

Brief History of the Okuden Titles

Shinin No Maki

Shinen No Maki

and

Shinnin Maki

Shinnan Maki

by

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SHININ - The following sources have the spelling as: SHININ

Shinin Notebook - Bud Estes, Judan, student of Okazaki

Shinin lists at Chico Judo Academy - Bud Estes' school

Notebook - Lamar Fisher, Judan - student of Bud Estes

AJJF Kata Manual, First Edition, 1964 - Bud Estes, Editor

Shinin Notebooks 1939 - Ray Law, Judan, student of Okazaki

Shinin list at Ray Law's All American Judo School

Shinin Notes of Bruce Auld, Sandan, student of Ray Law

Black Belt Magazine Article - Bill Morris, Godan, student of Ray Law

Notebook of William Montero, Judan, student of Okazaki

Notebook of Marion Anderson, Sandan, student of Okazaki

Shinin video by Willy Cahill, Judan, student of John Cahill, Judan, student of Okazaki

Kilohana Shinin Notes, Signed and Sealed by Sig Kufferath, Judan, student of Okazaki

KILOHANA NOTEBOOK BY DALE KAHOUN

Kilohana Shinin Notes - Signed & Sealed by Sig Kufferath, Judan, student of Okazaki

The Kilohana Martial Arts Association was founded by Dai Shihan Sig Kufferath. It is interesting that Dai Shihan Sig Kufferath signed his name and affixed his personal red name seal of approval on the spelling as SHININ on page 300 of the Kilohana Notebook authored by sensei Dale Kahoun. Dale studied with Sig Kufferath for several years before Kufferath's death and took many notes. Dale compiled a vast notebook of 400 pages documenting each technique which Kufferath taught along with Kufferath's variations of techniques. Meeting with Kufferath, Dale requested that Kufferath indicate which "preferred technique" and "acceptable technique" Kufferath authorized for rank examinations. Kufferath signed and stamped his approval in the Kilohana notebook in 1997, two years before dying on May 7th, 1999. The actual copyright on Dale Kahoun's Kilohana notebook is 1999, Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number 00-191718 which indicates that Kufferath didn't change anything in the notebook until he died. Here is an excerpt by Dale Kahoun on page 3 of his notebook concerning his meeting with Kufferath:

"Dai Shihan Sig Kufferath spent many hours with me going over the techniques in this workbook, I spent a few nights as a guest in his house to complete the work. Dai Shihan Kufferath stamped and signed all of the individual techniques from Yawara through (up to) Shinin (including Kiai no Maki and Kappo) as being the way he would like them performed for rank examination. I promise that he was very particular and exacting about his choices. We also video taped Kilohana traditional workouts with ranking Kilohana black belts and had lengthy discussions concerning acceptable variations for rank examinations. Dai Shihan Kufferath stamped and signed the introductions to Shinin, Shinyo, and Shinjin."

SHINEN - The following sources have the spelling as: SHINEN

Kodenkan Dojo list

Bud Estes 1936 Notebook

John Cahill Shinen Notes

Tony Muran Shinen Notes

Comments on Master Okazaki's Kodenkan Dojo techniques lists:

Don Carver was cited by Marion Anderson in the preface of his notebook as the person who constructed the technique lists at Master Okazaki's school. In Marion Anderson's notebook it is spelled SHININ. The vast majority of spellings of Japanese names on the Kodenkan school lists are perfectly correct with only a couple of minor errors. These errors are the result of the phonetic soundings being different in Japanese and English.

The Kodenkan list has the spelling as SHINEN. It appears that Shinin was misspelled on the list due to the common Japanese language spelling error of the letter "E" being incorrectly used instead of the letter "I". Phonetically, "IN" in the English may sound like "EN". The Japanese letter "I" is sounded as the American-English "E". Shinen appears to be a spelling error where the "I" NIN was incorrectly changed to "E" NEN.

A similar type error occurs in the Kodenkan Nage No Kata list where Kan(i) is misspelled as Kan(e). Kani Sute is correctly read as "crab throw". Kani is verified as "crab" by the kanji 蟹 in the Nage Te list in the mokuroku. Because of this initial error many lists now have the incorrect kan(e) spelling.

Comments on Bud Estes 1936 Notebook: He either copied the Kodenkan List misspelling in his original 1936 notebook or misspelled it as SHINEN. He corrected the spelling to SHININ in his later notebook and first kata manual printed in 1964. He was explicit when I asked him personally the Japanese meaning of the term SHININ. He said it means dead man or dead person. That is the exact literal translation in all Japanese dictionaries.

Comments on John Cahill Notebook: His original notebook spells it SHINEN. He also most likely copied it from the Kodenkan list or he could have misspelled it with an "E" instead of an "I". His son, Dai Shihan Willy Cahill, spells it SHININ in his video tape series and endorses the Kilohana book with the SHININ spelling being approved by Dai Shihan Sig Kufferath.

Comments on Tony Muran Notebook: He spells it SHINEN using the term "death grips". In his Shinyo notebook, under mune dori, he refers to mune dori "like SHININ #1) He probably did what Estes and Cahill did as well - copied the name from the Kodenkan list.

SHINNIN - The following sources have the spelling as: SHINNIN - Spirit Person

Sig Kufferath

Tony Janovich

George Arrington

George Arrington - Presented the SHINNIN spelling with kanji meaning “kami person” on his webpage in 1995. SHINNIN = SHIN 神 + NIN 人 = kami + man or person = kami-man or kami-person.

神人卷 三十五本

This is the actual SHINNIN kanji on his 1995 Danzan Ryu website. Reads - SHINNIN MAKI SANJUGOHON - kami spirit man scroll – 35 basics.

In his on-line Japanese Dictionary, “Danzan Ryu Jujutsu Japanese Vocabulary”, Arrington states in the introduction that: “The Kanji were generated by Stephen Chung’s Japanese Word Processor and converted to (~1 KB) GIF files.”

Comment: The kanji Arrington presented above are computer generated, not scanned from an original document. It would seem that if either Tony Janovich or George Arrington had the “original document” from Okazaki as claimed, it would be a lot easier to scan it rather than by taking time to insert each kanji in from a Japanese word processor, a long tedious job indeed. The “original” document, signed and sealed from Master Okazaki would be confirming proof of a SHINNIN - kami-person spelling.

Arrington also states: “The English translation is an accurate representation of the Kanji’s (or Kanji combination’s) meaning. These definitions have been painstakingly verified by both dictionaries and recognized Danzan-Ryu experts who are fluent in Japanese, most notably Professor Tony Janovich.”

Comment: Does this say that Arrington’s kanji is Janovich’s kanji? “These definitions (Arrington’s Dictionary) have been painstakingly verified by both dictionaries and recognized Danzan-Ryu experts who are fluent in Japanese, most notably Professor Tony Janovich.”

Question: Why does the kanji need to be “painstakingly verified”? It appears here that they didn’t have the original kanji from Okazaki. You don’t need to verify kanji if you have the original document. It appears they created kanji for the names of the titles and techniques from dictionary research and had to verify it as best they could without an original document to work from.

Question: Tony Janovich has stated that he has the “original” kanji, signed and sealed by Master Okazaki, which he obtained from Sig Kufferath. If he does have the “original kanji” why doesn’t he prove it by showing the original Okazaki kanji? Here is a reply from Tony Janovich asking him that question.

In an e-mail inquiry on March 8, 2005 to Professor Janovich concerning the verification of the spelling he uses for SHIN-NIN, SHIN-YO, and SHIN-GEN; he replied with the following comments:

“That’s Ok, close enough. Just remember that I have Sig’s notes with the boards written in original Japanese kanji by Okazaki. Sig did not look it up in a dictionary. I have shown some of these original notes to those guys TB, TJ, BH. The best explanation is in my article “Success Is In the Beginning”, found on my web site, if you have not read it. Nowadays I really don’t care much about that stuff, I have all of Sig’s stuff given to him personally by Okazaki and in tern given to me personally by Sig. Direct line and you know, doing the arts and following precepts are the keys not the names in English or Japanese.”

Regards,

Tony

Comment: In this letter, Tony Janovich dismisses the kanji issue by claiming he has it but says it really doesn’t matter. This dismissal appears to send a message that Tony and Sig Kufferath never had Master Okazaki’s kanji in the first place. As I recall, the notes shown to me were not from Okazaki but were Sig’s notes supposedly taken off a blackboard at a special class taught to his Japanese students. Perhaps Tom Ball TB and Bob Hudson BH saw other material which I, TJ, was not shown. When he said “I have shown some of these original notes to those guys TB, TJ, BH.” Maybe there were more than one set of notes. He only showed me the particular set I mentioned above, Sig notes, not Okazaki’s original kanji.

SHINNAN - The following sources have the spelling as: SHINNAN - Spirit Man

Sig Kufferath

Tony Janovich

George Arrington

According to Tony Janovich and George Arrington, SHINNAN was an earlier spelling for the later spelling of SHINNIN. SHINNAN = SHIN 神 kami + NAN 男 man = kami man. Because SHINNAN limits it to men only, it is claimed that Okazaki changed the kanji to NIN meaning either man or person, a non-gender specific instead of NAN meaning man. SHINNIN = SHIN 神 + NIN 人 = kami + person = kami-person.

Conclusions:

It appears that Dai Shihan Kufferath authorized the spelling of the list for the Kilohana group as SHININ and the spelling for Tony Janovich and George Arrington as SHINNIN.

There has been NO AUTHENTIC EVIDENCE PRESENTED SO FAR TO VERIFY THE CLAIM that Master Okazaki ever spelled these titles as SHINNIN or SHINNAN.