



Shinto Muso Ryu Jodo - "The Way of the Stick"

Jodo and the arts associated with it including kenjutsu (sword fencing) and tanjo jutsu (short stick or walking cane) is a classic weapons art form that is over 400 years old. However, secrecy and the lack of written or any other detailed information have caused this art to be relatively unknown even to the average Japanese until the mid 1970's, and almost completely unknown to the martial arts world outside of Japan until the 1970's-80's when qualified non-Japanese teachers began to openly give instruction in Europe and the US.

The art form has a broad and complex background, strict practice, a total lack of competition, and exacting forms. Kata (forms) practice is done in a very precise fashion. The study is strictly disciplined due to the serious and potentially dangerous nature of the techniques. Because of the method of practice and the focus needed to become an expert in the art form, the student gradually develops very high levels of physical discipline and mental focus.

For the student who begins training and who chooses to seriously pursue the study and stay with it, the benefits are immense. A jodo teacher once said that, "The serious study of Budo is a personal and concrete experience of a segment of life which gives us the chance to experience the rhythm of nature". Jodo certainly fits that description.

The mental awareness developed by the mastery of weapons forms changes one's perceptions. To act spontaneously with all of one's life energies in a focused fashion is not easy and is only possible when one has a very special and tightly focused state of mind; one that can be developed with weapons training which sharpens one's concentration due to the serious nature of the art where a weapon may be only inches away from your face.

Upon reaching a high level of proficiency a student of Jodo is conscious of being more serene and self-assured and many times find themselves more detached from trivialities, freer in spirit and attitude and more open to possibilities

Aikido at The Aikibudokan
5701 Bingle, Ste. B 101
Houston, TX 77092

Jodo Class Schedule:
Saturday Mornings - 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Jodo Open Practice 6:00 PM Thursdays (before the Aikido class)

Contact L.F. Wilkinson Sensei for information
713-826-5877 or sensei@aikibudo-aikido.com