Statement from Iwama Shinshin Aiki Shuren Kai Kaicho

直接神気の声

料果の鉄点より茶り20ヶ岸を通ぎようとしております。現在、かれは少しずつ場 実に接動を始めております事を管題へお知らせ辛します。また、村崎も取共へ 協力、共用して下りるぎ々へらいよう原題中したIFます。

まず、笑望ぬが2000 冬本月13日に它(なってからの身の現年の出来事をお開 かせ起します。本証、単規英変長を許って本部へ外に見したが、その時、各部 にて、全日本建築の方と進点より次の二つの事が述べられました。

- 1、「花城遺療長」の各族の浅遺
- 「会気神伝法守」の長書きを今後春昼間以後わない事
 会気会の照機の中に残る場合、「自然法」の充れを止さない事

和は、いずれ洗練洗棒を送きなくてはな考えておりましたので、5 つ目に 2 つ 市はその時ずでに、「何の結果もない」と洗事を致しました。3 つ目は、少し液 様を気料して残りました。

送点の定期の希会は、課本が増じるように、多くの下での合先進とは是う場合 もしておうます。それは、例他の我とと意実に伴っているからであう、それが 兄の時ででもわました。 他一、正好で東京では他の許多を開始であにしてだ を注し、いき形式側に大きんな欠び使いる「相互転換の可か」の基本やら の様本法なのです。父は常に、「この反威道律は現象だけの法律であるから、 期報や人族とて伴いた孩を活躍に表現しているのだ」と声を大にして起くてお りました。また、今父の意に名話を参いた方で、上に除めの表示のため「信 現実」なのです。

私は、さつ昔の前には足の煎い(おちい)がんっている夢を建えに話し、かからひ とつふ願いい何さき事を分とえした。それは、「流え自らなの無所におって、泉 見の水陽やごは飲べだがたの意味を見たしてすかい、たい「見まで」」、たちないで式かくておければ、正見あり様がする少まですかい、たい、この見まであたえた べたちないで式かべておければ、正見あり様がする単見にとって奇気かえた が近年くまになったからなのです。しかし、、、、便は話をし、その話 をしたことでもまであたれないのです。しかし、、、、便は話をし、その話

44日、使中の3年間、合気会や建立に成長を新わない様に通ごす為に、空間に の充民をあざきにとようを見ておりました。ところがいきを組んないうろに、 やなどのも、のなかのようなどの考えました。こころがいきを組みたいうろに、 とない思想となんのです。2010年くちゃてよう、次の手提の人達が探索してくた。 またが、のるでは感じたくた。また、ほう、このため見らくの人はが知らてくん。 その時間の名ではしていたと思いておりました。それ、いた見らくの人はが知らて その時間の名ではしていたと思いておりました。それいう意味のかやても、いだ てきれらずこのもたかないだすが、なり、それしたものがなかの です。その意見からの他の無いを分に開たませんでした。

私は父を掛うに思います。父の考える事はぞに取る第にわかうまとん。今、父 なんどうしたであみるようと思惑る。何時も考えております。父が没参り現だ さには金気が中では出意い、金気にもなどを見ついて、それ、今日の になったとかい文です。周知への大うな男、別への方式ののにはど見つりはみ うまべん。何天に見えただけで「月月1日」のようで、あの別点は低中利 れてはみりません。武正にも思想して保けたと考えてみります。





Letter by Hitohiro SAITO Sensei, Son and Successor of Morihiro SAITO Sensei, 9th Dan



10 months have passed since the Iwama group left the Aikikai Federation and became an independent group. It gives me great pleasure to tell all our members that I have been developing my activities slowly but surely with confident steps. In this letter, I

would like to thank, from the bottom of my heart, all of you who have been constantly supporting me and offering me your sincere collaborations.

First of all, I would like to tell you about what happened after my father, Morihiro Saito, died on May 13th 2002. I visited the head office of the Aikikai Federation together with the chairperson of the committee of the official funeral ceremony for my father, and we had a meeting with Doshu and another person from the All Japan Aikido Federation.

The following is what was asked of us to do at that meeting:

- 1. To return the name of "Ibaraki Dojocho" to the Aikikai.
- 2. That the Saito family will cease to use the title of "the Aiki Shrine Caretaker"
- 3. That we will stop conferring the Iwama-ryu certificates, if we remain inside the Aikikai Federation.

I had already been thinking that I should return the Ibaraki dojo in the near future so I replied immediately that there was no problem in agreeing to the first and second requests. However, I was a little perplexed about their third request.

As everyone knows, the training we presently do at Iwama, is different from the training held at many other aikido dojos. This is because we have faithfully preserved the Founder's teachings and my father was always very proud of this. This training is based on the principle of the union of Ken, Tai-jutsu and Jo and was transmitted only to my father. My father dedicated his whole life to working with the Founder in the fields and woods, helping him with farming and taking care of trees. He served the Founder in full resonance, literally offering his body and soul. He used to say, " I am teaching sincerely the techniques taught to me by the Founder because this Ibaraki dojo belongs to the Founder alone". The Iwama-ryu group with its own grading system was created for those who were touched by my father's way of living and who chose to follow him as their teacher. These grades were mostly given to his students outside of Japan.

Therefore my answer to Doshu regarding the third matter was that it was my father?s wish to preserve the Iwama-ryu and I asked him to do one thing in return for my acceptance of his request. This was to announce in their official newsletter that Iwama-ryu is practicing the Founder?s aikido. If the Aikikai could show their recognition and acceptance of us, I thought, then the Aikikai certificates would become a shining treasure for all the students of the Iwama-ryu. However, this did not happen and no one in the Aikikai Federation was informed that this meeting between the Aikikai and us took place.

I thought I should not bother the Aikikai Federation or Doshu with the question of the Iwamaryu during the mourning period of three years for my father, so I was not planning to give out any Iwama-ryu certificate. However, after less than one year, my students began to ask me, after receiving the Aikikai certificates, to give them the Iwama-ryu certificate as well.

After my father passed away, the elder students of my father wanted to become independent and founded their own organization with the name of "Takemusu Aiki". They also started to give out their own certificates to their students. In this situation when a split was happening inside our group, there were still many students who chose to follow me in the same way as they followed my father. They are the true treasure my father left for me. Therefore, when I was asked to give the Iwama-ryu certificates, I could not refuse their request.

I feel very proud of my father. I could always understand exactly what my father was thinking at any time. Today, I still ask myself what would my father do if he were still here. I have come to understand that I cannot continue my father's mission inside the Aikikai Federation, without causing more trouble with them. So I decided to leave the Aikikai and founded my own association. There is no change in my feelings of gratitude to the Founder and I will continue to follow faithfully the Founder's spirit. I respect also the former Doshu and the actual Doshu as well. My independence is not the result of conflict between the Aikikai and us. I believe that Doshu understands this. We, the Saito family, will continue to live next to the Ibaraki dojo. We offer our prayer at the Aiki Shrine and wish the Ueshiba family good health. We feel grateful to the people who are now taking care of the Ibaraki Shibu Dojo. I think it is the best way that many people share the task of taking care of the Aiki Shrine and the dojo.

I will continue to elevate and improve myself, maturing and developing the aikido techniques. At the same time I will continue to follow the Founder and dedicate myself to preserving the teachings of my father. I deeply wish to work with you, and I would like to meet and connect with many people. It is my sincere desire to help as many people as possible to understand "the principle of the true basic techniques" of the Founder.

> With best regards, **Hitohiro SAITO** September 2004, at the International Seminar in Italy, Europe



岩間神信合気修錬会