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Jubilee of Shibu Kobudo in Poland 1995–2015

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Abstract

Aim. The aim of the research material was to provide a factual description and explanation of the functioning of the organization of martial arts, according to the 15th century tradition of Japanese fencing. This is *Shibu Kobudo* that has been operating in Poland for 20 years. A theoretical perspective was used for analysis and reflection and included: the history of physical culture, the sociology of culture, the humanistic theory of martial arts and the hapology and anthropology of martial arts.

Methods. Analysis of sources and the content of the existing studies and literature on the subject was applied in the manuscript. This includes, among other things content analysis of documents, photographs, popular magazines and direct participation in the events described in this paper. In addition, the authors used the participatory observation method – as they are both participants in and direct observers of the described events.

Results. Improved and supplemented factual descriptions (in relation to the subject matter of literature) are presented. The activities of pioneers and leaders, activists, organizers and teachers are set out. This is a particular asset for the classic martial arts (*kenjutsu*, *kobudo*) that may attract enthusiasts for the next meeting for practical studies. Important moments in the described history were illustrated by photographic material.

Conclusions. This organization is rather small, exclusive and non commercial. It is not directly under the Japanese *Honbu* system but works autonomously. It is also more open to teaching the styles of other schools than the French *Shibu*.

Introduction

The 20th anniversary of *Shibu Kobudo*, one of the commissions operating under the ‘Idokan Poland’ Association (IPA), has prompted the authors to prepare an historical analysis of the functioning of the Organization in Poland which is responsible for cultivating ancient Japanese fencing. A theoretical perspective was used for analysis and reflection and included: the history of physical culture, the sociology of culture, the humanistic theory of martial arts and the hapology and anthropology of martial arts [Draeger 1973; Tokarski 1989; Jones 2002; Cynarski 2004a, 2012a; Golka 2008].

The choice of this subject is justified not only by the Anniversary. Further justification is the opportunity to reach new sources and new facts and new interpretations. Thus, Wojciech J. Cynarski and Gabriel Szajna have already written about historical *kobudo* and *kenjutsu* in Poland, but this study only went up to 2012 [Cynarski 2004a, b, 2005, 2013b, c; Cynarski, Szajna 2012a, b]. Since this time there have been a number of

significant events.

The research provides an analysis of sources and content analysis of the existing studies and literature on the subject. Among others were used: analysis of the contents of documents, photographs and popular magazines, and the direct relationship of the participants in the events described. In addition, the authors used the participatory observation method – as they are both longtime participants and direct observers of the described events.

In general, *budo* is a martial art, a way of personal improvement, a series of educational programmes and a Japanese cultural tradition. It is not restricted to sport which means that martial arts falls within the scope of high culture. [Kiyota, Kinoshita 1990; Sasaki 2009; Cynarski 2013a; Nakiri 2015].

The classic schools especially those such as *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*¹ have great value for

¹ Correctly: *Tenshinshōden Katorishintō-ryū*, but according to editorial requirements in article diacritic signs are omitted.

connoisseurs of martial arts. Their practice is of "image enhancement sports", including horseback riding, yachting or tennis. This, similarly, also applies to other martial arts, and *kenjutsu* and *kobudo* seminars attract crowds of enthusiasts – enthusiasts of Samurai martial arts. In the sociology of culture this is referred to as neotribes [Maffesoli 1996; cf. Finn 1982; Cynarski 2012b, 2013b].

Kobudo – practical sense of the study

Particular schools of Japanese sword and other weapon (pole, *naginata*, spear) fighting differ in terms of terminology (the names of techniques), the positions used, the techniques and forms, the colour of exercise outfits and the articulation of battle sounds (*kiai*), etc. [cf. Draeger 1973: 74–77]. In *bujutsu* schools levels of skill are defined by a licence (*menkyo*). Modern Japanese *budo* (and the rest of the martial arts realm) prefers doing that through the granting of *dan* ranks, supplemented with grading the *kyu* degrees and various titles.

Actually, we could talk about *kobujutsu* (antique martial arts), because there are classical techniques of weapons wielding [cf. Cynarski 1998]. But the concept of *kobudo* (*old budo*) is more commonly used [Cynarski, Skowron 2014]. *Kobudo* is frequently associated only with the tradition of Okinawa. Less well-known is *Honshu kobudo* which is a term for martial arts schools on the main Japanese island [cf. Tanaka 2003; Cynarski 2004b].

Kenjutsu ('the art of the sword', Japanese fencing) exists under the following names: *kobujutsu*, *kobudo* or *battodo*. Of course, the original *battojutsu* and *iaijutsu*, now known as *battodo* and *iaido*, are elements of the sword-arts – *kenjutsu*. Preferring 'do' in a name is based on the elementary humanization of martial arts and is an indication not only of its practical use, but also has a self-realizational meaning [Cynarski 2004a].

Sometimes the practice of traditional martial arts according to the classic teaching schools (*ryu-ha*) is limited to *iaido* – taking the sword and forms performed by oneself [Finn 1982; Cynarski 2004b]. That part of *kenjutsu* is sometimes presented in a professional way [Sugino, Ito 1941, 2010; Otake 1977, 2007], and sometimes in an amateur fashion [cf. Habersetzer 2014: 155-162]. Of course, some minor differences in the implementation and in the interpretation of the movements are acceptable.

Testing of the Martial Path (mind, body, and spirit), the philosophy and the science of combat is possible only in classical *budo* [Draeger 1973; Friday, Humitake 1997; Skoss 1997; Tanaka 2003; Otake 2007]. Attending and participating in classic martial arts meetings becomes a new experience for a warrior and leads to multicultural dialogue [cf. Armstrong 1991, 1997; Cynarski 2012a]. To

enable these meetings and dialogue to take place, martial arts participants take journeys to the sources, for example, to Japan [Cynarski 2000; Stopa 2000].

The Classic *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*, martial arts school is generally a *kenjutsu* school but it also teaches the art of fortification (*chikujoho* [Otake 2007: 236, 268]), espionage, elements of magic (which override psychological preparation), as well as ethics. Here the most important objectives of the warrior's road are virtue, intellect and wisdom [cf. Sugino, Ito 2010: 44].

"Authentic *kenjutsu* is recalled by the *kendo* people as a past entity, by *ninjutsu* admirers as a form of the rarely used *kenpo* (sword) methods, while it is seen by Buddhists as a Zen road. Only the work of past fencing specialists, such as Miyamoto Musashi or today's Grand Masters such as Risuke Otake and Yoshio Sugino, present an authentic view of this style. Frequently, the only or main form of teaching is by means of conversations between the Master and a student – 'from heart to heart' (*ishin-den-shin*)." [Cynarski, Szajna 2012b; cf. Ratti, Westbrook 1991]

The original *ryu-ha* values are now mainly of historical interest and are particularly valuable for connoisseurs. Only a few of them do not teach the ritualized forms, for example *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*, where the technique retains the effectiveness of the medieval battlefield and forms are practised with full dynamics.

Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu in Poland: kobudo and kenjutsu

The hoplologist and *budo* historian Donn F. Draeger wrote that GM² **Chosai Iizasa Ienao** (1387-1488) was the first shogun in a long line of distinguished *kenshi* (skillful, efficient swordsmen) and teachers of *kenjutsu* (art of the sword). Founded by him in 1420 the *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* school is the oldest historical *kenjutsu-ryu* and *bujutsu-ryu* (school of martial arts), famous for: *iaijutsu*, *bojutsu* and the techniques of *naginata* and *yawara-ge* (praform of *jujutsu*) [cf. Draeger 1973; Hall 2012: 503-505]. Some other classical schools of *kenjutsu* represent a series of offshoots from the original trunk of the *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* school [Sugino, Ito 2010: 41-43].

The 19th *soke* (the successor to the tradition of the tribe and the school) Iizasa Shuri-no-Suke Kinjiro regards GM **Yoshio Sugino** (12.12.1904-13.06.1998, 10 dan, *menkyo kaiden*, *hanshi* and *meijin*), as the main *shihan*, responsible for teaching in this school on behalf of the *soke*. But another, the 20th *soke* Iizasa Shuri-no-Suke Yasusada regarded GM **Risuke Otake** as the main *shihan*. Hence, we have two main lineages, and two lateral-line masters **Minoru Mochizuki** (8 dan) and **Goro**

It is tradition of clan Iizasa, and at the same time school is treated in Japan as culture national heritage.

² Grand Master

Hatakeyama (9 dan).

Poland first learnt these methods via the books (or rather their photocopies) by *shihan* Otake and Draeger, and from Samurai movies, where *shihan* Yoshio Sugino performed choreographed fight scenes. In 1987 Stanislaw Cynarski contacted Alain Floquet, the *kyoshi* from France, who was the pupil of Master Yoshio Sugino *hanshi* [Cynarski S. 1991]. Following that the *aikibudo* section was founded in Tarnow.

The first instructor, who demonstrated several techniques and forms of *kobudō* (*kobujutsu*) *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* in Poland was *sensei* Lionel Lefranc (Tarnów, 1988). The first who taught the basics of the technical art of the sword in this school was Laurent Chaigneau (1989). Teaching these traditional forms took place within the framework of the *aikibudo system* of Master Alain Floquet, holder of 6 dan in *katorishintō-ryū* (at present – 8 dan in *kobudo Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*). The representative of the school – GM Yoshio Sugino 10 dan in Europe was the European Francophone countries Shibu and based in France which, despite objections by the Dutch and the Italians, managed to be maintained by Floquet over a period of time.

In 1989 Wojciech J. Cynarski, cousin of and assistant to Stanislaw Cynarski, had trained in France as *uchi-deshi*³ to Floquet for 3 months and reached 1 *kyu*. During repeated stays in France, the Polish adepts learned about medieval Japanese fencing, among other skills under the direction of Goro Hatakeyama 9 dan *hanshi*, *menkyo kaiden* and GM Yoshio Sugino.

In the summer of 1992 W.J. Cynarski trained in France (under Yoshio Sugino, Goro Hatakeyama and Alain Floquet). In that year he became a director of PUKiA – the Polish Union of Kobudo & Aikibudo [Krowiak 1992]. In front of Master Sugino, W.J. Cynarski passed the exam for 1 *kyu* in 1992. In November 1992 an historical fight demonstration took place between W. J. Cynarski (*kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*) and Wojciech Zablocki (Polish husar sabre) in Warsaw [Stopa 1999; Zablocki 2011: 34], using sharp weapons.

In January of the following year W.J. Cynarski became *uchi-deshi* to Lothar Sieber (currently 7 dan *kyoshi* in *kenjutsu* and *iaido*). In summer 1993 during the international seminar in Lagord/La Rochelle W.J. Cynarski passed the exam for 1 technical dan in French Shibu in front of Alain Floquet and this was the first master grade awarded East of Italy in France or the Netherlands. He also gained 6 dan *honoris causa* from Goro Hatakeyama for a fight against Prof. Zablocki. This is how he described these events: "It was in France during the international internship in summer 1993, led by Alain Floquet and Master Goro Hatakeyama (who is

now dead) 9 dan, *hanshi* from the *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* school of the lineage of Yoshio Sugino (10 dan). I knew the program up to 3 dan, but Floquet, the leader of French Shibu, agreed to award me 1 technical dan. Then Master Hatakeyama decided to award me 6 honorius dan in *kobudo/kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* – for the historic fight against the hussar weapon of Wojciech Zablocki. I did not accept this degree at the time. I was then the sole holder of the degree of master of this school in this part of Europe. But this was more than 20 years ago. *Sensei* Hatakeyama granted me the right to conduct *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland independently of the French *Shibu*. At that time in Europe there were only French *Shibu* and one *dojo* in Netherlands, and 2 or 3 *dojos* in Italy. *Sensei* Hatakeyama recommended all Poles to come to my *Shibu*." [Cynarski 2015]

Goro Hatakeyama (1928-2009) had *menkyo kaiden*, 9 dan and *hanshi* title in *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*, as well as 2 dan in *jujutsu Kashimashinto-ryu*. He knew about W.J. Cynarski's development in *jujutsu* and gave him lessons in *jujutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* (small levers and oppression) and *shurikenjutsu* [cf. Otake 2007: 226-231]. Later, the *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland was perhaps. Furthermore, Cynarski was passed in Avignon by *sensei* Roland J. Maroteaux for the master degree in *iaido Takeda-ryu* and this school specializes in *battojutsu* and *batto-giri* tests. Its technique is derived from horse fencing.

Afterward W.J. Cynarski taught the basics of *kenjutsu* in many places in Poland and doubled in Romania. He was also invited to Moscow and to Brno⁴ and he conducted seminars in Germany (*iaido* generally). In Warsaw in 1993 he carried out the first Polish instructor course of *aikibudo/kobudo* (under the auspices of the Polish Martial Arts Federation). Generally, *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* was situated in the Centre for Aikibudo and Kobudo in Poland, which in 1993 was given the name "the Polish Kobudo and Aikibudo Union". The first President and the organizer of the international internships in Tarnów was instructor Stanislaw Cynarski. In Tarnów he taught - among others - a Belgian instructor Jan Janssens, 1 dan in *kobudo Katorishinto-ryu*. Then two technical commissions took care of the temple art of *Katori* i.e. Idokan Poland Association (IPA) and by the Polish AikiBudō & KoBuJutsu Federation, where *sensei* W.J. Cynarski was leader.

Between 1993 and 1995 the *aikibudo/kobudo* movement in Poland competed and divided into centres in Tarnow and Rzeszow, which spurred each other on to set up competitions and develop promotional activities

³ *Uchi-deshi* means 'internal pupil'. Another Pole, who trained with Floquet was Andrzej Bies – pupil of Stanislaw Cynarski. Bies stayed in France.

⁴ Past leaders of *aikibudo* and *kobudo* are not active at present, and present instructors took another roles – Wojciech J. Cynarski (who over last 20 years has been mainly interested in *jujutsu* and *karate*) had to repeat advanced *kobudo* forms with help of *sensei* Michal Vit in Brno.

(internships, screenings, publications). But while *kyoshi* Floquet's *aikibudo* declined in Poland, *kobudo Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* was continuously developing in particular within the framework of the IPA in Rzeszow [Cynarski 2005]. In 1995 *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland with its base in Rzeszow started its activity, which was confirmed by GM Hatakeyama as equivalent to *makimono*⁵. *Shibucho* – director of this *Shibu* – was *sensei* W.J. Cynarski. At the time, this was the first *shibu* of this school apart from Japan and France.

When *shihan* Hatakeyama sent W.J. Cynarski an official school licence to teach, the existence of the *Shibu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* in Poland – The Rzeszow Centre of *Dojo Budokan*, the centre of IPA – was formally announced. It opened up a new chapter in the Polish and European history of the ancient Japanese martial arts. At the same time master Hatakeyama promised his Polish students cooperation within the framework of the *Shibu*. Next, the *Shibu* took the name *Shibu Kobudo* (in Poland), becoming one of a few commissions by the IPA. The *Sensei* of Rzeszow introduced *kenjutsu* and *kobudo* to the educational programmes of the IPA [Cynarski 1998, 1999, 2009: 206-219].

In 2000 W.J. Cynarski took a study trip to Japan. In Tokyo *sensei* Kunikazu Yahagi 8 dan tested and accepted his performed forms of *iaido/iaijutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*. While in Tokyo Cynarski won 2nd place in the IMAF tournament in *kobudo* forms and passed the test for 3rd dan in (*nihonden*) *kobudo* [Stopa 2000].

The popularization of the ancient Japanese *kenjutsu* and *kobudo* arts consisted in putting on numerous shows, recording videos for television, and satellite, publications in specialized periodicals and in several books. Furthermore the *Shibu Kobudo* worked as the Commissioner for studies and research (*kenkyukai*) and was for several years editor of the first specialized scientific journal in Poland⁶. Among other things it published the Polish translation of a portion of the book by Risuke Otake concerning the researches which had to be carried out [Otake 1977; Cynarski 2004a: 343-346].

In February 2003 W.J. Cynarski passed the exam for 3 dan *iaido Idokan* (*sensei* L. Sieber, Munich), and 4 years later that for 4 dan. The centres in Rzeszow and Tarnow are once again collaborating but under the IPA and *shihan* Cynarski have close cooperation with GM Sieber.

Before his death *sensei* Hatakeyama awarded the highest degrees to two Italian *sensei*: Sergio Mor-Stabilini 7 dan and Andrea Re 7 dan, both with the license of *menkyo okuden*. Poles from the *Shibu Kobudo* continue in close cooperation with them.

⁵ According to translation of Embassy of Japan in Poland – license of *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu school*

⁶ Since 2007 periodic under the title: "Ido Movement for Culture. Journal of Martial Arts Anthropology" has been published by the Committee of Scientific Research IPA.

In 2011 in Mszana Dolna in the Polish mountains there was a meeting between the Polish pioneers of *kenjutsu/kobudo* Stanislaw and Wojciech Cynarski and *sensei* Sergio Mor-Stabilini⁷. This Italian martial artist has agreed to join the Polish *Shibu*.

2012 was the 25th anniversary of the *kenjutsu Katorishinto-ryu* in Poland. A Polish-Italian seminar was held in Kraków and the teacher was *sensei* Andrea Re. *Shihan* Stanislaw and *shihan* Wojciech Cynarski took part in this event.

In summer 2014 in France S. Cynarski passed his exam for 1 dan *kobudo/kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* (by Alain Floquet 8 dan). This year W.J. Cynarski organised the 3rd World Scientific Congress of Combat Sports and Martial Arts, and the 3rd IMACSSS International Conference with the Martial Arts Gala. *Sensei* Mor-Stabilini was invited and presented *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* in workshops and in the Gala. Later S. Cynarski practised for two weeks in Brno with Dr Michal Vit 2 dan *kenjutsu/kobudo Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* forms.

And here's another excerpt from his statements about the practice of *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*: "In the last couple of years I repeated the forms of *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* (*kenjutsu, iaido*, different weapons) with Andrea Re (7 dan) and Sergio Mor-Stabilini (7 dan) on several internships, including the Congress Workshops and Martial Arts in Rzeszów in the past year. I was twice in Brno, where I practised advanced forms with Michal Vit (2 dan). I think that I can take this degree of 6 dan, admitted to me and Dan Committee Idokan Poland can accept it. In particular, that in 1993-2013 I passed on the following technical degrees in *dojo* of Lothar Sieber (7 dan, *kyoshi*). I have documents confirming the appointment to *Shibu*, my 6 dan in 1993 (budo-pass FFAAA) and the last trainings with instructors from Italy and the Czech Republic." [Cynarski 2015]

In 2015 there is Jubilee of 20th anniversary of the *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland. *Shihan* Cynarski practised for one week in Munich (with *meijin* Sieber) and received formal recognition of the degrees of 6 dan *kenjutsu, kobudo* and *iaido*.

Chronicle of the *Shibu*

1987, Tarnów – Stanislaw Cynarski (*judo* and *jujutsu* instructor) establishes a correspondence relationship with a French expert Alain Floquet, who held 6 dan *kobudo* of *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* school in accordance with the practice of master Yoshio Sugino (10 dan, *hanshi*).

⁷ Leader of the European University of Martial Arts and Oriental Culture, Brescia (Italy).

1988–1989, Tarnów – *sensei* Stanislaw Cynarski organised the Centre of Aikibudo and Kobudo in Poland, CAKP later renamed the Polish Union of Kobudo and Aikibudo, PUKiA) as well as the first training seminars which demonstrated the basic techniques of *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*. The instructors were Lefranc and Chaigneu from the *aikibudo* school of Alain Floquet (CERA) [Cynarski 2005].

1989, France – Wojciech J. Cynarski (*karate* and *jujutsu* instructor) spent 3 months in France, where he trained in the *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* forms under Alain Floquet's supervision (during international seminars of Aikibudo & Kobudo in Le Temple sur Lot and Lagord, *uchi-deshi* practice in Normandy, and training in Paris). He became a member of the *Federation Francaise d'Aikido, Akibudo et Affinitaires* (FFAAA), and of CERA (*Cercle d'Etude et de Recherche sur l'Aikibudo et le Kobudo*). He was also requested by *sensei* Floquet to teach the style in Poland.

1990, Rzeszów and Tarnów – both Cynarski cousins teach *kenjutsu* basic forms.

1991, Tarnów – international two-week long apprenticeship in Tarnów under the supervision of Jan Janssens from Belgium. Students from Belgium, Rzeszów and Tarnów practised *Aikibudo & Kobudo*. The organiser was S. Cynarski.

1992, February – Tarnów, a week-long seminar under the guidance of Gerald Clerin (4 dan *katori shintō-ryū*) and Poul-Patric Harmant (3 dan) from France. W. J. Cynarski passed the exam for 1 dan rank in A. Floquet's *aikibudo*.

1992, August 2–15 – Logord near La Rochelle. The apprenticeship and International Federation of Aikibudo (FIAB) Congress and the *Shibu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* conference for Europe and Franco-phone countries took place. Poland was represented by W.J. Cynarski (as president and technical director of the *Polish Union of Kobudo and Aikibudo*, PUKiA) during the agenda chaired by GM Yoshio Sugino *hanshi*. At that time, W.J. Cynarski being trained under the guidance of *sensei* Goro Hatakeyama and passed exams in front of Yoshio Sugino and Alain Floquet. He achieved 1 *kyu* rank. W.J. Cynarski teaches *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* in Kraków (January 1992) and in Rebiżant (7–11 July, the 1st Summer Camp of the Rzeszów Centre of *Aikibudo, Kobudo and Jujutsu "Dojo Budokan"*, RODB). November, Warsaw – two historic fights of *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* against the Hussarian sabre whose patron was the Polish Martial Arts Federation). Japanese fencing was represented by W.J. Cynarski while the Polish fencing tradition was represented by Wojciech Zablocki [cf. Stopa 1999].

1993, January – Munich. W.J. Cynarski verified his abilities in sword drawing under *sensei* Lothar Sieber's supervision and he achieved 1 dan in *iaidō*. March – seminar in Rzeszów and establishment of the Idokan

Poland Association (IPA). W.J. Cynarski became its president and technical director. July – Wetlina, Bieszczady mountains. The second Summer Camp was organised by *sensei* W.J. Cynarski, with PUKiA and IPA as patrons. The participants practised *kobudo Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu (kenjutsu, bojutsu, shurikenjutsu)*. August – Lagord: two-week long apprenticeship and the 2nd Congress of FIAB. W.J. Cynarski trained under the supervision of Alain Floquet 6 dan and Goro Hatakeyama 9 dan. He achieved technical 1 dan in *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* and received membership of the French *Shibu*. He also received from GM Goro Hatakeyama the high degree of 6 dan *h.c.* for his fight vs. Zablocki. September – October, Warsaw: W.J. Cynarski led the 1st instructor course of *Aikibudo & Kobudo* (under PUKiA and the *Polish Martial Arts Federation*). In that year a special *naginatajutsu* demonstration took place in the Hotel Marriott in Warsaw (*sensei* W.J. Cynarski)

1994, April W.J. Cynarski created an organisation named the *Polish Takeda-ryu Union* (PUT) and organized a training seminar with *sensei* Maroteaux in Kraków. July – Avignon: W.J. Cynarski trained under the guidance of *joden shihan* Roland J. Maroteaux 6 dan at the *European Sobukai Takeda-ryu* (EST) seminar, where he achieved 1 dan in *aikido* and *iaido Takeda-ryu*. He also practised in Dr Maroteaux's private *dojo* (as *uchi-deshi*). Afterwards, he taught at the 3rd Summer Camp under the auspices of the IPA, PUKiA and PUT.

1995, Goro Hatakeyama established the **Shibu Kobudo in Poland** with its seat in Rzeszów and the President *shibucho* - *sensei* Wojciech J. Cynarski. May – Tarnów: *kenjutsu* and *bojutsu* with Jan Janssens (1 dan *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*); Liege (Belgium): W.J. Cynarski at the apprenticeship and EST Congress. He trained under the guidance of Miyoshi Morita *okuden shihan* and *soke* Hisashi Nakamura 10 dan. He also participated in the 1st European *Batto Shiai* Tournament. He possesses a B instructor licence (national instructor) in *kobudo, kenjutsu* and *iaido* (from IPA and Idokan Europe).

1996, July – Mangalia (Romania): next apprenticeship of EST under the guidance and supervision of Maroteaux and 2 dan in *aikijutsu* for W.J. Cynarski. After that, he taught *Takeda-ryu* fencing at the Summer Camp in Chlapowo. November, Munich: another *uchi-deshi* practice at *sensei* Lothar Sieber's *dojo* (leader of DDBV). W.J. Cynarski achieved 2 dan in *iaido*, having taken the examination earlier.

1997, February – Tarnów. A 6 day-long seminar with Jan Janssens (*aikijujutsu* and *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*). April – W.J. Cynarski passed the exam for 2 dan in *kobudo*, approved by *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland / IPA. He taught *kenjutsu* and *iaido* at the IPA Summer Camp. W.J. Cynarski chaired the *Kobujutsu Committee* at (founded by Stanislaw Cynarski) the *Polish Aiki-Budo and Kobu-Jutsu Federation* in Tarnów. *Tenshinshoden*

Katorishinto-ryu and *Takeda-ryu* fencing included in the *Idokan budo* systems for *kobudo*, *kenjutsu* and *iaido* [Cynarski 1997a, b].

1998, July – Wetlina (Poland). *Sensei* W.J. Cynarski led the 6th IPA Summer Camp, teaching ancient Japanese fencing.

1999, July – Penzberg (Germany). *Iaido* Idokan Europa Seminar under the supervision of *sensei* L. Sieber 5 dan. W.J. Cynarski demonstrated various forms of *iaido* (*iaijutsu*) *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*.

2000, March/April – Tokyo (Japan). The IPA President attended the IMAF apprenticeship where he trained under the guidance of the highest rank *kobudo* and *iaido* masters. He verified his abilities in *iaido Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* under the professional direction of *sensei* Kunikazu Yahagi 8 dan. He mastered the techniques of various traditional weapons and passed an exam for 3 dan in *kobudo*. He received the certificate in September during the IMAF seminar, in Billerbeck (Germany) where he continued *iaido* practice under the direction of Tose 9 dan.

2000-2006 – The Polish *Shibu Kobudo* publishes the Scientific Year's Issue "Ido – Ruch dla Kultury / Movement for Culture" (later, the function was taken over by the IPA Committee of Scientific Research).

2001: The *Polish Aiki-Budo and Kobu-Jutsu Federation* resolved. *Kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* is practised in the *Yoseikan aiki-jujutsu* organisation of Jan Jannsens and S Cynarski, as well as in organisations representing the FIAB (here, Pawel Kliglich – S. Cynarski's follower was the technical director). The *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* section started its activity in Kraków.

2001-2009, young Polish learners of *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* (Hatakeyama's students) show intense organisational activity. Their activity stretched beyond *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland and IPA (RODB officially functions as CAKP). These include among others, Jacek Krzeszowiec, a student of *sensei* Sergio Mor-Stabilini, and who practised under his supervision in Italy.

2003, February – Munich. *Sensei* Lothar Sieber conferred 3 dan rank on W.J. Cynarski.

2004, June – Tarnów. Seminar of the *Polish Aiki-Jujutsu Association* and *Shibu Kobudo* IPA: W. J. Cynarski taught *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* and *Takeda-ryu*.

2005, *Sensei* W.J. Cynarski and his followers, members of the Polish *Shibu Kobudo* practising in the *Rzeszow Center of Aikibudo, Kobudo and Jujutsu "Dojo Budokan"* in Rzeszów performed a presentation of *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* for TVN "Turbo" television. Similarly, *sensei* W.J. Cynarski had appeared in RTL7 channel five years before, together with a section from Strzyżów which he was asked to do after his return from Japan.

2006, April – Czorsztyn (Poland): seminar of *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* led by *shihan* Hatakeyama

9 dan. Mor-Stabilini took part in this training. Sections of the Hatakeyama school practise in Kraków, Lublin and Warsaw.

2007, February – Munich: W.J. Cynarski achieved 4 dan and a licence of examiner of DDBV in *iaido* which allows him to judge examinees in a jury up to 3 dan rank.

2008, Rzeszów: The leader of the Polish *Shibu Kobudo* demonstrated *iaido Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* during the tournament for the 30th anniversary of contact *karate* in Rzeszów.

2009, December: GM Hatakeyama passed away. He was the teacher of most Polish learners of *kenjutsu*.

2011, February – Munich: W.J. Cynarski presented a special training session of *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*. *Kyoshi* Lothar Sieber (7 dan *kenjutsu* and *iaido*) awarded W.J. Cynarski 5 dan in *kenjutsu* and *iaido*.

June/July – Mszana Dolna: M. Kuduk organised an International *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* Seminar. Sergio Mor-Stabilini (7 dan *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu, menkyo okuden*) was the instructor.

2012 – 25th anniversary of *kenjutsu Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* in Poland. Polish-Italian seminar in Kraków.

2013 – *kaiden shihan* W.J. Cynarski teaches at the 20th IPA Summer Camp in Chlapowo/Wladyslawowo.

2014, October: 3rd Congress of IMACSSS in Rzeszów: Sergio Mor-Stabilini 7 dan (*menkyo okuden*) at the workshops and demonstration in the Martial Arts Gala. His assistant was *sensei* Michal Vit from the Czech Republic.

November: Michal Vit and W.J. Cynarski - *naginatajutsu* forms, *bojutsu* and *ryo-to* training in Brno.

2015 – 20th anniversary of the *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland; W.J. Cynarski receives formal recognition of degrees 6 dan *kenjutsu Idokan, kobudo* and *iaido*, and *renshi* title, from Idokan (Munich, February).

Teaching of the *Shibu*

GM Peter Jahnke (1936-1995), teacher of Lothar Sieber practised *kobudo* – *bojutsu, kenjutsu, nunchaku* and *sai*. Sieber's student W.J. Cynarski decided within the terms of Idokan organization to reactivate *Idokan kobudo*, referring to this heritage. As the holder of a degree 4 dan in *kobudo* (similarly to Jahnke), he restarted that system. It took place after years of study under the guidance of outstanding champions in Europe (France, Germany) and in Japan.

W.J. Cynarski studied sword techniques under the systematic direction of the afor-mentioned Masters: *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu (Sugino dojo)*, *Yoseikan, Takeda-ryu* and occasionally *Ono-ha Itto-ryu, Muso-jikiden Eishin-ryū* and other schools with K. Tose 10 dan, T. Ochiai 10 dan, Hisashi Nakamura 10 dan, Kunikazu Yahagi 8 dan. He trained in stick techniques under the

direction of Kazuo Sakai 10 dan, *sai* – at T. Nobetsu 9 dan and L. Sieber 10 dan, *nunchaku* – by Ryusho Sakagami and others [Sorfanatti 1980].

Fencing programme using many different weapons is carried out in various *wushu* and *kobudō* schools. The adept must learn to wield a variety of traditional types of weapons, for example the *bo* against a pair of *sai*, which is also included in the IPA *kobudo* programme

Sensei W.J. Cynarski improved and his skills were verified according to IMAF masters of the highest range and gained 3 dan – the highest technical degree in *kobudo* IPA. As specialist in *Honshu kobudo* he introduced some technical elements of *kenjutsu* and *naginatajutsu* to the programme. This programme was presented in detail in the monograph *Martial Arts – Ido & Idokan* [Cynarski 2009]. Incidentally in February 2009, the technical director of IPA gained the highest licence of *menkyo kaiden* and the Grand Master title *kaiden shihan* in *Idokan Yoshin-ryu budo*.

The programme of *kenjutsu / kobudo Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*, established on 1.10.1984 by Alain Floquet, was accepted by PUKiA and IPA in a similar version as the original (CERA and French *Shibu* of Master school Yoshio Sugino). At present, W.J. Cynarski 6 dan *iaido*, *kenjutsu* and *kobudo*, Technical Director with an international instructor licence class A, teaches the same things as Yoshio Sugino did 20 or 30 years ago.

Polish *Shibu Kobudo* Members and Partners:

1. GM Lothar Sieber 7 dan, *kyoshi*
Sieber has 7 dan in *iaido* and *kenjutsu (Idokan)*; he teaches sword techniques within the framework of the DDBV, IPA and some other organizations. He also has the following Master degrees:
10 dan *judo-do / ido* and *bujutsu ido (Idokan)*
10 dan *jujutsu* (style: *jujutsu-karate Yoshin-ryu*), *meijin*
10 dan *Zendo karate Tai-Te-Tao, soke*
9 dan *karate-do, hanshi* (DFK, WUKO, WUKF)
6 dan *kumdo* (Korean martial art, similar to *kenjutsu* and *kendo*), and 1 dan *kendo, h.c.*
2. *Sensei* Sergio Mor-Stabilini – 7 dan, *menkyo okuden, Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*.
Mor-Stabilini, 7 dan *kenjutsu* and *kobudo*, is the leader of the Italian organization "Jitakyoei Budo & Wushu", Università Europea Arti Marziali e Cultura Orientale. He is a master-teacher 8 dan in karate [Mor-Stabilini 2013] and an expert in some Chinese martial arts as well.
3. Krzysztof Jankowiak – *kenjutsu Takeuchi-ryu, 2nd soke*.
4. W.J. Cynarski – 6 dan, *renshi* (also *judo-do/ido, jujutsu* and *karate* expert).
5. Michal Vit – 3 dan *aikibudo*, 2 dan *kenjutsu* and *kobudo Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*, self-defence expert.
Also, S. Cynarski – 1 dan (and 8 dan *goshinjutsu, 7 dan aiki-jujutsu*), and Harald Weitmann – 5 dan *kobudo*,

4 dan *iaido* (and 8 dan *karatedo, hanshi*). And e.g. Pawel Tuszynski 1 dan *kenjutsu*, and Mariusz Wywrocki 2 kyu.

At present (in 2014) the following Poles are registered in the French *Shibu*: Jacek Krzeszowiec 3 dan, Rafal Salapski 3 dan, Mateusz Kuduk 2 dan and S. Cynarski 1 dan. The French *Shibu* (style/teaching: *Sugino dojo*) are represented by Alain Floquet 8 dan *kobudo* and Daniel Dubreuil 7 dan [Cynarski S. 2015]. The GM is Yukihiro Sugino 9 dan, *hanshi*, son of Yoshio Sugino. It is one *Shibu* style, while the Polish *Shibu* is more open. Since the death of Goro Hatakeyama the Polish *Shibu* has not been under the Japanese *Honbu* – the Headquarters of the *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu* school

Conclusions

Revised and supplemented factual descriptions (in relation to the literature) have been quoted. Features of the pioneers and leaders, activists, organizers and teachers have been presented. This is a particular asset of the classic martial arts (*kenjutsu, kobudo*), that may attract enthusiasts to the next meeting (training seminars) for the practical study of martial arts. Important moments which described the history were illustrated with photographic material.

The organization of *Shibu Kobudo* in Poland is rather small, exclusive and non commercial. It is not directly under the Japanese *Honbu*, but it works autonomously. It is also more open to teaching schools and styles other than the French *Shibu*.

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– Certificates for titles, 'dan' degrees and of participation in seminars.
– Embassy of Japan in Poland, letter to Wojciech J. Cynarski with translation of the *makimono*, Warsaw, 5.03.1999 [in Polish].
– Licence of *Tenshinseiden Katorishinto-ryu*, *makimono* for the *Shibu* in Poland.
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Appendix - photographs



Fig. 1. Logo *Tenshinshoden Katorishinto-ryu*



Photo 1. European and French Shibu, Lagord 1992: E. Louw, G. Hatakeyama, A. Floquet, W.J. Cynarski and D. Dubreuil.

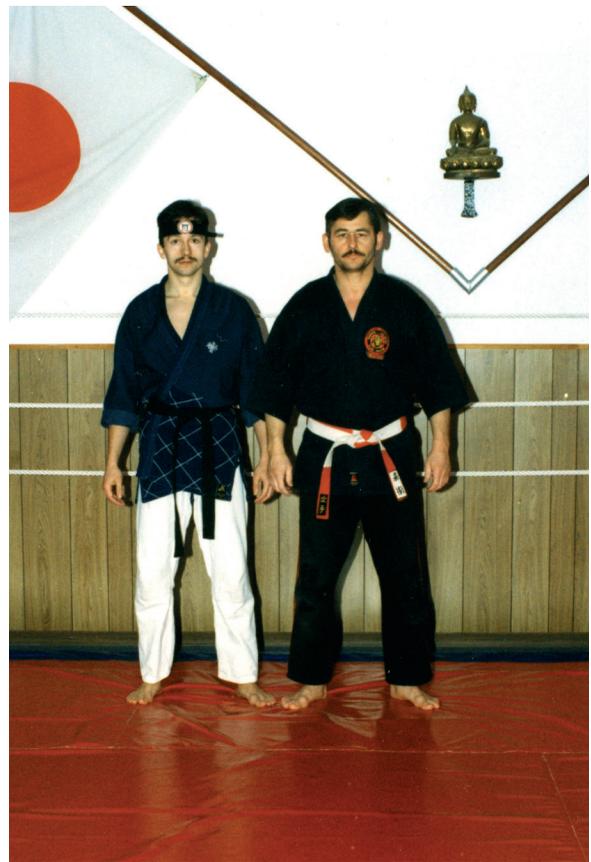


Photo 2. W.J. Cynarski and Lothar Sieber in Sport School L. Sieber, Munich 1995.



Photo 3. Sensei Serigo Mor-Stabilini with *naginata*.



Photo 4. 2nd place for W.J. Cynarski in IMAF Kobudo Contest, Tokyo 2000.



Photo 5. S. Mor-Stabilini with a group from Tarnow, Kraków 2010.



Photo 6. End of the Seminar in Mszana Dolna – S. Cynarski, S. Mor-Stabilini and W.J. Cynarski.



Photo 7. 19th Summer Camp IPA in Chlapowo – *sensei* W.J. Cynarski.



Photo 8 a-b. Workshop in Rzeszów during the Congress of IMACSSS – *sensei* S. Mor-Stabilini and W.J. Cynarski; Rzeszow 2014.



Photo 9. W.J. Cynarski and Michal Vit, Academic Dojo in Brno, 2014.



Photo 10. Christian Brandt 3 dan *iaido* (in the middle of group) and his examiners – W.J. Cynarski and L. Sieber; Munich, Feb. 2015.

Jubileusz Shibu Kobudo w Polsce 1995–2015

Słowa kluczowe: sztuki walki, *Katorishinto-ryu*, *shibu*, działalność organizacji

Abstrakt

Problem naukowy. Celem pracy jest opis faktograficzny i wyjaśnienie funkcjonowania organizacji sztuk walki, nawiązującej do XV-wiecznej tradycji japońskiej szermierki. Jest to działająca w Polsce od 20 lat *Shibu Kobudo*. Perspektywę teoretyczną dla podjętych tu analiz i refleksji współtworzą: historia kultury fizycznej, socjologia kultury, humanistyczna teoria sztuk walki, hopologia i antropologia sztuk walki.

Metoda. Zastosowano analizę źródeł i treści istniejących opracowań – literatury przedmiotu. Jest to m.in. analiza treści dokumentów, fotografii, popularnych czasopism, oraz wyko-

rzystano relację bezpośrednią uczestnika opisywanych zdarzeń. Ponadto autorzy stosują metodę obserwacji uczestniczącej, jako jednocześnie uczestnicy i bezpośredni obserwatorzy części opisywanych zdarzeń.

Wyniki. Przytoczono poprawiony i uzupełniony (w stosunku do literatury przedmiotu) opis faktograficzny. Wyeksponowano dokonania pionierów i liderów – działaczy, organizatorów i nauczycieli. Stwierdzono szczególny walor klasycznych sztuk walki (*kenjutsu*, *kobudo*), które przyciągają entuzjastów na kolejne spotkania dla praktycznych studiów. Istotne momenty opisanej historii zilustrowano materiałem fotograficznym.

Wnioski. Opisana organizacja jest raczej mała, ekskluzywna, nieskomercjalizowana. Nie podlega bezpośrednio pod japońskie *Honbu*, lecz działa autonomicznie. Jest też bardziej otwarta na nauczanie innych szkół, niż *Shibu* Francuskie.