

The T.K.D. Flash

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A test was held in Mooresville on September 22.

Remember that Grand Master Charles E. Sereff will be in Wisconsin on December 8 for Black Belt tests and a major address to be given at an awards banquet that evening. Since this is scheduled in early December, put aside that date now to avoid conflicts.

The annual A.M.A.-North Carolina Picnic was held September 9. Ms. Hansen beat Mr. Kempka in a swimming race for the second year in a row.

A test was held in Jackson on September 4. Presiding were Mr. Manresa, Mr. Drescher, and Mr. VH. At Corner were Mr. DuKatz, Mr. Schwerin, and Mrs. Oestreich. A total of 10 students tested and 2 retested.

The Intra School Tournament was held at Eastern Sun Martial Arts on September 22. A free seminar, "How to Win" was conducted by Mr. Floyd Jones before the tournament. A good-sized number of competitors from five schools enjoyed good competition.

On September 15 the North Carolina Academies did a demonstration for India Youth Day.

A test is scheduled for Oct. 6 at Eastern Sun Martial Arts, Sheboygan..

A U.S.T.F. Referee Certification Course was held in Charlotte on September 28. Mr. Steadman from Denver spoke to, and demonstrated for, a good number of aspirant Class C, Class B, and Class A referees.

On Sunday October 7 Eastern Sun Martial Arts will host a Sheboygan-Style Brat Fry. The event will be held at Champs Sports Bar, 1501 Indiana Avenue in Sheboygan. Brats, Burgers, cold beverages, door prizes and a bake sale, all at once! Kids are welcome but should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. All proceeds to benefit Eastern Sun's Insulation Fund. Please help support this important event.

The North Carolina U.S.T.F. Tournament was held in Charlotte on September 29. Participants competed and/or judged from five states. After the tournament Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Dans demonstrated forms and "miniseminars" were conducted by advanced Black Belt instructors for every participant belt level.

The TaeKwon-Do Combined Workout September 20 was attended by Black Belts and Gup level students from around Illinois, and, from Wisconsin, Mr. Mattias and Mr. VH. Topics were the development of Chi and Hapkido finishing techniques.

Land of the Morning Calm

By Mary Lubner, Second Dan, Senior Faculty Member, Academy of Martial Arts, Grafton

[This is the continuation and completion of an article which began in the September issue of the Flash.]

As the Silla Dynasty declined, regional leaders gained strength and the old three kingdoms reemerged on the peninsula. This time the northern state Koryo, which is derived from Koguryo, is reflected in the modern western name, Korea, accomplished unification. The Koryo period was marked by a stable central government. Buddhist faith inspired many achievements in scholarship and art. A poem, known to every Korean, was written by Chong Mong-Chu (**Po Eun**) near the end of the Koryo Dynasty. His poem, "I would Not Serve a Second Master Though I Might be Crucified a Hundred Times". One of the generals during this time was Commander-in-Chief of the Armed forces General **Choi-Yong**. He was greatly respected for his loyalty, patriotism and humility. In the early 12th century, stability began to give way. There was much internal strife. As the Koryo Dynasty came to an end, the Choson(**Yi**) Dynasty began.

General Yi Sung -Gae became the first king of the Yi Dynasty. He had executed General Choi-Yong, his commanding officer. The Yi dynasty withstood many challenges, achieving one of the longest dominations by a single dynasty in world history. General Kim Duk-Ryang (**Choong-Chang**) lived during the 14th century Yi Dynasty. The form

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dedicated to him is very symbolic of his death in prison at age 27. There were many scholars during this period, including Yi I (**Yul-Gok**) named the "Confucius of Korea". As a philosopher, he worked for the idea of a national consensus. Yi I believed all reform should be directed at developing more comfort for the subjects (common people). He was convinced that when poor people are deprived of their humanity, morality crumbles and penal systems become ineffective. Yi Hwang (**Toi-Gye**), an authority on neo-confucianism, believed in practical learning. He believed that reading should not be done for the sake of reading, but rather reading should be about learning and practicing what was learned. King **Se-Jong**, the fourth King of Choson, invented the Korean alphabet. Hangeul made it possible for the Korean people to read and write their language. It is noteworthy that there are 24 letters in the Korean alphabet, 24 hours in a day and 24 forms.

In 1592 in an effort to use Korea as a transit route to China, Japan again invaded Choson. A monk, Choi Hyong-Ung, whose pseudonym is **So-San** organized a corps of monk soldiers to help defend Korea against the Japanese invasion. Admiral Yi Soon-Sin (**Choong-Moo**), was busy defending the shores of Choson. Choong-Moo is given credit for inventing the first armored battleship. He has been compared to Sir Frances Drake and Lord Nelson of England. Admiral Yi was courageous and a tactical genius. He demonstrated his bravery by not showing pain when shot in the shoulder. His injury was revealed only after the

battle was over and ordered the bullet be cut out. It is fitting that Admiral Yi died in battle in 1598. The enemy was again Japan. While standing in the bow of his flagship Yi Sun-Sin was struck with a stray bullet. Before he died, he is quoted as saying, "Do not let the rest know I am dead, for it will spoil the fight."

Japan continued to invade Korea over the years and in 1876 the Japanese forced Korea to establish diplomatic relations with them, weakening Korea's ties to China. Japan eventually defeated China and Russia, which led to the formal Japanese annexation of Choson in 1910. From 1910-1918 Japan solidified its rule by gaining control of the land and enforcing rigid administration changes. When Japan sold Kando over to the Chinese, the selling of Korean territory to another country was the last straw for many loyal Koreans such as An Joong-Gun. Patriot **Ahn Joong-Gun** (1879-1910) assassinated Hiro-Bumi Ito, the first Japanese governor-General of Korea (1905). Mr. Ahn was executed in prison at the age of 32, after five months of extremely barbarous torture. Despite the treatment, it is said his spirit never broke. Although An Joong-Gun's roles spanned from educator to guerilla leader, he was, above all, a great Korean patriot.

In 1919 the demand for national self-determination after WWI was very strong. This feeling led to the March First Movement. One of the leaders of this movement was Son Byong-Hi (**Eui-Am**). The date of this movement is symbolized in the form **Sam Il**. Thirty-three patriots planned this movement and sam=third(month) and il=first(day)

marks the date. Ahn Chong-Ho (**Do-san**) is another patriot honored with a form. He spent his life devoted to the furthering the education of Korea and its independent movement. To understand the significance of this form, one must remember the oppressiveness of Japanese occupation (1904-1945). Japanese were banning education for Koreans. By denying Korean children an education, the Japanese were creating a class of slave workers. Sincerity is a very important trait to many Koreans. Dosan taught his students sincerity and lived a sincere life.

Patriot Cho Man-Sik (**Kodang**) also dedicated his life to the Independent Movement and education of his people. This form is no longer taught in ITF/USTF schools. **Juche** is the form that replaced Kodang. Juche represents a philosophical idea that man is the master of his world and destiny. This is one if the current forms studied for advancement to III Dan in the ITF/USTF system.

We must remember records of historical figures are scarce. Occupation by foreign forces for hundred of years resulted in cultural genocide of the Korean people including destruction of historical records and art. The pattern of each form is symbolic of the person or event that it represents. As the practitioner of TaeKwon Do becomes more familiar with Korean history, an appreciation for the Korean people and culture grows. As we examine the pattern histories, it becomes apparent that the importance of each parallels the importance of each rank.