

Report Of Soke Nagamine's Seminar In Castlebar, Ireland 8th To The 12th Of August, 2011

Despite the delays caused by Typhoon Muifa, Soke Nagamine made his way to Ireland to give a week long seminar to his Irish Students. Though he arrived just before midnight on Sunday, 7th of August, after a 24 hour journey, Soke Nagamine wasted no time in getting down to work, with the seminars beginning on the Monday, and continuing throughout the week.

The majority of sessions were limited to brown & black belt students and Soke Nagamine took the opportunity to review the Junbi Undo, Kihon Undo, Kiso Tanren, Kata, Bunkai, and Yakusoku Kumite. Throughout the sessions he offered advice and guidance on the correct technical performance of the various aspects, the reason for the order in which the training is structured and the practical applications to the various techniques.

After the first session on the Wednesday, the mid way point of the seminars, Soke Nagamine invited Tovhowani Shadrack Masebe to attempt the examination for the Shodan rank. Tovhowani is a South African native, who has been living in Ireland for the last number of years, where he has been training with Martin O'Malley and Michael O'Neill in Castlebar. After thoroughly examining his physical skill and questioning Tovhowani on the history and development of Karate, Soke Nagamine awarded him the Shodan rank, and he presented him with his certificate during the next session.

The remaining sessions were dedicated to the Bunkai of the Kata where Soke Nagamine identified the difference between 'out look' and 'for use' Bunkai. Demonstrating how some of the most simplistic techniques can have devastating effects, and how the 'Classical' or 'out look' Bunkai offers guidance on the 'for use' or practical Bunkai, Soke Nagamine had the students enthralled.

The week finished with a Dojo party on the Friday evening where the brown & black belts gathered with the Dojo Owners present, Guido Engels (Sandan) from Viersen, Germany, Anthony Whelan (Sandan) from Roscommon, Ireland and from the host Dojo Martin O'Malley (Nidan) and Michael O'Neill (Shodan), to thank Soke Nagamine for making the long journey and for the fantastic seminar which he had taught.

During the course of the party, Martin O'Malley wished Soke Nagamine 'Happy Birthday' on behalf of those present. He also thanked all those who had supported the seminar and he reminded all present that as Matsubayashi-ryu students they had a responsibility to support Soke Nagamine, and to train hard on the lessons which they had been taught during the week so that they could represent Soke Nagamine and the EMKA/WMKA correctly.

Guido Engels thanked Soke Nagamine for the seminars, and he thanked the Irish group for welcoming him to the Dojo. Guido also spoke of the proposed seminar with Soke



Fukyugat-ichi no bunkai



Self defence



Wrist locks

Nagamine in Germany in 2012 and he invited all those present to make the journey over to Viersen. The dates of this seminar are to be announced shortly.

Soke Nagamine then spoke, and he thanked the group for their efforts throughout the week, and he extended an invitation to the group to travel to Okinawa for the World Seminar in November, 2013. He acknowledged that this is a financially difficult time, but encouraged all those who could to start saving and to try their best to make the journey.



The following morning, Soke Nagamine made his way to Dublin where he stayed overnight to catch a very early flight back to Okinawa on the morning of Sunday 14th. Before he left however, he indicated that he would like to return again in 2012 to see his Irish students, and the details will be set over the coming months.

This will make three European seminars in 2012, as Soke Nagamine will also travel to Bergen in Norway, and Viersen in Germany, meaning that along with the seminar in Ireland, European Matsubayashi-ryu Karate-ka will have many opportunities to meet with Soke Nagamine and train under his watchful eye. As the dates are confirmed, they will be posted on the EMKA website, www.matsubayashi-ryu.org, so keep checking back for regular up dates.