



Pauley's Guide - A Dictionary of Japanese Martial Arts and Culture

Daniel C. Pauley

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The Pauley's Guide and Dictionary of Japanese Martial Arts project began a well over a decade ago. Like many martial artists studying Japanese martial arts outside of Japan, I wished to be knowledgeable in the terminology, but had no definitive guide. Relocating my studies to Japan, (the proper cultural context) was not an option. All other available sources of knowledge had shortcomings. For example, Japanese language courses do not contain specialized martial arts lexicon that even most native speakers wouldn't know. The Martial Arts Dictionary books I've read over the years attempted to define terms from Japanese, Chinese, Korean and English all in a single book. This approach meant that overall only a very few Japanese terms were covered. These cursory works usually included some pretty mediocre graphics, too. Japanese and Japanese-trained instructors were often a reliable and sound source of information. However, very few teachers seemed to know many terms outside of the art they happened to practice. On-line glossaries were very narrow in scope and many are full of obvious errors. Back in the day my dojo classmates and I simply got along with whatever common Japanese terms were used in class. Mistakes and poor translations were generally passed on to each new crop of students. We all wanted to be subject matter experts in the terminology of our arts, but we just did not have a centralized source. This void was the driving factor behind authoring this book. Bun Bu Ryo Do is a traditional Japanese maxim for martial artists. It means Culture and Warfare, Both Ways meaning that martial artists should expand their studies and be scholars as well as warrior-athletes. This work focuses specifically on Japanese terminology, history, culture and people. While it is extensive, it is by no means all-inclusive. It is my hope that this book will ignite--and satisfy-- a reader's desire to attain a working knowledge of Japanese martial arts terms. Be scholars and subject matter experts!



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