



# GOJU-RYU KARATE-DO MISSION INTERNATIONAL

Established 1980

The Pursuit of Peace • The Martial Arts Tradition Continues

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From K. Higaonna • C. Miyagi • S. Higa • K. Izumikawa • S. Ichikawa • M. Sudo and **Kenshu Hideo Watanabe, 9th Dan**

## My message to all karate-ka & competitors at the N.K.F.I. Open World Karate Championship

It is a pleasure for me to take this opportunity to extend warmest greetings on the occasion of the National Karate Federation India Open World Karate Championship in Pune.

The art of karate requires the utmost self discipline, concentration of mind and body, coordination of skills & dedication.

As you know, karate has developed as a sport in the last 50 years or so, which is good & wonderful thing to a society or nation where you live. And surely, our children, young men & women around the world do enjoy it very much.

However, something was missing in the last 50 years of karate sport in the world is the teaching of Karate-love, which is a lot more important, and much more than a sport competition or Olympic games.

We all know that we admire any sports champions, however not so much for other competitors (losers). Are these losers do not deserve our respect ?  
One of Japanese Budo( Martial Path) teachings, all of us have their own path to live life. Therefore, you do not need to compete against others, but you have to fight against yourself to improve yourself. Everyone of us deserves our respect if you make your own effort.

On this occasion, I here write a message of “ Karate-towa-ai”( Karate is love):

Love is the most powerful force in humankind. I take us to a world of heaven, and make no enemies.

True karate love is based on understanding, mutual trust and respect.

Love is being balance, that is , in harmony with the self and others.

Love is universal, like your soul.

Love is selflessness, lives in our “kokoro”( mind & spirit ) and no-one can defeat it.

We, karate practitioners, must create and foster the power of Love through the way of our daily training.

Without Love, there is no true value in our life.

Therefore, Karate-towa-ai.

Finally, I conclude by congratulating the organisers of this event for their efforts in ensuring a successful tournament.

Yours in Karate-do,

Kenshu Hideo Watanabe, 9th dan, Hanshi  
Japan Goju-ryu karate-do Federation

Goju-ryu Karate-do Mission International