

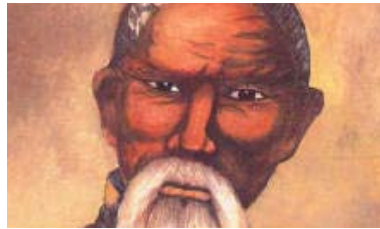
## Special Edition:

SHORIN-RYU KARATE

## Masters

“ If you have an unconquerable calmness, you can overcome the enemy without force, with the ferocity of a tiger and the swiftness of a bird.

- Sokon **Matsumura** ”



1809 - 1899

The “father” of Shurite and Okinawan karate-do; bodyguard and trusted advisor to three kings. Renaissance man: karate master, deep thinker, and expert calligrapher. Said “the pen and the sword are one.” Teacher of Itosu.

“ A man of character will avoid any quarrels and loves peace. Thus the more a karateka practices the more modest he should be with others. This is the true karateka.

- Yatsune “Anko” **Itosu** ”



1830 - 1915

Brought shuri-te karate to the Okinawan public schools, breaking complex kata into smaller pieces (the 5 pinan kata). Invented the corkscrew punch. Wrote the “Ten Articles of Karate.” Teacher of Chibana and Gusukuma.

“ When we die, all material things mean nothing. We die with our only true possession... our name. We strive to bring honor to our name. - Chosin **Chibana** ”



1885 - 1969

First president of the Okinawan karate-do league in 1956. Given Order of Merit by the Emperor of Japan. Renamed Shorei-ryu to (Kobayashi) Shorin-ryu. Teacher of Miyahira, Nakazato, and Yochuko.

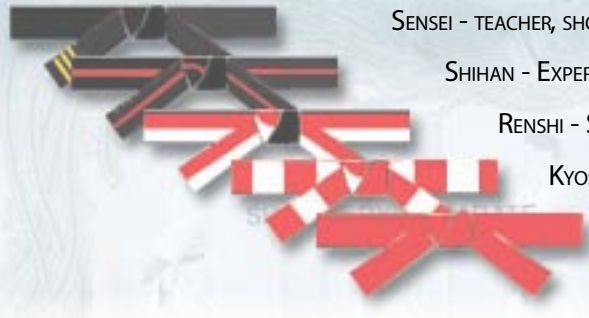
“ To acquire experience and understanding, take seriously all advice given to you.

- Katsuya **Miyahira** ”



1918 -

World director of Shidokan Shorin ryu karate-do. Built a wooden dojo behind his house and named it Shidokan, which means “house of the way of the warrior spirit.” Second teacher of Iha.



SENSEI - TEACHER, SHODAN (1ST), NIDAN (2ND) & SANDAN (3RD) OBI: BLACK WITH GOLD DAN STRIPES

SHIHAN - EXPERT TEACHER, YONDAN (4TH) OBI: BLACK WITH RED CENTER STRIPE

RENSHI - SR EXPERT TEACHER, GODAN (5TH) & RYOKUDAN (6TH) OBI: RED/WHITE STRIPE, BLACK BACK

KYOSHI - MASTER, NANADAN (7TH) & HACHIDAN (8TH) OBI: RED/WHITE PANELS

HANSHI - GRAND MASTER, KUDAN (9TH) & JUDAN (10TH) OBI: RED

(HONORIFIC TITLES USED IN OUR SYSTEM APPLY TO TEACHERS)

“ **My body is strong but everyday my will gets even stronger.**

- Shinpan **Gusukuma** ”



1890 - 1954

**Student of Itosu, peer of Chibana. Quiet, strict, traditional. Strong believer in the importance of kata; unequalled in the drop-down technique in Kusanku-dai. First teacher of Hanshi Iha.**

“ **The ideal of karate is to cultivate noble character and conduct, and the virtues of modesty and courtesy.**

- Shuguro **Nakazato** ”



1919 -

**Father of Shorinkan, peer of Miyahira since they both studied under Chibana. The world director of Shorinkan, and still active in Okinawa and around the world. Teacher of Kyoshi Herten.**

“ **Okinawan karate must have focus... Without focus you are doing nothing but sport.**

- Seikichi **Iha** ”



1932 -

**Hanshi. Student first of Gusukuma, then upon his master's death, became a student of Miyahira. Hanshi Iha is the top ranking Shidokan master in America. Located in Lansing, Michigan. Teacher of Kyoshi Herten.**

“ **Only through continuous training will you be able to obtain, in mind and body, the fruits of the WAY.**

- Robert **Herten** ”



1946 -

**Kyoshi. A student first of Nakazato (Shorinkan) then Iha (Shidokan). He teaches both styles and White Crane, in a combination called Junshiinkai. Holds 7th dan Shorinkan; 8th dan Shidokan. Located in West Patterson, NJ. Teacher of Renshi Gavitt.**

“ **The road to black belt is only the beginning. One who truly understands this, will have a lifetime of learning ahead.**

- Chick **Gavitt** ”



1967 -

**Renshi. First studied Shorinkan, then Shidokan under Robert Herten. He holds 3rd and 6th degrees in these styles, respectively. Strong proponent of preserving the kobudo (weapons) aspect of our style. Teacher of us all!**