

16 December



(Picture credits: *NASA*)

Anniversary of ‘Danuri’ lunar orbital insertion (2022)

Space agency/country: KARI
Mission: *Korean Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter
‘Danuri’*

The *Korea Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter* (KPLO) is also called *Danuri*, a combination of two Korean words—‘dal’ and ‘nurida’—which together mean ‘Enjoy the Moon’. It is a joint project between the Korea Aerospace Research Institute's (KARI) and NASA, and also the first South Korean spacecraft to orbit beyond Earth orbit. The mission was initially designed to last just one year and aimed to conduct research into lunar space weather, the Moon’s environment and its topography. The spacecraft was launched on 4 August 2022 from Cape Canaveral’s Space Force Station (USA).

For more information:

<https://www.space.com/danuri-korea-pathfinder-lunar-orbiter-kplo-moon-mission>

<https://www.planetary.org/space-missions/kplo>