

A Century of Judo in the United States

The origin of Japanese martial arts is said to have evolved from the Takenouchi-ryu martial art system founded in 1532. During the next several hundred years, the martial arts were refined by the samurai who made a lifetime study of some thirty martial arts. Of these arts only one was based on weaponless self defense -- jujitsu. By the mid-1800's more than 700 different jujitsu systems existed. The most popular were Takenouchi-ryu, Jikishin-ryu, Kyushin-ryu, Yoshin-ryu, Miura-ryu, Sekiguchi-ryu, Kito-ryu, and Tenshin-Shinyo-ryu.

In 1868, Imperial rule was restored as a result of the Meiji Restoration. Although the government did not officially ban martial arts, people were not encouraged to practice them. Jigoro Kano is credited with Jujitsu's survival of the Meiji Restoration. The history of judo is the history of the shift from a martial art to a modern sport.



Jigoro Kano 1860 - 1938

Jigoro Kano was born in the

year of the monkey on October 28th, 1860, in the village of Mikage in Kobe. Kano's father, Jirosaku was a Shinto priest and a government official. The Kano family were also wealthy sake brewers, famous for the brand of sake named Kiku Masamune.

Kano was extremely gifted and entered the Foreign Languages School where he was one of the first Japanese to play baseball.

In 1877 while studying at Tokyo Imperial University, Kano began training under Jujutsu master, Hachinosuke Fukuda. Kano took over Fukuda's school when he died and kept on studying with Fukuda's teacher, Masamoto Iso. In 1882, Kano

became a lecturer for Gakushuin University and started an English Language School and a private academy called Kanojuku. This was also the beginning of his Judo academy, Kodokan.

The first American to study seriously at Kodokan was Prof. Ladd from Yale University. Ladd went to Kodokan in 1889 and studied various forms of Judo. By 1908, Kodokan had a total of 13 Americans studying in Japan.

Yoshiaki Yamashita was the first person to teach judo in the U.S and arrived in 1902 at the invitation of Graham Hill, director of the Great Northern Railroad. A wealthy socialite, Mary Wadsworth and her friends were Yamashita's first students. Mrs. Wadsworth mentioned to President Theodore Roosevelt that Yamashita was teaching Judo. Yamashita was subsequently invited to the White House for a demonstration match with a wrestler named John Graft, who

was the coach at the U.S. Naval Academy and who was teaching President Roosevelt wrestling. Impressed by Yamashita, President Roosevelt decided to take Judo lessons. After leaving office, Roosevelt continued to practice, earning a brown belt.

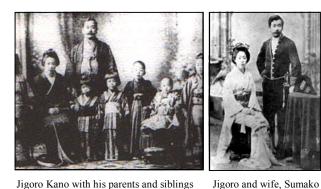
In 1903, a year after Yamashita's arrival in America, Shumeshiro Tomita came to the U.S. and was instrumental in establishing Judo at Princeton and Columbia Universities. Many Judo instructors followed and in 1907, the first dojo was opened in Seattle by Takugoro Ito.

Japanese immigrants trained in the art of Kodokan Judo came to Hawaii during the era of Japanese immigration in the late 1800's. Two of Hawaii and the nation's oldest Judo clubs, Shobukan and Shunyokan, were established by young immigrants in this early era of Japanese immigration.

In 1909, the Shunyokan Judo Club was founded by Shigemi Teshima and Naomatsu Kaneshige in Honolulu. The Shobukan Judo Club was founded by Yajiro Kitayama and Nakajiro Mino.

Wet Research an af President Preside

Kurt Roosevelt, son of President Roosevelt with Jigoro Kano and Mr & Mrs. Yoshiaki Yamashita



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SHRINE CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 2 Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service 月次祭
 - 22 Clean-up & Mochi Pounding 掃除と餅つき
- 22 Autumn Thanksgiving Festival 秋季感謝大祭

Sensei Axel Obara receives 5th Dan

Congratulations and *Omedeto Gozaimasu* to Sensei Axel Obara on his recent promotion to 5th dan in Judo.

Students of the Kalihi YMCA Judo Club and friends celebrated the auspicious occasion at the Hee Hing restaurant on Wednesday, August 24, 2005.







Sensei Obara receives a Koa bowl in commemoration of his achilevements

Krista Obara and Bob Harada

Room packed with students, friends and supporters of Sensei Obara

詩吟 Shigin (Recitation of Chinese poems)

吟詠は詩吟ともいい、漢詩や和歌などに節(旋律)をつけて歌います。吟詠では歌うことを 「吟じる」といいます。吟じる漢詩には、古い中国のものから現代の日本のものまで含まれます。 和歌、俳句や新体詩なども題材にされます。

吟詠は元は無伴奏でしたが、現在では邦楽器はもちろん、洋楽器やシンセサイザーなどに よる多彩な伴奏が付くようになりました。一人で吟じるのを「独吟」、一曲を数名でリレーの ように交替しながら吟じるのを「連吟」、団体で斉唱するのを「合吟」といいます。

Shigin is the art of singing poems written in the Chinese style of "Kanshi". There are 5,000 different singing styles or schools of shigin, each singing the same poems to a different melody.

Kanshi or Chinese poems was first introduced to Japan during the 8th century. The Chinese poets recited Kanshi using intonation and inflection on words to emphasize their meaning. This style of poetry eventually evolved into "shigin" in Japan.

In the Edo period, a scholar named Tanso Hirose began the first private Shigin school in Oita for men of the samurai class. During the Showa period, Shigin was introduced to the masses by Saishu Manako. Shigin first gained popularity in the U.S. during World War II when shigin groups were formed in the internment camps. Many of the groups formed in the camps continued to study shigin after the war and are still active today.

Below is a famous Shigin composed by Jozan Ishikawa called Fujisan, which is often sung at the shrine's

雲の上にまで突き出した山の頂上 には神仙も来て遊ぶのだとか。頂上にあ る池の中には久しく龍が住むという。

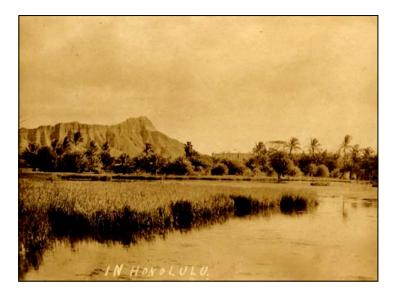
山を覆う雪は染められていない白 絹のようであり、立ちのぼる 煙は柄を つけたようである。すなわち、これは、 日本の空高く白い扇が、さかさまに吊り 下げられた形だ。 白扇倒懸東海天會如紋素煙如城之。



Honolulu Then....

This photograph which was taken in 1926, shows the wetlands where McCully and Date streets are now. Waikiki, which translates to spouting waters, joined the two great valleys above it to the seacoast.

Rainwater from Manoa and Palolo ran freely to the sea by three major streams: Apuakehau, which emptied where the Surfrider Hotel stands, Kuekaumahi which is now Kapahulu Avenue and Piianaio which flowed into the ocean where Ft. DeRussy and the Reef Hotel now stands.



At the 1960 meeting of the International Olympic Committee, Judo was accepted as a demonstration sport for the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games. This was fitting, as Japan hosted the games in memory of the founder of amateur athletics in Japan, Jigoro Kano.

Today, the International Judo Federation (IJF) is a member of the International Olympic Committee. Although Judo ranks second to soccer as the most popular sport in the world, it is the most widely practiced sport in the world. With 175 member nations, the IJF is the largest sport federation in the International Olympic Committee. Judo, Japan's fighting tradition brings culture and honor to the world, transcending language, color, race or creed and Kodokan remains the symbolic heart of Judo and an enduring monument to Jigoro Kano.



Keiko Fukuda and students of the women's section of Kodokan with Jigoro Kano in 1936.

Sensei Keiko Fukuda



Sensei Yukiso

Yamamoto

Sensei Keiko Fukuda was born on April 12, 1913 in Tokyo and is revered as one of the last living disciples of Jigoro Kano and the highest-ranking female judoka in the world. Fukuda, granddaughter of Kano's mentor Hachinosuke Fukuda began taking lessons at the Kodokan Women's Section in 1935 and was one of only twodozen women in the school.

Sensei Fukuda was awarded a red belt indicating the 9th dan by the U.S. Judo Federation in 2001 for her lifelong contributions to Judo. In the 120-year old history of Judo, only twelve people have achieved a higher rank -- the 10th level. Sensei Fukuda has worked for years to spread kata competitions throughout the world and

has established her own tournament, the Fukuda Judo Kata Championship.

Sensei George Tsubota



Sensei George Tsubota, responsible for the electrical design and wiring of the shrine has had a long and distinguished career in Judo. Sensei Tsubota heads the 5th largest Judo club in the nation, Hodokan Judo Club and is Emeritus Director of the United State Judo Federation, member of the USJF Kata Development Committee and serves as Kata Committee Chairman of the 50th State Judo Association.

Mayor Jeremy Harris declared June 29, 2004 to be Hodokan Judo Day - the result of the efforts of a grateful parent, Kerwin Chong, whose son Braxton, suffering from anxiety attacks, flourished under the perseverance and patience of Sensei Tsubota and the Hodokan instructors.

Sensei Axel Obara

Shrine volunteer, Sensei Axel Obara began Judo in 1956 under the strict instruction of Yukiso Yamamoto and continues to impart not only the physical skills, but the philosophy and traditions of Kodokan at the Kalihi YMCA.

Sensei Obara also studied under Sensei Keiko Fukuda, who is renowned for her expertise in judo kata.

Mahalo Sensei Obara for your spirit of volunteerism and promotion of cultural values, community building and unity to your students and the shrine.



Sensei Axel Obara, instructors and students of the Kalihi YMCA Judo Club

Sensei Keiko Fukuda



Nisei Week Festival 2005

First held in 1934 to brighten the dark days of The Depression, Nisei Week is one of the oldest Japanese-American festivals in the country. Commencing with the crowning of the queen at the coronation ball, the festival features a variety of cultural and martial arts events, stage performances, a 5K run, and parade.

Another special event happening at the 65th Nisei Week Festival was the Sumo Tournament Exhibition on Sunday August 14 at the Japanese American Community & Cultural Center Plaza. Two professional Sumo wrestlers Iwakiyama and Hochiyama came



from Japan to participate in the demonstration as a precursor to the Japan Sumo Association's first USA Grand Sumo Tournament in Las Vegas on October 7,

8 and 9.



Kapahulu Community Center Bon Dance

The Japanese immigrants brought many traditions to Hawaii. One of them was the Bon Dance Festival. Bon Dance originated in Japan as part of Bon, the festival to honor the dead. People believed that the souls of the dead returned to Earth to be with their descendants during this period.

The Kapahulu Community Center Bon Dance on August 27th began with Line Dancing followed by a dynamic taiko performance by the Kenny Endo Ensemble and music and dance by the Fukushima Bon Dance Club

Kapahulu Community Center was originally built in 1908 as the Waikiki Kapahulu Japanese Language School. Today, it houses a Senior Center, Karate Dojo and a Japanese Language School.



MAHALO

Bob Harada Marilyn Naitoh Shinken Naitoh Richard Sakai Irene Takizawa Masa Takizawa





Local Kine Grindz

A popular local island dish, *loco moco* is said to have its origins in Hilo. Despite its Spanish-sounding name, *loco-moco* is a distinctly local edible and one of Hilo's most popular and perhaps most unique contributions to Hawaii's diverse culinary tradition.

The loco-moco story began in 1949 at Richard and Nancy Inouye's Lincoln Grill Restaurant in Hilo. Teenage members of the Lincoln Wreckers Athletic Club used to hang-out at the eatery, playing the pin-ball machines, cards, dropping nickels in the Wurlitzer jukebox and constantly feeding their hungry appetites. In those days, when teens didn't have much money in their



pockets, the standard fare was a bowl of saimin or hamburger, things which didn't quite fill the always hungry teens. So the club devised a plan to ask the Inouyes to create a special dish just for them, something filling and affordable. For the task, the Wreckers nominated a guy nicknamed "Crazy" for his wild and madcap play on the football field. "Crazy" approached the Inouyes with the club's request and the rest is history.

The original loco-moco consisted of a saimin bowl of hot rice with a hamburger patty, generously smothered with brown gravy - all for just 25 cents. Somewhere along the line, a fried egg was added. The name of the dish came later when it became one of the most requested off-the-menu items at the Lincoln Grill. Since "Crazy" made the initial request for a special dish just for the club, the group named it in his honor, using the Spanish word "loco" for "Crazy." The word "moco" was added later because it rhymed and had a nice ring to it. Thus was born the humble "loco-moco."

The Lincoln Grill continued serving loco-mocos until it closed in 1963. But the popular dish caught on and it wasn't long before most of the eateries in Hilo began offering their own versions of the popular dish. It eventually spread throughout the islands. Today, loco-moco can be found at many eateries throughout the islands.

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