



Chayon-Ryu World Headquarters

Date: January 6, 2011
From: Grandmaster Kim Soo
To: All Students
Topic: Humility, being humble

MUNYEOM MUSANG (무념 무상)

Humble – not proud or arrogant; courteously respectful.

I tell you how special Cha Yon Ryu is; I tell you how proud I am of you all and your training. I tell you these things to show you the value of what you have, not to make your head swell up big.

Respect others. Students, your teachers work hard. When you come to class, you should be prepared to learn. Listening is respectful. Even if you think you have heard what they have said before, hear it again, think on it again. Only by constant reflection can you see and improve your skills and training.

Respect others means your students too. Like the story I told of the teacher pointing out the beautiful sunset, your students are not here to see your finger. Don't baby them. For your students to learn they must do it, they must figure it out. You cannot just put the knowledge into their head no more than I can just put it in yours. You are teaching to help make your students independent not to make followers. As Teachers, your students are not owned by you. They will have other teachers. Just like the three blind men and the elephant, many teachers will see the same thing from different ways but all are seeing the same thing. So your students have to see things from different teachers too.

Respect other means between teachers too. I created Cha Yon Ryu, but in order for it to survive you must support each other. There cannot be fighting and bad feelings between you. You are not competing against each other; help each other like you help your students. Be generous to each other the; same as you treat your students. Endeavor to be more respectful of your fellow instructors. At Black belt, there is no real progress with your advancement with ego as your drive. Together you make up the system. Together you must make sure it survives. Be honest with yourselves, your fellow instructors and to your system.

Ego says, "Oh, I know that already" Humility says, "How can I make that better?"

Ego says, "You're doing that all wrong!"
Humility says, "Have you tried it this way?"

Ego says, "Aren't you lucky to be training with me?" Humility says, "I am so glad you allow me to instruct you"

Sincerely,

Kim Soo