

The history of JJ in Poland 1904-2010

Abstract

The history of JJ in Poland is a large piece of Japan knowledge and tradition, affecting the western culture of our region.

Among many utilitarian forms of the Far East martial arts, which are practiced in Poland, JJ has a prominent place as the earliest known and practiced method of hand-to-hand combat, since the early 20th century. In over one hundred years of its tradition in our lands, it was adapted for the needs of the army, police and civilians in the form of personal defence.

The study shows the paths that led JJ from Japan to western culture and how this marital art was adopted by European countries and America, where it entered native melee combat systems and became a permanent element of today's personal defence system.

The paper presents the historical outline of JJ in Poland. First, from the beginning to 1945, taking into account three periods: the moment of appearance of the name JJ in Polish until the time Poland regained independence in 1918, the interwar period and the end of World War II, and then the time of the Polish People's Republic and how JJ functioned there in the form of self-defence and judo, ending with modern times of independent Poland in utilitarian and sport convention.

In individual chapters of this dissertation, JJ was shown as an indigenous Far Eastern melee combat system that, following the evolutionary path of Japanese tradition from the beginning to modern times, has on one hand become a utilitarian form of personal defence used police and army in most countries in the world and on the other, a modern, bipolar sport of judo and JJ.

Wiesław Kisiel