

Feats of Kim Jong Il, Kim Jong Suk Praised by Foreign Political Party, Organizations

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- A political party of Peru and organizations of Democratic Congo and Bulgaria released bulletins on the December anniversaries of the DPRK.

The Peruvian National Independent Movement for Free Voting's Union in its bulletin on Dec. 13 carried articles with photos of leader Kim Jong Il and anti-Japanese war hero Kim Jong Suk.

The articles said that Kim Jong Il pursued the unique Songun politics, directed big efforts to strengthening the People's Army, set forth the line of economic construction in the era of Songun and made sure that the defence industry was developed on a preferential basis.

Citing facts to prove that world-startling miracles have been wrought in the DPRK one after another in recent years, the bulletin said this is a brilliant fruition of the wise leadership of Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il.

The Korean people and the world progressives are praising Kim Jong Suk as the distinguished woman revolutionary and the great mother of Korea, it said, dealing in detail with the undying revolutionary career and feats of the woman commander of Mt. Paektu.

The Democratic Congo-Korea Friendship and Solidarity Association on Dec. 14 in its bulletin edited articles titled "Undying feats" and "Mother's desire" under the headline "On the birth anniversary of legendary hero of anti-Japanese guerillas Kim Jong Suk".

The Bulgaria-Korea Friendship Association in its bulletin on Dec. 15 introduced the Songun leadership feats of Kim Jong Il and the noble example of the revolutionary comradeship set by Kim Jong Suk.

Kim Jong Il's Songun Leadership Exploits Praised by World Public

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Events were held in different countries on December 14 and 15 to mark the 20th anniversary of leader Kim Jong Il's assumption of supreme commandship of the Korean People's Army and the 94th birth anniversary of Kim Jong Suk, an anti-Japanese war hero.

They included meetings in Romania and Myanmar, round-table talks in Mexico and a lecture in Guinea. Constantin Rotaru, chairman of the Romanian Socialist Union, said that he was looking back once again on the immortal exploits performed by Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Suk before the Korean revolution and the accomplishment of the cause of socialism.

The Korean people have resolutely smashed the moves of the U.S.-led imperialists to stifle the DPRK, demonstrating the invincibility of socialism before the whole world, he noted, adding this would be unthinkable without the Songun politics.

Aung Thein Lynn, member of the Central Executive Committee of the Union Solidarity and Development Party, Union of Myanmar, said the KPA, which has grown to be a matchless army under the Songun leadership of Kim Jong Il, has reliably protected the Party and the state.

Alberto Anaya Gutierrez, coordinator (leader) of the National Coordinating Committee of the Workers' Party of Mexico, highly praised Kim Jong Suk as a great revolutionary and distinguished woman activist who set a noble example in protecting the leader at the risk of her life during the anti-Japanese armed struggle and devoted herself to the building of a new country and regular armed forces and the development of the woman movement after liberation.

Riyad Chaloub, chief of the Guinean Group for the Study of February 16 Art, said all Korean people rose up to open up the gate to prosperity, adding that such stirring reality of the DPRK amounts to a miracle in history worked by the Songun politics.

Bulgarians Look Back on Kim Jong Il's Life and Feats

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The Bulgaria-Korea Friendship Association Monday issued a bulletin on the passing away of leader Kim Jong Il.

In an article titled "Comrade Kim Jong Il who devoted all his life to the people" the bulletin said: Kim Jong Il, supreme leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, passed away on December 17 to our regret.

Upon hearing this sad news, we recollect again the career and feats of Kim Jong Il who dedicated his whole life to the people.

Under his wise leadership the DPRK turned into a modern and developed, prospering country where the principles of independence in politics, self-support in the economy and self-reliance in national defence are thoroughly applied.

He had made big efforts to the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, which resulted in the adoption of the June 15 joint declaration and the October 4 declaration between the north and the south.

Under his leadership the DPRK made great achievements in the international relations, too.

He held higher the banner of independence under the complicated international situation.

He defended the socialist cause, thus giving great hope and confidence to the world progressives and clearly showing the road ahead of them.

Over 100 Poems Yearning for Kim Jong Il Created in DPRK

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Poets and amateur writers across the DPRK created more than 100 poems and lyrics for two days after they heard the sad news that leader Kim Jong Il passed away.

Poems "Rise Up, People of Great General" and "Field Car Has Not Stopped" and lyric "Soldiers Do Not Forget General" touch the heartstrings of servicepersons and people. These works depict Kim Jong Il who worked hard day and night making the forced march till the last moments of his life for the prosperity of the country and the people's happiness.

Poem "General Kim Jong Il Will Always Be with Us", lyrics "General Finds Himself among the People" and "May the General's Cause Shine Forever" stress that he is immortal as he devoted himself to the country and the people, regarding it as his maxim to believe in the people as in Heaven.

Among pomes are those reflecting the unshakable faith and will of all the servicepersons and people to give a steady continuity to the traditions of Mt. Paektu, holding him in high esteem forever.

Poem "Mt. Paektu Stands High" fully shows the people's ideological emotion to be loyal to the leadership of Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, true to the last teachings of Kim Jong Il.

Foundation of S. Korea Issues Condolatory Statement

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The Roh Moo Hyun Foundation of south Korea Tuesday made public a condolatory statement over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

In the statement the foundation expressed deep condolences on the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission.

We are cherishing the historic moment Chairman Kim Jong Il adopted the October 4 declaration for the development of inter-Korean relations, peace and prosperity, it said.

It is his intention to achieve peace and co-prosperity through implementation of the October 4 declaration, the organization said, hoping that the south and the north would jointly realize them.

Kim Jong Un Expresses Condolences to Bier of Kim Jong Il: Foreign Media

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Foreign media and internet reported on Dec. 20 and 21 the news that Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, expressed deep condolences to the bier of leader Kim Jong Il.

Xinhua reported that a ceremony for expressing condolences to the bier of supreme leader Kim Jong Il was solemnly held in the DPRK on Dec. 20.

The People's Daily and Huan Qiu Shibao of China reported that Kim Jong Un together with leading officials of the party, state and armed forces bodies visited the bier of General Secretary Kim Jong Il which is placed in the Kumsusan Memorial Palace to express deep condolences.

The CCTV showed Kim Jong Un going round the bier.

This news was also reported by ITAR-TASS, Ria-Novosti, Voice of Russia and Public Russian TV, O.R.T., Prensa Latina of Cuba, an Internet news of Russia, Press TV Broadcasting of Iran, AP, UPI, CNN Radio, the New York Times, Kyodo News, Jiji Press, NHK and Mainichi Shimbun.

Kim Jong Il's Demise Is Biggest Grief of Korean People and World Progressives: Mexican Political Parties, Organizations

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Nine Mexican political parties and organizations released a joint statement on Monday, mourning the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. They included the Socialist Popular Party of Mexico, the Socialist Party of Mexico, the Mexican National Coordinating Committee for the Study of the Juche Idea, the Mexican Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism and the Mexico-Korea Friendship Association.

The statement said the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il is the greatest loss to the Korean revolution and the biggest sorrow of the Korean people and the world progressive people.

It went on:

Although Kim Jong Il's heart stopped beating, his noble and august name and benevolent image will always be remembered by the Korean people and progressive humankind and his sacred revolutionary career and immortal revolutionary exploits will shine forever.

The political parties and organizations of Mexico will join the Korean people in their efforts to boost friendship and solidarity with the peoples of different countries guided by the idea of independence, peace and friendship and make energetic endeavors to build a new independent and peaceful world free from domination, subjugation, aggression and war.

We call on the political parties, governments and organizations in the world to continue extending strong support to the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people in their efforts for the building of a prosperous and powerful nation, the reunification of the country and global independence, single-mindedly united around Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

Press Review

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The following are major news items of DPRK leading newspapers Thursday.

An editorial praises the revolutionary career and feats of leader Kim Jong Il on his demise.

Photos of Kim Jong Il conducting revolutionary activities are given.

Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received messages of condolences from the heads of state and leaders of political parties of different countries.

Servicepersons, working people of all social standings and school youth and children visited the bier of Kim Jong Il and mourning places arranged at units of the Korean People's Army, institutions, enterprises, co-op farms and schools to express condolences.

Portraits of smiling Kim Jong Il were set up in various places of Pyongyang.

The Korean people are rising up collecting their strength and courage to overcome sorrow.

The Chinese premier together with leading officials of the party and state visited the DPRK embassy to mourn the demise of Kim Jong Il.

The Russian foreign minister paid a condolatory visit to the DPRK embassy and personages of different countries expressed their condolences.

South Korean opposition parties and organizations expressed deep condolences and issued condolatory statements and addresses.

Rodong Sinmun

A political essay and articles deal with personality of Kim Jong Il as a great man who lived a patriotic life. It carries a message of condolences the chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation sent to the WPK Central Committee.

Young People in Kanggye Vow to Implement Kim Jong Il's Behests

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Youth and students in Kanggye City, Jagang Province, vow to carry forward the revolutionary cause of Juche, true to the behests of leader Kim Jong Il.

Kim Il Sung Square Turns into Veritable Sea of Mourners

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- There is Kim Il Sung Square in the heart of Pyongyang. The square where the portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il is displayed turned into a veritable sea of wailing mourners. They wept bitterly, missing Kim Jong Il very much as he passed away in ordinary jumper while dedicating himself to the happiness of the people.

He was the father of the nation as he tirelessly visited every nook and corner of the country with exceptional energy.

The servicepersons and the people were confident they would never experience any more misfortune as the greatest loss of President Kim Il Sung. But they suffered such loss in the last days of the year. This was something unimaginable.

The clock seemed to stop running and the earth seemed to cease turning round the sun. They broke into the bitterest grief as it was entirely unbelievable.

Ri Chun Hui, 52, resident in Central District of Pyongyang, said in a choking voice that she felt as if her heart would break as he thought Kim Jong Il breathed his last not in his office or residence but on a running train on his way of field guidance.

Kim Song Hui, 23, soldier of the Korean People's Army, said, with tears in her eyes: "Whenever I watched smiling Kim Jong Il over TV, I thought he was in good health. I never imagined he was combating a serious illness caused by the pent-up fatigue. I feel extremely regretful for failing to fulfill my filial duty."

Kim Kwang Hun, 29, student of Kim Chol Ju University of Education, said Kim Jong Il devoted himself to the people all his life.

"He did not allow them to erect any statue or monument to his exploits on this land," he said with painful heart, adding:

"Though his heart stopped beating, his noble image and great feats will always be remembered by all the servicepersons and people as the most brilliant monument to the sun."

Grief-stricken Pyongyang

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Various parts of Pyongyang witnessed on Wednesday the display of portraits of smiling Kim Jong Il, the great father. Soon the places were crowded with mourners who missed the leader very much and made a firm pledge to glorify his revolutionary exploits forever and accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche by carrying forward the tradition of Mt. Paektu.

No sooner had a large portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il been displayed at Kim Il Sung Square in the heart of the capital than it drew an endless stream of mourners day and night.

Public servants of the Education Commission and ministries of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture and Foreign Trade and officials of institutions in the city including the Pyongyang City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea thronged to the square with wreaths, bunches of flowers and flowers in their hands. They broke into bitter lamentation, looking up to the portrait.

Upon hearing the news that the above-said portrait was displayed at the plaza of the Party Founding Memorial Tower, residents of Taedonggang, Tongdaewon and Songyo Districts of the city and on its outskirts rushed there to mourn the leader's demise. Bitter cries of tens of thousands of Pyongyangites grew louder as time went by.

Overcome with bitter sorrow over the sudden and heart-breaking loss of Kim Jong Il, an endless crowd of servicepersons visited the plaza of the April 25 House of Culture to mourn his demise.

They missed their Supreme Commander very much as he made endless journeys to the front, his jacket wet with sweat all his life.

Officials of ministries of Light Industry and Fisheries grieved over the demise of Kim Jong Il before his portrait set up at the plaza of the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, feeling regretful for failing to do their best to allay his fatigue.

Seen there were grief-stricken employees of the Meat and Fish Shop in Pothongmun Street.

Among the wailing mourners were students of Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University standing vigil by the side of the portrait and medical workers of People's Hospitals of Central and Pothonggang Districts.

The plaza of the Pyongyang Circus Theater where the leader's portrait was displayed was crowded with an endless crowd of mourners. They included officials and other working people of ministries of Land and Environmental Conservation and Urban Management, the Supreme Court, the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace and Hyangmanru Popular Restaurant and other ministries and national institutions and industrial establishments, schools, dongs and neighborhood units and students.

They bitterly cried, recollecting with painful hearts the leader who breathed his last after suffering all sorts of hardships and spending most of the time for field guidance all his life.

Artistes of the Pyongyang Circus deeply grieved over the loss of the tender-hearted leader.

The ground in front of the Hana Music Information Center to which the leader provided field guidance in the last period of his life turned into a veritable sea of mourners from Raknang District of the city.

Laid before the portrait were wreaths in the name of party, power and economic organs, working people's organizations, industrial establishments, cooperative farms and schools and flowers presented by officials and working people, school youth and children and residents in the district.

Among the wailing mourners were officials and people of various strata of organs and enterprises, farms and school youth and students of the Music Information Center, the Raknang Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory, the district library and Pyongyang Information Technology College and war veterans and members of women's union in Chungsong-dong No.3 and Kwanmun-dong No. 3.

Kim Jong Il Will Always Live in Hearts of Servicepersons and People

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Though leader Kim Jong Il passed away to our regret, his revolutionary ideas, achievements, immensely noble personality as a great man and image as bright as sunshine will always be remembered by the servicepersons and people of the DPRK and the world progressive people, say newspapers Wednesday in their editorials.

Rodong Sinmun notes: Shouldering upon himself the destiny of the country and the nation, he underwent all sorts of hardships as a human being, revolutionary and leader for nearly seven decades and performed great exploits before the times and humankind. He died at work, without having time to relieve his pent-up fatigue.

His whole life was a noble one of the great leader as he dedicated himself to the struggle for materializing the ideas of President Kim Il Sung and accomplishing his cause.

He was the first in history to usher in a new era of accomplishing the cause of perpetuating the memory of the leader and developed the party, army and state into those of Kim Il Sung.

Kim Jong Il's revolutionary career was the one of the peerless patriot and great father of the people as he steered the cause of building a thriving nation by making intense forced marches for field guidance on the basis of his noble view on the people and future.

He, at the same time, performed immortal exploits for national reconciliation and unity and the reunification of the country.

He made an undying contribution to the accomplishment of the cause of global independence and that of socialism, holding aloft the banner of independence and justice.

The most precious exploit he performed before his country and its people was that he gave a steady continuity to the revolutionary cause of Juche, the Songun revolutionary cause that started in Mt. Paektu.

Minju Joson says: The life of Kim Jong Il is shining as the life of the most prominent statesman and outstanding leader in the present era as he performed immortal feats for the prosperity of the socialist country and the happiness of his people and for the national reunification and global independence.

Changed Appearances in Pyongyang at Night

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Now the streets in Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK, are in indescribable grief with the citizens' deep reverence for leader Kim Jong Il and regret over his demise. The appearances in the city at night have changed with the people visiting the portraits of smiling Kim Jong Il to mourn his demise.

Wherever you go, you can hear servicepersons and people ardently calling the father of the nation.

The portrait of the leader with smile in his face put up at the plaza of the April 25 House of Culture, too, is crowded with wailing visitors day and night.

In the past this plaza used to be a joyful dancing place of servicepersons and gaily-dressed youth and students celebrating auspicious holidays. But, now it has turned into a place where they are lamenting over the demise of Kim Jong Il while calling him with bitter sorrow.

Citizens--adults and children, men and women--are seen going silently to somewhere at night. There is no need to ask where he or she goes and there is no one asking about it.

At night all their hearts are pulsating with one thought and will as well as bitter grief at the loss of the father of the nation.

It is to make before the portraits of smiling Kim Jong Il a firm oath to hold him in high esteem forever and remain true to his behests with pure sense of moral obligation.

We Will Wait for Kim Jong Il Forever: Pyongyang Citizens

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il set up at Thongil Street in Pyongyang is being crowded with a lot of mourners day and night.

The servicepersons and people who visit the portrait late at nights and early in the mornings are shedding tears picturing leader Kim Jong Il who used to set out on trips for field guidance at dawns getting wet with dew.

The employees of the Hana Music Information Center, who were smiling in happiness being honored with the visit by him just a few days ago, are lamenting in great sorrow.

Who would have ever imagined that they would shed tears of grief over the demise of Kim Jong Il at the place where they were having a photo taken with him.

Pak Jong Nam, 69, vice-director of the Center, said:

We always dreamed of meeting the great leader. When he actually came, we were overjoyed to see him, not knowing he was in such a bad health condition. There would be no bigger sin than this.

That day he said he would send us all the music pieces he collected for decades, telling us to let the people enjoy and use them.

From that day on we have waited for the word from him. We can not believe that he actually passed away.

We will wait for the General forever.

Kim Yong Suk, 48, woman resident in Raknang District, said if she could give any more sincerity to the benevolent and great father now, she would willingly turn into a rock in funeral dress for hundred, nay thousand days.

Woman Worker's Dec. 19 Memo

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- A reporter on his way to cover the people yearning for their leader in bitter grief had an opportunity to get the memo of Choe Ok Sil, 50, woman worker at the Sonhung Foodstuff Factory.

The memo reads:

I sat in front of a TV, informed that there would be an important report at noon on Dec. 19.

When I heard the shocking news that our fatherly General Kim Jong Il passed away, I felt as if the sky has turned dark and the ground sunken.

The thing came into a reality that should have never happened.

Kim Jong Il had made tireless forced march for field guidance day and night for the building of a thriving nation.

He visited the Kwangbok Area Supermarket shortly ago for the highly civilized life of the people. He was so delighted to see products of high quality.

Every evening when I watch TV, the image of Kim Jong Il is the first one I want to see.

Which light industrial factories of a province will he be visiting this time, will there be the news of him visiting Jagang Province again after meeting working people in South Hamgyong Province? I waited and waited for his news.

How envious I was when I saw ordinary people meeting Kim Jong Il and giving pleasure to him after sprucing up their worksites and increasing production.

I also worked with the determination to work harder and surely meet him again at my worksite.

That day, too, I got to my daily work with this mind.

But I've never imagined that the important news would be such sorrowful news.

I had never have an idea that such bitter news would be aired in this place where everybody was only talking about the news of his field guidance.

I can't believe it. I don't believe it.

Fatherly General Kim Jong Il is always with us like in those days when he was among the servicepersons and people all his life, showing all loving care for them.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from King of Jordan

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, Monday received a message of condolences from Abdullah II, king of Jordan.

The message said:

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of highest consideration.

It was with the greatest sorrow that I heard the sad news HE Chairman Kim Jong Il demised.

I, on behalf of the people and government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and on my own, express the sincerest condolences to Your Excellency and hope that Your Excellency will overcome sorrow.

South Koreans Mourn over Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The All-People's Council for National Reconciliation and Cooperation in south Korea made public a statement on Dec. 20 to show its mourning for the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

We express our deep condolences over the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, the statement said.

Extending sympathy to the compatriots of the north in bitter grief, the Council hoped that the reconciliation and cooperation between the south and the north would continue.

Chinese Ambassador to Russia Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Li Hui, Chinese ambassador to Russia, Tuesday visited the DPRK embassy in Moscow before any others to express condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. The ambassador was accompanied by ministers, the military, naval and air attache and others. They laid bunches of flowers before his portrait and observed a moment's silence.

The ambassador made an entry in the mourners' book.

He said: "Comrade Kim Jong Il was the great leader of the Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK and the Korean people.

We are convinced that the party, government and people of the DPRK will certainly overcome today's sorrow and accomplish the cause of Comrade Kim Jong Il, united close around respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The Chinese people will share sorrow with the Korean people and steadily boost the Sino-DPRK friendship."

Workers of Electric Wire Factory Vow to Increase Production

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Workers of the Pyongyang 326 Electric Wire Factory in Phyongchon District pledge to increase the production by changing their grief at the demise of leader Kim Jong Il into strength and courage.

Chairman of Arab Information Center, His Daughter Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il
Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Mustafa Al Safarini, chairman of the Arab Information Center in Beijing, and his daughter Jindalrae Tuesday visited the DPRK embassy to express condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

They laid a wreath before his portrait.

Jindalrae wrote in the condolence book that she deeply mourns the demise of the dearest father.

She wrote she visited Pyongyang, her native place, shortly ago in two decades with a dream to meet with the dearest father Kim Jong Il.

The news of his demise was like a bolt from the blue to her, she wrote, adding when she heard the news, her heart seemed to break and she did not know what to do.

The father will always be alive in my heart, she added.

Kim Jong Il named her "Jindalrae" when her mother gave birth to her at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

Wreath to Portrait of Smiling Kim Jong Il from Japanese Organization

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- A wreath was presented by the Association for Promotion of Friendship between Japan and North and South Korea on the occasion of the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

It was laid before the portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il at Kim Il Sung Square on Thursday.

Condolences to DPRK NDC from Vietnamese President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The DPRK National Defence Commission received a message of condolences from Truong Tan Sang, president of Vietnam and president of its National Defence and Security Council, on Tuesday as regards the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The message said:

I, on behalf of the State of Vietnam and the National Defence and Security Council of Vietnam, express deepest condolences to the DPRK National Defence Commission and the fraternal Korean people.

Comrade Kim Jong Il is the great leader of the Korean people.

His demise is untold great loss to the Korean party, state and people and the Vietnamese party, state and people lost their close friend and comrade.

We are convinced that the fraternal Korean people will overcome sorrow and display strength to break through difficulties and continuously achieve the shining victories in the cause of construction and development of the state under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

We are sure that the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and the DPRK would continue to develop in the interests of the two peoples and regional and global peace, stability and cooperation.

Foreigners Express Condolences to Bier of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Foreigners staying in the DPRK expressed condolences to the bier of leader Kim Jong Il on Thursday.

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.

The guests expressed deep condolences to the bier of Kim Jong Il and went round it.

They made entries in a mourners' book.

Guinean President Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message of condolences from Guinean President Alpha Conde Monday.

The message said:

It was with great sorrow that I heard together with the Guinean people the sad news that HE Kim Jong Il, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and staunch guardian of the noble cause of the Korean people, passed away.

At this moment of grief I, on behalf of the government and the people of Guinea and on my own, express the most profound condolences and ask you to pass my sincere condolences on the brave Korean people.

Please accept, Your Excellency Vice-chairman, the assurances of highest consideration.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Lao President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message of condolences from Choummaly Sayasone, general secretary of the C.C., Lao People's Revolutionary Party and president of Laos, on Tuesday.

The message said:

The demise of leader Kim Jong Il who devoted all his life to the development of the socialist cause is a great loss to the party, the government and the people of the fraternal DPRK.

It is also bitter grief of the Lao party, government and people as they lost their close comrade who made great contributions to the development of the traditional relations of friendship between the two peoples.

At this hour of bitter sorrow, I express deep condolences to the party, the government and the people of the fraternal DPRK.

Ghanaian President Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- John Evans Atta Mills, president of Ghana, Wednesday sent a message of condolences to Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

He, on behalf of the government and people of Ghana and on his own, expressed heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy to Kim Jong Un and the government and the people of the DPRK.

Ghana is sure that the DPRK will advance in unity to attain the goal of building a thriving socialist nation under the leadership of Your Excellency Kim Jong Un, the great successor, and the WPK, he said.

Condolences to C.C., WPK from Parties of Vietnam, Cambodia

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The central committees of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the People's Party of Cambodia sent messages of condolences to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on Monday and Tuesday on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The passing away of Kim Jong Il is a great loss to the party, government and people of the DPRK, said the messages, expressing deep sympathy to the C.C. WPK, the government and people of the DPRK.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Kazakh President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, Monday received a message of condolences from Nursultan Nazarbayev, president of Kazakhstan.

It was with deep sorrow that I have learnt about the demise of Kim Jong Il, leader of the DPRK and the Korean people, the president said in the message.

Kim Jong Il, the honored statesman of the Korean nation and distinguished person, made a great contribution to the establishment and strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries, he said, adding:

On behalf of the people of Kazakhstan and my own behalf, I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences and sincere sympathies to all the Korean people.

Equatorial Guinean President Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message of condolences from Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of Equatorial Guinea and president of the African Union, on Tuesday.

The message said he, together with all the Equatorial Guinean people, expressed deepest condolences to Kim Jong Un upon hearing the sad news of demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

Messages of Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Mongolian President and PM

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, Tuesday received messages of condolences from Mongolian President Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj and Prime Minister Sukhbaataryn Batbold over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. The message from the president expressed deep condolences on behalf of the Mongolian people and on his own, and said they share the sorrow with the Korean people.

The Mongolian people will always remember the devotion made by Kim Jong Il to deepen the traditional relations of friendship between the two countries, it said.

S. Korean NGOs Insist Visiting DPRK over Kim Jong Il's Demise

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- South Korean NGOs called for forming a mourners group and visiting the northern half of Korea to express deep condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

On Wednesday they held a meeting where they discussed forming the group with the People's Council for National Reconciliation and Cooperation as a core. They included the "Movement of Koreans for Helping Each Other" and the Citizen's Solidarity for Democratic Society.

The NGOs' condolences should be realized in any case, they stressed.

Even Nature Seems to Mourn Demise of Great Man

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- More natural wonders have been observed in different parts of the country since it was shocked by the sad news of the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

On Wednesday people in the villages near the Military Demarcation Line including Sinhung, Ryongjong, Haephyong, Phungdok and Ryongsan-ris in Kaesong City observed natural wonders.

There were a series of blinding blue flashes accompanied by thunder with an interval of five minutes in the air south of the city wrapped with heavy fog from around 04:00 when heavy snow began falling down to 05:00.

This is something unusual in mid winter.

Witnessing this, citizens of the city said that the demise of Kim Jong Il was so heart-rending that even the sky seemed to writhe in grief. He was, indeed, a great saint born of Heaven, they added.

Koreans in Europe Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Ri Hui Se, permanent representative of the European Regional Committee under the Overseas Side Committee for Implementing June 15 Joint Declaration, Wednesday made public a statement of mourning over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

We can hardly repress our shock and sorrow upon hearing the sad news that Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, passed away all of a sudden, the statement said, adding: After assuming the heavy responsibility for the state affairs by succeeding to the cause of President Kim Il Sung, the chairman shared woe and weal with the people and dedicated his life to preventing aggression from foreign forces and building a thriving country.

He provided the inter-Korean summit meeting for the first time in the history of national division and adopted the June 15 joint declaration for national reconciliation and reunification, thus opening up a vista for building a unified state.

The European Regional Committee will always remember the feats performed by Kim Jong Il for peace and reunification of the nation and continue the movement for the country's reunification.

We are firmly convinced that thanks to the solid foundations laid by him, the DPRK will speed up the vigorous advance toward the eminence of a great prosperous and powerful nation, rallied as one in mind around Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Italian Personage Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Giancarlo Elia Valori, chairman of the Development Bank of Mediterranean and chairman of the Italian General Investment Group, visited the DPRK mission in Rome on Monday to mourn over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The chairman laid a large floral basket before the portrait of Kim Jong Il at the mission and expressed deep condolences.

He said he visited the DPRK mission before everything to share the sorrow with the Korean people who suffered the greatest loss of the nation.

Kim Jong Il was the outstanding leader as he performed undying exploits for the times and history while devoting all his life to the happiness of the people, prosperity of the nation, reunification of the country and world peace and security, he said, adding:

He is the greatest man peerless in the world, who is identical to the great President Kim Il Sung. Though he passed away, he will always live in the mind of mankind and his enormous exploits will shine long.

It is my ardent wish to mourn before the bier of H.E. Kim Jong Il.

Imprisoned Reverend of S. Korea Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Rev. Han Sang Ryol, a reunification champion of south Korea, on Wednesday expressed deep condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

Han has been detained at Seoul Prison on charges of the violation of the "National Security Law" for the mere reason that he visited the northern half of Korea last year to mark the 10th anniversary of the June 15 joint declaration.

I express deep condolences over the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, he said, adding he is sure that the day of reunification will surely come.

Chinese, Russian Diplomats to Chongjin Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Staff members of Chinese and Russian consulates general in Chongjin of the DPRK visited the mourning place arranged at the building of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee on Thursday to express their condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

Laid before his portrait there were wreaths in the name of the consul general and the consulate general of China and the Russian consulate general.

The visitors made entries in the condolence book after paying a silent tribute to the memory of Kim Jong Il.

Overseas Koreans Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Koreans in foreign countries expressed profound condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il, shocked by the sad news which came like a bolt from the blue.

Representatives of the Federation of Koreans in the United States and other organizations of Koreans there on Tuesday called at the DPRK permanent mission at the United Nations to mourn his demise.

They left a wreath at the portrait of Kim Jong Il and paid silent tribute to him in humblest reverence.

They expressed their bitter grief, saying Kim Jong Il passed away so suddenly to their regret though he energetically worked day and night for the prosperity of the socialist country, the happiness of its people, national reunification and global independence.

Koreans residing in Khabarovsk City of Russia visited the DPRK mission in the city to mourn his demise on Wednesday.

They laid bouquets before his portrait and paid silent tribute to him.

Affectionate Designation for Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- All the Korean people, men and women, young and old, are calling leader Kim Jong Il "Our General" in choked voices after receiving the sad news of his demise, a bolt from the blue.

This call reflecting the feelings of all people is an expression of the boundless trust and profound adoration for the peerlessly great man.

In those days when Kim Jong Il was recording the long journeys for the Songun revolution with victories, soldiers and people called him "our general" and "our permanent general" which means the unbreakable unity between him and them.

The servicepersons always felt confident, looking up to the Supreme Commander who visited the post under shrub pine trees on the morning of the New Year after seeing off the grief-stricken year and continued his journeys to Cho Islet, Panmunjom and Mt. Osong with death-defying will.

When the imperialist enemies were blustering that the collapse of the DPRK is a matter of time, he made sure that satellite Kwangmyongsong No. 1 was put into orbit and the country had access to nuclear deterrent to emerge a power unlike the miserable destiny of Koreans when they wailed bitterly and loudly over the loss of sovereignty more than 100 years ago. Witnessing this dramatic change in

their destiny, they deeply grasped the extraordinary wisdom of the great man born of Heaven whom they call "our general".

Whenever people got tired in face of manifold difficulties and were called upon to make leaping advances again with a great ambition, he visited them to encourage them, always sharing sweets and bitters with them.

When one goes to the front, one may hear soldiers relate a lot of legendary stories carrying so many meanings, calling him "Our Supreme Commander". Wherever one goes, be factories, rural areas, remote villages in the northern areas, people call him "our general" with affection. Children threw themselves into his arms, calling him "our father" in reflection of their great happiness and bright smile.

This call was a clear manifestation of the people's profound trust and reverence for the great father of the nation who showed so warm human love before being the leader of the revolution, the Supreme Commander of the army and the top leader of the party and the state.

Even Land and Sky Seem to Grieve Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The plaza of the Party Founding Memorial Tower facing the statue of President Kim Il Sung standing on Mansu Hill is also crowded with people overwhelmed with profound grief over the loss of the father of the nation.

The mourners are weeping bitterly, calling leader Kim Jong Il in choking voices.

Looking up to the portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il and then the statue of President Kim Il Sung, they are stamping their feet in bitter grief over the leader's demise.

Choked with lamentation for three days, not a few people only wept bitterly, unable to say any words. Kim Jong Il was leading the final offensive this year for the improvement of the standard of people's living, full of energy.

He would feel very pleased when watching increased wealth for the people. But who can imagine he breathed his last on the running train on his way of field guidance to bring happiness to them. Can anyone believe this was a reality? How lamentable it is! Isn't it possible for the hearts of all Koreans to bring him back to life?

All the people have revered Kim Jong Il as their father, entrusting all their destinies and soul to him.

He was, indeed, the sun of the Korean nation and dearer to them than their own lives.

But for this sun, they could not have come close to the eminence of a thriving nation, weathering unprecedented trials and difficulties for 17 years since the demise of President Kim Il Sung.

But for this mainstay, they could have hardly got over difficulties and lived and struggled full of confidence of future, faith and optimism.

The lamentation of all the servicepersons and people calling him in bitter grief can be heard across the country.

The land and sky of the country seem to bitterly cry.

Lao Vice-President Visits DPRK Embassy to Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Lao Vice-President Bounnhang Vorachith, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and permanent secretary of the Secretariat of its Central Committee, together with members of the presidency, paid a visit to the DPRK embassy in his country Tuesday to express condolences over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The vice-president and his party laid a wreath before a portrait of Kim Jong Il hanging in the mourning place and observed a moment's silence to his memory.

The vice-president wrote in the condolence book as follows:

Comrade Kim Jong Il's whole life was the one of great worth dedicated to carrying forward the cause of President Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people.

He devoted his all to the noble cause of building a thriving socialist state while leading the DPRK.

His demise is not only the loss of great leader to the fraternal Workers' Party of Korea, government and people of the DPRK but also the great loss of a close friend to the People's Revolutionary Party, the government and the people of Laos.

Other senior Lao officials also paid condolatory visits to the embassy that day.

They included the vice-foreign minister who is a member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and vice-chairman of the Committee for External Affairs of the party, Tong Yeu Tho, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the National Construction Front of Laos and chairman of the Laos-Korea Friendship Association, Sysay Leudedmounsone, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Central Committee of the Lao Women's Union, and officials of the Committee for External Affairs of the party and foreign ministry.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Turkmen President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message of condolences from Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov on Monday.

In the message the president expressed heartfelt condolences over the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il, general secretary of the WPK and chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission.

He hoped that Kim Jong Un would display strong mental power and will.

Condolences to WPK Central Committee from Dominican Party Leaders

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea received messages of condolences sent by Jose Miguel Mijia, secretary general of the United Left Movement of Dominica, on Monday and President Ramon Almanzar, General Secretary Ivan Rodriguez and International Secretary Julio Diaz Campusano of the Revolutionary Alternative Party of Dominica in their joint name on Tuesday on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The messages expressed deep condolences to the Korean people and reaffirmed solidarity and friendship with the WPK.

S. Korean Authorities Accused of Refusing to Dispatch Mourners' Group

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jin Phyo, the floor leader of the Democratic United Party, an opposition party in south Korea, on December 22 accused the authorities of not sending a mourners' group to the north which suffered the greatest loss.

He recalled the "government" decided not to dispatch an official mourners' group to the north over the demise of Kim Jong Il, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, and the "Grand National Party" refused to form a mourners' group of the "National Assembly", adding that he cannot but deplore this as a very foolish behavior.

He urged the authorities to allow civic and social organizations including the Roh Moo Hyun Foundation to pay condolatory visits to the north and immediately stop conservative organizations from scattering leaflets getting on the nerves of the north.

Lawmaker from S. Korean Opposition Party Wishes to Visit North to Mourn Kim Jong Il's Demise
Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Pak Ji Won, lawmaker from the Democratic United Party, an opposition party of south Korea, Wednesday expressed his intention to visit the north to mourn the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

Foreign Diplomats Praise Feats of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Diplomatic envoys and military attaches of different countries here made entries in the mourners' book after mourning before the bier of leader Kim Jong Il.

Cambodian Ambassador Chhorn Hay wrote that Marshal Kim Jong Il, father of the Korean people, made great efforts for the building of a thriving nation and the peaceful reunification of the country.

Palestinian Ambassador Ismail Ahmed Mohamed Hasan recalled the invariable support rendered by Kim Jong Il to the Palestinian people in their cause, expressing the conviction that the friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries would steadily grow stronger.

Pakistani Ambassador Arif Mahmood wrote that HE Kim Jong Il was a close friend of the government and people of Pakistan, adding that his feats would last forever.

Syrian Charge d'Affaires A.I. Haissam Saad wrote that Kim Jong Il was the most distinguished leader, expressing belief that the Korean people united close around Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, would achieve greater prosperity.

Military Attache of the Iranian Embassy Hassan Reza Hussein stressed that the demise of Kim Jong Il is a great loss not only to the Korean people but to the world progressives, adding he will always live in the hearts of the Korean and world peoples.

Military Attache of the Vietnamese Embassy Nguyen Van Lich expressed belief that the party, army and people of the DPRK would overcome sorrow over the demise of Kim Jong Il and build a thriving nation without fail under the guidance of Kim Jong Un.

Military Attache of the Egyptian Embassy Sharif Rifat sincerely hoped that Kim Jong Un, great successor, would win victory in the building of a thriving nation, true to the noble intention of Kim Jong Il.

Schoolchildren Pay Respects to Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Upon hearing the sad news that leader Kim Jong Il passed away, schoolchildren across the country are endlessly visiting with flowers in their hands the places where the portraits of him with smile in his face are displayed and mosaics depicting his image to express their reverence for him.

Many of them burst out sobbing before the portraits carrying his benevolent image that seems to be kindly calling them to come to him. Among them were pupils of Changdok School, Kang Pan Sok Secondary School, Kim Song Ju Primary School, Sokhyon Secondary School in Kanggye City, Paeksa Primary School in Sinuiju City, Sojung Secondary School in Rakwon County and Hero Munchon Secondary School in Munchon City.

Looking up to his image, they would say: "Please, wake up, father General Kim Jong Il." "Can't you come to our school again?" "We expected to delight you with successful New Year performance...."

Such scenes could be seen not only in the capital city of Pyongyang but also in all other areas of the country from Onsong County in its northern end to Kaesong City near the Military Demarcation Line, including a solitary island and deep mountainous village.

Among those schoolchildren are Hong Dan in Taehongdan, Chuk Bok in Pyongyang and Kwang Myong in electricity production base, who were named by Kim Jong Il.

Ceremonies Held in Tokyo to Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Solemn ceremonies took place at the Korean Hall in Tokyo on Wednesday and Thursday to express deepest condolences on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il. Present there were Ho Jong Man, chief vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon), and its vice-chairmen, Hong In Hum, chairman of the Central Audit Committee of Chongryon, and officials of the Korean Hall. They laid flowers at the portrait of smiling Kim Jong Il and paid silent tribute in humblest reverence. The hall turned into a veritable sea of tears as it was overcome with profound grief and unbounded yearning for the kind-hearted father Kim Jong Il who led the Koreans in Japan with warm loving care, his face always beaming with a broad smile. They renewed their firm determination to overcome sorrow and display fresh strength and courage and bring about a new surge in the movement of Koreans in Japan, single-mindedly united around Kim Jong Un, great successor to the revolutionary cause of Juche and outstanding leader. Similar ceremonies took place at regional headquarters and branches of Chongryon on Monday and Tuesday.

Belarusian President Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, on Monday received a message of condolences from Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The message said:

The Republic of Belarus heard with great sorrow the sad news that H.E. Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, passed away.

I, on behalf of the Belarusian people and on my own, express deep condolences to you and all the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over the biggest loss.

Korean People Change Sorrow into Strength

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The Korean people, stricken with deep grief at the demise of leader Kim Jong Il, are resolutely turning out in the efforts for the building of a thriving nation.

Jong Yong Min (35), a worker of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, told KCNA:

"We can't believe the news that leader Kim Jong Il passed away.

We pledge ourselves to change our sorrow into strength and courage to bring about a great upsurge in the production of custom-built equipment, remaining faithful to the leadership of great Comrade Kim Jong Un identical to leader Kim Jong Il."

Ji Jong Ho (45), a worker of the Chollima Steel Complex, said;

"The workers of the Chollima Steel Complex are overwhelmed with grief at the passing away of leader Kim Jong Il on train during his field guidance tour.

How can we believe that he, who came here and paid deep concern to the life of smelters, passed away? We can't believe it.

We will turn our grief into a hundred and thousand fold strength and courage and support great Comrade Kim Jong Un with increased steel output."

Endless Crowd of Mourners Visit Kim Jong II's Bier

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Officials of ministries and national institutions, South Phyongan and North Hwanghae Provinces and Nampho City and people from all walks of life Thursday visited the Kumsusan Memorial Palace where the bier of leader Kim Jong II is placed and mourned his demise. The palace where the national flag was hoisted at half mast was wrapped in profound grief over the greatest loss to the nation.

Laid there amid the playing of the funeral music were wreaths from the Ministry of Foodstuff and Daily Necessities Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports, the Ministry of Forestry, the Academy of Social Sciences, the Guidance Bureau for the Preservation of Revolutionary Relics, the Taesong Guidance Bureau, the General Bureau of Diplomatic Corps Affairs, the Grand People's Study House, the Academy of Agricultural Science, the Central Committee of the Korean Journalists Union, the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, the Combined General Company for Fruit Farming, the mourners' delegations of South Phyongan and North Hwanghae Provinces and Nampho City and so on.

Mourners paid silent tribute to Kim Jong II.

Meanwhile, party members, servicepersons, people and school youth and children across the country visited the mourning sites arranged at institutions, enterprises, factories, farms and schools to mourn Kim Jong II's demise.

Russian Party Leader Pays Consolatory Visit to DPRK Embassy

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- G. Zyuganov, chairman of the C.C., Communist Party of the Russian Federation, together with members of its Leadership visited the DPRK embassy in Moscow on Tuesday to mourn the demise of leader Kim Jong II.

They laid a floral basket before the portrait of Kim Jong II and expressed their condolences.

G. Zyuganov said:

I, on behalf of the C.C., Communist Party of the Russian Federation and all the party members and on my own, express deep condolences over the sudden demise of Comrade Kim Jong II, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and a prominent statesman.

We are firmly convinced that the courageous Korean people would triumphantly advance the Korean revolution, rallied closer around respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The Communist Party of the Russian Federation will always support the revolutionary cause of the DPRK.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Party Leaders of Romania and Indonesia

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message of condolences from Vasile Orleanu, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Socialist Party and chairman of the National Committee for the Study of the Juche Idea of Romania, on Monday.

The message said that as the most reliable friend of the DPRK, the Socialist Party of Romania would always support Kim Jong Un's efforts to build the most powerful socialist society, a peaceful world free from the imperialists' arbitrary practices.

Kim Jong Un received a message of condolences from General Chairman Eko Suryo Santjojo and Secretary General Ristiyanto of the National Guidance Council of the Pioneer Party of Indonesia in their joint name on Tuesday.

Chinese Embassy Officials Lay Wreath before Bier of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The military, naval and air attache and members of the Military Attache Office of the Chinese embassy here on Thursday laid before the bier of leader Kim Jong Il a wreath in the name of the Office.

They paid a silent tribute in humblest reverence to the bier of Kim Jong Il who made immortal contributions to the development of the friendly relations between the armies of the two countries and the human cause of independence.

People Miss Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The mourners were reluctant to leave the places where portraits of smiling Kim Jong Il were displayed despite biting cold on Thursday.

At that time they were shocked to hear a story.

It was reported that leader Kim Jong Il conducted his last revolutionary activities in the severest cold in several decades.

They bitterly grieved over his demise, recollecting the great father who made endless journeys for field guidance despite biting cold to bring happiness to people.

The greatest desire of all the servicepersons and people was to see Kim Jong Il in good health but he made ceaseless forced marches under the worst conditions as he considered the joy of people as his own happiness.

S. Hamgyong Province All Out to Implement Behests of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The party members and working people in South Hamgyong Province are firmly determined to dynamically advance in the van of the nationwide march as creators of the spirit of South Hamgyong Province, true to the leadership of Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The labor heroes, technicians and workers of the February 8 Vinalon Complex and the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and the miners of the Taehung Youth Hero Mine and the Ryongyang Mine and other officials and workers of the Tanchon Area General Mining Bureau are overcoming the present sorrow with increased production.

The workers of the Hamhung Knitting Mill, the Hungnam Shoes Factory, the Hamhung Woolen Mill are bringing about innovations in the production of consumer goods while members of the Tongbong Co-op Farm in Hamju County and the Hoesang Area Co-op Farm in Hamhung City are directing efforts to the preparations for farming next year and vegetable production in hothouses to honor their pledge made at the mourning places.

The teachers and students of Hamhung University of Chemical Engineering, Hamhung University of Medicine and Hamhung University of Hydraulic Engineering are doing their best in teaching and study. The employees of the Ryongjon Fruit Farm and the Toksong Fruit Farm and builders of power stations in Rivers Kumya and Kumjin are working hard to implement the behests of leader Kim Jong Il after overcoming bitter sorrow with courage.

Vietnamese Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Delegations of Vietnam consisting of more than 100 personages visited the DPRK embassy in Hanoi on Tuesday to mourn the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

They were delegations of the C.C., Communist Party, the government, the Commission for External Affairs of the C.C., Communist Party, the C.C., Fatherland Front and the General Office of the Presidency,

a joint delegation of the Preparatory Committee for Commemorating the Centenary of Birth of President Kim Il Sung, the Union of Friendship Organizations, the Vietnam-DPRK Friendship Association and the Vietnam-DPRK Friendship Club and a delegation of the Hanoi Union of Friendship Organizations. The delegations laid large wreaths before the portrait of Kim Jong Il before paying a silent tribute to him. Le Hong Anh, member of the Political Bureau and standing secretary of the Secretariat of the C.C., Communist Party of Vietnam, and Pham Binh Minh, member of the C.C., CPV and foreign minister, wrote in the condolence book that they express deep condolences over the demise of Kim Jong Il and believe that the Korean people will overcome sorrow and display courage to build a powerful and prosperous nation in single-minded unity.

UN Secretary-General and Other Senior UN Officials Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- The UN Secretary-General and senior officials of the UN Secretariat expressed deep condolences on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

The Secretary-General on Monday issued the following statement through his spokesperson:

The Secretary-General has learned that the leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Kim Jong Il, passed away.

The Secretary-General extends his sympathy to the people of the DPRK at this time of their national mourning.

The Secretary-General reaffirms his commitment to peace and security on the Korean Peninsula. The United Nations system will continue to help the people of the DPRK. The Secretary-General is closely following the situation.

On Dec. 20, the UN Deputy Secretary-General, together with the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the Director of the Protocol Department paid a condolatory visit to the DPRK permanent mission at the UN.

They paid silent tribute to Kim Jong Il before his portrait.

The Deputy Secretary-General said that he expressed deep condolences on the demise of Kim Jong Il on behalf of the Secretary-General and the UN Secretariat.

He wrote in the mourners' book that he extended letters of sympathy on behalf of the UN to the Korean people in grief due to the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

He hoped that Korea would advance toward peace and prosperity.

He affirmed that the UN would continue to help the Korean people.

Mongolian President Sends Wreath to Kim Jong Il's Bier

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Mongolian president Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj sent a wreath on the demise of 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.

Sodovjamts Khurelbaatar, Mongolian ambassador to the DPRK, together with his embassy staff members Thursday presented the wreath to the bier of Kim Jong Il placed in the Kumsusan Memorial Palace.

The ribbon of the wreath bore letters "The great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il will be immortal."

Russian Personages Pay Condolatory Visits to DPRK Embassy

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- M. Y. Fradkov, director of the External Intelligence Bureau of the Russian Federation, and his party, paid a condolatory visit to the DPRK embassy in Moscow on Wednesday to mourn the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

On Tuesday, Yazov, former defense minister of the Soviet Union, Chief Viktor Yeliseev and vice chiefs of the Academy Ensemble of the Interior Unit of the Russian Ministry of Interior, Head and Chief Conductor Pavel Borisovich Ovsyannikov and the administrative manager of "Orchestra of the 21st Century" of Russia visited the DPRK embassy.

They laid bouquets before the portrait of Kim Jong Il and expressed condolences.

Fradkov said he could not repress sorrow at the news that Kim Jong Il passed away all of a sudden.

He went on:

The noblest reverence for Kim Jong Il and memory will be kept in my mind forever.

I believe that the Korean people under their supreme leader Kim Jong Un will overcome the present sorrow and difficulties and victoriously continue the struggle to build a thriving nation.

Former Defense Minister of the Soviet Union Yazov said he could not repress the sorrow and grief at the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il.

He went on:

Kim Jong Il was passionate man as he devoted himself to the country and the people without a moment's rest.

I believe that the Korean people will uphold Kim Jong Un as leader to successfully carry out the cause of President Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il for socialist construction.

Viktor Yeliseev made the following entry in the mourners' book:

"The life of Comrade Kim Jong Il is a shining example of patriotic devotion to the country. Comrade Kim Jong Il performed exploits hardly achievable in centuries.

The unforgettable impressions we got of Comrade Kim Jong Il when meeting him will always be remembered by us."

Pavel Ovsyannikov said the demise of Kim Jong Il is too heart-breaking to believe.

He wrote in the mourners' book that Kim Jong Il energetically conducted activities for the country, world peace and development of Russia-DPRK friendship. "We will always remember the happiness and pleasure and beautiful impressions we had when we were received by leader Kim Jong Il," he added.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Guyanese President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, Wednesday received a message of condolences from Donald Ramotar, president of Guyana.

The president in the message expressed profound condolences to the DPRK government and people on behalf of the Guyanese government and people and on his own.

The message said their thoughts and prayers are with the people of the DPRK at this time of national bereavement.

Delegation of Ministry of Royal Palace of Cambodian Government Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Upon the authorization of the Cambodian king, a delegation of the Ministry of the Royal Palace of the Cambodian government headed by Kong Sam Ol, deputy prime minister in charge of the Royal Palace, paid a condolatory visit to the DPRK embassy over the demise of leader Kim Jong Il on Wednesday.

The delegation laid wreaths before the portrait of Kim Jong Il in the name of the king and the great king and paid silent tribute to him.

The deputy prime minister said that the great king and the great queen were deeply saddened and expressed sincere condolences on his demise.

The delegation paid silent tribute to his portrait again before leaving the embassy.

Foreign Diplomats Visit DPRK Permanent Mission

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Diplomatic envoys of China, Vietnam, Laos, India, Zimbabwe, Sudan, Venezuela and Serbia at the UN Office in Geneva and International Organizations paid condolatory visits to the DPRK permanent mission on Tuesday to mourn the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

They laid wreaths before the portrait of Kim Jong Il before paying silent tribute to him.

The Chinese permanent representative wrote in the mourners' book:

"Comrade Kim Jong Il was a close friend of the Chinese people.

The Chinese people cannot repress bitter sorrow over the demise of Comrade Kim Jong Il and express deep condolences on it. The party, government and people of China believe that the Korean people will overcome sorrow and display strength and courage and achieve success without fail in the building of a thriving socialist nation under the leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un and the Workers' Party of Korea true to the behests of Comrade Kim Jong Il".

The Zimbabwean representative said that the peoples of the two countries are comrades-in-arms fighting in the same trench for freedom and justice, so the Zimbabweans are sharing bitter grief with the Korean people. He went on: H.E. Kim Jong Il was, indeed, a great leader.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Chairman of Egyptian Supreme Council of Armed Forces

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, Tuesday received a message of condolences from Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces of Egypt.

He said in the message:

As I am extending to your Excellency sincerest condolences, I wish you all the best of success in carrying out your new assignments and realizing the progress and prosperity for your friendly people.

Personages of India and Int'l and Regional Bodies Mourn Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Personages of India and international and regional bodies mourned the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of India E. Ahmed, together with the director of Department for East Asia, Tuesday called at the DPRK embassy in New Delhi to mourn his demise.

They laid a bouquet before the portrait of Kim Jong Il and paid silent tribute to him.

The minister said the Indian government was greatly shocked by the sad news that Kim Jong Il passed away all of a sudden.

I was authorized by the government to express deep condolences to the government and people of the DPRK, he added.

He said the Indian government sincerely hopes the Korean people will overcome the sorrow as soon as possible and more dynamically turn out in the struggle for building a thriving nation and reunifying the country.

Suneet Chopra, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and secretary general of the All India Indo-Korean Friendship Association, Deba Prasad, member of the Political Bureau of the United Center for Socialism, Vijay, vice-president of the Indian People's Party, Vijay Chopra, director of the Interraz Advertizing Company, Vishwanath, director-general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, and S.K. Banerji, secretary general of the Asian Committee for Peace, Solidarity and Human Rights visited the DPRK embassy on Tuesday and made entries in the mourners' book.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Syrian President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message of condolences from Bashar Al - Assad, president of Syria, on Dec. 19.

The message said:

HE leader Kim Jong Il dedicated his whole life to accomplishing the revolutionary cause started by HE Kim Il Sung, founder of the DPRK and its eternal President, for the party and revolution, country and its people and global independence.

Your friendly country will steadily advance along the road indicated by President Kim Il Sung and leader Kim Jong Il and their ideas will always be remembered by the peoples of all countries.

The Syrian people and I express most heartfelt and profound condolences to Your Excellency and the friendly Korean people, considering the demise of HE leader Kim Jong Il as a great loss not only to the Korean people but to the people of all countries struggling for freedom, justice and peace.

May his soul rest in peace.

Please accept my highest consideration.

Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Palestinian President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, on Monday received a message of condolences from Mahmoud Abbas, chief of the Palestinian National Authority who is president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The message said that leader Kim Jong Il devoted all his life to the dignity and prosperity of the country and the people and most powerfully supported the cause of global justice and truth, the cause of the Palestinian people, in particular.

He made every possible effort for the development of the friendly relations between the DPRK and Palestine, the foundation of which was laid by President Kim Il Sung together with Yasser Arafat, it added.

Expressing his deepest condolences to the friendly government and the people of the DPRK, Abbas in the message wished progress and prosperity always to the Korean people led by Kim Jong Un.

Message of Condolences to Kim Jong Un from Pakistani President

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Kim Jong Un, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, Wednesday received a message of condolences from Asif Ali Zardari, president of Pakistan.

The message said:

We were deeply saddened on the passing away of His Excellency Kim Jong Il, great leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The late Kim Jong Il commanded immense respect and will no doubt be deeply missed by the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

On behalf of the government and people of Pakistan, please accept, Excellency, our heartfelt condolences.

Sudanese President Expresses Condolences on Kim Jong Il's Demise

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Sudanese President Omar Hassan Ahmad Al - Bashir expressed deep condolences on the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

He said, when receiving on Monday credentials from Kim Hyok Chol, DPRK ambassador to Sudan: I express deep condolences to the Korean people in a profound grief over the sudden demise of the great leader HE Kim Jong Il.

His demise is sorrow not only of the Korean people but also of the Sudanese people.

The demise of HE Kim Jong Il who led the confrontation with the imperialists is a great loss to the world progressive forces including Sudan.

I express belief that as they are led by HE General Kim Jong Un the heroic Korean people will bravely overcome the present sorrow and continue advancing the noble cause of HE Kim Jong Il with courage.

Iranian FM Mourns Demise of Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- Ali Akbar Salehi, foreign minister of Iran, visited the DPRK embassy in Tehran on December 21 to mourn the demise of leader Kim Jong Il.

He paid highest tribute to Kim Jong Il.

He said he expressed deep condolences on the sudden demise of Kim Jong Il and sincere sympathy to the government and people of the DPRK on behalf the government and people of Iran.

He made an entry in the mourners' book.

Memorial Service for Kim Jong Il Held in Russia

Pyongyang, December 22 (KCNA) -- A memorial service for leader Kim Jong Il took place in Vladivostok, Russia on Dec. 20.

The participants paid a silent tribute to the memory of Kim Jong Il.

Speeches were made there.

Anatoli Nikolayevich Dolgachev, chairman of the Far Eastern Association for the Study of the Juche Idea and the Songun Policy of Russia, said:

The communist party members not only in Russia but also in the rest of the world are sharing sorrow with the Korean people.

They boundlessly revere Kim Jong Il.