

Pyongyang, a Park City



Pyongyang, a Park City



**Korea Pictorial, Pyongyang, DPRK
Juche 91(2002)**

Pyongyang in the morning



Pyeongyang is the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Its history began after Tangun, the Kojoson, the first ancient state, in Pyongyang.

Pyongyang, with a history of 5,000 years, is now ushering in a new era of unprecedented prosperity.

In the center of the city is Moran Hill, to the east and west of which flow the Rivers Taedong and Pothong respectively.

Pyongyang has been built as a modern, youthful city which blends harmoniously with its natural environment.

The central point of the city is Kim Il Sung Square. On Namsan Hill, behind the square, stands the majestic Grand People's Study House.

Nearby are the Mansudae Assembly Hall, the Pyongyang Students Department Store No. 1, the Korean Central History Museum and a fountain park.

The city spreads eastward and westward along the banks of the River Taedong, which runs through its heart.

To the east of the river lie Munsu, Tongdaewon, Saesallim and Taehak streets.

On the west bank of the river, Sungri and Taedongmun streets lead to Kim Il Sung Square and are linked with Yonggwang and Chilsongmun Streets.

Changgwang, Chollim, Hyoksin, Yongung and Ragwon streets extend along the sides of the River Pothong, a tributary of the River Taedong.

In this area can be found unique monumental structures, such as the People's Palace of Culture, the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, the Changgwang Health Complex, the Ice Rink, the Chongryu Restaurant and the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.

Kaeson and Moranbong Streets stretch along Moran Hill.

The streets of the city form loops and the residential areas are divided into the living units of the inhabitants.

The elegance of Pyongyang is not limited in afforestation and water conservancy and in the architectural changes.

Large areas of greenbelt, fountain parks, pleasure parks and fun fairs... Visitors to Pyongyang say they feel as refreshed as they are when in a park. Therefore, Pyongyang is called a park city.

The amount of green space per resident is 58 square metres.

Moran Hill, a "garden" of the capital where various kinds of flowers are in full bloom and which is covered with green foliage, Mt. Taesong, inhabited by many beneficial birds, including pheasants, as well as roe deer and hare, and Munsu Hill, which is beautifully decorated with armful trees and various kinds of fruit trees... All hills and mountains in the city are covered with green foliage.

Rivers, too, add much to the beauty of the landscape of this park city.

Pleasure parks have been built for the people along the River Taedong, and the Taedong, Okryu, Yanggak, Chungsong, Rungna and Chongryu bridges over the river enhance the beauty of the riversides.

Willows, pine, fir and nut-pine trees and dozens of species of flower and fruit trees grow on the banks.

Gray mullet, carp, crucian carp and eel are caught by anglers from its clear water.

The scenery along the River Pothong is also attractive.

Before the liberation of the country, the riverside was considered as an eyesore because of the flood damage and contamination that occurred every year. It has since been turned

into a riverside loved by the people.

A canal over 9 kilometres long and the Pothonggang Pleasure Park, covering an area of over 300 hectares, have been built.

The presence of seagulls and wild ducks on the River Taedong and Pothong is testimony to the environmental improvements that have taken place.

The various fountains that can be seen in the city are another feature adding to its beauty.

Two fountains in the midstream of the River Taedong, which are capable of sending up 150-metre-high jets of water, the fountains on Chollima Street, and those in front of the Mansudae Art Theatre... Everywhere you go in the capital you can see fountains.

Pyongyang has changed beyond recognition thanks to the tireless efforts and lofty virtues of President Kim Il Sung, who applied his motto "The people are my God" in the reconstruction of the city and the afforestation policy and wise guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea.

After the Korean war (June 1950-July 1953), only piles of rubble remained in Pyongyang. The US imperialist aggressors dropped more than 428,000 bombs on Pyongyang, a greater number than the population of the city. They boasted that Korea would not be able to rise again, even in 100 years.

A report of an international fact-finding group said at the time: "In fact, destruction is 100 percent at present." Not a single brick remained intact.

President Kim Il Sung ensured that a masterplan for the rehabilitation and construction of Pyongyang City was drawn up in January Juche 40(1951), even though the whole country was still in the flames of war. After the war he assumed the heavy responsibility of Chairman of the Rehabilitation Committee of

Pyongyang City and inspired the people to perform the heroic task of rebuilding the capital.

Under his wise guidance Pyongyang healed its war wounds in less than 10 years.

The city which rose from the ashes was designed as a modern one and grew even more splendidly in the period from the 1950s to the 1970s.

In the 1980s another great change began with the construction of Changgwang Street under the outstanding guidance of leader Kim Jong Il.

In this grand street, attractive high-rise buildings in a variety of styles were built in green open spaces, harmonizing well with each other.

After Changgwang Street was completed, Munsu, An Sang Thae, Kwangbok and Thongil streets were built in equally distinctive styles.

The Tower of the Juche Idea, the Arch of Triumph, the Monument to Party Founding, the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, the Okryu Restaurant, the May Day Stadium and other monumental edifices have completely altered the appearance of the capital.

Kim Jong Il has ensured that when a building is erected afforestation must be carried out simultaneously, in conformity with the developing reality and increasing demands and expectations of the population.

Pyongyang has turned into a powerful production city with heavy and light industries and agriculture, but at the same time it has become a city in a green forest through the constant expansion of afforested areas.

Today, the city continues to renew its appearance, in line with the WPK's belief that a city must be in a park and houses in a garden.



Mansu Hill, on which President Kim Il Sung's statue stands.

Mansu Hill, dear to the hearts of the Korean people, is in the center of Pyongyang.

The Grand Monument on Mansu Hill and the Korean Revolution Museum are two prominent structures that can be seen there.

President Kim Il Sung's statue takes center stage at the monument. The large flag memorials standing on either side of the statue represent the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and the period of socialist revolution and construction, consisting of 119 sculptures and 109 sculptures respectively. The sculptural groups rise to a height of 5 metres on average.

The front mural of the Korean Revolution Museum depicts Mt. Paektu, sacred to the Korean revolution. It can be seen behind the monument.

In recent years many foreigners as well as Koreans have visited the President's statue on Mansu Hill to express profound feelings of respect to him.





The Chollima Statue and Chilsongmun Street.

The Chollima Statue symbolizes the heroic mettle and indomitable spirit of the Korean people in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea. They are making ceaseless innovation and continuous advance in the spirit of Chollima, a legendary horse that was said to cover a thousand *ri* (400km) in a day.

The statue stands 46 metres high, with the sculpture itself 14 metres high and 16 metres long.

It was unveiled on April 15, Juche 50 (1961).

Chilsong Gate.



Chilsongmun Street in spring.





Kim Il Sung Stadium and the Arch of Triumph.



Chongryu cliff
of Moran Hill.



The Choesung Pavilion and the Hyonmu Gate on Moran Hill.

The peony-shaped Moran Hill is situated in the heart of Pyongyang. Its beautiful scenery attracts many visitors.

Chongryu cliff along the clear River Taedong, the Ulmil, Choesung and other pavilions, and the old ramparts and city gates amid the green foliage of the woods that cover the hill create a beautiful scene.

The hill covers an area of over 270 hectares, where over 180 species of plant grow and over 70 species of bird can be found.

After the liberation of the country Kim Il Sung Stadium, the Moranbong Theatre and the Kaeson Youth Park were built. Thus, the hill has turned into a recreation area for the city's people.

Moran Hill is associated with the revolutionary history of President Kim Il Sung, leader Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Suk, an anti-Japanese heroine.

The Arch of Triumph, a monumental structure, the monument to President Kim Il Sung's handwritings from his address at a rally to welcome him on his triumphant return to the homeland and a mural commemorating his address have been erected.

The Jongsung and Hungbu revolutionary sites and trees bearing slogans carved during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle can be also seen on the hill.



Jongum Gate.



The Aeryon Pavilion.

Kaeson Youth Park is situated at the foot of Moran Hill, near the Plaza of the Arch of Triumph.

This distinctive park covers an area of over 40 hectares, combining modern amusement facilities with a forest-garden environment.



Kaeson Youth Park



Moranbong Youth Park.



The Ulmil Pavilion in spring.



At the Moranbong Pleasure Park.



Moranbong Youth Park in winter.



Central District, Pyongyang, viewed from the River Taedong.



The Tower of the Juche Idea stands by the side of the River Taedong, which flows through the centre of Pyongyang. It was unveiled on April 15, Juche 71 (1982), on the occasion of the 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung.

The tower is 170 metres high, and its two faces, front and rear, are inscribed with the letters “Juche” in gold.

The tower is capped by a 20-metre-high torch, which is held by a plinth 8 metres in diameter.

The tower is clad with a total of 70 granite blocks. Its two faces, front and rear, are dressed with 18 blocks each, while the two lateral sides use 17 blocks each.

An ode monument is attached to the pedestal’s facade. The right and left sides of the pedestal are adorned with stone baskets full of Kimilsungias and magnolias carved in relief.

The walls of a recess in the pedestal are decorated with pieces of rare marble sent by leaders, prominent political and public figures and followers of the Juche idea from many countries.

In front of the tower is a 30-metre-high statue of a worker, a peasant and an intellectual holding a hammer, a sickle and a writing brush respectively. Behind the tower are six group sculptures.

On both sides of the tower stand pavilions.



Two large fountains which can send up 150-metre-high jets of water can be seen in the midstream of the River Taedong.

The tower, which reflects the desire of the Korean people to convey to posterity the revolutionary exploits of President Kim Il Sung, was built in a short period of time at the initiative of Kim Jong Il and under his energetic guidance.

The Tower of the Juche Idea.



The park and fountains around the Tower of the Juche Idea.



The Okryu Bridge.



The Okryu Restaurant.

The Okryu Restaurant on the banks of the River Taedong in the heart of Pyongyang and the nearby Okryu Bridge, which links the area to east Pyongyang, were completed in August Juche 49(1960).

Located near scenic Moran Hill, the Okryu Restaurant stands on rocks washed by the clear water of the river. The restaurant is built in traditional Korean style and is popular with locals and visitors alike. It pleases the palate of both Koreans and foreigners with its various delicacies, including the famous Pyongyang cold



Boating on the River Taedong.



The promenade along the River Taedong.



A night of celebration.



Rungna Island, in the centre of the River Taedong, is an alluvial circumference of 6 kilometres. It is 2.7 kilometres long and its widest point is 0.5 kilometres from east to west.

To the west of the island is Moran Hill, while Munsu Street, with its many tall apartment buildings, lies to the east.

The island is dominated by the modern May Day Stadium, which has a seating capacity of 150,000, another monumental creation in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea. Various kinds of open-air sports and amusement facilities and public amenities can be found around the stadium.

One spring day in Juche 54(1965), President Kim Il Sung visited the island and planted a tree there, signaling his intention to make it a recreation area for the people.

Under the energetic guidance of leader Kim Jong Il, the island has become a place resembling a giant flower basket floating on the river and a major recreation centre.

The Rungnado Pleasure Park.



The River Taedong is one of the five longest rivers of Korea. It is 450.3 kilometres long and drains an area of over 20,000 square kilometres.

The river basin is a favourable location for settlement. It is where Koreans have lived for thousands of years, and a historic, sacred place where early civilization developed because of the clear water, wide and fertile fields, rich natural resources and warm temperatures.

Tangun, the father of the Korean nation, founded Kojoson, the first ancient state in the East, in the area around Pyongyang at the beginning of the third millennium BC. The basin of the River Taedong developed to become the centre of ancient Korean culture and a holy place of the Korean nation.

The River Taedong has flowed together with the trying history of Korea. Under the wise guidance of President Kim Il Sung and leader Kim Jong Il after the liberation of the country it has turned into a beautiful river giving



The River Taedong flows through the centre of Pyongyang.



Wild ducks on the River Taedong.

happiness to the people, a river which displays the nation's wisdom and dignity.

On the River Taedong are several barrages, including the Mirim Barrage, and the Okryu, Chongryu and other bridges, while on the banks are the Tower of the Juche Idea and other monumental structures created in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea.



Historic Mangyongdae.



Mangyongdae is the historic place dear to the hearts of all Korean people where President Kim Il Sung was born on April 15, Juche 1(1912) and spent his childhood. It is the cradle of the Korean revolution.

The President's birthplace, the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Museum and many precious relics associated with the brilliant

revolutionary exploits of the president and his revolutionary family can be found at Mangyongdae

At the Mangyongdae leisure Park are the Mangyongdae Fun Fair and the Mangyongdae Swimming Pool.

A constant stream of Koreans and foreigners visits this sacred spot where President Kim Il Sung was born as the Sun of Juche.



The Mangyongdae Fun Fair.



The Mangyongdae Swimming Pool.



Partial view of
Central District.



Taedong Gate in summer.



The Pyongyang Bell.



The Ryongwang Pavilion.

The Taedong Gate on the banks of the River Taedong in the heart of Pyongyang is the eastern gate of the inner fort of the Walled City of Pyongyang. It was erected in the mid-6th century in the period of Koguryo.

The gate is 19 metres high. The two-storey gatehouse is built on a 6.5-metre-high granite terrace. The pillars are painted red and

the girders and rafters are gracefully decorated.

The pavilion for the Pyongyang Bell, which was cast in the period of Ri Dynasty, stands near the gate. The bronze bell weighs 13,518 kilograms. Its surface is engraved with patterns of clouds and waves and an account of the bell's history. Its head is delicately carved with blue and yellow dragons.



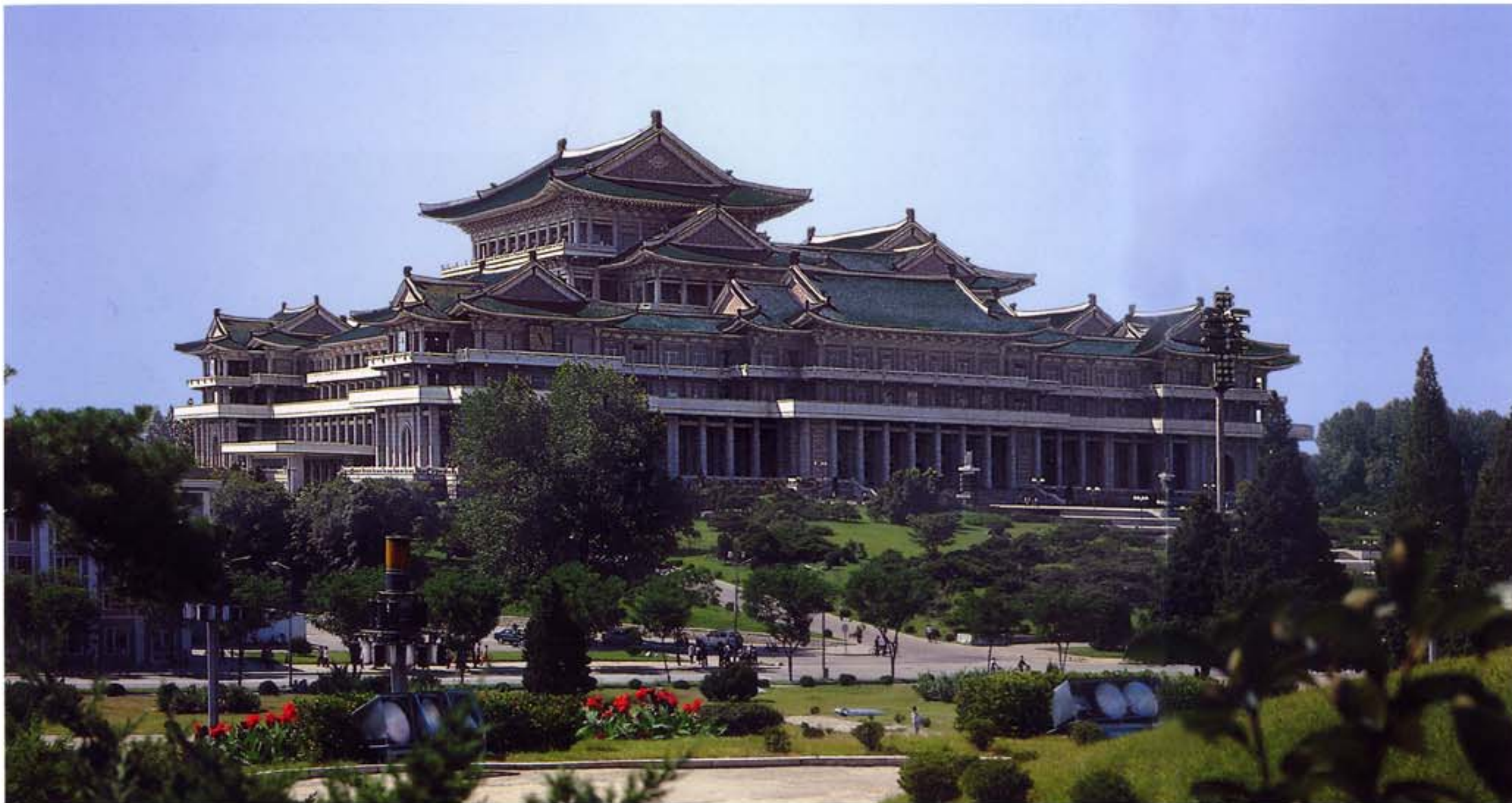
The Mansudae Art Theatre and the fountain park.



Circular staircases in the theatre.



Sculptures in the fountain park.



The Grand People's Study House.



The Grand People's Study House is situated in the heart of Pyongyang. It is a center for the effort to intellectualize the whole of society, a distance learning university of working people, and a grand palace of all-people study.

It has a total floor space of 100,000 square metres and comprises 10 blocks. The largest Korean-style building in the DPRK, it opened in April Juche 71(1982).

The study house has more than 600 rooms, including reading rooms, lecture rooms, information rooms and question-and-answer rooms. All of them are equipped with modern facilities.

Its library has a capacity of 30 million books and can accommodate more than 12,000 people a day on average.

Book-lending is done automatically by a book transmission device.

The study house also provides foreigners with study facilities.

As the DPRK's representative to the International Federation of Library Associations, the study house works to strengthen ties with many international organizations, as well as libraries, museums, scientific research institutes and publishing groups of various countries.



The Monument to Party Founding.

The Monument to Party Founding was built to convey forever the great exploits accomplished by President Kim Il Sung in building a Juche-oriented revolutionary party. The grounds of the monument cover an area of over 250,000 square metres.

The monument features three 50-metre-high towers, in the shape of a hammer, a sickle and a writing brush respectively. They symbolize a worker, a peasant and an intellectual, and are joined by a round belt structure whose external diameter is 50 metres and whose foundation is 70 metres across. Surrounding the monument is the area where visitors are told about its history and purpose and a fountain park stretching to the River Taedong. Nearby are a lawn covering an area of 130,000 square

metres, over 53,000 trees and 12 basins of fountains.

The round belt structure is carved with the slogan “Long Live the Workers’ Party of Korea, the Organizer and Guide of All Victories of the Korean People!” Its inside is carved with three bronze reliefs showing the Party’s history and might.

Flag-shaped apartment buildings form the backdrop to the monument.

Under the energetic guidance of leader Kim Jong Il, the monument was built at the heart of Mansu Street on the opposite side of the River Taedong to Mansu Hill, where the President’s statue stands.

The monument was unveiled on October 10, Juche 84(1995), the 50th anniversary of the WPK.





The Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

The Pyongyang Maternity Hospital is a comprehensive medical service center for women and an obstetrics and gynaecology research center. The hospital opened in March Juche 69(1980).

With a total floor space of over 60,000 square metres, it comprises a 13-storey main building, or Section No. 1(for the treatment of Patients), Section No. 2 and Section No. 3 which flank the main building, and several auxiliary buildings.

A mosaic made of precious stones forms the

floor of the entrance hall, above which hangs a sunflower-shaped chandelier.

Over 2,000 rooms are conveniently distributed for treatment throughout the buildings.

The hospital is fitted with up-to-date medical equipment, including multi-use operating tables and incubators, auxiliary diagnosis equipment and equipment for treating women in childbirth. It has a closed circuit television system, wireless communication facilities, its own power plant, central heating and equipment for the control of



Pyo^{ng}yang was once called “Ryugyong” or “willow city”.

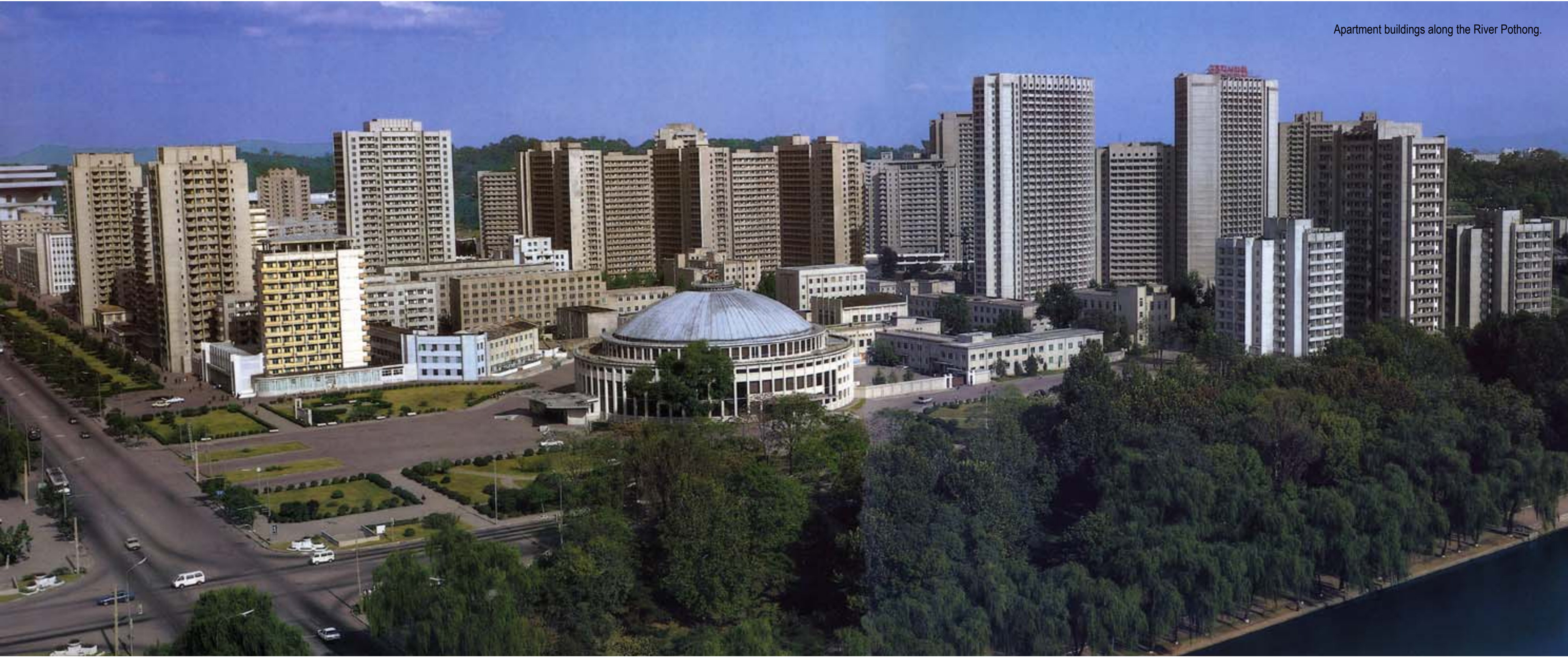
Weeping willows on the banks of the Rivers Taedong and Pothong add to the scenic beauty of the ribersides, with the shady willows of summer and frost-covered tress of winter particularly picturesque.

The people of Pyongyang have planted many willows around the city to further beautify its scenery.

Some agencies and structures are named “Ryugyong”, as if boasting of Pyongyang’s long history.

The River Pothong in the morning.

Apartment buildings along the River Pothong.





The banks of the River Pothong at night.



The River Pothong flows between Central and Pothonggang districts.



The Ice Rink.



The 55.2-kilometre-long River Pothong flows through the west of Pyongyang and has several tributaries.

In the past the river was named the “river of grudge” or the “river of tears” due to the flood damage and disease nearby residents suffered.

Thanks to the completion of the River Pothong improvement

project in Juche 35 (1946), right after liberation of the country, on the initiative of President Kim Il Sung and under his wise guidance, the inhabitants could begin to lead a happy life without worry.

A canal was built and the Pothonggang Pleasure Park, covering an area of several hundred hectares, was created.



The People's Palace of Culture.



The Chongryu Restaurant.



Chollima Street.



The Changgwang Health Complex.



Chollima Street and fountain sculptures.



The Chilgol revolutionary site.

Chilgol is a historical site where President Kim Il Sung cultivated revolutionary ambitions during his childhood and the place where his mother, Kang Pan Sok, was born and spent her childhood.

Monumental Kwangbok Street was built at the end of the 1980s.

The main road is 100 metres wide and 6 kilometres long, featuring a number of flyovers. Tall modern apartment buildings of unusual curved or circular shapes stand in harmony with the surrounding scenery, creating a unique architectural attraction.



Apartment buildings on Kwangbok Street.



Kwangbok Street.



The Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace is a comprehensive extracurricular educational center for schoolchildren.

The palace covers an area of 300,000 square metres and has a total floor space of over 103,000 square metres. The eight-storey palace consists of six linked blocks.

Children, the "kings" of the country, are able to realize their potential in over 200 clubs in the fields of science, art and sport.

The palace has nearly 700 rooms, a 2,000-seats theatre, a library, a gymnasium, an indoor swimming pool, an electronic amusement room,

and other facilities for extracurricular activities. It also has a science hall, a nature hall and a hall filled with zoological specimens.

Outside the palace is a practice area where schoolchildren can learn how to drive a car or tractor.

Education and the use of facilities at the palace are provided free of charge by the state.

In front of the palace are the April 15 Children's Flower Garden and "dancing" fountains.



The Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.



The Fourth Kimilsungia Show.



The kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition House.



Kimilsungia.



Kimjongilia.



제6차 김정일화전시회장

Kim Il Sung University was founded on October 1, Juche 35(1946), as the first people's university in the DPRK. It is the most prestigious educational institution in the country and a centre for training the nation's cadres.

The university is situated on 1,560,000 square metres of land in Taesong District, Pyongyang.

Its many buildings form a harmonious picture. They include the main building, Buildings Nos. 1 and 2, a science library, a nature museum, a gymnasium, a publishing house, a printing shop and student dormitories.

President Kim Il Sung provided on-the-spot guidance on

over 100 occasions and gave important instructions on over 500 occasions for the foundation and strengthening of the university. Leader Kim Jong Il has taught on over 1,600 occasions how to develop the university to a higher level.

Kim Jong Il matriculated at the university in September Juche 49(1960) and conducted revolutionary activity while a student there. His presence marked an event of epochal significance in the history of the university.

The university has 13 faculties, 3 colleges, 9 research institutes in the field of natural science and 200 departments and laboratories.



Kim Il Sung University.



The Kumsusan Memorial Palace is situated in the picturesque Kumsusan area of Pyongyang. It is a grand memorial palace where President Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and people, lies in state, and the sacred temple of Juche.

The Kumsusan Assembly Hall, which was consecrated as the memorial palace, was a historic site in that it was here that the President guided Party and state affairs and made an immortal contribution to the Korean revolution and the cause of global independence. It was a glorious, sacred place of the revolution associated vividly with the President's leadership. It was also the place he lived during the last years of his life.

Since the President passed away, leader Kim Jong Il has shown the deepest concern to ensuring that he continues to be held in high esteem and has made every effort to realise that goal.

The Kumsusan Memorial Palace Plaza was paved with granite as part of the transformation of the assembly hall. An access corridor about 1,000 metres long, an arboretum covering an area of 100 hectares and a wide forest grown for scenic beauty were newly created as well.

The memorial palace opened to the public on July 8, Juche 84(1995), the first anniversary of the death of the President.

The Kumsusan Memorial Palace is now associated with the devotion of Kim Jong Il and the warm hearts of the people, and is a symbol of the dignity and the pride of Kim Il Sung's nation.

The Kumsusan Memorial Palace.



A canal of the Kumsusan Memorial Palace.



Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification.



Decorative sculptures on Thongil Street.

Thongil street was built in the 1990s on a vast plain in Raknang District.

The main road is over 100 metres wide and several kilometers long. Around it stand giant apartment buildings in the form of towers and folding screens, as well as various public service facilities.

Sculptures depicting the ardent wish of the Korean people for national reunification can be found at many places on the street, all of which were designed to blend with the tall apartment blocks.

Fiery young people and pro-reunification patriotic fig-

ures from south Korea have passed along the street, expressing regret at parting from their fellow countrymen in the northern half of the country as they returned home through the Military Demarcation Line. Hero Ri In Mo, an incarnation of faith and will, and other former unconverted long-term prisoners, patriotic fighters, who crossed the barrier of division have been warmly welcomed on the street, whose name means “reunification”.

The Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification was erected at the southern entrance to the street in Juche 90(2001).





The South Gate of the Fort on Mt. Taesong.



Folk dancing.

A modern recreation and amusement park covers over 2,000 hectares of land on Mt. Taesong.

On the ridge of Jujak Peak is the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery, where busts of revolutionary martyrs who fought for the country's liberation and the people's freedom and emancipation stand.

The entrance to the park is flanked by the Central Zoo and the

Central Botanical Garden.

Kwangbop Temple and other historic remains, the South Gate of the Fort on Mt. Taesong, beautiful pavilions and many old ponds are among the mountain's many attractions.

The park provides an excellent range of modern amusement facilities and various public service facilities.

The Taesongsan Pleasure Park.





Lake Michon in the Taesongsan Pleasure Park.



Some of the animals at the zoo.



Edited by Han Pon Jo.

*Photographed by Ri Song Il, Kim Jin Ho, Ri Chun,
Jong Ui Yol, Jong Myong Il, Kim
Yong Nam and Jin Yong Ho.*

Written by Choe So Ok and Ri Jung Gil.

Translated by Choe Sang Gwon and Im Hwan.

Layout by Hwangbo Ki Won.

Pyongyang, a Park City

Published by Korea Pictorial.

Printed at the printing plant of the Foreign Languages Publishing House.

Published on May 30, Juche 91(2002).

No. 283216

