



The Meaning of the Black Belt

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

HWA RANG DO®:

A legacy of Loyalty, Relentlessly seeking Truth,
Empowering Lives, Serving Humanity

We can find two main targets for the students into Hwa Rang Do®: the 1st dan Tae Soo Do® (introductory art to Hwa Rang Do) black belt and the subsequent 1st dan Hwa Rang Do® black sash.

The 1st dan Tae Soo Do® black belt is the time for the student to finish the introductory syllabus and start to study of the complex and comprehensive Hwa Rang Do® syllabus.



**GM Taejoon Lee
Marco Mattiucci**



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The 1st dan Hwa Rang Do® black sash is a huge step, the basic technical program of Hwa Rang Do® has been finished and you can get the title of Hwarang knight so you can start to study the advanced martial techniques of the Art.

Both the exams are hard and lasts for days. The 1st dan Tae Soo Do® black belt Test is made of at least 3 pre-test that are to be performed in many months. In each pre-test many different instructors evaluate the level reached by the student, his physical and technical performances. The 1st dan Hwa Rang Do® black sash Test requires the participation in at least one week long full-immersion seminars with Do Joo Nim Dr. Joo Bang Lee (Founder and Hwa Rang Do 10th dan) e con Kuk Sa Nim Taejoon Lee (Grandmaster and Hwa Rang Do 8th dan), then for many hours the tested

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student has to show techniques, forms and several fighting skills.

Of course in both tests many theoretical elements are evaluated (such as hwarang history and Korean etiquette) by means of written and oral exercises. But, why these tests are so hard? The 1st dan Tae Soo Do® black belt Test has the purpose to make the student understand what really means to enter the traditional world of Hwa Rang Do® so it's important to test his motivation (studying Hwa Rang Do® is really hard and the student has to be self-motivated). For the 1st dan Hwa Rang Do® black sash Test, the title of Hwarang means that the student is going to be a leader, an example, so an instructor for other students. From this point of view he has to be ready to integrate into his life all the Hwa Rang Do® theoretical and technical issues. He has to understand the deep meaning of that change in his life and the test is made for that.

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