



About the author: Taika Seiyu Oyata

Taika Seiyu Oyata was born in 1930, in Okinawa, Japan. When he was 14 years old, he joined the Japanese Naval Academy and served as Lieutenant. After the war, he trained classical martial arts from two ancient masters, Uhugushuku and Wakinaguri. After their death, he was actively involved with the development of Okinawan Karate and the formation of Okinawan Kempo. In the mid-1960s, he took first place in a large tournament in Southern Japan that had attracted the top karate men from both Japan and Okinawa.

In 1968, he moved to the United States and started introducing the authentic life protection arts here by forming the Ryukyu Kempo Association. Through years of seminar instruction, he became one of the utmost leading figure of Ryukyu martial arts in the States.

As a martial artist, he has been recognized world-wide as the highest authority of Kyusho Jutsu, Atemi Jutsu and Tuite Jutsu. In 1991, he founded Oyata Shin Shu Ho to pass on the genuine quality of Ryukyu life protection arts. In 1995, he renamed his organization Ryu Te Association.

As he teaches his martial arts, he has been actively involved with community service for the past 18 years to support people in need. His contributions have been recogized in 15 states and he has received an honorable invitation to the White House from the President for his devotion to the arts and community service in the States.

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Taika Oyata was born in 1930, in Okinawa, as his current birth certificate states. In reality, he was born in 1928, but, during the war, his original birth certificate, as well as everyone else's, was destroyed, and when a new one was established, it listed his year of birth as 1930. The reason his birth certificate was changed to 1930 was because his father thought the war would start again. He changed Taika Oyata's birth certificate, so that he was younger, in this way if the war had started again, he wouldn't have to go. After having 3 of his 4 sons die in war, his father felt that his last son needed to live on to carry on the Oyata family name.

After World War II life on Okinawa was very difficult for the Okinawan people. Taika Oyata's mind was focused on the protection of his family and himself, so martial arts training was very important to his survival. So, here is where Taika Oyata's journey of the True Art of Protection begins.