

11 April 2020

Dear all ISBA members,

I've seen the news regarding the worldwide spread of the novel coronavirus infection and an adverse effect in Europe. I would like to give prayers to the deceased due to that virus and to the people who are still struggling with it. I hope the situation will recover and the life of theirs will go back to normal as soon as possible. I am also anxious about the members of ISBA if you all are fine.

In Japan, stay-at-home requests to residents have been enforced by Prime Minister and Governor of Tokyo. Therefore Shiseikan decided to follow them and closed the Dojo and cancelled all classes temporarily. When we see the situation of travel restrictions between Japan and countries in Europe, we have no idea when it's ended.

Unfortunately, the summer seminar has been postponed to next year.

However, in a way Budo doesn't mean that we have to gather and train together always. It is no exaggeration to say that each of us is being tested on how we can cope with this crisis. I think this is the time for all of us to focus on reposing the souls like when we do "Mugamae" and expand "Ki" to purify or purge (Harai) negative things around us. Under these circumstances, let's continue training ourselves for next year's seminar.

I wish you good luck until we meet again.

Best Regards,

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