

## CULTURAL TOURISM

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### JAB and IMACSSS Conference – Tsukuba 2013. On scientific, budo studies and cultural tourism

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#### Abstract:

From the perspective of ‘humanistic theory of martial arts’ and the sociology of culture and sociology of tourism the authors describe travel and participation in the 2013 International Budo Conference organized by the Japanese Academy of Budo (JAB) in cooperation with IMACSSS. The aim here is to describe and evaluate social facts that occurred in the background of the indicated conference. The main method used here is participant observation. To complement it the authors add the reference literature and electronic sources.

The paper in its entirety is divided into five parts. The first part concerns the tourism tied to martial arts, the second – is an account of the conference, the third – description of the cooperation of several associations, the fourth – includes consideration of a number of specialized martial arts, and finally the fifth part – selected impressions and opinions of the two authors.

The conclusion states that the conference was of great importance for IMACSSS and JAB, but also for the emerging “science of martial arts”. This is an example of good cooperation between organizations of martial arts.

#### Introduction

Studies of martial arts are, in light of the humanistic theory of martial arts, practice in the *dojo* and learning. When this is combined with journey, a trip for the purpose of these studies (called ‘non-resident cultural system’) – we can talk about ‘tourism of martial arts’ [Sieber, Cynarski, Litwiniuk 2007; Cynarski 2009, 2012a].

Scientific exploration is carried out there on the one hand from the perspective of ‘humanist theory of martial arts’ [Cynarski 2004, 2012b]. On the other hand – from that of the sociology of culture and sociology of tourism [Cohen 1972; Golka 2008].

Groundwork for the exploration of the unique circumstances here – is the active participation of both authors in a scientific conference devoted to research of martial arts, combat sports and way of the warriors (*budō*) and self-defense systems. The degree of sophistication and skill selection plus self-reliance in this kind of cultural area (field of

martial arts) and themes are indicators of advanced selfrealizational its participation [Golka 2008: 134-135].

Field studies, sociological and anthropological-cultural observations are similar to the tourist’s reflections [*cf.* MacCannell 1976], but only better structured. Here we assume that the qualitative method used was participant observation, because the authors were also actors in the events described, and they knew the situations shown from the inside.

Among the publications on the tourism of martial arts there can be distinguished works describing journeys to study “at the source” and implemented in order to honour the outstanding master [*cf.* Raimondo 2011; Słopecki 2012]. The cases described below apply to both

issues: studying in the country of origin of Budo (as axio-normative and educational system) and awarding medals and honorary certificates to master’s degrees.



Photo 1. Demonstration: *kyujutsu heki-ryu* (JAB, University of Tsukuba, 2013)

The article is divided into five parts. The first part concerns the tourism of martial arts, the second – is an account of the conference, the third – describes the cooperation of several associations, the fourth – includes consideration of a number of specialized martial arts, and finally the fifth part – selected impressions and opinions of the two co-authors.

### 1. Travel – martial arts tourism

I (the first of the authors) set off at the night, left Strzyżów at 3<sup>00</sup>, then at 4<sup>40</sup> by car. Then we both got on an express bus Rzeszow-Warsaw, then went by Qatar Airways airplane via Doha to Tokyo. There, our Japanese friends: Prof. Dr Fuminori Nakiri, President of JAB; Prof. Dr Taketo Sasaki with his wife, Prof. Dr Fumiaki Shishida and Prof. Dr Tatehiro Toyoshima were waiting for us. From the airport of Tokyo-Narita we went by bus to the hotel in Tsukuba.

Incidentally, the return trip took place along the same route. So we were able to see Qatar twice. Although only at the airport in the capital city (Doha), but the cultural climate was somehow felt through the windows of planes, buses, in airports and airplanes (tourists, menus, TV, newspapers).

But it was only a transit point. The destination was Tsukuba.

After about 40 hours of travelling, we have arrived in Tsukuba. It was an evening, September 9. Then we had dinner in a small company. We chose Korean cuisine, a delicious and nutritious hot meal. The dinner was attended, besides the authors, by Prof. Nakiri, Prof. Sasaki and his wife, Prof. Shishida and Prof. R. M. Kalina.

Although the whole conference was related to martial arts and combat sports, the main highlight for tourists of martial arts was the practical part, workshop. It included demonstrations of different varieties of *Budo* masters, methodological and training activities and deliberations of the various specialized sections.

Workshops were held in five sections. The section of *kendo* devoted its time to the promotion of a classical school of headmaster Kashima: *Shintoryu* in the transmission of 65<sup>th</sup> *Soke*, Mr. Tsunetaka Yoshikawa [2013]. Section *kobudo* school forms submitted *Naginata jutsu tendo-ryu* in the lineage 17<sup>th</sup> *Soke*, Mrs. Yasuko Kimura [Cynarski 2013]. JAB judoists shown *nage-no kata*, which is the basic form of throws, and activities of persons with disabilities – *judo* demonstration training for people with disabilities.

In Japan these kind of activities are considered as therapeutic and students learn how to train *judo*

with disabled people, so that these people not only can improve their form, but also find their joy in training and joint activities based on the competition, adapted to the group to integrate and find the way to achieve the highest attainable physical activities for their physical fitness. People with varying degrees of physical and mental disability took part in the training. The passion with which the players, some with the help of a personal assistant, engage in these activities, showing spontaneous joy of successful falls and throws was noticeable.

At this point, it appears necessary to make a digression. The authors had the opportunity to watch a similar to *judo* with disabilities activity a year ago in Genoa (Italy), during the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference of IMACSSS, performed by Italian *judoka*. Back then, the classes were held in the *Palazzo Ducale*, built in the Middle Ages, but rebuilt in the Renaissance. Then, the dramatic nature of the show was emphasized by the contrast of vast space of almost sacred dimension, impressive murals, crystal chandeliers and allegorical paintings, referring to ancient mythology and biblical times, reminiscent of the interior of the temple and a stage and set specifically designed for the *judo* mat and gave the impression of a spectacle including large groups of people with mental and physical disabilities [cf. Raimondo, Gutierrez-Garcia, Perez-Gutierrez 2012; Cynarski, Kubala 2012], and at the same time having in these circumstances a specific nature of the ritual. Meanwhile, here in Japan, the home of *judo*, in the *dojo*, equipped with modern, but in its simplicity reminiscent of the Japanese tradition, though built recently, like all of today's gyms, the element of drama remained less noticeable. The ritual remained reduced to a simplified version of the salute, and the whole spirituality of *judo* intentionality became somehow less noticeable, because it was naturally present here. Art, no matter where it takes place, requires a certain environment, even symbolically cut off from the everyday profane, environment-oriented activities dramatized and ritualized. There, where it remains just a game, contest, even if following a certain ritual, this sacred art disappears.

What happened in Genoa, had in the background the entire European culture and art, from Greek mythology, biblical roots and the development of European architecture present in the room, which only briefly became the *dojo*. The next day it would again serve the representative functions for the Geneses community – the City Council, or a place of art meetings. As a result, it was perceived and felt by those present, belonging to the Euro-Atlantic community as para-theatrical, dramatic, emotionally closer to a cultural ritual than

the principles of the game – even though called the martial art. *Budo* is closer to such understanding of art, not just a game.

Finally, the participants watched the form of *karate goju-ryu* performed by a former world champion in *kata*, *Shihan Masashi Koyama* and Mrs *Suzuko Hamasaki*, a former five – time World Cup in *karate kata*. Next, the participants went to the archery range (*kyudo dojo*). It was a demonstration of combat archery – *kyujutsu heki-ryu*. After the appearance of judoists in white *judogi*, archers in colorful, traditional samurai costume (photo 1), were a significant contrast. At this point the staging reached such a level of dramatization and sanctification, which was probably expected by all foreign visitors, who could finally feel the uniqueness of Japan – probably the most important destination for the tourism of martial arts: real and still alive in the minds of inhabitants of the Japanese islands. Arriving there, one comes to the centre, the source from which everything in this area originated and not some mass culture tourist attraction created for a commercial purpose.

## 2. The conference or in fact a congress

The 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Japanese Academy of Budo & IMACSSS 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference was scheduled for September 10-12, 2013, in Tsukuba – University of Tsukuba. It was actually the next Congress of JAB, which was under auspices of IMACSSS (Special Participant Organization) and Korean Alliance of Martial Arts (Korea), the Forum for Budo Culture (Hungary) and the International Association of Judo Research (Hungary).



Fig. 1. Logo of conference in Tsukuba

Scientific journals in support of this conference were, to a large extent, related to the academic centre of Rzeszów: "Ido Movement of Culture. Journal of

Martial Arts Anthropology”, published by Idokan Poland Association (editor-in-chief W. J. Cynarski) and other Polish journal “Archives of Budo” (editor-in-chief R. M. Kalina – a former colleague of the authors from the Faculty, and co-organizer of the first World Congress, including the current the Conference of Tsukuba). In addition, there was “Research Journal of Budo” published by JAB.

In addition to sessions in Japanese, the organizers organized English-speaking international sessions of papers and posters. Thus, the whole event was named “2013 International Conference Budo” (figure 1).

On the first day of the International Session, where Prof. A. Bennett (Kansai University) was the chairman, the first speaker was David Kimball Groff (Meiji University) who presented a paper: *Lost in translation? The Challenges of Rendering Miyamoto Musashi into English*. The next lecturer was Prof. R. M. Kalina (AWF Katowice), who presented a text: *Philosophy and pragmatism of Budo as unique area of application of the empirical theory of combat sports*. The third in this session was Dominique Brizin (University of Cologne, IMACSSS), with a paper: *Introduction to combat logic – A general theory*. The last presentation in the first part was by Mr. Blake Bennett (University of Canterbury), *An investigation of the Intended learning outcomes of Japanese high school physical education teachers: A comparison of kendo instructors and instructors rugby*. After the break, there were presentations by five Japanese researchers, who wanted probably to introduce us to their scientific topics, while struggling valiantly with the English pronunciation.

According to the plan deliberations in groups were preceded by the main lecture of the first day, which was delivered, after the break, by Kashima Noriyoshi [2013]. It concerned the *Shinto* tradition and was titled: *Japan – A Country That Has Walked with Kami*. Mr. Nori-yoshi Kashima is the chief priest of the temple and he introduced important elements that form the Japanese tradition (including *kenjutsu*), and spirituality.

Conference deliberations were carried out in the sections concerned with: humanities, natural sciences, *Budo* techniques and international issues. For the next two days, there were also poster sessions. On the second day, Sept. 11, the deliberations of the sections were continued since morning. Professor Abel Figueiredo (P.I., Viseu, Portugal) discussed the advantages of teaching martial arts and combat sports. He also presented the results of studies carried out in cooperation with Prof. A. Vences de Brito on a kinesiological analysis of *mae-geri* kick. Prof. Tatehiro Toyoshima (Reitaku University) analyzed neuromuscular skills

in the practice of *karate*.

The central point of the event was the Symposium: “Integrated Science of Budo”. The Chairmen were Kaori Yamaguchi (University of Tsukuba) and Alex Bennett (Kansai University). In the first part of: “Budo Praxis: The Status-Quo and Future Issues in Education and Competition”, panelists were: Japanese instructor Tetsushi Abe (Dharma Gate Buddhist College, Hungary) and, as representative for not-Japanese side, Prof. Jürgen Klinger (University of Bath, UK), *judo* coach.

In the second Plenary Session: “Academia Budo: The Status-Quo and Future Issues in Research Parameters”, panelists were: a representative of the natural sciences Prof. Atsuo Kasugai (Meiji University) and as a representative of Humanities, Prof. W. J. Cynarski (University of Rzeszow), and the talks were moderated by Sotaro Honda (Fukuoka University of Education) and Shigeki Maesaka (NIFS). Prof. Kasugai (5<sup>th</sup> dan *judo*) discussed the relationship of publications on the practice of *judo*, for example, the “Research Journal of Budo”.

Prof. W. J. Cynarski gave the keynote lecture: *Humanities in the study of Budo – problems and methodology* [Cynarski 2013b], which introduced a new paradigm for the scenes of physical culture, sport sciences and martial arts science.

The third session ending the Symposium entitled “General Discussion: Formation of a Strategic Base for Global Dialogue on *Budo*” was the summary of two earlier ones, and revolved around the future of *Budo* in a globalizing world, connection and cooperation of “praxis” and theory (“Academia”) in dialogue, which will show potential new research fields and new challenges for the dissemination of *Budo* methods. There were a plenary session with the panel discussion, the discussants, in the role of experts were: T. Abe, W. J. Cynarski, A. Kasugai, and J. Klinger (photo 2).

On the third day of the international section a paper was presented by Dr Kubala, General Secretary of IMACSSS, who presented the genesis and the achievements of our Society [Kubala 2013]. In this session, as in the past, there were 10 papers presented such as a comparison of Korean *Kumdo kendo* (Y. Oda), an analysis of N. Elias “the recivilising” process of *kendo* (A. Bennett) and discussion of the original concept of *judo* by J. Kanō (N. Murata).

After the thematic sessions and demonstrations further deliberations were conducted in the sections of JAB. Karate-do Division organized the Karate Specialist Subcommittee Meeting and Symposium: “The Karate in the World”. The session was opened by Prof. Dr Masashi Koyama from Morinomiya



Photo 2. Prof. Nakiri and panelists after the Plenary Session

University of Medical Sciences, with the lecture: *Status Quo of Budo Becoming Compulsory in Junior High School*. The chairman of the meetings was Prof. Nagura Toshihisa (IBU). Invited / keynote speakers included Professors: W. J. Cynarski, A. Figueiredo and Suzuko Hamasaki, coach in the Orange County *Karate-do Dojo* (USA). The second speaker, with a very well-received lecture: “Karate in Europe – Institutional Development and Changes”, was Prof. W. J. Cynarski. This text was ordered by our Japanese hosts already during the previous conference, because they wanted to review a direct participant and researcher dealing in this field on the basis of our continent.

Dr Suzuko Hamasaki presented the paper: *Karate in America*. Among other European speakers of the session worth mentioning was Dr Abel Figueiredo with a paper: *Multidimensional Training Variables and Factors that Macrocycles from Exercise Planning*.

The end of the conference, after exhausting the list of Japanese speakers, was announced by Iide Kazuhide, it was also the beginning of our way back from the exotic Far Eastern country to our native Europe.

Incidentally, the University of Tsukuba just celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> + 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary of its foundation (fig. 2). The history of the University of Tsukuba goes back 141 years, when it was established as Tokyo Higher Normal School, in 1872. 101 years after its founding, in October 1973 the university was re-opened as: *University of the future*, transforming into the International Budo University (IBU) in Tsukuba. Therefore, this university is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary combined (+101<sup>st</sup> anniversary) on 1 October 2013. In this anniversary year, the University of Tsukuba intends to continue its development as a “Mirai Koso Daigaku” (*University of vision of the future*) and maintains its march ahead under the slogan *Imagine the future*.

One of the most important events in the celebration of this anniversary, whose smaller and bigger posters were placed all over the university campus and sports grounds, was the 46<sup>th</sup> Conference of JAB, under the name “2013 International Budo Conference”, which was also IMACSSS 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference, combined with the Symposium ‘Integrated Science of Budo’ and Special session, devoted to karate, summed up and crowned two-year anniversary of scientific and educational and practical activities, organized here in connection with the jubilee of the University. The university website containing material from all the previous symposia, workshops and conferences occupies a total of 11 pages. The conference described above was one of the most important ones [2]. It provided a selection of domestic and foreign visitors as well as the fact that the JAB was held at the conference along with its general meeting in which participated all its significant members.



Fig. 2. Anniversary Logo of the University of Tsukuba

The Japanese are very proud of their traditions and the fact of inviting guests from abroad, treating them with honours, as it was the case with Prof. W. J. Cynarski, was a significant event and demonstration of appreciation of the achievements of the guests. Prof. A. Figueiredo, Vice-president of IMACSSS was also treated with great respect. This builds a lasting foundation for the development of popularity of teaching of Asian forms of martial arts and combat sports in Europe and in the world, but also their research from the perspective of not only of Japanese, but also people of other cultures. These experts have devoted themselves and their knowledge and research, in order to bring them onto their own ground and make it part of their European or American tradition.

We were able to get to know several students of the University not only as translators, but also the authors of the papers. However, most of the foreign participants, the European university professors,

invite to cooperation the Japanese experts, who combine practice with theory, to enable them to conduct lectures and training sessions in halls for judo, karate and other less popular sports or martial arts as part of scientific exchange.

For example Tetsushi Abe *Sensei*, President of NPO "The Forum of Budo Culture in Hungary", came from Hungary where he has been teaching since 1995 and working as technical director and manager of the Hungarian national *kendo* team, as well as Prof. Balazs Szabo (Eötvös Lorand University), involved in *jujutsu* and *aikido*. Among guests from outside Japan, there were gradually increasing in number specialists both studying and practising martial arts and combat sports, well-known to the hosts due to previous cooperation, who were also working with IMACSSS. The Japanese themselves are also more frequently traveling to America and Europe, not only to pursue a professional career, but also to disseminate there their culture, traditions, fitness forms, and different forms of *Budo*.

The problem the organizers had to deal with, was the issue of language support for foreigners. Students of University of Tsukuba from Europe and the U.S. offered their help with translation to the Organizational Committee, and during the session translators and university staff who were residents in Japan were engaged. Foreigners who were studying or working in Japan, worked in the office of the organization of the Conference, translated texts of speeches and helped to arrange organizational matters. The orientation helped too, prepared for the Conference Proceedings publication, with English and Japanese abstracts.

### 3. Cooperation of scientific societies

The Japanese Academy of Budo (JAB) and Idokan Poland Association (IPA) are organizations working in the field of martial arts (*Budo*) for many years, as scientific, educational and sports societies. IMACSSS is a young, strictly scientific, international organization. The International Martial Arts and Combat Sports Scientific Society is an exceptional society established in order to study and conduct research on martial arts, combat sports and related systems, integrating academics from around the world. It continues the tradition over 20 years of IPA in worldwide dimension [1, 3].

Collaboration among JAP, IPA and IMACSSS has been carried out since 2006. The representatives of JAB several times participated in conferences organized in Poland. During the first formal International Conference of IMACSSS in Genoa

Prof. Dr Nakiri announced that the second such a conference will be held in September 2013 in Tsukuba. The organizers of JAB invited, as a keynote speaker and guest of honour, President of IMACSSS, Prof. UR Wojciech Jan Cynarski. The meeting in Tsukuba was supervised by the main organizer of the Conference, Prof. Fuminori Nakiri, JAB President, Vice-president of IMACSSS.

On the first day of Congress in Tsukuba W. J. Cynarski, as the President of IMACSSS, gave a brief welcome speech at the banquet. His achievements were emphasized several times, which in a hierarchical society is extremely important. Dr Kubala presented during one of the international sessions a paper on the activity of IMACSSS: *Genesis, creation and development of International Martial Arts and Combat Sports Scientific Society (IMACSSS), as a community of scientists and practitioners of martial arts and combat sports.*



Photo 3. Both authors in the Japanese restaurant

On the second day (Sept. 11) in the evening there was dinner in a small circle in a stylish Japanese restaurant (photo 3) gathering mainly activists of IMACSSS (there were only two Koreans non-members from Korean Alliance of Martial Arts, Dr Alex Bennett and Mr. Naoki Murata, vice-president JAB), Dan Committee members of IPA included: W. J. Cynarski 10<sup>th</sup> dan *judo-do/ido*, F. Shishida 8<sup>th</sup> dan *Aikido*, F. Sasaki 7<sup>th</sup> dan *judo*, F. Nakiri 7<sup>th</sup> dan *kendo*, A. Figueiredo 6<sup>th</sup> dan *karate goju-ryu* and R. M. Kalina 4<sup>th</sup> dan *judo*. Prof. Abel Figueiredo received the Medal of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Idokan Poland, Prof. Taketo Sasaki – certificates for 8<sup>th</sup> dan in *goshin-jutsu* and 4<sup>th</sup> dan in *judo-do/ido* (from IPA Dan Committee). Professors Nakiri and Shishida received IPA Certificates for 3<sup>rd</sup> dan in *judo-do/ido*.

The last day involved, besides programmed lectures in the session, an important task for IMACSSS. The idea was to provide information

to present at the Conference about our work and activities of the organization the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Combat Sports and Martial Arts, including at the same time another Third International Science Conference of IMACSSS. Unfortunately, it was the last day when the organizers managed to find an independent post for IMACSSS organization, so our information reached a smaller number of people we would like to have as our members and supporters. However, we distributed about a hundred pamphlets about IMACSSS and the Third Congress in Rzeszow.

On September 12, during the Meeting of the JAB Board, Dr Krzysztof Kubala Secretary General IMACSSS was asked to present the announcement concerning the World Congress and the Third Conference of IMACSSS in Rzeszów, which will be held on 15-17 October 2014. Then, W. J. Cynarski handed President of JAB, Prof. F. Nakiri, IMACSSS a plate expressing gratitude for organizing this international conference.

The conference was prepared by the hosts almost perfectly and has left an impression that it could last for much longer, because there is a lot to see and say. It gives hope for many more such joint meetings. The next such an event will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Martial Arts and Sports Rzeszow '2014, which is also the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Scientific Conference of IMACSSS. JAB is a co-patron of this particular conference. Can you believe that next year a large group of *Budo* people from Japan, and not only from Japan, will come to Rzeszow?

## 4. Reflections on Japanese combat sports and martial arts

### 4.1. Jujutsu and Judo

According to Naoki Murata *judo*, in terms of Jigoro Kano, was a combination of *jujutsu* (martial art) with *do* (methodology, pedagogical contents, etc.) [Murata 2013]. But how much was in the old *judo* of martial arts? *Koshiki-no kata*, derived from *kito-ryu* school, is certainly necessary to achieve the highest form of master's degree. According to the tradition of *yoroi kumiuchi* a warrior wore armor weighing about 20 kG on a battlefield.

In many papers *jujutsu* tended to be shown, as a historical fact, without a continuation. 'Jutsu' was to be replaced by 'do' – the way, the educational system, a new form of culture. But there is something that is old *jujutsu* (*yoshin-ryu* school) brings, as a legacy to martial arts. These are the traditions of martial arts medicine [Kuboyama, Sasaki 2013].

*Jujutsu* in Japan declined as a result of losing the institutional game with Kodokan *Judo* school

[cf. Shortt, Hashimoto 1979]. However, *jujutsu* in Europe did not end, but it went the other way, moving away from the Japanese original.



Photo 4. At the memorial of Prof. Jigoro Kano

As Balazs Szabo stated in his report, developing since the 1980 Hungarian *jujutsu* had nothing to do with authentic Japanese *jujutsu* [Szabo, Sakai 2013]. Quite popular is there now *keleman-ryu jujutsu*, from which *Soke Istvan Keleman* began his budo studies of *judo*. Polish leaders of new school also started from judo, e.g. *Soke Jan Slopecki*, 10<sup>th</sup> dan (*mukashi-to kindai jujutsu*) or *Soke Krzysztof Kondratowicz* (*goshin-ryu*). However, the perception that modern *jujutsu* popular in Europe has nothing to do with the Japanese *jujutsu* is too radical. It is true that new schools tend to be eclectic, but they still retain a certain degree of similarity to the originals.

### 4.2. Evolution of karate

Asiatic martial arts have been developing in Central and Eastern Europe particularly since 1990 [cf. Ďuriček, Leitmann 2004; Borbely 2005; Szabo, Sakai 2013], because of recovered freedom. And this applies not only to *jujutsu*. While in the western part of Europe, new schools and *karate* organizations were formed earlier, mostly for commercial reasons, in Central and Eastern Europe access to new styles particularly dates back to the last twenty years.

As a reaction to the ongoing sportization of *karate*, there are new schools, which are in opposition to the competitive sports. Experts, cultivating *karate* in Europe for over 40 years, establish new schools and organizations, independent of central Japan.

Many, however, remained faithful to the tradition of the school or the teaching of their master-teacher<sup>1</sup>.

## 5. General impressions and reflections

### 5.1. Impressions of the first author

During the welcome banquet the performance of the student team, playing the traditional drums and instruments like guitars was impressive. The traditional sound, costumes, dancing, shouting and singing enraptured expression and enthusiasm of these young performers showed strength, patriotism and sense of national identity. This is something that in Europe is getting lost, but here is restored by the brotherhood of knights.

A scientific conference is held according to a specific ritual. The main plenary session, called Symposium "Integrated Science of Budo", had four 'gurus' and the chief priest of the coordinating ceremony [Cynarski, Obodyński 2004]. Experts *guru* presented their lectures and then appeared in a panel discussion session. The father of the ceremony was the leader of JAB – Prof. Nakiri, who gave experts commemorative plates with thanks.

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the culinary aspect of the trip abroad, which was once called by the author as 'tasting tourism' [Cynarski, Obodyński 2006]. This time we had the Japanese and European cuisine, including Italian. The exercise of eating with chopsticks (master Miyamoto Musashi and a few others could reportedly catch in these chopsticks a flying fly), rich flavors, aesthetics of *shibui* and hospitable, nice atmosphere.

### 5.2. Impressions of the second author

At the banquet at the University a team of students presented a performance that showed classic old Japanese music with ancient instruments and costumes, but also a new, contemporary performance of Japanese and world music with Japanese and English lyrics. Honorary foreign and Japanese guests were seated in the first place, and female students engaged professors and rectors in a common performance.

It happened, however, after the official part, greetings, introductions, giving commemorative plates and small gifts, which the Japanese apparently love to exchange with each other. Snacks from the buffet, according to local custom, had to be put on a

plate and eaten with chopsticks. as the participants did in a different manner: Japanese and Asian scientists with an acquired since childhood mastery, European scientists, depending on the number of their visits to Japan, better or worse. The latter, were provided with forks instead of chopsticks. A surprise for the less experienced visitors was the fact that at nine clock when the party was in full swing it was ended. You could see that for the hosts the work you have to do in the next few days is something very important. For us Europeans, but it was not a significant sacrifice because many people were tired due to jet lag.

The conference was focused on the maximum practical results, so there was no, so obvious in the European events of such kind, time devoted to tourism, unless someone wanted to stay longer afterward and get to know better Country of the Rising Sun, at their own expenses. In this way, it was probably suggested to us that the economic situation is not good, with zero growth of the Japanese economy and the yen, and the Japanese tendency to frugality and diligence.

After the Symposium European participants, along with an interpreter were invited by the respected Japanese professors, the elite world of *Budo* Board of JAB to dinner at a suburban restaurant, which was in the shape of an old Japanese mansion, surrounded by a garden with ornate classical gate and employees dressed elegantly. Right at the beginning we were asked to take off our shoes and put on slippers. When we walked in just a few steps to a separate room door, prepared to welcome our group, we were encouraged to take off slippers leaving our socks on. Probably only to the three of us it reminded an anecdote about "the second Japan" which was supposed to "leave us only in socks", but the floor lined with snow white mat made it as a rather pleasant feeling, because the room was decorated in a sophisticated, minimalist Japanese aesthetics, with attention to every detail. The only exception to the old Japanese tradition of eating meals sitting on the ground, were chairs and tables at a regular European height, and of course electricity. In front of each guest there was lying a printed list of eight courses in Japanese on rice paper with a stamp of the restaurant. With this level of service it did not seem right to ask for European silverware. As persons, taking on the role of subjects in tourism of martial arts and cultural tourism at the same time, collecting experiences of participation in order to fully incorporate the social roles that we deliberately adopted and overcoming difficulties of a distant journey, feeling like a 'drifter' [Cohen 1972]. In addition, more experienced Europeans took chopsticks in their right hands, as did the hosts.

<sup>1</sup> See: 'Karate in Europe – Institutional development and changes' – results of W. J. Cynarski's [2013c] research.

By the way, the thought occurred to me that the majority of Americans and citizens of the EU, from their childhood living in a society much more culturally diverse and multi-ethnic, have no such problems, getting familiar every day with oriental cuisine and naturally acquiring their skills, moving straight to the right choice types of cutlery, language, or operating system on their computers .

During the dinner there was also a chance to taste *sake*, which for the Poles is not probably something worth mentioning, and the only advantage of tasting this drink, with no power nor flavour and reminiscent more of water with a slightly fruity taste and flowery aroma, was the cognitive value, rather a single experiment. Also, the dishes were, though tasty, small in size, aesthetically looking, beautifully composed and served. Beautiful surrounding, conducive speeches, and mutual toasts of thanks, together with the above factors resulted in a feeling of lightness, even a slight elevation. Also, and this moment did not last long, as there was along and busy day ahead of us.

Fascination with oriental martial arts, learning them in reputable schools with respected masters is not yet frequent, but at the University, which hosted us, it is noticeable. This interest as a manifestation of globalization and fashion, can turn into growing popularity of studying in Japan's of a larger number of young people who will want to undertake a professional career as competitors, then teachers and coaches, learning martial arts at the original source.

## Conclusions

The conference gathered about 200 people, most of them were obviously Japanese, but the fact of admission to that elite group of more than a dozen Europeans, is the evidence of the gradual acceptance of the presence of researchers and practitioners from outside their own circle. It is highly significant that the numerically the largest group of foreigners were Polish citizens in the number of three, including two representatives of the University of Rzeszow, and Koreans.

The participants received certificates confirming the presentation of papers. The first of the authors received a Certificate of Appreciation signed by Prof. Masashi Koyama (President of the Division of Karate-do) and *Sensei* Tatehiro Toyoshima (Chief Director of the Division). The organizers have prepared for a conference a publication *Proceedings/Abstract book*. Perhaps part of the work will be published in full in the aforementioned periodicals. Probably there will

not be a collective issue, as in the case of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference IMACSSS [cf. Cynarski, Kubala 2012; Raimondo 2012].

The conference described was a scientific and organizational success. It opened the venerable Japanese Academy of *Budo* for international cooperation. It was therefore of great importance for IMACSSS and JAB. It opened as if a new chapter in the history of both participating organizations. It was also an important event for the emerging science of martial arts.

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The photos made by T. Sasaki and K. Kubala

### Konferencja JAB i IMACSSS – Tsukuba 2013. O wydarzeniu naukowym, studiach budo i turystyce kulturowej

**Słowa kluczowe:** sztuki walki, nauka, turystyka, IMACSSS, JAB

#### Streszczenie

Z perspektywy 'humanistycznej teorii sztuk walki' oraz socjologii kultury i socjologii turystyki autorzy przedstawiają relację z podróży i udziału w 2013 International Budo Conference zorganizowanej przez Japońską Akademię Budo (JAB) i we współpracy z IMACSSS. Celem jest opis i ocena zaistniały tu faktów społecznych na kanwie wskazanej konferencji.

Główną zastosowaną tu metodą jest obserwacja uczestnicząca. Dla uzupełnienia autorzy sięgają do literatury przedmiotu i źródeł elektronicznych.

Cała praca podzielona jest na pięć części. Pierwsza dotyczy turystyki sztuk walki (autorzy uczestniczą w podróży dla studiów sztuk walki), druga – jest komunikatem o konferencji, trzecia – opisem współpracy kilku stowarzyszeń, czwarta – zawiera rozważania specjalistyczne i kilku sztukach walki, wreszcie piąta część – wybrane wrażenia i opinie obydwu autorów. Artykuł jest przyczynkiem do wiedzy w zakresie studiów i badań nad sztukami walki – wymiaru turystycznego owych studiów, ich instytucjonalizacji i globalizacji.

W konkluzji stwierdzono, że opisana konferencja miała wielkie znaczenie dla IMACSSS i JAB, a także dla powstającej dziedziny naukowej – *martial arts science*. Stanowi przykład bardzo dobrej współpracy między organizacjami sztuk walki.