

Filipino Martial Arts



Lapu - Lapu

Filipino Instructors Federation

Digest

**Special Edition
2006**

Guro Bernd Höhle

Director of Lapu-Lapu Filipino Instructors Federation and
European-President of the Samahang Escrimador Ng Pilipinas



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The Martial Arts Association International
Lapu - Lapu Filipino Instructors Federation

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Honorable Philippine Members

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The FMA Digest is published quarterly. Each issue features practitioners of martial arts and other internal arts of the Philippines. Other features include historical, theoretical and technical articles; reflections, Filipino martial arts, healing arts and other related subjects.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this digest are those of the authors or instructors being interviewed and are not necessarily the views of the publisher or editor.

We solicit comments and/or suggestions. Articles are also welcome.

The authors and publisher of this digest are not responsible for any injury, which may result from following the instructions contained in the digest. Before embarking on any of the physical activities described in the digest, the reader should consult his or her physician for advice regarding their individual suitability for performing such activity.

From the Publishers Desk

Kumusta

The Lapu Lapu - Filipino Instructors Federation is a division of the Martial Arts Association – International, and is open to all Filipino Martial Arts Instructors.

Guro Bernd Hohle is the Director of the Lapu-Lapu Filipino Instructors Federation and European-President of the Samahang Escrimador Ng Pilipinas. Here at the FMA Digest, we have to applaud him in bringing instructors of the Filipino martial arts with their system and/or styles of the Filipino martial arts together in a brotherhood of sharing knowledge, skills and heritage of their art. And in opening the door to any and all Filipino martial art instructors if wanting to join in this brotherhood.

It is people like Guro Bernd Hohle who are trying to bring together instructors of these different systems and styles, not to incorporate them into one dominate force, but to bring together each system and style in a friendship and brotherhood that benefits all, with no one style dominating another.

So I hope you will enjoy learning a little about the Lapu Lapu – Filipino Instructors Federation.

Maraming Salamat Po





Lapu - Lapu - Filipino Instructors Federation

- Open for all Filipino Martial Arts Instructors –

www.maa-i.com/lapu

The goal of the Martial Arts Association - International is to maintain modern and traditional martial arts and promote world fraternity and spirit of the martial arts.

The Martial Arts Association International (MAA-I)

The MAA-I is the authority of International Federations teaching and testing authorization attained in over 120 countries is represented. By high-ranking Martial Arts experts from all over the world, in addition the MAA-I maintains contacts in different international and national recognized professional associations.

The MAA-I has a high-ranking executive committee, which consists partially of Asian Grandmasters. At present are several hundred Martial Arts schools, Martial Arts Federations, Clubs, Associations and Groups in over 120 countries.

A Division of the Martial Arts Association – International (MAA-I)

The Lapu Lapu - Filipino Instructors Federation / MAA-I commands a high-ranking International Honorary-Board, who are drawn from prominent grandmasters, martial arts legends and fighting sports champions, for example: Grandmaster Professor Ernesto Presas, 10. Dan, Grandmaster Professor Amante Marinas, Grandmaster Professor Rene Latosa, Grandmaster Jürg Ziegler, Grandmaster Bobby Taboada, Grandmaster Raffy Pambuan, Grandmaster Carlos Pulanco, Grandmaster Visayo Bailinado, Grandmaster Prof. Dr. M. Tianero, Datu Rich Acosta, Guro Jeremy Tacinto, Punong Guro Edwin Maranon, Punong Guro Rollie Tiozon, Punong Guro Jeetro Gil Balicao, Punong Guro Jonie Miraples, Punong Guro Roel Pallones, Punong Guro Marlon Sahulga, Punong Guro Romeo Aguilar, Guro Dominador N Caballero, Guro Francisco Alejandre, Guro Reynaldo Cardano, Guro Andreas Cappizi, Guro Mario Caballero, Guro Johnatan Abaya, Guro Romualdo Folloscos, Guro Eduardo Balaba, Guro Ismael Almento, Guro Arnold Carreon, Guro Roger Esperanza, Guro Fernando Orogo, Guro Gener Guimba, Guro Oscar Yangco, Guro Winnie Ogang, Guro Lucino Upod, Guro Manuel Marcayda, Guro Ferdinand Salino, Guro Nelson Tapaya, Guro Romeo Beo, Guro Henry Parco, Guro Greg Alland, Guro Sascha Gothe, Guro Pastor Willie Anog, Guro Danny Almodiel, Guro Robert Vinoya, Guro Arnel Castro and many other well-known figures from the international Filipino martial arts scene.

Our Federation is the representative of followed Organizations

- International Filipino Martial Arts Association
- Samahang Eskrimador Ng Pilipinas (Philippines)
- Otso Teros Penjak Silat Arnis de Kombate
- International Kun Tao Penjak Silat (Philippines)
- Jeet-Kune-Do Escrima-Kali Association

- International Philippine Martial Arts Federation
- World Escrido Federation (Philippines)
- Arnis Aguila ng Pilipinas (Philippines)
- Balaraw Combat Association (Philippines)
- Red Cobra Abecedario Arnis / Espada y Daga - Escrima (Philippines)
- Black Scorpion Arnis Sinawali System (Philippines)
- Sikaran Jitsu
- Arnis De Abaniko System
- JAK Mongoose Arnis Combat
- Doce Pares Arnis Combat
- Kuntaw Sikanfil / Sagravate - Silab Kantao Filipino
- Judo Arnis Karate Combat Martial Arts Assoc
- Red Cobra Doce Pares Combat Arnis



Guro Bernd Hohle

Guro Bernd Hohle is the Director of the Lapu-Lapu Filipino Instructors Federation and European-President of the Samahang Escrimador Ng Pilipinas (Cebu, Philippines). He is recognized as a World Champion in Breaking and holds a Breaking World Record.

Also distinguished by President George W. Bush with the Presidential Gold's Award and has received a Sports Award from the Saudi Arabia Prince Bader Bin Saud Bin Mohammad Mogren Al-Saud. "Millennium Instructor of the Year" from the World Head of Family Sokeship Council Int. Hall of Fame, Member of the Executive Advisory -

Committee of the Eastern USA Martial Arts Association. International Representative for the Germany International Martial Arts Research Institute Malaysia/ Sarawak. World Medical Support Services Team Member, Instructor des "Black master Commando" Special Marine Forces, Armed Forces Royal Saudi Marines, Nominated as the " Best Combat Trainer of the Year" of the Poland Military Sports Organization, he has received a Special Award from the Director of Sport of the Guyana Ministry of Culture Mr. Kumar Member of Parliament). He is a Cambodian Martial Arts Games Committee Member (Phnom Penh/ Cambodia).

Guro Hohle is a Student of Grandmaster Ernesto Presas, Grandmaster Carlos Pulanco and Guro Thorsten Isringhausen. Grandmaster Professor Keido Yamaue 10. Dan (culture Attaché and Nef of the Japanese emperor, President of the Imperial Temple of Japan in Kyoto/ Japan) Höhle's appreciated achievements in Budo with a special sport and culture honour.



Guro Hohle and Grandmaster Ernesto Presas



Guro Hohle and Grandmaster Carlos Pulanco



Guro Hohle and Dan Inosanto

Guro Hohle is a Jun Fan Jeet Kune Do Instructor under the authority of Bruce Lee's Master student Sifu Ted Wong. And he is a Private student of Wing Chun Grandmaster Kan Wei Kit, the Top 5 Student of the Late Great Grandmaster Yip Man.

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Seminar in Germany 2005

Kali Concepts

Kali, Arnis and Eskrima are generic terms for Philippine martial arts, based on weapon and hand fighting techniques. Kali combines some of these methods of training or better stated, concepts - to a style of weapon and hand fighting.

World wide Philippine martial arts are known as the most effective and practically oriented martial arts, which because of the Philippine history, where martial arts were necessary for survival. Unique techniques combined with an unusual method of training make these systems a highly effective method of self-defense.

The student starts the training with certain target systems and thus learns to handle the stick. When they are aware of handling the stick they start training with the double stick. This form of training teaches double stick techniques as for example "Sinawali". They allow the students to perform precise attacks together with their training partner in drill form. When they are aware of this the students carry on with blades. Such as knife, double knife and machete.

In the next level the students learn to combine knife, stick, short staff, long staff and nerve stick as well as how to make use of everyday items. Since Kali Concepts teaches how to handle real scenarios of self-defense, Cadena de Mano (empty hand system) is also a part of the training. This is where the students learn to handle any distance and level to the enemy; namely kick, punch, elbow, knee, ring fights and also fighting on the ground.

During the training of Kali Concepts all levels are checked by fighting with protective gear, which creates a situation of most effective learning. Kali Concepts is traditional Philippine martial arts with a modern character.

There are 10 levels of Kali Concepts:

1. Single Olisi/ single stick.
2. Double Olisi/ double stick.
3. Balaraw and Bolo/ knife and machete.
4. Double Balaraw and Bolo/ double knife and machete.
5. Espada y Daga/ stick/ sword and knife.
6. Dulo Dulo/ nerve stick.
7. Bankaw/ staff.
8. Flexible weapons (rope, belt, chain, etc).
9. Everyday items for self-defense (ball pen, keys, news papers, etc).
10. Cadena de Mano/ empty hand system.
 - a. Panatukan, Suntokan, boxing
 - b. Sikaran/ kicking
 - c. Dumog, Buno/ wrestling



Guro Thorsten Isringhausen

Responsible for the training of Kali Concepts within Europe, is Guro Thorsten Isringhausen. He is the accredited teacher of Samahang Eskrimador Pilipinas of the World Eskrido Federation of the Balaraw Combat Association, as well as Director of Lapu Lapu Filipino Instructor Federation.



Guro Thorsten Isringhausen with Grandmaster Carlos Pulanco and Guro Bernd Höhle

Otso Teros Penjak Silat Arnis de Kombate

World Headquarters: Mandaue City/ Philippines

Punong Guro Marlon Sahulga



The Otso Teros Arnis system is developed from a system of 8 basic impacts. These basic impacts are different angles, which are taught, trained and used, which for the opponent are not calculable.

On the basis of these angles the block/defense work takes place, whereby one should speak here better of attack work, because the Otso Teros system is from the group of classical Arnis, potash and Escrima system to count, which is called an opposing attack in which a counter attack is answered, or also frequently with a premature attack the opposing attack already in the beginning stages is destroyed.

Preferential attack goals are the hand, arm, and not to forget the knees as well as all joints which allows freedom of movement of the opponent. All techniques according to the river principle implemented and are linked to those goals with large speed.

A further important characteristic of the Otso Teros system is the stick is seen, as a weapon at will against other weapons up to the empty hand. The principles of this

system are understood to take place, training with the double stick and the measure up to the empty hand thereby the pupil of this system at any time in the situation are effectively to be defended. Punong Guro Marlon Sahulga from the Philippines is the Founder of this explosive system. The European representative is Guro Bernd Hoehle.

Black Scorpion Arnis Sinawali System



Sinawali comes from the word sawalis. Sawalis refers to the weaving of palm leaf walls and floors common in the Philippines and South East Asia. The movements of the arms while practicing the martial Sinawali are said to imitate this weaving.

Sinawali is the flowing movements of two sticks, which are implemented with speed, strength and precision. The opponent is met thereby in the shortest time by a hail of impacts. The movements can be implemented either alone or with a partner, unarmed, or with bastons, blades or with flexible articles. Sinawalis can be combined with innumerable possibilities of patterns. Some variations are quite simply while others are more complex and need more time, in order to control them. But all are enriching in the training of everyday life.

The Sinawali promotes and at the same time controlling of the baston, the timing, the precision of the impact, the coordination, the perseverance and if one trains it accordingly, peripheral coordination of the mind, and the body in the physical poetry of movement.

A further advantage is that the Sinawali coordinates the right hand and arm and equally the left hand and arm. Which whether the person is right handed or left-handed makes no difference in the technology in which they are trained.

The characteristic of Black Scorpion Arnis Sinawali System are the many variation of Sinawalis with their dangerous fast Abanico techniques, which is like a deadly scorpion sting, that's why the style is called "Black Scorpion"

The Punong Guro at Pangulo Marlon Sahulga (Cebu/ Philippine) has created this aggressive, forceful, yet flowing style.

This System is recognised by the Samahang Escrimador ng Pilipinas and the Lapu-Lapu Filipino Instructor Federation. Instructor Dennis Diekmann is one of the western experts of this system.



Instructor Dennis Diekmann
one of the western experts of this system.

Sikaran-Jitsu Arnis de Abanico



Sikaran is a form of Philippine Martial Arts whose history dates back to the early 1500's before the Spaniards came, It is the art of foot-fighting where the farmers use their strong legs to drive the partners outside the designated line (pitak) of close in combat.

Sikaran and Sipa are both Tagalog terms for "kick" but with a notable difference: the former is a noun, while the latter is a verb. Deriving from sikad, Sikaran like the biakid, pilatik and damba, came to be known as an indigenous martial sport in the tradition of arnis, kali, dicho, buno etc.

Sikaran is just a pastime of the Baras Rizal farmers who gathered during the festival after a good harvest season. Doing it constantly made them develop skills that would eventually be marked by effectiveness such that no other martial arts could compare with, or so claim its most ardent exponent. Of the practitioners, some went on to discover certain skills in combat that made them deserve the honour of being called "Hari"(champion). Which few if any are still around. As most of them have succumbed, their secrets interred with their remains and never imparted their secrets of this art. Having chosen to keep it to them selves and not to teach it to anyone else. Indeed, secrecy is essence of the martial arts and this is true in any system.

The early Sikaranista (farmers) session commences with the drawing of a circle on the ground. The acknowledged talent of the lot, by reason of his superior skill is often obliged to concede a handicap, thus he positions himself inside the circle and trades kicking talents with one who stays at the circle's rim. The objective is for the combatant outside to dislodge the contestant within. The rules are really that simple. In the case of vein, he would agree to a number of opponents who form a circle. Should the man within be driven out of the circle, it signifies defeat and, correspondingly, humiliation. If the game's continuation be opted, another pretender takes the place of the dislodge practitioner and the same procedure is repeated.

Once in a while, and this seems unavoidable, a session witnesses a mischief-prone contestant who makes it a point to step on a carabao waste (buffalo dung) prior to a competition, if only to dirty and to defeat the opponent.

The Baras-originated method of foot fighting in its original form had no time limit. Combatants called for a time out if they became so exhausted as not to be able to go on. No discrimination regarding sex. Both male and female may indulge in it, should they so wish.

They have a vernacular name for a Hari. He was awarded Agila (for his impressive agility), acknowledged as the foremost padamba (jumping front kick) exponent. This person that was recognized could leap as high as six feet, which is definitely a testimony to having the ability and having some superb power.

So also classified as Hari, was a fellow reputed to being able to crack husked coconuts with his steel-like shins. On the other hand a Hari also boasts of the singular reputation of knocking out (T.K.O) a carabao with a single hammer biakid.

Sikaran utilizes only the feet as a rule for sport and for combat, self-defense and this is what makes it distinct, the hands are never availed of in the sikaran. If they utilized

the hands at all, it's only for defense. The player uses his legs 90% of the time and his hands 10% only for the blocking or parrying blows. Violation of this injunction, especially in tournaments, is grounds for disqualification.

The rationale behind this has something to do with the role of the feet whose significance has yet to be fully appreciated. It is the largest part of the body, aside from the fact that it nurtures the largest bone as well as the most massive muscle.

Sikaran has its own share of kicking styles. The "Biakid" the classic kick is executed by pivoting to the back in a full or complete turn about manner. The degree of effectiveness subscribes to two classifications: "panghilo" (paralysing blow) and "pamatay" or lethal kick. Obviously the first aimed at less vital parts of the physique, while the target of the second includes the heart, neck, head, groin, and spine, all highly vulnerable parts.

In the year 1988 Maestro Jethrogil Balicao (Mandaue City/ Philippines) created his own style of Sikaran in combination with Arnis and Ju Jitsu, his style is called Sikaran-Jitsu Arnis de Abanico.

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Lapunti de Kombate Arnis

Lapunti de Kombate Arnis evolutionary history begins with Arsenio "Seniong" Caburnay (1882 - 1962). Seniong was a blacksmith who travelled throughout the Visayas to Negros, Bohol, Leyte and Samar. He also visited the cities of Cagayan De Oro, Illigan and Ozamis in Mindanao, plying his craft.

In particular his main love in blacksmithing was to produce quality bolos for the many people he met and Seniong was a welcome guest in the homes of these people during his travels. Seniong's clients used these bolos for both farming and sometimes for self-defense. Seniong himself having an interest in martial arts and self-defense in general, learned many of the fighting methods from the different people during his travels.

In 1927 at the age of 12 his brother Felimon "Mooney" Caburnay (1915 - 1991) began to learn the arts of blacksmithing and travelled the Visayas and Mindanao with his brother. Felimon now learned many different fighting styles of Arnis/Escrima from both Seniong and from the people they met. Guro Jonie Miraples a student of Guro Caburnay has founded the Lapunti de Kombate Arnis.

Lapunti de Kombate Arnis is characterized first of all by the fast "fan" like movements or the "abanico" moves of its primary teaching tool, the baston. Other aspects similar to other styles of Arnis are also given equal importance. The dagger, baston and dagger, double baston and unarmed combat fighting are taught as well.

The footwork is a combination of classical Arnis forward-backward movements, a triangle system of offence and defence and the cross-legged and twisting style. The main emphasis in Lapunti de Kombate Arnis is on long range but with the combination of the tight footwork the fighter has excellent mobility and with the speed of the strikes the encounter can be at close range as well. The style is based on body dynamics, not strength, in combination with the footwork. The fundamentals are 12 basic Lapunti strikes. The 12 counter strikes, attack and retreat, basic defence and disarming and multiple strikes.

Balaraw Combat Association

A Hand-to-Hand Combat Weapons-Special Tactics

Senior Head Instructor Dr. M.I. Tianero

Special Weapons Instructors Team

Saudi Arabia Special Marine Forces Corps Instructor



Dagger

The single dagger has many uses, typically thrusting, slashing and hooking. It can be used offensively or defensively in a variety of ways against different weapons. It can be used as a supplementary weapon to the stick or sword to rake or disarm the opponents' weapon, or as a close quarter thrusting weapon. The dagger can be held in an earth grip (point down) or heaven grip (point up) in either the front or rear hands. The term Balaraw or simply Baraw is often used in the Visayas to refer to a dagger.

Balisong

The Balisong is also a peculiar weapon. It is more commonly known to the uninitiated as the "butterfly knife". The word literally mean, "broken horn", and is derived from the words bali (to break) and sung (horn). Many traditional balisong knives were carved out of animal horns. Its birthplace is the barrio Balisong in Batangas province, Philippines. It is not clear whether the barrio took its name from the knife or if the knife took its name from the barrio.

Kris

The Kris deserves a special mention since its shape makes it distinct from other single edged and double-edged daggers. Its blade is double edged, and is wavy, allowing for easy blood flow from an inflicted wound. The dagger was traditionally sacrificial, and although it was used in the Southern Philippines, its origins are believed to be Malay. In the Philippines, there are many different kinds of Kris, each region producing a Kris with a different number of waves in the blade.

Double dagger

Double dagger can be employed in a variety of ways offensively, either by thrusting with the front dagger and raking with the rear dagger or by adapting amara

(stick twirling) to suit the daggers. It has some parallels with stick and dagger and the multiple combinations of grips and a stance provides the user with a plethora of options in a combat situation. Empty hand defence against an assailant armed with double daggers is indeed difficult, if not impossible.

The Spanish brought many things to the Philippines, but didn't leave many things behind. Of the few long lasting cultural and martial influences the Spanish conquistadors left with the Filipinos, one of them was the sword and dagger fighting style, so popular in Spanish Esgrima (fencing). This combination utilizes the complimentary attributes of a short thrusting weapon with a longer cutting weapon. The combination is traditionally known as Espada y Daga. The Filipinos refined the Spanish fencing methods to suit their own fighting methods and developed their own long and medium range sword and dagger fighting.

Today, stick and dagger, also known as Olisi y Baraw, is used as a training tool, and includes tie-ups, locks and takedowns with both weapons, techniques that were made impossible with the use of a blade. Transitions through short, medium and long ranges are trained with this weapon combination.

The Sword, not such a common weapon anymore, is still taught to students of many different Arnis and Eskrima styles. Styles such as Balaraw-combat are completely blade based, and their students train extensively in bladed weapons. Drills, which include swords, are usually medium to long range, and can focus on sliding to an opponent hand, or controlling an opponent's bladed weapon. As a cut and thrust weapon it provides students particular insight into the subtleties behind several stick drills.

The world of Filipino bladed weapons is a diverse and interesting one, with so many different names for the same weapons that it is difficult to categorise them all.

Kampilan

The Kampilan is probably one of the most famous Filipino weapons, since one of these weapons struck the intrepid explorer Ferdinand Magellan shortly before his death. It is easily identified by its forked handle, which represents the gaping jaw of a crocodile. It is a single edged weapon, with a blade approximately 30 inches long, with a small flared spikelet near the tip. It was made famous by the Iranun and Maguindanao pirates and warriors of Mindanao and it is the longest weapon the Moros used. The Kampilan can be held with one or two hands.

Golok

The Golok is actually a machete, with a large wide blade, almost like a butcher knife, with a single cutting edge. The word Golok is actually the Indonesian word for Machete, and is said the weapon is believed to have originated on the island of Java. However, it is also referred to in the Philippines by this name.

Pinuti

The Pinuti is a Visayan weapon, favoured by warriors of the Visayas as a weapon of war. It has a simple design, and only a single cutting edge. The Bolo is another Visayan weapon, but it is larger, machete like, although it is still single edged. In Luzon, the designs of the Bolo and Kris have led to hybridised weapons, which have both the

properties of the Kris and the Bolo. Another term, not used, as often anymore, is Tabak, which is a Tagalog term for cutlass or curved sword. It is ideal for close range fighting.

Sundang

The Sundang is yet another Moro weapon, based on the Kris, and is also doubled edged. It is longer than the Barong, with a blade length of about 20 inches. The term Sundang is Visayan for any large single or double-edged weapon.

Barong

The Barong is another Moro weapon, although the term Barong is a Tagalog term for a leaf shaped blade. The Tausugs from Tutle Island and Taganak favoured it in close combat. The blade is approximately 15 inches long and nearly 3 inches wide in the middle. It is a double-edged weapon.



Abecedario Arnis Red Cobra

From the Spanish for "a-b-c's," a term is used in the Filipino Martial Arts, Abecedario Arnis drills are the basics, which create and foster the skills and coordination essential for fighting with and without weapons.

The Founder Grandmaster Filomino U. Boot from Negros/ Philippines started out with Sinawalis both ordinary and advanced, afterwards we went on to double sticks, different striking patterns and many counters both modern and classical arnis.

Then we went into single stick, angles of attack, disarms, locking, flow drills, palit - palit and getting into fighting mode. Then he taught Bankaw, dulo dulo, daga - all the angles of attack, counters, blockings, locks, disarms, empty hands vs. etc. Then we covered Mano de mano.

The characteristic of Red Cobra Abecedario Arnis is the a lot of classical based "Abecedario" Arnis techniques, espada y daga, hirada, abanico, banda y banda, rompida, figure 8 and more.

Principles of the Abecedario Arnis

- Only the skills that are proven effective and can be easily taught are used.
- Always keep the flow going.
- Keep the overall strategy simple.
- Use centerline off the angles to attack.
- Each Abecedario Arnis practitioner keeps a small core of basic techniques suited to him.
- Many theories for weapon and empty hand are interchangeable.
- Use angles to minimize the opponents' attack.

Arnīs Aguila ng Pilipinas



Punong Guro at Pangulo Roel C. Pallones from La Union Province/ Philippines

The symbol of Arnīs Aguila is the Eagle this standing for the characteristic of this System: elegant, flow in the middle and short distance and jumping “flying” long range distance, techniques.

Obtaining the ability to flow in combat is the ultimate goal of an Arnīs Aguila practitioner. A student of the Arnīs Aguila attempts to smoothly move between the ranges of combat without any disturbance in the transition. This requires skills in all four of the ranges (with and without weapons), the ability to put motion and technique together continuously, and the sensitivity to fit your technique to your opponent's. These attributes creates a smoothness in combat, which is called the flow.

Methods of training develop a wide range of skills and cultivate different qualities and abilities:

- Ananangkil (50" Stick) (Power / Courage)
- Latigo (Whip) (Timing / Whole body Power)
- Throwing Knife (Accuracy / Control)
- Dos Armas (2 sticks) (Speed / Fluidity)
- Cadena (Chain) (Speed / Timing / Wrist Power)
- Unarmed Techniques (Self Defense/Throws/Locks)
- Bangkaw (Spear) (Body Connection)

International Kuntao Arnīs Penjak Silat



What is Kun Tao Silat? First lets start in China. Kun Tao is the southern (Fukien/Hokkien) word for martial arts. It means 'fist way'. In the northern part of China, the same word is pronounced Chuan Fa. Now the modern Chinese term for these arts is Wushu. When the Chinese traders started to trade with other countries (i.e., Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia) they of course bought their arts with them. This occurred around the 9th century. However there was a bigger movement around the 12th century during the Manchurian invasion.

The people who mainly left China at this point were the Hakka people. These people were known for there travelling exploits. Their name Hakka means guest family

or royal family, hence perhaps the reasoning for the exodus from China during the Manchurian invasion. In Indonesia the art was referred to as Kun Tao. Now in Indonesia due to political reasons the government frowned upon the use of Chinese, and outlawed the speaking of Chinese, the use of Chinese names, and most of all the practice of Kun Tao. The Chinese have always been a group that keeps to themselves and the art at this point kind of went underground and was only practiced in the Chinese communities. What some Chinese practitioners did was to just start calling their art Silat and giving it an Indonesian name.

Now because of this there is no Kun Tao Silat art in Indonesia. There is either (Chinese) Kun Tao or (Indonesian) Pencak Silat. This also is the same in Malaysia (they have Bersilat). Now because the Philippines is in between these two countries it has had an influence from both AREAS. There was no restriction put on the Chinese in the Philippines and therefore Kun Tao was openly displayed. Which then became intermingled with Silat where eventually it evolved into Kun Tao Silat. This is the art of the Tausug people. They live in the Sulu islands of the Philippines. This is separate from Mindanao. In the Sulu area the total art of Kun Tao Silat, which would be the same as saying Pencak Silat or Bersilat, is still sub-divided into two arts. Kun Tao being the empty hand phase and Silat being the blade phase. In the Philippines there is an art called Kun Tao Silat, but this is not the case in Indonesia.

Grandmaster Dr. Mohammad Tianero is the Headmaster of this Style. The Honorary Member of Grandmaster Dr. Mohammad Tianero is:

- His Royal Highness Sultan Muedzul-Lail-Kiram, The Current Sultanate Of Sulu
- His Royal Highness Sultan Mohammad Mahakuttah Kiram, The Sultanate Of Sulu

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Executive Director Bureau of Immigration Department of Justice

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Congressman - 1st District, Manila, Philippines
House of Representatives

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Wife of the late Sultania of Sulu

His Royal Highness Sultan Mohammad Mahakuttah Kiram

Honorable Dayang Dayang Nur Mahal Tanglao Kiram

Honorable Dayang Dayang Ayessha Tanglao Kiram
Honorable Dayang Dayang Tanya Rowena Tanglao Kiram

His Royal Highness Sultan Muedzul-Lail-Kiram
The current Sultanate of Sulu

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Former first lady of the Philippines

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Former Section Chief - National Intelligence and Security Authority (NISA)

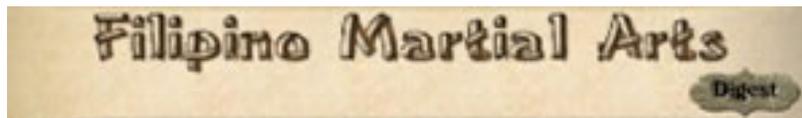
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