

History - Important PeopleIndia to China

TAMO (bodhidharma; dharuma taishi) - Indian prince. Came from India to China.

Taught the Shaolin monks an early form of karate to keep them fit and to help gain a clear mind. Also called “wallgazer” because he sat and meditated, gazing at a wall, for years.

FANG CHI LIANG - Chinese woman martial artist.

Taught martial arts by her father. One day saw two white cranes fighting. When she tried to separate the birds by pushing at them with a stick, they easily fended it off. Fang Chi Liang used the bird’s movements to develop her martial art - White Crane style - which is one of the bases of our karate.

China to Okinawa (Okinawa is a group of small islands near to, and now part of, Japan)

KONG SOO KONG (Kusanku) - came from China to Okinawa islands, Japan.

Brought knowledge from China. Believed to be first to use a straight, “karate” punch.

Okinawa

TODE (“Karate”) SAKUGAWA - name shows the beginning of karate.

Founded the *dojo kun*, precepts of dojo etiquette. Concerned with self-control and right behaviour. Sensei to Matsumura, founder of Shorin Ryu karate.

MATSUMURA (bushi - “warrior”).

Started Shorin Ryu karate. Very powerful; the King of Okinawa’s bodyguard.

Serious in his karate training. At ten years old told Sakugawa “I will not disappoint you” when he asked to become Sakugawa’s student.

Made up the first two katas we perform.

Married to YONOMINE CHIRU, another karate expert.

ITOSU and AZATO - learned karate from Matsumura.

ITOSU taught karate in elementary schools. He added to Matsumura’s two katas to make the five *pinan* (“peaceful mind”) katas. Nicknamed *Anko* “iron horse” for his strong side stances.

Okinawa to Japan

FUNAKOSHI - took karate to main parts of Japan.

“Founder of modern-day karate”.

Famous saying: “In karate there is no first attack” (i.e., *karate students do not start fights!*).

Japan to the World

Karate came from Japan to the rest of the world and to:

1. RICHARD KIM (Karate); ANTHONY SANDOVAL (White Crane) - who both taught Gary Legacy
2. GARY LEGACY, *Hanshi* - tenth degree black belt, and head of Legacy Shorin Ryu
3. DOJO DAMSHII-JI - Our dojo, “Spirit Temple”.

The Karate Creed (said at each grading)

**I come to you with Karate. I have no weapons. Should I be forced to defend myself, as a matter of right or wrong, my honour or my principles, my God or my country, here are my weapons, my empty hands.**