



International Ryukyu Karate Research Society

Kinjo Hiroshi

On behalf of the International *Ryukyu Karate* Research Society it is a great honour to bestow upon you our *Lifetime Achievement Award* in recognition of your unselfish contribution to the art of *Karate*.

Your extraordinary commitment and immeasurable contribution to this important cultural heritage of Okinawa has not gone unnoticed. Meticulously detailing the history, personalities and technical ambiguity of *Karate*, for more than fifty years, your work has become the hallmark of excellence in this field. Not only have you provided a valuable link to the past you have also built an important bridge across which the essence of this art can now be accurately delivered to future generations. *Bushi Matsumura* and *Itosu Okina* were two pioneers who left indelible impressions upon the evolution of this humble art. In spite of an impeccable pedigree, far-reaching experience, and international celebrity, your modest character and gentle spirit exemplifies the coveted behaviour of a true *Bujin*, and sir, we stand in admiration before you today. You have inspired an entire generation of *Karateka* all over the world and we are confident your work will continue to influence countless enthusiasts for generations to come.

We salute your dedication and thank you for helping us all to better understand the value of this important cultural legacy. If there's any truth to the expression, "*Tall trees provoke the pride of winds*," then you are, without a doubt, one of the tallest trees in the forest of *Karate*.