



3rd Dan Theory

Sam Il 33 Moves

Sam-Il denotes the historical date of the Korean Independence movement which began throughout the country on March 1st 1919. The 33 movements in the pattern stand for the 33 patriots who planned the movement.

Reverse knife hand wedging block	SONKAL DUNG HECHYO MAKGI
Downward double fist punch	NAERYO DOO JOOMAK JIRUGI
Side sole sweeping kick	YOP BALBADAK GORO CHAGI
Diagonal stance	SASSON SOGI

At the end of World War one Korean groups in exile lobbied the peace conferences for support for a Korean Independent from Japan. The leaders of the various religious movements, Chondo Kyo, Christians and Buddhists joined together to prepare a protest to coincide with the funeral of the last free Korean emperor (KOJONG) due to take place on 3rd March 1919. This was because of the huge amount of Koreans in Seoul at that time to attend the Emperors funeral. News of the Japanese killing the mourners brought the protest forward to the 1st March 1919 (SAM-IL literally means 1st—3rd a reference to the 1st day of the 3rd month.

Under the leadership of Son Byong-Hi (Eui-Am) the 33 National representatives, or patriots, penned the “Declaration of Independence” which was then read out in Pagoda Park, Seoul, and afterwards distributed throughout Korea. During March and April over 1,000,000 Koreans joined in the initially peaceful protests. The Japanese were overwhelmed and called in the Army. This triggered violent clashes and an estimated 7,500 Koreans were killed, 15,000 wounded and 45,000 arrested. The Sam-Il movement made no real significant gains but for the first time in decades the Koreans had worked together as one nation.

The Sam-Il movement and the coming together of all Koreans to unite and stand up against the tyrannical rule of the Japanese is a lesson to us all. There is a saying “United we stand—Divided we fall”. Yet another example of a Nation displaying it’s “Indomitable Spirit” and stand together against the common foe regardless of the risk to their own lives.