

MYB Patch

I. MOUNTAIN -- The height to which each budōka must aspire.

A. Rise on the right side of the mountain - the difficulties which will confront the budōka on his or her way to the top.

B. Straight slope on the left side of the mountain - the WAY that is straight once the top has been reached.

1. Green --

a. Literally, the name of the original main dojo, Green Mountain., Alabama

b. Figuratively, the freshness with which each budōka should approach his or her lessons.

II. CLOUD --

A. To the right of the mountain - the illusion that clouds the mind

B. To the left of the mountain - the hijutsu, or hidden arts, which become known on the descent from the mountain.

1. White -

a. White to represent the idea of illusion; i.e., white is clear, so that in reality there is no obstruction except in the mind of the budōka.

b. Same as snowcap (which see,) plus the fact that now the clearness is in the mind and presents no obstruction.

III. SNOWCAP -- purity of mind and body upon attainment of satori (see IIB, VI3).

IV. BORDER/BACKGROUND --

A. Black - representation of the goal of Black Belt; circular because there is no beginning and no ending to learning.

B. White - further extension of II a,b and III. We come from formlessness and must return to the same.

V. LETTERING - Red - the zeal with which a budōka must strive to reach satori.

VI. DRAGON --

A. Traditional symbol of all schools, which also bear the name ryū, but written with a different character; also the pronunciation for water, which may be pronounced Nagare.

1. Green - the same as for the mountain. The body is so colored because the approach will maintain the body's youthfulness.

1. Red - the same as for the lettering. The dorsal spines and eyes are so colored because the zeal is the backbone of progress and must generate from within.

2. Gold - represents the metal. Symbol of purity, as gold is the only metal that does not tarnish; also, an extension of the snowcap and cloud; i.e. once purity has been obtained, it cannot be tarnished.

VII. CIRCLES --

A. All movements and combinations of movements possible to the budōka. Black/white - Yin and Yang; represents the level of Black Belt (which, at the very highest level, returns to white) at which stage these movements and combinations of movements become known to the budōka; touching the inside edge of the border represents Sing Yi.