



July 16, 2013

Dear ITKF members,

It is very disheartening to see the way people are fighting with slanderous accusations against each other. Unfortunately core issues are being ignored completely.

I support ITKF and not the individuals. Every member has a right to seek resignation of officials it is dissatisfied with. However, it must be done during the Congress where they could vote out old executives and elect new one.

If there are serious allegations against any individual, the allegations must be supported by evidence to help members arrive at a conclusion. Despite numerous requests for evidence, nothing is forthcoming from people involved in raising allegations. Interestingly, in response to the request for evidence, new theories and persons are fielded to drive attention off the main issue.

There is no doubt that great works have been carried in Poland by PZKT and I admire them. However, this cannot blind me to ignore errors. Great works do not give anyone immunity for serious offenses.

Over the past month, I am seeing a wrong parameter being created to compare individuals. The basis of this comparison is fundamentally wrong. If we go by the notion of comparison of personalities and countries the way it is being propagated, then Italy and Shirai Sensei stand atop others including USA and its then Chief, legendry master Sensei Nishiyama. Brazil, Argentina, Romania, UK will also leave the great master behind. **Are we going to make this "the trend of comparison" in future?**

I had serious differences of opinion with Mr. Rick Jorgensen as well. But this does not result in hatred. **My support or opposition is always issue-based.**

Some members raised questions about shrinking ITKF membership base and rightfully asked it but wrongly assessed the reasons. One must revisit history to find the correct answer. When the 1st

World Championship Tournament was organised in 1970, WUKO came into being. (It was Dr. Vladimir Jorga who had invented this name that was unanimously accepted). In 1972, Dr. Ilija Jorga was elected as 1st Vice-President of WUKO in Paris. However, Dr. Ilija Jorga resigned in order to take side with Sensei Nishiyama who was NOT allowed to enter into the conference hall at that time. With the formation of IAKF, there was a notion wrongly propagated that IAKF (ITKF) was JKA organisation. Later on, even JKA started treating as if ITKF was Sensei Nishiyama's organisation whereas Sensei Nishiyama tried very hard to convince that it is multiple style organization. Had karate people worldwide accepted ITKF as multiple style organization, we would have many more members. Post-1985 IOC recognition of WUKO, our organisations collapsed. However, Dr. Jorga brothers worked extremely hard to garner support from Eastern European countries that helped ITKF regain its lost ground.

Every members of ITKF is important and have their own role to play.

After Sensei Nishiyama's passing away, I wanted Nishiyama Foundation to be created so as the Great Master is honoured by all – his lifetime foes and friends. I had strongly opposed the idea of naming any style after him. My opposition was based on the reason that his stature of a global leader shall be reduced as many people will misuse the position of heir of his legacy and will boast it as advertisement punch-line that will alienate many more instructors from ITKF. I had an interaction with a number of senior legendary masters who shared the same view. Do we want to convert ITKF into a dojo organisation?

I admire some of the member's honest admission of no knowledge of organisational functioning and their priority on training alone. It is indeed commendable observation that karate is not about organisation. However, if this truly is the case then the problems are automatically resolved.

If the members wish to remove or elect new Chairman, they must do it in Congress.

- 1. Why were such issues NOT raised in the last Congress that took place just a few months ago in 2012 October in Poland?**
- 2. Did all the mistakes of ITKF Chairman and ITKF office occur in the last 6 months?**

I know that these are very uncomfortable questions and I will never get the answer. Yes, someone else might pitch-in with yet another statement and **NO** answer to the questions.

Dear members, let me explain as to why some people are in hurry? WKF was very close to getting Olympic sport status. In July last year, I was in London during Olympics and with the help of a very influential person, worked extensively to ensure that WKF Karate does not become Olympic sport without ITKF's Traditional Karate. We succeeded in convincing a number of people along this line (though there was a general feeling in favour of inclusion of WKF Karate as an event). Followed by this act, we got Mr. Imtiaz Abdulla (ex-Vice President of WKF who lobbied against WKF on my request) come out with OPEN statement that sent ripples in 2012 November Media Conference. I did so on the request of ITKF Chairman who pleaded me to help ITKF. There was a collective plan to bring in 18 African countries into ITKF fold followed by entire Africa to move out of WKF.

The results were already out well before IOC Executive Board meeting in May 2013 in St. Petersburg. Now WKF is desperate to break ITKF into pieces so as one group goes to merge with WKF and the leader of this split group to be awarded with the office of Vice-President of WKF. Right now you may disagree, however, time will tell the truth.

Congress is the place to vote-in or vote-out any official. Hence all these issues must be addressed in the Congress. If there is genuine evidence of the allegations, we will also vote against the current Chairman. But we cannot be a party to the split in ITKF.

There might have been accusation of my being too critical of some individuals. You have copies of all the communications – please advise point by point as to where do I get partial or prejudiced. If I raise question – there is NO ONE to give straight answer instead few people are pitched in to divert the attention to other topic.

Many times I used to think whether my withdrawal from ITKF Board of Directors was a right step or not. Now I realize that I was right.

All the members are free to take any decision and this is my **last letter on the subject**. I sincerely appreciate being with you and leave for vacation with the following questions.

- a. Why were such issues NOT raised in the last ITKF Congress that took place just a few months ago in 2012 October in Poland?**

- b. Did all the mistakes of ITKF Chairman and ITKF office occur in the last 6 months?**

- c. Why are the seniors, Shihankai, Sensei Shirai, Sensei Tanaka, Sensei Inoki, Sensei Ilija ignored in the so-called ITKF “restructure” bid?**

Sincerely Yours;

Rajeev Sinha