

Comparative Research into Images of Judo Maintained by Japanese and Koreans —An Investigation of College Judo Club Members' Attitudes—

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Since inclusion as an official event at the 18th Tokyo Olympiad in 1964, Judo has continued to grow rapidly around the world. However, there are a number of motivations for participation such as obsession with winning, commercialization, and Judo as a lifelong sport. This has been to the detriment of the original ideals promoted by the founder of Judo, Kano Jigoro. Thus, for successful international development in the future it is important to ascertain the kind of images that practitioners around the world attach to Judo.

key words: Judo, sport, image

I. Purpose

This project aims to find out the kind of images Japanese and Korean college students attach to Judo. A series of 20 questions were devised to determine images of Judo held by college students who belong to Judo clubs in these two countries. Five factors (F1=Japanese culture, F2=popular sport, F3=minus image, F4=competitive sport, F5=competitive attraction) were deduced after analysis, and it became evident that Japanese students had a strong fixation with match results in order to maintain the traditions of Judo.

II. Method

Those surveyed: 206 Japanese college Judo club members (85 male; 121 female; average age of 19.5 years; $SD=1.19$), and 178 Korean college students who practice Judo (120 male; 58 female; average age of 20.2 years; $SD=2.13$)=Total 384 students.

Survey materials: We performed 3 preliminary surveys to establish the most appropriate set of statements.

In the first step, we surveyed 551 college and company workers and asked them to write freely any words that they associate with Judo. In total there were 5,532 responses. We grouped the responses into similar categories, leaving 7 categories and 36 statements which we used to formulate the second-stage questionnaire.

In the second stage, we used the 36 statements derived from the results of the preliminary survey, and asked 741 college students and company workers to respond. After ascertaining the reliability of the questions we were able to reduce them to 21 in total. We followed up with another survey of 932 subjects using these statements, and narrowed the field down further so that we were left with 20 statements to formulate the final questionnaire.

Subjects responded by indicating one of five values (1: Definitely Not; 2: Probably Not; 3: Can't say; 4: Probably Yes; 5: Definitely Yes). Native speakers checked the accuracy of the statements in the case of Korean survey. We conducted the Japanese survey at six university Judo clubs from March to May 2006. The Korean survey was conducted in February 2007, among students at a Korean university Judo club.

III. Results

The data collected concerning the 20 statements from Japanese and Korean college students (total 384) was calculated. After calculating the correlation matrix of each statement for the entire group of Japanese and Koreans, we conducted an analysis to determine the imperfect principal component. Then we conducted a factor analysis through "varimax rotation" of the factors with values of 1.0 or more. The accumulative contribution for all the analysis was 53.01%, and by utilizing statements with factor loadings of 0.4 or more, an interpretation of five factors was possible. (Table 1).

Factor 1 was made from the 4 statements 3, 10, 14, 9 and was interpreted as "Judo is Japanese culture"

Factor 2 was made from the 6 statements 15, 18, 16, 19, 20, 6 and was interpreted as "Judo is an internationally open popular sport".

Factor 3 was made from the 5 statements 12, 11, 4, 5, 13 and was interpreted as "Judo embodies minus images".

Factor 4 was made from the 3 statements 17, 8, 7 and was interpreted as "Judo is a competitive sport".

Factor 5 was made from the 2 statements 2, 1 and was interpreted as "Judo has a peculiar competitive attraction".

The score (average value, standard deviation) of the statements which constituted each factor was computed by dividing the Japanese group and the Korean group; and a significance test for both groups was conducted.

The results showed that the Japanese group was significantly higher with factor 1 ($t=12.35, p<0.01$); factor 3 ($t=4.33, p<0.01$); factor 4 ($t=6.05, p<0.01$).

IV. Considerations

Judo is a form of traditional Japanese culture. However, it is also an internationally popular sport. At-

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tempting to ascertain the images of Judo held by practitioners who train at high level around the world is important to gain an accurate international perspective of Judo.

It became clear from the results of this research that the image of Judo maintained by college students in Judo clubs in Japan and Korea can be explained with 5 factors.

The students are not fixated on the original image of Judo as a way of creating union of mind, technique and body. Rather, they regard Judo widely as a sport, and place emphasis on performing well competitively. However, the Findings demonstrated that the Japanese students maintained more awareness of Judo as a form of traditional culture more than the Korean students, which gave the Japanese students a stronger sense of responsibility and feeling that they needed to win. As Judo becomes more centered on competition, it is apparent that Kano Jigoro's ideals of training in Judo to

"cultivate the self, and make a contribution to society and world peace" require revitalization. (Judo Renaissance.)

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(受稿: 2008. 1. 29, 受理: 2008. 5. 10)

Table 1 Significant factor loading of Japanese (206) and Korean (178) University Judo Students ($n=384$).

Questionnaire head	Japanese culture	Popular sport	Minus image	Competitive sport	Competitive attraction	Communality
3. Originally, Judo is from Japan.	0.789					0.653
10. Japan is proud of Judo all over the world.	0.786					0.684
14. Judo is a part of traditional Japanese culture.	0.688					0.660
9. Judo was founded by Jigoro Kano.	0.673					0.548
15. Judo is a cool sport.		0.754				0.590
18. Judo helps you grow as a person.		0.650				0.611
16. Judo is a pleasant sport.		0.631				0.483
19. Judo promotes the development of mental power and concentration.		0.565				0.462
20. Judo is a sport.		0.502				0.385
6. Judo is a popular sport around the world.		0.458				0.396
12. Judo practice changes your ears' shape.			0.747			0.583
11. Judo is a painful sport.			0.736			0.605
4. Judo often hurts your body.			0.559			0.411
5. Judo makes your fingers thicker.			0.445			0.330
13. Judo uniform needs both blue and white color versions.			0.422			0.428
17. Judo requires a judge to decide a winner.				0.736		0.619
8. Judo games require time limitation.				0.719		0.605
7. Judo is a martial art.				0.532		0.512
2. Judo reminds me of Ryoko Tani (Ryoko Tamura)					0.821	0.679
1. In judo, people are always concerned with 'Ippon'.					0.667	0.537
Amount of contribution	2.886	2.673	2.026	1.788	1.409	10.782
Degree of contribution (%)	14.430	13.363	10.129	8.939	7.047	53.907
Cumulative of contribution	14.430	27.793	37.922	46.861	53.907	