Pattern Definitions

All students, please be advised that these are the newly updated pattern definitions for all 30 patterns currently practiced in the GTF. These come into effect immediately and will be used in the February / March 2015 gradings.

All information regarding the background and reasons for the changes can be found in the book "From Creation to Unification" by Stuart Anslow. The changes have been taken directly from this book and though we have permission to use the revisions, all credit is given to the author.

All changes are highlighted in bold italic print

Chon-Ji – 19 Movements

Chon-Ji means literally ‘the Heaven, the Earth’. It is, in the orient, interpreted as the creation of the world or the beginning of human history, therefore, it is the initial pattern played by the beginner. The pattern consists of two similar parts: one to represent the Heaven and the other the Earth.

Dan-Gun – 21 Movements

Dan-Gun is named after the Holy Dan-Gun the legendary founder of Korea in the year 2333 B.C.

Do-San – 24 Movements

Do-San is the pseudonym of the patriot Ahn Chang-Ho (1878 - 1938) who devoted his entire life to furthering the education of Korea and its independence movement. The 24 movements represent the age he rose to prominence as a leader of his countrymen.

Won-Hyo – 28 Movements

Won-Hyo was the noted monk who introduced Buddhism to the common people of the Silla Dynasty in the year 662 A.D.

Yul-Gok – 38 Movements

Yul-Gok is the pseudonym of the great philosopher and scholar Yi I (1536-1584) nicknamed the "Confucious of Korea". The 38 movements of this pattern refer to his birthplace on the 38 degree latitude and the diagram represents "scholar".

Joong-Gun – 32 Movements

Joong-Gun is named after the patriot Ahn Joong-Gun who assassinated Hiro-Bumi Ito, the first Japanese Resident-General of Korea, known as the man who played the leading part in the Korea-Japan merger. Ahn Joong-Gun was executed at Lui Shung prison in 1910 aged only 30 years old.

Toi-Gye – 37 Movements

Toi-Gye is the pen name of the noted scholar Yi Hwang (16th Century), an authority on Neo-Confucianism. The 37 movements represent the years that he was one of the most influential government figures of the Joseon Dynasty, the diagram represents "scholar".

Hwa-Rang – 29 Movements

Hwa-Rang is named after the Hwa-Rang youth group, which originated in the Silla Dynasty in the early 7th century. The 29 movements refer to the 29th Infantry Division, where Taekwon-Do developed into maturity.
Choong-Moo – 30 Movements

Choong-Moo was the name given to the great Admiral Yi Soon-Sin of the Joseon Dynasty. He is credited with improving what is reputed to have been the first armoured battleship (Kobukson) in 1592, which is said to be the precursor to the modern day submarine. The 30 movements of this pattern represent the number of ships Choong-Moo destroyed (out of a fleet of 333), with only 13 of his own ships, at the battle of Myeongnyang. The reason this pattern ends in a left hand attack is to symbolise his regrettable death, having no chance to show his unrestrained potentiality, checked by the forced reservation of his loyalty to the king.

Kwang-Gae – 39 Movements

Kwang-Gae is named after the famous Kwang-Gae-Toh-Wang, the 19th King of the Koguryo Dynasty, who regained all the lost territories including the greater part of Manchuria. The diagrams represents the expansion and recovery of lost territory. The 39 movements refers to the first two figures of 391 A.D. the year he came to the throne, as well as the age he was when he passed away.

Po-Eun – 36 Movements

Po-Eun is the pseudonym of a loyal subject Chong-Mong-Chu (14th Century) who was a famous poet and whose poem "I would not serve a second master though I might be crucified a hundred times" is known to every Korean. He was also a pioneer in the field of physics. The diagram represents his unerring loyalty to the king and country towards the end of the Koryo Dynasty.

Ge-Baek – 44 Movements

Ge-Baek is named after Ge-Baek, a great general in the Baek Je Dynasty who was killed in a battle in 660 A.D. following a final stand to protect the dynasty against overwhelming Silla forces. The diagram represents his severe and strict military discipline.

Eui-Am – 45 Movements

Eui-Am is the pseudonym of Son Byong Hi, leader of the Korean Independence movement of March 1st, 1919. The 45 movements refer to his age when he changed the name of the Dong Hak (Oriental Culture) to Chondo Kyo (Heavenly way religion) in 1905. The diagram represents his Indomitable Spirit, displayed while dedicating himself to the prosperity of his nation.

Choong-Jang – 52 Movements

Choong-Jang is the pseudonym given to General Kim Duk Ryang, who lived during the Joseon Dynasty, 16th century. This pattern ends in a left hand attack to symbolize the tragedy of his death at 27, in prison, before he was able to reach full maturity.

Ko-Dang – 39 Movements

Ko-Dang is the pseudonym of the patriot Cho Man Sik, who dedicated his life to the Korean Independence Movement and to the education of his people. Ko-Dang has 39 movements which signify his times of imprisonment and his birthplace on the 39th parallel.

Sam-II – 33 Movements

Sam-II denotes the historical date of the independence movement of Korea which began throughout the country on March 1st 1919. The 33 movements in the pattern stand for the 33 patriots who planned the movement.
Yoo-Sin – 68 Movements

Yoo-Sin is named after General Kim Yoo Sin, a commanding general during the Silla Dynasty. The 68 movements refer to the last two figures of 668 A.D., the year Korea was united. The ready posture signifies a sword drawn to the right rather than left side, symbolizing Yoo Sin’s mistake of following his King’s orders to fight with foreign forces against his own nation.

Choi-Yong – 46 Movements

Choi-Yong is named after General Choi Yong, premier and commander in chief of the armed forces during the 14 century Koryo Dynasty. Choi Yong was greatly respected for his loyalty, patriotism and humanity. He was executed by his subordinate commanders headed by General Yi Sung Gae, who later became the first King of the Yi Dynasty.

Yong-Gae – 49 Movements

Yong-Gae is named after a famous general during the Koguryo Dynasty, Yong Gae Somoon. The 49 movements refer to the last two digits of 649 A.D., the year he forced the Tang Dynasty to quit Korea after defeating nearly 170,000 of their troops at the battle of Ansi Sung.

Ul-Ji – 42 Movements

Ul-Ji is named after General Ul-Ji Moon Duk who successfully defended Korea against a Sui invasion force over a million soldiers, led by Yang Je in 612 A.D. Ul-Ji employing hit and run guerrilla tactics, was able to decimate a large percentage of the force. The diagram represents his surname. The 42 movements represents the authors age when he released the pattern.

Moon-Moo – 61 Movements

Moon-Moo honours the 30th King of the Silla Dynasty. His body was buried near the Dae Wang Am (Great King’s Rock). According to his will, the body was placed in the sea "where my soul shall forever defend my land against the Japanese". It is said that the Sok Gul Am (Stone cave) was built to guard his tomb. The Sul Gok Am is a fine example of the culture of the Silla Dynasty. The 61 movements in this pattern symbolize the last two figures of 661 A.D. when Moon Moo came to the throne.

So-San – 72 Movements

So-San is the pseudonym of the great monk Choi Hyung Ung (1520 - 1604) during the Joseon Dynasty. The 72 movements refer to his age when he organised a corps of monk soldiers with the assistance of his pupil Yu Jeong. The monk soldiers helped repulse the Japanese invaders who overran most of the Korean peninsula in 1592.

Se-Jong – 24 Movements

Se-Jong is named after the greatest Korean King, Se-Jong, who invented the Korean alphabet in 1444, and was also a noted meteorologist. The diagram represents King, while the 24 movements refer to the 24 letters of the Korean alphabet as it is now used today.

Tong-II – 56 Movements

Tong-II denotes the resolution of the unification of Korea which has been divided since 1945. The diagram symbolizes the homogeneous race.
GTF Patterns

Jee-Sang – 24 Movements

Jee-Sang means 'On Earth'. This pattern has 24 movements, which symbolize the hours of the day. The diagrams represent the four points of the compass North, South, East and West.

Dhan-Goon – 23 Movements

Dhan-Goon was created after the Holy Dan-Gun the legendary founder of Korea in the year 2333 B.C. Dhan-Goon has 23 movements which stand for the first two digits of the year 2333 B.C.

Jee-Goo – 30 Movements

Jee-Goo means "the Globe" or "Global". Jee-Goo has 30 movements which consist of the numbers 24, 4 and 2. The number 24 represents the 24 hours of the day showing Taekwon-Do is always with us. The number 4 represents the four points of the compass, North, South, East and West covering all nations and people. The number 2 is demonstrated by the student performing twice in each direction in order to underline the will to attain world peace and harmony.

The ready posture represents the crossing out the years of strife in Taekwon-Do and the first movement represents breaking away from the past.

Jook-Am – 95 Movements

Jook-Am is the pseudonym of Grandmaster Park Jung Tae. 'Jook' means a bamboo which shoots up straight without any curvature, its roots intertwining to form an inseparable force. 'Am' is an immovable rock, on which the bamboo strikes its roots to form an unshakable foundation. This pattern represents the life of Grandmaster Park Jung Tae and his striving for perfection. The diagram symbolizes the bamboo, which grows high from the rock. Jook-Am has 95 movements which symbolize the year 1995 in which Jook-Am was created.

Pyong-Hwa – 50 Movements

Pyong-Hwa means 'peace'. Grandmaster Park Jung Tae dedicated this pattern to the United Nations Organisation (UNO). This pattern has 50 movements to symbolize the 50 countries which founded the United Nations Organisation in San Francisco, USA in 1945, after the 2nd World War. The diagram represents peace.

Sun-Duk – 68 Movements

Sun-Duk is named after Queen Sun-Duk of the Silla Dynasty. Queen Sun-Duk was known for bringing martial arts from China to Korea. Sun-Duk has 68 movements which refer to the year 668 A.D. when the Silla Dynasty united Korea and the diagram represents 'Lady'