



ICHIGUN ICHIMI

ONE DISTRICT - ONE BAND

BY
ANTONY CUMMINS

WWW.NATORI.CO.UK

Ichigun Ichimi, is a Japanese saying that is not common within the “ninja world”, however this saying is something every single ninja club and organisation in the world should and needs to know, (especially those who have an interest in the Koka lineages). The ancient ninja of Koka & Iga would exchange vows of secrecy and information sharing with each other, this was the promise of, *Ishigun Ichimi – One District & One Band*. *Natori* in his ninja manual *True Path of the Ninja* states:

“Later, the people from Kōka甲賀, next to Iga伊賀, followed this path of ninjutsu and having made the oath of Ichigun Ichimi一郡一味, the friendship oath of “one district and one band,” joining the people together. They went out expansively to various provinces to utilize their skills. Thus, being universally recognized as the premier shinobi they exchanged a firm written form of oath, which says “If I come to where you are, you should show me everything of your province, and if you come to where I am, I will show you everything about my province.” By doing this, it is said they

should show that their family tradition was extraordinarily exquisite and outstanding and also show the marvel of their tradition of ninjutsu, at its best.”

Natori Masatake 1681

The main goal of the *Historical Ninjutsu Research Team* is to disseminate Historical Ninjutsu, but it is the personal goal of Antony Cummins to re-establish or create a bond of friendship between all the ninjutsu schools of the world. We no longer live in the confines of a feudal system, nor are we at war with other clans. As modern interpreters of Historical Ninjutsu it is a fundamental requirement that we adopt and promote the positive elements of ninjutsu itself.

Today the *One District* is the *world* and the *One Band* are the collective ninjutsu students of the world. There are a multitude of clubs around the globe which teach and reconstruct ninjutsu. The aim of this document is to promote a worldwide network of people who all believe in a mutual sharing of information and the common aim of the preservation of the Historical Ninja arts. To help and aid the preservation of shinobi skills, the concept and guidelines of *Ichigun Ichimi* are as follows.

1. *Ichigun Ichimi* is not an organisation it is an idea and promise.
2. It has no head; each Dojo is independent and controlled by their own instructors.
3. Any ninjutsu organisation, club or student can join the idea without prejudice.
4. The main aim is to create a ninjutsu network which shares ideas.
5. To join, simply promise to connect with others and make that connection a reality and tell them you are making the bond of *Ichigun Ichimi*.

The principles of *Ichigun Ichimi*:

1. To form bonds with other ninjutsu clubs around the world.
2. To share historical ninjutsu information freely with other clubs.
3. To create a network that promotes the preservation of *Historical Ninjutsu*.
4. To create an open and friendly environment in which clubs can share ideas.
5. To show at all times the origin of the information you provide so that others may establish if it is correct.

Actions to be taken:

The following list is a set of actions each club should perform to ensure the continuation of the *Ichigun Ichimi* system.

1. Make promises to other club members to share and explore Historical Ninjutsu
2. Contact ninjutsu clubs in your area and arrange joint training and seminars, including social events and promise to share and explore Historical Ninjutsu, no matter what their root affiliation.
3. Visit www.natori.co.uk for updated information and free downloads.

4. Search *Ichigun Ichimi* on Facebook to join the official Facebook page.
5. Ensure all information shared is from historically provable material and represents true ninjutsu.

The Logo & Images (free to download from the website)

Antony Cummins gives full permission to copy and redistribute the images associated with the group *Ichigun Ichimi*. To help display your clubs association with the ideology and goals of the One District & One Band concept each club can do the following:

The logo can be displayed on club websites to display their “membership”.

1. The logo can be used on club T-shirts and uniform to allow “members” to connect at ninjutsu events such as seminars.
2. The logo can be used on club & individual publications and newsletters.
3. Displaying the logo shows your intent to share and bond with other dojo’s.

If the above points are all committed to in a sincere way the *Ichigun Ichimi* community will be the a progressive “organisation” that preserves and maintains the history of ninjutsu for generations to come. Remember it is “*One District and One Band!*”

To have the *Ichigun Ichigumi* Logo adapted with your club name; contact jaykane77@googlemail.com (Antony Cummins does not profit from this service).

www.twoplusone.carbonmade.com

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