

Dan Zan Ryu Judo Mokuroku

As translated by Prof. Tom Jenkins

The Origin and History of Jujitsu

In 23 B.C., during the reign of Emperor Suinin (11th emperor of Japan), it is believed that Jujitsu (The Techniques of Gentleness) derived from a fight between Nomi-no Sukune and Tarima-no Kehaya, in which Tarima-no Kehaya was killed. It was mentioned that the two fighters were standing and facing and used their legs to kick each other and the death resulted in Kehaya's waist being stomped on and broken.

Towards the end of Sengoku Jidal, the warring states period, in the Gonara era (1596 A.D.), Chinese men came and taught Kempo - fist techniques. In 1638 AD, during the reign of Shoho, Chen Gempin of the Ming dynasty taught techniques on how to capture a person. As a result of these ancient Jujitsu techniques, a selection was made and arranged into a new technique created and named Yawara. Yawara became widely taught and is the origin of present day Judo (The Way of Gentleness).

Things to Take to Heart from the Austere Practice of Judo

The aim and goal of Judo is to perfect character. This is to be obtained through [Emperor Meiji's Imperial Rescript on Education](#):

1. Posses in yourself modesty, humility, courtesy and respect,
2. Believe in your friends, and have peace, harmony, and reconciliation towards your spouse, friends, and brethren, with good doings towards your parents,
3. Having these qualities in mind, reach out to everybody with benevolence.

The imperial teachings should be fully understood and solidly taken to heart:

- Cultivate and develop courage,
- Respect the Kami and Buddha,
- Conduct yourself with discretion and moderation,
- Value martial courage and bravery,
- Cultivate and develop courage,
- Do not underestimate or make light of a small enemy and do not be intimidated by a big enemy,
- Become free from all attachments like a rolling ball while possessing a stillness within the motion and a motion within the stillness,
- Do not deviate from natural movement, maintaining your center

Personal History of Professor Seishiro Okazaki

I was born in the town of Kakeda, in the county of Date, Fukushima prefecture, Japan. I came to Hawaii in Meiji 39 (1906 A.D.) When I was nineteen years of age, a certain doctor of medicine in Hilo, on the island of Hawaii, gave me a diagnosis of having tuberculosis of the lung. Because of this, I laid down my life. At that time there was Shin Yu Kai Dojo in Hilo city owned by Mister Kichimatsu Tanaka, a professor of Judo, to whom I knocked on his gate to become his student. Assuming that I was a dead man, I practiced Judo with all my strength at the risk of my life. During this time, strangely enough, I had a complete recovery of health from the sickness, and I became the owner of a body as if made of iron! Therefore, I was convinced that my whole life was a gift from Judo and thereafter my whole life should be devoted in behalf to Judo. In Hilo city, I also studied and mastered Yoshin Ryu, Iwaga Ryu, Kosogabe Ryu. Furthermore, I learned Ryukyu Karate Jitsu - the Okinawan form of the Chinese hand techniques, the Philippine knife techniques, and so forth. I personally forged these forms of martial arts into one and created my own Danzan Ryu. Incidentally, in September of 1922, the champion of the American boxing world, Morrison, came to Hawaii and we had a contest. I beat on him in splendid fashion and won. By this I caused people in foreign countries, and in my own country, to acknowledge and appreciate the good reputation of Japanese Judo. Then next in the imperial year of Taisho 13, 1924 year A.D., traveling to Japan, from Morioka city in the north, I proceeded as far as Kagoshima city in the south. I visited more than fifty Judo schools on the tour of visitation. I studied and researched the 'okugi' - the very secret techniques. I acquired six hundred and seventy five techniques, and a Judo third grade certificate. I returned to home port in Hawaii, stayed on Maui island for a while, and was engaged in the teaching of Judo. However, in 1929 I bought an office on South Hotel Street; 'Nikko'-Sunshine, a residence of Mr. Chester Dole. The Okazaki Seifukujitsu Institute was established. At the same time the Kodenkan was founded and advertised. I taught generally and widely of Judo to all people, both nationals and foreigners alike. This is what I am doing until this day.

The Esoteric Principles of Danzan Ryu Jujitsu¹

Since the fundamental principle acquired through the practice of Jujitsu has been elevated to a finer moral concept called Judo, “The Way of Gentleness,” it may well be said that the primary objective of practicing Judo is perfection of character. And to perfect one’s character one must be 1) grateful for the abundant blessings of Heaven, Earth, and Nature, as well as for 2) the great love of parents; 3) one must realize his enormous debt to teachers and 4) be ever mindful of his obligations to the general public.

As a member of a family, one’s first duty is to be filial to parents, to be helpful and harmonious with one’s wife or husband, and to be affectionate to brothers and sisters, so that the family may be a sound, successful, and harmonious unit of the community.

As a member of a nation one must be grateful for the protection which one derives as a citizen; one must guard against self-interest and foster a spirit of social service. One must be discreet in action, yet hold courage in high regard, and strive to cultivate manliness. One must be gentle, modest, polite, and resourceful; never eccentric, but striving always to practice moderation in all things. One must realize that these qualities constitute the secret of the practice of Judo.

Anyone who practices Judo should neither be afraid of the strong nor despise the weak; nor should he act contrary to the strength of his enemy because of the art he has acquired. For example, when a boat is set afloat on water, one man’s strength is sufficient to move the boat back and forth. This is only possible because the boat floats; for if, on the other hand, the boat is placed on dry land, the same man’s strength is scarcely sufficient to move it. It is necessary, therefore, that the weak should learn this fact with regard to the strong.

The forms and techniques should be remembered as the basic art of Judo. One should never use these arts against anyone without sufficient justification. Therefore, refrain from arrogance and do not despise a small enemy or a weak opponent. Every student of Judo should realize that honesty is the foundation of all virtues. Kindness is the secret of business prosperity. Amiability is the essence of success. Working pleasantly is the mother of health. Strenuous effort and diligence conquer adverse circumstances. Simplicity, fortitude, and manliness are the keys to joy and gladness; and service to humanity is the fountain of mutual existence and common prosperity.

As aptly expressed in the poem “*The boughs that bear most hang lowest,*” one should never forget the virtue of modesty as one attains proficiency in the art of Judo. Do not disdain or regard lightly either literary or military art; each is important and deserves equal cultivation

¹ Copied from www.ajif.org and written by Prof. William Morris, as interpreted from the Tora No Maki by Professor Henry S. Okazaki

and respect. Within constant motion and change there is tranquility; and within tranquility, there is motion and change.

Remember always parental love and one's enormous indebtedness to teachers. Be grateful for the protection of Heaven and Earth. Be a good leader to younger men. To lead younger men well, will in the long run, mean to attain proficiency in the skill of Judo.

Like a drawing in India ink of the whispering of wind in the pines, the secrets of Judo can only be suggested. Only through personal experience can one comprehend the mystic ecstasy of such secrets. It is said of Jujitsu that it would require ten years of practice to win victory over one's self and twenty years to win victory over others.

Whatever the trials or dangers, even "Hell under the upraised sword," remain calm and remember the doctrine imparted to you by your teacher.

A noted verse reads: "For the lotus flower to fall is to rise to the surface."

Only by cultivating a receptive state of mind, without preconceived ideas or thoughts, can one master the secret art of reacting spontaneously and naturally without hesitation and without purposeless resistance.

These are the secrets of Kodanzen into which I have had the honor to initiate you.



Henry Seishiro Okazaki
Master (Danzan Ryu)
Director of the Kodanzen (Dojo)





Lineage & Founders of the AJJF



Professor Henry Seishiro Okazaki is the developer of Danzan Ryu in the early 1920s in the Hawaiian Islands. Below are the students of Professor Okazaki and founders of the American Judo and Jujitsu Federation.



American Judo & Jujitsu Federation Founders

			
<p>Professor Ray Law</p>	<p>Professor John Cahill</p>	<p>Professor Richard Rickerts</p>	<p>Professor Francis Merlin "Bud" Estes</p>

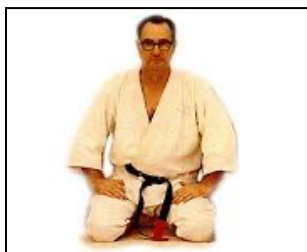
Nibukikan Instructor Lineage



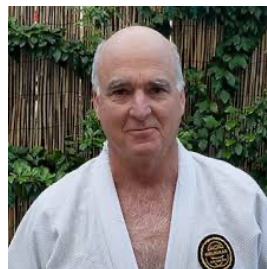
Master Seishiro Okazaki



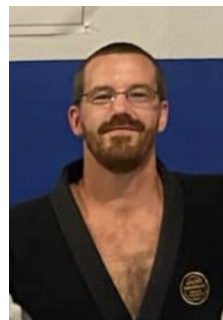
Professor Francis Merlin
"Bud" Estes



Professor Lamar Fisher



Professor Geoff Lane



Sensei Sean Hammer