

Historic Document Names Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Successor

Article V of the U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation Charter & By-laws contains information regarding the officers of the U.S. Federation. Section 1 of Article V names Grandmaster Hwang Kee as life-President of the U.S. Federation.

Article V, Section 2 of the charter states "only one successor shall serve at a time and shall serve in accordance with the Charter and By-laws. The Grandmaster shall name his successor and has done so in a sealed document entrusted to the Board of Directors."

This historic document, written in Korean hangul by Kwan Jang Nim Hwang Kee, is shown at right.

The memo reads across the first line "Legally/Officially Korean Soo Bahk Do Association Moo Duk Kwan," the word "successor" on the second line, and the name "Hwang Jin Mun" * directly under that. In the bottom right corner is the date and Grandmaster Hwang Kee's name and seal.

On Saturday, August 3rd, as we stood gathered at the National Championships, listening to Sa Bom Nim Chung as he spoke, we knew we were witnessing an emotional and historic moment in our Moo Duk Kwan history.

Although our hearts felt the loss of Kwan Jang Nim Hwang Kee, the founder of our art, we were consoled by the precise way in which he provided for us and we were reassured and grateful that Sa Bom Nim Hwang was there to lead us and encourage us to "continue to keep Grandmaster's teachings alive and make our art a leading art."

As our new President, Kwan Jang Nim H.C. Hwang invited us to uphold the Grandmaster's "habit and embrace his philosophy in our actions and thoughts." He reminded us of some of the many characteristics that were created by the Grandmaster for Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan: our connection to scholarly discipline, the use of the huri, the dan bon system, the do bak trim, etc. These gifts will forever

be a part of our unique and extraordinary heritage. As this historic document also becomes a part of our proud history, so does our pledge of support to continue to carry out the mission of our Founder, Kwan Jang Nim Hwang Kee.

*Editor's note: "Jin Mun" is Sa Bom Nim H.C. Hwang's birth name.

