

A portrait of Kim Dae-jung, President of South Korea, speaking at a podium with microphones. The South Korean flag is visible in the background.

Today in History

August 18, 2009

▲ **Kim Dae-jung, President of South Korea from 1998-2003, died. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his “Sunshine Policy” of engagement with North Korea**

1276: Pope Adrian V was poisoned only five weeks after being elected

1572: French princess Margaret of Valois was married to Huguenot king Henry III of Navarre in a bid to reconcile Catholics and Protestants

1868: French astronomer Pierre Janssen discovered helium after observing an unexplained yellow line in the solar spectrum

2003: Ma Li Hua of Singapore toppled a record 303,621 dominoes