



Hwa Rang Do®

Dojoonim Dr. Joo Bar GM

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Seminars & Championships 2017

**(MISSION STATEMENT OF THE
WORLD HWA RANG DO®
ASSOCIATION)**

**HWA RANG DO®: A legacy of
Loyalty,
Relentlessly seeking Truth,
Empowering Lives, Serving
Humanity**

Starting from July 1st to July 8th 2017 the World Hwa Rang Do® Association Annual Black Sash Conference / Seminars / Championships took place in Genoa, Italy. It was an incredible event with hundreds of participants from many different countries. It was much more than a gathering to learn and share knowledge, to test our skills to its limits; it was a family gathering to cultivate, rekindle, and rejuvenate our love of the art, love for each other, and the Hwarang Spirit, strengthening our convictions and bettering ourselves so that we may be of better service to humankind.

You can witness some parts of the overwhelming feedbacks we received from some of our participants.

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"...This year's 2017 events were a great experience! All the students were committed to giving their best and every match was very challenging, always finishing with cheers of solidarity and fraternity..."

"...It was the first time for me to attend a seminar taught by our Dojoonim (Owner of the Way), Dr. Joo Bang Lee and it filled me with great emotions, which are hard to explain. The seminar was on a very interesting topic: Healing applications of pressure points. This is a terrible ailment, which has afflicted much suffering in my family for several generations. So, I experienced the true balance and comprehensiveness of our Art; techniques which can be used for self-defense can also be used to heal..."



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"...I enjoyed this year's championships very much as I have realized how much hard work I have to do in order to improve both as a student and an instructor. Moreover, I'm deeply impacted by what Kuksanim Taejoon Lee discussed during one of the seminars, "that everything in our lives is a matter of one's choice, however good or bad." I felt he was speaking directly to me as I am currently faced with many difficult choices in my life..."

"...The championships were, for me, the first opportunity to test myself as a complete Hwarangdoist. I was assisting in organizing and managing of the event as well as a competitor for the first time as a Tae Soo Do Black Belt and it was very exciting as well as enlightening. I now understand in small the part, the amount of dedication, hard work, and sacrifices our instructors make for the success of these events..."

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“...There are many deep feelings and reflections that the seminars and championships have left in me: Such as the delight in discovering (again) the beauty of simplicity in perfection, while watching our Dojoonim Dr. Joo Bang Lee performing knife techniques, so simple, so effortless, so beautiful. However, two things really left a deep mark within me. The first was meeting the Luxembourg Hwa Rang Do team for the very first time. The outward kindness and generosity of each one of them, yet possessing the strength shown in the application of the true spirit of a warrior - "do or die" approach during the championships changed my vision of the essence of competition itself. The second was the message transmitted by Grandmaster Taejoon Lee during the Gumtoogi (sword fighting) seminar: the importance of understanding foundational knowledge, the meaning, and purpose behind the practice of the martial techniques...”

Next summer in July of 2018, Luxembourg will host the World Hwa Rang Do® Association Annual Events. See you all there!

About the author: Su Suk Sa Bum Nim Marco Mattiucci – Hwa Rang Do 4th dan and Chief of the Italian Branch of the World Hwa Rang Do Association.



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