



# International Taekwon-Do Federation

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In newsletter number 4 we wrote that a full report of General Choi Hong Hi's visit to China with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea demonstration team would be fully reported in the Autumn issue of Human Weapon magazine. However we have received more information in the meantime and therefore have brought out this newsletter to report on it.

General Choi Hong Hi, as President of the International Taekwon-Do Federation (ITF), led a demonstration team from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPR Korea) to the People's Republic of China (China) from June 10th. to 24th. following an invitation from the Chinese Sports' Federation to the demonstration team of the Korea TKD Association. During his visit General Choi Hong Hi met the Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Assembly, Mr. Liu Han Sheng, as well as the Chairman of the Chinese Sports' Assembly and many other important officials from the field of Martial Arts. General Choi Hong Hi discussed Taekwon-Do with all of the aforementioned people. They all ardently welcomed his visit to China as Founder of TKD and President of the ITF and highly praised TKD. They all agreed the Excellence of TKD and, to introduce TKD as a new sport's item to China.

The DPR Korea demonstration team gave four demonstrations, in Peking Grand Gymnasium; Peking Sports' University Gymnasium; Xi'An Gymnasium; and Jinan Gymnasium. The demonstrations were given amidst a warm welcome from many enthusiastic sports' people as well as members of the ordinary public. Following each demonstration they were highly applauded and we enclose some Chinese newspaper articles about the visit with the english interpretation.

Having sought the help of the Chinese Embassy in Vienna with some of the spelling we trust that all is well but ask your forgiveness if some are incorrect.

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## THE FOUNDER OF TAEKWON-DO SPEAKS

TKD is one of the new sports items to most Chinese people. As a matter of fact this sport has a history of thirty years from 1955 when it was founded. This journalist had the opportunity to speak with General Choi Hong Hi, the Founder of Taekwon-Do and President of the International Taekwon-do Federation, who, while explaining why he had founded this sport, said that he had for a long time been thinking about how to make a sport which would make people healthy and which would also enable them to defend themselves. Therefore he had endeavoured for about ten years since 1946 to do so and finally in 1955 he finalised the main structure and named it Taekwon-Do which means a martial art using feet and hands. General Choi Hong Hi spoke further as follows:

" Taekwon-Do is a mixture between the conscientiousness of the East and scientific technique which combined enable a person to display his capacity to the utmost in following the ideals which are my view of life. TKD has 3200 different basic movements. Tournaments consist of four different items. First is Tul (pattern) for which three must be performed from a total of twenty four which are available. Points are given according to the degree of excellence in executing power, breath control, timing, rhythm, beauty etc. Second is sparring which is one person against another and which must be controlled. Third is power which is normally forefist, knifehand, sidekick, turningkick, and reverse turningkick which are used to break tiles, bricks and wood. Fourth is special technique which has five items for jumping either high or long and using different parts of the foot to break the targets. The final score is an addition of the points gained from each item. TKD is divided into Degree members from the highest at 9 to the lowest at 1 and beneath that are Kup members from the highest at 1 to the lowest at 10. In 1966 the ITF was officially founded and for 20 years this sport has developed rapidly. At present already 81 countries have affiliates with the ITF. There are already 25 million TKD enthusiasts in the world. The World Championships are held every 3 years; Continental Tournaments are held every 2 years; and National Tournaments are held every year. TKD is very popular in the American Continent where tournaments are held every week. I now have Canadian Citizenship and live in Toronto but spend one third of my time in visiting different countries to give seminars on TKD. My responsibility is to develop TKD and I will do my utmost for TKD in China which I love very much. One purpose of my visit to China is to see active cooperation between China and Korea in accelerating the development of Taekwon-Do in your countries.

## LIU HAN SHENG MEETS THE KOREA TKD DELEGATION

Liu Han Sheng the Vice Chairman of the Permanent Committee for the Chinese People's National Assembly received the TKD delegation of the DPRK. In a cordial conversation Mr. Liu praised that Koreans had scored an active success in developing their own sport and he added: " For several years past an exchange of sport has quickly been developing between our two countries and we have a mutual respect in that, although some sports are not so popular, we both develop our sports during these times. Finally I wish success during the visit to China of the Korean demonstration team.

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THE UNFORGETTABLE HIGH TECHNIQUE PERFORMANCE BY THE  
KOREAN DEMONSTRATION TEAM WAS WARMLY WELCOMED AND  
ONCE SEEN WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

The TKD team of the DPRK which visited China for the first time on June 13th. gave their first demonstration in the Capital City of Peking. Their high kicks, striking and punching techniques gave a deep impression to the people of the Capital City. Of the 25 demonstrators 7 were females. One of the items was a male demonstrator defending himself against the attacks of 5 others. Others demonstrated the breaking of bricks and roof tiles of different thicknesses, also at different heights, using fist, palm, backfist, and elbow. Even a girl's frail body broke, after 'flying', a 3cm. thick piece of wood using 1 foot. Their excellent demonstration caused enormous applause from the spectators.

The President of the Wu-Shu Association, Mr. Xu Cai, the President of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, General Choi Hong Hi, Founder of TKD and the Korean Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, His Excellency, Sin In Ha, attended the demonstration. Following the demonstration the delegation of the Korea TKD Association presented a set of the Taekwon-Do Encyclopaedia to Peking Sports' Institute.

KOREA TAEKWON-DO DEMONSTRATION TEAM WILL  
DEMONSTRATE IN OUR CITY (XI'AN) ON JUNE 16th.

TKD is a martial art using quick foot and hand movements which is similar to Chinese Santah. TKD became one of the items of the 10th. Asian Games. The delegation visiting our city at this time consists of 30 excellent practitioners and among them are 6 girls. The head of the practitioners is Mr. Song Il Sob and the President of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, General Choi Hong Hi, is also present. The delegation will show the citizens some very good technique.

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