



2011 Gendo Newsletter No. 3

Featured News

2011 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF All Japan Karate-do Championship & Budo Exhibition

2011 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF European Congress Exincourt, France

Rice Cultivation in Japan

Upcoming Events

2012 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Spring Japan Tour

Location: Greater Tokyo Area

Date: 02 - 14 April

Contact: Mr. Hans-D. Rauscher
 Branch Director Germany

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2012 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Americas Congress

Location: To be Announced

Date: To be Announced

Contact: Mr. Jose Juan Cruz
 Branch Director IMAF Americas

Email: imafo.americas@gmail.com

2012 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF European Congress

Location: Charleroi, Belgium

Date: 19, 20, 21 October

Contact: M. André Fredrix
 Branch Director Belgium

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Kokusai Budoin, IMAF sponsors numerous national, regional and local events throughout the year. Please see our website, or contact a representative near you for all details.

Information about IMAF events, membership, and more, contact:

Kokusai Budoin, IMAF HQ

Email: international@imafo.com

www.imafo.com

2011 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF All Japan Karate Championship and Budo Exhibition

Tokyo, More than two years in the planning, the first Kokusai Budoin, IMAF All Japan Open Championship was held at the Bumbo Sports center in central Tokyo on September 23rd.



Karate-do kata contest participant, Jr. division

The event was sponsored by Kokusai Budoin, IMAF President Yasuhisa Tokugawa, and Karate Division Shihan Kazuo Sakai-sensei, Ikuo Higuchi-sensei, Hirokazu Kanazawa-sensei, and other senior leaders of Karate-do in Japan.

600 men, women and children from five prefectures and seven cities across Japan, as well as a number of international participants, gathered to compete for top honors.



Karate-do kata contest participant, Jr. division



Karate-do kata contest participant, Jr. division

The opening ceremony began at 10:00 with addresses by a variety of dignitaries. The Jr. and adult kata competition was held from 10:30 until the mid-day break at 13:00.

The afternoon events began with demonstrations of laido, Kobudo, Karate, and Nihon Jujutsu by senior Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Headquarters and internationally renowned SKIF instructors. The kumite (sparring) competition followed, and the events concluded with the awards ceremony.

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Karate-do kata contest participant, adult division

2011 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Championship and Exhibition

Opening Address
Yasuhisa Tokugawa
President
Kokusai Budoin, IMAF

Ladies and gentlemen, senior practitioners and instructors, Jr. and adult competitors, and honored guests, please accept my heartfelt welcome on this auspicious occasion.



Today marks the first Kokusai Budoin, IMAF All Japan Karate-do Championship, and 33rd All Japan Budo Exhibition. Indeed, this event is unique as we join a newly established advent with one that features a long history.

This year Japan has experienced a range of significant set backs as a nation, including the March Tohoku tsunami and Fukushima nuclear reactor accident, while Kokusai Budoin, IMAF lost one of its founding members, Chief Director Sato Shizuya (1929 - 2011). Beginning in the early post-WWII years, Sato Sensei spent nearly his entire life promoting traditional Japanese martial arts both in Japan and overseas, as a means of building mutual understanding and camaraderie among practitioners world-wide.

As a widely acclaimed exponent of Judo and Nihon Jujutsu, Sato Sensei integrated classical traditions with a modern approach of including men, women and children of all nationalities, and with his tireless energy and kindness, inspired generations of practitioners around the world.

In conclusion, I urge all competitors, children and adults alike, to do his or her best today in the spirit of traditional budo, where victory is measured by one's mastery of self, rather than defeat of an opponent.



Iaido Demonstration, Muso Eishin Jikiden Ryu

The Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Board of Directors wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Edogawa-ku Board of Education, senior Karate-do instructors, Directors of dojos, their families, friends, and numerous supporters, both in Japan and overseas, as well countless others, whose valuable contributions made the 2011 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Karate-do Championship and Budo Exhibition a resounding success.



Ryushin Shouchi Ryu Kobudo Demonstration



Nihon Jujutsu Goshin-jutsu Demonstration



Karate-do Demonstration by Senior SKIF Instructors

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JWD Shibuya Studio, professional photography and image processing: Contact: jwdurner@mac.com

Japanese Martial Arts Masters Welcomed at City Hall



Kokusai Budoin France Directors, the Mayor, and Japanese Masters

Exincourt The greatest Japanese masters, as well European and French experts will attend seminars the Montbéliard sports center for three days. The event sponsors are Antoine and Sandra Torres, Directors Kokusai Budoin France.

The Kokusai Budoin congress features members from various countries in Europe and the Americas. As well as internationally renowned instructors from Japan such as Tadanori Nobetsu 9th dan karate, Iwao Matsuzaki 8th dan iaido, John Gage 7th dan Nihon Jujutsu, and Jun Komoto 6th dan aikido. Additionally, national Directors from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Switzerland, and USA lead training.

In total, there will be some 22 instructors who will focus on physical and mental technique, as well as themes such as martial arts in daily life. Participation is open to the public.

Program: Friday: 16:00, Branch Director Meeting, with a reception from 18:15. Training will be held from 20:00 - 21:30.

Saturday: Opening ceremony 09:00, morning sessions from 09:30 to 12:00. Afternoon sessions from 13:00 to 18:00. A gala dinner will commence at 20:00.

Sunday: Morning sessions from 09:00 - 12:30. Closing Ceremony at 13:00.

This article is translated from the original, thanks to LePays.fr Photo: Claude Barth

<http://www.lepays.fr/sport/2011/10/21/congres-international-a-exincourt>

The Kokusai Budoin, IMAF Board of Directors wishes to give special thanks to Antoine and Sandra Torres, 2011 European Congress sponsors, the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Director of Culture and Sports of the City of Exincourt, all Directors and senior members in France, their families and friends, the Branch and Regional Directors from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Switzerland, and USA, for their invaluable support and leadership throughout, as well as the many individuals whose tireless work ensured a successful outcome of this year's events.

2011 Kokusai Budoin, IMAF European Congress



More than 300 participants at the International Congress in Exincourt

The 2011 edition of the international conference organized by the karate club Exincourt "Arts and Fight" was a success up to the event. The image above shows very sharp karate training session with trainees from all over Europe.

This conference, held over three days in the various gyms at the sports center in Montbéliard, featured courses in aikido, iaido, karate, kobudo, judo and nihon jujutsu. Over three participants attended from numerous countries in Europe and North America.

The instructors included experts from Japan Tadanori Nobetsu 9th dan karate, Iwao Matsuzaki 8th dan iaido, John Gage 7th dan Nihon Jujutsu, and Jun Komoto 6th dan aikido, and senior European experts.

For more information on the club Exincourt "Arts and fighting" contact M. Antoine Torres at 03.81.94.23.38 or 06.86.41.54.90.

This article is translated from the original, thanks to LePays.fr Photo: Claude Barth

<http://www.lepays.fr/sport/2011/10/28/plus-de-300-stagiaires-au-congres-international-d-exincourt>

2012 International Events

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Date: 19, 20, 21 October

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Event details to be published soon at: www.imaf.com

Rice Cultivation in Japan



Rice plants ready for harvest

Rice has been cultivated for more than 2,000 years in Japan. In the Edo period (1615 - 186) rice yields were measured in *koku*, and used to measure a lord's wealth. One *koku* is approximately 150 kg, or enough rice to feed one person for a year.



Harvest time, rice plants drying in the field

Historically, rice was raised in a sustainable way in Japan. The hills and mountains were covered by rice terraces. While woodlands were preserved as a source of compost. Rice is a member of a family of plants that also includes marijuana, grass and bamboo. There are over 120,000 different varieties of rice including white, black and red strains. Worldwide, rice is a critical crop and chief source of food for about 3 billion people.



Ducks feeding in a rice paddy, they eat both pests and weeds

Rice is believed to have been first cultivated in China or possibly elsewhere in eastern Asia around 10,000 years ago. While there is some question when rice farming began in Japan, historians believe it marked the beginning of the Yayoi period (400 B.C.- A.D. 300).

Rice is one of the world's most labor intensive crops. In Japan the planting and harvesting is done mostly with machines, none-the-less, growing rice is as arduous task. Additionally, many farms are now owned and managed only by elderly couples, as young people tend to leave the countryside for better opportunities in big cities.

Across Japan, production of rice has fallen 20 percent in a decade. Aging is seen as the biggest problem in rural areas, where, according to the Agriculture Ministry, 70 percent of Japan's three million farmers are 60 or older.

However, there are signs of hope for the future, such as Chiharu Tezuka's 100-hectare rice, barley and buckwheat farm 30 minutes south of Matsumoto in Nagano prefecture. His farm features a rice processing plant, where local farmers bring their rice for polishing, and includes 800 separate fields that he rents. According to Tezuka, "Kids don't want to stay on small farms where there's no profit. But around here, on the big farms, they often do stay," he said. "Sometimes, in good years, we make a pile of money. Once you've experienced that, it's hard to quit."



Onigiri, or rice balls, a daily feature of life in Japan

Rice Planting Festival on YouTube:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eZM4Y_Mp4w&NR=1