



**In this Issue**

*Editorial*

*News from Hanshi*

*News from Zengoushuu Shibuchō*

*News from the IGKRS Shibankai*

*What's on that Certificate - Part 2*

*Grading Results*

*Some Technical Stuff*

*Sokuto-geri & Kansetsu-geri*

*Historical Stuff*

*The Meeting of Okinawan Karate*

*Masters in 1936*

*Cover Images*



之生命

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**This Goju Life**

**SOUTHERN  
 SUMMER 2011**

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# EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Southern Summer 2011 edition of this Goju Life.

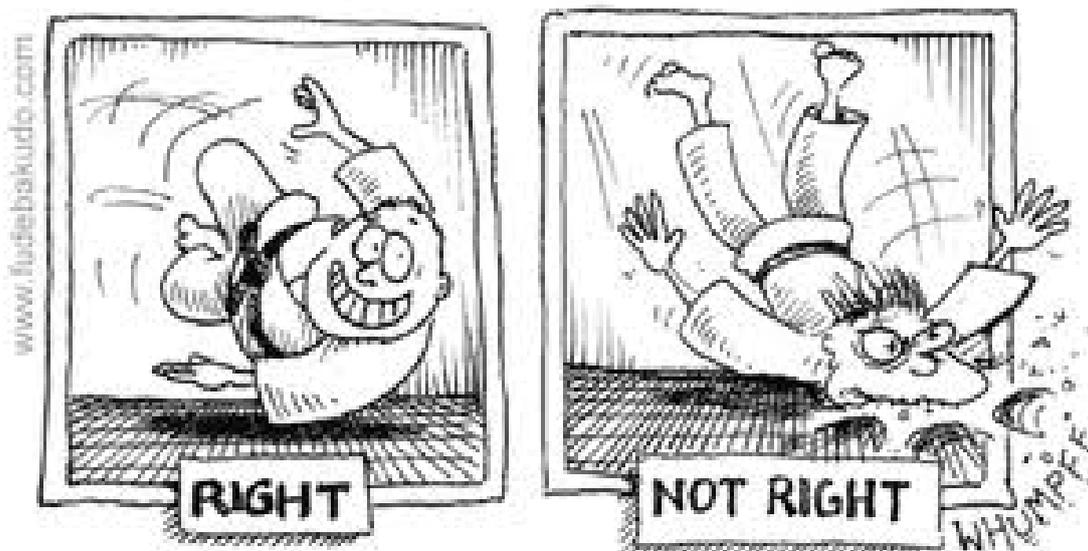
I hope you enjoyed a happy and healthy end to 2010 and that you are ready to go into 2011 full of energy and vitality.

We have a big year ahead of us and I look forward to seeing many of you on the Gold Coast in June.

I hope that you do four things this year in your Goju life, Train hard, Learn lots, don't take it all too seriously AND send me some articles and photos!

We have had a sad start to the year in Australia but we are a tough people we will go on and things will be better.

On the not taking it too seriously front, many of you will know that I have a second martial arts love and that is Jujutsu. Here is a clip that had me chuckling, hope you enjoy it.



My very best regards,

*Walter Callett*

# NEWS FROM HANSHI

Hello to my friends and students.

I can only agree with your Shibucho's words about the terrible things that have happened in Queensland and other parts of Australia.

I am glad you are all safe and well. I miss seeing you all more often and look forward to seeing many of you on the Gold Coast in June for the IGK Shihankai Convocation to launch our new syllabus.

I also hope to see many of you at Masters in Manila which we planning for this coming November.

**TINO CEBERANO**  
PRESENTS

**MASTERS  
IN MANILA**

**Attention ALL  
advance students!!!**

**YOU are invited!**  
to the very first Open Styles event  
of Asian Martial Arts...  
with diverse assembly of masters engaged  
in the teaching and propagation of traditional  
& modern progressive training.

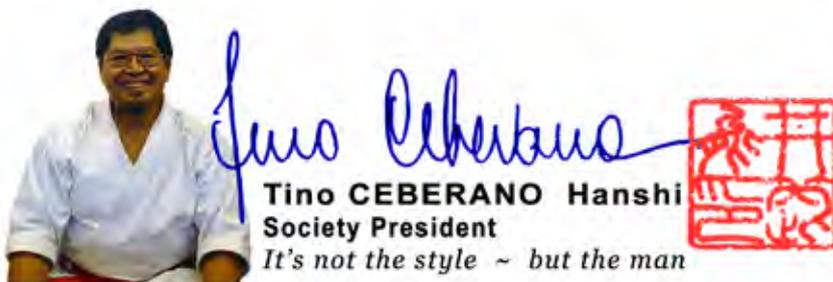
Featuring Masters From:  
Japan | Korea | China | Thailand  
| Malaysia | Indonesia | India |  
Vietnam | Philippines

A showcase of diversity existing in harmonious  
integrated training never before created for the  
Martial Arts seniors in training joined by the  
European and the Oceania  
Practitioners of the arts.

A first step to understanding the missing link  
to the starved resource of advanced levels in  
the many arts' higher levels in senior teachers  
training.

**A MUST HAVE...**  
This will be a course with a structured program  
intended for enriching information and techniques.  
This is planned to be a bi-annual activity, which will  
be a non partisan, non political, and a no interference  
to systems training.

Yours in Budo/Kalis,



# NEWS FROM ZENGOUSHU SHIBUCHO



**Hi everyone, welcome to 2011!**

Many people in our part of the world have had a tough start to the year with floods and fires and everything else that mother nature can throw at us.

All of our people seem to be OK thank goodness but it is very hard at times like this to focus on the every day things.

Take heart, do what you can to help your friends and neighbors, it will get better.

As soon as you are able, come back to us, train hard, train smart, be better!

On the Gold Coast Queensland 11- 13 June, 2011  
**IGK YUDANSHKAI  
CONVOCATION 2011**

國際剛柔古武術研究會  
有段者會・招集・2011

Just a reminder to our black belt members, Hanshi and I and the members of the IGK Shihankai want you all to attend the Shihankai Convocation on the Queens Birthday long week end in June. Please do everything you can to be there, this is a really important event.

**The registration forms will be available soon, so get in early!**

*Alex*

The new IGK Syllabus will be released at this **BLACK BELT ONLY** camp  
Hanshi will be in attendance to explain the new syllabus and provide advise on it's content  
Cost including meals and accommodation will be \$295.00 per person.  
A \$125.00 non-refundable deposit must be paid by March 15th, 2011  
Bookings made after this date will incur and additional \$100.00 fee  
A discount of \$50.00 per person will be given to groups of 10 or more that book and pay by March 15th, 2011

Registration from 08:00 Saturday  
On the dojo floor 09:00 Saturday  
Final session 12:00 Noon Monday

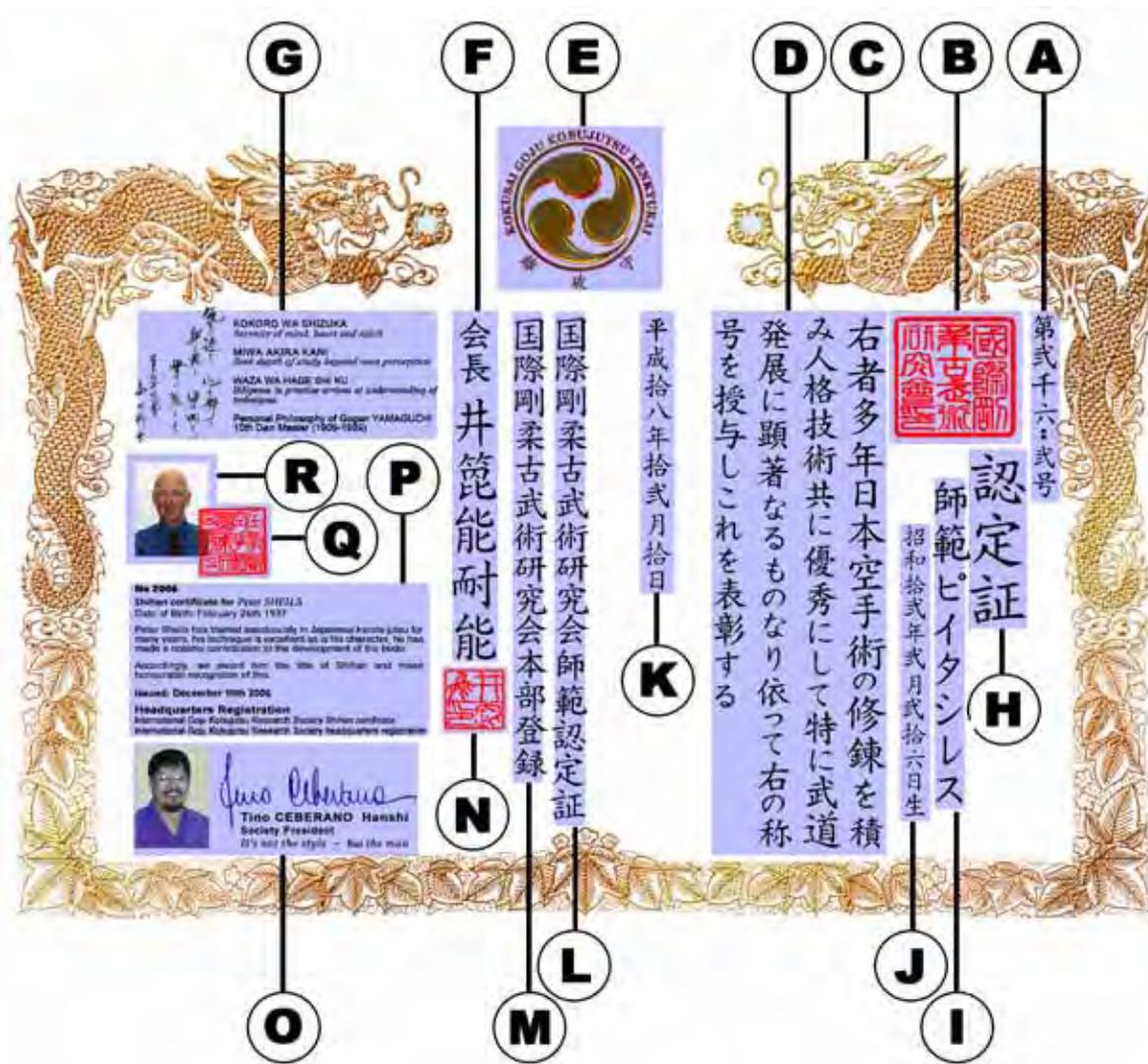


# WHAT'S ON THAT CERTIFICATE

This issue we look at the certificates issued when a member is awarded a shogo or teaching title. From time to time Hanshi will award a senior member of the society with a teaching title or shogo. These individuals will receive a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

This article describes what you will see on the certificates.

Here is what the new dan certificate looks like:



The certificate is in the style of a modern Japanese certificate – it is read from right to left.

- A** This line of kanji is the serial number of your certificate. It consists of is made up as follows:
  - i.** The kanji *Dai* 第 at the start and the kanji *Go* 号 at the end signify that this is a number

## WHAT'S ON THAT CERTIFICATE

- ii. The first part of the body of the line indicates the year. In this sample we have **Ni-sen-roku** 二千六 or 2006 – the year of issue
- iii. Next we have a colon character (“:”) to separate the two parts
- iv. Finally we have the sequence number within the year of issue, in this example we have the kanji 一 or one

So we have **Dai-Nisenroku : Ni-Go**, 第二千六:一号 or 2006:001

- B** This red stamp is the seal of the Kokusai Goju Kobujutsu Kenkyukai. It consists of the name of the society and the kanji for “seal” rendered into “Tensho” or seal script.
- C** The dragon frame is the same as that used on the old IGK certificates with a slightly different rendering – this helps retain a link with the past.
- D** This large block of kanji reads:

**MIGI MONO TANEN NIHON KARATEJUTSU NO SHUREN wo TSUMI  
JINKAKU GIJUTSU TOMONI YUUSHUNISHITE TOKONI BUDO HATTEN  
ni KOUKEN SURUKOTO KENCHO NARUMONO NARI YOTTE MIGI no  
SHOUGOU wo JUYO SHI KORE wo HYOUSHOU SURU**

or

*The person on the right (you) has trained assiduously in Japanese karatejutsu for many years, his/her technique is excellent as is his/her character, he/she has mad a notable contribution to the budo – Accordingly we award him/her the title of <TITLE> and make honourable recognition of this.*

- E** This is the symbol or logo of the Kokusai Goju Kobujutsu Kenkyukai. It consists of three parts:
  - i. The three tailed kamon or family crest of the former royal house of Okinawa and is indicative of our arts historical links to the Ryukyu islands
  - ii. The name of the Society reading clockwise around the top of the circle
  - iii. The kanji for **Shu** 守, **Ha** 破 and 離 **Ri** 離 also reading clockwise around the bottom of the circle
- F** This is the grading authority for your certificate. The single line of kanji reads **Kaicho Ceberano Tino**, 会長井籠能耐能 or *Society President Tino Ceberano*.

## WHAT'S ON THAT CERTIFICATE

- G** This is the personal philosophy of the late Yamaguchi Gogen Hanshi. It provides a link to the old IGK certificates.
- H** This short line of kanji is like a heading, it reads , “Nin-tei-sho” or “Certificate”
- I** This short line of kanji and katakana (or possibly kanji) is the title being awarded and your name rendered in Japanese. The sample above is for the title ***Shihan***, 師範.

In the IGK the options are:

- i.** *Jokyo*
  - ii.** *Renshi*
  - iii.** *Shihan*
  - iv.** *Kyoshi*
  - v.** *Hanshi*
- J** This short line of kanji is your date of birth rendered in the traditional Japanese form of year of the emperor’s reign, month, day. 2006 is Heisei 平成 Juhachi 十八 or the eighteenth year of the reign of Emperor Heisei (Akahito). The previous Emperor (Hirohito) was Showa.
  - K** This short line of kanji is the issue date of your certificate rendered in the traditional Japanese form of year of the emperor’s reign, month, day.
  - L** This line of kanji is the first line of “Hombu” or “headquarters” registration, it reads:

***KOKUSAI GOJU KOBUJUTSU KENKYUKAI <TITLE> NINTEISHO***

or

*<Title> Certificate from the International Traditional Goju Martial Art Research Society*

## DETAILS OF SHOGO CERTIFICATES

**M** This line of kanji is the second line of “Hombu” registration, it reads:

***KOKUSAI GOJU KOBUJUTSU KENKYUKAI HOMBU TOROKU***

or

*International Traditional Goju Martial Art Research Society, Headquarters  
Registration*

**N** This small red stamp is the personal seal of Kaicho Ceberano (Tino Ceberano Hanshi.)

**O** The signature block of Kaicho Ceberano.

**P** The body of the certificate rendered in English.

**Q** This medium red stamp was used on the old IGK certificates and is a link to those certificates.

**R** Your photograph.

# GRADING RESULTS



Congratulations to the following members on their recent promotions and progressions.

## Perth 2009-05-16



Malcolm LIGHT: Assoc Shodan



Haruki JIANG: Jnr Assoc Shodan-ho



Paul NEWTON: Assoc Shodan-ho



Jonathan HUNT: Jnr Assoc Shodan-ho



Johnny MORAN: Assoc Nidan-ho



Rod Darling: Assoc Nidan

## Melbourne 2009-10-31



Jarrad LARKIN: Shodan-ho



Mark AGIUS: Shodan



Ron BATEMAN: Shodan



Natalie FRASER: Shodan



Sharon FRASER: Shodan



Spencer HENNINGS: Shodan

# GRADING RESULTS



Jacqueline HUNT: Assoc Shodan-ho



Dave WALKER: Shodan



Laurie LEVY: Assoc Shodan-ho



Dianne PICONE: Shodan-ho



Nicole SIMESTER: Shodan-ho

## Canberra 2009-12-05



Shynead KAAK: Shodan



Alison Waters: Shodan



Leigh FINCH: Shodan-ho



Breana GILROY: Jnr Shodan-ho

## Queensland 2010-02-20



Tim HILLMAN: Yondan & Renshi



Remco SPEEKENBRINK: Sandan



Susan SPEEKENBRINK: Sandan



Peter WEDDELL: Sandan & Jokyo

# GRADING RESULTS

## Canberra 2009-12-05 continued



Mercedes MACFARLANE: Jnr Shodan-ho

## Queensland 2010-02-20 continued

Peter BLEE: Shodan



Peter SHANKO: Shodan



Sam AMATO: Shodan-ho



Nikki BUTLER: Shodan-ho



Lester IRVINE: Shodan-ho



Alexander KNOTT: Shodan-ho



Matthew LENIHAN: Shodan-ho

# GRADING RESULTS

## Queensland 2010-02-20 continued



Mustafa TUNG: Shodan-ho

## Perth 2010-11-26



Henry TAWHEEL: Godan

## Canberra 2010-12-03



Leigh FINCH: Shodan

In addition to the above promotions the following members have completed the first part of their gradings:



Joe CRADDY:  
For promotion to Sandan



Carlie ANDERSON:  
For promotion to Nidan

## TECHNICAL STUFF: SOKUTO/KANSETSU GERI

It is critically important that we all learn to execute these two quite similar techniques, *sokuto-geri*, the edge of the foot thrusting kick and *kansetsu-geri*, the almost identical kick that specifically targets the knee joint.

These two kicks, along with *mae-geri* and *furi-geri* are the only kicks found in our Goju-ryu kata. While it is true that we practice other kicks, *kin-geri*, *mawashi-geri* and *yoko-geri*, it can be said that these few kicking techniques define the *geri-waza* of Goju-ryu karate.



So what are the three defining features of these two kicks?

1. The striking surface is the outside (knife) edge of the foot
2. The kicking action is like a piston thrusting out along the alignment of the lower leg
3. The knee is lifted and then the leg is thrust out at the target



*An example of how kansetu-geri is applied*

*Kansetsu-geri* is usually picked up quite readily by students but many have difficulty with the higher version of *sokuto-geri*, for example how it is used in kata *seisan*.

## TECHNICAL STUFF: SOKUTO/KANSETSU GERI

Unfortunately many students have a little trouble with *sokuto-geri*, It is not uncommon to see it confused with *mawashi-geri* or *yoko-geri* the two IGK Goju-ryu round-house kicks or with the kick found in *Shotokan karate* called *yoko-keage-geri*, a kick which is not found in Goju-ryu karate. In this kick the knee is lifted and then the leg swings upward as if there is a hinge at the knee, the top surface of the foot is used as the striking surface somewhat like an upper-cut.

Remember that sometimes it is just as important to be clear about what you are not doing as it is to know what you should be doing!



*Not mawashi-geri/yoko-geri*



*Not Shotokan's yoko-keage-geri*

# The Meeting of Okinawan Karate Masters in 1936

**Date and Time:** October 25, 1936 at 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Showa Kaikan Hall, Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture  
**The Organizers:** Ryukyu Shimpo Newspaper Company

## Attendees:

**Karate Masters:** Chomo Hanashiro  
Kyan Chotoku  
Choki Motobu  
Chojun Miyagi  
Juhatsu Kyoda  
Choshin Chibana  
Shimpan Gusukuma  
Chotei Oroku  
Genwa Nakasone, Karate Kenkyusha (affiliated with Shudokan of Kanken Toyama)

## Guests:

Koichi Sato, Manager of Educational Affairs Department  
Zenpatsu Shimabukuro, Director of Okinawa Prefectural Library  
Kitsuma Fukushima, Regimental Headquarters Adjutant  
Eizo Kita, Chief of Okinawa Prefectural Police Affairs Section  
Chosho Goeku, Chief of Okinawa Prefectural Security Section  
Gizaburo Furukawa, Supervisor of Physical Education of Okinawa Prefecture  
Sei Ando, a writer  
Choshiki Ota, President of Ryukyu Shimpo Newspaper Company  
Kowa Matayoshi, Chief Editor of Ryukyu Shimpo  
Zensoku Yamaguchi, Director of Ryukyu Shimpo Newspaper Company  
Tamashiro, a reporter of Ryukyu Shimpo

**Nakasone:** When karate was first introduced in Tokyo, the capital of Japan, "karate" was written in Kanji (= Chinese character) as "Chinese Hand". This name sounded exotic, and gradually accepted among people in Tokyo. However, some people thought this Kanji "Chinese Hand" was not appropriate at schools. In order to avoid the use of this Kanji, some karate dojo wrote "karate" in Hirakana (= Japanese phonetic letters) instead of Kanji. This is an example of temporary use of the word. In Tokyo, most karate dojo use the Kanji "Empty Hand Way" for karate-do, although there are still a few dojo using the Kanji "Chinese Hand." In order to develop Japanese martial arts, I think Kanji for "karate" should be "Empty Hand" instead of "Chinese Hand" and "Karate-Do" should be the standard name. What do you think?

**Chomo Hanashiro:** In the old days, we, Okinawan people, used to call it "Toodii" or "Tode", not "Karate." We also called it just "Tii" or "Te." It means fighting with hands and fists.

## Translator's note

*Pronunciation for the Kanji written as "Chinese Hand" has two ways:*

1. Toodii or Tode (Okinawan dialect)
2. Karate

*Pronunciation for the Kanji written as "Empty Hand" has only one:*

1. Karate

# The Meeting of Okinawan Karate Masters in 1936

**Ota:** We, too, called it "Toodii" or "Tode."

**Shimabukuro:** Mr. Nakasone, I hear nowadays people call "Karate-Do" for karate. Does this mean people added the word "Do" (= literally means the Way) to the name "Karate" for emphasizing the importance of spiritual training like Judo and Kendo?

**Nakasone:** They use the word "Karate-Do" in the meaning of cultivation of the mind.

**Ota:** Mr. Miyagi, do you use the word "Chinese Hand" for karate?

**Chojun Miyagi:** Yes, I use the Kanji "Chinese Hand" as most people do so. It has minor meaning. Those who want to learn karate from me come to my home and say "Please teach me Tii or Te." So I think people used to call "Tii" or "Te" for karate. I think "Karate" is good in the meaning of the word. As Mr. Shimabukuro said, the name "Jujutsu" was changed to "Judo." In China, in the old days, people called Hakuda or Baida for Chinese kungfu, Kenpo or Chuanfa (= Quanfa). Like those examples, names changes according to times. I think the name "Karate-Do" is better than just "Karate." However, I will reserve decision on this matter, as I think we should hear other people's opinions. We had a controversy on this matter at the meeting of Okinawa Branch of Dai Nippon Butokukai. We shelved this controversial problem. In the mean time, we, members of Okinawa Branch, use the name "Karate-Do" written in Kanji as "The Way of Chinese Hand." Shinkokai (= a karate promotion center) will be formed soon, so we would like to have a good name.

**Oroku:** Mr. Miyagi, did you go all the way to China for studying karate?

**Chojun Miyagi:** At the beginning I had no plan to practice kungfu in China, but I found the kungfu excellent, so I leaned it.

**Oroku:** Have there been our own "Te" here in our prefecture, Okinawa, for a long time?

**Chojun Miyagi:** There have been "Te" in Okinawa. It has been improved and developed like Judo, Kendo and boxing.

**Kyoda Juhatsu:** I agree to Mr. Nakasone's opinion. However, I am opposed to making a formal decision right now at this meeting. Most Okinawan people still use the word "Chinese Hand" for karate, so we should listen to karate practitioners and karate researchers in Okinawa, and also we should study it thoroughly at our study group before making a decision.

**Chojun Miyagi:** We do not make a decision immediately at this meeting.

**Matayoshi:** Please express your opinion honestly.

**Chomo Hanashiro:** In my old notebooks, I found using the kanji (= Chinese character), "Empty Hand" for karate. Since August 1905, I have been using the kanji "Empty Hand" for karate, such as "Karate Kumite."

**Goeku:** I would like to make a comment, as I have a relation with Okinawa branch of Dai Nippon Butokukai. Karate was recognized as a fighting art by Okinawa branch of Dai Nippon Butokukai in 1933. At that time, Master Chojun Miyagi wrote karate as "Chinese Hand." We should change his writing "Chinese Hand" into "Empty Hand" at Okinawa branch if we change the Kanji into "Empty Hand." We would like to approve this change immediately and follow

# The Meeting of Okinawan Karate Masters in 1936

procedure, as we need to have approval of the headquarters of Dai Nippon Butokukai.

**Ota:** Mr. Chomo Hanashiro is the first person who used the kanji "Empty Hand" for karate in 1905. If something become popular in Tokyo, it will automatically become popular and common in other part of Japan. Maybe Okinawan people do not like changing the kanji (= Chinese character) of karate. But we would be marginalized if the word "Chinese Hand" is regarded as a local thing, while the word "Empty Hand" is regarded as a common name for karate as a Japanese fighting art. Therefore we had better use the word "Empty Hand" for karate.

**Nakasone:** So far the speakers are those who have been living in Okinawa for a long time. Now I would like to have a comment from Mr. Sato, the director of the School Affairs Office. He came to Okinawa recently.

**Sato:** I have almost no knowledge about karate, but I think the word "Empty Hand" is good, as the word "Chinese Hand" is groundless according to the researchers.

**Furukawa:** The kanji written as "Empty Hand" is attractive for us who came from outside Okinawa, and we regard it as an aggressive fighting art. I was disappointed when I saw the kanji "Chinese Hand" for karate.

**Nakasone:** This time, I would like to have a comment from Mr. Fukushima, the Regimental Headquarters Adjutant.

**Fukushima:** The kanji "Empty Hand" for karate is appropriate. The kanji "Chinese Hand" for karate is difficult to understand for those who do not know karate.

**Ota:** There is no one who do not like the word "Empty Hand" for karate, but there are people who do not like the word "Chinese Hand" for karate.

**Chojun Miyagi:** Well, when I visited Hawaii, Chinese people there seemed to have friendly feeling toward the word "Chinese Hand" for karate.

**Shimabukuro:** Here in Okinawa, we used to call "Tii" or "Te" for karate. To differentiate from it, we called "Toodii" or "Tode" for karate that was brought from China.

**Nakasone:** I think we have almost made clear about the name of karate. Now we would like to discuss about the promotion of karate. It is regrettable that karate is no popular in Okinawa at present. We need to find a solution to promote karate in the fields of physical education and martial arts education.

**Furukawa:** There are a lot of Ryu or styles in karate now. I think we have to unify them at any cost. I hear there are small differences between Shuri style karate and Naha style karate. I think both styles should be unified and we should make Kata of Japanese Karate-do. In the old days, we had about 200 styles of Kendo (= swordsmanship), but now they have been unified and we have the standard Kata of Japanese Kendo. I think karate would become popular all over the country if we had the unified Kata. For example, we can newly establish ten Kata as Japanese Karate. The name of each Kata should be changed into Japanese, such as Junan-No-Kata (soft and stretch kata), Kogeki-No-Kata (= offensive kata) and so on. In this way, we can conform the name of Kata to its content. And I also think we should make karate a competitive sport, so we should study how to hold a game of karate. We would like

# The Meeting of Okinawan Karate Masters in 1936

to make a uniform of karate and standardize contents and forms.

**Chojun Miyagi:** I agree to your opinion. With regard to Kata of karate, I ever submitted the opinion with explanation to the headquarters of Dai Nippon Butokukai (= national fighting arts association), when its Okinawa branch was established. As to karate clothes, we also would like to make karate uniform soon as we often have problems. As for terminology of karate, I think we will have to control it in the future. I am also advocating it, and I have been making new technical words and promoting them. Regarding Kata, I think traditional Kata should be preserved as old or classic Kata. For the nationwide promotion of karate, I think we had better create new Kata. We will create both offensive and defensive Kata which are suitable for students of primary schools, high schools, universities and youth schools. Mainly, we, the members of Shinkokai (= karate promotion association), will make new Kata and promote them throughout Japan. Now there are Physical Education Association and Okinawa Branch of Butokukai. We also have senior students of karate and those who are interested in karate. We, therefore, cooperate with them to study and promote karate. If such organizations and experts study karate thoroughly, we can make a decision about the karate name issue and karate uniform relatively soon. I think the old Kata should be preserved without any modification while new Kata should be invented, otherwise I am convinced that no one will be interested in karate any longer in the world in the future.

**Ota:** How many karate organizations are there in Okinawa at present?

**Chojun Miyagi:** There are Okinawa Branch of Dai Nippon Butokukai, Physical Education Association of Okinawa Prefecture and Physical Education Association of Shuri City.

**Ota:** Mr. Chibana, how many students do you have now at your karate dojo?

**Choshin Chibana:** I have about 40 students at my karate dojo.

**Chojun Miyagi:** There is an opinion insisting that there are two Ryu or styles in karate, namely, Shorin-Ryu and Shorei-Ryu. I think such an opinion is wrong or false, as there is no evidence at all. However, if we have two styles in karate, we can categorize them by their teaching methods. In one style, they do not even differentiate between Fundamental Kata (= Kata such as Sanchin, Tensho and Naifanchi) and Kaishu Kata (= Kata other than Sanchin, Tensho and Naifanchi). They teach karate unsystematically and unmethodically. In the other style, they differentiate between Fundamental Kata and Kaishu Kata clearly. They teach karate systematically and methodically. My teacher (= Master Kanryo Higaonna) taught me karate in the way of the latter.

**Ota:** Karate masters we know did not go to China to study karate.

**Chojun Miyagi:** I have heard that Master Matsumura went to China and practiced karate there.

**Choshin Chibana:** Our teacher taught us Naifanchi as a Fundamental Kata.

**Ota:** Mr. Motobu, who taught you karate?

**Choki Motobu:** I learned karate from Master Itosu, Master Sakuma and Master Matsumora of Tomari village.

## The Meeting of Okinawan Karate Masters in 1936

**Ota:** I thought you created your own karate on your own without learning from karate masters.

**Choki Motobu:** (laughing) No, I did not create my karate on my own.

**Nakasone:** Now we know every karate masters have agreed to the plan to establish a karate promotion association. As Mr. Furukawa told us the necessity of founding a karate promotion association, we think the other people also seem to agree to this plan. So we would like the members to start the preparation for establishing it.



*This is a transcript of part of the meeting records. It appears as an appendix in the book, "Karatedo Dai Hokan" written by Kanken Toyama. Pages 377-392 (Tsuru Shobo, 1960).*

*This article re-printed with the kind permission of YAMADA Kiyotaka. Yamada-san is a resident of Osaka, he is a yondan in Okinawan Goju-ryu and is some what famously known in cyber sapce as "Sanzinsoo." You can find his blog at:*

*<http://yamada-san.blogspot.com>*

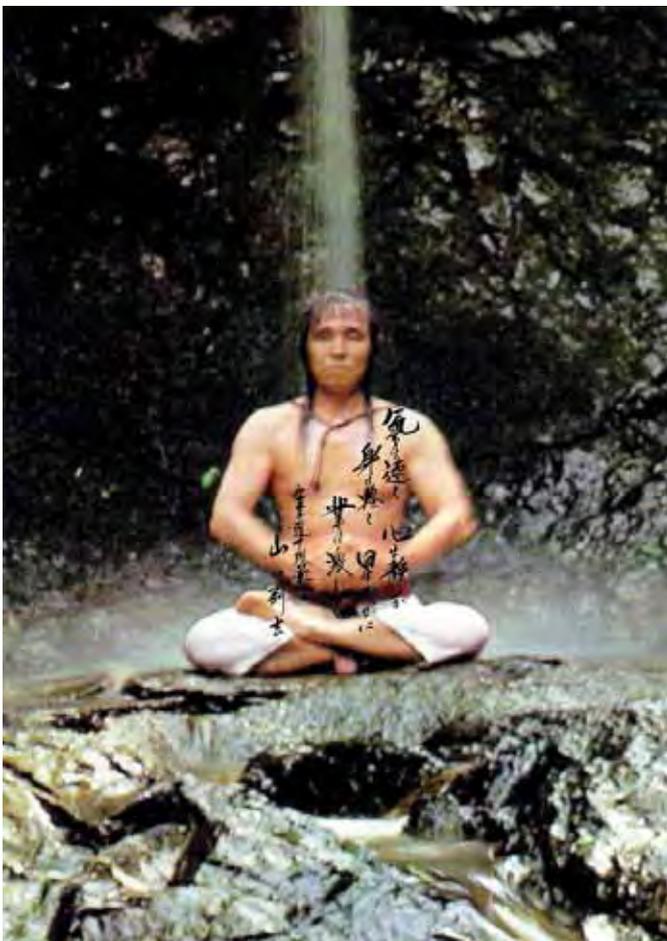
## COVER IMAGES



The top image shows Okinawan Eisa performers so typical of the summer festivals on Okinawa dancing and playing the sanshin and the taiko drum.



The bottom Left image shows the monument to HIGASSHIONNA Kanryu Sensei. While the bottom right image shows the monument to MIYAGI Chojun Sensei. Both monuments are located at Naha, Okinawa.



The middle image shown YAMAGUCHI Gogen Hanshi performing Taki Shuugyo or waterfall ascetic practice. The image is overlaid with Yamaguchi Gogen's personal philosophy, written in his own hand.