

## Togakure Ryu Ninpo "Hidden Door" School

Togakure Ryu was founded by Diasuke Nishina in the late 12th century, who was raised as a vassal of Kiso Yoshinaka in the early 12th century. When Yoshinaka's army was defeated in battle, Diasuke escaped to Iga. There he learned various martial skills such as kosshijutsu and kenjutsu from Kagakure Doshi. It was initially called Togakure Ryu Happo Biken but has been called by various names since that time.

What is now the Godan (5th Dan) test in the Bujinkan Dojo is mentioned in the Togakure Ryu Makimono scrolls (held by Masaaki Hatsumi, in a section called "Timmon Jimon").

Togakure Ryu is believed to be the oldest school of ninjutsu still in existence today. This school is among other things known for its unusual weapons. The arsenal includes hand claws, foot claws, square shuriken, eight-point shuriken and boshuriken.

The three secrets of the Togakure Ryu are known as "Sanpo hidden"

### Happo

- 1 Taijutsu, Hichojujutsu, Nawa-waza
- 2 Karate, Koppojutsu, Jutaijutsu
- 3 Sojutsu, Naginatajutsu
- 4 Bojutsu, Jojutsu, Hanbojutsu
- 5 Senban nage, Ken Nagejutsu, Shurikenjutsu
- 6 Kajutsu, Suijutsu
- 7 Chikujo, Gunryaku Hyoho
- 8 Onshinju tsu, Moku-ka-do-ki sui, Goton Juppoju tsu, Bikenjutsu
- 9 Kenpo, Kodachi, Juttejutsu, Tessenjutsu

### Some of the main teachings of the Togakure Ryu are:

"Violence is to be avoided, and Ninpo is Bujutsu"  
"Sword to be peaceful, and protect country, family and nature"



### Characteristics

low and wide kamae  
shuko  
shinodake  
shuriken

### The Weapons

#### Senban Shuriken

The four pointed throwing star, the symbol of the school, was once a metal plate for lifting nails out of wood.

#### Shuko

Also known as Tekagi these are the famous metal bands that go around the hand, with four metal spikes protecting the palm. This was a climbing tool as well as a defence against swords.

#### Shindake

Small bamboo tube (4 feet long) to aid breathing under water, sometimes a broken scabbard was used.

There are yet another Sanpo Hiden, the Eyes, ears and groin...the kyusho or pressure points of the school.

### The Soke Lineage

01 Togakure Daisuke also known as Nishina	1161	18 Kataoka Heizaemon	
02 Shima Kosanta Minamoto no kanesada	1180	19 Mori Ugenta	
03 Togakure Goro	1200	20 Toda Godei	
04 Togakure Kosanta		21 Kobe Seiun	
05 Koga Kisanta		22 Mumochi Kobei	
06 Kaneko Tomoharu		23 Tebari Tenzen	
07 Togakure Ryuho		24 Toda Seiryu Nobutsuna	1624-1644
08 Togakure Gakuun		25 Toda Fudo Nobochika	1658-1681
09 Kido Kosei		26 Toda Kangoro Nobuyasu	1681-1704
10 Iga Tenryu		27 Toda Eisaburo Nobumasa	1704-1711
11 Ueno Rihei		28 Toda Shinbex Masachika	1711-1736
12 Ueno Senri		29 Toda Shingoro Masayoshi	1736-1764
13 Ueno Manjiro		30 Toda Daigoro Chikahide	1764-1804
14 Iizuka Saburo		31 Toda Daisaburo Chikashige	1804
15 Sawada Goro		32 Toda Shinryuken Masamitsu	1824-1909
16 Ozaru Ippe		33 Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1887-1972
17 Kimate Hachiro		34 Hatsumi Masaaki	1931



## Kukishinden Ryu Happo Hiken "Nine Daemons" School

Kukishinden Ryu was founded by Izumo Koshiro Yoshiteru in the 12th century. It originated from the Kukishin Ryu, a martial art that was formed around larger weapons. For example, it studied how the naginata could be broken into the bo and how the bo could be broken into the hanbo. Kukishin was popular with seamen who used rigging as makeshift weapons against pirates.

It probably became Kukishinden Ryu around the 17th Century, when Ohkuni Kihei Shigenobu held the Menkyo Kaiden and was added to the nine schools of ninjutsu because Ishitani Matsutaro worked at Takamatsu's father's factory, and this was where he met Takamatsu. Takamatsu was told by Toda (his grandfather) that he should never challenge Ishitani to a sword fight, for he was a famous martial artist, and the swordsmanship of Kushikenden Ryu was superior than that of Togakure Ryu.

Takamatsu heeded these words, but challenged Ishitani to a Taijutsu contest, and he was easily beaten. Takamatsu requested that Ishitani teach him Kukishenden Ryu, which he did, many believe that Takamatsu did not become the soke of the Kukishin Ryu because it would upset the Japanese government due to his involvement in guerilla warfare.

### Happo Hikenjutsu

- 1 Bo
- 2 Ken
- 3 Naginata
- 4 Shuriken
- 5 Kusirigama
- 6 Hi
- 7 Miza
- 8 Taijutsu



#### Characteristics

bo ryaku (special strategy)  
sui & ka ren  
onshin jutsu (disguise)

#### The Weapons

##### Kusarigama

developed from Kaginawa (hook and rope)

##### Daisharin

a weapon developed from the naval aspects of the school, it was a long (7-8 ft) pole, with 2x3 inch circular pieces of wood running down it - it was used as the axle mount for the base of a ship prior to launch.

#### The Soke Lineage

01 Izumo Kanja Yoshiteru		12 Otone Genpachi Yoshihide	
02 Izumo Koshiro Terunobu		13 Otone Gengoro Yasuhira	
03 Izumo Matshushiro Teruhide		14 Awaji Nyudo Chikayasu	
04 Izumo Bungo Yoshiteru		15 Kurama Kotaro Genshin	
05 Izumo Kanja Yoshitaka		16 Ohkuni Izumo Mori Shigehiro	1844
06 Izumo Kanja Yoshiteru		17 Sugino Juheita Kanemitsu	
07 Ohkuni Kisanata Kiyosumi		18 HisaHara Kotaru NoBuyoshi	
08 Tsutsumi Hakushi Mori Ritsuzan		19 Ishitani Takeoi Matsutaro	1905
09 Kuriyama Uknongen Nagafusa		20 Ishitani Matsutaro Takekage	1911
10 Ohkuni Kihei Shigenobu	1688	21 Takamatsu Toshitsugo	1887-1972
11 Otone Sakon Yasumasa		22 Masaaki Hatsumi	1931



## Gyokko Ryu Koshijutsu "Jewel Tiger" School

This is the oldest school in the Bujinkan system and is believed that a Chinese person named Ikai introduced the art to Japan in the 8th century. According to Hatsumi Sensei, that person could also be somebody (kai) from a foreign (i) country. It is assumed that this kosshijutsu was based on Chinese martial arts. Although kosshijutsu means "to be able to knock down an enemy with one finger", it can also signify the "backbone" [spine] of the martial arts.

The thumbs are important in Gyokko ryu. It is mostly shown in the three official stances Ichimonji no kamae, Hicho no kamae, and Jumonji no kamae, where the thumbs always are directed upwards. The reason is that the energy always should flow freely, and there should be no lockups in the movement. In Gyokko ryu it is important to protect the heart. Therefore a starting position with the right leg forward is preferred, so that the left side is turned away from the opponent.

Shoshin no kamae, Doko no kamae, "Angry tiger", and Hanin no kamae are also said to belong to Gyokko ryu. Much of the philosophy and strategy in Gyokko ryu are taught by Kuden, mouth to mouth teachings. There are also secrets in the ryu, called Hiden. This is not always written down, but passed from grandmaster to grandmaster as Kuden.

The school specializes in *Kosshijutsu* (attacks against muscles) and *Shitojutsu* (use of thumbs and fingers) using circular and fast movements based on the attack to the opponent's vital points, *Koshijutsu Atemi Waza*. It is a complete fighting method that combines techniques of unarmed combat with all kinds of weapons, such as sword, spear and other long weapons. Powerful blocks and balance taking are typical of the school. They preferred to block by striking with the knuckles to the muscle areas.

The *Muto Dori*, or evasion techniques, of the school are the *Ge Ryaku no Maki*, which involve techniques against swords and spears. These are the most difficult and advanced within the school.

*Sanshin no Kata*, *Kihon Happo* and *Muto Taihenjutsu* come from this school.

**"Bushigokorro wo motte totocho no nasu"**  
'the warriors heart is precious, and essential'

### The Nine Rules of the Gyokko Ryu

1. The character *NIN* means to guard the nation even with one's life.
- . Forget self, be patient, fear not dying.
- . In danger say or show nothing.
- . As a strong enemy comes at you, keep indomitable.
- . Serve and protect the master, as you must your parents.
- . Vices dissipate your proficiency.
- . Being drunk affects your judgment.
- . Destroy the enemy's power but leave his life.
- . To others teach not without the master's permission.



### Characteristics

circular movement (quick)  
sanshin no kata  
kihon happo  
muto taihenjutsu



### The Soke Lineage

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01 Ikai                      | 18 Toda, Sakyo Ishinsai       |
| 02 Hogenbo                   | 19 Momochi, Sandayu 1         |
| 03 Tesshun                   | 20 Momochi, Sandayu 2         |
| 04 Sasabe, Tendo             | 21 Momochi, Tanba Yasumitsu   |
| 05 Hachiryu, Nyudo           | 22 Momochi, Taro Saemon       |
| 06 Tozawa, Hakuunsai         | 23 Toda, Seiryu Nobutsuna     |
| 07 Tozawa, Shozuke           | 24 Toda, Fudo Nobuchika       |
| 08 Suzuki, Saburo Shigeyoshi | 25 Toda, Kangoro Nobuyasu     |
| 09 Suzuki, Gobei             | 26 Toda, Eisaburo Nobumasa    |
| 10 Suzuki, Kojiro Mitsui     | 27 Toda, Shinbei Masachika    |
| 11 Tozawa, Nyudo Geneai      | 28 Toda, Shingoro Masayoshi   |
| 12 Yamon, Hyoun              | 29 Toda, Daigoro Chikashige   |
| 13 Kato, Ryu Hakuun          | 30 Toda, Daisaburo Chikashige |
| 14 Sakagami, Goro Katsushige | 31 Toda, Shinryuken Masamitsu |
| 15 Sakagami, Taro Kunishige  | 32 Takamatsu, Toshitsugu      |
| 16 Sakagami, Kotaro Masahide | 33 Hatsumi, Masaaki           |
| 17 Sougyoko, Kan Ritsushi    |                               |

## Koto Ryu Koppojutsu "Tiger Knocking Down" School

Koto Ryu - This art was founded in the middle of the 16th century by Toda Sankyo Ishinsai who had learned Gyokko Ryu from Gyokkan, a Buddhist monk. Koppojutsu originally came from ancient China and was also called Goho, which was characterized by its use of hidden weapons. The first kanji of koppo (kotsu) means bone, but can have the deeper meaning of "knack".

The speciality of the school are very strong attacks known as koppojutsu (bone breaking methods). There are also attacks at the opponent's eyes, nose and mouth. It also uses metsubushi (blinding or distraction methods).

Due to the bone breaking attacks, as well as the other attacks using fingers, the practitioners needed extremely strong fingers and toes. This strength was achieved by daily training plunging the finger and toes into sand or gravel. Masters of this art could rip the bark off trees with their bare hands.

Another thing that is a specialty is to hit the top of the attacker's foot by kicking or stepping on it to control his balance.

The Koto Ryu stylist should be looking right between the attacker's eyebrows, so that the attacker cannot read the intentions through his eyes. The attacker will also believe that he has eye contact, which will be confusing for him in an unusual way.

Koto Ryu is one of the very few Ryu that changed the grip of the sword by holding it with the left hand near the tsuka. This would totally confuse the attacker, and sometimes convince him that the Koga Ryu stylist was an amateur and an easy opponent.

### The differences between Koto and Gyokko Ryu

- 1 Koto Ryu uses a shorter distance between opponents
- 2 Gyokko Ryu uses complicated techniques with more movement
- 3 Gyokko concentrates on throwing and locking techniques where Koto concentrates on striking.

They were brought together since both schools were able to complement each others weaknesses and strengths.

Typical within the Koto Ryu is Yoko Aruki (cross stepping), Toki (Stamping on the toes), and maintaining a short distance and striking hard.

It was taught that "The eyes are everything", one should make the eyes appear blank, so as no telepathic movement can be detected.

Another unique maneuver was to use the katana blade to reflect sunlight into the eyes of his opponent. Or if it is raining, collect rainwater in the "hi groove" which can then be flicked into the opponents eyes.

### Stances

- 1 Ichimonji No Kamae
- 2 Seigan No Kamae
- 3 Bobi No Kamae
- 4 Hoko No Kamae
- 5 Hicho No Kamae

### Characteristics

precise and effective koppojutsu techniques  
own techniques Kenjutsu and Muto dori



### The Soke Lineage

01 Sakagami Taro Kunishige	1532	10 Toda Fudo Nobuchika	1658
02 Sakagami Minamoto Masahide (Bando)	1532	11 Toda Kangoro Nobuyasu	1681
03 Sogyokkan Ritsushi	1532	12 Toda Eisaburo Nobumasa	1704
04 Toda Sakyo Ishinsai	1532	13 Toda Shingoro Masayoshi	1711
05 Momochi Sandayu	1532-1581	14 Toda Daigoro Masayoshi	1736
06 Momochi Sandayu	1573	15 Toda Daisaburo Chikashige	1804
07 Momochi Tanba Yasumitsu	1595	16 Toda Shinryuken Masamitsu	1824-1908
08 Momochi Taro Saemon	1615	17 Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1887-1972
09 Toda Seiryu Nobutsuna	1624	18 Masaaki Hatsumi	1931



## Gikan Ryu Koppojutsu "Truth, Loyalty & Justice" School

Gikan Ryu was founded by Unryu Hangan Gikanbo during the 16th century in the Daimyo of Kawachi Province. He developed this art from his lessons in kosshijutsu. The lessons of this tradition are almost totally unknown to the public and many of its secret techniques were handed down from sōke to sōke only.

Not much is known about it since not a great deal is taught in the west, and many of the kamae appear to be off balance unless practiced a hell of a lot. In fact, the school is so secretive that even the makimono (Scrolls) of the school do not mention how to perform the techniques, the entire range is taught orally.

This school is most famous in the Bujinkan for the difficult and odd Kamae's of it's taijutsu. It is specialized in Koppojutsu. *Gikan Ryu* has many special punches, kicks, and throws, as well as special movement techniques and a dynamic footwork.

Uryu Gikanbo was famous for his powerful punch. He is said to once have punched a sword blade in half.

This ryu taught "from this side there is not the first strike".

### Kamae

- Shiten no Kamae
- Hachiku no Kamae
- Ichimonji no Kamae
- Sanposhin no Kamae
- Hira Ichimonji no Kamae

### "Bufu ni sente nashi"

'from this side there is not the first strike'



### Characteristics

many special kicks and punches  
dynamic footwork

### The Soke Lineage

01 Uryu Hangan Gikanbo	1558-1570	09 Uryu Yoshiyasu	1861-1864
02 Uryu Yoshimitsu	1573-1592	10 Uryu Gikan	1865-1868
03 Uryu Yoshimori	1624-1644	11 Ishitani Takeoi Masatsugu	1905
04 Uryu Yoshichika	1661-1673	12 Ishitani Matsutaro Takekage	1911
05 Uryu Yoshitaka	1688-1704	13 Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1887-1972
06 Uryu Yoshihide	1751-1764	14 Akimoto Fumio	1962
07 Uryu Yoshimori	1789-1801	15 Hatsumi Masakki	1931
08 Uryu Yoshiaki	1830-1844		



## Kumogakure Ryu Ninpo "Hiding in the Clouds" School

Kumogakure Ryu taijutsu is similar to that of the Togakure Ryu and dates back to around the early part of the 16th Century. It was founded by Heinaizaemon Ienaga Iga (Kumogakure Hoshi) who was also believed to be the originator of Iga Ryu Ninjutsu.

Much of the training in this tradition is said to be likened to the taijutsu and philosophies of escape and evasion techniques in Togakure Ryu and although this school has some specialised weaponry, it has been said that it was more a school of thought than a violent school, teaching survival skills and jumping techniques.

This is one of the three ninpo ryuha in the Bujinkan and is known for its *tobi* (jumping techniques) and *kamayari* (sickled spear). The *kamayari* and another special weapon, *Ippon Sugi Noburi* (a 25cm long metal tube with three spikes, and a long chain with hooks at its ends through it) were used for combat and for climbing often on ships.

It is said that the phrase "Shikin Haramaitsu Daikomyo" comes from this ryu and reflects both Buddhist and Shinto attitudes.

This Ryu is famous for its Demon Masks that were worn to play on the myth surrounding ninja and scare the enemy.

A technique rarely if ever seen in other systems was *kikaku ken* - demon horn strike (head butt). When going into battle, ninja of this ryu wore armoured sleeves to protect themselves.

Kumogakure Ryu also taught various survival techniques such as making fire in wet weather

This school is scarcely seen today and some believe that very little of it has survived to the present day.

### Characteristics

taijutsu very similar to Togakure Ryu  
occasional use of daemon mask  
kikaku ken - daemon's horn strikes (head strike) rarely used in other systems  
double blocks and strikes  
jumps while fighting  
various survival techniques included in training (e.g. making fire in wet weather)



### The Weapons

#### kamayari

One of the ryu's special weapons is the kamayari or hook spear. Designed initially for ship boarding, it was also useful for fighting swordsmen. Like the Jutte and Sai it was able to trap and control the sword, clothing or the opponent's legs.

#### Ippon Sugi Noburi

Also used was the Ippon Sugi Noburi, a foot long metal tube with three rows of metal spikes on the outside, and a chain running through its middle, a hook on its ends. This was placed around a tree and was used for climbing, much in the same way lumberjacks do now, although it could be used as a flailing weapon if needed.

#### Demon mask

Kumogakure Ryu also used the Demon mask, bringing into play the head as a valid combat element, part of the body not normally associated with Japanese fighting systems.

### The Soke Lineage

01 Iga Heinaizaemon no jo Ienaga	1532-1554	08 Toda Eisaburo Nobumasa	1704-1711
02 Toda Sagenta Nobufusa		09 Toda Shingoro Masayoshi	1736-1764
03 Toda Gohei Nobunaga		10 Toda Daigoro Chikahide	1764-1804
04 Toda Noriyoshi		11 Toda Daisaburo Chikashige	1804-1818
05 Toda Seiryu Nobutsuna	1624-1644	12 Toda Shinryuken Masamitsu	1824-1909
06 Toda Fudo Nobuchika	1658-1681	13 Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1887-1972
07 Toda Kangoro Nobuyasu	1681-1704	14 Hatsumi Masaaki	1931



## Shinden Fudo Ryu Dakentaijutsu "Immoveable Heart" School

Shinden Fudo Ryu was founded by Izumo Kanja Yoshiteru in the 12th century. A characteristic of this ryu is its recognition of shizen ("natural") as the only necessary posture of defense. However, in reality, a person imagines a posture of defense in his mind and places himself on guard. This tradition has two sections of fighting (dakentaijutsu & jutaijutsu) as well as the philosophy of not drawing a sword unless absolutely necessary. The school specializes in Jujutsu and Iainuki (fast sword drawing)

Izumo, who was also a student in Chinese Kempo Boxing is also credited as being the founder of Kukishinden Ryu originated by Genpachiro Tameyoshi in the mid 12th Century. It is traced back to the Kosshijutsu which was introduced by Izumo Kanja Yoshiteru.

There are two styles of Taijutsu, Dakentaijutsu and Jutaijutsu. Hojojutsu, the art of tying someone with a length of rope, is also taught in this Ryu.

This was the first ever martial art Takamatsu-Sensei studied.

### Some of the main teachings

Know that the endurance is simply a putt of smoke

Know that the way of man is justice

Forget the heart of greed, ease and relying on others.

One should regard both sadness and malice as natural laws, and just gain the enlightenment of an unshakeable heart

In your heart never leave the ways of loyalty and filial piety.

"Foundation of Nature, Subtle Origin in the Interplay of Emptiness and Being"

The Shinden Fudo Ryu is divided into two sub-disciplines. Each one was taught separately and not everyone learned both.

**Jutaijutsu** (the old name for jujutsu, or grappling methods)

Goho no Kamae (Five postures) Shoden Gata (Basic) Chuden Gata (Intermediate forms) Okuden Gata (Advanced forms)

**Dakentaijutsu** (Striking methods)

Ten no Kata (Basic forms) Chi no Kata (Intermediate forms) Shizen Chigoku no Kata (Natural 'Hell' forms)

Dakentaijutsu has throws, strikes, locks, and kicks done in a fairly straightforward manner. It uses the body as a striking weapon and often appears "hard" in application. The Shinden Fudo Ryu was known for its use of nature as an ally, and techniques are often very casual looking. It has many body conditioning methods using items found in nature.

There are no formal postures in the school, the kamae are held in your heart. However most of the techniques start from the natural postures: shizen and fudoza.

The school teaches Ono (great-axe), O-tsuchi (great-hammer), and O-dachi (great-sword).  
Literally translated: "divine transmission of immovability", "hard weapon body art".



### Characteristics

the secret principal is the principal of nature  
natural style as only posture of defense  
use of several different types of yari, ono (war axe), otsuchi and naginata  
two styles of taijutsu: dakentaijutsu (natural posture) and jutaijutsu (5 kamae)

### The Soke Lineage

01 Izumo Kanja Yoshiteru	1113	14 Otsuka Hakushi Nyudo Tadamori	1506
02 Minamoto Hachiman Tamenari	1118	15 Otsuka Daikuro Tadahide	1522
03 Minamoto Hachiro Tameyoshi	1156	16 Abe Muga	1573
04 Mizuhara Kuro Yoshinari	1204	17 Koga Taro Kyokokaku	1573
05 Mugaibo Shinnen	1233	18 Katayama Hokinokami Mori Hisayasu	1592
06 Ohkuni Zenhachiro Yoshinobu	1264	19 Shindo Unsai	1624-1644
07 Hata Saburo Sasukeyasu		20 Odagiri Tohyoe Yoshihiso	1624-1644
08 Kotani Yuhachiro Nobuchika	1321 or 1331	21 Iida Jubee Tameyoshi	1764
09 Kaneko Jinsuke Yoshikiyo	1346	22 Mori Genroku Masahide	1804
10 Tajima Genkoro Nariyoshi	1384	23 Toyota Jubee Mitsuyoshi	1865
11 Kammon Kokanja Yoshikane	1428	24 Toda Shinryuken Masamitsu	1824-1909
12 Kimura Hozen	1460	25 Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1888-1972
13 Ibuki Yoshihaha	1469	26 Hatsumi Masaaki	1931



## Takagi Yoshin ryu Jutaijutsu "High Tree, Raised Heart" School

Takagi Yoshin Ryu traces its lineage back to the 16th century scroll Rinpo Hiden which was studied by Ito Ki-i no Kami. This tradition was founded by Takagi Oriemon Shigenobu. This art developed through the years and has strong links to Takeuchi Ryu, Kukishin Ryu and Hontai Yoshin Ryu. This tradition teaches to always remain calm and flexible like the willow.

After Takagi Oriemon Shigenobu father was mugged and killed down a dark alley, he avenged his death, heeding his father's advice "A willow is flexible, but a high tree is breakable"

The close fighting style of Takagi Yoshin Ryu originates from training inside buildings. When applied, the techniques further those of Judo, and Aikido and it is made difficult for the opponent to escape through rolling and breakfalling. This has come around since the martial art was developed for interior combat as opposed to other forms of martial art that are used outdoors.

Most famous in the Bujinkan as a "Bodyguard School" with fast and effective *jujutsu* techniques, and *daishosabaki* (*jujutsu* while wearing both swords in the belt). Other techniques are based around *bojutsu*. It has been mixed with *sumo* techniques, *Takenouchi Ryu jujutsu* and others.

Takagi Yoshin Ryu has been handed down together with *Kukishinden Ryu* for generations. Students are taught to use speed, look the opponent in the eyes and use their impulse and weight.

Also translated as "Heart of the Willow Tree School".

### There are seven levels of Takagi Yoshin Ryu:

- Shoden no Kata- 14 techniques
- Chuden no Sabaki Gata - 10 techniques
- Chuden no Tai no Gata - 15 techniques
- Okuden no Kata - 15 techniques
- Eri Shime Gata - 8 techniques
- Moguri Gata - 11 techniques
- Daisho Sabaki Gata - 14 techniques

**"In Takagi Yoshin Ryu, look at the eyes and use speed."**



### Characteristics

techniques are applied in a way that opponent can't escape by rolling or breakfalling  
 opponent is held close while applying techniques  
 look the opponent in the eyes  
 uses speed  
 uses the impulse and the weight of the opponent

### The Soke Lineage

01 Takagi Oriemon Shigenobu	1625-1711	10 Ohkuni Takezaemon Hidenobu	
02 Takagi Umannosuke Shigesada	1655-1746	11 Nakayama Kaemon Sadasaka	
03 Takagi Gennoshin Hideshige	1702	12 Ohkuni Kamahura Hidetoshi	
04 Ohkun i Kihei Shigenobu	1688	13 Yagi Ikugoro Hisayashi	1830-1844
05 Ohkuni Yakuburo Nobutoshi		14 Fujita Fujigoro Hisayoshi	
06 Ohkuni Tarodayu Tadanobu		15 Mizuta Yoshitaro Tedefusa	
07 Ohkuni Kihei Yoshisada		16 Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1887-1972
08 Ohkuni Yozaemon Yoshisada		17 Hatsumi Masaaki	1931
09 Nakayama Jinnai Sadahide			



## Gyokushin Ryu Ninpo "Jewel Heart" School

Gyokushin Ryu is a branch of kosshijutsu and was founded by Sasaki Goemon Teruyoshi (4th soke of Gyokko ryu) in the mid-16th century.

Its specialities are Koppo, Jutaijutsu, Ken (sword), Iai (sword drawing) and unique usage of nawa nage (rope throwing or lasso). Little is known publicly about the techniques, but it is known that the focus was espionage applications rather than combat that it uses Sutemi throws.

The secrets of this tradition have only been hinted about by the current grandmaster and not much is known in the West about this system.

The Soke of the school is not crystal clear. Hatsumi Masaaki lays claim to it - as does Ueno Takashi, although it is possible that Takashi is dead and that Kaminage Shigemi is his inheritor.

There is some confusion as to whether or not this second list belongs to a new school of martial art: Gyokushin-ryu Koppo and whether or not Hatsumi holds the Menkyo Kaiden for this as well. It is known that Takashi and Hatsumi trained together at one time.



### Characteristics

sutemi throws  
emphasis on espionage techniques of ninjutsu

### The Soke Lineage

#### Soke of Gyokushin Ryu according to Hatsumi

Sasaki Goeman Teruyoshi	
Sasaki Gendayu Sadayasu	
(Unknown or kept secret)	
Toda Seiryu Nobutsuna	1624-1644
Toda Fudo Nobuchika	1658-1681
Toda Kangoro Nobuyasu	1681-1704
Toda Eisaburo Nobumasa	1704-1711
Toda Shinbei Masachika	1711-1736
Toda Shingoro Masayoshia	1736-1764
Toda Daigoro Chikahid	1764-1804
Toda Daisaburo Chikashige	1804-1818
Toda Shinryuken Masamitsu	1909
Takamatsu Toshitsugu	1910-1972
Hatsumi Masaaki	1968

#### Soke according to Kaminage Shigemi

Sasaki Goeman Teruyoshi
Sasaki Gendayu Sadayasu
Endo Tomozaemon Yoshichika
Endo Yoemon Yoshito
Baba Shimpei
Otake Gendayu
Obana Gizaemon
Nagano Zaemon
Niki Gouemon Yoshimasu
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