



SHINKI NEWS

NO. 35

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Soke's Word

Text: Michael Daishiro Nakajima

A vertical scroll with the Japanese characters '神氣' (Shinkai) written in calligraphy. The scroll is positioned to the left of the Soke, partially obscured by a vase of white flowers.

Dear Shinkiryu members, dear friends,

Nature and humans: how do they relate to each other? What can be said for sure is that this is a very dysfunctional relationship. As Aikido learners, we know that O-Sensei not only taught martial arts, but also cultivated a deep religiosity and a fervent belief in God. The connection to all of nature was very important to him. It is therefore our job to think about it.

We humans disturb and impair nature, our environment in which we live and from which we came. This is obviously because we not only belong to nature, but are also persons with freedom. While nature acts “according to nature,” we act in freedom, and we can abuse that. And the consequences of this abuse affect not only people themselves, but also nature. Nature resists this human abuse, but we cannot deny that it is “suffering.” That is why Paul also says: "For the creation waits longingly for the revelation of the sons of God." Certainly, the creation is subjected to futility, not of its own will, but through hope through him who subjected it: for it also, Creation should be freed from the bondage of transience for the freedom and glory of the children of God. For we know that all creation is groaning and in labor pains to this day.” (Romans 8:19-22)

What is striking here is the mental parallel between O-Sensei and Paul. They both refer to man’s relationship to nature and to God. With his person, man relates to both nature and God. Also, what is “person?” This becomes clear when we contrast it with the term “non-person.” I have already mentioned the quality of “freedom.” With this freedom comes responsibility. We do not require responsibility from inorganic objects or from plants or animals. Because they lack the ability to be responsible, i.e., freedom.

Because of the great abuse of freedom and also a certain disorientation, some people tend to underestimate the human person compared to the great nature. In my opinion this is a mistake. Because nature does not have this crucial ability of freedom and responsibility. But since man is so distinguished by his ability to be free, his responsibility is enormous. That is why our offenses against it are so serious. We are not only flawed, but sinful, to put it bluntly in religious language.

But we feel a certain powerlessness in the face of offenses - both our own and those committed by others - against which we feel powerless. Yes, we are weak if we are honest. And this is where the experiences of people who have gone into depth and talk about something very big that sustains us come into play. It is precisely here that the ideal of mu, of letting go of the little self, applies. The softness emphasized by all Budo masters is a combat-technical echo of the great world law, which not only contains inorganic, plant, and animal beings, but also the personal ones. This world law cannot actually be less than the human person, but it exceeds this immeasurably.

Viewed in this way, the biblical statement about the resurrection could also take on a different sound. It is the message of hope in the midst of hopelessness.

Susanne and I wish you a peaceful Holy Week and a life-filled Easter!

Remarks

Bokuto

There are still 3 Bokutos (as of February 17, 2024). However, we can no longer offer a leather tsuba as we cannot find anything suitable. An O-dachi (long bokuto) with a plastic tsuba and branding costs €90 for this delivery, and without a tsuba only with stamps costs €75. In this case, you have to make sure you have a stable tsuba yourself.

DVD

We still have DVDs from Aikido and Daitoryu, but hardly any from Shinki Toho anymore. In the future we will also offer online versions because the DVD medium is becoming less and less popular and most new computers can no longer play the videos.

The exam videos are available for purchase either individually or as a package:

- | | |
|--|---|
| - Aikido -Kyu (5th - 1st Kyu), Download: | 25 Euro |
| - Aikido -Dan (1st Dan - 4th Dan), Download: | 25 Euro |
| - or both together: | 40 Euro |
| - Aikido DVD (5th Kyu - 3rd Dan), physical: | 30 Euro |
| | |
| - Daitoryu -Kyu (5th - 1st Kyu), Download: | 25 Euro |
| - Daitoryu -Dan (1st Dan - Okugi 3rd Dan), Download: | 25 Euro |
| - or both together: | 40 Euro |
| - Daitoryu DVD (5th Kyu - Okugi 3rd Dan), physical: | 35 Euro |
| | |
| - Shinki-Toho Suburi/Kamae/Shoden, Download: | 20 Euro (all Shinkiryu members are eligible to purchase) |
| - Shinki-Toho Chuden, Download: | 20 Euro (eligible to purchase with Shoden) |
| - Shinki-Toho Okuden, Download: | 25 Euro (eligible to purchase with Chuden) |
| - Shinki-Toho Jun-Menkyo, Download: | 25 Euro (eligible to purchase with Okuden) |
| - Shinki-Toho bis Chuden, physisch: | 30 Euro (all Shinkiryu members are eligible to purchase. Only a few copies left.) |

The end:

- Members write to nakajima.shinki@gmail.com and pay to our Dojo account first:
Susanne Nakajima, IBAN: DE89 6746 1733 0010 1581 09
- If someone requests a “download”, Michael Dieterle will be informed who he can send the video to.
- Michael then will send a download link via email. Please download the videos and then save them locally, as the download will not be available forever.

We do not make videos for the Hon-Menkyo and Menkyo-Kaiden techniques. One must learn directly from Hoshu or Menkyo-Kaiden.

The Central Dojo

We recently replaced 12 mats. They cost around €1,750. I am pleased that we have this dojo thanks to the support of all Shinki members, where I can still try out the refinement of the techniques today.

Unfortunately, there was, again, water damage in the basement, this time due to the defective old boiler, which has since been replaced, including everything, at a cost of around €3,000. We had to bear these costs ourselves. The insurance does cover other damage (wet walls and damaged doors) and electricity costs for the building dryer, but what percentage that will be is still unclear.

Many dojo members worked very diligently to clean up and dry things out. This participation was simply wonderful!

Social Fund

Namika is here, fighting as always to move forward. She is preparing for the exam as a nursing assistant and for the German B1 exam. But writing is a problem for her, even though she receives several hours of tutoring from Susanne per week. She is also trying to get her driver's license.

G, her nephew in Egypt, continues to fight to live, but the trauma of being held in prison in Syria for several years, with torture and without charges, still weighs heavily on him. He keeps waking up at night with nightmares.

Yukié was at least able to be released from the hospital. But her 25-year-old daughter has now developed a similar stomach problem and was therefore examined with a gastroscopy and a detailed blood test. That initially cost €125. We were able to take that over from the fund.

Namika and Yukié's eldest sister's knee problem is even more problematic. When Namika talks to her on the phone, she crouches on the floor and cries in pain. She almost can't walk at all. As already reported, she has been receiving medication for this for some time now thanks to our monthly support of €50, which has to be obtained from Lebanon because it is not available locally. But it cannot cure the problem. This would only be possible with knee prosthetics. With the operation and subsequent rehabilitation, as well as the aids during recovery, we come to a cost estimate of around €5,000. The fund includes, for example: Z. 1576.71 € available. But this must be used to finance the monthly support of €250 for Yukié's family. At the moment we are thinking about how or whether we can help Namika's eldest sister, but that is a very big chunk and somewhat beyond our capabilities.

Maybe some people here are wondering whether they are all actually sick and why?

If you know the endless psychological suffering of these people and the poor housing and living conditions, you are no longer very surprised. Apart from the fact that someone with a rheumatic predisposition lives in a cold basement apartment (but at least that!), a really healthy diet is hardly available or affordable, and everyone involved suffered a lot of losses during the war (death or serious injury to close relatives, Fear of arbitrary arrest and torture, fear of being kidnapped on the street - especially fear for the children), then this is no longer so surprising. At the moment the world is not looking at Syria because there is so much burning in Ukraine and Gaza. But Syria is a failed state with an authoritarian government, things are simply not getting better there (unless you are one of the regime's rich favorites). That's the situation - it's desperate.

Promotions

December 9, 2023 – March 4, 2024

Aikido

10th Kyu	Roßberg, Lena	Turnverein Wössingen
10th Kyu	Streit, Julian	Turnverein Wössingen
9th Kyu	Efe, Batuhan	Leopoldshafen-JG
9th Kyu	Efe, Bekir Semih	Leopoldshafen-JG
9th Kyu	Dernier, Paul	Turnverein Wössingen
9th Kyu	Fesenbeck, Emma	Turnverein Wössingen
9th Kyu	Seeger, Milena	Turnverein Wössingen
8th Kyu	Huthwelker, Magdalena	Walzbachtal
8th Kyu	Weingärtner, Ronon	Walzbachtal
7th Kyu	Schnell, Annika	Walzbachtal
6th Kyu	Hauser, Mathilda	Walzbachtal
5th Kyu	Pieniazek, Dariusz	Coburg
5th Kyu	Byczuk, Raimund	Lahnstein
5th Kyu	Lübbemeier, Christopher	Weimar
4th Kyu	Schulz, Simone	Ulm-Jablonski
4th Kyu	Pieniazek, Aleksander	Coburg
4th Kyu	Rautmann, Maren	Bad Segeberg
2nd Kyu	Pfahler, Ralph	HD Umlauf
2nd Kyu	Palmer, Keith	Mtth Pleasant
1st Kyu	Tada, Aika Marie	Heidelberg
1st Kyu	Scheffel, Oleg	Heidelberg
1st Kyu	Weiß, Uwe	HD-Umlauf
1st Dan	Beuchle, Guenter	Leopoldshafen
2nd Dan	Dettmer, Ulf	Düsseldorf

Daitoryu

2nd Dan	Erberich, Michael	EZ Osnabrück
3rd Dan	Dettmer, Ulf	Düsseldorf

Seminars

2024

Seminars 2024

Sat, 20 – Sun, 21 April

Munich: Shinki Toho Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Hoshu

Sat, 20 April

Leopoldshafen: Aikido-Seminar

with Enzo Ermarth

Sat, 4 – Sun, 12 May

Donauschlinge: Akidolehrgang

with Petra and Bernd Hubl

Sat, 4 – Sun, 5 May

Oldenswort: Aiki Budo Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Soke

Sat, 25 – Sun, 26 May

Coburg: Daitoryu Seminar

with Michael Daishiro Nakajima

Sat, 8 – Sun, 9 June

Weimar: Aiki Budo Seminar

with Duncan Underwood

Sat, 22 – Sun, 23 June

Schöntal-Oberkessach: Aikido-Youth-Seminar

with Michael Danner

Sat, 29 – Sun, 30 June

München: Aikido/Daitoryu Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Shihan

Mon, 22 – Sat, 27 July

Oldenswort: Eiderstedter Aiki-Budo Summer Seminar

with Duncan Underwood

Mon, 26 – Fre, 30 August

Rovinj/Kroatien: Shinkiryu Aiki Budo Sommer Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Soke

Sat, 21 – Sun, 22 September

Königheim: Itto-den Shinki Toho Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Hoshu and Helmut Theobald Menkyokaiden

Thu, 3 October

Pforzheim: Shinkiryu Aiki Budo Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Soke

Sat, 19 – Sun, 20 October

Weimar: Daitoryu Seminar

with Michael Daishiro Nakajima Söke

Sat, 2 – Sun, 3 November

Edingen: Shinkiryu Aikido/Daitoryu Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Soke

Sat, 23 – Sun, 24 November

Bartholomä: Shinkiryu Aiki Budo Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Soke

Tue, 31 December 2024 – Wed, 1 January 2025

Schöntal-Oberkessach: Jahreswende Seminar

with M. D. Nakajima Shihan

Thu, 5 – Sat, 7 June 2025

in and around Muroan: Bokuyokan Honbu 50-jähriges Jubiläum Seminar and Feierlichkeit

Arigato gozaimasu

Preview Shinki News No. 36

The next edition of Shinki News will be published in June 2024.

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 nice spring time full of Ki!
Shinki News Team.

Imprint

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Realization: Lukas Underwood and Jann-Volquard Posenauer

Editing: Monika Popp

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Lukas Underwood



Monika Popp



Rick Soriano



Nigel Downes



Johannes Hoffmann



Jann-Volquard Posenauer