



HISTORY

In 1945 Grandmaster Hwang Kee founded the martial arts system – Moo Duk Kwan™. It originates from the ancient Korean martial art “Soo Bahk Ki” together with Northern and Southern Chinese influences, such as the Tang method.

Soo Bahk Do is not a sport. As a classical martial art its purpose is to develop every aspect of the self to create a mature person who totally integrates his/her body, spirit, emotions and intellect. This integration helps free a person from inner conflict and develops an ability to deal with the outside world in a mature, intelligent, forthright and virtuous manner.

Grandmaster Hwang Kee founded his first Soo Bahk Do™ school under the name of Moo Duk Kwan™. A brief meaning of these words is a brotherhood and school of stopping inner and outer conflict and developing virtue through Soo Bahk Do™ training. Moo Duk Kwan™ is the mental direction and focus; it is the philosophy that supports the technique of Soo Bahk Do™. Combined, these two aspects enable total development of the self, each enhancing the other. This harmony creates an awareness of being that makes Soo Bahk Do™ Moo Duk Kwan™ training a valuable art form.

Over the past 50 years, many westerners have studied Soo Bahk Do™. Instructors have been sent out worldwide creating many major organisations. There are over 200,000 Soo Bahk Do™ students and over 40,000 Dan holders. Before 1974 there were many teachers but little standardisation. Grandmaster Hwang Kee decided to unify and standardise



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these western organisations and as a result the first Moo Duk Kwan™ Federation Inc. was formed in 1975 (now known as the US Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation Inc.™). It is committed to promoting world peace by improving human relationships through the instruction and practice of Soo Bahk Do™ Moo Duk Kwan™.

Since 1945 the Grandmaster has instructed and monitored those who are certified to teach to ensure accurate transmission. These high standards bring strict expectations, the Grandmaster was once heard to have said: -

“If you want to do front and reverse punches correctly, you must spend ten hours a day, six days a week for three years doing nothing else”

It is a testimony in itself to the Grandmaster and his teaching that he commands such respect and inspires so much dedication and effort. Certain qualities of the Grandmaster permeate Soo Bahk Do™ and its member's openness, personal closeness, independence, rock hard determination and unshakeable solidarity. These qualities as well as unifying and binding us together assure that future generations will be able to follow the way of So Bahk Do™ Moo Duk Kwan™.

Only those instructors certified by the Grandmaster are legally authorised to engage in the instruction of Soo Bahk Do™ Moo Duk Kwan™. The terms “Soo Bahk Do™” and “Moo Duk Kwan™” were developed by Grandmaster Hwang Kee to specifically identify his system of martial art instruction. It may only be used by those who are authorised to do so. In order to ensure students are only taught by certified instructors, the Grandmaster's system and technical content are protected by both trademark and copyright laws