

MARTIAL ARTS TOURISM

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Expert meeting, 2023. Report plus analysis of selected issues

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Abstract

Problem and Method. On the one hand, this is a factsheet and a case study. On the other hand, it is an exchange of opinions and a review of them – a review article. It concerns the recent history of martial arts. We draw on the practical experience, knowledge and statements of one of the highest-ranking masters with great experience in several types of martial arts. We quote and analyze his and others' opinions. The analysis also considers the content of selected films and books, and reviews of them.

Results. Two workshops, 10 videos and a book series were described and analysed, as well as lectures and discussions. Controversial issues were shown and facts illustrating the functioning of several organizations based on cyclical meetings of their leaders, were quoted. Selected events were photographically documented.

Conclusions. An interesting symposium, which was an expert small group meeting, For the participants, it was an opportunity to gain new knowledge, draw on the teaching of the highest-ranking masters, analyze activities on the mat, recordings and literature, as well as the content of documents. It is knowledge about both the history and practical application of martial arts – technical and tactical solutions in self-defense.

Introduction

Martial arts tourism is a phenomenon that consists of trips of people interested in martial arts in their broad sense (fighting arts) for the purpose of practicing, watching, discussion meetings (conferences, meetings), scientific research or other acquisition of competences (exams for degrees, promotions) [cf. Cynarski 2020]. Expert meetings and methodological and training workshops are part of this kind of non-local acquisition of practical knowledge.

The study concerns a cyclical meeting of experts. This year's scientific and methodological symposium was held under the name **Tradition & Innovation in Teaching Martial Arts**, Part 3 (*Tradition und Innovation im Unterricht in den Kampfkunsten, Teil 3*) in Munich & Weichs, in February 12-19, 2023. The organizers of this were: DDBV (German Association for Dan-Holders and Budo-Teacher), IPA (Idokan Poland Association), IMACSSS (International Martial Arts and Combat Sports Scientific Society), Combat Sports School L. Sieber / Jiu-Jitsu und Karate Schule L. Sieber, and EMAC (European Martial Arts Committee). These meetings are attended

by leaders of martial arts organizations and scientific associations – Bodo Blumentritt (President of DDBV), Wojciech J. Cynarski (IPA, IMACSSS and EMAC), Prof. EMAC L. Sieber and H. Sieber, and other practitioners and researchers in the field of fighting arts [Blumentritt, Cynarski 2008; Cynarski 2019; Blumentritt 2022]. As in previous editions, in this year's Symposium, we can distinguish methodological workshops, a conference part (lectures and discussions), video training sessions, and official ceremonial meetings with promotions and awards – just like during the annual IPA symposiums.

Methodology

Achieving the title of world champion in a given discipline in sport is the result of the work of a team of people, sometimes several dozen. Therefore, the voice of the world champion is valuable – his practical knowledge of what has proven to be successful in sports – *Vide* Klaus Nonnemacher [2015]. Similarly, reaching the Grand Master (GM) level in a given martial art results from a lifelong experiment (usually it is several dozen years of

practice), where one's own experience is supported by the knowledge of previous generations. It is therefore worth reaching for this experience and practical knowledge. This is done by, for example, Emil Farkas [2022], an American journalist and *karateka* (7 dan). On 204 pages of his book, he quotes famous figures from the world of martial arts. Some figures from the American Martial Arts scene, especially Bruce Lee, have inspired two generations of today's high-ranking champions. Similarly, Norbert W. Punzet [2012: 51-53] cites the „golden thoughts” of Carlos „Chuck” Norris and Bruce Lee. By the way, Punzet represents the eclectic *Kun-Tai-Ko* system (9 dan). In general, the statements of high and top-ranking masters are particularly valuable for martial arts research, especially in their humanistic part (sociological, anthropological and cultural, historical and pedagogical research) [Obodyński, Cynarski 2004; Cynarski 2013]. All the more valuable are the statements of a master with great experience in several types of martial arts – his lectures, interviews, and knowledge obtained in dialogue / discussion (like drawing from a source).

In this case, the main master is GM **Lothar Sieber**. Who is *shihan* Lothar Sieber? According to the degrees and titles obtained, it is:

10 dan *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao* – II *soke*, sukcesor of GM Peter K. Jahnke (I *soke*);

10 dan (*Nihonden*) *karatedo, meijin* in *karate*

10 dan *jujutsu, meijin* (*Yoshin-ryu jujutsu-karate* style)

10 dan *judo-do / ido* (of *Idokan*)

10 dan *goshin-jutsu* (art of self-defence)

8 dan *Okinawa karate, hanshi*

8 dan *iaido, hanshi*

8 dan *judo*

8 dan in kick-boxing

5 dan *taekwon-do* (ITF style).

Meijin L. Sieber is a professor at the EMAC / European Martial Arts Committee and board member of this expert body. EMAC awarded him the next highest degrees in *jujutsu* – 11th and 12th dan. This Grand Master is also the highest-ranking specialist in natural medicine present in the tradition of martial arts (*bujutsu ido*), the holder of the highest European degree in *iaido* and an honorary degree in *kendo*. GM Hans Schoellau awarded him 9 dan in *judo* (of *Idokan*), which, however, GM Sieber himself does not show [Cynarski 2021a: 151-152; 2021b; Korobeynikov, Czarny, Cynarski 2022].

Symposium 2023

1. Practical workshops

Hebertshausen is a small Bavarian village near Munich. the association / sports association SpVgg Hebertshausen was founded here in 1920. It brings together sections of various disciplines – from football to combat sports [Vereinszeitung 2023]. Classes of GM Sieber's students

also take place here and this place was chosen for this year's workshop.

The program of *Iaido & Jujutsu-Karate in Hebertshausen* included: *Seitei iai* (Christian Brandt – selected forms from various schools and eras); *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu iai* (W.J. Cynarski – forms, idea of *kiai* and specificity of *chiburi*); *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao* & modern *Yoshin-ryu jujutsu / goshinjutsu* (self-defence). In this last part of Ch. Brandt demonstrated *teisoku-geri* defence and baton defence techniques. In the part devoted to *jujutsu-karate*, the observers of the activities on the mat were W.J. Cynarski (9 dan *jujutsu & karate*) and L. Sieber (10 dan *jujutsu & karate*). Participants came from the Czech Republic, Germany, Poland and Uganda - photos 1-2.



Photo 1. A group of participants in Hebertshausen. The second from left – L. Sieber, third – W.J. Cynarski.



Photo 2. *Iaido* group during the workshop. Feb. 2023 [author's own collection].

In the discussion part, three *hanshi* – W.J. Cynarski, L. Sieber and H. Sieber (EMAC professors) and *sensei* Christian Brandt commented on the classes and agreed on further cooperation. It is worth noting that C. Brandt is an outstanding instructor and assistant to the master, whom GM Sieber recently promoted to higher degrees (8 dan *Zendo karate*, 7 dan *jujutsu*) and in whom he sees the successor of his school [Vide: Annex].

The next workshop – **Zendo karate & Jujutsu in Munich** (Sport Association of East-Munich) – was led by Prof. Hannelore Sieber (9 dan *jujutsu & karate*). It was

attended by martial arts researchers, practitioners-instructors and students from Japan, Germany, Poland and Turkey. Significantly, the Japanese were debutantes in the practice of martial arts here, and the teachers and black belts – from Central Europe. They actively participated in practice of: Dr. Ulrich Diekoeter (3 dan), Wolfgang Kroetz (6 dan), Siegfried Sedlmeier (6 dan), Manfred Geiger (5 dan). On the other hand, observers and commentators of activities on the mat were, among others, W.J. Cynarski and L. Sieber.



Photo 3. Kihon waza / shotei uke. Zendo karate workshop in Munich [author's own collection].

2. Lectures, announcements, discussions

L. Sieber presented a lecture on natural medicine and *bujutsu ido*, controversial issues between official medicine and natural medicine, homeopathy and its applications [photo 5]. In the *Idokan Yoshin-ryu* system, which is a complete system (*sobudo / sogo budo*), *bujutsu ido* is also taught, but at a highly advanced level. Werner Lind pointed to the relationship between traditional Chinese medicine and homeopathy [Lind 1996: 525-526]. And this is the tradition of many schools of traditional martial arts in East Asian countries.



Photo 4. Meijin L. Sieber – literature studies. Weichs 2023.

W. J. Cynarski delivered a talk about the IMACSSS Congress in Rzeszów in October 2022 and about further

action plans and projects [cf. Swider *et al.* 2022]. The activity of this society is so interesting that, for example, Christian Brandt applied to become an ordinary member.



Photo 5. Lecture on natural medicine [author's own collection].

In turn, L. Sieber discussed the history of the *jujutsu-karate* style and the „*Jiu-Jitsu und Karate Schule L. Sieber*” in Munich. Well, first Carl Wiedmaier (7 dan) tried to combine *karate* (*Shotokan* style) and *jujutsu*. His team competed successfully in ITF *taekwondo* competitions. Wiedmaier later called his style „*kenjutsu*”. A distinguished student of this school was L. Sieber. Similarly, teaching *karate*, *jujutsu* and *taekwondo* was connected by *shihan* Eduard Matuschek. GM Masafumi Suzuki (10 dan *Goju-ryu karate*, 10 dan *jujutsu*) awarded E. Matuschek the degree of 8 dan. In addition, five people important to the history of the *Idokan* organization were awarded the Gold Order of the Rising Sun and Cherry Blossom by M. Suzuki from Seibukan Academy. They were: E. Matuschek, C. Wiedmaier, Hubert Klinger von Klingertorff, Hans Schoellauf and Lothar Sieber. L. Sieber cited a significant fact that it was Baron H. Klinger von Klingertorff (10 dan) who proposed the name *jujutsu-karate* to emphasize teaching in the „*Jiu-Jitsu und Karate Schule L. Sieber*” in Munich of modern, dynamic *jujutsu*. This is right for this new form of *jujutsu*, which has incorporated the technique of flexible *karate* (*Zendo karate Tai-te-tao*). *Jujutsu-karate* implements the principles present in the classic *Yoshin-ryu kenpo-jujutsu* and at the same time in *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao*. The technique has been modernized here – adapted to the requirements of today's real self-defence and fighting in confrontation with representatives of other types of fighting arts. In addition, L. Sieber repeated his lecture from one of the seminars from 2021 on *taekwon-do*, *karate* and graduation practices. At the same time, he emphasized the connections of his school with ITF *taekwon-do* and *Okinawan karate*, showing the issue of the line of transmission (teaching) in a historical context [Vide: photo 4; Annex].

There were discussions on the history of martial arts, technical and tactical issues of self-defense and hand-to-hand combat, teaching methodology, exam

requirements for *yudansha* (holders of *dan* degrees and black belts), as well as in relation to the training videos watched. When it comes to history, it is sometimes necessary to dispel myths present in the popular circulation and in literature. For example, false claims about the origin of kickboxing are often repeated. We still read that this sport appeared in the USA [Nonnemcher 2015: 156-158], while earlier it was developed in Japan [Vide: Cynarski, Ziemiński 2010].

Recently published books were analyzed. Cynarski's *Lexicon* [2021a] was discussed – here L. Sieber's assessment was high. On the other hand, in the case of Adam Kraska's *jujutsu* book [2020], the assessments were ambivalent. The book concerns the history of this martial art in Japan, Europe and Brazil, but mostly, in Germany. There is no shortage of controversial theses in this publication. This is, for example, the identification of *jujutsu* and *taijutsu* [Kraska 2020: 176]. While we find numerous publications praising the Gracie family school and style as a revolutionary development of *jujutsu*, Kraska [2020: 165-168; cf. Alonso, Tucci 2013] writes critically about it, pointing to the mixing of facts with advertising and promotion, or even manipulation. However, it can be agreed that *jujutsu* should be modernized so that the technique is perfected towards effectiveness in self-defence [Kraska 2020: 178].

A book was also shown – an album with drawings by Prof. Sven R. Hooge [2021]. The same former student of L. Sieber, *soke* of the *Te-katana-do* system (10 dan) and an anthropologist also showed his *karate* practice photos (5) and 4 drawings of his own about martial arts or knight tradition. In his book, however, female nudes dominate the drawings.

3. Video training sessions

Participants watched and discussed a series of films, which is a recommendation at a high level in fighting arts practice – martial arts and combat sports. The analysis of recordings is recommended as a method of teaching at the advanced stage and is actually willingly used [Vide: Renninghoff, Witte 1998: 34; Cynarski 2019].

1) Erich Rahn's *Jiu-Jitsu* – film recordings, including those from a hundred years ago.

These techniques seem a bit anachronistic today and their current use in self-defense may raise doubts. GM E. Rahn had a string of winning fights. Watching them, you can appreciate the efficiency and effectiveness of this pioneer of German *jujutsu*. Although some claim that they were arranged as exhibition fights [cf. Kraska 2020: 120-130].

2) Demonstration of *jujutsu-karate* in Denia, Spain (L. & H. Sieber), Denia 1995 (video recording).

During the 1995 Spanish Karate Championships, Lothar and Hannelore Sieber performed, at the invitation of the mayor of Denia, a dynamic *jujutsu-karate* show. It is a modern version of *Yoshin-ryu jujutsu-kenpo*. The organizer of the competition was Enrique Aledo-Banuls,

currently the holder of the highest degree in Spain in *Shotokan karate / karatedo* – 9 dan, which he obtained from GM L. Sieber, and earlier also 4 dan in *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao*.

3) Sieber L., Sieber H. (1986), *Jiu-Jitsu, die sicherste Selbstverteidigung*, Münchner Video Plate, München [video VHS, in German].

There is an evolution of real self-defence techniques. The techniques recorded on VHS tape [Sieber L., Sieber H. 1986] and in Denia differ slightly from those practiced during this year's workshops. *Jujutsu-karate*, in pursuit of real effectiveness in a „street” clash, is still subject to evolution and is approaching the military system of close combat [cf. Dougherty 2018].

4) The Movie „The Art of Killing” [Atsumi, Nemoto 1978] – presents the landscape of Japanese martial arts – from *seppuku* (also known as *harakiri*; the ritual of suicide by cutting the abdomen) and *kyuba-jutsu* (horse archery; collectively – the samurai cultural tradition), through various important figures of the *kobudo / budo* world, including *sumo*, in action, following *kenjutsu* and Japanese sabre/samurai sword. The aspect of the use of techniques to fight to the death, the psychology of preparation for this and the philosophy of the warrior's way have been exposed. However, there is nothing about the pedagogical dimension of today's *budo*, as if Jigoro Kano and his contribution to the idea of „the way” and the educational system never existed.

5) *Judo-do* throws [Strauss F. 2002]

Here, however, we find the beauty of perfection and harmony of movement. 69-year-old Franz Strauss (10 dan *judo-do*) demonstrates 29 techniques – throws and counter-techniques. In *Idokan* today we find both a continuation of the teaching of *judo-do* [Vide: Haertel 2011], as well as the development of *judo* into *ido*. L. Sieber explains that – according to the idea of Wally Strauss – it can be developed into various *budo* disciplines implemented at a master level, as does W. J. Cynarski (within the complete *Idokan Yoshin-ryu* system).

6) *Kenpo-Jujitsu Connection*

David German, the creator of *TAI-karate*¹, 10 dan, demonstrates self-defence techniques [German 1993]. However, these are responses to an unreal attack (standard *oi-tsuki*). There is no real self-defense that responds to a non-real-world attack. *TAI-karate* is a derivative of American *kempo-karate*, in which the famous Elvis Presley gained a high degree of 9 dan. However, his self-defence techniques are, as in the age of *karate* and *taekwondo*, far from really effective *jujutsu-karate*.

7) No Rules World Championship, Moscow 1995 [in Russian].

It is about IAFC: Absolute Fighting Championship 1. These were brutal full-contact bare-knuckle fights, only minimally protected by small heel pads, involving

¹ US T.A.I. Karate. TAI means ”Transition, Action, Incorporated”.

fighters from various types of fighting arts. The winner was Brazilian Ricardo Morais (Brazilian *jiu-jitsu*), a big guy – 203 cm tall, 122 kg. It is therefore difficult to decide whether the representative of the most effective style won or whether physical conditions were decisive.

8) *Combat Sambo*, Moscow 1993 [in Russian].

The film presents a bit of history, a bit of a fictionalized legend of the origin of *sambo*, and above all – technical and tactical solutions. According to L. Sieber – the techniques of this combat *sambo* look almost the same as in *jujutsu*.

9 and 10) *Shidokan karate* training and competition in Chicago (USA) and MMA organization „Pride” (Japan).

Here, a critical discussion concerned the preparation for the competition, the technical and tactical skills of the players and the consequences for health. MMA appears as a modern form of gladiatorship and a way to lose health (brain injuries, locomotor system injuries and others).

4. Searched in a collection of documents

The author will quote an excerpt from a letter from the President of the International Budo Federation and Director of the World Budo Federation (Kyoto, Japan) at that time, the aforementioned E. Matuschek, who is an example of fruitful martial arts tourism. In a letter to L. Sieber, he wrote:

„(...) über meine Asienreise von Singapur, Hongkong, Bangkok und Japan möchte ich Dir einen kurzen Bericht erstatten. In Singapur, Hongkong und Bangkok habe ich mit namhaften Schulen Verbindungen aufgenommen und viele Erkenntnisse mitgenommen. Bei dem Weltkongress vom 12.-15.4.91 in Kyoto wurde ich zum Chairmann für Europa ernannt und mit hohen Auszeichnungen und Würden geehrt. Ich bekam die höchste Auszeichnung mit 12 Brillanten und 6 Rubinen.” [Matuschek 1991].

The same fragment in English:

„(...) I would like to give you a brief report on my trip to Asia from Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok and Japan. In Singapore, Hong Kong and Bangkok I made contact with well-known schools and took a lot of insights with me. At the World Congress from April 12-15, 1991 in Kyoto, I was appointed Chairman for Europe and honored with high awards and honors. I got the highest award with 12 diamonds and 6 rubies.” [Matuschek 1991].

It was perhaps the Order of the Rising Sun?

It is a significant example of martial arts tourism and congress tourism. However, in the case of this event, the main attraction was *meijin* L. Sieber [cf. Cynarski 2023].

5. Awards

The IPA leader congratulated Klaus Haertel (10 dan *ido*) and accepted his thanks for the 10 dan *jujutsu* degree awarded to him by the IPA in January this year.

GM L. Sieber presented W.J. Cynarski for his long-term activity in the field of *budo*, a gold badge of honor

from his School („*Jiu-Jitsu und Karate Schule L. Sieber*”): Gold with Oak Leaves, as well as certificates for 7 dan *iaido* (currently the highest master degree in this martial art in Poland). The previous degree in *iaido* (6 dan) he received in 2015, also in Germany. The certificates handed over to the Polish *shihan* bear the seals of five major martial arts organizations. On the other hand, GM Sieber has 8th dan in *iaido* and the title of *hanshi*, probably the highest and the only one in Europe.



Photo 6. President of IMACSSS & IPA presents and congratulates Prof. L. Sieber of the IMACSSS and IPA Medals of Honor.



Photo 7. The last day of the Symposium – informally, almost a family photo: W.J. Cynarski, L. Sieber, Bodo Blumentritt and his wife [courtesy of H. Sieber].

In turn, L. Sieber – received two medals and corresponding diplomas, namely: the Golden Medal of Honor and Merit IMACSSS (no. 12) and the Honorary Medal of the Idokan Poland Association – „Warrior of the Noble Way / Way of Truth” with the number 01, awarded still in 2019 [cf. Korobeynikov, Black, Cynarski 2022; Vide: photo 6].

Prof. L. Sieber was also to present, on behalf of IMACSSS and under the authority of the President of

this Society, the „Golden Medal of Honor and Merit” to *shihan* Harald Weitmann (*Okinawa Karate School* in Neuffen, Germany). And it happened on April 7th, 2023 [photo 8].



Photo 8. The IMACSSS „Golden Medal of Honor and Merit” for H. Weitmann, 10 dan, *hanshi* [author’s own collection, courtesy of H. Sieber].

Summary

As is often the case in similar situations, there was also a „touristic tasting” – tasting of regional cuisine [cf. Cynarski, Obodynski 2006; Cynarski 2020: 84]. This time it was, among others, venison (deer), algae and beer, but also excellent products of a rural butcher’s shop.

A total of about 30 people took part, including remote contacts – Dr P. Świder, K. Hoertel (10 dan), and H. Weitmann (9 dan). It was not a large group. But this Symposium was an expert meeting, which is necessarily a small, elite group of specialists. Many important things were decided informally [photo 7], accompanied by discussions or sometimes disputes, but constructive.

The author also had the opportunity to carry out a query of the private archive of Prof. L. Sieber – a collection of certificates (including a copy of the E. Presley certificate mentioned above), photos, other documents, and a library – book collection. *Meijin* L. Sieber also provided the author with the secrets of hand-to-hand combat in a robbery and life-threatening situation (secrets of fighting „on the street”).

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Annex

Lothar Sieber on taekwon-do (TKD), karate and graduation practices

(lecture from summer 2021, translated from German and written by the author)

Taekwon-do (TKD) – named on April 11, 1955. 1961 General Choi Hong Hi became the first President of the Korean Taekwondo Association (KTA). In 1966, the KTA in Seoul was expanded to an international level (ITF). Around 1970 there was a dispute between Choi and the KTA. In 1972, Choi emigrated to Canada (Toronto) and relocated the ITF headquarters to Toronto. In 1973 the WTF was founded in South Korea. Kim Un Yong (former secret service chief) became president and immediately moved into the *Kukkiwon* (the centre of TKD in Seoul, the only TKD college in the world with a training area of approx. 10000 m²) and was supported by the South Korean government – supported by all means. Renegade General Choi received support from North Korea. Countries that introduced the WTF version got whatever they wanted, soon the WTF TKD system spread all over the world, so South Korea developed from a totally impoverished agricultural state to one of the richest industrialized countries in the world². The WTF supports the manipulation of the fights in favor of the Koreans [cf. Lind 1999: 579-580]. TKD became an Olympic discipline in 2000 [cf. Moenig, Kim M. 2019]. **Zendo karate Tai-te-tao** consists of the best techniques of flexible karate styles and Okinawa-Te. **Okinawa-te** (400 styles) is a pure self-defence karate and not suitable for sporting combat. [With regard] the sense of *kata - kata* competition is nonsense!

Gichin Funakoshi was an *Okinawa-te* master and introduced karate in Japan around 1920 as a health sport. He eliminated all self-defence techniques and adulterated the *Okinawa-te*³. His students e.g. [Hirokazu] Kanazawa, [Hideo] Ochi etc. developed a sporting competition against the will of Funakoshi. Funakoshi simply called his system *Karate-do* – the way of the unarmed hand. The name *Shotokan* was introduced by his students and means – pine hall⁴.

Peter Jahnke (16.12.1936-23.08.1995) studied different kung fu systems as well as different karate systems

² This thesis raises doubts. *Taekwondo* is used to promote Korea, but it was hardly decisive for the country's economic success.

³ He taught *Shorin-ryu karate*, and most of the changes were introduced by his students – Yoshitaka Funakoshi, Masatoshi Nakayama and others.

⁴ *Shoto* (waves of pine trees) was G. Funakoshi's poetic pseudonym, hence the name of the school and style.

and developed from them the "Zen-Do-Karate Tai-Te-Tao", which is recognized in writing even in Japan by various well-known highly graduated *budokas* and in published in Japanese newspapers.

I was asked by Jahnke on a "Saturday Fights" ca. 1977 to participate in the American McGrow barracks in Munich. Many American soldiers from the most diverse styles fought. In most of the fights I found that my TKD and *Shotokan* style wasn't very good in fighting the different styles of *karate*. In addition to my "Jiu-Jitsu and Karate School", I also learned *Zendo karate* from Jahnke and then became an enthusiastic fighter – with the best fighting events. I fought with European champions, German champions, French champions with best success. My techniques were so precise and good that Jahnke appointed me as his successor (*soke* – supreme authority). Every month he would come to my school, watch and say, "that's my *Zendo karate*, that's exactly how I imagined it".

Christian Brandt is one of my best students, has been training in my school for 40 years and has appointed him my successor (*soke*) because of his good technique and his attitude towards martial arts. He even changed professional situations in favor of martial arts. Today I award him 8 dan *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao* and 7 dan *jujutsu*, making him the #2 in *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao* in the world⁵.

[There are] different graduation practices. For example:

- [Shiro] Saigo graduated 1st dan at 19 and 5th dan *judo* at 21 from [Jigoro] Kano.
- [Hideo] Ochi started *karate* at the age of 18, at 24 he was 4 dan *karate*.
- Tatsuo Suzuki was 5th dan *Wado-ryu karate* (by [Hironori] Otsuka) within 6 years.
- Eizo Shimabuko was awarded 10th dan at the age of 36.
- Eduard Matuschek was promoted from 5 dan to 8 dan by Masafumi Suzuki.
- Carl Wiedmeier had from 1 to 6. Then used 7 years.
- Dietmar Gdanitz: 1st dan 12/12/1961, 9 dan - 1/06/1975, 10 dan - 24/10/1987.

- At the age of 45, Sieber L. was 10 dan *jiu-jitsu*, at the age of 51 – 10 dan *karate* and recognized by Japan and by many associations [cf. Cynarski *et al.* 2015; Cynarski 2022].

Titles and dans are no longer age-related, it was recognized that the old masters no longer trained (Japan) but because of the later they got more and more titles, which was changed with the approximately 400 *karate* styles. Today it is ability and inner attitude that count, not age. Many Japanese masters stopped training for many years and still got titles.

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Słowa kluczowe: *fighting arts*, turystyka, L. Sieber, *iaido*, *jujutsu*, *karate*, *taekwondo*

Streszczenie

Problem i metoda. Jest to z jednej strony faktografia i studium przypadku. Z drugiej zaś wymiana opinii i ich swego rodzaju recenzja – artykuł recenzyjny. Rzecz dotyczy historii najnowszej sztuk walki. Sięgamy do doświadczenia praktycznego, wiedzy i wypowiedzi mistrza najwyższej rangi o wielkim doświadczeniu w kilku odmianach sztuk walki. Jego i inne opinie przytaczamy i analizujemy. Analizy dotyczą także treści wybranych filmów i książek, i ich recenzji.

Wyniki. Opisano i przeanalizowano dwa zajęcia warsztatowe, 10 nagrań wideo i serię książek, a także wykłady i dyskusje. Ukazano kwestie kontrowersyjne. Przytoczono fakty ilustrujące funkcjonowanie kilku organizacji na przykładzie cyklicznych spotkań ich liderów. Wybrane zdarzenia udokumentowano fotograficznie.

Wnioski. W nielicznym gronie miało miejsce interesujące sympozjum, będące spotkaniem eksperckim. Dla uczestników była to okazja do zdobycia nowej wiedzy, czerpiąc z nauczania mistrzów najwyższej rangi, analizując działania na macie, nagrania i literaturę, a także treść dokumentów. Jest to wiedza zarówno dotycząca historii, jak też praktycznego zastosowania sztuk walki – rozwiązań techniczno-taktycznych w samoobronie.

⁵ If L. Sieber has 10 dan, and Wojciech J. Cynarski and Hannelore Sieber 9 dan, then C. Brandt now has the fourth position in rank, but he becomes the leader of L. Sieber's school.