

Judo – the most renowned players essay



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Judo, the Japanese form of martial art, was first developed by Dr. Kano Jigoro. He was a very frail person and hence was bullied by his friends and relatives due to his physical structure. To overcome his physical weakness, Dr.

Kano started learning the art of Jiu Jitsu, the Brazilian martial arts. Fukuda Hachinosuke, grandfather of Keiko Fukuda, a very well known female Judoka, was the only teacher who accepted Dr. Kano Jigoro as his student in the beginning. Keiko Fukuda is the most highly ranked female Judoka both by the Kodokan Institute, a pioneer in teaching Judo and the United States Judo Federation. The Kodokan Institute, also called as Kodokan, was founded by Dr. Kano Jigoro.

Kodo literally means “ to teach” and Kan means a public building. Hence the meaning of kodokan is “ a place to teach or spread the knowledge”. This institute is located in Tokyo and conducts Judo classes both for amateurs and also for people who want to master the art of Judo. Their courses are designed to help two different groups of people, the beginners or the amateurs and for people interested in mastering the skill.

It also ranks the Judokas or the practitioners of the game. People around the world register in the Kodokan Institute to get their ranking. Kodokan initially started with only nine students and have now grown to become one of the pioneers in Judo teaching. Some of the well known practitioners from the Kodokan Institute are: Keiko Fukuda, Mitsuo Maeda, Kyuzo Mifune, Masahiko Kimura, Anton Geesink, Yasuhiro Yamashita, Neil Adams, Gene LeBell, Hidehiko Yoshida, Kosei Inoue and Minoru Mochizuki.

Keiko Fukuda is the only female Judoka who has the ranking of 9th Dan. Dan is a ranking system in Japan and it shows at which level or stage the practitioner of Judo is. The Dan is characterized by the different colors of the belt given to Judo practitioners. Keiko is also one of the students of Dr.

Kano Jigoro and is the only surviving disciple. She was also awarded the "red belt" by the United States of Judo Federation. Apart from Keiko, some of the male Kodokans who were given the ranking of tenth Dan are: Yamashita Yoshiaki, Hajime Isogai, Hidekazu Nagaoka, Kyuzo Mifune (He is supposed to be one of the best after Dr. Kano Jigoro), Kunisaburo Iizuka, Kaichiro Samura, Shotaro Tabata, Kotaro Okano, Matsutarō Shoriki, Shozo Nakano, Tamio Kurihara, Sumiyuki Kotani, Ichiro Abe, Toshiro Daigo also called Mr Kodokan.

Yoshimi Osawa Some of the male Gold medalists of the Olympics in Judo are: David Douillet, Kosei Inoue, Jeon Ki-Young, Toshihiko Koga, Tadahiro Nomura, Wim Ruska, Hitoshi Saito, Peter Seisenbacher, Yasuhiro Yamashita. (He is the most successful judoka of all times), Hidehiko Yoshida, Hachidan Some of the Female Gold medalists are: Noriko Anno, Ingrid Berghmans, Karen Briggs, Driulis Gonzalez, Kye Sun-Hui, Ryoko Tani (Youngest female World Champion), Masae Ueno, Ayumi Tanimoto, Xian Dongmei, Tong Wen, Ulla Werbrouck