

ISRNF

Review on annual activity 2015

Introduction

The current year of 2015 was very fruitful in all that regards the Naginata activity. Over the past year, we have managed to set a small but confident amount of people that practice Naginata constantly on a weekly basis. We are also working on advertising our activity in various communities and putting up special events e.t.c.

Current Status

1. Activity: There are currently 4 active Naginata groups in Israel.

Group Name	Training per week	Location	Additional info
Kfar Eldad juniors	1	Kfar Eldad	6 students
Kfar Eldad adults	1	Kfar Eldad	4 students
Jerusalem Juniors	1	Jerusalem	5 students
Jerusalem Adults	1	Jerusalem	7 students

The amount of students changes over time but about 12 students train for more than a year already, and some students train over 2 years.

I am still the only trainer, with 2 senior students who are capable on running drills for beginners.

2. Grading: In all of Israel, I am still the only Dan grade holder. I received Shodan at the INF seminar in Holland in 2014.
The only other person who passed an exam within the ENF is Omer Barmuha, who passed 4th kyu during the same seminar.

3. Practitioners outside of the ENF: Due to the political situation Israel's border countries are unfriendly in all that regards to budo cooperation with Israeli societies. Also, to my knowledge there is no Naginata oriented activity in any of these countries. Within Israel the only communities that use some form of Naginata are ninjitsu oriented groups (Bujinkan & Akban) or Live Action Role Players (LARP) groups who have little or no interest in practicing genuine naginata forms. Neither group use bogu or shiai naginata.

2015 review

1. General: My main goal during the previous year was to make sure that the students reach a decent level of kihon and will become familiar with proper reiho and shikake oji. As there is no other trainer besides me I am forced to divide my time between running the trainings, managing the equipment and trying to promote Naginata elsewhere. In addition to my personal life and everyday work it is an uneasy burden.
2. Events: About a month ago we have conducted a 3 day seminar. I chose to run the seminar on open ground in order to promote the activity. 12 practitioners attended. We concentrated on kihon and shikake oji 1-4. 8 practitioners are currently at basic bogu level and we conducted bogu practice during the third day. Also, on the third day we have run an Engi competition. The winners were 2 kids aged 13 & 14 who showed remarkable zanshin and a fairly good technique. The next Seminar is scheduled to August 2016.

3. Examination: Because of the difficulty of bringing an outside Teacher I have decided to run examinations for 7th and 6th kyu on my own accord. The reason for it is to make the younger students something to aspire to. While these grades may not be respected by the ENF, I can only say that I did my best to set high standards and the results are fairly good in my opinion.
- The exams included okuriashi and ayumiashi, joge buri, uchikaeshi attacking and defending roles, shikake oji and an oral exam for commands, counting and understanding Naginata definitions.

Plans for 2016

1. Enlarging the amount of practitioners with the current groups.
2. Conducting a 3 day seminar in August 2016.
3. Conducting Engi and Shiai Turnament.
4. Raising an internet page.

Conclusion

The Naginata in Israel is stable and growing constantly. Besides me there are already several people who can wear bogu and participate in shiai or engi.

We would, as always, welcome any cooperation with the ENF and hereby invite any European practitioner to visit us, be it for teaching, training or observation.