



# KINKAN DOJO NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 – November 2004



## Introduction

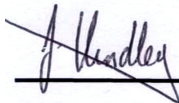

Our martial arts training is based upon a system of personal self defence that employs dangerous techniques in order to protect our lives. These techniques have been proven on the battlefields and in single, mortal combat over the centuries. Knowledge of these techniques certainly gives you a better chance of surviving a dangerous encounter with a violent individual. However, knowledge of such powerful techniques must be tempered with responsibility.

This month's newsletter contains an article submitted by James Sutherland which concerns the use of force in the eyes of the law. In my opinion, this is required knowledge for anyone involved in martial arts. You must understand the limits you can go to if you ever find yourself in a dangerous situation where you have no option but to defend yourself physically. This knowledge, coupled with the physical skills you have learned, should enable you to make the right decisions during a dangerous encounter.

I have also included an article about the Amatsu Tatara tradition written by Tanemura Sensei. This will give you an appreciation of both the depth and age of our martial arts tradition.

Lastly, I have decided to issue the newsletter during the last week of the month for the following month at the tea ceremony on Mondays. This is why this newsletter is headed as "November's" issue.

Train safely,

## MARTIAL ARTS

### **The Amatsu Tatara Tradition**

The following text (abridged) is taken from "The Journal Of The Amatsu Tatara Tradition" (volume 1), and is written in Tanemura Sensei's own words.

#### ***Introduction***

The word Amatsu Tatara is not well known. However, the name of the secret scrolls or books of the Amatsu Tatara are well known to special Japanese scholars, martial artists and spiritual experts.

It is very difficult to explain the Amatsu Tatara because it is only for a special grandmaster or special priest. For this reason it has been kept very secret.

Shoto Tanemura is the 58th grandmaster of Amatsu Tatara Bumon (martial arts) and Shumon (spiritual) and he feels the time for his true mission

has come; to show what the Amatsu Tatara is.

#### ***Amatsu Tatara Hibumi***

Amatsu means Heaven or Nature and Tatara means the highest secret teaching system of Martial Arts and original Shintoism spirit.

The Amatsu Tatara Hibumi (secret scrolls) are special scrolls about all Martial Arts, Spiritualism and Humanism, written about 700 BC by the King of Mima as the history of Japan and were given to Tatara Isuzu Hime-no-Mikoto.

Tatara Isuzu Hime-no-Mikoto then married the first emperor Jinmu and gave these scrolls to the Ohtomo, Nakatomi and Mononobe families (families loyal to the Emperor).

In about 700 BC (or 500 BC, or 600 BC), The King Mima drifted from the ancient Babylonia Caldia Kingdom to Japan with three attendants and they lived on Miwayama mountain (Nara Area).

He formed a good friendship with the chieftain of

金環道場

Japan Amaterasu Ohmikami and made great efforts in controlling Japan which is why he was made a Kunitsu Omi Muraji (Minister).

King Mima brought the special Kubikazari (necklace), made of 72 Magatama (jewels), not only for fashion but as the symbol of a King, giving it a very important meaning - it was also used for fortunetelling; King Mima presented it to Amaterasu.

Hiboko-no-Mikoto, a great Shaman, followed King Mima to Japan and brought Tokusano Kandakara (ten kinds of Gods treasures) of Shikin; Shikin means Rei-jutsu (spiritual techniques by truth consciousness). In 500 BC or 550 BC, several hundred Buddhist Vader people of the Malay race attacked Japan and fought the emperors army of Miwayama.

The emperor's army fought and defeated them. From the battle the Japanese emperor's army designed weapons, created how to use them, and also how to win (strategies).

From that time until about 10 AD a special scroll was written; the Amatsu Tataru Hibumi-no-Ikkan (original main secret scroll of the Amatsu Tataru) which includes all special techniques, philosophies, Tenmon (heavens things), Chimon (earth things) and others.

The second part of this essay will appear in next month's newsletter.

## **Martial Arts & The Law**

The following text has been contributed by James Sutherland, 9<sup>th</sup> kyu Jujutsu, and provides an understanding of the use of force within the parameters of UK law.

### ***The Use Of Force***

The legitimate use of force is a both very easy and difficult subject to understand, plus it is a subject which changes on a regular basis. Any threat of force towards another is an assault, any application of force is battery, which is unlawful unless justified under law. There are two powers that any person may use to defend themselves under UK law. These are the Common Law, and Section 3 of the Criminal Law Act 1967.

### ***The Common Law***

The Common Law has developed and changed over many centuries and is basically the decisions of the British courts, mainly the Law Courts and the Courts of Appeal. These are not written down as

an Act of Parliament would be, and as such are easier to alter. There are many different aspects to Common Law, including murder, but I am going to restrict myself to the Common Law power of self defence, and protection of property.

Any person may use reasonable force to defend themselves or their property and save life, provided that they have a genuine and honestly held belief of imminent danger, and the force used must be proportionate and necessary given the circumstances.

So what does that mean?

1. "any person" means everyone, you, me, my great aunt
2. "reasonable" as would be judged by an independent third party, such as the jury or a police officer
3. "force", remember that even the threat of physical action is technically an assault or use of force
4. "defend themselves" or another person, and any force used must be sufficient only to stop the attack
5. "their property", anything you own, or have control over, but this is changing and becoming stricter
6. "save life and limb", fairly self explanatory
7. "genuine and honest", there must be an evidential basis for the genuine and honest belief. There must be some facts that you can articulate to a third party to explain your belief
8. "imminent danger", this means in time and space, it is just about to happen or is happening
9. "proportionate and necessary given the circumstances", this is legal jargon for don't take a sledgehammer to smash a walnut, and comes back to reasonableness

In some circumstances, where there is a threat of imminent violence, a pre-emptive strike may be justified in self defence. One does not necessarily have to wait for the other person to strike the first blow, but you will need a strong evidential basis to support this action.

### ***Section 3 Criminal Law Act 1967***

States: "a person may use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of crime, or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders or persons unlawfully at large"

So what does that mean?

1. "a person" means everyone, as above
2. "force", remember that even the threat of physical action is technically an assault or use of force
3. "reasonable" as would be judged by an independent third party, such as the jury or a police officer
4. "prevention of crime", to stop a crime but remember an evidential basis will be needed to prove that a crime is about to happen
5. "effecting or assisting", making or helping an arrest
6. "offenders or suspected offenders", someone who you have evidential proof has, or suspect has, committed a crime
7. "persons unlawfully at large", escaped from prison

As can be seen with both these powers reasonableness is an important part, this will not be ultimately judged by you but rather by a magistrate or jury. Of course during the incident you are making all the decisions, don't make the wrong ones.

Remember that a court may want to know why you could not back off or run away, rather than using force.

*"experience is something you get ten seconds after you needed it"*

Tony Blauer – Founder S.P.E.A.R Defensive tactics

**James Sutherland**

I would like to say a big "thank you" to James for submitting the above article.

## STUDENTS

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### Successful Gradings

Congratulations to the following students from the Holborn class, who have passed their Jujutsu tests during the last four weeks:

Derek Benjamin	- 7 <sup>th</sup> kyu
Sally Jordan	- 7 <sup>th</sup> kyu
Tim Phillips	- 7 <sup>th</sup> kyu

Well done to all of you!

## EVENTS

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### UK Taikai With Tanemura Sensei

The dates and costs for the UK Taikai are as follows:

November 25<sup>th</sup> - Instructor training  
November 26<sup>th</sup> - Instructor training  
November 27<sup>th</sup> - Open training  
November 28<sup>th</sup> - Open training

2 days open training - £105 (roughly)

Everyone should by now be aware of the Taikai. Remember that, due to the Japan Taikai taking place next year, Sensei will not be visiting the UK after this Taikai until 2006, so this is your last opportunity to see Sensei in action until then!

If you are planning to attend but do not have your accommodation sorted out yet, please let me know ASAP.

The UK Taikai is only weeks away now, and I would encourage the students who will be attending to write a small piece about the Taikai so that I can put these into December's newsletter.

### New Schedule Of Classes

Most of you are now aware that I will be teaching 4 extra classes from the beginning of November, two children's classes and two adults classes. The full list of classes is shown below:

**Monday evenings**, 8pm to 10pm  
The Gymnasium, Champion School, Hornchurch

**Tuesday evenings**, 5.30pm to 7pm  
The Studio, Sainsburys Head Office, Holborn

**Wednesday evenings**, 8pm to 9.30pm  
The Sports Hall, Havering 6<sup>th</sup> Form College, Hornchurch

**Thursday Evenings**, Oaks High School, Ilford:  
For 10-15 years of age – 7pm to 8pm  
For adults (16yrs+) – 8pm to 9.30pm

**Saturday mornings**, Oaks High School, Ilford:  
For 10-15 years of age – 9.30am to 10.30am  
For adults (16yrs+) – 10.30am to midday

All students are welcome to attend the extra classes and they will be on a drop in basis, i.e. just turn up and pay the £5 fee on the day. Your monthly fees for the Monday and Wednesday classes will not be affected.

Also, if you would like to train at the Holborn class please let me know and I will give you the directions.

## BOOKS

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this month's recommended reading are:

### **The Overlook Martial Arts Reader (classic writings on philosophy and technique)**

(Edited by) Randy F Nelson

*"An extraordinarily informative book. The Overlook Martial Arts Reader is an excellent volume that belongs in the libraries of all serious students of the martial arts, regardless of their length of practise"*

This book is a collection of essays written by some of the most prominent martial artists and martial arts writers. It includes contributions from such experts in their field as Jigoro Kano (founder of Judo), Gichin Funakoshi (regarded as the father of modern karate), Miyamoto Musashi (the legendary master swordsman) and Inazo Nitobe (author of "Bushido: The Soul Of Japan")

The great thing about this book is that it spans lots of different martial arts, and many of the accounts are by people who were actually "there".

The book is divided into 4 parts. Part 1 is concerned with culture and conflict: the histories. Part 2 focuses on masters and students: the philosophy. Part 3 is to do with training and discipline: the way. Part 4 covers other aspects of the martial arts.

A really good book for any martial artist interested in the history and first hand accounts of martial arts.

### **I Can't Accept Not Trying**

By Michael Jordan

Yes this book really has been written by the famous basketball star! It only has 36 pages but in my opinion is worth its weight in gold.

I love this little book because Michael's style is straight to the point. No massive chapters involved, just a few words that get straight to the crux of the matter.

The single theme that jumped out at me when I read this was that of personal responsibility. If you want to achieve anything in life, its up to no-one else but yourself.

Michael talks about such topics as setting goals, dealing with fear, commitment and leadership. Well worth the money!

## QUOTES

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Here are this month's inspiring quotes, based upon the principle of "character":

"For us, warriors are not what you think of as warriors. The warrior is not someone who fights, because no one has the right to take another's life. The warrior, for us, is one who sacrifices himself for the good of others. His task is to take care of the elderly, the defenceless, those who cannot provide for themselves, and above all, the children, the future of humanity"

***Sitting Bull***

"I can accept failure. Everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying"

***Michael Jordan***

## COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

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Do you have any queries or comments about anything written in this newsletter?

Do you want to write an article or write a review on a book?

Is there anything specific you would like to see covered in the newsletter?

If so, then please let me know as it is your newsletter and I want to make sure you get what you want out of it.