

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TKD – FILL IN THE DATES IF YOU CAN

In the beginning there was Creation, and then, in the year _____ BC, Korea was Created or founded by Dan Gun. The time of Worldly creation and the founding of Korea are the two most distant and mythological times in the Taekwondo diary of historical times. The others are more recent and mostly do have a bearing in history.

The next most recent historical figures mentioned in the texts of our patterns are those of the Hwa Rang youth movement and the noted monk Won Hyo. All of these people existed in the 7th century AD which is between 600 – 699 AD. Can you give more exact dates for Hwa Rang _____ and Won Hyo _____ as stated in the patterns?

You may notice that three of the patterns refer to different people, all of whom have the first name Yi. Yi I, Yi Hwang and Yi Sun-Sin. In the oriental east, it is common for a person's surname to come first, so here you can see that all these people have the same surname. They did all exist in what was known as the Yi Dynasty. Can you remember who lived when?

Yi I _____

Yi Hwang _____

Yi Sun-Sin _____

More recently, we learn that Do San (An Ch'ang Ho) lived well into the 20th century, and in fact, his grandfather starred in an American TV series.

Also living into the 20th century, albeit briefly, was An Joong Gun. Can you remember the dates these two people lived between?

An Ch'ang Ho _____

An Joong Gun _____

Japan ruled over Korea in modern times between 19____? and 19____? during which North Korea and South Korea were combined as one nation.

It has only been relatively recently that there has been a border between the two nations, and it is interesting to note that the Supreme Leader of North Korea often identifies with the Heavenly Lake that is literally 'Chon Ji'.

The world inauguration or introduction of Taekwondo was on April 11th 19____? It was brought to the world by Grand Master Major General Choi Hong Hi Ninth Dan and has since diversified into many different flavours. IT took more than a decade to land on British shores though, not being introduced here in the UK until 19_____?

General Choi died at home in North Korea on the 15th June 2002. He was _____ years of age.

This is a very simplistic timeline of basic Korean history from a Taekwondo point of view, however we would love to hear of any more important dates, very old or more recent, that you can bring to us.