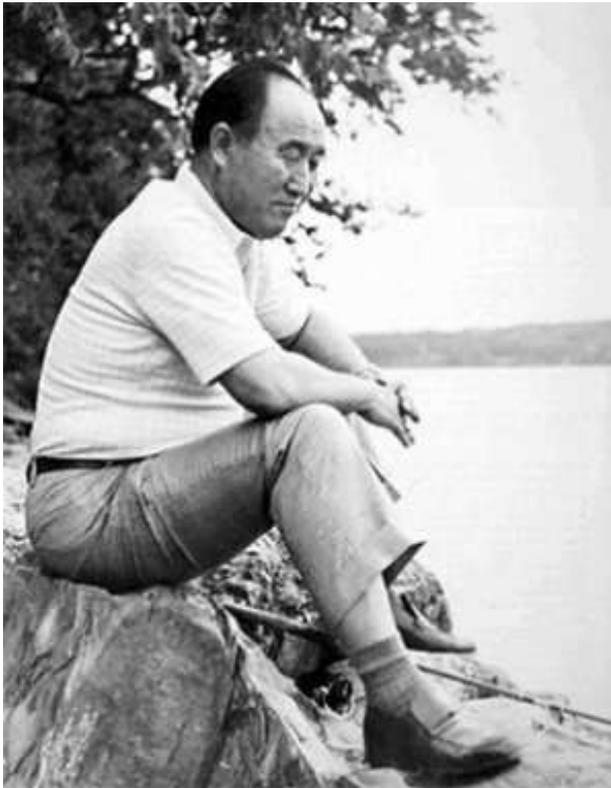


FFWPU UK: This Week In Our History - True Father's 60th Birthday

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True Father fishing on the Hudson River near the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) circa February, 1980

This week, we look back on Rev. Sun Myung Moon's 60th Birthday and how he unexpectedly abandoned all of his birthday plans in order to support a new initiative in Latin America.

In early 1980, elders of the Unification Church were eagerly preparing to celebrate True Father's 60th birthday. This was because in East Asia, the 60th birthday has special significance, meaning that a person has completed five 12-year cycles of the Oriental zodiac.

It signifies accomplishing one big cycle in one's life and starting another and is considered the most significant birthday in an individual's lifetime. Therefore, church leaders were immersed in a multitude of detailed preparations for that celebration.

However, unexpectedly True Father summoned Col. Bo Hi Pak and asked him to abandon all plans for a celebration and immediately go to Latin America.

He had intuited the need for a new initiative to support Latin American governments, which were increasingly under pressure because of the communist takeover of Nicaragua in 1979 and the growth of communist insurrection in countries such as El Salvador, Guatemala, and Peru.

He gave Col. Pak instructions to establish contacts and offer resources in educating young people, the military, and civic leaders so as to avoid a fate similar to Nicaragua's. This led to the founding of CAUSA International and a new chapter in Unificationists' "victory over communism" activities.

For more information on the history of our movement, please visit: familyfedcommunity.co.uk/history/