

## Reasons for patterns...

There are 24 patterns in Tae Kwon Do to represent the 24 hours of the day. This is because the founder, General Choi Hong Hi compared the day and the life of man with the day and the life of the earth. Each pattern has a unique interpretation which often reflects a great patriot or event in Korean history, over the centuries the Korean people have always been fighting for their independence, and the Tae Kwon Do student is expected to draw inspiration from the story of their struggle. You will also find that the pattern is performed in a way to reflect its meaning.

## Pattern Interpretations...

A pattern is a combination of attack and defence movements in a fixed logical sequence against one or more imaginary opponents. Patterns are practiced to improve body shifting, flexibility, technique, timing and breath control as well as discipline.

The patterns interpretations are set out with their associated rank below:

### 10th Kup White Belt

**FOUR DIRECTIONAL PUNCH AND BLOCK - TRAINING EXERCISE**

### 9th Kup White Belt

**CHON - JI means literally " the Heaven the Earth". It is, in the Orient, interpreted as the creation of the world or the beginning of human history, therefore, it is the initial pattern played by the beginner. This pattern consists of two similar parts; one to represent the Heaven and the other the Earth.**

### 8th Kup Yellow Belt

**DAN - GUN is named after the holy Dan-Gun, the legendary founder of Korea in the year of 2,333 B.C.**

### 7th Kup Yellow Belt

**DO - SAN is the pseudonym of the patriot Ahn Chang-Ho (1878-1938)  
The 24 movements represent his entire life which he devoted to  
furthering the education of Korea and its independence movement.**

### 6th Kup Green Belt

**WON - HYO** was the noted monk who introduced Buddhism to the Silla Dynasty in the year of 686 A.D.

#### **5th Kup Green Belt**

**YUL - GOK** is the pseudonym of a great philosopher and scholar Yi I (1536-1584) nicknamed the "Confucius of Korea" The 38 movements of this pattern refer to his birthplace on 38 latitude and the diagram represents "scholar".

#### **4th Kup Blue Belt**

**JOONG - GUN** is named after the patriot Ahn Joong-Gun who assassinated Hiro - Bumi Ito, the first Japanese governor-general of Korea, known as the man who played the leading part in the Korea - Japan merger. There are 32 movements in this pattern to represent Mr. Ahn's age when he was executed in Lui - Shung prison (1910).

#### **3rd Kup Blue Belt**

**TOI - GYE** is the pen name of the noted scholar Yi Hwang (16th century), an authority on neo - Confucianism. The 37 movements of the pattern refer to his birthplace on 37 latitude, the diagram represents " scholar".

#### **2nd Kup Red Belt**

**HWA - RANG** is named after the Hwa - Rang youth group, which originated in the Silla Dynasty in the early 7th century. The 29 movements refer to the 29th Infantry Division, where Taekwon - Do developed into maturity.

#### **1st Kup Red Belt**

**CHOONG - MOO** was the name given to the great Admiral Yi Soon - Sin of the Lee Dynasty. He was reputed to have invented the first armoured battleship (Kobukson) in 1592, which is said to be the precursor of the present day submarine. The reason why this pattern ends with a left hand attack is to symbolize his regrettable death, having no chance to show his unrestrained potentiality checked by the forced reservation of his loyalty to the king.

### **Black Belt Dan Level Patterns...**

The number of patterns required for each Dan level is generally 3 per level. A Dan graded practitioner will normally spend the proportionate number of years as their particular grade in training before being invited to take the examination for the next level.

#### **1st Dan Black Belt**

**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 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.

**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.

**GE - BAEK** is named after Ge - Baek, a great general in the Baek Je Dynasty (660 AD). The diagram represents his severe and strict military discipline.

### 2nd Dan Black Belt

**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 represents his indomitable spirit, displayed while dedicating himself to the prosperity of his nation.

**CHOONG - JANG** is the pseudonym given to General Kim Duk Ryang who lived during the Lee 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.

**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.

### 3rd Dan Black Belt

**SAM - IL** denotes the historical 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.

**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 left side, symbolizing Yoo Sin's mistake of following his Kings' orders to fight with foreign forces against his own nation.

**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 Lee Dynasty.

#### 4rth Dan Black Belt

**YONG - 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.

**UL - JI** is named after general UI - Ji Moon Dok who successfully defended Korea against a Tang's invasion force of nearly one million soldiers led by Yang Je in 612 A.D., UI - Ji employing hit and run guerrilla tactics, 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.

**MOON - MOO** honours 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.

#### 5th Dan Black Belt

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

**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.

**TONG - IL** denotes the resolution of the unification of Korea which has been divided since 1945. The diagram symbolizes the homogenous race.

- There are no more patterns in Tae Kwon Do, after the level of 5th Dan has been achieved, practitioners are expected to have reached maturity in their technique. There are still a further 4 Dan levels in Tae Kwon Do and at present there is only one remaining 9th Dan Black Belt Tae Kwon Do practitioner in the world, the other was Major-

**General Choi Hong Hi who died June 15th 2002 in Korea.**