



Commemorating the June
15 Joint Declaration

lodestar

June 2004 (Juche 93)

Korean Friendship Association

www.korea-dpr.com

KFA statement of support for the June 15 Inter-Korean Joint Declaration

Four years have passed since the publication of the June 15th Inter-Korean joint declaration, a precious milestone that opens up a bright future for the Korean nation and reunification.

Marshal Kim Jong Il transformed the principle 'by our nation itself' into reality. Only his supreme intelligence and knowledge of the minds and wishes of our South Korean brothers revealed that the principle of *chajusong* was the nexus point where reunification was possible to achieve.

Nobody, including the USA, will dare to interfere in the blood links and decided spirit of the citizens of Koryo. Imperialist forces know they are no longer welcome; they can only leave once they realize they are powerless when the *Chollima* extends his wings, ready to fly.

The voice of the people in Seoul rises loudly, and the Southern soldier that once had to clean the boots of the imperialist landlord and suffer countless scenes of humiliation now looks to the horizon. In his thoughts, clouds and sunshine depict the image of the Supreme Commander with his uniform smiling, "Korea is free, Korea is One."

50 years of propaganda are not enough to weaken the spirit of a millenary nation. 50 years of sex slavery under the pirated banner of the United Nations is enough hypocrisy. South Korea is now awakening. Defend your dignity, protect your culture!

The joint declaration is a great success, since for the first time, South Korea acted as a sovereign country and embarked upon the path towards independence and national pride. The KFA will devote all of its energy to push forward the dream of a unified nation without interference by foreign governments, a nation based on the principles of the June 15th declaration.

Let us bring sooner reunification true to the Songun politics of Great Marshal Kim Jong Il!

Ryongchon reconstruction to be completed within three months: official

PYONGYANG (KCNA) -- Reconstruction work on shattered housing in the damaged area will be completed generally within a month or two, said an official of the Korean Measure Committee for Flood Damage.

The committee was established in 1996 to take measures for rehabilitation work on the damage of devastated flooding which occurred in 1995 and 1996 in the DPRK. The

main activity of the committee is to cope with emergencies including natural disasters and large-scale accidents.

He also said that the basic reconstruction in the Ryongchon area will be finished within three months.

In the resident area, the construction of model houses is in full swing. A model house is a two-story building and looks fine on the outside. Six families can live in the

building. The house has three rooms and a kitchen. Furniture and the necessities of life will be completely provided in the house, said an official concerned.

The destroyed Ryongchon Primary School and the Ryongchon Agricultural Vocational Collage are designated to be reconstructed at the highest priority. Servicemen have been mobilized for the restoration of those buildings. As of June 21, 161

people were killed in the train explosion, according to the committee.

According to Chang Song Gun, chairman of the Measure Committee for Flood Damage of Ryongchon County, a total of 153 officials of foreign embassies and international organizations visited Ryongchon. They unanimously admired rapid reconstruction in Ryongchon though the town had suffered heavy losses.

KFA organizes Reunification March

The Korean Friendship Association (KFA) is organizing a March for the Reunification of Korea, to take place July 20-31. The march will consist of KFA members and other guests, and will be preceded by a day-long International Meeting for the Reunification of Korea in Beijing on 18 July.

Dozens of participants from around the world are slated to join the march, which will include extensive tours of Pyongyang as well as excursions to famous historic sites throughout the country, including Nampho, Hyangsan, Sariwon County and Panmunjom. At Panmunjom, participants will face South Korean and US soldiers while reading statements demanding the end of the division of the Korean peninsula and the immediate expulsion of US troops.

The trip is sure to provide a unique experience in that participants will have the rare opportunity not only to visit the famed monuments, cultural sites and scenic wonders of the DPRK, but to experience ordinary life in North Korea by joining citizens in their work, leisure activities and meals. Delegates will assist peasants at a collective farm with their work for a day, and will also have the opportunity to join in sporting and cultural events with

locals—an opportunity rarely experienced by ordinary tourists.

Through the KFA, participants will have the chance not only to immerse themselves in the life and culture of the modern DPRK, but also to extend their solidarity directly with the Korean people in their struggle against US imperialism.

Literary Contest

July marks the tenth anniversary of the passing of the Great Leader Kim Il Sung. To honour the life and achievements of Kim Il Sung, the KFA has organized a literary contest. Please send your poem or essay to korea@korea-dpr.com before 10 July 2004.

Remember to include your name, birth date, country and occupation.

The best works will be presented to General Secretary Kim Jong Il by the KFA Delegation traveling to Pyongyang with the Reunification March at the end of the month.

A DPRK National Flag and badges' set will be awarded to the writer of the winning entry.

National Art Show Opens

PYONGYANG (KCNA) -- A national art show to celebrate June 19 opened with due ceremony at the People's Palace of Culture Wednesday on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of leader Kim Jong Il's start of work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. Displayed there are at least 50 art works such as acrylic painting "In the days of proclaiming the program for modeling the whole society on the Juche idea", Korean jewel paintings "Visualizing the future of the

country" and "Remembering the days of the anti-Japanese struggle" and Korean painting "Embracing Koreans in Japan" and acrylic painting "Comrade Kim Jong Il, lodestar of the world revolution" depicting the immortal exploits performed by the three generals of Mt. Paektu in the history of the WPK and their noble virtues, the single-hearted unity of the army and people of the DPRK and its socialist construction.

Seeing the art works, its participants recollected with deep emotion the significant decades in which historical changes took place in the building of the WPK and the development of the revolution under the experienced and tested leadership of Kim Jong Il. They were highly proud and honored to have the peerlessly great man and statesman as the top leader of the Party and the revolution.

Present there were Choe Ik Gyu, minister of Culture, officials concerned and artists and working people in the city.

Pyongyang Circus Proves Successful



PYONGYANG (KCNA) -- The Pyongyang Circus of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has successfully created colorful acrobatic pieces on the basis of realistic themes. These days the circus has performed newly-created aerial, physical, ice, synchronized swimming and animal acrobatic pieces.

Among them are such national aerobatics as "Young People Displaying Their Resourcefulness",

"Courageous Youth" and "A Woman Knight", and world-famous "Double Aerial Flight on Swing" and "Multi-Flight".

The stunts reflect the courage, grit and optimistic and emotional life of the Korean people.

The circus, which was founded in June Juche 41(1952) when the Fatherland Liberation War against the U.S. imperialists was at its height, greeted a new era of its development in the 1970s under the wise guidance of Kim Jong Il.

Many world-famous acrobatic pieces were created in that period. Typical of them are "Seesaw", "Rope-walking", "Rope Jumping", "Cheerful Cooks", "Two Seamen", "Brave Seamen", "Flying Girls", "Three-stage Trapeze Flight", "Plastic Acrobatics in Water", "Balancing in Water" and "Hand Trick on Ice".

Meanwhile, many illusionary, general and functional juggleries have been created and a radical change has taken place in their content, form and performance.

Since its foundation, the circus has given more than 24,000 performances at home and over 5,000 in more than 70 countries.

It has won more than 30 prizes including gold prize, gold lion, gold crane and President's prizes and a lot of silver and bronze prizes at the 8th World Acrobatics Championships and scores of acrobatic festivals. And it won special cups, grand cups and gold medals in several international magic festivals and produced a "Twice Magic King" and "Magic Queen".

New OD in Germany



Manfred Schneider has been appointed KFA Official Delegate in Germany. The webpage of KFA Germany, still under construction, can be found at: <http://www.nordkorea-info.de/> Schneider can be contacted at dprk@epost.de We sincerely wish him the best success in building Germany-DPRK friendship.

Kim Jong Il - 40 years of a feat



June 19 marks a significant anniversary for the Korean people this year. Forty years ago, in Juche 52, Comrade Kim Jong Il was appointed to the ranks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. The future leader was 22 years old.

Through what achievements during the past 40 years has Comrade Kim Jong Il glorified the DPRK and became forever etched into the memory of the Korean people?

First, the theoretical job carried out by Comrade Kim Jong Il is impressive.

His works on the Juche Idea have received worldwide acclaim and recognition. As the Great Leader Kim Il Sung said, "Kim Jong Il has brought up the seed of the Juche Idea into a rich crop of people's ideology." Amongst his many theoretical works are "On Juche Idea", "Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable", "Socialism Is the Life of Our People", "On Having a Correct Viewpoint and Understanding of Juche Philosophy", and many others.

In these theoretical works, Kim Jong Il has brilliantly developed the ideas and principles of Comrade Kim Il Sung. On the basis of the Juche approach to state leadership, the theory of Songun Revolution was created and advanced to adapt Juche to the pressures of the modern geopolitical order. Taking into account, as demonstrated by the historical experience of DPRK, that during the process of advancing the revolutionary socialist cause, imperialists counter with their own efforts aimed at ruining the world system of socialism, Kim Jong Il created a blueprint in which the Korean People's Army, closely linked to the working people, takes the lead in advancing the revolution.

The contributions of Kim Jong Il in developing socialist, genuinely people-oriented art in Korea is tremendous. Literature and cinema, theatrical and circus art – all are areas of artistic expression demonstrating the wisdom of Comrade Kim Jong Il. For example, having closely familiarized himself with the work of cinema directors, Comrade Kim Jong Il wrote the work "Cinema and Directing", the product of his studying the basic achievements of cinema and its urgent problems.

Inspired by the Dear Leader Kim Jong Il, Korean directors and script writers have produced many remarkable films that depict revolutionary themes, transforming the socialist culture of Korea from around the early 1970s. Comrade

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Kim Jong Il has also played a noteworthy role in development of mass-oriented literature. The work "Life and Literature ", in which Comrade Kim Jong Il analyzes the role of literature in socialist society and national culture, is a product of serious research and will prove beneficial to the future of revolutionary literature.

Comrade Kim Jong Il has also worked hard to improve the overall standard of living of Koreans. He initiated the development of housing construction, public health services and national education in Korea on massive scale in a time when the DPRK faced many adversities under the weight of US imperialism, shortages abounding. This includes the successful project to "computerize" Korea—a feat unprecedented for a developing nation. Under Kim Jong Il's leadership, the DPRK housing problem has been completely irradiated: from 1996 to 1998, Pyongyang experienced the construction of flats for more than 300 thousand tenants; in other cities around the DPRK, construction of similar scale was also initiated. By the beginning of 2002, the housing problem in the DPRK was completely resolved: every Korean family now has its own separate flat.

Perhaps the efforts of Comrade Kim Jong Il are best embodied in the great edifices that line the streets of Pyongyang and other major DPRK cities; Kim Jong Il developed a concept of city designing and building aimed at both the development of infrastructure and the enhancement of the aesthetic qualities of urban life. For example, in spite of the fact that North Korea has only a moderate number of automobiles, due largely to the country's extensive mass transit network, in the countryside one can see a network of up-to-date highways. A 250-kilometer highway from Pyongyang to Kaesong recently was constructed,

25 kilometers of which constitute tunnels in mountains. The highway satisfies all international quality standards, and was constructed with attention to Pyongyang's burgeoning car-manufacturing industry. While most cities in the West are choked with gridlock and traffic, Pyongyang can now thoroughly accommodate the steady rise in automobile use the DPRK faces as its economy grows.

A visitor to Pyongyang need not look far to witness the scope of Kim Jong Il's efforts to improve the lives of the masses. Pyongyang boasts the largest maternity hospital in the world, the Palace of Childhood, which in 1996 received recognition as a "world baby-friendly" healthcare center from the World Health Organization for the exceptional quality of its services. Pyongyang's Palace of Knowledge, May Day Stadium (the largest stadium in the world), and Chongchung Street (famous for its sixteen stadiums) all serve to enhance the intellectual and physical life of citizens and all were constructed under the supervision of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Finally, Comrade Kim Jong Il's achievements in agriculture merit attention, for his leadership was vital in leading the DPRK triumphantly through the "Arduous March", a period of DPRK history marked by natural disasters, international blockade and other adverse affects resulting from the destruction of COMECON. Throughout the late 1990s and into the present, Comrade Kim Jong Il has traveled frequently across the nation to offer on-site consultation with peasants to discuss possible ways of implementing more efficient methods of agriculture.

Kim Jong Il's nationwide program of land realignment also played a major role in resolving Korea's food crisis, while eliminating the remaining traces of feudal land ownership. As a result, even the countryside in the DPRK now reflects the character of a modern

socialist society. These measures, which have enabled the DPRK to double its food production, launched Korea's "Green Revolution," a revolution of parallel importance to the DPRK's much earlier industrial accomplishments in advancing national self-reliance.

Chairman Kim Jong Il's work and dedication reveal a true "man of the people," a leader as focused on improving the mundane aspects of ordinary life as realizing the grand ideals of socialist progress and human egalitarianism he holds dear. Yet no other modern head of state has been subject to the fanatical slander of Western media with such intensity as Kim Jong Il. Indeed, bourgeois propaganda around the world has viciously characterized his leadership as a "cult of personality." To this assertion Koreans often respond, "We don't agree about the cult, but what a personality!"

Article contributed by Comrade Voland, KFA Official Delegate in Russia

DPRK official visits Poland OD

On 23 May, KFA Poland Official Delegate Bartlomiej Patalag was visited by Jo Song Mu - Section Chief of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and Pak Song Chol, Cultural Attache of the DPRK Embassy in Warsaw.



PHOTO: From left: Jo Song Mu, Pak Song Chol, Marek Patalag and Bartlomiej Patalag

KFA Russia unveils new website

A new KFA Russian website was officially unveiled on 19 June, the day marking the 40th Anniversary of Kim Jong Il's election to the Central Committee of Workers' Party of Korea.

The new Russian-language website includes basic information about the KFA, DPRK music and photos, photos and email addresses of KFA officials, *Lodestar* Russian language editions, a links section, and a small library featuring the works of Kim Jong Il and Kim Il Sung.

The website can be accessed at: <http://korea-dpr.com/users/russia/>

Survey



From sacred Mount Paektu to solemn Panmunjom, the DPRK boasts a wide range of cultural, historical and geological wonders to share with its visitors. Where in the DPRK would you most like to visit, and why?

I believe that Panmunjom is a particularly moving place for it highlights not only the tragedy of Korean division but also the courage of the Korean people to fight U.S. imperialism to a standstill.

Iain Inglis
KFA UK/Japan

I would love to visit the big cities to see the wonderful people and to

experience their warmth first-hand. I can only imagine how it must be to live in a society such as DPRK with all it has to offer its citizens. This must be a wonderful place! It would also be nice to see some of the natural wonders of the DPRK, there must be a beautiful sea shore... I can only dream of it.

Donice Mundy
KFA USA

The place I would love to visit most is Panmunjom. I went on a tour of Panmunjom once from the south side in 1997 and it was an experience I'll never forget! I would love to tour this magnificent place from the north side to see the mirrored image of the south and experience the north's side of their viewpoints and thoughts and to hear their side of things.

Wayne Leskosky
KFA USA

The place that I would most like to visit in the DPRK would have to be the capitol, Pyongyang. The photos that I have seen of the capitol are amazing, when a person realizes how much destruction was done to the city during the war. It is so impressive to see what the Korean people have achieved with its reconstruction. It is a beautiful city of great monuments to the Revolution, as well as great museums showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the Korean people. Pyongyang would be the place that I would most like to see if I ever had the Fortune to visit the DPRK.

Peter W. Yancey
KFA USA

Mt. Paektu strikes me as the first place to visit other than P'yongyang when traveling to the DPRK. It is a mountain that is sacred not only to the Korean nation, but also to the immortal struggles of the Great

Leader Kim Il Sung against imperialism and in the name of socialism. Furthermore, there is simply so much natural beauty in such a setting!

Sean Burton
KFA Canada

I would like to visit the Monument to Party Foundation very much. This monument shows the power of Korean People under the banner of Songun. The hammer tells us the power of the workers who work for developing their country, defending Socialism and creating a better future. The hoe shows us that nature's workers are also friends of nature, creators of agriculture. The brush represents cultural workers who defend the DPRK with their artwork.

Oender Kulak
KFA Official Delegate
Turkey

I would like to visit Kumsusan Memorial Palace to pay my respects to Kim Il Sung. During the Korean War, nearly every building in the country was blasted to pieces. The fact that the DPRK re-built and, indeed, exists today is due to his leadership. Why would I visit a monument when I can instead pay my respects to the man who made it all possible?

George Graham
KFA Official Delegate
Canada

As Korea is one of the most ancient places for the humankind, I would want to visit, apart from Mt Paektu, Panmunjon and Pyongyang (Of course!); 1- The tomb of King Tangun, founder of the ancient Korea, 2- The ancient town of Kaesong and the villages near there, now famous for the Insam Indam and Ginseng, 3- All the ancient places near Pyongyang, like the gates of the

ancient city and to finish, the modern town of Wonsan, the best tourist city for the Korean people. It's not ancient, but it's the perfect place to relax...

Salvador Perugorria Lorente

KFA Official Delegate
Spain

Naturally the dearest places for me are Mangyongdae, the birthplace of the Great Leader President Kim Il Sung, and the secret camp on Mt. Paektu, the birthplace of the Leader Kim Jong Il. I had the happy opportunity to visit both places, Mangyongdae nine times and Mt. Paektu once. I also like Mt. Myohyang and Mt. Kumgang, wonderful scenic-spots and treasures of my beloved Korea. But generally speaking, I love all places in this wonderful country.

Martin Lotscher

President
Swiss Committee
for Korea's Peaceful
Reunification

Bright Star

(Thoughts on the Great
Leader Kim Il Sung)

*Towards the night sky I look up
To see many stars of white
Yet one stands out from the dark
space
A very bright red star
A revolutionary beacon
More glorious than the rest.*

Pete Fox
KFA USA

Paekma-Cholsan

Waterway Project under way

PYONGYANG (KCNA) -- The project of the Paekma-Cholsan Waterway makes headway in the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is an irrigation project to ensure natural flow of water. The preparations for over 40 water tunnel projects have been completed in a short span of time after the groundbreaking.

Signal successes are being registered in the projects of culverts and open sewers, and earth excavation for the rock bed of a reservoir dam.

The completion of the waterway project will help improve the irrigation system in the western part of the country and supply sufficient water to farmlands in Pihyon, Ryongchon, Yomju, Tongrim and Cholsan counties and some parts of Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province.

Meanwhile, over 260 water-pumping stations will be removed and tens of thousands of kilowatts saved.

Several minor power stations will be constructed along the waterway.

Election of deputies to local people's assemblies to be held



PYONGYANG (KCNA) -- A report of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly on holding the election of deputies to provincial (municipal), city (district) and county people's assemblies was released on June 24.

The report says that the election will be held on August 3, Juche 92 (2003) according to article 133 of the socialist constitution of the DPRK and decisions of provincial, city and county people's committees.

Profile: Bartlomiej Patalag



Position: Official Delegate

Location: Radom, Poland

Occupation: Student

Interests: Sociology, DPRK history and culture

Latest KFA project: improving KFA Poland website
(<http://www.korea-dpr.com/users/poland>)

In his own words:

I joined the KFA in October 2002 because the KFA is a unique organization which works for international friendship with the DPRK. I want all KFA members to know that in the future I will work to create friendly relations with the DPRK and to share the true reality of the country with Polish citizens, who for the most part still believe the imperialists' propaganda.

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