



SHINKI NEWS

NO. 11



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(M. D. Nakajima)

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Soke's Remarks

Text: Michael Daishiro Nakajima

Today, I put my thoughts next to some points:

Form and Content: Again and again, I emphasize that content is important and form is secondary. But that does not mean that form is completely unnecessary, especially if it's not just about a single self, but also about being with others. **Without the genius of O-Sensei Uéshiba Morihei, there would have been no Aikido. But without the systematization by his son and supporters, Aikido would have remained on a small scale, and many of us would not have known it.**

Genius and Organizer: In connection with this fact, one can also think about personal roles. The great Catholic theologian of the twentieth century, Karl Rahner, has said the following about church leadership: The church leader, as a minister, need not be the best believer in the church. He compared this with a sports club. **The club chairman does not have to be the best player. Because the player who represents the best content is not necessarily the best organizer. It is a special case when someone is a leader both in terms of content and organization. This is not the norm.**

Concern for the Content and the Organization: There are people who are mainly concerned with content and those who care deeply about the organization. The former keeps particular matters alive and popular, while the latter helps to make the community of those who do this together not only stay together, but also grow. **Both are needed. The former could possibly be overlooked, the broad promotion of the cause; and then the latter, the actual content. Both must be avoided.**

Succession: In terms of a successor to a “leader” it is also about keeping these two aspects in mind. Succession is not just a matter of organization. It is primarily the question of the living succession of the content. For this, both the best “players” and the best organizers must pay attention to each other and work together.

Of course, a leader – especially the founder of a cause – always thinks to whom he should leave the succession. Sometimes he is lucky and finds one who is generally the most suitable as a successor. But in many cases this is not so. This was obviously the case with the Bokuyokan succession of Yonezawa Katsumi Soshi. He did not suddenly leave this world, but before he died, he did not designate anyone as his successor. Obviously he could not do that. Nevertheless, the problem was solved in great harmony, because each successor candidate remained modest and wanted to leave the succession to another. Finally - as you know - it was agreed on, that his son should succeed him. And even after this decision, things are going well, because all leading parties recognized the others and let them take precedence. Even after Yonezawa Soshi's serious illness was discovered and all knew that he would not live much longer, none of his successor candidates thought of the problem of succession, but continued only to deal with the content of Daitoryu. In some schools, students think eagerly about succession, often quite early. Sometimes they even form alliances for their will to be realized. Some have no ambition themselves, but are unnecessarily curious. We see this often on the political stage, but unfortunately also in the succession of the “Do”.

In order to avoid such conflicts, there used to be the so-called “Isshi Souden”. This meant that only one son was taught the secret of the art, so that he automatically became the successor. And if you did not have a son, you adopted a gifted man. This type of succession is, in my opinion, a bit dated and not practical anymore.

Divisions are often feared after the death of a Soke. But on the other hand, one cannot do anything anyway, whether the Soke himself determines the successor or whether his students choose a successor amongst themselves.

In Onoha Ittoryu, Sasamori Soke did not determine a successor before his death, but left his will in writing. This is, in my opinion, not a bad method if you do not want to appoint a successor during your lifetime for a variety of reasons.

I have written about it earlier: the 5th Zen master “Gunin” in China did not choose the student “Jinshû”, who was considered and recognized by most of the students as the successor. He chose a simple kitchen monk “Enou,” because he viewed Enou as understanding Zen more deeply. But this caused a big split of northern (Jinshû) and southern (Enou) directions. Gunin had chosen the content, not the organizational aspect. Later it turned out that Gunin’s choice was correct. Because the southern direction prospered, while the northern direction gradually disappeared. All later important branches originated from the southern (Enou) direction.

Well, I would like to continue as long as I can to raise my people as well as possible. So if someone wants to push me aside early, he will have to set out on his own and start his own style, as I do not want to withdraw yet. He can go about it calmly. Because it is not my intention to cling to my position. At the same time, I want to carry my responsibility as long as it seems appropriate. If during my lifetime I still cannot decide who my successor will be, then I will leave something in writing and update it now and then, so that in the event of my death it is as current as possible. Our difficulty is that we have three different disciplines and the skills in all three have to be evaluated. There is also the consideration of who has the personality of the whole person, to be able to guide the whole, who is accepted by the others, who also represents the spiritual aspect well, who has enough time, etc. etc.

My request to you all: Do not worry too much about the question of succession. This is not a good sign. The one who does this is, at the least, less suitable to be a possible successor. In addition, it could be that the whole falls again into individual disciplines, which apparently some fear. Then so be it. I have done my best and still do it. I cannot influence what happens after my death, which does not cause me any sleepless nights. Budo is also transient. We need to search for what is not transient.

I wish you a contemplative pre-Easter season and joyful Easter.

Remarks

New Homepage

As already announced, our new homepage (website) was released in time for the Aikido Dan course in early February. It is not yet “complete” but is gradually being supplemented and improved. We would like to thank, once again, Johannes Hoffmann, Jann-Volquard Hansen, and also Matthias Becker for this great achievement, which they initiated themselves and brought to a successful preliminary conclusion!

Termination

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that notification of termination from the association must be reported directly to the office (Susanne). Although this is on the back of each registration form, it is often overlooked. So, every year, Susanne has to write many e-mails, because some people, instead of notifying us to cancel the annual subscription, inform their banks to recall the money, which results in up to a 5.- Euro charge back.

This direct termination is necessary because some may leave a certain club, but still want to stay in the association. However, if the termination is to be done by the trainer as a mediator, he can forget about it or the forwarding can be delayed. Therefore, we ask all instructors to inform their members that they have to quit through Susanne if they also want to quit the association. So you will save her a lot of time. Many thanks!

It is also important to point this out when handing out the membership books, because apparently many do not realize at all that they even joined a federation that has nothing to do organizationally with the club in which they train. It is, therefore, important that all receive the contract in duplicate (and also read the back). And another small thing: whoever receives their membership book, should sign it on the inside and even enter their address. Usually, we only enter the name and date of entry, if necessary the club, if the club doesn't have its own stamp.

Shinki Toho

- New orders of Ittoryu Bokuto are due to arrive by 31st March.
- Mr. Kasui, the boss of the Tombodo, from which we get our Bokutos, has found a craftsman who makes the Onigote about 400 € cheaper. It is of course still costly and the total cost is about 1200 – 1300 €. We (Nicolas and I) have already ordered one pair of the normal version and one pair of the large version. The normal version will arrive at the Dojo today. After we try it out and find it good, I will place future orders. If it is too expensive for a private person, a club might buy a couple. For sharing, we make it a rule to wear thin cotton gloves underneath, which is more hygienic. Such gloves have already arrived in Shinki Dojo to sample. If we are convinced of the quality and suitability, we will also notify all of you.

Mailing List

Unfortunately, during the latest send-out, the distribution program (Mailchimp) did not include everyone from the e-mail addresses in my address book. Firstly, the transfer of names with the initial “K” failed and now e-mail addresses with “S.” We are in the process of fixing these errors.

Logos

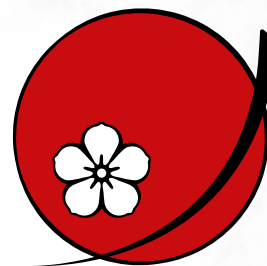
Our logos are finally available:



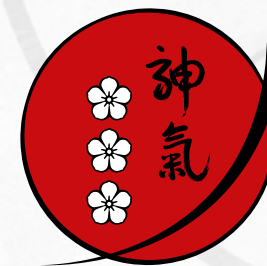
Aikido Shinki Rengo



Daitoryu Aiki Jujutsu
Bokuyokan



Itto-den Shinki Toho



Shinkiryu Aiki Budo

Our current membership books for new members still have the logo with a flower, but as soon as new membership books are printed, it will be replaced by the logo with three flowers. Please note this arrangement when using it for seminar announcements. If two disciplines are to be practiced during a seminar, please use either the two corresponding logos or the logo with three flowers. Of course, if three disciplines are practiced, please use the logo with three flowers.

Minutes of the Committee

Discussion of the Shinki Rengo Trainer Commission [TK] and Examiner Commission [PK] / February 3rd 2018, 14:01 / Edingen, Germany

Convened by: Duncan Underwood / **Conversation Method:** Meeting and discussion of the trainer commission and the examiner commission / **Meeting Chair:** Duncan Underwood / **Secretary:** Sebastian Mehl / **Participants:** Daishiro Nakajima, Georg Umlauf, Gunnar Clausen, Marius Trzaski, Birgit Bolk, Michael Danner, Helmut Theobald, Robert Schütz, Duncan Underwood, Claudia Buder, Henry Kowallik, Danijel Rolli, Bernd Hubl, Matthias Haaß / **Attendees:** Johannes Hoffmann, Andre Jablonski, Katrin Reimer, Sebastian Mehl

Trainer Commission

Top 1

Feedback from clubs (e.g., problems getting members, dissatisfaction with procedures of: course designs, training concepts)

Membership

Duncan

- Rural clubs have difficulty to recruit new members, despite good and broad public relations

Robert

- Even in large cities it is difficult to attract and retain members
- Even motivating members to take exams is not always easy

Georg

- Our group is relatively stable
- Unfortunately losing the building and looking for alternatives; Linked to this is the hope of gaining new members at the new location

Michael / Birgit

- Introductory courses have proven to be a good way to recruit new members

Michael / Birgit

- When Duncan asked if a big city is more positive for membership, it was found not be, as there are many other possibilities (including Aikido activities)

Bernd

- Children's groups have a lot of potential
- An experiment with younger children (from the age of 4) has proven to be good (primarily 'exercise therapy')
- Children's group finances training

Michael

- Children's training is only from 6 years, because the number of instructors (for the children's training) would have to be more (currently only with 2 instructors, 3 is optimal)

Bernd

- Few helpers for the children's training: especially difficult with behavior-sensitive children, because you cannot always keep track of all children

Michael

- Difficult children can also make the entire children's training difficult or even dysfunctional
- Question: Where is there children's training?:
 - München
 - Edingen
 - Heidelberg
 - Karlsruhe
 - Königsheim
 - Oldenswort
 - Oberkessach

Danijel

- Children's training only from 9 years
- Two groups; divided between children and adolescents
- Many girls who want to learn, much more diligent than the boys

Michael

- Problem with girls: they usually come in groups; but leave again usually as a group
- School entry is usually critical time for children's training, because then many no longer have the time to go to training

Duncan

- **Summary:**
There are no identifiable reasons for membership recruitment issues. Very different situations of the groups seem to lead to equally different results. He sees very positively the many options and offers that can be carried out. Good examples for everyone else.

Course Design

Henry

- Positive experience with a short lunch break (for example with buffet in Dresden / Pizza in Edingen)
- Unfortunately during the evening in the pub, there is no cultural program

Danijel

- Also against long lunch breaks in restaurant, as too much time elapsed before and after the meal: therefore only a 1.5h lunch break
- Positive effect -> you still have time for family / friends in the afternoon / evening

Duncan

- Short break is good because you do not break down so much again

Birgit/Michael

- Positive point, since it is also a financial question (not everyone can afford two restaurant visits a day)

Bernd

- Have a good experience in week-long courses, as e.g., through this seclusion, a completely different Aikido spirit and flow sets in during his training at Hiddensee

Claudia

Question: Distribution of the Shinki disciplines on the courses? How is the inflow of the individual disciplines and how can one combine them?

Duncan

- Would be welcome if there were more different seminars (without combination), as you can develop a little more in shorter phases (especially the sword) and gain experience
- In addition, accent on main points should create more depth

Marius

- I would wish that the disciplines are sometimes combined more to make the relationships clearer, for example. sword and Aikido. This gives you a better understanding of the processes.

Danijel

Wants more seminars with Daitoryu, so you can see more and more conduct exams during these seminars

Michael

Makes the proposal to offer a weekend for a Daitoryu Exam Program Training / Seminar

Duncan

Question: Should there be more courses for specific disciplines?

Sensei

Finds the suggestions good, but it should be considered whether enough people are interested in just one discipline to make the seminar profitable (if disciplines are combined, possibly more people would attend)

General opinion: There should be a minimum of 2 courses of each Shinki discipline conducted during the year

Financing

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Gunnar | • Would like to host seminars, but due to the geographical position there may be a profitability problem |
| Bernd | • You can try to obtain funding from the city and the county by making inquiries, applying or by meeting conditions (such as teaching immigrant youth) |
| Danijel | • In order not to get into financial difficulties with a seminar, the members collect additional money over the year in a separate fund (3 € of 20 members over 12 months = 720 €) |
| Birgit | • Have a piggy bank, where the funds from a self-conducted weekend seminar is used to pay to invite guest instructors |
| Robert | • Possibly, also send someone from the club to seek funding from sponsors |

Tasks	Check and watch how the Seminars run, even if only a special discipline is offered
Assigned Person	Everyone
Meeting	Until the next TK meeting

Examiner Commission

Top 1

Examination Procedures: (Proposal not to put the exams at the end, but rather at the beginning or even separately)

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Matthias | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing should be at the end, since the candidate should also prove himself/herself • In addition, the candidate can be evaluated during the training |
| Michael | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates train and practice even during the seminar |
| Marius | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the training / seminar in advance, one gets in the mood for the test |
| Duncan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary: It is the general opinion that no changes should be made to the examination process |

Top 2**Future 4th Dan exam preparation**

It is noted that there is no official video for the 4th Dan exam.

Marius	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 3 different videos (partly in bad quality)
Sensei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historically, there was a video for the 4th Dan exam, but due to difficulties, it was not included in the exam DVD
Henry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partly it is difficult to prepare for the exam without a video because the distance from the knowledge carriers is quite large
Claudia/Danijel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a knowledge carrier is there, it should actually be possible without a video
Bernd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the 3rd Dan you should have an increased responsibility and thus be able to work it out • From 3rd Dan you should start to find the answers within yourself
Henry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having a video as an alternative may be quite good as different people have different possibilities and requirements for access to that knowledge
Sensei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Shinki Toho we deliberately only made a video for Shoden. As an example when one mentions Ittoryu, where there are no recordings, so nothing can be transmitted incorrectly
Duncan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It should be noted that you cannot only learn through a video (there are also things you do not see on videos). This makes it nesecesary to be shown the techniques directly. Only in this way is real learning possible
Tasks	Sensei makes a recording, but only to a limited circle (those admitted to the exam)
Assigned Person	Sensei
Meeting	Open

Top 3

Feedback on the release of Dan essays

Claudia

- If the author agrees, it's a good thing
- Also, the feedback on the essay is an enrichment

A big thank you to the group of PK essay readers for their good work

Robert

- Other Aikido organizations publish such essays in their own publication media

Duncan

- It is an enrichment and contributes to the development of the members

Top 4

Actually, in November of the previous year, we wanted to set the seminars in which Dan examinations should be conducted.

Duncan

- Unfortunately, as discussed at the last meeting in Nov. 2017, the Dan Exam Courses for 2018 failed to be named

Claudia

- Is important for the candidates to be able to plan and to prepare specifically for an appointment

Alle in Abstimmung

Dan Exam Seminar 2018:

- Dan Exam Seminar (Edingen) (February)
- München (June)
- Dresden (November)

Dan Exam Seminar 2019:

- Dan Exam Seminar (Edingen) (February)
- All other courses will be agreed upon, as agreed upon last year in November.

Top 5

Course design nationwide (quantity and quality of all courses distributed throughout the year)

Was already discussed in [TK] TOP 1 and [PK] TOP 2!

General

Additionally open to all (report of the Shinki-News designers, ideas, problems, suggestions, new website)

Johannes

- Shinki News is created by the creators in their free time, which is not always easy to find
- Problems with late receipt of articles, as delays in the production / publication process increase
- Often, late answers, forgotten things (pictures, photographer, name, ...) or queries are to blame for delays

Question: Ideas how to make this work less stressful?

Bernd

- Criteria what has yet to be submitted to an article, sent in advance by e-mail
- Suggestion: publish these criteria on the website

Suggestion: An article about the work of the Shinki news makers!

Johannes

- Determination: Seminar reports should be sent no later than 2 weeks after the Seminar!
- Seminar reports should be announced in good time to the editors

Birgit

- Indicates that not everyone is a writer

Alle

- Proposals for reports:
 - Aikido and Music
 - Care of Bokken and Jo
 - Reports about your own dojo

Bernd

- Proposal for a multi-column design of the Shinki News for better readability on different electronic media
- Article may also be available on the website in the future

Promotions

13. November 2017 – 14. February 2018

Aikido

10. Kyu	Stuckart, Moritz	Wi-Sonnenberg
10. Kyu	Stuckart, Catherine	Wi-Sonnenberg
10. Kyu	Leonhard, Ben	Weiler
10. Kyu	Schröder, Saskia	Weiler
9. Kyu	Pia, Shion	Weiler
9. Kyu	Kater, Lucie	Weiler
9. Kyu	von Waldburg-Zeil, Balthasar	Weiler
9. Kyu	von Waldburg-Zeil, Xenia	Weiler
9. Kyu	Rösch, Leonie	Weiler
8. Kyu	Tiebel, Paul	Wi-Sonnenberg
6. Kyu	Scheffler, Luke	Wi-Sonnenberg
5. Kyu	Darmstadt, Nina	SG KIT
5. Kyu	Kinting, Annekatrin	Heidelberg
5. Kyu	Konrad, Tobias	Oberkessach
5. Kyu	Pasca, Alexandru	Sibiu
4. Kyu	Hutterer, Fabian	Wiesbaden
4. Kyu	Medina, Juan	Cottbus
4. Kyu	Bieber, Maike	Oldenswort
4. Kyu	Jochimsen, Frank	Oldenswort
4. Kyu	Juretko, Markus	Ulm-Jablonski
4. Kyu	Spröh, Daniela	Rödental
4. Kyu	Helm, Aljoscha	Edingen
4. Kyu	Holdys, Arthur	Edingen

3. Kyu	Kiefer, Christian	Heidelberg
3. Kyu	Buege, Johannes	Heidelberg
3. Kyu	Kulagin, Roman	Karlsruhe
3. Kyu	Muellich, Udo	Leopoldshafen
3. Kyu	Werner, Max	Eggenstein-L.
2. Kyu	Scheffel, Oleg	HD Umlauf
2. Kyu	Jakob, Jeremias	Heidelberg
2. Kyu	Sanselzon, Felix	Berlin Tomosei
2. Kyu	Maier, Alexander	Oberkessach
1. Kyu	Weigel, Friedrich	Berlin Tomosei
1. Kyu	Mann, Georg	Ulm
1. Kyu	Pahlke, Rainer	Oldenswort
1. Kyu	Eden, Sönke	Oldenswort
2. Dan	Brosi, Laura	Edingen
2. Dan	Clausen, Svenja	Oldenswort
4. Dan	Trzaski, Marius	Oberkessach
4. Dan	Clausen, Gunnar	Oldenswort
4. Dan	Bolk, Birgit	München
5. Dan	Tischer, Christoph	Großräschen
5. Dan	Danner, Michael	Karlsruhe
5. Dan	Dimt, Jürgen	Oberkessach
5. Dan	Soriano, Rick	HD Umlauf
6. Dan	Underwood, Duncan	Oldenswort

Daitoryu Aiki Jujutsu

5. Kyu	Schad, Moritz	Lahnstein
4. Kyu	Lenninghaus, Lena	Edingen
4. Kyu	Heitzler, Joerg	Edingen
4. Kyu	Senekovic, Mitja	Maribor
1. Kyu	Kranich, Soeke	Berlin Tomosei

Shinkiryu Aiki Budo

Hosshi	Aden, Kristina	München
Hosshi	Reimer, Katrin	Weimar
Hosshi	Lesser, Stefan	Weiler-Simmerberg
Gyôshi	Bolk, Birgit	München

Seminars

2018

Seminars 2018

Sa 10. March	Leopoldshafen, Aikido-Seminar with Rick Soriano
Sa 17. March	Pforzheim, Kata-Seminar with Michael Danner, Matthias Böttcher, Edme Hardy and Jochen Schröder
Sa 7. – So 8. April	Munich, Itto-den Shinki Toho with Helmut Theobald
Sa 14. April	Weikersheim, Aikido / Daitoryu with M. D. Nakajima Shihan
Sa 21. – So 22. April	Euskirchen, Shinkiryu-Aiki-Budo with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 12. – So 13. May	Weimar, Aiki-Budo with Mathias Haaß and Danijel Rolli
Fr 25. – So 27. May	Landau, Internationaler Daitoryu-Seminar with Tim Tung Shihan and M.D. Nakajima Shihan
Sa 9. – So 10. June	Königheim, Shinki Toho with M. D. Nakajima Hoshu
Sa 23. – So 24. June	Edingen, 10. Aikido-Jugend-Seminar with Jörg Heitzler, Enzo Ermath and Michael Danner
Sa 30. Juni – So 1. July	Munich, Aiki-Budo-Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Mo 30. July – Sa 4. August	Oldenswort, Eiderstetter Aiki-Budo-Summer-Seminar with Duncan Underwood
Mo 6. – Fr 10. August	Rovinj/Kroatia, Aiki-Budo-Summer-Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 22. September	Heidelberg, Aikido-Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Shihan
Sa 10. – So 11. November	Edingen, Aiki-Budo-Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke
Sa 24. – So 25. November	Dresden, Aiki-Budo-Seminar with M. D. Nakajima Soke

Arigato gozaimasu

Preview of Shinki News No12

The focus of the the next edition of Shinki News will be Daitoryu. It will be published in June 2018.

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 with you.

Happy Easter and patience while training!
Shinki News Team.

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Lukas Underwood



Monika Popp



Rick Soriano



Alex Frederiksen



Johannes Hoffmann



Jann-Volquard Hansen