

Form Definitions

White: Basic One – 20 movements.

Gold: Chong-Ji – 19 movements – Means literally “Heaven and 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.

Purple: Dan Gun – 21 movements – named after the Holy Dan Gun, legendary founder of Korea in 2333 B.C.

High Purple: Do-San – 24 movements – is the pseudonym of the patriot Ahn Chang-Ho (1876-1938) who devoted his entire life to furthering the education of his people and the independence movement.

Green: Won-Hyo – 28 movements – Noted monk who introduced Buddhism to the Silla dynasty in 686 A.D.

High Green: Yul-Gok – 38 Movements – is the pseudonym of the great philosopher and scholar Yi I (1526-1584 A.D.) nicknamed the “Confucius of Korea”. The 38 movements of this pattern represent his birthplace on the 38th degree latitude and the diagram represents “Scholar”.

Brown: Joong-Gun – 32 movements – is named after the patriot An 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. An’s age when he was executed in Lui-Shung Prison (1910).

High Brown: Toi-Gye – 37 Movements – is the pseudonym of the noted scholar Yi Hwang (16th Century A.D.), an authority on Neo-Confucianism. The 37 movements of this pattern refer to his birthplace on the 37th degree latitude; the diagram represents “Scholar”.

Red: Hwa-Rang – 29 movements- is named after the Hwa-Rang Youth movement which originated during the Silla Dynasty about 1350 years ago. This group eventually became the driving force behind the unification of the three kingdoms of Korea. The 29 movements in this pattern refer to the 29th Infantry Division where Tae Kwon Do developed into maturity.

High Red: Choong-Moo – 30 movements- was the given name of the great Admiral Yi-Sun-Sin of the Yi Dynasty. He was reputed to have invented the first armored battleship (kobukson) which was the precursor of the present submarine in 1592 A.D. The reason this pattern ends with a left handed attack is to symbolize his regrettable death having never shown his unrestrained potentiality checked by the forced reservation of his loyalty to the King.

Kwan-Gae -39 movements- is picked after Kwan Gae To'Wang, the 19th King of the Koguryo Dynasty who reclaimed all the lost territories, including the greater part of Manchuria. The diagram represents the expansion and recovery of lost territory. The 39 movements in this pattern refer to his reign of 39 years.

Koryo – 30 movements-

Po-Eun -36 movements- is the pseudonym a loyal subject Chong Mong-Chu (14th Century A.D) who was a famous poet. His poem "I would not serve another master if I were 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 king and country towards the end of the Koryo Dynasty.

Gae-Baek -44 movements- is named after Ge-Baek, a great general in the Baek Je Dynasty (660 AD). The diagram represents his severe and strict military discipline.

Eui-Am -45 movements- is the pseudonym of Son Byong Hi, leader of the Korean independence movement on March 1st, 1919. The 45 movements relate 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 while dedicating himself to the prosperity of his nation.

Choong-Jang - 52 movements- is the pseudonym given to General Kim Duk Ryang who lived during the Yi Dynasty, fifteenth 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 -39 movements- is the pseudonym of the patriot Cho Man Sik who dedicated his life to the independence movement and the education of his people. The 39 movements signify his times of imprisonment, and his birthplace on the 39th parallel.

Sam-il -33 movements- denotes the historical date of the independence movement of Korea which began throughout the country on March 1st, 1919. The 33 movements in the pattern stand for the 33 patriots who planned the movement.

Yoo-Sin –68 movements- is named after General Kim Yoo Sin, commanding general during the Silla Dynasty, who unified the three separate kingdoms of Korea. The 68 movements refer to the last two figures of 668 A.D. The year Korea was united.

Choi-Yong –46 movements- is named after General Choi Yong, Premier and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces during the fourteenth 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 Yi Dynasty.

Yon-Ge -49 movements- is named after a famous general during the Koguryo Dynasty, Yon Gae-Somun. The 49 movements refer to the last two figures of 649 A.D., the year he forced the Dang Dynasty to quit Korea after destroying nearly 300,000 Chinese troops at Ansi Sung.

UI-Ji -42 movements- is named after general UI-Ji Mun Duk who successfully defended Korea against a Chinese invasion force of nearly one million soldiers lead by Yang Je in 612 A.D. UI-Ji employing hit-and-run guerilla tactics was able to decimate a large percentage of the force. The diagram represents his surname. The 42 Movements represents the author's age when he designed the pattern.

Moon-Moo –61 movements- honors the thirtieth 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 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 figures of 661 A.D. when Moon Moo came to the throne.

So-San -72 movements- is the pseudonym of the great monk Choi Hyung Ung, 1520-1604, during the Yi Dynasty. The 72 movements refer to his age when he organized a corps of monk soldiers with the assistance of his pupil Samung Dang. The monk soldiers helped repulse the Japanese pirates who overran most of the Korean peninsula in 1592.

Se-Jong -24 movements- is named after the greatest Korean king, Se-Jong, who invented the Korean alphabet in 1443 A.D., 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 -61 movements- denotes the resolution of the unification of Korea which has been divided since 1945. The diagram symbolizes the homogenous race.