



TACHI UCHI NO KURAI

The first series comprises 12 Kata of the Shinden Omori Ryu school of Iaido.

Etiquette: 1st rei to the Shinzen; 2nd to each other; and, 3rd to the Sword.



- Shidachi and Uchidachi are in taito, 9 paces apart.
- Both advance towards each other and draw the swords simultaneously, aiming to cut each other below the knees. Both will intercept the cut and stop with the right foot forward; blade-to-blade; edge-to-edge at knee height.
- Shidachi, pressing forward, moves the right foot to gain the centre, then passing through Kaburi, attacks Uchidachi's head.
- Uchidachi steps back with the right foot and stops the incoming cut by raising the tachi above his head, parrying with the edge of the tachi; the kissaki pointing to the left.
- Shidachi presses down until the kissaki is in line with Uchidachi's eyes.
- Uchidachi steps back half a step with the right foot and lowers the tachi to chest height, maintaining the same position. Then walking back, Shidachi adjusts his distance and assumes issoku itto no maai with Uchidachi. Then both perform noto and step forward; feet together.

TSUKE KOMI

- Shidachi and Uchidachi are in taito, 9 paces apart.
- Both advance towards each other and draw the swords simultaneously, aiming to cut each other below the knees. Both will intercept the cut and stop with the right foot forward; blade-to-blade; edge-to-edge at knee height.
- Shidachi, pressing forward, moves the right foot to gain the centre, then moves in with the left foot forward and positions his body on the right side of Uchidachi, in hanme. Shidachi's left hand traps the right hand of Uchidachi, by pressing it onto his own leg. At the same time, he positions the tachi with the left hand on the waistline, pointing the kissaki in the direction of Uchidachi's face.
- Covering the full length of Uchidachi's tachi, Shidachi retreats, stepping back a little, assuming issoku itto no maai, with Uchidachi almost making a similar retreat. Noto and feet together forward.

UKE NAGASHI

- Starting both in Taito; feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping position to left foot forward, assuming Hasso no Kamae, both start to advance towards each other (left foot first).
- Shidachi takes the initiative by cutting to the head of Uchidachi (right foot forward). Uchidachi, taken by surprise, defends by raising the tachi on top of his head (left foot forward; kissaki pointing to the left side; tachi is flat; and, hands crossed).
- Uchidachi immediately steps back and cuts to Shidachi's head, placing the left foot back. Shidachi advances with the left foot forward and intercepts Uchidachi's cut by placing the tachi above his head (left foot forward; the tachi pointing to the left; hands crossed).
- Shidachi will cut again, with the right foot forward. This time, Uchidachi will defend stepping back with the left foot, right foot forward, and the tachi pointing to the right.
- Shidachi will cut again to Uchidachi's head, this time Uchidachi retreats with the right foot and with a harai from left to right to the incoming cut of Shidachi, positioning himself in hasso no kamae. Shidachi maintains the position then with two small steps (right foot forward), increasing the pressure on Uchidachi, who steps back two small steps in okuri ashi (right foot forward) to avoid the Shidachi seme. From hasso, Uchidachi performs harai to the Shidachi's tachi and tries to tsuki Shidachi in the suigetzu, by stepping forward right foot in front. Shidachi, at the incoming tsuki, places the left foot about 30 degrees to the left and, with a taisabaki movement, places himself on the right flank of Uchidachi, then cuts to the neck.
- Both return to issoku itto no maai, perform noto, and finish by stepping back to their original position.

UKE KOMI

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping position to left foot forward, assuming Hasso no Kamae, both start to advance towards each other (left foot first).
- Shidachi takes the initiative by cutting to the head of Uchidachi, with right foot forward. Uchidachi, taken by surprise, defends by raising the tachi on top of his head (left foot forward; kissaki pointing to the left side; tachi is flat; and, hands crossed).
- Uchidachi immediately steps back and cuts to Shidachi's head, placing the left foot back. Shidachi advances with the left foot forward and intercepts Uchidachi's cut by placing the tachi above his head (left foot forward; the tachi pointing to the left; hands crossed).
- Shidachi will cut again, with the right foot forward. This time, Uchidachi will defend stepping back with the left foot, right foot forward, and the tachi pointing to the right.
- Shidachi will cut again to Uchidachi's head, this time Uchidachi retreats with the right foot and with a harai from left to right to the incoming cut of Shidachi, positioning himself in hasso no kamae. Shidachi maintains the position then with two small steps (right foot forward), increasing the pressure on Uchidachi, who steps back two small steps in okuri ashi (right foot forward) to avoid the Shidachi seme. From hasso, Uchidachi steps back with his right foot and places the tachi in Jodan no Kamae.
- Shidachi steps forward with the right foot and cuts to the front part of Uchidachi's head by placing the tachi between the Jodan no kamae position of Uchidachi - the alternative is for Shidachi to also cut the left wrist of Uchidachi as he steps into Jodan.
- Uchidachi takes a few steps back, starting with the right foot, until reaching issoku itto no maai with Shidachi.
- Noto and finish.

TSUKI KAGE

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping position to left foot forward, Uchidachi taking Hasso no kamae, Shidachi taking Gedan no Kamae, they both start to advance towards each other. As Uchidachi attempts to cut, Shidachi, scooping up from gedan, meets with Uchidachi's tachi in Tsubazeriai. Both take a step back.
- Uchidachi returns to Hasso no kamae and Shidachi retreats in Wakikamae, left foot in front.
- Uchidachi attacks with a low cut to the left knee of Shidachi. Shidachi responds by cutting to the top of Uchidachi's head, stepping back with the left leg.
- Uchidachi regains the correct issoku itto no maai distance.
- Finish as with above forms.

SUIGETSU TO

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping feet position, taking the right foot back and the left foot forward, both in Hasso no kamae.
- They advance towards each other, then by both cutting at a short distance from each other, they finish in Tsubazeriai. Struggling for the centre the two tachi are locked until Uchidachi attempts to assume Jodan no Kamae. Shidachi prevents him from assuming Jodan by pushing up with the left fist under Uchidachi's tachi and hits him in the centre of his face with the kashira (the butt of the tachi), stepping forward with the left foot.
- Shidachi will start to move the tachi in the direction of Uchidachi. Uchidachi will then start to move back, walking, and finishing in issoku itto no maai with Shidachi.
- Noto and finish.

DOKU MYO KEN

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping feet position, taking the right foot back and the left foot forward, Uchidachi in hasso no kamae, and Shidachi in Hongaku no kamae (similar to the Ono ha Itto ryu school).
- Both move into distance. Shidachi stops right foot forward. Uchidachi cuts, with the right foot forward, to the lower leg of Shidachi.
- Shidachi retracts the right leg back and cuts to Uchidachi's head.
- Uchidachi walks back to issoku itto no maai with Shidachi.
- Noto and finish.

ZETSU MYO KEN

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping feet position, taking the right foot back and the left foot forward, both in Hasso no kamae.
- When at correct distance, Shidachi cuts first to Uchidachi's head (right foot forward). Uchidachi stops the incoming cut by placing the left leg forward and the tachi above his head (with the kissaki pointing to the left; hands crossed).
- Uchidachi cuts to Shidachi's head stepping back with left leg (right leg forward). Shidachi advancing with the right leg forward, intercepts Uchidachi's cut by placing the left hand onto the shinobi of his tachi, with the point up, and at a 45-degree angle, in a sideways parrying action.
- With a circular motion of his hands, and moving forward, Shidachi pushes the Uchidachi's tachi almost down and back, supported by his two hands, and finishes with the tachi point in the throat of Uchidachi, who ends up pushed back, feet together. Uchidachi steps back until in issoku itto no maai with Shidachi.
- Noto and finish.

SHIN MYO KEN

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Only Uchidachi draws the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to Shidachi's face with the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping feet position, taking the right foot back and the left foot forward, Uchidachi in hasso no kamae, Shidachi with tachi in the obi, both advance towards each other.
- Uchidachi cuts from hasso to the head of Shidachi. Shidachi, drawing the tachi from the obi, intercepts the cut, blocking with one hand, the tachi pointing with kissaki to the left and horizontal.
- Shidachi presses forward with a small movement to break the centre of Uchidachi. Uchidachi steps back with the right foot, attempting to cut on the rebound the do of Shidachi (yaku-do). Shidachi immediately steps forward, okuri ashi with right foot, and cuts to the neck of Uchidachi. Both adjust distance until in issoku itto no maai.
- Noto and finish.

UCHI KOMI

5 CUTS

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping position to left foot forward, assuming Hasso no Kamae, both start to advance towards each other left foot first.
- Shidachi takes the initiative by cutting to the neck of Uchidachi with right foot forward. Uchidachi taken by surprise defends by placing the tachi on the left side of his body with the left foot forward and the kissaki pointing up (like a kendo Kirikaeshi defensive posture, but with left foot forward).
- Shidachi using aiumiashi footwork (walking steps) cuts to the alternate sides of the neck of Uchidachi, who, walking back, defends by using left and right parrying moves (as used in kendo kirikaeshi).
- On the 4th step back, Uchidachi, with a large sweep down and forward, tries to push the Shidachi tachi back, then stepping back with the right foot, at the same time tries to cut Yaku-do. Shidachi with a wrist movement immediately steps forward with the right foot and cuts to Uchidachi's head.
- Both regain distance as previous forms, zanshin and finish.

UCHI KOMY

3 CUTS

All actions as above, but for Shidachi only 3 steps forward and for Uchidachi only 2 steps back.

UCHI KOMY

1 CUT

- Starting both in Taito feet together.
- Both draw the tachi out (one hand) pointing the kissaki to each other's face.
- With the right foot forward, passing through feet together, swapping position to left foot forward, assuming Hasso no Kamae, both start to advance towards each other (left foot fist).
- Both cut simultaneously. Uchidachi cuts with the left foot forward; the tachi is at an angle to the right side of the neck of Shidachi. Shidachi cuts straight to the middle, and, by winning the centre, stops the cut on the tsuba of Uchidachi.
- Uchidachi takes half a step back with the left foot and lowers the tachi to chest level. Uchidachi then steps back with the right foot, followed by the left, and regains issoku-itto-no maai with Shidachi.
- Zanshin and finish.

Etiquette: 1st rei to the Sword; 2nd to each other; and, 3rd to the Shinzen.

Exit.