

The Root – BU

As martial arts practitioner, we see “BU” in the commonly used terms as Budo, Bushido, Budokan, etc. What is the “BU” that is ever present.

Bucho Matsumura, the famous Okinawan Master, said you must firmly resolve to study if you wish to understand the truth of martial arts. This resolve is very important.

I believe that your attainment of Shodan (Black Belt) must have this resolution as it’s emphasis. Matsumura also emphasizes the term “Budo-No-Bugei” which encompasses the seven virtues of “BU”. Those who practice Budo-No-Bugei are loyal to their friends, their parents and their country. They will do nothing that is unnatural or contrary to nature.

These Seven Virtues are;

1. Gi - Rectitude (Right Decisions)
 2. Yu - Courage
 3. Jin - Benevolence
 4. Rei - Respect
 5. Makoto - Honesty
 6. Meiyō - Honor
 7. Chuugi - Loyalty
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1. Bu – Prohibits violence
 2. Bu – Keeps discipline in soldiers
 3. Bu – Keeps control among the population
 4. Bu – Spreads virtue
 5. Bu – Gives a peaceful heart
 6. Bu – Helps keep peace between people
 7. Bu – Makes people or a nation prosperous

With application of Budo-No-Bugei, you can let the enemy destroy himself. Just wait with a calm heart and the enemy will defeat himself.