

DPRK AUTHORITIES RECLAIM PLOTS FOR TREE PLANTING

The South Korean civic organization 'Good Friends' recently reported that North Korean authorities have prohibited North Koreans from working private plots in the mountains which had been cleared and used for grain production, and have recently begun replanting trees in these areas.

A source for Good Friends stated, "The Central Party decreed last September 29th, 'The Fatherland's mountains and fields must be adorned with green so that not one single desolate plot exists by the year 2012.'" Accordingly, garden plots are already being reclaimed from individuals and planted with trees.

North Korea is declaring 2012, the year which marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kim Il Sung and the 70th birthday of Kim Jong Il, 'The Year Opening the Gates to a Strong and Prosperous Nation'.

The source stated that local residents in Booryung, North Hamm planted corn, potatoes, beans, and millet on those plots, relying on them for between 3 and 6 months worth of food, and that with the new decree prohibiting farming, more people would die.