commitment to the interests of the country and the people was exemplified by his selfless devotion during the 90-odd days after the malignant virus's entry into the territory of the country.

With the declaration of the highest-level emergency he convened a number of meetings, among others, consultative meetings of the

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Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, the Eighth Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, a meeting of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and an enlarged meeting of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK. At these meetings he put forth principles, tasks and ways for coping with the epidemic. Meanwhile, during his visit to the State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters, he specified how to put an end to the epidemic and bring stability back to the country.

It was immediately after a consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee that he went to pharmacies in the capital city to inquire into their operation with meticulous attention to details—what kinds of medicines were supplied after the start of the highest-level emergency anti-epidemic system, whether medicines were stored to conform to relevant regulations, whether pharmacies switched over to a 24-7 service system, whether they held consultations with patients, what kinds of antipyretics and antibiotics they had in store and what kinds of medicines customers demanded most and how much they cost.

One May day in 2022, when the virus was circling the country, he donated medicines from his own family's supply to the Headquarters committee of the WPK Central Committee and asked the committee to arrange for them to be sent to the families in need. As he was doing so, he reaffirmed his resolve to throw in his lot with the people and expressed his fervent wish that peace and laughter would soon settle

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again in all families across the country. The following month he donated some more medicines and asked the Headquarters committee to send them to the Haeju City Committee of the WPK so that the latter committee could promptly distribute those medicines and others among the families registered on its updated list of infections.

The Korean people still recall what he said at the May 2022 consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee: The time has come when our Party Central Committee has to prove its leading role once again in the face of the trials of history; it is time for us to more deeply realize for what we are needed and for whom we have to fight even at the cost of our lives; 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 its infinite loyalty and devotion.

He often says that all officials should put the people first in their consideration, always thinking and working sincerely to solve the problems in their lives and doing more for their benefit.

He was most pleased to learn about anyone who did something good for the people, each time encouraging him or her to become a true servant for them.

In July 2015, at a polling station for the election of deputies to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly, he talked with two candidates. One was a woman driver at a trolleybus station and the other, a workteam leader of the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex. He said that he would vote for them with the belief that

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they, as representatives of the people, would become true servants for them and win their respect, adding that he hoped that they would work harder for their good.

And in September 2021, at the Headquarters of the Party Central Committee, he met and congratulated the labour innovators and merited workers who took part in the celebrations of the 73<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the DPRK. In recognition of their distinguished services for national prosperity he posed for a photograph with them and arranged a banquet for them in the garden of his office building in the Headquarters.

As seen above, all his activities have been geared towards promoting the wellbeing of his people, and the people have become fully convinced that their country will prosper as long as it is led by this benevolent leader.

## **Top Priority to the Interests and Convenience of the People**

On January 1, 2013, Kim Jong Un made his first historic New Year Address, drawing the attention of not only the Korean people but also the whole world.

In the address, he put forward the slogan “Everything for the people and everything by relying on them.”

At the Eighth Congress of the WPK in January 2021, he suggested that, instead of a high-sounding slogan, the congress should issue a



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call to continue to deeply cherish the Party's three ennobling ideals of "The people are god," single-hearted unity and self-reliance.

Saying that officials should boundlessly respect the people, regard their interests as supreme and take care of them with maternal affection, he ensured that they, by regarding the people's demands and interests as the first and absolute standard of their thinking and practice, subordinated all work to them.

In December 2011, when the whole country was writhing in deep grief over the death of Kim Jong Il, he told officials to give top and absolute priority to the interests and convenience of the people during the mourning period.

Saying that Kim Jong Il would feel sad if he saw the people shivering in cold winter night, he stressed that all events should be organized with the main emphasis on defending the interests of the people and providing them with convenience on a priority basis, measures be taken to provide medical care and hot water to the mourners and officials should not sit in their offices merely worrying about the people in cold nights but go to the mourning places to keep vigil together with them and take care of them.

In the last days of his life, Kim Jong Il had taken a measure for supplying fish to Pyongyang citizens on the occasion of the New Year 2012.

When the fish arrived, Kim Jong Un gave written instructions that its supply should be organized in a significant way so that the citizens could keenly feel the affection of Kim Jong Il for them, and took

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special measures for transporting it.

On several occasions in 2012 alone, he stressed the need for officials to give top and absolute priority to the interests of the people and to think of their interests and demands first in planning and doing anything.

When he visited a shop built in Pyongyang years ago, he saw large turkeys at a counter on the second floor. Saying that the customers would find it difficult to carry them so large, he advised the officials to install a lift at the shop. Before leaving the shop, he reiterated the need to install a lift as soon as possible, so as to ease the visitors of inconvenience.

When visiting the newly-built Kalma Foodstuff Factory in June 2014, he said that after thinking about how to supply larger amounts of tasty and nutritious processed seafood to the people, he had the factory built on the east coast as a model and standard of seafood processing base that conformed with the requirements of the new century. Then he told the officials that it would not be necessary for the factory to try to produce various kinds of goods, but it should designate processed seafood in high demand as its signature products and improve their quality so that other factories would not even venture to imitate them.

Thanks to Kim Jong Un's ennobling traits of regarding it as an immutable iron rule to give first consideration to the opinions and convenience of the people in planning anything, all the lines and policies put forward by the WPK are people-oriented both in name and reality.

This is why many monumental structures in the country were

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named after the word *people*.

The following happened one day in April 2012, when Kim Jong Un acquainted himself with the construction of an amusement park on Rungna Island.

He said he thought it advisable to name the area around the park as a whole.

Officials suggesting this name and that, he stressed that the name must contain the word *people*.

After thinking for a while, he said: When he visited Rungna Island, President Kim Il Sung gave an instruction on turning the island into an excellent pleasure ground of the people; therefore, it would be a good idea to name the area the Rungna People's Recreation Ground; it would be best to call it so in view of the ennobling intention of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who devoted their all for the good of the people.

During a visit to the construction site of the Mansugyo Meat and Fish Shop in January 2012, he said that designers should ensure the convenience of the people to the maximum. And in May that year when he went up to a flat on the 20<sup>th</sup> floor of an apartment house in Changjon Street under construction, he stressed the need to give priority to the convenience of the people who would live there, rather than to architectural effects, in housing construction.

The following stories tell how he always regards the people's aspiration and demands as a top priority and absolute criteria for judging everything.

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Several years ago when he visited Kangbuk-ri, Kumchon County, North Hwanghae Province, which had just been rehabilitated from the damage done by heavy rains and strong winds, he repeatedly asked if the local people, especially the farmers, liked the rebuilt villages.

An official answered that they liked them.

Hearing the answer, Kim Jong Un said that he was very glad to hear it, and it meant that the Party had done a right thing.

When he walked round the houses, he even looked into the oven in the kitchen of a house and estimated the height of its rooms, repeatedly asking if the users liked them.

One day in October 2015, he visited the Masikryong Ski Resort. He said that it might be inconvenient for the skiers in skiwear and gloves to see their wristwatches, and so clocks should be installed not only in buildings but also in certain sections of the ski slopes.

When he visited a newly-built children's camp, he said that TV sets were installed too high, and that they should be installed lower for the convenience of the children.

When he visited again the Central Zoo under renovation, he advised the officials concerned to set up direction indicators in various parts of the zoo for the convenience of the visitors.

At the Eighth Congress of the WPK in January 2021 he advanced the task of producing larger numbers of new-type means of public transport, including subway trains, trolley buses, trams and buses, so as to make the people's life more convenient. In March 2021 he examined the prototypes of a single-decker and double-decker in the

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compound of the office building of the Headquarters of the Party Central Committee, and referred to the need to mass-produce nice-looking and convenient passenger buses. Then he set the goals of yearly production, saying that the Party would throw its full weight behind their production.

One night in August 2018, he guided a test-run of a newly-built trolley bus and tram for long hours, saying that it was worthwhile to ease the strain on transport in the capital city by building wonderful trolley buses and trams by the nation's own efforts.

When he inspected the flood-hit area of Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province, in August 2020, he stressed that the houses to be built should be designed by reflecting every opinion of the farmers there.

When he visited the reconstruction site of Kimhwa County, Kangwon Province, afflicted by natural disaster in October the same year, he said that the people-first principle should be embodied in all processes of the reconstruction work, ranging from designing to its execution.

When he visited the Mirae Shop, he said that its officials and shop assistants, regarding the demands of the people as the criteria for their work, should listen to the opinions of the customers and strive to steadily improve their service.

When he heard at the Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople that its products were favoured by the people, he said with satisfaction that it was good if the people liked its products,

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and that the criterion for assessing anything was whether the people liked it.

When he visited the Myohyangsan Medical Apparatuses Factory in late October 2019, he, after carefully examining how well its products worked, said that it was important to produce many medical apparatuses badly needed for protecting and promoting the people's health, but what was more important was their quality, which reflected the attitude towards the people.

The agenda items adopted at important meetings of the Party and the state also give a glimpse of Kim Jong Un's ennobling outlook on the people.

At the Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in June 2021, he said to the participants that the WPK's sacred idea of devoted service for the people is the guideline for practice and standard of action in supporting the people with their lives and taking full responsibility for their living and serving them without attaching any conditions. He stressed that the more difficult the times were, the deeper the Party should go among them to become a strong buttress for them to rely on, adding that it should always share weal and woe with them and devote everything to their well-being.

At the meeting he issued a special order, which he signed with a sincere wish to contribute to stabilizing the people's livelihood.

The meeting also discussed the issue of improving and bolstering the Party's childcare policy. Kim Jong Un stressed that there is no more important revolutionary work than to bring up children, the

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future of the country, to be strong and healthy, and that it is the most important policy and supreme desire of the Party and the state to create better conditions for the upbringing of children by investing a huge sum of money. He proposed establishing it as a Party's policy to supply all the children across the country with nutritious foods including dairy produce at state expense, and set forth detailed tasks and ways for realizing it.

At the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in December 2021, he, saying that it is a consistent policy of the Party and the state to provide all the students across the country with uniforms and school things at state expense, advanced the task of supplying new-type school uniforms and bags of high quality to all students and took important measures to this end.

The DPRK adopted a law on childcare in February the next year, enshrining in law the supply of dairy produce to all the children across the country at state expense, and provided new school uniforms to all the freshers in the lead-up to a new school year.

In his report *Let Us Open Up a New Great Era of Our-style Socialist Rural Development* to the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in December 2021, Kim Jong Un, after making a detailed analysis of general financial situation of the farms which were now under difficult conditions, declared a special measure of completely releasing these farms from the arrears of state loans as part of the effort to help the rural communities fend for themselves and consolidate their economic foundations.

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When he visited the project site of 10 000 flats in the Songsin and Songhwa area prior to its inauguration, he said: Housing construction is an undertaking favoured by every one of the people; state policy should assume people-oriented character as ours; our Party, country and land are all for the people, and all our Party's policies are for their good.

At the inauguration ceremony of the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District in April 2022, he said to the working people offering their heartfelt thanks to him for providing them with new houses: The word *people's world* is not a catchphrase for our Party which regards it as its trait to serve the people unconditionally, and our people who firmly support their state power with their own efforts are the full-fledged masters of this land, who deserve a happy and highly civilized life.

Seeing Kim Jong Un giving top priority to their interests and convenience, officials keenly realized what attitude they should possess in working for the people.



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## 2. For an Abundant Material Life of the People

The 2010s was a decade, in which the Korean people provided a new springboard for economic construction and the improvement of their living standards.

This was by no means attributable to good conditions, nor was it a fortuitous outcome of divine intervention.

This is attributable entirely to the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un, who is writing a new chapter in the history of continuous creation and transformation, unfolding a world of love for the people on this land.

He always regards it as the top priority task of the WPK to provide the people with an affluent and happy life.

At an enlarged meeting of the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in December 2022, he defined it as the most important policy-oriented task of the WPK to ensure stable development of the national economy and bring about a substantial change in the improvement of the people's living standards.

Having set it as the ultimate objective to solve the problem of the people's living, he ensures that the overall work of the Party and the state are oriented to it, and directs strenuous efforts to building a Juche-oriented socialist prosperous country so that the people can enjoy all the benefits of socialism to the full.

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## **Channelling Great Efforts into Agricultural Development**

Agriculture has been called the main foundation of a country since olden times.

Moreover, solving the food problem for the people by radically increasing agricultural production is a major problem in the DPRK, which is successfully carrying out the cause of building a powerful socialist country.

In his works and on several other occasions Kim Jong Un stressed that the most pressing problem at present in steadily improving the people's standard of living is to solve the food problem for them.

At an enlarged meeting of the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in March 2023, he put forward the slogan, "Let the whole country turn out to bring about a radical change in agricultural production!" and defined attainment of the grain production goal as the first target of the 12 major goals for the national economic development for the year, which had been set at an enlarged meeting of the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

In the policy speech he made at the Seventh Session of the 14<sup>th</sup> Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, he said that rural rejuvenation should be stepped up under the banner of the rural

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revolution programme in the new era, and that rural rejuvenation precisely means the solving of the socialist rural question and the struggle to defend socialism.

On several other occasions he, noting that imperialists, loath to see the Korean people prospering and living well, were stepping up pressure and the economic sanctions against the DPRK and resorting to sinister schemes to force it to experience food shortages in the hope of undermining the faith in socialism implanted in the minds of its people, stressed: We must farm well by all means, and ensure that the people have enough to eat; by so doing, we can smash the enemy's anti-DPRK, anti-socialist schemes.

He made sure that the agricultural sector raised a strong wind of scientific farming and promoted the movement for increasing crop yields and, to this end, directed primary efforts to implementing the Party's policy on the seed revolution.

In the letter he sent to those attending the National Conference of Sub-Workteam Leaders in the Agricultural Sector in February 2014, he, noting that the main thing in farming was seeds, emphasized: The agricultural sector should recognize this and pay primary attention to solving the seed problem; it should develop strains, which give high yields, require little fertilizer, grow fast and are resistant to drought, storms, pests and various other harmful factors in our country's climatic and soil conditions; it should also investigate the possibility of introducing high-yielding strains from other countries.

Feasting his eyes on high-yielding crop strains during a visit to

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Farm No. 1116 in September 2017, he said with great satisfaction that now songs in praise of scientific farming and seed revolution should be created. He continued that the waves of the undulating sea of rice and maize sounded to him like a song of a bumper harvest desired so much by Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, a song of the victory of socialism and a happy laughter of the people.

Then he added that the officials and working people at the farm had clearly proved in practice the validity and vitality of the Party's policy on the seed revolution that seed is the key to farming, and that all units should learn from their experience.

The Fourth National Conference of Activists in the Agricultural Sector held in December 2018 analyzed and reviewed the successes, experience and lessons gained in the struggle to implement the Party's policy on the agricultural revolution, and discussed the tasks and ways for raising a fiercer wind of scientific farming and flames of the movement for increasing crop yields, so as to attain the goal of grain production set by the Party without fail.

The following stories tell how deeply Kim Jong Un is concerned about grain production in the country and the food problem of the people and how he strives to solve the problem.

One rainy day during a field guidance trip, he said to the officials accompanying him that the rain after a prolonged drought was manna from heaven for crops, and exposed himself to the heavy rain. In September 2019 when typhoon No. 13 was approaching the country, he frequently inquired into its intensity, expected path and

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characteristics, saying that he was worried most about the agricultural sector and that the sector's loss was irretrievable. When Taechong-ri, Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province, suffered damage from flooding, he walked along a muddy road into an afflicted paddy field and counted the grains of rice ears.

Some years ago, during his field guidance trip, he looked out at the paddy fields flashing past through the window of his car, and noticed a patch whose crops looked unusually promising. He told the chauffeur to bring the car to a stop by the patch and estimated the weight of a rice ear and the number of its grains. Seeing the grains he pictured in his mind the diligent patriotic farmers who were devoting their sincerity all year round to raise such good crops under unfavourable conditions.

One day he had a photo session with those attending the Fourth National Conference of Activists in the Agricultural Sector. After the session was over, he met meritorious farmers, who had been awarded the title of Labour Hero for the pivotal role they had played in the struggle for implementing the Party's agriculture-first policy, and said to them that he would meet them again when they raised a better crop. And at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, he proposed extending thanks in the name of the Party Central Committee to exemplary officials, workers, scientists and technicians in the agricultural sector, who had rendered tangible contributions to raising good crops despite unfavourable conditions.

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The agricultural workers across the country were deeply moved to learn the news.

When agricultural workers achieved successes in their work, Kim Jong Un invited them to national celebrations and called them patriots and heroes, from whom all other people should learn.

Having defined the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy as a major way for increasing grain production, he led the effort to radically increase the proportion of mechanization in farm work by inventing and introducing efficient farm machines and implements.

When visiting a farm machine exhibition in early August 2015, he said it had been a desire of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il to realize the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy and thereby free the agricultural workers from difficult and labour-consuming work. Then he earnestly said that it was important to produce a large number of modern and efficient farm machines and send them to the countryside so as to realize the desire of the leaders who had devoted all their efforts to freeing the agricultural workers from difficult and backbreaking labour.

His visit to the exhibition served as an important occasion in freeing the agricultural workers from difficult and hard labour and making a breakthrough in the agricultural sector by realizing the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy as soon as possible and putting agriculture on a more scientific and modern basis.

One day in late December 2015, he stressed the need to shore up

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the agricultural sector at the earliest possible date so as to solve the food problem for the people, and to manufacture many modern farm machines and implements so as to radically raise the proportion of mechanization in farm work in the near future. He then said that in order to boost the agricultural sector, farm work should be mechanized and mechanization of farm work was the way for freeing farmers from difficult and backbreaking labour and increasing grain production.

True to his ennobling intention, factories and enterprises in various sectors produced efficient farm machines to mark the historic Seventh Congress of the WPK in 2016, and presented them to the congress as a gift.

When visiting a machinery exhibition in May 2016, he highly praised the new-type 80hp tractor and other farm machines, saying that they seemed to be very useful and suited to the actual conditions of the country.

When he visited the Kumsong Tractor Factory in November 2017, he, seeing hundreds of new-type 80hp tractors produced by the factory, said they were wonderful and impressive, and repeatedly praised the workers at the factory for having successfully carried out the tasks given by the Party after its Seventh Congress and thus preserved the original features of the working class.

Later, he paid close attention to turning the factory into a buttress which would provide a sure guarantee for the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy.

Under his leadership, the first-stage goal of the project for its

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renovation was attained in 2022, laying a solid foundation for mass-producing high-performance tractors and other farm machines.

He attached importance to South Hwanghae Province, the largest agricultural province of the country, and ensured that it took the lead in the country's agricultural production. To this end, he took the measure of supplying 5 500 farm machines produced by the munitions industry to the farms in the province.

He paid close attention also to the development of fruit farming.

Worthy of particular note here is his letter, titled, *Let Us Bring About a Fresh Turn in Developing Fruit Farming* sent to those attending the National Conference of Activists in the Fruit Farming Sector held in November 2017.

In the letter he wrote that boosting the country's fruit farming was an important undertaking to carry out the instructions of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il who had worked heart and soul to provide the people with tasty fruits all year round. He stressed that all the officials and working people in the fruit farming sector, bearing in mind the leaders' ennobling intentions and instructions and the Party's policies, should do their best to bring about a turn in the development of fruit farming.

When he visited the then Kosan Fruit Farm in June 2013, he, stroking apples hanging on the branches of trees, said: The apples are really big and fragrant; I am much satisfied to think that our people, children in particular, will be pleased to receive these apples; I want to send these apples to our children and people as soon as possible.



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When he visited the Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm in August 2016, he said that to supply more apples to the people was not merely a matter of responsibility but an undertaking to add lustre to the immortal patriotic exploits of Kim Jong Il and the duty and ennobling moral obligation devolving on his men and followers.

When he visited Kwail County, the country's leading fruit producer, in September 2017, he was so pleased to see a rich apple harvest.

His devoted efforts and affection for the people greatly encouraged the officials and working people in the fruit-farming sector.

He also paid close attention to vegetable production.

When he visited the expanded Pyongyang Vegetable Science Institute in September 2012, he said that vegetables are like multivitamins indispensable for the people's diet, and stressed the need to extensively cultivate superior strains which are tasty and nutritious and meet the country's weather and climatic conditions, so as to supply vegetables to the people in large amounts.

In June 2014 he gave field guidance at the Jangchon Vegetable Farm in Sadong District, and unfolded a plan to turn the farm associated with the immortal leadership exploits of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il into a model greenhouse farm for vegetable production in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Under his energetic guidance, the farm was renovated in less than a year.

During his field guidance to various sectors in North Hamgyong Province, he mentioned his plan to remove a military base in a region of the province and build a large-scale greenhouse farm and

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tree nursery in its place.

In July 2018 he visited the province again and confirmed the site. Looking at the vast area of the airport, he said with great satisfaction: It would be wonderful if a 100-hectare greenhouse farm is built here; a greenhouse farm of that area would be enough to meet the needs of the people in North Hamgyong Province; I am delighted today; I am most pleased when I have done something good for the people.

When visiting the farm again in 2019, he said, looking at vegetable fruits of various strains: How good this smell is; no matter how fragrant the flowers may be, I think none of them would be better than the aroma of the vegetables to be supplied to the people.

He attended the groundbreaking ceremony of a large greenhouse farm in the Ryonpho area in Hamju County, South Hamgyong Province, in February 2022, at which he personally broke the ground and pressed the button for blasting. And he called on the builders to exert themselves to erect buildings for the people as early as possible while imagining the merry laughter that would ring out in every house and looking forward to the bright future of the country whose greater prosperity would be reflected in that laughter.

Under his energetic guidance, the greenhouse farm project was forcefully pushed forward as the most important construction task of the Party and the state and completed in October that year.

He proposed building the Kangdong Greenhouse Farm for the Pyongyang citizens and attended its groundbreaking ceremony in February 2023.

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Amid the drive for vegetable production gaining momentum, the country put vegetable farming on a more scientific and intensive footing and laid a solid foundation for supplying fresh vegetables to the people all year round.

Kim Jong Un paid close attention to livestock farming.

In his work, titled, *Let Us Expedite the Construction of the Livestock Farming Base in the Sepho Area and Bring About a Fresh Turn in Developing Animal Husbandry* and on several other occasions, he underscored the need to actively develop the country's livestock farming so as to supply more meat, eggs and other animal products to the people.

When he visited livestock farms and breeding farms, he would say that the main thing in stockbreeding is the breed, and gave advice on various issues like breeding more cows with strong vitality and high productivity, preserving and improving the peculiar characteristics of pigs of good breeds and acclimatizing the goats and sheep at farms to the natural and geographical features of the country and propagating them widely.

When he visited a general livestock farm in August 2012, he said to its officials that the farm should realize without fail the wish of Kim Jong Il, who had worked heart and soul to provide the people with more nutritive non-staple foodstuffs such as meat, eggs and milk.

When he gave field guidance at the Taedonggang Pig Farm in August 2016, he stressed the need not only to build it up as befitting a unit associated with the Party's leadership but also to establish

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a scientific stockbreeding system and a production cycle based on fruit farming and animal husbandry so as to put production on a normal basis.

The instructions, which he gave to various units in the sector of animal husbandry, reflected his firm determination and will to bring about a radical turn in the development of the country's livestock farming and thus enrich the people's diet.

For a radical turn in the development of the country's livestock farming, he proposed building a large-scale livestock farming base in the Sepho area and took the measure for pushing ahead with its construction as a major nature-harnessing project.

In a matter of several years after the start of the construction in late 2012, the builders reclaimed tens of thousands of hectares of land, realigned natural grasslands and created thousands of hectares of pastures, where they put tens of thousands of domestic animals out, while erecting hundreds of production buildings and houses. Thanks to their painstaking efforts, the livestock farm was inaugurated in October 2017.

Witnessing the great successes made in the agricultural sector under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, the Korean people came to be convinced that a great new era of rapid development of the socialist countryside would be ushered in on this land before long.

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## Change in the Fishing Industry

Kim Jong Un put forward the fishing sector as a major field for improving the people's standard of living, and led the efforts to decisively boost the fishing industry of the country and thus create a new history of "golden seas."

In his works *Let Us Boost the Fishing Sector and Bring About a Fresh Turn in the Development of Fishing Industry* and *The Fishing Sector Should Launch a Dynamic Drive to Create a New History of "Golden Seas"*, he referred to the leadership exploits performed by Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il for the development of the country's fishing industry and clarified the pressing problems arising in bringing about a fresh turn in the fishing industry.

Kim Il Sung, saying that the coastal areas should make the best possible use of the sea, had made strenuous efforts to develop the fishing industry so as to provide the people with plenty of fish.

Kim Jong Il had visited several fishing bases till the last days of his life, and clarified the ways for revitalizing the fishing industry. He had also taken measures for banning fish export so as to supply the fish to the people.

Recollecting the exploits Kim Jong Il had performed for the development of the fishing industry, Kim Jong Un once said: I feel my heart breaking to think of General Kim Jong Il, who concerned

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himself so much with supplying fish to the people; when I hurried to his train office on December 17, 2011 upon receiving the sad news that he had suddenly died on his way for field guidance, I found a document on the supply of fish to the Pyongyang citizens on his desk; that was the last document he went over.

Then he said that the WPK was now attaching importance to the fishing sector and directing great efforts to developing the fishing industry, so as to provide the people with more fish by carrying out Kim Jong Il's instructions.

Under Kim Jong Un's leadership, fishery stations fitted themselves out with modern fishing vessels and equipment and introduced scientific fishing methods.

A fishery station on the east coast of the country still tells of his efforts to usher in the era of "golden seas."

The station, true to the WPK's policy of fishing, overfulfilled its production plan with the *Tanphung*-series fishing vessels supplied to it thanks to the measure he had taken, thereby leading others in a mass innovation drive for fishing and heralding the history of "golden seas."

Now the station is remembered by Kim Jong Un as a unit that kindled the initial spark of the revolution in fisheries and the home base of *Tanphung*-series fishing vessels.

One day Kim Jong Un received a letter from the manager of the station.

In the letter, the official informed him of the happy news that his station had landed a huge haul.

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Looking back, Kim Jong Un, after sending four fishing vessels to the station, visited the station in May 2013, and named the vessels *Tanphung* (autumnal tint), wishing it would land a huge haul as farmers reaped a bumper crop in autumn. Then he said to the manager that he wanted the station to catch a lot of fish and supply them to the soldiers, that this was not his order as the Supreme Commander but a request, and that if the station landed a big haul, the manager should write to him.

After receiving the letter, he visited the station in December 2013.

Saying that he was so impressed to see the frozen fish blocks piled in the freezing storehouses that he was reluctant to leave the place, he had a photograph taken with officials with the fish piles as the background. And he continued that as he stood in the station, he was so pleased to be reminded in spite of himself of a passage of a song which reads *The steam whistle of big haul sounds in port and the hold is full of fish.*

When he visited the station again in November 2018, he was much satisfied to see the storehouses filled to the capacity and expressed his expectation and conviction that the station would continue to take the lead in the endeavour to open up the history of “golden seas” as befitting a pioneer and model unit that kindled a new torch in fishing. Then he had a photo session with the employees of the station.

When he made a visit to it again in November 2019, he encouraged its officials and workers, saying that they should continue to stand in the vanguard of the revolution in fishing and invariably remain as the

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absolute advocates, staunch defenders and thorough implementers of the Party's policy on fishing.

In the room dedicated to education in the revolutionary exploits associated with the station, he stressed the need to conduct effective education through the room among the fishermen and other employees so that they could continue to glorify the honour of the vanguard and shock brigade defending the Party by landing bigger hauls of fish as befitting the laudable ones, who had written the first chapter in the history of "golden seas."

There are more similar stories.

When he visited a fishery station in November 2014, he got aboard *Tanphung 2-04*, which had just returned to the station with a full load, and said to officials that he was very pleased to see the hold filled with fish and that he felt full even though he had not eaten them.

When he visited the Sinpho Deep-Sea Fishery Complex in May 2015, he said that the complex should naturally take the lead in the struggle to open up a new history of "golden seas," as it was more closely associated with the leadership exploits of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il than any other unit in the fishing industry.

I intend to be the honorary manager of the complex and shore it up ahead of its counterparts, and it is the firm determination and will of the Party to create a new history of "golden seas" and thus supply a large amount of fish to enrich the people's diet, he added.

Then he earnestly said: The new history of "golden seas" is not



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something we can create by merely hoping for it or shouting slogans about it; every one of us should turn out in support of the Party's leadership and open it up by our own technology and our own efforts.

When visiting a fishery station in November 2018, he got aboard *Hwanggumhae-014* and congratulated its captain and fishermen on their return to port with a big haul. Then, saying that he was very pleased to see fish being scooped up from the vessel and poured out to the outdoor landing ground, he had a photo taken with the fishermen and other employees against the background of the scene.

He set it as an important issue for rapidly developing the fishing industry in the shortest possible time to further consolidate its material and technical foundations and wisely led the work of building new modern fishing bases.

Under his leadership, the January 8 Fishery Station was built as a model of fishery stations, which is fully equipped with all conditions and environment necessary for the production and the fishermen's living.

In April 2014 Kim Jong Un inspected the station prior to its inauguration. Looking round the station, he said that he was very pleased to think that another asset had been provided for the coming generations, and stressed the need to launch a more intensive drive for fishing so as to provide more fish to the people and thereby ensure that the cheering for socialism and the Workers' Party started resounding at their dining tables.

When he visited the station again in November 2018, he, saying

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that it was the fishery station he attached the greatest importance to, expressed expectation and conviction that its officials and fishermen would create new innovations in the vanguard of the country with a high sense of dignity and pride as performers of an honourable duty.

He paid special attention to the building of the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory, the first of its kind in the country, and the Kumsanpho Fishery Station.

When he visited their construction sites in March 2015, he took concrete measures for building all the construction objects well so that they would be impeccable even by the standards of the distant future, and personally named them.

When visiting them in January 2017, he said that now that the factory and the fishery station had been built excellently, the relevant sector and their officials and employees should fulfil their duty so as to make a positive contribution to improving the people's diet.

In August 2018 he visited the factory again, and said that as it was a pioneer of the fish-pickling industry in the country, it should become a factory that could bring substantial benefits to the people by establishing a proper strategy for business operation and working hard to improve the taste of pickled fish and increase its variety.

He also saw to it that the fishing sector pushed ahead with the work of building many modern fishing vessels and, at the same time, modernizing existing vessels as an immediate task.

The success worthy of note was that the fishing sector built in 2015

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scores of fishing vessels and a factory for producing various kinds of implements needed for fishing and aquaculture, greeting the 70<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the WPK.

When giving field guidance at the newly-built general fishing implement factory in July 2016, Kim Jong Un said that satisfactory supply of various kinds of implements badly needed for fishing and aquaculture was directly related to the improvement of the people's diet and that the officials and employees of the factory should make a positive contribution to opening up the history of "golden seas."

He also led the work of developing fish farming and aquaculture.

When visiting the Sinchang Fish Farm in May 2015, he said with deep emotion that the farm had been organized on the initiative of Kim Il Sung, and that Kim Jong Il had made devoted efforts to provide the people and service personnel with world-famous, tasty fish.

One year, after seeing sturgeon dishes served at a banquet during his visit to a foreign country, Kim Jong Il, determined to provide his people with sturgeon, had taken measures for this fish farm to raise sturgeon as well as other fishes. Afterwards he had visited it several times, and given instructions on its work on hundreds of occasions, so as to cement its foundations.

Recalling this with deep emotion, Kim Jong Un said that when the country was having a hard time of it, Kim Jong Il had a huge amount of money provided to build the farm as a model fish farm, and that it was a crystallization of his affection for the people and a scene in the

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era of the Workers' Party created by the affection.

When visiting the fish farm again in April 2019, he said that it had done a great deal of work in putting the country's fish-farming science and technology on a high level, adding that the whole country should follow its example and carry out the Party's policy on fish farming to the last and thus realize without fail the desire of Kim Jong Il, who had made so much effort to provide the people with tasty, nutritious fish.

During his visit to a salmon pedigree farm and an offshore salmon farm in May 2015, he said that great efforts should be channelled into fish farming and aquaculture in order to develop the fishing industry, adding that the prospect and future of fish farming and aquaculture lie in exploiting the sea and that greater successes should be made in salmon farming and fish processing.

He paid special attention to catfish farming, visiting the Pyongyang Catfish Farm, Samchon Catfish Farm and other catfish farms and leading them to renovate themselves and put fish farming on a scientific footing so as to increase their production.

At the Pyongyang Catfish Farm in October 2015, he earnestly said that since the farm had been renovated, it should put its production on a high, normal basis and supply more catfish to the citizens of the capital city so that they would keenly feel Kim Jong Il's affection for them.

In August 2018 he visited the Samchon Catfish Farm. Seeing the blocks of frozen catfish, he said that they looked like stacks of gold

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ingots, repeatedly praising the farm as a real treasure farm. He stressed that all the officials and other employees of the farm should greet the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the DPRK with proud achievements by boosting production while burning their hearts with one mind to defend and implement the Party's policy on fish culture.

Under Kim Jong Un's leadership, cage-net fish farming was also widely conducted in conformity with the natural and geographical conditions of the country with many rivers.

He visited a newly-built mobile cage-net fish farm on the Taedong River in Pyongyang in November 2015. As he had already acquainted himself with how cage-net fish farming was conducted in the country and the world trend of that kind of fish farming, he said: According to data, cage-net fish farming is being conducted in other countries, too; we should actively encourage cage-net fish farming and raise a large amount of fish, so as to make the people benefit from it.

He paid close attention to solving the feed problem for fish. When he gave field guidance at a newly-built fishmeal factory in July 2016, he set forth the tasks of putting production on a high, normal footing, taking good care of equipment, taking thoroughgoing measures for the supply of fish for feed production and equipping the factory with floating feed producing machines, and encouraged its employees to continue to stand in the vanguard of the effort to develop fish farming of the country.

Thanks to his wise guidance, the country launched many projects geared to providing the people with a more affluent and happier

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life, and this opened up a bright prospect for improving the people's standard of living.

## **For an Upsurge in Light Industry**

Kim Jong Un channelled great efforts into developing light industry with a view to improving the people's standard of living.

His goal is to raise the country's light industry to the world's advanced level. To this end, he paid due attention to putting the light-industry factories on a highly modern and scientific footing. While going round some of these factories, he gave advice on how to upgrade their equipment and production lines. He also pointed to the necessity of drawing up a long-term plan to build more factories for the production of consumer goods and equip them with cutting-edge technology.

In addition, he specified how to put the production of consumer goods on a scientific basis—enhancing the role of scientists and technicians in keeping production in line with the global trends and in finding scientific solutions to all the problems concerning manufacturing, quality control, maintenance of equipment and business operation; increasing the capacity for developing new products by building up the ranks of technicians and other employees; and encouraging a mass technical innovation campaign.

In his speech at the National Conference of Light Industry held in March 2013, he defined light industry and agriculture as priority areas

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in the nationwide drive to develop the country into an economic giant and improve the people's standard of living. He also set it as a central task to be tackled in the light industry sector to increase the output of consumer goods by making the most of the existing production potentials and raise itself to the world's advanced level by stepping up the effort to put itself on a modern and scientific footing.

He visited one factory after another to fan the flames of modernization in this sector.

To cite an example, the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory was a low-profile regional business, but now it has turned into a modern manufacturer under his close concern.

In July 2014, while looking round the factory, he said that all the light-industry factories should focus on improving their production and living environment and putting the production lines on a highly modern, scientific and IT footing. Then he went into details about how to upgrade the factory's machines one by one in the Korean way.

Soon afterwards, he had a construction workforce dispatched to the factory and resolved many problems related to the renovation project—designing, building work, supply of materials, etc.

In January 2015, after the project was over, he visited the factory. He gave it ten out of ten and called it a modern, standard factory for others to follow in the light industry sector.

Now it is widely known as an iconic factory leading the country's shoe-making industry.

The Ryuwon Footwear Factory is another example.

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This factory was built in November 1988 on Kim Jong Il's personal initiative.

During his visit in January 2015, Kim Jong Un set forth the task of modernizing the factory. In October 2017, after its renovation was completed, he came to the factory, and said that he was confident that the management and employees would work together to put the factory's production on a normal footing and carry out its quota of the national economic plan with credit.

In leading this modernization drive, he put special emphasis on providing cultured conditions for the people's living.

He proposed building a large-capacity kimchi factory in the capital city and named it Ryugyong Kimchi Factory, stressing the need to put its production lines on an industrialized basis so that kimchi could be supplied to Pyongyang citizens in all seasons.

His first visit to the factory was in June 2016. During his second visit in January 2017, he said: As our people's cultural level is ever-increasing, making kimchi with a good taste is very important in developing the nation's food culture. Kimchi, a traditional food of our nation, ranks among the world's top five health foods, so we should make delicious kimchi we can be proud of before the world.

The modernization drive in the light industry sector helped laying solid foundations for increasing the output of consumer goods.

In spearheading this drive, he paid due attention to ensuring the best possible quality of products.

He once said: It is of no use to make one million or ten million



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products if the people do not like them nor demand them. The factories and enterprises in the light industry sector should work hard to improve the quality of consumer goods. The products should be favoured by the people, symbolic of their manufacturers and excellent enough to earn international fame.

Giving field guidance at several factories, he paid meticulous attention to the quality of their products.

At the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory he picked a pair of socks and pulled them with his hands to see how tough they were. At the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory he said that for their good quality the factory's *Maebongsan*-brand shoes were gaining in popularity among the customers, adding that now there would be nobody making little of those shoes.

In October 2017, while going round the renovated Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory, he said that the renovation project would prove worthwhile if the factory mass-produced quality cosmetics favoured by the customers. Then he set out tasks to be tackled in developing the country's cosmetics industry to a higher level by producing larger quantities of cosmetics that suited the Korean people's varying tastes and were on a par with world-famous products.

In June 2018 he visited the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory and the Sinuiju Textile Mill.

On arriving at the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory, he told its officials that he had long wanted to visit the factory, which was well-known for its *Pomhyanggi*-brand cosmetics. Today I have found the time to

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come here, he noted, after being informed that you have achieved good successes in recent years.

He continued to say: Customers tend to assess a product according to its quality, but in most cases, their primary consideration is how famous it is. This is a reflection of the people's general psychology. You should focus on better product quality, varied packaging and advertising. Then our people will prefer your products to foreign cosmetics.

As it has since paid constant attention to improving the quality of its products and increasing their varieties in conformity with the customers' tastes, ages and constitutional features, this factory is now playing the leading role in developing the country's cosmetics industry.

When he visited the Sinuiju Textile Mill with a long history and traditions, he said that the major target in renovating the factory as appropriate to the new century was to upgrade it to be a labour-saving business, adding that developing light industry was essential for providing the people with a rich material and cultural life. And then he selected the site of a workers' hostel and took necessary steps for mobilizing a strong construction workforce.

In addition, he proposed building the Taesongsan Ice Cream Factory and fixed its site. He put this on the list of key national projects, as he was consistent in his stand that even a moment's delay was intolerable in carrying out a project for the people's wellbeing, and any structure for their good must be built, come what may. And despite the extension of the anti-COVID campaign, he took special steps to continue with

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the project. He directed close concern to the supply of equipment and their maintenance until the factory's inauguration in 2022.

In addition, he directed close attention to the production of uniforms, bags and other supplies for students.

One December day in 2014, while making the rounds of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, he said: I am pleased to hear the rumbling sound of the machines at the rayon fabric workshop. Production of school uniforms is one of the Party's greatest concerns. President Kim Il Sung said that for us, providing students with uniforms is much the same as providing our own children with clothes. Though the country's economic situation is not favourable, we must supply the students with school uniforms true to the ennobling intentions of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. This is a consistent policy maintained by our Party, which demonstrates the advantage of our style of socialism at home and abroad. This is not something which we will do only when we have enough money. We must do this unconditionally, even when we cannot afford to do so.

That day he stressed that the factory should equip itself with technical processes for making fabrics for schoolbags.

In January 2017, while looking round the newly-built Pyongyang Bag Factory, he said: It is not long after the factory was switched on, but it has already produced a mountain of bags. I am very pleased that we can provide our children and other people with the bags we produced at our factories, the ones we made with locally available materials. Here I

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feel as if I were in a wonderland. I cannot forget today.

He went on: It is by no means easy to produce high-quality bags by our own efforts and supply them to children, as well as school uniforms, notebooks and textbooks. Now I am very satisfied that we have done one more thing worthwhile, even though it was a considerable challenge.

He suggested building a modern factory specializing in producing quality notebooks for all the children in the country, ranging from kindergarten children to university students. Then he paid close attention to the construction of the factory and its operation.

He went over the formation plan of the factory and named it Mindulle Notebook Factory. When sample notebooks were presented to him, he wrote some words on them to measure their quality.

In April 2016, while going round the Mindulle Notebook Factory, he said that the management and employees should, mindful of how much Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il had been concerned with the production of notebooks, throw themselves into producing notebooks with the feeling of mothers making notebooks for their children.

He also threw his weight behind the modernization of the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory to boost the output of nutritious foodstuffs for the children.

During his visit in December 2014 he said that the Party and the state should direct close attention to the factory, before taking necessary steps for its renovation. In November 2015, when its modernization project was completed, he visited the factory and

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said: We should provide our children with nutritious foodstuffs on a regular basis. Then they will be very happy. Seeing this, our people will be optimistic about the victory of socialism. The management and employees of the factory should work together to increase production so that the children smile happily all the time.

Recently, the light industry sector has made arrangements for various exhibitions, all designed to ensure the sustainable development of light industry. With these events as a momentum, the industry has made a huge step forward.

For example, the Women's Clothes Show-2022, held in October 2022, marked a milestone in developing the country's garment industry to a higher level. This helped encouraging the Korean women to wear clothes in line with the modern trends and aesthetic tastes, and sharing the latest designs and processing techniques. Another example is the Pyongyang Municipal Consumer Goods Exhibition held in February 2023, in which manufacturers swapped experiences in developing and making famous products.

Kim Jong Un ensured that all cities and counties worked to increase the output of quality consumer goods by developing the regional industry in conformity with their specific conditions.

The year 2012 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Changsong Joint Conference of Local Party and Economic Officials, which was held in the presence of Kim Il Sung.

It was in August 1962 that Kim Il Sung convened this joint conference and set forth tasks for enhancing the role of the county in

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developing the regional industry and the rural economy and bettering the people's livelihood.

True to his intention, Kim Jong Il paid constant attention to the economic development and the people's living in Changsong County. He gave on-site guidance at the county several times including in November 2010, specifying how it should play the leading role in kindling the flames for the development of the regional industry.

In January 2012 Kim Jong Un set forth the task of completing the modernization of its local factories within the first half of the year, so that their experience could be known across the country to give renewed impetus to the development of the regional industry as a whole. On later occasions, he adopted radical measures for sprucing up the county. And he ensured that the county celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the joint conference in grand style, with the attendance of senior Party and economic officials from the capital and provinces.

He adopted measures for generalizing the experience of the county across the country.

Though not so big, the county in the mountainous region ranks among the country's best in processing wild fruits. Many factories in this county, including those for producing textile and paper, are maintaining regular production by relying on locally available materials.

In his talk *Let Us Transform Every County into a Paradise for the People by Applying the Spirit of the Historic Changsong Joint Conference*, given to senior officials of the Central Committee of

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the Workers' Party of Korea in August 2012, he said that all counties should adhere to the principles of making progress by their own efforts, of developing the economy and culture in conformity with their local conditions and sustaining their characteristics in all aspects, and of doing everything in an innovative way as required by the new century and making a leap forward to a new, higher level.

In June 2013 he made the rounds of Changsong County, advancing tasks to be tackled in enhancing the role of the county and improving the local people's living standards.

At the Changsong Foodstuff Factory he said: I am paying primary attention to this factory. My intention in doing so is not merely to bolster the factory alone but to make it as a model and an initial spark so that all other regional-industry factories in cities and counties can regain momentum.

Under his long-term plan to develop the regional industry and transform every county into a developed area that retains its inherent characteristics, he ensured that Kimhwa County created a standard for others to refer to.

At major Party and government meetings he pointed to the necessity of completing the modernization of the local-industry factories in Kimhwa County at the earliest possible date, and had necessary measures taken on a preferential basis.

Before long, several factories in Kimhwa County seat started operation, each serving as a model of the regional industry.

This showcases how hard Kim Jong Un strove to promote the

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wellbeing of the people. It also validates the WPK's line of building up cities and counties.

Today, the light industry sector is making great strides towards the goal of reaching the global standards, thus rendering substantial services to improving the people's standard of living.

## **Increasing Cradles of Happiness for the People**

It is often said that an architectural structure mirrors development of the relevant times. Nothing showcases the aspect of the development of a country in a more visual, comprehensive and eloquent way than architecture.

In his letter *Let Us Usher In a Great Golden Age of Construction by Thoroughly Applying the Party's Juche-Oriented Idea on Architecture* sent to those attending the first grand workshop for officials in the construction sector in December 2013, Kim Jong Un said that the Juche-oriented socialist architecture is, in essence, based on the principle of giving first and foremost importance to the masses of the people, and that it is the people themselves who create it and benefit from it, and so it is a natural requirement in construction to give top priority to the aspiration and demands of the people and their convenience and to ensure its perfect ideological and artistic qualities and usability in conformity with their emotions and aesthetic sense.

He energetically led the efforts for building a great number of



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monumental edifices, which embodied the people-first principle.

In having structures erected for the people, he has always guided the whole processes of their construction with a feeling of the people who will live there in the future.

He made sure that Changjon Street, whose construction had been initiated by Kim Jong Il, was excellently built in Pyongyang.

He went to the construction site several times, once walking up to the top floor of a high-rise apartment block to see whether the building work had been done properly, whether sibilant sound was heard or not in the verandah windows and whether the elevator was running properly. When he walked down to the ground floor stair by stair, he pressed the doorbells of houses. And when he went into a house, he looked round every corner of the house, ranging from the ceiling, wall to the floor.

What he often stressed while looking round the apartment blocks on the street was that officials should regard convenience and interests of the people as the standard of their work.

He has always showed close concern for providing modern houses to scientists and educators.

He proposed building apartment houses for the educators of Kim Il Sung University, and guided the project so that it could be completed at the highest level. In October 2013 he attended the inauguration ceremony of the apartment houses, and congratulated the educators of the university and had a photo session with them.

He also had the apartment houses for the educators of Kim Chaek

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University of Technology built.

When visiting the construction site of these apartment houses in May 2014, he said: Though this construction project would require enormous funds, I am going to have the necessary amount of funds allocated for carrying it out. We should spare nothing for the teachers and researchers of Kim Chaek University of Technology, who are devoting their whole life for the prosperity of the country and to training talented personnel. Although we do not have enough funds, we must build the apartment houses at the highest level.

His devotion and efforts are also associated with Mirae Scientists Street built on the bank of the Taedong River in Pyongyang.

Having set forth the task of forming a street by building apartment houses and neighbourhood-serving amenities with the road along the bank of the Taedong River as the axis, in February 2015 he learned in detail about the state of construction on a plane.

Next day he visited the construction site.

After looking round the construction site for several hours, he said that the construction of Mirae Scientists Street was an undertaking involving the entire Party and the whole country, which was aimed at realizing the Party's strategic plan to build the country into a powerful socialist one to be envied by the world people in the near future, and that the street should be built on the highest level so as to powerfully demonstrate the Party's idea of attaching importance to science and the might of socialist Korea to the world. He stressed that the entire Party, all the people and the whole army should be enlisted in the

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project to complete it before the 70<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the WPK without fail.

In October 2015, he visited the completed Mirae Scientists Street, and expressed his satisfaction, saying that each structure on the street encapsulated the Party's policy of prioritizing and loving the people.

He energetically guided the construction of Ryomyong Street.

Under his guidance, it was successfully built in a matter of one year into a model and standard of energy-saving street and green street, thus fully demonstrating once again the vitality of the WPK's ennobling affection for the people and the appearance of Juche Korea making a leap forward towards a socialist power.

In March 2016 he came to the site and named it Ryomyong Street. And he said that if the street was completed, another street of the people would be born, which would provide civilized living conditions for the educators, scientists and other people, and that it would make a great contribution to developing Pyongyang, the capital of the revolution, into the centre of civilization.

In April 2017, greeting the 105<sup>th</sup> birthday of Kim Il Sung, the street was completed thanks to the miraculous speed attained by the builders.

Along with it, the WPK and the DPRK government advanced audacious goals for solving satisfactorily the housing problem of Pyongyang citizens, and gave a strong push to this end.

As a result, modern streets and residential areas sprang up in different parts of the city, and the new houses were distributed to

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scientists, educators and many other citizens free of charge.

The Eighth Congress of the WPK decided to build 10 000 flats in Pyongyang every year in the period of the new five-year plan for national economic development (2021-2025).

A groundbreaking ceremony took place in the Songsin and Songhwa area in Sadong District, Pyongyang, in March 2021.

Kim Jong Un delivered a speech at the ceremony. In his speech he said: Building 50 000 modern flats in Pyongyang is something our Party has long intended, prepared for and aspired to, in order to provide its citizens with more cultured and stable living conditions. Our Party believes in the ardent patriotic spirit and skill of the builders above all else.

The project had to be carried out in circumstances that were entirely different from when the country had started building Ryomyong Street five years before; moreover, the amount of work to be completed in a limited time was many times greater than it had been back then.

In his speech he stressed that the WPK decided that the project must go ahead unconditionally, since it would have a direct impact on the life of the citizens of the capital.

He also proposed building 800 flats in the riverside district near the Pothong Gate, in addition to 10 000 flats in Pyongyang.

Situated there was the house where Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people, had lived.

He ensured that the Party Central Committee took direct charge of this project and completed it, so as to present the luxury houses to

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labour innovators, merited persons, scientists, educators and men of letters in different sectors, who had been working with devotion for the Party and the state.

He visited the construction site of 10 000 flats in the Songsin and Songhwa area nearing completion. He said with satisfaction that a prospect was opened for him to see the people cutting ribbon, declaring the inauguration of the street and moving into the new houses, and that his another wish had come true. He added that the project should be finished perfectly so that the people could move into the new houses by the Day of the Sun (birth anniversary of Kim Il Sung). And when he visited the construction site of 800-terraced-houses district, he said that this was a project which reflected the intention and determination of the Party Central Committee to spruce up the city and provide the citizens with advanced living environment and conditions.

In April 2022 Songhwa Street, the first entity of the projects to build 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, and the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District of peculiar form were inaugurated, demonstrating the remarkable level of development of the country.

Kim Jong Un attended the inauguration ceremony of Songhwa Street, and cut the ribbon, hoping that the owners of the modern houses on the street would lead a happy and civilized life.

He also attended the inauguration ceremony of the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District, and congratulated the owners of the new houses.

Thanks to his guidance, the groundbreaking ceremony for a project

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to build 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area was held in February 2022, and the project was completed by April 2023.

Kim Jong Un attended the inauguration ceremony of the new street, and cut the ribbon, congratulating the working people who would move into the new houses.

In February 2023, the groundbreaking ceremonies for the second-stage project to build 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area and to build a new street in the Sopho area were held in the presence of Kim Jong Un. He delivered a meaningful speech at the ceremony held in Sopho, pressed the button for blasting and shoveled the first spadeful of earth, encouraging the builders.

He also had the cities and counties and rural villages renovated as befits the era of the Workers' Party.

While giving on-site guidance at different sectors in the city of Samjiyon on several occasions, he stressed: Through the construction of the city we should create a prototype of mountainous city, where modern civilization is epitomized, and generalize its experience so as to further improve the appearance of all mountainous counties in the country; we should make this a process in which we make a leap forward and a revolution in regional construction.

The seat of the city was wonderfully renovated, divided into several districts—education district, houses district, communal amenities district, in which usefulness, diversity and formative and artistic beauty are perfectly applied. And through three-stage construction several areas and rural villages in the city were transformed into a

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standard for rural rejuvenation.

The streets, houses and public buildings, which had formed the then seat of Samjiyon County, had all been removed, and low-rise and multi-storied apartment blocks, public and industrial establishments were built on an area of several hundreds of hectares, forming a new, wonderful town, with the result that the county was raised to the status of city.

Having turned it into a cultured mountainous city and provided a springboard for successfully translating the Party's plan of regional construction, at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Jong Un set forth rural housing construction as one of the primary policy-oriented tasks to be carried out in 2023, and ensured that all the cities and counties finished the task in time as they planned and thus ushered in an era of regional transformation and rural rejuvenation.

According to the rural construction plan formulated as suited to the regional and geographical features pursuant to the WPK's lofty plan, housing construction was conducted full steam ahead. As a result, new rural villages sprang up in different parts of the country.

The DPRK government invariably adheres to the policy of building houses at state expense and providing them to the working people free of charge just as it did in the past. But as the houses were built in such a difficult situation and circumstances, those who moved into the new houses feel grateful to the state.

Kim Jong Un led the efforts to build baby homes and orphanages in different parts of the country.

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Stressing the need to bring up the orphans in baby homes and orphanages well, he said: Now we are building baby homes and orphanages in Pyongyang and in all provinces of the country. It is not aimed at boasting about them or giving publicity to them, but at bringing up the parentless children well to the envy of others.

During his field guidance at the Pyongyang Baby Home and Orphanage in February 2014, he had decisive measures taken fundamentally to improve the living environment and educational and edification conditions at these institutions, saying that their construction should be the main focus in major construction projects.

In October 2014 he visited the completed orphanage and baby home, and said with a broad smile on his face that such excellent cradles for children could be found nowhere else in the world, and now that the wonderful houses had been built for orphans, he felt pleased as if he had plucked a star from the sky.

Thanks to the painstaking efforts he made, considering it as a must for him to take care of the orphans, baby homes, orphanages and primary and secondary schools for them have been built in the country.

His devoted efforts for the people are also reflected in the old people's homes, workers' hostels and children's camps.

Kim Jong Un still continues to make efforts to have new houses and other cradles of happiness for the people built in different parts of the country.



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### **3. Building of Civilization**

Having advanced the line of building a civilized power, Kim Jong Un is ushering in a great heyday of building a socialist civilized country.

The building of socialist civilization the WPK is aspiring to is aimed at developing socialist culture in a comprehensive way and enabling the people to possess a high level of creativity and culture to create and enjoy the highest quality and standard of civilization.

Kim Jong Un has ensured that the Juche-based outlook on the people is thoroughly embodied in all fields of cultural construction, including education, science, public health, literature and the arts and sports.

Today all the Korean people are enjoying a worthwhile life thanks to the Korean-style civilization, which is based on self-supporting foundations.

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## **For Advanced Education**

Kim Jong Un said that it is the basic goal of making a radical improvement in education in the new century to develop education into the most advantageous one, ideal one, which can be fully entrusted with the future, and to train all students to be genuine revolutionary talents, competent creative talents and reserve socialist forces.

With a close concern on the development of the country's education, he has wisely led the effort to make socialist education to be genuine education for the masses.

The level of civilization of a country is defined by the height of creative ability and cultural level of its people, and the creativity and cultural level of the people develop through systematic education.

Along with the development of the times and history, the role of education in improving the creative ability and cultural level of human beings has become remarkably enhanced, and it is a world trend to raise the level of civilization of the country and nation by putting focus on education.

The present is an era of knowledge-based economy, in which science and technology play a decisive role in social development, and an era of attaching importance to talents, in which the development of the strength, the economy and culture of a country is decided by talents.

The core of this era is science and technology and its decisive factor

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is talents, and education is the basis for training talents.

This is why education is called the mother of science and technology.

In reflection of this requirement, Kim Jong Un put it forward as a key task in building civilization to turn the country into the one of education and talents by developing education.

In his letter, *Let Us Make Ours a Country of Education and a Talent Power by Bringing About a Radical Improvement in Education in the New Century* addressed to those attending the 13<sup>th</sup> National Conference of Educational Workers in September 2014 and in several other works and instructions, he specified ways and means for turning the country into the one of education and talents.

He set it as an important issue in effecting a revolution in education in the new century to perfect the education system and improve the guidance over and management of education so as to train talents of a new type required by the times. And as an initial undertaking for effecting a revolution in education, he ensured that universal 12-year compulsory education system was introduced and school system readjusted.

As part of the effort to this end, in September 2012 the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK adopted a law on implementing the universal 12-year compulsory education.

The enforcement of the system marked an important occasion in establishing the social climate of attaching importance to education and giving definite precedence to education over all other affairs.

And the year 2018 was set as a year of science and education

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again after 2017, and the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK discussed as a separate agenda item the issue of bringing about a revolutionary turn in science and education and adopted a relevant decision. At the plenary meeting, Kim Jong Un said that the Party is going to do everything it could to give full play to the advantages of the socialist education system, adding that it is the firm determination of the Party to train the younger generation into excellent talents who receive excellent education under excellent system and conditions.

Accordingly, the plenary meeting defined in its decision the issue of increasing state investment on education and establishing the climate of attaching importance to education more thoroughly throughout society.

As the effort to implement the Party's policy of prioritizing education and talents swept across the country, the 14<sup>th</sup> National Meeting of Teachers was held in Pyongyang in September 2019.

Kim Jong Un sent a letter to the participants in the meeting, titled, *Teachers Should Fulfil Their Duty as Career Revolutionaries in Implementing the Party's Policy of Bringing About a Radical Improvement in Education*.

In the letter he noted that amid the great interest and expectation of all the people and teachers across the country the 14<sup>th</sup> National Meeting of Teachers was being held on an unprecedented scale, that the Party attaches great importance to the current conference, and that the aim of this meeting was to inspire all the teachers to carry out the Party's policy of bringing about a radical turn in education so as to improve

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the country's standard of education as a whole and hasten the building of a socialist educational power, a talent power. He underlined that all teachers and other educational workers, fully aware that they are in direct charge of making Korean style of revolution in education, should devote their wisdom and passion to the education of the rising generations, and thus fulfil their responsibility and duty as vanguard, career revolutionaries, on the front of educating talents.

When he was having a photo session with the participants in the conference, he said that teachers are communists, genuine patriots and career revolutionaries, who bring up the future generations of the country, and always mindful of the Party's intention to make this conference an important occasion in making a revolution in education, they should bring about a turning point in their work.

Kim Jong Un's ennobling traits—giving prominence to educators and prioritizing educational work—have also been displayed during his field guidance trips at educational institutions.

His field guidance over the sector of education started with his trip to Mangyongdae Revolutionary School on the occasion of the lunar New Year's Day in 2012. It was followed by his visits to schools for general education, such as Changjon Primary School in Pyongyang, and to colleges and universities, including Pyongyang University of Architecture and Pyongyang Teachers Training College.

In May 2012, he visited Changjon Primary School, Kyongsang Nursery and Kyongsang Kindergarten in the newly built Changjon Street.

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At Changjon Primary School, while looking round the classrooms, he suggested that benches with a coat hanger be installed along the corridor so that the pupils could hang their wet winter clothes or raincoats, saying that he would entrust the task to a renowned furniture factory.

At the Kyongsang Nursery he felt the temperature of the floor at the dining room, saying that the room, in which the children were taking their meals, should be provided with underfloor heating. He also opened a shoe chest and examined the bedding in a bedroom. And at the wading pool, he was happy to see that it was decorated so well as to suit the children's mentality and physical conditions.

At the Kyongsang Kindergarten he looked round the playground and several parts inside the building. Told that the children had prepared a performance, he said he would see it despite his busy schedule. After the performance was over, he had a photo taken with the children.

Under his close concern Pyongyang Teachers Training College was put on a scientific, IT and modern basis; it is now known throughout the country as an excellent base for training primary school and kindergarten teachers.

The education of children of preschool and primary school age ranks high among the government's priorities, and the educational sector focuses on improving the qualifications of the teachers responsible for those children, as this has a bearing on the future of the rising generations and, furthermore, the future of the state.

With a well-regulated system of unified academic guidance over

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the primary education sector, Pyongyang Teachers Training College serves as a hub of academic research and dissemination involving teachers training colleges across the country. Its original and highly-effective teaching methods are disseminated countrywide.

With the renovation of this college and the updating of its teaching contents and methods, the national education of the preschool and primary school children has been put on a new scientific basis.

In January 2018, while learning about its renovation project on-site, Kim Jong Un said: Our Party attaches importance to teachers training colleges. I hope that the teachers trained by these colleges will be the solid foundation for the education of the rising generation. The students and graduates from these colleges should bear this in mind. Preparing the students as teachers capable of conducting education of a higher level is the very goal the colleges should set and attain, and the teachers training sector should regard this as an important policy-oriented task and direct primary efforts to it.

When he visited Pyongyang University of Architecture in November 2013, he went over dozens of architectural designs created by its teachers and students. Then he had taken necessary steps for raising its education to the world level, and said that he would become its honorary president and throw his full weight behind its work.

He says, whenever he has the opportunity, that there could be no satisfaction in the work related to education, stressing the need for the whole society to render active assistance to the education sector.

In September 2017, he invited to Pyongyang the teachers who had

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volunteered to work at the branch schools on islands and in frontline areas and mountain villages. He highly praised them and had a photo session with them.

He proposed building modern apartment houses for educators, including teachers and researchers of Kim Il Sung University and Kim Chaek University of Technology, and visited their construction sites frequently. He attended the inauguration of the houses for those at Kim Il Sung University to congratulate them on their moving into new flats and have a photo session with them.

All these facts showcase his consistency in prioritizing education.

He paid close concern to providing the people, youth and children in particular, with excellent educational conditions, especially renovating educational institutions and furnishing them with plenty of equipment and experiment and practice instruments.

He once said to officials: When training talented persons can be likened to tending trees, education is the soil and the conditions and environment for it are the manure. The differences in the level of education between the capital and regions are, in the final analysis, caused by the discrepancies in the educational conditions and environment.

As part of an effort to improve the educational conditions and environment, he focused on building more and better educational institutions by increasing state investment in it.

As a result, the work proceeded apace of making classrooms and laboratories at all the educational institutions multi-functional and



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IT-based; the Songdowon International Children's Camp and other children's camps and palaces across the country were remodelled as comprehensive bases for studying and extracurricular activities; the Kyongsang Kindergarten, Pyongyang Baby Home and Pyongyang Orphanage were built as model units for the upbringing of children and for preschool education.

In November 2015, the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace was renovated, demonstrating to the whole world the vitality of the WPK's idea of attaching importance to the education of the rising generations.

In the same month, while making the rounds of the palace, Kim Jong Un said: This is a palace for educating the rising generations into reliable pillars and reserves of the country and a monumental edifice demonstrating to the whole world the validity of our Party's policy on education of the rising generations and the might and superiority of our socialist system. You should tell me all that are needed for the operation of the groups here. We should spare nothing for the sake of children and ensure that they smile happily all the time. The sound of their laughter we have defended in such a trying period as today will reverberate to the distant future when they will raise cheers for the victory of socialism.

This palace is where students come after school to learn more and hone their skills in the groups they chose to join according to their hobbies and aptitudes.

In terms of knowledge and skills, these students rank high among their peers in the country.

This is illustrated in part by the fact that many of the fine art group

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members' works, as were displayed in the palace's display room, won appreciation at international shows and exhibitions.

The palace also produced outstanding athletes like Ri Se Gwang, a three-time world champion in artistic gymnastics.

After its renovation project was over, a growing number of students are joining the groups and many of them, upon finishing the courses in the palace, are enrolled in specialist schools.

In May 2019 Kim Jong Un visited the Paeumui Cholligil Schoolchildren's Palace in Kanggye, Jagang Province, in the northern part of the country. After learning in detail about its renovation and operation, he specified what needed to be done to further develop it into a modern and comprehensive centre for extracurricular education.

The social climate of prioritizing education and directing nationwide attention to it are paying dividends.

At the 27<sup>th</sup> World Memory Championships held in 2018, students from the DPRK won seven gold medals, four cups and two international memory master awards. At the 28<sup>th</sup> World Memory Championships held in 2019, the DPRK's six-member team won 28 medals including 11 gold medals, and topped the country rankings, breaking 18 world records and setting four new ones, each member receiving the international memory master award. At the 15<sup>th</sup> Moscow Meets Friends International Festival held in October 2018, Korean children's *oungum* trio was a great hit; so was their *oungum* quartet at the 16<sup>th</sup> one, held the following year. At the Third Moscow

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Krainev International Piano Contest, a participant from the DPRK received a diploma.

## **To Make All the People Well-versed in Science and Technology**

Given the importance of science and technology in building a powerful socialist country, Kim Jong Un clearly indicated what needed to be done for their rapid development and how. He also energetically led the effort to establish a climate of prioritizing science and technology throughout society and make all the people well-versed in them.

To develop all sectors rapidly and build a people's paradise by dint of science and technology is his major mode of creation.

Single-hearted unity and invincible military might plus the industrial revolution in the new century together make a thriving socialist country—this is what he propounded as the new century of the Juche era began. He has since pursued the policy of attaching importance to science and technology, regarding it as one of the priorities for the Party and the state.

His intention to ensure that science and technology play the leading role in developing the socialist economy is reflected in the strategic slogan, “Let us make a leap forward by dint of science and guarantee the future by dint of education!” which he put forward at

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the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK. He remains committed to establishing the climate of attaching importance to science and technology across society and making all the working people render a substantial contribution to the building of a powerful socialist country by learning modern science and technology under the slogan of making all the people well-versed in science and technology.

He directed primary efforts to encouraging the broad masses of the people to take an active part in developing science and technology as masters responsible for them.

On several occasions, he defined how to make the climate of prioritizing science and technology prevail across society so that everyone would become masters and developers of science and technology and regard it as their own family affair to attach importance and give priority to them, and what was important in giving prominence and preferential treatment to scientists and technicians throughout society and also in rendering assistance to the sector of science and technology.

In November 2013 he sent to the participants in the National Conference of Scientists and Technicians a letter, titled, *Let Us Dynamically Push Forward the Building of a Thriving Country by Bringing About a Turn in the Development of Science and Technology*, in which he clarified the orientation and ways for adding eternal lustre to Kim Il Sung's and Kim Jong Il's exploits, for resolving the scientific and technological problems arising in

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economic construction and improving the people's standard of living and for effecting a fresh turn in developing the country's science and technology.

When he had a photo session with the participants, he expressed his expectations and trust in scientists and technicians, saying that the conference served as an important occasion in developing the country's science and technology by leaps and bounds and thus turning the country into a knowledge-based economy.

His January 2018 visit to the State Academy of Sciences, which was his first field guidance trip in the year, was of great significance.

While making the rounds of the academy, he said that scientists and technicians, fully aware of their mission and tasks, should turn out as one in the campaign for creation and research to resolve the scientific and technological problems conducive to enhancing the independence and Juche character of the national economy and improving the people's livelihood.

This trip demonstrated the firm determination and will of the WPK to accelerate the building of a powerful socialist country by dint of science and technology.

In the policy speech he delivered at the First Session of the 14<sup>th</sup> Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in April 2019, he stressed the need to make it one of the national traits to prioritize science and technology.

As a result, the climate of prioritizing science and technology permeated the whole country and broad sections of the masses could

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make a positive contribution to the development of the country's science and technology.

As part of his effort to ensure that all the people are well-versed in science and technology, Kim Jong Un focused on setting up a better system for granting all the people free access to higher education.

There existed in the country a well-regulated study-while-you-work system, a type of higher education established under the wise leadership of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

Kim Jong Un adopted measures for increasing the number of such part-time educational institutions as factory, farm and fishermen's colleges and improving the level of their education.

He also directed close attention to updating the distance learning system and stepping up the dissemination of science and technology so that officials and working people could learn to their heart's content, according to their wishes and abilities, thus demonstrating the validity and vitality of the Party's policy of making all the people well-versed in science and technology.

Since the distance education faculty opened at Kim Chaek University of Technology, the working people's enthusiasm for remote education has surged with each passing day.

Whenever he visited industrial establishments and other businesses, Kim Jong Un learned in detail about the operation of their sci-tech learning spaces and emphasized that they should operate them effectively to help their employees acquire practical abilities and thus display their creativity and wisdom in resolving the scientific and

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technological problems facing their businesses.

In June 2013 he visited the Pyongyang Condiments Factory and praised it for building an excellent sci-tech learning space, composed of an e-library, a sci-tech library and a remote lecture room.

He suggested that it would be a good idea to call the distance learning network *all-people learning system*, just the same way as the phrase *arming all the people for national defence* had been coined, and stressed the importance of distance learning in preparing all the members of society as intelligent workers with the intellectual level of a university graduate.

While at the Jangchon Vegetable Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, in June 2015, he was informed that its sci-tech learning space was giving the farmers access to distance learning lectures from Pyongyang University of Agriculture, and said that the farm should operate the space well so that they could learn advanced science and technology and become well-versed in vegetable farming and other agricultural production.

In June 2016, at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, he asked how it was training its own technical personnel. He highly appreciated the fact that it directed primary attention to training technical personnel, established a good habit of studying among its employees and achieved a lot of successes by focusing on their education.

And in May 2017, at the Rangnang Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory, he was very happy to see its sci-tech learning space and went into details about its operation.

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All these facts illustrate how he led the drive to provide a sure guarantee for making all the people well-versed in science and technology.

Also, he gave field guidance at many places with a view to providing scientists and technicians with better working and living conditions.

To cite an example, in the summer of 2013, he visited Lake Yonphung twice. Each time he sailed about the lake to select a good site for the construction of the Yonphung Scientists Holiday Camp.

In January 2014, several months later, he came to the lake after visiting the State Academy of Sciences.

He said: Lake Yonphung is associated with the leadership exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. The site on the shore of the lake is a prime location for a new holiday camp to be built for scientists. If they are provided with ample conditions for a good rest, they will achieve greater successes in their research. So the Party has decided to build the best holiday camp in the world on the shore of the lake, which has splendid scenery and is associated with the leadership exploits of the President and the Chairman. We should provide everything necessary for scientists at the best possible level.

Later, he visited the site several times and resolved issues arising in the construction. In October 2014, after the project was over, he came there and said: The camp is a “golden cushion” provided by the Party for our scientists. We should let them have a good rest here, relieve their pent-up fatigue and enjoy all the benefits of socialism.

This is not all. It was under his close concern that Unha Scientists



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Street, Mirae Scientists Street and other monumental structures for scientists and technicians sprang up across the country, all representing the era of the Workers' Party.

To cite another example, he directed due attention to building the Sci-Tech Complex as an edifice embodying the Party's idea of prioritizing science and as a national centre for sci-tech dissemination and education. Now it is making a positive contribution to developing the country's science and technology and making all the people well-versed in science and technology.

In June 2014 he came to Ssuk Island and said: I have chosen this island, associated with President Kim Il Sung's leadership exploits, as the location of a new facility disseminating science and technology to all the people across the country. The rise and fall of a country depend on how advanced its science and technology is, so I think it is a good idea to turn this into an island of science.

In February 2015 he visited the construction site of the Sci-Tech Complex and said: Many construction projects are underway to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the Party. The most important of all these projects is the Sci-Tech Complex. The development of science and technology is an important undertaking which is decisive of the victory and failure in the building of a powerful socialist country and which is related to the future of the country. As I often say, our Party is fully determined to accelerate the building of a powerful socialist country by dint of science and technology. I set great store by this project.

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In October 2015, a few months before its inauguration, he visited the Sci-Tech Complex and said: Just like the Grand People's Study House, this complex is a great temple of all-people learning, where they can come and learn science and technology. The people are the masters of the Sci-Tech Complex.

At the inauguration ceremony of the Sci-Tech Complex held in January 2016, he again called it a great temple of all-people learning, saying that as a hub of scientific and technological dissemination, the complex was embodying the Party's plan. It signifies, he noted, that the New Year has begun with science, the one in which we will have the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

Thereafter, a nationwide network for scientific and technological dissemination was established with the complex as its centre, with the result that up-to-date data could rapidly flow from the centre to the lowest level.

Today the complex serves as a powerful base for disseminating the latest science and technology, as a comprehensive database for digitizing and storing the scientific and technological achievements made by mankind, and as a multi-functional service centre that gives online access to various data and enables information sharing and exchange.

Since its inauguration, the complex has disseminated hundreds of millions of items of the latest information and data to different parts of the country, and this directly leads to the development of the country's science and technology and success in its economic construction.

At present, science and technology is at the top of the country's

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priority list and public interest in it is ever-growing.

At the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in December 2022, Kim Jong Un stressed once again the urgency of raising the country's science and technology to a higher level and the need to adhere to the principle of prioritizing and giving precedence to science and technology. In the DPRK science and technology has become the bywords of the day. In other words, the primary considerations in business operation are scientific and technological matters, rather than the supply of raw and other materials and funds.

This trend of the times has changed the definition of scientific and technical personnel. That is to say, science and technology is by no means exclusive to certain segments of society.

“Become well-versed in science and technology!”

This is not simply what is required by the times. For everyone in the country, it has become a natural duty. So, they are all striving hard to acquire more skills and knowledge.

There is no future without science, and a propellant for building a powerful socialist country is science and technology—this is Kim Jong Un's consistent stand. True to his ennobling intentions, a climate for prioritizing science and talented personnel prevails across the country.

As shown above, under the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un, notable progress has been made in enhancing the people's role in raising the country's science and technology to a new high.

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## **For the Promotion of the People's Health**

People's health is more important than other state affairs in the DPRK. For this reason the government has paid due attention to developing public health, viewing it as one of its priority sectors conducive to demonstrating the advantages of Korean-style socialism centred on the masses of the people.

It is a long-cherished desire of mankind to live long in good health.

This desire is growing stronger as medical technology is advancing day by day and medical services are improving on a steady basis.

The country's public health system is characterized, above all else, by preventive medicine.

There are national and provincial institutions that are responsible for hygiene information work, and a well-regulated system for disseminating hygiene information is already in place countrywide.

With hygienic and anti-epidemic work going on under a national plan, the living and working environment in urban and rural areas has seen remarkable improvements and this has resulted in the root cause of epidemics being eradicated.

Everyone lives under the constant care of doctors from cradle to grave.

The district doctor system, as it has been called since its inception, is one whereby a doctor is in charge of families in a certain district and

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takes regular care of them, preventing them from contracting diseases and curing patients promptly before their conditions grow critical.

Every doctor regularly visits the families under their charge to inquire into the residents' health and hygienic conditions, and they take preventive steps wherever necessary.

This system dates back to the period of the First Seven-Year Plan (1961-1967).

Later, a well-regulated medical care system was established from the capital to the lowest administrative unit and the number of medical workers increased.

In industrial establishments there are doctors in charge of each one of their workshops.

What is more, the whole population benefits from the annual vaccinations designed to prevent the outbreak of epidemics.

Among the recent advances made in the public health sector is the establishment of a well-regulated telemedicine system under a government policy.

From 2009 to 2012 a telemedicine network was set up, involving four central hospitals, ten provincial and municipal hospitals, over 190 city and county hospitals and ten provincial maternity hospitals. The network has kept expanding to cover all the hospitals in the country, including those in the lowest administrative units.

Now doctors in the capital and provinces are virtually connected via this network to ensure the accuracy of diagnosis and treatment. Recently, even those in the remote mountain areas were successful

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in high-risk operations with the help of the prestigious doctors in Pyongyang.

Regular online lectures are given to the local medical workers, in the course of which their level of expertise has been raised and a great improvement made in the treatment of patients with chronic diseases.

In 2013 the Southeast Asia Regional Office of the World Health Organization hosted a consultative meeting on telemedicine in Pyongyang, awarding its prize to the Ministry of Public Health of the DPRK.

In order to ensure that the people enjoy a long life in good health under the socialist healthcare system, Kim Jong Un put the main emphasis on applying the Party's policy on preventive medicine, updating the district doctor system and putting medical services on a scientific and IT basis.

Public healthcare is an undertaking for protecting and promoting the health and lives of our people, he noted, adding that only when it is steadily developed, can they fully enjoy the benefits of the country's socialist healthcare system, the most advantageous in the world.

In January 2018, while visiting the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory, he said: Even if it requires a huge investment, we should improve the socialist health service designed for the promotion and protection of the people's health. This is not just a policy-oriented task facing the public health sector but a demand of our revolution.

He saw to it that a vigorous drive was conducted to build medical facilities.

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Emphasizing the importance of building the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, he said that the project was an undertaking to implement Kim Jong Il's instructions and the Party wanted this to bring benefits to the women.

He visited its construction site several times and specified how to ensure its high quality. He also directed attention to securing plenty of up-to-date medical equipment.

In November 2012 he visited the newly-built institute and said: As I am seeing it on-site, the institute looks really great. Entering the lobby, I feel as if I were in a palace. This looks like a palace, not an institute.

He devoted great efforts to the construction of the Okryu Children's Hospital, a comprehensive and specialized medical service centre for children.

In July 2013, looking round its construction site, he said: It is wrong to view this simply as a children's hospital. Before being a hospital, it should be a place for defending and adding lustre to Chairman Kim Jong Il's idea on public health and demonstrating the advantages of our country's socialist healthcare system.

In October 2013, just before its inauguration, he came to the new hospital and named it Okryu Children's Hospital. And he said that among the projects to be completed on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the Party, the hospital had been one of his priorities and he had paid close attention to its construction.

With keen insight into the importance of dental hospitals in promoting the people's health, he gave instructions on how to build

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a modern dental hospital as well as a children's hospital in central Pyongyang. He selected its site and resolved the problems arising in the project.

In March 2014 he visited the Ryugyong Dental Hospital after its inauguration. After inquiring about the medical services at the hospital and its operation, he said: The hospital should make an active contribution to the promotion of the people's health. As it was built under the care of the Party, it should not be a facility for the sake of publicity or advertising. It is wrong to take it as something like a tourist attraction. This hospital should be devoted to treating patients, a facility serving the people and showcasing the advantages of our country's socialist healthcare system.

He also directed close attention to building the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital and wisely led the whole process of its construction.

He proposed building the hospital in the Munsu area and gave advice on its location, size and designs several times.

In May 2016, he visited its construction site and said: The Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital is a comprehensive and multi-functional medical facility devoted to treating eye diseases and also providing such services as the making and calibrating of eyeglasses. It was quite long ago that I planned to have a modern general ophthalmic hospital built for the people. This is something I wished for. That's why I proposed building the hospital following the completion of the Ryugyong Dental Hospital.



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In October that year, he visited the new hospital again and said: This is a people's hospital, a facility which will bring tangible benefits to the people. I am very glad to imagine their happy faces. This is just what is needed for our people.

He went on to say: We prioritized building such a multi-functional hospital and ensured that it was modernly equipped. This is not because our country is rich. It demonstrates the advantages of our socialist healthcare system, whereby the Party and the state take full responsibility for the people's life and health, and also the validity of our Party's people-oriented public health policy.

One of his concerns in improving the public health sector was how to increase the output of medicines, medical appliances and equipment, and to ensure their better quality.

In November 2014, while visiting the Jongsong General Pharmaceutical Factory, he said that the people should feel the advantages of socialism not in words or books but in the actual benefits they would get from the socialist healthcare system and the like, and underlined the need to increase the production of various kinds of medicines and enhance their efficacy. In September 2016, during his visit to the Taedonggang Syringe Factory, he adopted necessary measures to increase the output of syringes and ensure their better quality. He adopted similar measures during his visit to the Pyongyang Dental Hygiene Supplies Factory in June 2017. In January 2018, making the rounds of the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory, he stressed the need to produce more and better medicines. He

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emphasized that the factory should set an ambitious goal of catching up with its counterparts in advanced countries, adding that it should put its production on a normal footing to bring substantial benefits to the people.

The foregoing summarizes how Kim Jong Un led the public health sector to implement the Party's policy on preventive medicine and develop the people-centred socialist healthcare system.

## **Development of Art and Literature and Enthusiasm for Sports**

Kim Jong Un directed great efforts to developing art and literature and sports for the people.

In doing so he put the people forward as the masters responsible for the development of art and literature and sports.

In the DPRK, art and literature is very important in encouraging the population to strive hard for the building of a powerful socialist country, especially in helping them have a correct view on life and acquire ennobling mental and moral traits as they are playing the leading role in creating advanced civilization. On the other hand, sports is instrumental in consolidating the country's national strength, exalting its dignity and honour, inculcating national pride and self-confidence in the people, and making a revolutionary spirit prevail throughout society.

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Kim Jong Un led the sector of art and literature to keep step with the vibrant reality and create many excellent works, which are high in ideological and artistic quality and touch the heartstrings of the people.

In his letter, *Let Us Usher In a New Heyday of Juche-oriented Art and Literature as Required by the Times and the Developing Revolution*, sent to the participants in the Ninth National Conference of Artistes in May 2014, he set forth tasks to be tackled by creative workers and artistes in bringing about innovations in their work by learning from the creative style of the Moranbong Band, and specified how to update the fields of cinematic art, stage art, literature, mass-based cultural and art activities, fine art and acrobatics.

The Moranbong Band, as the replacement of the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble formed by Kim Jong Il, was organized and named by Kim Jong Un. *Moranbong*, meaning Moran Hill in Korean, was one of Kim Jong Il's favourite names.

Kim Jong Un gave advice on what the new band should focus on—developing traditional music and popular music in a balanced way, producing original works as suited to the tastes and emotions of the Korean people, and creating new forms and methods of performance by reflecting the spirit of the times.

In July 2012 the Moranbong Band gave its inaugural performance in his presence.

After the performance was over, Kim Jong Un said: Musical art is important in implanting patriotism in the people's minds. The

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performers have put on stage Korean musical pieces and world-famous songs, all re-produced in a peculiar fashion. All our artistic activities should be in Korean style. The Moranbong Band should become a powerful art troupe inspiring our service personnel and other people to the struggle for building a powerful socialist country. It should take the lead in implementing the Party's plan to create the arts conducive to the acceleration of the revolution and construction.

Soon afterwards, the artistes of the band gave another performance in celebration of the anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War. This left a deep impression upon the audiences.

On other significant occasions, they demonstrated their skills, instilling great confidence and courage in the people.

After the Eighth Conference of Ideological Workers of the WPK held in February 2014, Kim Jong Un saw to it that the band fired the first shot in the ideological offensive to rouse all the people to build a powerful socialist country.

Accordingly, for a week or so, the band performed at the April 25 House of Culture receiving loud applause from the audiences. Later, the band and other art troupes toured the country to inspire the locals with confidence in victory.

Under Kim Jong Un's wise leadership the Moranbong Band has since made a contribution to accelerating the general onward march for building a powerful socialist country, as befits an art troupe representing the arts of the country in the new century.

Kim Jong Un gave detailed guidance several times over the

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construction of the People's Theatre so that it could be built on the highest level on the occasion of the centenary of the birth of Kim Il Sung; thus the theatre has become an edifice in which formative and artistic characters have been applied wonderfully and a theatre frequented by the people.

He organized the Samjiyon Orchestra, a powerful art troupe, and ensured that it conducted brisk artistic activities. He also directed attention to turning the Samjiyon Orchestra Theatre into a modern natural acoustic theatre, equipped with all the conditions necessary for the creation and performance of musical art. When visiting the theatre before its opening, he looked round its exterior and interior for a long time, saying that a wonderful structure was built in the middle of the capital city, adding more to its scenic beauty, and that the people would be very pleased when they visited it.

He paid close attention to the cultural and artistic activities by the masses, thus leading them to raise the mass-based art onto a high level as creators and enjoyers of art and literature.

In April 2015 he enjoyed a performance given by the mobile artistic motivational team of a factory. When the performance was over, he clapped his hands before anybody else, saying that the ideological quality of the performance was perfect and moved his heart. He told the officials to have the day's performance videoed so that he could see it whenever he felt tired.

In July 2016, he enjoyed a performance given by the Korean People's Army units selected during artistic performances of officers'

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wives. He expressed great satisfaction over the successes made by the officers' wives who were taking the lead in implementing the Party's policy on mass-based culture and art. In May 2021 he watched another performance given by the officers' wives. He also saw the artistic performances given by the service personnel and working people wherever he went, encouraging them to work miracles and perform feats in building a powerful socialist country.

He wisely led the work of developing the country's specialized sports and making sports mass-based and part of daily life so that the whole country was filled with enthusiasm for sports.

He sent a letter *Let Us Usher In a New Golden Age of Building a Sports Power in the Revolutionary Spirit of Paektu* to the participants in the Seventh National Conference of Sportspeople in March 2015.

In the letter he wrote that building a sports power is a key focus of the Party in building a thriving socialist country, stressing the need to raise the country's sporting techniques to the world standard, make sports mass-based and a daily activity and improve the level of sports science in a short span of time so as to bring the Party's plan to brilliant fruition.

In January 2012 he watched a model game of radio-controlled model aircraft and a model contest of parachutists and had a photo session with them.

That day he learned that there were couple parachutists, and had another photo taken with the couples.

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He saw the final of men's football of sports teams during the 12<sup>th</sup> People's Games in October that year and a shooting contest and women's volleyball game in November. He went round the newly-built People's Open-Air Ice Rink and Roller Skating Ground, giving instructions on developing sports.

In February 2013 he watched a mixed match between players from the Hwaepul basketball team of Korea University of Physical Education and those from the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team of the United States on a visit to the DPRK, and in March saw an archery contest.

In September he watched a basketball match between the April 25 team and the Amnokgang team, together with former NBA player Dennis Rodman and his party, and saw the senior-level women's 63kg and 69kg category matches of the 2013 youth and senior Asian Cup and weightlifting league championships together with the vice-president of the International Weightlifting Federation, who was concurrently the first vice-president of the Asian Weightlifting Federation, and the secretary general and vice-president of the Asian Weightlifting Federation.

His efforts for the development of sports have increased public interest in sports, thus making the whole country enthusiastic about sports and bringing about unprecedented successes in sports games: the Korean sportspeople struck the world with wonder by winning many medals at the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games in July 2012 and other international games; the new special movement of high difficulty

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a Korean player displayed at the men's vaulting horse events at the Fifth Asian Gymnastic Championships and at the 45<sup>th</sup> World Artistic Gymnastics Championships created a great sensation in the world gymnastics circles.

Kim Jong Un met the players, who won gold medals at the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games, and their coaches in October 2012, the players, who won the EAFF Women's East Asian Cup, and their coaches in July 2013, and the players, who won gold medals at the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games and world championships, and their coaches in 2014. Whenever he had an opportunity, he said that the sportspeople, who had their national flag raised at international games, were genuine patriots and fancy persons.

He made sure that sports facilities were built up in a more splendid way in keeping with the sports development.

When visiting the Yanggakdo Football Stadium in April 2013, he indicated the orientation and ways for renovating the stadium as required by the new century.

In August he visited the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium under reconstruction, stressing the need to ensure the quality of the project. In September he visited the reconstructed stadium to learn in detail about the project.

In September he visited the May Day Stadium, and said that the stadium should be renovated as a symbol of the country's sports facilities and a stadium suited to the appearance of a highly civilized nation.

In November 2012 he sent many sports equipment needed for the



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development of weightlifting, boxing, wrestling, judo, gymnastics, tennis and rhythmic gymnastics to sportspersons and in December he also sent vehicles needed for sports teams.

He ensured that sports were put on a mass basis and became part of the people's daily life, and that the whole country seethed with enthusiasm for sports by raising social interest in sports.

He also saw to it that sports facilities were built in Pyongyang and local areas and sports parks built in different parts of the country so that the people could conduct sports activities to their heart's content.

As a result, modern sports facilities including the Masikryong Ski Resort and Mirim Riding Club were newly built to provide the working people with ample conditions for enjoying a sporting and cultural life.

Games of professional sports teams, contests of different occupational groups and school games were held in splendid sports facilities, drawing the interest of the people. And sports parks built in different parts of the country witnessed hot competition every day, and a wind of roller skating, riding and skiing swept across the country.

After visiting the Pyongyang International Football School in June 2013, he went round the characteristic basketball court, field hockey ground and other places in the Rungna People's Sports Park, saying that many public service centres had been built in Pyongyang and in different parts of the country in recent years to make sports mass-based and part of daily life of the people so that they could be trained fully

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for both labour and national defence.

In May 2013 he said that in order to develop the country's sports, it was necessary to create an atmosphere of playing sports throughout society and make sports mass-based, adding that to this end, it would be advisable to arrange games by occupation. In October 2017 he stressed the need to make all the people enjoy sports and the whole country seethe with enthusiasm for playing sports, and to organize sports games on major holidays and commemorative days so as to create a festive atmosphere.

On August 14, 2013, one day before the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the country's liberation, he watched a men's football match with senior officials of the Party and the state, sportspersons, working people and youth and students in Pyongyang. On May Day that year he watched the sports contest of the workers in the field of public health.

Whenever the players showed good techniques, he clapped his hands before anybody else, and when the sports games were over, he acknowledged the cheering players and spectators.

He proposed arranging national inter-provincial games to fan the flames of mass sports.

In September 2013 he said that state measures were taken for and social attention was directed to developing the country's sports as soon as possible, and that it was important to lead these measures to reality. He added that it would be a good idea to organize sports games after opening the renovated Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, and suggested organizing inter-provincial contests in the stadium.

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A national inter-provincial contest took place in the stadium in October 2013 on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un went to the stadium to watch the finals of various events in the field of mass sports. He applauded the players whenever they displayed a high level of techniques, diverse tactics and ennobling collectivist spirit.

In February and April 2023, too, he watched sports games held on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star (birth anniversary of Kim Jong Il) and the Day of the Sun (birth anniversary of Kim Il Sung), the greatest auspicious holidays of the nation. This served as another important occasion in raising a hot wind of sports across society and in developing mass sports.

The finals of the Games of the Workers in the Metal Industry Sector-2023 took place in Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, in May 2023.

Kim Jong Un arranged the games for the workers, who had been working hard to produce molten iron all year round, so that they could enjoy May Day, the holiday of the working people all over the world, in the capital city.

The games were a surprise and conspicuous event as its name indicated, and the two competing teams in the football game were from the Chollima Steel Complex and the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, well-known across the country.

The team from the Chollima Steel Complex won the game.

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That evening Kim Jong Un inquired about the results of the games, saying that the finals seemed to have been fine. He added that he wondered whether the footballers from the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex were dispirited as they had failed to win the game.

He stressed that they should be given the same awards as those given to those from the Chollima Steel Complex.

This was why an extraordinary “awarding ceremony” was held.

Kim Jong Un’s devoted efforts have brought about great innovations in the development of art and literature and sports, greatly encouraging the Korean people in their struggle to build a powerful socialist country.

## **Diversified Cultural Life of the Working People**

Kim Jong Un has seen to it that modern public service centres and bases for cultural and leisure activities are built to meet the requirements of the new century.

Thanks to his energetic guidance, ideal streets and villages have sprung up in different parts of the country—from the capital city of Pyongyang to the far-flung islands—and ordinary working people are enjoying a happy life there.

The bases for people’s cultural and leisure activities built on the bank of the Taedong River in Pyongyang tell of his devoted efforts.

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Kim Jong Un said on several occasions that a comprehensive public welfare service centre of the style of the Changgwang Health Complex should be built in the East Pyongyang area true to the lifetime instructions of Kim Jong Il.

And whenever he visited the Ryugyong Health Complex under construction, he said that its construction would mean carrying out an instruction of Kim Jong Il, who had so much concerned himself to provide the people with an affluent and civilized material and cultural life, adding: Bearing in mind that there can be no satisfaction in the work for the people, we should do our best till the day of its completion and turn it, a gift to be presented by the Party to the people, into a genuine service centre for them.

When he visited it again in November 2012, he was told that it was ready for opening after it was inaugurated. He said with a broad smile on his face that if the complex started service, many people would come to it, and continued: The complex is really wonderful. I am very satisfied with it. It should arrange its operation effectively so that the people can enjoy a happy and civilized life to their heart's content as creators and enjoyers of socialist culture.

He paid close attention to building a peculiar water park with modern facilities in the Munsu area on the picturesque bank of the Taedong River.

He said to the officials that he would have a modern water park built in the Munsu area, adding that he would dispatch a workforce needed for the construction of the park of El Dorado style.

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He confirmed the site of the park in the place where the then Munsu Amusement Park was located, and said: If restaurants and other facilities were to be built in the water park, it would claim a lot of money. But as the park is for the people's wellbeing, we should spare nothing. You should start designing without minding about the money.

During its construction he went over the formation plans of the park on many occasions and visited the construction site several times, indicating the orientation and ways so that the structures could be built in conformity with their characteristics.

The inauguration ceremony of the Munsu Water Park took place with splendour in October 2013.

The park is crowded in all seasons; in mid-summer when it is broiling, it attracts more and more people, and even in mid-winter it still bustles with people.

True to the instructions of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il on sprucing up Rungna Island as a pleasure ground for the people, Kim Jong Un made sure that a recreation ground was built on the island.

He guided its construction on site several times, including in April 2012. When he visited the recreation ground again in July before its inauguration, he said with satisfaction: Rungna Island can be called the best place for a people's recreation ground as not only a modern water park and amusement park but also a dolphinarium have been built on it. This area is a comprehensive recreation ground

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for the people, where the working people and youth and children can conduct cultural and leisure activities to their heart's content.

Some days later the recreation ground was inaugurated.

The imprints of the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un, who makes painstaking efforts to translate the dreams and ideals of the people into reality, are also left in the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort, a comprehensive hot spring treatment centre and multifunctional sports and cultural recreation complex.

He gave his opinions on its construction on dozens of occasions, including in the days of several on-site guidance trips he made from August 2018, acquainting himself with the supply of building materials and taking relevant measures.

It was in August 2018, when he set out on his on-site guidance trip with a plan to have a comprehensive and modern prototype of spa resort built in the area of Yangdok County.

That day, crossing through high mountains and rough passes, he looked round the Onjong-ri area in Yangdok County to inquire into the amount of the hot spring water gushing out and the surrounding environment in detail, and selected the site for a hotel.

In this way, a resort for the people was built in the formerly secluded area and inaugurated in October 2019.

Once, when he was visiting the resort under construction, an official said to him: This prime site has existed for 5 000 years but no one cared about it; but for you, who could have found it?

Then Kim Jong Un said that if officials tried their best to provide

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the people with a civilized life, they could set up in a place, which had been deserted for long, a model cultural facility to be an envy of the world.

His instructions reminded the officials once again how they should work for the good of the people.

Under his energetic leadership, not only the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort but also many recreation grounds across the country have been set up or renovated wonderfully.

He initiated the construction of a ski resort on Masik Pass, and visited its construction site several times in 2013, despite the hot weather in mid-summer and the bitter cold in December, to make it perfect not only at present but also in the distant future.

When he visited the completed Masikryong Ski Resort in December 2013, he personally took the chairlift to the summit of the resort to acquaint himself with its safety and convenience, saying that he should take it first before the people.

His efforts to provide the people with a civilized life are reflected also in other facilities—the Natural History Museum, a peculiar recreational base where students and working people can acquire a wide-ranging and rich knowledge of animals and plants, and the People’s Open-Air Ice Rink and Roller Skating Ground on the bank of the River Taedong, whose construction he guided on-site several times and where he had a photo session with the employees and children who were skating and roller-skating.

In November 2012 he proposed turning a soldiers’ riding ground



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into one for physical training by the civilians, guided the project and named it Mirim Riding Club.

The people enjoying themselves to their heart's content at the bases of cultural and leisure activities built in different parts of the country cannot be imagined separated from Kim Jong Un's devoted efforts for their wellbeing.

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It is the far-reaching intention and ideal of Kim Jong Un to build a powerful socialist country on this land and provide the people with the happiest life in the world.

The leadership of Kim Jong Un, who has led the campaign of gigantic creation in its van, has ushered in an era, in which the people's ideals are being brought into full bloom on this land even under the difficult conditions and circumstances, and accelerated the advance of the Korean revolution, bringing about one event after another noteworthy in the history of the country.

Lying under his ennobling devotion to the people is affection for and trust in them. It is his creed that there is no being more precious than the people in the world, that they are heaven and that the country exists for them.

He regards it as an expression of genuine patriotism for the prosperity of the country to hold the people in high esteem as much as

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he does Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and devote warm affection and painstaking efforts for the good of the people.

The happy life on this land is a precious asset gained thanks to the devotion of Kim Jong Un, who has made painstaking efforts for the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people, cherishing an ennobling outlook on life that if he surmounts difficulty for one year, his country will make an advance of ten years.

# **Journey of Devotion for the Good of the People**

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