

The Meanings of Black Belt Patterns

First Degree

Kwang-Gae: is named after the famous Kwang-Gae-Toh-Wang, the 19th king of the Koguryo Dynasty, who regained all the lost territories including the greater part of Manchuria. The diagram (\pm) represents the expansion and recovery of lost territory. The 39 movements refer to the first two figures of 391 A.D., the year he came to the throne. - 39 movements

Po-Eun: is the pseudonym of a loyal subject Chong Mong-Chu (1400) who was a famous poet and whose poem 'I would not serve a second master though I might be crucified a hundred times' is known to every Korean. He was also a pioneer in the field of physics. The diagram (-) represents his unerring loyalty to the king and country towards the end of the Koryo Dynasty - 36 movements

Ge-Baek: is named for Ge-Baek, a great general of the Baek Je Dynasty (660 A.D.). The diagram (\updownarrow) represents his severe and strict military discipline. - 44 movements

Second Degree

Eui-Am: is the pseudonym of Son Byong Hi, leader of the Korean independence movement on March 1, 1919. The 45 movements refer to his age when he changed the name of Dong Hak (Oriental Culture) to Chondo Kyo (Heavenly Way Religion) in 1905. The diagram (\updownarrow) represents his indomitable spirit, displayed while dedicating himself to the prosperity of his nation. - 45 movements

Choong-Jang: is the pseudonym of the great General Kim Duk Ryang who lived during the Yi Dynasty, 14th Century. This pattern ends with a left hand attack to symbolize the tragedy of his death at 27 in prison before he was able to reach full maturity. - 52 movements

Ko-Dang: is the pseudonym of the patriot Cho Man Sik who dedicated his life to the independence movement and education of his people. The 39 movements signify his times of imprisonment and his birthplace on the 39th parallel. - 39 movements

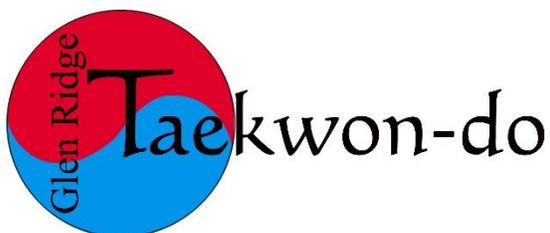
Third Degree

Sam-Il: denotes the historic date of the independence movement of Korea which began throughout the country on March 1, 1919. The 33 movements in the pattern stand for the 33 patriots who planned the movement. - 33 movements

Yoo-Sin: is named after General Kim Yoo Sin, a commanding general during the Silla Dynasty. The 68 movements refer to the last two figures of 668 A.D., the year Korea was united. The ready posture signifies a sword drawn on the right rather than the left side, symbolizing Yoo Sin's mistake of following his king's orders to fight with foreign forces against his own nation. - 68 movements

Choi-Yong: is named after General Choi Yong, Premier and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces during the 14th Century Koryo Dynasty. Choi Yong was greatly respected for his loyalty, patriotism and humility. He was executed by his subordinate commanders headed by General Yi Sung Gae, who later became the first king of the Yi Dynasty. -46 movements

Fourth Degree



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Fourth Degree

Yon-Gae: is named after a famous general during the Koguryo Dynasty, Yon Gae Somoon. The 49 movements refer to the last two figures of 649 A.D., the year he forced the Tang Dynasty to quit Korea after destroying nearly 300,000 of their troops at Ansi Sung. - 49 movements

Ul-Ji: is named after General Ul-Ji Moon Duk who successfully defended Korea against a Tang's invasion force of nearly one million soldiers led by Yang Je in 612 A.D. By employing hit and run guerilla tactics, Ul-Ji was able to decimate a large percentage of the force. The diagram represents his surname. The 42 movements represent the author's age when he designed the pattern. - 42 movements

Moon-Moo: honors the 30th king of the Silla Dynasty. His body was buried near Dae Wang Am (Great King's Rock). According to his will, the body was placed in the sea where my soul shall forever defend my land against the Japanese. It is said that the Sok Gul Am (Stone Cave) was built to guard his tomb. The Sok Gul Am is a fine example of the culture of the Silla Dynasty. The 61 movements in this pattern symbolize the last two figures of 661 A.D. when Moon Moo came to the throne. - 61 movements

Fifth Degree

So-San: is the pseudonym of the great monk Choi Hyong Ung (1520-1604) during the Yi Dynasty. The 72 movements refer to his age when he organized a corps of monk soldiers with the assistance of his pupil Sa Myung Dang. The monk soldiers helped repulse the Japanese pirates who overran most of the Korean peninsula in 1592. - 72 movements

Se-Jong: is named after the greatest Korean King, Se-Jong, who invented the Korean alphabet in 1443, and was also a noted meteorologist. The diagram represents the king, while the 24 movements refer to the 24 letters of the Korean alphabet. - 24 movements

Sixth Degree

Tong-II: denotes the resolution of the unification of Korea which has been divided since 1945. The diagram symbolizes the homogenous race. - 56 movements