

Concert Given on Occasion of Military Hardware Exhibition *Defence Development-2024*

A concert was given on the night of November 21 to mark the opening ceremony of the military hardware exhibition *Defence Development-2024* demonstrating once again the mightiness of the DPRK with great pride.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, saw the concert together with members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and other members of the Party central leadership body, major commanding officers of all military and political organs of the Korean People's Army, workers, scientists and officials in the munitions industry and the participants in the Fourth Conference of Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the KPA.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium, all the participants raised stormy cheers with boundless reverence for the peerlessly illustrious commander who is writing the hero story of bolstering up the national defence capability for realizing the cherished desire in the nation's history spanning five thousand years and who is ushering in a new period of great turn in building a powerful nation, while leaving sacred traces of great service and devoted efforts on a long historic journey for accomplishing the great cause of building a rich country with a strong army, shouldering the destiny of the country and people and their eternal future.

Put on the stage of the performance that started with a ceremony of a combined military band were colourful numbers including hymns to the leaders, revolutionary army songs and odes to the motherland.

The performers represented with stirring music the heroic combat spirit and noble patriotism of the KPA, which has written its proud history as the first death-defying corps defending the leader, the defender of the government of the Republic and the genuine army of the people, holding aloft the colours of honour embroidered with the sacred letters "For the eternal prosperity of the country and the people's wellbeing," while assuming the heavy historic responsibility for defending national sovereignty which could never be easily defended.

The audience gave big hand to the numbers evoking the memories of the long and glorious history of victory the DPRK and its people won by relying on the vanguard role of the revolutionary armed forces which have been ideologically elite and possessed the most powerful arms.

The performance impressively showed that the security of the beloved country and people, independence, justice and genuine peace are firmly guaranteed only by matchless capability of self-defence and there can be the dignity of the state that should be more firmly defended and the dream and ideal of prosperity that should be certainly realized at any cost, thanks to the great service and feats which have been performed from one century to the next.

The concert reached the climax with monumental odes fully representing the firm will of all the people across the country to eternally support with loyalty the socialist motherland, the benevolent embrace of the dear father who is translating the people's long-cherished desire into brilliant reality, embracing the destiny of all the people across the country.

It ended with the national anthem of the DPRK.

The venue for the performance was again rocked by the stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" raised by all the participants, filled with the pledge to death-defyingly defend the absolute prestige of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un and the invincibility of the cause of Juche by dint of the world's strongest military muscle.

The concert brilliantly decorated the night of the opening of the significant exhibition.

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