

The Northern Shaolin Long Fist and Chinese Swai Jiao Connection*



Han, Ching-tan
(1901-1976)



Chang, Tung-sheng
(1908 – 1986)

Great-Grand Master Han, Ching-tan (1900 – 1976) was born in Sang Dong province, China, 1900. He practiced Long Fist in Sang Dong with several famous teachers. The styles he learned were from Northern Shaolin Long Fist family. When the Chinese government founded the Central Chinese Martial Art Institute, Chung Yiang Guo Shu Guang, in Nang-Jing, he decided to apply for further study. The institute was established in 1928 to be the highest Chinese martial art institute. Many famous masters in Taiwan and Mainland China graduated from the institute. He was so good that he also worked as a teaching assistant when the institute accepted him.

The institute hired many famous teachers with many styles like Xing-Yi, Ba-Gua, Tai-Chi, and Long Fist. While in the institute, Great-Grand Master Han, Ching-tan started re-organizing and researching his Chin-Na Shu, the grabbing and locking technique. He practiced so hard that he graduated as highest rank among the first year students. After he graduated, he was hired by Hang Zhou Police Academy as martial art coach. Later he worked as martial art coach in Chinese Central Intelligence Agency. When the government moved to Taiwan, he worked as martial art coach in Central Police Academy until he retired.

Great Grand Master Han, Ching-tan was not only good at Long Fist, he also famous for his Shuai-Chiao, Chin-Na, Tai-Chi, and many weapons. In the police academy, he taught officers Chin-Na and Shuai-Chiao. Tai-Chi was another specialty of his. He learned Yang's Tai-Chi in the institute when Tai-Chi master Yang, Chen-Pu was teaching there. He was not only good at martial arts, he also a very good to his friends.

When Shuai-Chiao (Swai Jiao) Grand Master Chang, Tung-sheng who also graduated from the Central Chinese Martial Art Institute came to Taiwan; Great Grand Master Han, Ching-tan allowed him stay to at his house, and gave his Shuai-Chiao class to Grand Master Chang, Tung-sheng.

*Edited from story related by Sifu Robert Yun-Hsin Young http://www.geocities.com/yunhsinyoung/english/index1_eng.html