

SHOTOKAN RYU KASE HA INSTRUCTORS ACADEMY

SRKHIA Newsletter 11/03

Dear karateka,

The new training period has started. A lot of courses are taking place, alongside with regular dojo training. The Academy also continues its operation by consolidating structures and putting in place certain procedures of operation, which will allow its way forward in a structured and disciplined way. Discipline is, I think, the codeword in our practice. Because it is only by discipline that we will be able to reach the higher level in budo. It is discipline that brings us daily to the dojo, to train and search the way, despite any difficulty or obstacle. If we all agree in that, we should agree also that our Academy, which we consider as the cradle of our tradition, cannot operate but in a structured and disciplined way.

Budo Themes: The ideal progression by T. Kase sensei

(Editor's introduction: In our last Newsletters we have referred to the stages and phases of our training and consequent development. The Academy's syllabus provides a guide of "measurement" of this progress. Just to complete this circle of discussion, T. Kase sensei himself provides below his conceptual approach, as it is reflected in a sensei's interview in 1992. The text has been translated from French.)

5 years of practice: Allows obtaining of black belt (shodan) in karate do. But at this level you have only memorized the basic techniques. In Japan normally three years are required for that level but daily training is 2 to 3 hours. The black belt, first dan, is considered equivalent to the baccalaureate, which opens the door to higher studies.

10 years of practice: They will allow the practitioner to have good basic techniques in general. It is only after this level when someone may start instructing regularly, since it is very important that the instructor shows correctly the basic techniques which he has apprehended during these 10 years. It is beyond any discussion that someone cannot show correctly and with a rigorous manner if he has not reached this level.

15 years of practice: Having attained a perfectly formed body and a good physical condition, these 15 years allow an automatic application of the techniques not only in a mechanical way but with the development of spirit as well. The reaction block / counter attack becomes an instinct. This level more or less corresponds to 4th dan.

20 years of practice: Understanding remains the expression in this period which corresponds to the 5th dan level. The mental reaction comes at the same time with the realization of physical action. In this mental status the karateka remains always alert, like a sleeping animal which is alerted even to minor dangers. From that point, life is dedicated to karatedo, the way or the destiny cannot be changed.

30 years of practice: After this evolution the action is as follows: the moment of decision the body comes to express the thought (Harmony mental – physical). Is it necessary to underline what these 30 years have implied? (regular training: kata etc). Counting of the years is alien to what has preceded.

Towards 40 years; 8th dan: This is the level towards the 6th sense, a form of sensitive telepathy of the 4th dimension, for the karateka who has reached this time of practice. It must not proper to consider that reflection only will allow progress. Practice and

reflection are always indispensable.

The path to reach this progress is that where, at the beginning of karate do, the self defense aspect is dominant. The notion of the adversary is primitive. However in attaining this progress, you will realize that one must not kill but to help the other and to discover the way, Do. There is a transformation of the personality by understanding the partner, the adversary.

Reports

I do not have any reports from courses or other Academy activities.

Recommended Courses:

As you already know Kase sensei has cancelled all scheduled courses until next March 2004. However Academy's instructors remain active in spreading Shotokan Ryu Kase ha. Information on these courses may be found in <<http://www.kamikazeweb.com/events>> www.kamikazeweb.com/events
On 15 and 16 November Pascal Lecourt will teach in England in a course organized by Slater Williams in Redditch (Midlands). The course is open to all grades. For further Information Contact Slater Williams 0044 1386 793160 <<mailto:slater@esakarate.freemove.co.uk>> slater@esakarate.freemove.co.uk <<http://www.just-karate.com>> www.just-karate.com On 15 and 16 November also Marco Alfonso Gomez, 5dan, organizes a course in Castellbisbal, Barcelona, Spain. For information contact Marco Alfonso Gomez at 659. 59.35.98 or <http://kaseha.esp.st>. For those interested in kobudo and kobujutsu, Dirk Fieret organizes a karate and kobujutsu course on 16 November in West Kappele, the Netherlands, where Dirk Heene and he as well as Gertjan Fieret will give instruction. Dirk Fieret also organizes for 8th running year, on 6th and 7th December 2003, in Terneuzen, The Netherlands, the annual karate and kobujutsu course. Dirk Heene, 7dan and Julian Mead, 7dan kobudo will teach on this course. More information may be provided by Dirk Fieret, p/a Berliozhof 97, 4536 EX, Terneuzen NI. Tel : (0031) (0) 115- 696383 or 695072, Fax : (0031) (0) 115-612151, E mail <<mailto:dfieret@zeelandnet.nl>> dfieret@zeelandnet.nl Please be reminded that information relevant to courses, by SRKHIA instructors, will be given every month, in the same way, provided you have informed me accordingly. All received information relevant to courses, by SRKHIA instructors, are forwarded to Frank Schubert for insertion in the Calendar of events in his site, so it is always updated.

Membership status:

Time is approaching for the renewal of annual membership, as well as acceptance of new members. Both should be completed by 28th February 2004.

Firstly let me remind you that the membership fee is 60 Euro or 36 British pounds. Payments may be done, either by bank transfer to our account: Natwest Bank Ltd, Cheltenham Branch, 31 Promenade, Cheltenham, GL50 1LH, UK, Sort Code 60-05-16, Account number 16412087, Beneficiary Shotokan Ryu Kase Ha Instructors Academy (attention, in this case you transfer only British pounds), or by a bank cheque or international money order, made payable to Shotokan Ryu Kase Ha Instructors Academy and posted to our Treasurer, Alan Armstrong, 19 Jubilee Drive, Bredon, Tewkesbury, GL20 7QJ, England, preferably by registered mail (attention, cheques could be either 36 British pounds or 60 euros, whichever is more convenient to members). You must not forget to mention the name(s) and the year.

In addition I am collecting new applications which will be forwarded to Shihankai for approval in January so new members will have the appropriate time to for fulfilling financial obligations.

Second, up to now I have received the following applications for new members: Achilles Wilfried, Germany; Winkelmans Jens, Germany; Paul

Sammy, UK/Scotland; Dupuch Jerome, France/ Ireland; Johansson Andreas, Sweden; Lindqvist Jörgen, Sweden; Samedy Sivathana, Cambodia. All these applications as well all others received by 31 January 2004 will be forwarded to Shihankai for approval and once approved the applicants will be notified accordingly. So if there are other applicants as well, their forms should be forwarded to me by 31 January 2004

Academy Dojo directory:

I have received no responses so far for the Academy Dojo Directory, announced in the last Newsletter, comprised by dojo where Shotokan ryu Kase ha is practiced. I remind you that what is needed is, to send me the following information: Dojo name, Dojocho (chief instructor, not necessarily a SRKHIA member), Dojo Sponsor (an Academy member who recommends this dojo, only in cases that Dojocho is not an Academy member), Country, City, Address, Point of Contact (POC), POC phone no, POC gsm, POC e-mail (optional).

This information will be filled accordingly and they will be provided, upon request, to members. Additionally every six months, May and October each year, a relevant list will be distributed with the Newsletter.

Last but not least, all Newsletters may be found in Pascal Petrella's dojo site on SRKHIA

<<http://www.shotokan-ryu-kase-ha.karate-muellheim.de/>>

www.shotokan-ryu-kase-ha.karate-muellheim.de The site includes also other useful Academy information.

The next Newsletter will be edited in the first week in December 2003.

Stay strong, train hard and enjoy.

Oss

Spiros G. Drossoulakis