

Central Kyokushin Karate | Dojo Oath

Dojo Kun 道場訓

The Kyokushin Dōjō Kun 道場訓 (Training Hall Oath) was written by Mas Oyama with the help of Eiji Yoshikawa, the author of the novel Musashi 武蔵, which was based on the life and exploits of Miyamoto Musashi, Japan's most famous Samurai warrior.

The Dojo Kun is usually recited at the end of each training session when the students and instructors are lined up by rank in Seiza 正座 (formal kneeling). Each line of the Dojo Kun is recited by the most senior student and repeated by the entire class together. Some dojos choose not to recite the Dojo Kun for various reasons.

- We will train our hearts and bodies, for a firm, unshaking spirit.
- We will pursue the true meaning of the Martial Way, so that in time our senses may be alert.
- With true vigor, we will seek to cultivate a spirit of self-denial.
- We will observe the rules of courtesy, respect our superiors, and refrain from violence.
- We will follow our spiritual paths, and never forget the true virtue of humility.
- We will look upwards to wisdom and strength, not seeking other desires.
- All our lives, through the discipline of Karate, we will seek to fulfill the true meaning of the Kyokushin Way.

Some dojos recite the fifth line as "We will follow our Gods and Buddha...", which is a more literal translation of Shinbutsu 神仏. However, the full meaning of the Japanese word is not expressed in this literal translation since it involves Buddhist and Shinto principles with which many Westerners are not familiar. Other dojos recite the line as "We will follow our religious principles..."

Japanese Version

一、吾々は心身を錬磨し 確固不拔の心技を極めること

Hitotsu, wareware wa, shinshin o renmashi, kakko fubatsu no shingi o kiwameru koto.

一、吾々は武の真髄を極め 機に発し感に敏なること

Hitotsu, wareware wa, bu no shinzui o kiwame, ki ni hasshi, kan ni bin naru koto.

一、吾々は質実剛健を以て 克己の精神を涵養すること

Hitotsu, wareware wa, shitsujitsu gōken o motte, kokki no seishin o kanyo suru koto.

一、吾々は礼節を重んじ 長上を敬し 粗暴の振る舞いを慎むこと

Hitotsu, wareware wa, reishetsu o omonji, chōjō o keishi sobō no furumai o tsutsushimu koto.

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一、吾々は神仏を尊び謙讓の美德を忘れざること

Hitotsu, wareware wa, shinbutsu o tōtobi, kenjō no bitoku o wasurezaru koto.

一、吾々は智性と体力とを向上させ事に臨んで過たざること

Hitotsu, wareware wa, chisei to tairyoku to o kōjō sase, koto ni nozonde ayamatazaru koto.

一、吾々は生涯の修行を空手の道に通じ極真の道を全うすること

Hitotsu, wareware wa, shōgai no shūgyō o karate no michi ni tsūji, Kyokushin no michi o mattō suru koto.