



神武

BELT SYSTEM GUIDE & MEANING

TRADITION • RESPECT • EXCELLENCE

唐手道

CHAMPION TANG SOO DO

By Master Jag Basra





PHILOSOPHY OF THE BELT SYSTEM

In the beginning, the late Grandmaster Hwang Kee only had White, Green, Red and Midnight Blue (Black Belt). In the 1970s, other colours were introduced to provide additional stages of progression. Due to Western influences, variations in belt colours can now be seen among different Tang Soo Do organisations.

01



WHITE BELT – 10th Gup



White Belt represents snow, a primitive stage ready to learn and grow. It is the dormant stage of a new student, and the season is winter.



MEANING

Purity, innocence and the beginning of a martial arts journey.

FOCUS

Learning the basics, building discipline and understanding fundamentals.

GOAL

To develop a strong foundation in techniques, attitude and respect.

武德館





WHITE BELT – RED STRIPE

9th Gup



White Belt with Red Stripe

represents the first stage in the journey the student has been introduced to the basic principles and movements of Tang Soo Do.



MEANING



The red stripe signifies awareness, energy and the first spark of a martial arts journey.

FOCUS



Understanding basic techniques, correct movements and building confidence.

GOAL



To continue developing coordination, discipline and a positive attitude towards training.





PURPLE BELT – 8th & 7th Gup



Purple Belt represents new growth, like the spring of the seasons. The student's new knowledge to grow, and a sense of Tang Soo Do direction is developed.



PURPLE BELT LEVELS

8th Gup – Purple Belt



7th Gup – Purple Belt with White Stripe



MEANING



Growth, development and the nurturing of knowledge and understanding.

FOCUS



Expanding techniques, improving form, increasing awareness and building consistency.

GOAL



To strengthen skills, deepen understanding and move forward with purpose and discipline.

武德館





GREEN BELT – 6th, 5th & 4th Gup



Green Belt represents the rapid development of youth as summer arrives. A sense of pride begins to develop within the student.



GREEN BELT LEVELS

6th Gup – Green Belt



5th Gup – Green Belt with White Stripe



4th Gup – Green Belt with Black Stripe



MEANING



Growth, progress and the building of strength, like nature in the summer.

FOCUS



Improving techniques, increasing control, refining attitude and developing stamina.

GOAL



To advance with confidence, consistency and responsibility, preparing for the next stage.





RED BELT – 3rd, 2nd & 1st Gup



Red Belt represents power, stability, agility, weight and wisdom. The student begins to flower and bloom.



RED BELT LEVELS

3rd Gup – Red Belt



2nd Gup – Red Belt with White Stripe



1st Gup – Red Belt with Black Stripe



MEANING



Power, strength and determination, balanced with control and wisdom.

FOCUS



Developing advanced techniques, improving speed, agility and building confidence.

GOAL



To master skills with control and precision and to prepare for the journey to Black Belt.





MIDNIGHT BLUE BELT

(DAN RANKS) – 1st Dan and above

武德館



Midnight Blue Belt represents maturity, respect & honour.



It is the **completion** of a goal or one stage of life.



It is a new **pathway** to higher ranks.



It is like going from secondary school to college to **become and master**.



The mind is **clean and calm**.



Autumn is the season of midnight blue belt.



During the autumn months the trees begin to lose their leaves which represents the **knowledge** being passed down to lower ranks.



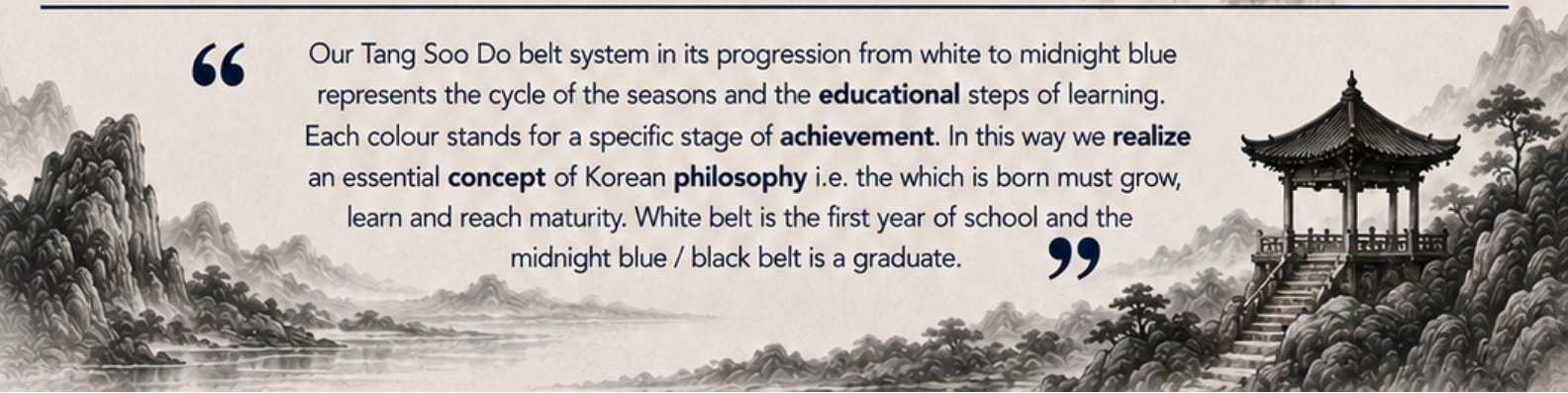
The roots of the tree are symbolic of the **heritage** and **tradition** of Tang Soo Do - binding all students of all ranks in a supportive and loyal brotherhood.



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Our Tang Soo Do belt system in its progression from white to midnight blue represents the cycle of the seasons and the **educational** steps of learning. Each colour stands for a specific stage of **achievement**. In this way we **realize** an essential **concept** of Korean **philosophy** i.e. the which is born must grow, learn and reach maturity. White belt is the first year of school and the midnight blue / black belt is a graduate.

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BELT SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Our belt system is designed to guide students through a structured path of learning, improvement and personal development.

01		WHITE BELT	10th Gup
02		WHITE BELT WITH RED STRIPE	9th Gup
03		PURPLE BELT	8th Gup
04		PURPLE BELT WITH WHITE STRIPE	7th Gup
05		GREEN BELT	6th Gup
06		GREEN BELT WITH WHITE STRIPE	5th Gup
07		GREEN BELT WITH BLACK STRIPE	4th Gup
08		RED BELT	3rd Gup
09		RED BELT WITH WHITE STRIPE	2nd Gup
10		RED BELT WITH BLACK STRIPE	1st Gup
11		MIDNIGHT BLUE BELT (DAN RANKS)	1st Dan and above

BENEFITS OF OUR BELT SYSTEM



PROGRESS

Track your improvement and celebrate each achievement.



DEVELOPMENT

Build skills, knowledge and confidence at every stage.



DISCIPLINE

Learn the value of hard work, dedication and consistency.



FOCUS

Sharpen your mind, improve focus and apply these skills in all areas of life.



RESPECT

Show respect for yourself, your instructors and your peers.