



SHINKI NEWS

NO. 15



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Soke's Word

Text: Michael Daishiro Nakajima

My last two newsletters were about goals and objectives. We humans cannot find the goal from the beginning. It has to be found first. When we meet someone or something new at a young age, that is of value to our eyes, we are often blown away and focus almost exclusively on it. In order to delve into one thing, this tendency is not necessarily bad. But if we commit ourselves to this value too soon, we might become one-sided or even fanatical.

So it is important that we keep our eyes open and try to get to know “other worlds” as well. However, this openness should not lead to vagueness and indecision, which in Japan are referred to as battles and battles in Hiyorimi-shugi. Depending on the weather, you change the camp you are fighting for.

If the goal is strongly related to this, then the criteria are also related to this, and something like a basic attitude is not maintained. For example, Those who view money and social position as the ultimate goal will ignore, oppress, and plot against other people so that everything is subordinated to one’s (worldly) goal. The question is, after all, if there is only one “this side” or if there is something that goes beyond and represents more important values. There have been and still are people who not only acknowledge such values with their heads, but also internalize them with their heart, so that they are willing, if necessary, to renounce this world, in their opinion, to preserve and realize much higher values.

Such “this-world” values also include e.g., the pursuit of graduation or absolute perfection in a (martial) art. Such perfection naturally limits

the simple fact of our body’s finality. But when it comes to “inner” values, there can be enormous differences because the interior does not know these limits. As O-Sensei has repeatedly said, “Power is finite, Ki is infinite.” The reason why O-Sensei is so important to Aikido followers has to do with such a statement, and not just that he is the founder of Aikido. I would even say that there are many other Budoka who are as good as he was or even surpassed him when it comes to techniques. It is mainly his spiritual power for which he is worshiped. We should realize that this was not just about general humanity or ethics, but about strong religious belief, in the sense of searching for the depth and dimension of our reality. In other words, O-sensei had this religious depth that established his humanity. He sees, for example the interpersonal love anchored in the love of God, who is the universal Father of the great human family.

In any case, it is worth examining whether we take his concern seriously and follow his Aikido path, or whether we are content with a general humanity, even if this is to be considered positively in view of the conflicts in our environment and in the world at all. In my ears; however, the voice of the Nazi victim Dietrich Bonhoeffer always resonates: “Shocking is the failure of the sensible, who are unable to see either the abyss of evil or the abyss of the saint, who with the best of intentions, with some reason, believe they can reconcile the entangled joists. In their lack of vision, they want both sides to fare right, and are thus crushed between the clashing forces without having the slightest alignment. ... Shocking is still the failure of all ethical fanaticism.”

Remarks

Shinki Dojo Oberkessach:

The rent for Shinkiryu Central Dojo will increase significantly in the near future, as it became clear that the previous owner undervalued the insurance costs for the building, as if it were a residential house or a barn, so now it is more expensive. Since we cannot carry this increased rent with the current training fees, we have to increase the monthly fee drastically. Therefore, the fees for a single-visit training is increased by 2 Euro. For our Shinkiryu members, the 2-hour training is 14 Euros and a reduction of 2 Euros is given to trainers, students, and the unemployed. We are very happy when people from abroad come to the individual training, but also ask for this supporting contribution.

Bokuto Order:

The next Bokuto order to Japan will be sent on April 1st. So please let me know by March 31 if you want to purchase a Bokuto

Dan Exam Fee:

Due to the Dan graduation application to Aikikai being costly for Duncan and me, the fee for 1st – 4th Dan has been increased by 35 Euros, and for 5th – 6th Dan, increased by 40 Euros because of my even greater expense for the letter of recommendation. From this amount, 30 Euros will be transferred to the Commission as before. Incidentally, even higher grades (Shihan, 7th Dan, and 8th Dan) are directly judged and awarded by Doshu, and others have no authority to recommend and recognize graduation. That means you have to see and introduce yourself to him.



Minutes of the examination board and the trainers committee

By Katrin Wender Location, date and time: Edingen, 02.02.2019, 14: 00-16: 05

Head: Claudia Buder (representing Duncan Underwood)

Present: Soke Michael Daishiro Nakajima

PK (Prüferkommission=examination board): Claudia Buder, Danijel Rolli, Bernd Hubl

TK (Trainerkommission= trainers committee): Marius Trzaski, Michael Danner, Robert Schuetz, Gunnar Clausen, Georg Umlauf

Not present:

PK: Duncan Underwood, Henry Kowallik, Matthias Haass

TK: Birgit Bolk, Helmut Theobald

TK TOP1: Reports from the clubs (critical, worth mentioning, suggestions)

Relative to the premises used for training, the situation in clubs is very different. The landlord of the current Dojo has “tolerated” the group in Heidelberg for about 2 years, although he would like to use the premises for other purposes. However, the permits for renting a new location (and for the corresponding financing) are currently not available. For the group in Wiesbaden, the use of a public hall is free, but the structure is not in good shape. Other groups, e.g., in Munich, have founded their own club and rent the space from a private landlord. Marius’ group has a special situation and can train in a Protestant church.

Basically, the use of public halls is usually cheaper, but you always have to deal with restrictions in terms of training times, as several sports share use of the hall with other clubs. When using privately rented premises there is much more flexibility of the training times. On the other hand, the financing in the association must be organized and supported. The trainers have observed that the numbers of participants in the adult groups are constant or slightly declining. There is a greater demand for children groups, with the starting age varying between 6 and 8 years old, depending on the dojo. Transitions from the groups of children to the adult groups are rather rare. Many of the children or adolescents leave the groups at about 12-13 years old because of increased time constraints due to school and/or other leisure activities.

Comment by Bernd Hubl on financing options: It may be worthwhile examining the establishment of contacts with the city or municipality to find out, to what extent, funds from public projects can be applied for. However, it is important to note that there are often very specific requirements for such projects and the amount of time and organizational effort involved in applying for funding.

It was finally concluded that the ongoing exchange between the associations on club development and the spatial and temporal situations of training should be kept alive by the commissions.

TK TOP 2: How do we manage to share information (e.g. Shinki News online) within the association? and

TK TOP 3: Problems setting up the mailing list

Background:

For the release of the last issue of the Shinki News in December, there was no general e-mail to all members of the association. The creation of a planned mailing list technically failed because of reaching the limit with about 640 recipients (the current number of members). Soke had to split the recipients into 8 groups to be able to successfully send the e-mail to all members. This effort is not sustainable for Soke in the long term. A second point to consider was the recent enactment of the EU General Data Protection Regulation on 25 May 2018 and the questionable use of e-mail addresses.

In general, there was a consensus among those present that the flow of information directly from Soke to the members is still desired and the distribution is not just for the instructors in each of the individual clubs.

Statement by Johannes Hoffmann on data protection:

The existing relationship of club membership governs the handling of e-mail addresses. If someone has offered his/her e-mail address in order to receive information from the association, then this can continue to be done without obtaining a separate consent, as long as no services are used for the distribution of the e-mails, which in turn earns money with the stored e-mail addresses. For new members, an annotation has been added to the registration form, which allows them to agree to use their e-mail address for club-internal information.

Johannes Hoffmann is checking the technical possibilities for resolution (distribution list on the server of the association, use of mailing services) and will provide feedback.

PK TOP 1: Dealing with Dan essays

In addition to the framework specified in the current examination regulations (number of DIN A4 pages), the following has been decided:• Elektronisches Format (PDF)

- Electronic format (PDF).
- Typeface, size 12 font.
- Indicate whether the essay may be published in Shinki News.
- The essay must be submitted to the examining board at the latest 2 weeks before the desired date of the exam.

With regards to the content of the essays, the following wording was stated (voting and finalization within the examination board is currently still open):

- “Personal Discussion and Reflection on Aikido / Aikido Shinki Rengo”
- “Reference to Aikido Shinki Rengo Content”

On the question of how the feedback from the examination board should be handled, there are different views: Should the feedback be forwarded directly and unfiltered to the examinee or should a summary be produced by Henry and only this summary be handed over to the examinee? By giving unfiltered feedback it is possible to refer to the individual development of the examinee. Henry’s filtering and summarizing is deemed necessary, in particular, for feedback that includes not only direct references to the candidate, but also feedback for the Commission’s internal discussion. It was decided to agree with Henry, whether he can and wants to continue to do the summary (also if he has the time to do it). If Henry is unable to do so, the individual feedback of the examiners should only be collected and provided to the examinees. In the feedback from the examiners, they should identify comments separately if they are intended as feedback for the internal discussion and if they should not be passed on to the examinee.

The question of a scoring summary, similar to a school grade, was postponed, but it first requires a sufficient set of objective evaluation criteria.

The revision of the current, valid examination regulations of 2009 and publication of the revision in 2020 was decided. Soke will write to the trainers. Details on the procedure must still be coordinated by Soke and the examining board.

PK TOP 2: Accurate definition of Shinki-Rengo (need to differentiate from other associations)?

Clear statement from Soke: „If someone only practices my Aikido because he or she hopes for a quick Honbu Dojo graduation, then he or she is wrong here and should look for another teacher or association.“

This agenda item was considered by those present as a „great big book to be opened on the topic,“ which cannot be worked through conclusively during this session.

It was decided that each PK member would consider the topic and come back to the question later.

PK TOP: Miscellaneous, examination seminars in 2019

For 2019, the following courses have been defined as Dan exam courses:

- Edingen 2/3 February 2019
- Munich 29/30 June 2019
- Dresden 9/10 November 2019

The Dan seminar in Edingen will not be held during the first weekend in February next year, but on 22/23 February 2020.

Promotions

15. November 2018 – 13. February 2019

Aikido

10. Kyu	Amann, Xenia	Pforzheim	6. Kyu	Nissen, Tim	Wi-Sonnenberg
10. Kyu	Begoihn, Marlon	Pforzheim	6. Kyu	Wielgus, Stella	Wi-Sonnenberg
10. Kyu	Drescher, Julian	Pforzheim	6. Kyu	Rabitz, Lenny	WI Sonnenberg
10. Kyu	Holborn, Finn	Pforzheim			
10. Kyu	Herz, Emily	Wi-Sonnenberg	5. Kyu	Gässler, Anna	Ulm-Jablonski
10. Kyu	Tiebel, Carla	Wi-Sonnenberg	5. Kyu	Sober, Scott	Mt. Pleasant
10. Kyu	Böttger, Mila	Wi-Sonnenberg	5. Kyu	Palmer, Keith	Mt. Pleasant
10. Kyu	Lehmann, Zille Maria	Weiler	5. Kyu	Diefenbach, Wolfgang	Lahnstein
10. Kyu	Tröbst, Oskar	Weiler	5. Kyu	Schad, Moritz	Lahnstein
10. Kyu	Kroon, Jip	Rheinbreitbach	5. Kyu	Weiß, Björn	Linz
10. Kyu	Stachelscheid, Jonas	Lahnstein	5. Kyu	Lelyakin, Sergey	Karlsruhe KIT
10. Kyu	Ergin, Laser	Rheinbreitbach	5. Kyu	Rocco, John	Wi-Sonnenberg
10. Kyu	Miesen, Lennart	Rheinbreitbach			
9. Kyu	Bittner, Nike	Wi-Sonnenberg	4. Kyu	Dimulete, Lacramioara	Sibiu
9. Kyu	Krenzer, Lea	Wi-Sonnenberg	4. Kyu	Rauscher, Dirk	Rödental
9. Kyu	Gasche, Quint	Weiler	4. Kyu	Tischer, Martin	Großräschen
9. Kyu	Göhlert, Lena	Weiler			
9. Kyu	Leonhard, Ben	Weiler	3. Kyu	Gascon, Carolina	München
9. Kyu	Rösch, Nico	Weiler	3. Kyu	Kipke, Eugen	Wi-Sonnenberg
9. Kyu	Althaus, David Christian	Rheinbreitbach	3. Kyu	Spröh, Daniela	Rödental
9. Kyu	Althaus, Johannes Nikolaj	Rheinbreitbach			
9. Kyu	Weber, David	Leopoldshafen-JG	2. Kyu	Kaden, Mario	Dresden
9. Kyu	Billes, Felix	Leopoldshafen-JG	2. Kyu	Kowallik, Peter	Dresden
			2. Kyu	Rausch, Veronika	Großräschen
			2. Kyu	Pötig, Matthias	Cottbus
8. Kyu	Constabel, Justus	Wi-Sonnenberg	1. Dan	Paetz, Matthias	Leipzig
8. Kyu	Popal, Sarah	Wi-Sonnenberg	1. Dan	Berger, Anna-Antonia	Dresden
8. Kyu	Popal, M.Osman	Wi-Sonnenberg			
8. Kyu	Scherhorn, Marlene	Wi-Sonnenberg	2. Dan	Rietschel, Andreas	Finsterwalde
8. Kyu	Kater, Lucie	Weiler	2. Dan	Palm, Dominik	Oberkessach
8. Kyu	Rösch, Leonie	Weiler	2. Dan	Zipser, Erwin	Bartholomä
			2. Dan	Haraszi, Tamas	Heidelberg
7. Kyu	Krenzer, Janik	Wi-Sonnenberg	2. Dan	Constantinescu, Florin	Heidelberg
7. Kyu	Nissen, Dana	Wi-Sonnenberg			
7. Kyu	Pia, Shion	Weiler	5. Dan	Becker, Matthias	München

Daitoryu Aiki Jujutsu

5. Kyu	Straßberger, Frank	Linz
5. Kyu	Zimmermann, Mario	Oberkessach
4. Kyu	Link, Silke	Oberkessach
4. Kyu	Nakajima, Susanne	Oberkessach
3. Kyu	Zebandt, Sandra	Weiler
2. Kyu	Maier, Alexander	Oberkessach
2. Dan	Zipser, Erwin	Bartholomä
2. Dan	Kasseckert, Jo	Oberkessach

Itto-den Shinki Toho

Shoden	Dierschke, Franziska	Weimar
Shoden	Konrad, Tobias	Oberkessach

Seminars

2019

Seminars 2019

Sa 6. – So 7. April	Landau: Daitoryu Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Shihan	Di 6. – So 11. August	Weiler: Aiki Budo Sommer Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 6. – So 14. April	Hiddensee: Aiki Budo Seminar with Petra and Bernd Hubl	Do 5. – So 8. September	Mt. Pleasant / Michigan / USA: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 27. – So 28. April	Bad Segeberg: Aiki Budo Seminar with Duncan Underwood	Sa 28. – So 29. September	Königheim: Ittoden Shinki Toho Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Hoshu
Sa 4. – So 5. May	Cottbus: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke	Sa 19. – So 20. Oktober	Ulm: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 18. – So 19. May	Shinki-Dojo , Schöntal-Oberkessach: 11. Aikido-Youth-Seminar	Sa 9. – So 10. November	Dresden: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 25. – So 26. May	Düsseldorf: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke	Sa 23. – So 24. November	Leopoldshafen: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 15. – So 16. June	Weimar: Ittoden Shinki Toho (Kenjutsu) with M. D. Nakajima Hoshu	Mo 30. December 2019 – Mi 1. January 2020	Oberkessach: Turn of the Year Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 29. – So 30. June	München: Aiki Budo Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke		
Mo 22. – Sa 27. July	Oldenswort: Eiderstedter Aiki-Budo- Sommer Seminar with Duncan Underwood		

Arigato gozaimasu

Preview Shinki News No. 16

The next “big” edition of Shinki News will be published in June 2019.

If you would like to contribute to Shinki News, please submit your contribution(s) to: shinkinews@shinkiryu.de and we will contact you to discuss the formalities.

Have a spring full of Ki!
Shinki News Team.

Imprint

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Editing: Monika Popp

English translation: Rick Soriano and Alex Frederiksen

Layout and Design: Jann-Volquard Hansen and Johannes Hoffmann

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