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Editorial

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2014
The 75th anniversary of the start of the 2nd world World War in 1939 is being commemorated this year. We recall the fact that Poland was invaded by Nazi Germany on 1 September 1939 and by her ally, the Soviet Union (the USSR) on 17 September. It is also the anniversary of Poland being betrayed by its contemporary allies i.e. France and Great Britain (in 1939 and after the war). Then, and even now very few people cared about the meaning of such concepts as honour, betrayal and shame. In Poland, then, an unequal struggle was launched against these two totalitarian aggressors.

This year Poland is also marking the 70th Anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising in 1944. This was the biggest uprising in Occupied Europe. The Uprising was followed by a dramatic act of genocide: of the 144,000 Poles who were killed, approximately 90% were civilians, systematically murdered on the fuhrer’s order: “every citizen should be killed, do not take any prisoners. Warsaw is to be razed to the ground and a terrifying example for the whole of Europe must be made”. The world did not want to know the facts which are still little known, globally, even today. The Warsaw Uprising museum and the Swedish band Sabathon (“Uprising”, 2010) talk about the heroic struggle of the Polish elite. Warsaw, however, was reborn like a phoenix from the ashes and was rebuilt. It remains the capital of free Poland. It is fortunate that today our country’s which has been a presence in NATO for 15 years, and a member of the European Union for 10, is more secure.

There are two more great anniversaries in the history of my country which are important for the development of science. 650 years ago was the Academy of Krakow, which today is the Jagiellonian University, founded. For centuries, it has been educating the intellectual elite. 150 years have passed since the end of the January Uprising in 1863-1864 in Poland and Lithuania. The bloody terror of Tsarist Russia caused the collapse Polish noble culture. Many patriots lost their lives, many families lost fortunes. This led indirectly to the emergence of the new social stratum: intelligentsia.

In addition to these larger anniversaries, we have also the lesser ones, related more directly to our scientific activities. There is the 65th anniversary of the judo-do organization and the 40th anniversary of the same organization under the name Idokan. This issue has become a part of a new project of IPA’s international research scheduled for four consecutive years. The whole of IPA Research Project 3/2014-16 contains the leading themes including: 3.1. The institutionalization and adaptations of martial arts in Europe (cooperation: Shibu Kobudo Committee); 3.2. Historical European fencing – factual material, restoration, teaching (Committee of Fencing); 3.3. 65 years of judo-do – the idea and technique (Sport School Lothar Sieber); 3.4. Tourism of martial arts – analytical and explanatory research (Committee of Tourism). There is also the 110 year jubilee of jujitsu in Poland. It has also been 10 years since the memorable nationwide convention commemorating the 100th anniversary (Jaworzno 2004).

Our Journal is also celebrating its 10th jubilee since the time of the first ministerial grant, when it entered the list of publications ranked by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education, and was indexed in Index Copernicus (2004-2014). The article Martial arts science institutionalisation: specialized scientific periodicals is devoted to our and other periodicals of a similar profile. It mainly contains descriptions (a diagnosis of the situation) of the working of specialised “martial arts science” periodicals.

2014 was the year of the canonization of the two great Popes: John XXIII and John Paul II –
today’s prominent figures, noble and creative people of dialogue and fighters for the Truth. Should the road to mastery not include the spheres of the spirit of transgression and transcendence? It may be that contemporary civilization does need proper, moral guideposts. The articles Moral values, people of noble way of martial arts and Philosophies of martial arts and their pedagogical consequences discusses contemporary normative ethics of the way of the warrior.

Following our journal’s new paradigmatic concept, we are this year publishing this year a number of texts from different methodological perspectives which have essentially humanistic and systemic approaches. The phenomena of sports and sports training, tourism, as well as cultural psychological and sociological studies require such an overall treatment. In addition, we are opening a debate on the place of martial arts in physical education (article: Martial arts in physical culture), and Dominique Brizin and Keith R. Kernspecht propose a general theory of the logic of fighting (Introduction to Combat Logic – A General Theory). We invite you to read and to cooperate further.

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