



MOORE EAGLE TKD



August, 2011

AUGUST TUITION IS DUE

Happy Birthday to:

Mr. Daniel Moore
August 3

Mr. Cordel Kaucher
August 19



INSTRUCTORS

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CLASSES

Clear Lake Christian Academy
14325 Crescent Landing Drive
T/TH 6:00 - 7:00 pm

INFORMATION

For more information, visit our website at
www.moore-eagletkd.com

Part 2 By Andrew Adams from blackbeltmag.com

NINJA HISTORY 101

The ninja were accomplished pharmacists, skilled in preparing different poisons and special powders and compounds. Ninjutsu training in yogen (pharmacy) also allowed them to prepare gunpowder and explosives, medicines and even concentrated foods as part of their ninja gear.

Ninja Gear #1: Poisons

Poisons were made from mineral, plant and animal sources. They were potent enough to kill, but could be devised for putting the enemy to sleep, paralyzing him or making him shake with laughter. Dirks, darts and arrows were tipped with poison for use in assassinations. A poison water gun was designed to blind enemies. It consisted of a long piece of bamboo with a tiny hole at the business end. The ninja concocted the poisonous water and poured it into the hollow bamboo. A smaller piece of bamboo was slid inside the larger section and fitted with a rag at the front end. The small piece was inserted and quickly shoved home, forcing the poisoned water out through the tiny hole. The poison water was usually made from iron powder and a mixture that was ordinarily used to stain the teeth of married women.



Ninja Gear #2: Special Devices

In addition to poisons, the ninja also had a staggering array of special devices useful to them in their trade. They had all sorts of grappling hooks and ropes for scaling walls and gaining entrance to castles. Some of the more remarkable devices were those for crossing water. So adept were they at crossing moats, rivers and lakes that legend had it they could walk on water. Actually, the ninja had a number of water-crossing devices. One was the ukidaru, or floating pots. They would encase their feet in waterproof reed pots tightly woven for the purpose and use a fan-like oar to "walk" across a moat. They might also use air-filled skins or other attachments to their feet. Another water-crossing device was a contraption resembling a life jacket. Usually made of rabbit or horse skins and filled with air, it was divided into four parts. One section was strapped on each side of the ninja and a third at the rear. They straddled the fourth section and went to work with their trusty bamboo oar. These feudal-age "water wings" came in handy, especially when crossing an enemy's castle moat at night.

Ninja Gear #3: The Black Costume

The trademark of the ninja was their black costume. The jacket, somewhat resembling the modern judo top, was equipped with various pockets for holding weapons and other devices. A black hood covered the face, with a pair of slits for the eyes. Black trousers and leggings covered the lower part of the body, while the feet were concealed in black tabi and sandals.

Since ninja were sometimes called upon to fight alongside soldiers on the battlefield, they were also equipped with a combat uniform. They wore a jacket and leggings of chain mail. Their wrists, hands, neck and head were also protected by mail. All in



UPCOMING EVENTS

Kingsland Color Belt Tournament

August 20, 2011 @ Kingsland Baptist Church
20555 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, Texas 77450

Midlothian Invitational Taekwon-Do Tournament

Saturday, September 17 · 8:00am - 5:00pm
First United Methodist Church ; 800 South 9th St. ; Midlothian, Tx
Registration forms available at www.moore-eagletkd.com

Ninja History 101 Part 2

all, their combat costume was a formidable outfit. Like the Green Berets, the ninja operated in small bands in which each man was a specialist in some form of ninjutsu training. They had such a huge assortment of ninja weapons they were expected to master that it was only natural that some men became more adept at specific ninjutsu weapons. Nonetheless, they were still expected to be proficient in all the ninja weapons in their arsenal. They were highly skilled in the use of standard weapons like the sword, spear, and bow and arrow, of course. But it was the array of specialized ninjutsu weapons that made them such feared fighters.

Ninjutsu Weapon #1: Shuko

One was called a shuko. It was made of a small metal plate that slipped over the knuckles. It also had four spikes extending from the palm. Thus, a ninja could rake an enemy's face with a front palm swipe or break his jaw with a blow with the back of the hand. It was also useful for gripping while climbing trees and walls. Whenever ninja started out on a mission, they invariably stuffed their pockets with tonki, a class of small weapons used primarily for escape tactics. It included a bewildering assortment of dirks, daggers, darts and throwing weapons.

Ninjutsu Weapon #2: Caltrops

Ninja used a particularly vicious item called the caltrop. When ninja were being pursued, a favorite trick to slow down the enemy was to strew a number of the four-pointed caltrops behind them. They were designed so that no matter which way they landed, one sharp point always protruded straight up. Since in those days the Japanese typically wore straw sandals, one step on a caltrop was usually enough to stop a pursuer. The caltrops were also spread around encampments or along castle walls and approaches to stop ninja spies from entering.

Ninjutsu Weapon #3: Shuriken

Shuriken were also an indispensable part of the tonki. They were star-shaped weapons held between the thumb and forefinger and tossed overhead or side-armed with a quick, spinning motion. Ninja constantly practiced throwing them at tree trunks, posts and other fixed targets. Accurate aiming and swift throwing eventually became second nature to them.

Ninjutsu Weapon #4: Kyotetsu-shoge

Another potent weapon was the kyotetsu-shoge. It had a metal ring at one end of a cord and a double-pointed knife at the other. The end with the ring was thrown and wrapped around an opponent's arm, after which the ninja pulled him close. They then cut down sharply with the curved knife edge across the enemy's neck and followed through with the straight knife by thrusting upward into a vital spot. The ring could also be tossed around one leg so the ninja could pull their attacker off-balance and spring on him with the knife.

Ninjutsu Weapon #5: Bamboo Staff

An innocent-looking bamboo staff used by a seemingly helpless priest could be a powerful weapon when wielded by ninja. If attacked by a swordsman, they would suddenly stoop low and swing their staff along the ground with their right hand. Out would come a weight and chain that wrapped itself around the enemy's leg. The ninja would then jerk him forward into the ground. Moving in quickly toward their quarry, they would slam the opposite end of the staff into the enemy's head. Some bamboo staffs were equipped with small feathered darts at one hollow end and weighted with lead at the opposite end. Presumably going on the defensive by bracing themselves for a sword attack, ninja would suddenly flick their staff forward and let fly a dart in the enemy's face. If the opponent ducked out of the way in time, the ninja would rush in for the kill, reversing their staff and clobbering the enemy on the back of the head with the weighted end.

Ninjutsu Weapon #6: Explosives

Interestingly enough, the ninja were also skilled in the use of explosives. They used smoke grenades, mines, and flashing balls to confuse their opponent while they escaped, as well as explosive arrows and firecrackers. Until gunpowder and firearms were introduced by Portuguese traders in the mid-16th century, the ninja were pretty much limited in the use of fire and smoke to signal fires. But they did develop a sort of gun made from bamboo that had a range of up to 60 feet. After the Portuguese arrived, the ninja also used derringers and other handguns.

Ninjutsu Weapon #7: Bamboo Bows

Arrows were a favorite weapon of the ninja, and they used all kinds, including explosive and poison-tipped ones. Their bamboo bows were small and light to make them easy to carry, but they were very effective. Much as American Indians shot flaming arrows into forts and log cabins, the ninja also had fire arrows. They used them not only to start fires but also to shoot into enemy ranks to frighten them and their horses.

Verse of the Week - The Path to Your Destiny

Send me your son David, who is with the sheep. 1 Samuel 16:19

Listen: "Then Saul sent word to Jesse, saying, "Allow David to remain in my service, for I am pleased with him. Whenever the spirit from God came upon Saul, David would . . . play . . . and the evil spirit would leave him" (1 Samuel 16:22-23). If you are serious about finding and fulfilling your God-given destiny, notice three things:

- (1) When the time is right and you are ready, God will send for you! He'll open doors and give you favor with the right people. Who notices a shepherd boy tending a few sheep? God does! Your faithfulness in your present assignment is what qualifies you in God's eyes for your future one. So don't get discouraged or impatient - just stay faithful! God knows where to find you!
- (2) God requires talent - and character! The fact that David was "cunning in playing the harp" got him the job. But ultimately it was his personal integrity and commitment to God that allowed him to keep it - and grow spiritually, even though he was in a hostile environment. God knows, even though you don't, how important the lessons you're learning right now are to your future and His plan. So don't blow it!
- (3) God gives us assignments that feel uncomfortable! David, who was chosen by God, was called to serve Saul, who was jealous, insecure and troubled by an evil spirit. Why? Because when you can succeed here you can succeed anywhere. It's here that you learn to love the unlovable, and fulfill God's purposes too. It's here you "grow in grace." Bottom line: this is the path to your destiny.