

As short as it is simple

from Guy Sahri ©

It is interesting to see how « *history* » repeats itself sometimes, but what remains most striking in mind when we encounter « *Tenor* » of Martial Art, not category of « *flakes* », « *Mr. Universe* » T-shirt and great « *belt up* » you burst eardrums, but « *...a master who walks in the shadow of temple, among his followers, not giving of his wisdom but rather of his faith and her tenderness* ». A master of weapons unarmed demonstrating that « *...if it is wise, it does not prompt you to enter the home of wisdom, but it will guide you to the threshold of your mind* ». A human treasure hidden in the shadow of city of light in his Dojo legendary street Daguerre, Sporting International Karate Club – SIK in Paris. To insiders it is no longer Dojo outside a fairly banal, but it is otherwise once past door open. Within seconds a wave of tradition and respect us as dazzling in its simplicity and its sporting aspect.

Serge Chouraqui was born in 1949 in Algiers, Algeria. From his early childhood he moved to France and falls for an art that led him to become one of best teachers of his generation. It will also lead and greatest champions Kata and Kumite in Europe and World such as Gilles Cherdieu, David Félix, Marc Pyrée, Robert Gomis, Alex N'Dem, Annibal Jegham, Arnaud Anatole, Stéphane Caraartinian, Marc Pichon, Patrick Carbonel, three brothers Serge, Jacques et Daniel Serfati, Patrick Jeandillou, Bruno Pellicer, Sophie Berger, Mohamed Katiri, Pierre Flavian, Wally Fall, Gaston Etinoff, Catherine Belrhiti, Jean-Philippe Perpère, Sidi-Mohamed Bich, Laetitia Guesnel, Jessica et Sabrina Buil, Michaël Milon, Véronique Le Jean Mesnil, Chantale Jouanno, David Simon, Christophe DeVito, Myriam Szkudlarek, Joël Carpin etc. to mention only some among many others...

Eclectic in many areas he studied Art, Science, and Letters and receives the level « *Vermeil* » of City of Paris. With its incessant, it determines « *...a Karate where effectiveness of practitioner is free to bring to his own Karate in relation to beliefs, feelings and physical limits* ».

Currently 8th Dan he is also Lieutenant-Colonel of Reserve citizen of the Air Force and « *godfather* » of Karate section of prestigious French military school established by Napoleon Bonaparte, Saint-Cyr. Gold Medal of Ministère de la Santé, de la Jeunesse, et des Sport was also rewarded for his faithful commitment, dedication and distinguished career in World Karate and French. The insignia of « *Chevalier de l'Ordre Nationale du Mérite* » was awarded.

Do not expect him to take as I do not know. Due to its elegant appearance, a speaking rate counted, no ranting, no not bet a dime on former. But we must beware of cat who sleeps... Serge Chouraqui open our eyes to a practice rare and exceptional.

Guy Sahri: Idea of practicing Karate you get at what age?

Serge Chouraqui:

(Laughters)... In fact it came just when I attended a demonstration of Karate for first time in Paris. I was just overly impressed by discipline, of course, « physical », « artistic », and « synthetic ». And especially « philosophical », which, when I was only 16 years, was almost entirely new and necessary for my maturity...

« Certainly still exist... »

Guy Sahri: After more than 40 years of practice which are the most beautiful moments Karate you live?

Serge Chouraqui:

The most beautiful moments of practice is certainly still exist, to continue to practice with on a physical state... and of course to have as much motivation, pleasure in this practice both personally and on educationally and in terms of education.

Guy Sahri: Do you change your practice in response to problems of violence in the world where you always keep same job?

Serge Chouraqui:

Within Dojo I continue to do my job in finding that it is good since we have very good results in both sports as a human since former always remain loyal to Dojo. We start; we teachers, educators, and I think this plan is to have fully accomplished my work...

« 50 million practitioners... »

Guy Sahri: You find that teaching karate technique he evolved in recent decades?

Serge Chouraqui:

(Laughters)... Ohhh, it has certainly changed! If we continue to be in circuit is realized, fortunately that Karate has been modernized in keeping even its fundamentals and its bases, as in all areas both on competition and technical competition that 'level of education. Karate with 50 million practitioners in the world has become increasingly rich mainly through its expansion across many countries. Karate is the second most Martial Art practiced behind Taekwondo (60 million practitioners), but before Judo (8 million practitioners). Yet unlike the latter two it is not an Olympic sport...

« Able to express themselves on sporting... »

Guy Sahri: Since World 2009 WKF in Tokyo has a new register, what have you been for innovations in field of technical regulations and practice for the World Karate?

Serge Chouraqui:

New features are « plate », « helmet », a different form on « gloves » and « shin protectors foot » for better security. In my opinion this is not bad for a fully physical integrity against practitioners. It is a good thing, plus « absolute control » in face which allows practitioners able to express themselves on sporting. I think this will continue to develop in this direction is to integrate the Olympic Games...

Guy Sahri: World Karate Federation – WKF has introduced wearing of « plate » and « helmet » for the 36th European Championships Cadets/Juniors and also new European Cup -21 Years for combatants. Do you think there is a « subjective » in arbitration decisions facing an entry-level Olympic Karate?

Serge Chouraqui:

Arrival of « plate » and « helmet » avoid, I hope, « subjectivity » in arbitration and may be to consolidate our security level of leaders of Olympic sports. This will have a touch more serious and more importantly allow this decision to be as accurate as possible, especially since Rules have improved and accepted...

« Security has no price... »

Guy Sahri: Are not you afraid that arrival of new media protection increases cost of practice?

Serge Chouraqui:

(Laughters) I would say that Security has no price! If there is any discipline such as football for example, shoes, shin guards, jersey, bag, equipment etc... costs as much as Tennis! Now take the example of Tennis or any sport where there is equipment on I do not think it is one of the most expensive!

« We always have a « chance »... »

Guy Sahri: Almost a few months of decision of « 33 criteria » admissions of Olympic vote for what you are opportunities and weaknesses for Karate?

Serge Chouraqui:

We always have a « chance » if you do not fight for win...

Positive side is that we should not forget that Karate is practiced by millions of people on all continents of the world and that it becomes increasingly pointed precisely at level of competition at level of understanding, level of journalism and television. This may be a Sport, an Art overly demonstrative and can be fun to see...

On negative side, 5 non-Olympic sports were considered by Commission of Olympic program: skating, squash, golf, Karate and rugby to Sept. 2 were selected for the Games in London 2012: squash and Karate. They both received 60% of votes in their favor, but the 2/3 majority was required. This year a new session will be held in October 2009 in Copenhagen, to determine which city will host 2016 Games and what sports will be present. Karate is part again of the 5 non-Olympic sports are eligible and now an absolute majority suffices. It will remain difficult and I hope that lobbying work, but unfortunately this is not my responsibility at that level...

« We are the guardians of ethics... »

Guy Sahri: What is significance of arbitrator you in competitions at all levels and of course globally?

Serge Chouraqui:

Without a referee, cannot be competitive at all levels if we do not have a « Corps of Arbitration ». Importance is not on « quantitative » but from a « qualitative »...

Sporty side of Karate but also respect for others. Failing to observe the institution of formal protocols during sporting events, protocols designed to express, by courtesy, recognition of roles, role of referee, by way of being and to behave, is to contribute to that principle prevails in all circumstances...

Absolute respect for « Rule » is condition of equal opportunities for competitors and can alone ensure that finish, result is based solely on value. It is therefore essential that the referee has knowledge as perfect as possible the rules and their interpretation. To this end, it must ensure a review and update a regular basis of his knowledge in these areas to better control his art and to always apply it in the best possible conditions. It should leave no gray area on his knowledge and must seek to remove any uncertainty in a game situation by placing themselves in search of advice, both from his own colleagues as to its appropriate reference. To do this it is essential in Federations « information » and « communication » very tight, very sharp, very precise so that we have the best judges and referees because we are the guardians of ethics at all levels !

« Especially a « best spirit »... »

Guy Sahri: As a practitioner, teacher, Federal Expert and World ex-Judge WKF you need guidance, clear goals?

Serge Chouraqui:

(Laughs)... The objectives are to move along with Karate progresses. To be always « open » to all possibilities, all listening to « share » with other teachers around the world, other Experts, their experiences, their experiences and to provide additional elements for a better education, better education so that we can still move forward with greater technical and especially a « best spirit » to pass on baton to other generations...

Guy Sahri: Today, when you remember your debut in Karate, do you arrive at such a level?

Serge Chouraqui:

(Laughs) Certainly not! Certainly not... But when we continue to seek to progress, it is argued, we eventually realize that progress may be somewhere, it is not me who can say, I say may be because this is my first students, people around me who see me for many years that we can finally ask if I have really progressed!

I am thinking in particular have grown spiritually and philosophically. This is what allowed me to be « appeased », « happy » as well in my life as a Karateka and in life in general...

« Some knowledge of Art... »

Guy Sahri: This spiritual aspect, he finally took precedence over the physical aspect?

Serge Chouraqui:

Yes and No... We can speak of « spiritual » if it was not practiced Karate. Opposite is impossible. In Martial Art cannot be understood through spiritual discipline if it has at least some self-knowledge of Art that we practice. In a way « it does not put the cart before the horse »... voila!

Guy Sahri: Is it possible to find new techniques in Karate?

Serge Chouraqui:

Ohhh I think so! There are certainly new techniques that we will see... But I will tell you that the best technique and it is cleanest, most strikingly, most accurate, most simple and most effective. So we must to find another technique refine what is already!

« They are indispensable and inseparable... »

Guy Sahri: How would you summarize approach of Traditional Karate and Competitive?

Serge Chouraqui:

Traditional Karate approach towards Karate Competition has always been same. One cannot exist without the other!

Traditional Karate at its core is based on techniques of percussion using all the natural weapons of the body (fingers, hands open and closed, forearms, feet, shins, elbows, knees, head, shoulders ...) in to block enemy attacks and/or attack. Techniques include parades, dodge, scans, screenings and key. Nuances of technical content are relatively marked according to style « Shotokan, Wado-Ryu, Shito-Ryu and Goju-Ryu »...To acquire mastery of these techniques in combat, education has three complementary areas of study: Kihon 基本, 型 or 形 Kata and Kumite 組手. Competition is adaptation of these fundamentals in relation to regulations and try to apply it towards a partner, a

space, a space-time etc. I believe that if we want to practice Karate, they need to understand all these facets there. They are indispensable and inseparable...

« Karate is immeasurable! »

Guy Sahri: Finally do you have a passion outside of karate?

Serge Chouraqui:

(Laughs)... I would say other « Hobbies », sure! A passion like Karate that enthusiasm gonna be difficult because I feel that I am not yet at the end of this practice and not yet at the end of this passion that enthusiasm as long as possible. Obviously, among others my passion is my family, my children, my grandchildren... I can share other passions such as reading, simple things of the life, but Karate is immeasurable!