

### **People Vow Their Loyalty at Kumsusan Memorial Palace**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- An increasing number of people are visiting the Kumsusan Memorial Palace where the bier of leader Kim Jong Il is placed.

They deeply grieve over the biggest loss to the Korean nation.

"President Kim Il Sung, we grew up under your loving care and became officials thanks to the trust of leader Kim Jong Il but we failed to perform filial duty as disciples and obligation as soldiers. How can we beg for forgiveness?"

This is the lamentation made by O Hi Sun, 56, vice-minister of Metal Industry, looking up to the portrait of the smiling President displayed on the front wall of the palace.

People weep bitterly before the bier of Kim Jong Il.

He lies in state in simple jacket he always wore during forced march for field guidance, his body draped in a red flag. Looking up to him the mourners are calling him in chocking voices. "Please come back to the people you loved so much." "You can not pass away."

Nam Chol Song, 47, officer of the Korean People's Army, said that Kim Jong Il is always with servicepersons of the KPA, renewing his pledge to hold arms more tightly and remain true to the leadership of Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, who is identical to Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il.

Mun Myong Chol, 52, workshop leader of the Pyongyang 326 Electric Wire Factory, said Kim Jong Un represents the destiny and future of Korea. He expressed belief that the cause of building a thriving nation and the cause of national reunification will be surely achieved under the leadership of Kim Jong Un as a strong foundation for them was laid by Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

### **Compatriots in Russia Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Leading members of compatriots' organizations and compatriots in Russia Tuesday visited the DPRK consulate general in Nakhodka to express condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. They included the chairman of the Korean Nation's Cultural Association of Nakhodka City of Maritime Territory of the Russian Federation, the chairman of the National Cultural Center in Partizansk City, the chairman of the Autonomous Korean National Cultural Society and the chairman of the Edinstvo Organization.

They laid wreaths before the portrait of Kim Jong Il.

All of them could hardly keep back their grief over the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il on the way of field guidance.

Highly eulogizing the immortal exploits performed by Kim Jong Il, they expressed their determination to overcome sorrow and display strength and courage and make positive efforts for the prosperity and reunification of the country under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.

### **Unforgettable Last Days of Kim Jong Il's Life**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- The weather data on the last days of leader Kim Jong Il's revolutionary activities are moving the hearts of all the Korean people. It was December 16 when the leader set out on the continuous forced march after giving field guidance to the Hana Music Information Center and the Kwangbok Area Supermarket.

That day the weather was very cold with fishtail and strong wind. The strength of wind was 5-8 meter per second in most regions of the country, up to 16 meter at maximum in some areas of its northern inland.

The temperature at noon was 6-9 degrees centigrade lower than the average, registering the lowest since 1985.

Meanwhile in East and West Seas the wind blew 10-15 meter per second, causing the waves to rise up to 2-3 meters.

In the morning of Dec. 17 when he was on the train to make a journey of field guidance for the people the temperature was 4-7 degrees centigrade lower than the average, scoring the lowest this winter.

Those weather data make one more keenly feel the painful labors of Kim Jong Il who continued in common attire his journey of field guidance with patriotic devotion despite the biting cold weather.

Bad days, snowy or rainy, were more frequent than fine and clear days in the course of his long journey for field guidance, weather experts said, stressing that the spring of prosperity under socialism will surely come to the country thanks to the patriotic devotion of Kim Jong Il who blocked the howling wind of history till the last moments of his life.

### **Chinese Embassy Officials Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Liu Hongcai, Chinese ambassador to the DPRK, and staff members of his embassy here on Wednesday laid wreaths before the bier of leader Kim Jong Il.

Wreaths in the name of the ambassador and the embassy were placed there.

Written on the ribbons of the wreaths were letters reading "In Memory of Comrade Kim Jong Il".

They paid silent tribute in humblest reverence to the bier of Kim Jong Il and went round it.

They made entries in the mourners' book.

### **S. Korean Religious Organization Issues Condolatory Address**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- The south Korean Buddhist Jogye Order published a condolatory address on Wednesday over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The address expressed deep condolences over the demise of Kim Jong Il, chairman of the National Defence Commission.

It extended profound consolation to the compatriots in the north overwhelmed with the great sorrow over the great loss.

It called for promoting dialogue and exchange between the south and the north.

### **Ethiopian President Expresses Sympathy over Demise of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received Tuesday a message of condolences from President of Ethiopia Girma Wolde-Giorgis.

The message said:

On behalf of the people and government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and that my own, I would like to express my profound sorrow at the death of H.E. Mr. Kim Jong Il, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army.

At this hour of mourning we express our heartfelt sympathy and deep condolences to the people and government of the DPRK.

### **Wreaths to Bier of Kim Jong Il from China**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Wreaths came from the C.C., the Communist Party of China, the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, the State Council and the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference of the People's Republic of China and the Central Military Commission of the CPC on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

Chinese Ambassador to the DPRK Liu Hongcai and his embassy officials laid wreaths before the bier of Kim Jong Il on Wednesday.

### **Nepali FM Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Narayan Kaj Shrestha, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Nepal, on Tuesday visited the DPRK embassy in Katmandu to express condolences over the passing away of leader Kim Jong Il.

After laying a floral basket before the portrait of Kim Jong Il, the foreign minister expressed deep sympathy.

The unexpected demise of Kim Jong Il gives the great sorrow to not only the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people but also the Nepalese people and other progressives the world over, he said, adding:

His Excellency Kim Jong Il was the great leader of the Korean people and a prominent leader of the international labor movement and socialist movement.

We hope that the WPK and the Korean people would overcome their sorrow and vigorously advance along the road of socialism pioneered by President Kim Il Sung and led to victory by Kim Jong Il despite ordeal and trial.

We express deep condolences to the WPK and the Korean people over the passing away of Kim Jong Il.

### **Russians Visit DPRK Embassy to Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Sazhi Umalatova, chairwoman of the Party for Peace and Unity of Russia, together with members of its leadership Tuesday visited the DPRK embassy in Moscow to express condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. They laid a floral basket and bouquets before the portrait of Kim Jong Il and observed a moment's silence.

The chairwoman said:

We can hardly repress our sorrow at the sudden demise of Comrade Kim Jong Il and feel as if our hearts would break.

We hope that the Korean army and people will overcome sorrow and display strength and courage to dynamically advance under the leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un.

She made an entry in the mourners' book as follows:

I express most profound condolences over the demise of Comrade Kim Jong Il. His great heart stopped beating in the struggle for the happiness and prosperity of the Korean people. I pray for the immortality of Comrade Kim Jong Il.

### **Homepages Opened in S. Korea to Mourn Kim Jong Il's Demise**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Internet homepages for mourning the demise of Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, were opened in south Korea on Dec. 19 when the sad news of his demise was reported, according to south Korean CBS.

Posted on those homepages in succession are articles carrying deep regret of south Koreans at his sudden demise.

### **Natural Wonders Observed**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Peculiar natural wonders were observed on Mt. Paektu, Jong Il Peak and Tonghung Hill in Hamhung City where the statue of President Kim Il Sung is standing at a time when all Korean people are mourning the demise of leader Kim Jong Il in bitterest sorrow.

On the morning of Dec. 17 layers of ice were broken on Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu, shaking the lake with big noise.

The Group for Comprehensive Exploration of Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu said it was the first time that such big noise was heard from the ridge of Janggun Peak and the lake.

The temperature on Mt. Paektu that day registered 22.4 degrees centigrade below zero and there was strong wind accompanied by snowstorm measuring 18 meters per second. The snowstorm stopped blowing all of a sudden from dawn of Tuesday and heavy clouds were seen hanging around Hyangdo Peak.

At around 8:05 a.m. the sky began turning red with sunrise on the horizon. The peaks looked like a picture for wide and thick glow.

Kim Jong Il's autographic writings "Mt. Paektu, holy mountain of revolution. Kim Jong Il." carved on the mountain, in particular, were bright with glow.

This phenomenon lasted till 5:00 pm.

Glow was seen atop Jong Il Peak for half an hour from 16:50 on Dec. 19 when the nation was shocked by the news of the leader's demise. This was the first of its kind in dozens of years since the observation of the area was started.

A natural wonder was also observed around the statue of the President standing on Tonghung Hill.

At around 21:20 Tuesday a Manchurian crane was seen flying round the statue three times before alighting on a tree. The crane stayed there for quite a long while with its head drooped and flew in the direction of Pyongyang at around 22:00.

Observing this, the director of the Management Office for the Hamhung Revolutionary Site, and others said in union that even the crane seemed to mourn the demise of Kim Jong Il born of Heaven after flying down there at dead of cold night, unable to forget him."

### **Endless Stream of Mourners Visit Bier of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- A great number of people visited the Kumsusan Memorial Palace, where the bier of leader Kim Jong Il is placed, to express condolences on Tuesday.

Servicepersons of the Korean People's Army, working people of all social strata and youth and students visited the mourning place, hardly holding back tears. They have been stricken with heartrending grief since the announcement of the death of Kim Jong Il that came like a bolt from the blue.

Seen before the bier were shoulder straps of the DPRK Marshal, Kim Il Sung Order, Kim Il Sung Prize, medals of the DPRK hero and labor hero and lots of other orders and medals.

Seen beside the bier was a wreath from Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Members of the National Funeral Committee were standing guards of honor by the side of the bier.

Amid the solemn playing of funeral music, wreaths in the name of the State Science and Technology Commission, Ministry of Electronics Industry, Ministry of Construction and Building Materials Industry, Ministry of Land and Marine Transport, Ministry of Agriculture, the Rodong Sinmun, Korean Central News Agency, Central Broadcasting Committee of Korea, Kim Il Sung University, Pyongyang 326 Electric Wire Factory, units of KPA and the Korean People's Internal Security Forces, and others were placed before the bier.

Looking up to the venerable image of Kim Jong Il, the mourners burst into tears, finding it hard to repress welling up tears.

They observed a moment's silence calling back with deep emotion the undying revolutionary life of the peerlessly great man dedicated to the country and people.

### **Memorial Service for Kim Jong Il Proposed in S. Korea**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- The South Headquarters of the Pan-national Alliance for Korea's Reunification convened a meeting of its Presidium Tuesday upon hearing the sad news that leader Kim Jong Il passed away all of a sudden.

At the meeting the organization set a mourning period ending on Dec. 29 and proposed to the different circles in south Korea to hold a memorial service for Kim Jong Il, chairman of the National Defence Commission.

It also called for forming a non-governmental mourners' group involving personages of political parties and public organizations who support the June 15 joint declaration and the October 4 declaration.

The organization urged the "government" to immediately express condolences and dispatch an official mourners' group and unconditionally allow the non-governmental mourners' group to visit the DPRK.

### **Senior Party and State Leaders of China Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il**

Pyongyang, December 21 (KCNA) -- Wen Jiabao, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Wednesday visited the DPRK embassy in Beijing to express condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. Among the mourners were Jia Qinglin, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Li Keqiang, vice-premier of the State Council of the PRC, He Guoqiang, secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, and Zhou Yongkang, secretary of the Central Commission of Politics and Law. All of them are members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the CPC.

Also among the mourners were State Councilor and Secretary-General of the State Council Ma Kai, State Councilor Dai Bingguo, Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, Minister of Commerce Chen Deming, Minister of Culture Cai Wu, Mayor of the Beijing Municipal People's Government Guo Jinlong, President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries Li Xiaolin and Wu Donghe, chairman of the China-DPRK Friendship Association.

Laid before the portrait of Kim Jong Il were wreaths in the name of Wen Jiabao, Jia Qinglin, Li Keqiang, He Guoqiang and Zhou Yongkang.

Also laid before the portrait were wreaths in the name of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the International Liaison Department of the C.C., the CPC, ministries of National Defence, Commerce and Culture, and the Beijing Municipal People's Government, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the C.C, the Communist Youth League of China, the All-China Women's Federation, the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the China-DPRK Friendship Association.

Senior party and state leaders of China made three bows before the portrait of Kim Jong Il, expressing deep condolences over his demise.

Wen Jiabao extended sincere condolences to the Korean people in bitter grief over his demise.

Kim Jong Il made an important contribution to the development of the Sino-DPRK friendly and cooperative relations for years as the great leader of the party and state of the DPRK and a close friend of the Chinese people, he said.

He expressed the will of the party and government of China to make sustained efforts to consolidate and develop the traditional relations of friendship between the two countries together with the party and government of the DPRK.

Li Keqiang expressed belief the Korean people would more dynamically push forward socialist construction under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

Zhou Yongkang said the Chinese people would always remember Kim Jong Il. Dai Bingguo, hardly keeping back tears, expressed profound condolences. He said he never imagined the leader passed away all of a sudden. All the members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the CPC visited the DPRK embassy in Beijing to mourn his demise in bitterest grief. This clearly represents the highest tribute of the collective leadership of China to Kim Jong Il and the invariable support of the party and people of China to the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people.