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Study trip to Munich: casus of scientific and martial arts tourism

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Abstract
Background. The scientific perspective for the study is the anthropology of tourism and the anthropology of martial arts.
Aim. A cognitive question posed by this work is to obtain new knowledge about scientific and martial arts tourism. It should be a contribution in this area.
Methods. It is a case study of a one-week seminar, with participant observation. A qualitative content analysis of the literature was also used.
Results. A description and review of a cyclic scientific and methodological seminar with the main topic: “Cultural and socio-logical aspects in martial arts” is presented. It is shown as an event in the field of study and research into martial arts, scientific tourism, and martial arts tourism. It is a factual description of the operation of several national and international martial arts institutions, and a discourse on cultural dialogue. A unique manifestation of cultural dialogue, identified during the research is the artefacts decorating the flat of the leader of several martial arts organizations. The rest of the article is complemented with a discussion about various forms of educational tourism and related illustrations (photos of the events and places described).
Conclusions. This German-Polish seminar provided participants with new knowledge and skills. The next steps for further cooperation were agreed upon. It was also another meeting of the leaders of several well-cooperating martial arts organiza-
tions. The seminar proved to be a success for both participants and; it was a highly evaluated event at the scientific, methodical, technical and organizational levels. The description was completed in total from three perspectives: that of the organizer-host, a guest-participant in the event, and an outside observer. This gave the opportunity to approach the subject as objectively as possible and in compliance with the methodological standards of the humanistic coefficient.

Introduction
Scientific tourism is a form of cultural tourism and cognitive tourism. In this case this is a study visit, which is one of a number of forms of research tourism [Schaefer 1995; Guenter 2003; Mika 2007].
A scientific visit to study martial arts is a special form of study trip [Cynarski 2015]. There are two factors which are: stimulating elements, and the manifestations and effects of cultural dialogues i.e. the study of martial arts and tourism (cultural) [cf. Obodynski, Cynarski 2003; Przeclawski 2004; Tokarski 2011a, b]. The issue considered here is included in the sphere of the notion of ‘cultural tourism/educational tourism’ [Grzywacz, Zeglen 2014: 48].

The notion of ‘martial arts tourism’ both as it is popularly understood, and from the perspective of an anthropological-systemic concept can be used here [Cynarski 2015; Munsters, Melkert 2015]. In popular understanding martial arts may be treated as a tourist magnet; as one of many possible attractions as is for example, the Shaolin Temple in China [cf. Ko, Yang 2008; Griffith Miller 2010]. However, in terms which result from the humanistic anthropology of tourism and recreational exercise (the psycho-physical), and the anthropology of martial arts, there is a whole group of factors, motives and manifestations of the idea of ‘martial arts tourism’.

Bavaria is a country rich in tourist assets, both natural and cultural [Sieber, Cynarski 2010; Siepmann, Luthardt 2013: 5-156], while Munich itself is referred to as the world centre for the study of and research into martial arts. As such, it is also a tourist centre and destination for martial
arts tourism [Blumentritt, Cynarski 2008; Cynarski 2012a].

One of the main attractions in Munich, but probably only for martial arts aficionados is meijin (Champion of Champions) GM Lothar Sieber who runs his school and teaches, in the city. Who is Prof. Sieber? He is a martial arts researcher (Professor of the European Jujutsu and Kobudo Committee) co-operates with the publication “Ido Movement for Culture. Journal of Martial Arts Anthropology”, honorary president of the DDBV (German Association of Budo Teachers Champions) and Idokan Poland Association (IPA), member of the EJKC (European Jujutsu and Kobudo Committee) and the IMACSSS (International Martial Arts and Combat Sports Scientific Society). He has been awarded among others, the Order of the Rising Sun (Sobukai, Kyoto), the Erich Rahn Medal (Deutscher Jiu-Jitsu Ring “Erich Rahn” e.V., Berlin), the Knightly Order of Fujiyama (Academy Idokan Europe, Vienna), the Knightly Order Homo Creator Nobilis (European Nobility Club, IPA), the Medal of the University of Rzeszow. Lothar Sieber is the author of 41 scientific publications, but above all, he is an outstanding practitioner, a master-teacher of martial arts and the holder of the highest masters degrees in several styles of martial arts:

10 dan judo-do / ido and bujutsu ido (Idokan);
10 dan jujutsu, meijin (style: jujutsu-karate Yoshin-ryu);
10 dan zendo karate Tai-Te-Tao, 2nd soke (DFK);
9 dan karate-do; hanshi (WUKF, WUKO) and meijin (IEI, IPA);
8 dan Okinawa karate, hanshi;
7 dan iaido, and kenjutsu, kyoshi (Idokan).

Methods

In this paper, the authors addressed the scientific problem by a multifaceted analysis of a scientific trip on the basis of one study visit. It means that this is a case study [Philimore, Goodson 2004; Richards, Munsters 2010], that illustrates more general rules. Simultaneously, it was participant observation by the authors of the paper. In addition a qualitative content analysis [Krippendorf 2004; Mayring 2004] of the literature on the subject was used.

The elaboration of the problem represents a valuable contribution to the discussion on scientific tourism as well as an introduction to deeper and broader research in the areas of scientific tourism and martial arts tourism.

Description of the events


For 10 years these symposia have been organised in a two-year cycle. Shihan Wojciech J. Cynarski has been invited to them given his position as president and technical director of the IPA (responsible for teaching and examinations related to martial arts in the idokan yoshin-ryu style), as a martial arts researcher, a Professor at the University of Rzeszow, and also as IMACSSS president [cf. International meeting ... 2015].

The main organizer of this year’s seminar and chairman of the programme committee was Prof. EJKC Lothar Sieber, along with the President of the DDBV e.V. Bodo Blumentritt, and Hannelore Sieber, the President of the DJJR “Erich Rahn” e.V. Organizations which cooperated included the DDBV, L. Sieber’s Sports School, and the IPA as well as the Karate School in Neuffen. Special events were also marked including the 110th anniversary of jujutsu in Germany and the 40th anniversary of GM Sieber’s School.

The capital of Bavaria was also worth visiting in order to meet fellow scientists (including Professors Sven de Hooge, Kurt Weiss and Colin Goldner, and Doctors J.M. Wolters, Ulrich Diekötter, Nicola Ettlin) and other wonderful people from the martial art world. The IPA sponsored plane tickets for Shihan. Cynarski so the flight was comfortable and uneventful.

Programme

The first day, Feb. 8, started with a discussion and preliminary arrangements connected with the anniversaries of jujutsu, the honbu, zendo karate tai-te-tao [Sieber 2011] school, as well as Shibu Kobudo in Poland, functioning as a committee of IPA. The Sports School in Munich (Jiu-Jitsu und Karate Schule L. Sieber) is nearly 40 years old, including 30 years at Haager Str. 8. Sieber’s School is so called honbu, which is the headquarters for zendo karate tai-te-tao (in other words: idokan karate) and jujutsu-karate (yoshin-ryu) [Cynarski 2009: 120-145] which are taught here. Meijin Sieber teaches: iaido, taekwondo and kick-boxing, here as well.

The host of the Seminar commented on the notion of a “professor of martial arts”. This is an interesting manifestation of dialogue between the traditions of the countries of East Asia and the “Western” tradition of scientific institutions.

On Monday, February 9 the first substantive discussions took place. Lothar Sieber discussed several new books and pointed out a few factual errors. Wojciech J. Cynarski presented an account of the Third Congress of IMACSSS. He discussed the issues of dialogue and...
cultural clashes. He spoke, inter alia, about Polish hus-
sars, whose martial art was presented at the Congress
of Martial Arts Gala by the Signum Polonicum School
[c.f. Pawelec et al. 2015]. Workshops then took place in a
honbu in Munich. Cynarski conducted classes on: “Teach-
ing techniques of kenjutsu and iaido by Katorishinto-ryu
school” [c.f. Sugino, Ito 2010]. Then meijin Sieber 10 dan
led special training in “Jujutsu-karate for self-defence”.

On Tuesday Prof. Cynarski presented the second
part of the lecture: “Understanding the 3rd. IMACSSS
Congress”, by presenting a video and photos / slides from
the Congress. In his session Lothar Sieber developed the
theme of “110 years of jujutsu in Germany”. In the con-
text of that anniversary he presented an analysis of the
literature. He drew attention to the merits of the German
anthropologist Prof. Dr Erwin von Baeltz and misinter-
pretations concerning his character in the literature [c.f.
Matschke, Velte, 2005: 17, 37]. Baeltz incidentally, was
one of the first Western jujutsu researchers [Baeltz 1905].
He pointed to the Chinese origins of jujutsu, specifically
to a Chinese diplomat named Chin Gembin, who taught
this martial art to a few samurai in 1650.

Lothar Sieber also spoke about “The importance
of kata in karate”. In his opinion, this kind of knowl-
edge transfer has currently lost its meaning; the teaching
of fighting techniques can now be provided by the use
of videos and other means. Kata (formal systems) are
needed in times of fairly widespread illiteracy, the una-
vailability of literature and the absence of other media.
He also noted that kata show only the basic techniques
of the canon. Workshops were then conducted by sensei
Hannelore Sieber 9 dan. They were in karate techniques
in the supine position and jujutsu-karate self-defence.

Wednesday, February 11. To start with classes were
held on: “Aqua aerobic karate”. These activities were
conducted by mgr Thomas Kautzleben, and Seminar
participants did not just watch them, but also actively
participated in them. The classes on “Jujutsu self-defence
and ne-waza” were conducted by mgr Wolfgang Kroetz
4th dan, the second coach in a honbu.

Following the death of Franz Strauss (1934-2014 there
are now only three Grand Masters of judo-do/ido world-
wide. But only two of them apply the medicine of martial
arts within ido known as bujutsu ido or ido-jutsu [Cynar-
ski 2009: 161-175; Sieber, Cynarski 2013]. Both of them
participated in the seminar under discussion. Lothar Sie-
ber 10 dan presented a lecture and workshop on natural
medicine entitled: “Iridology and other forms of diagnosis”.

Thursday. The topic of “Natural medicine” contin-
ued: natural and alternative medicine therapies were
presented, including homeopathy, herbal medicine
(phytotherapy), and acupuncture (in relation to phar-
macology). It is worth noting that in Rzeszow this is mgr
Romuald Wlodyka’s (7 dan bujutsu ido, kyoshi) area of
scientific interest.

On the same day there was an examination in iaido
– the Japanese art of wielding a sword. The examining
committee included shihan Lothar Sieber, 7 dan kyoshi,
and Wojciech J. Cynarski, 6 dan renshi in this martial
art. Senpai Christian Brandt who trains in the honbu
passed the exam for 3 dan of iaido.

Later there were group sessions. Warm-up exer-
cises were conducted by Klaus Holzer 2 dan. Lothar
Sieber, assisted by Hannelore Sieber conducted classes
in the teaching methodology of zendo karate, jujutsu
and self-defence. After the workshops, Bodo Blumentritt pre-

tained Cynarski with his honorary DDBV badge, which
was awarded to him a year earlier, for the 15-year-long
membership and cooperation between the organisations
(photos 1 and 2).
There was an informal panel discussion. Its participants were advanced practitioners of martial arts including: Lothar Sieber 10 dan, Hannelore Sieber 9 dan, Bodo Blumentritt 5 dan, W. Kroetz 4 dan, members of the DDBV’s Board, and Wojciech J. Cynarski 10 dan. Medical issues were discussed (ido), the relationships of martial arts with tourism, sport and shows (combat sports the popularity of MMA), physical and psychomotor culture (recreation, asceticism). The implementation of international research by IPA and IMACSSS was discussed, as well as plans for the publication of the results. The issue of teaching martial arts (especially karate, ju-jutsu, iaido and kobudo) in Europe was analysed. There was also a discussion concerning the content of the 14th volume of “Ido Movement for Culture. Journal of Martial Arts Anthropology”, evaluating it uniformly positively.

13 February. Thanks to an invitation from shihan Harald Weitmann (8th dan karate, hanshi) the rest of the Seminar was held in Neuffen, a small village near Stuttgart, with a large martial arts school, the Karateschule H. Weitmann. Harald Weitmann is a professional. He teaches karate, kobudo, kick-boxing and iaido, professionally and educates a large group of very nice people (photos 3 and 4).

To start with there were workshops focusing mainly on teaching methodologies. Hanshi Weitmann conducted classes in kobudo (bo stick, club and other weapons) Hokama’s style. Wojciech J. Cynarski conducted training in special techniques and technical combinations in karate Idokan / Zendo karate Tai-te-tao. Next he received certificates for: 8 dan zendo karate 5, and hanshi title – signed by: dai-soke Sieber 10 dan, and Harald Weitmann 8 dan karate, hanshi on behalf of the Dan-Federation of Zendo Karate Tai-Te-Tao and Budo (DFK), DKKF (German Martial Arts Federation) and IPA; 8 dan karatedo – signed by: meijin Sieber and D.E. Aledo Banuls 8 dan.

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4 Papers are to be published mainly in the "Ido Movement for Culture. Journal of Martial Arts Anthropology", specialized periodical of IPA and IMACSSS.

5 Prof. Dr Wojciech Cynarski having passed all mental, written and physical tests, is hereby promoted to the rank of 8th dan – from the certificate.
Photo 4. After training in Neuffen [courtesy of H. Sieber]

Karatedo, kyoshi (Association Espanola "Erich Rahn", and IPA) (photo 4).

In the evening, there was a symposium of a small, four-person group of kodansha – holders of high master’s degrees (Hannelore Sieber 9 dan, Harald Weitmann 8 dan, Lothar Sieber 10 dan, and Wojciech J. Cynarski 10 dan). The discussion dealt particularly with an analysis of the current situation in the martial arts environment (institutionalization, operation, compliance with the rules), as well as an analysis of the new literature.

The following day the Seminar returned to Munich. There was also a visit to Walther Hoch’s (a former Lothar Sieber’s student) small private dojo in Fraenking, in the municipality of Weichs (photo 5).

In turn, a discussion meeting in Weichs related to, among other things, anniversaries: 40 years of honbu, 20 years of Shibu Kobudo in Poland, and projects for research and planned publication. It is worth mentioning that several works within this project have already been published [cf. Sawicki 2014; Cynarski to 2013, 2015b]. There was also a discussion about shooting, known in the samurai tradition as hojutsu. Masters such as Sieber and Habersetzer regularly practise at the shooting range [cf. Habersetzer 2007: 321-324; Lee-Barron 2014].

Sunday, February 15 was the last day of the Seminar. That day, the pastor of the Catholic parish of Weichs the Afro-European Nigerian, Dr Clement N. Obieli celebrated his 70th birthday. He held a concelebrated mass.

Surely this is yet another example of the cultural process of globalization [cf. Cynarski 2003]?

Cultural dialogue

The process of cultural globalization promotes the dissemination of a variety of patterns and symbols on the borderlines of spiritual and mass culture. A specific manifestation of cultural dialogue and globalization is the artefacts decorating the flat of the leader of several mar-
The name *Zendo karate Tai-te-tao* also emphasises the sense of the way of the body, mind and soul. In photo 7 the symbolism of the warrior’s way (*torii*) and roads of meditation (*zendo*) can be seen at GM Sieber’s home.

The image of the ancestral emblem, created by Prof. Sven R. de Hooge, is the symbolic vision of the value of the individual way of GM Lothar Sieber. The emblem (photo 8) shows, among others, the eagle and snake (Asklepios – medicine), and an iron fist (as in the logo of *honbu*). GM Sieber is very attached to the native, Bavarian, German and European culture, but he is also open to cultural dialogue especially in the area of medical knowledge and within the study of martial arts (photo 9). Incidentally the periodical “Ido Movement for Culture. Journal of Martial Arts Anthropology”, which this year celebrates its 15th anniversary, is the platform for the same cultural dialogue, and the leader of the Munich *honbu* is one of the most active of its activists.

During the week, at leisure time there was an opportunity to visit the libraries of the State of the Land of Bavaria, Munich Municipality (Muenchner Stadtbibliothek) and the Ludwig Maximilian University. It was most interesting, for a scientist, for there to be an accompanying programme that allowed for additional intellectual adventure. It was also possible to experience a European vision of Tolkien’s archetype [cf. Cynarski 2015] in a musical performance given by the Munich Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra and the University Choir.

**Discussion**

Cultural dialogues “on the way of martial arts,” as was concluded during a seminar discussion are multiform, but generally they are implemented on the relational axes: East – West, tradition – innovation, sport – self-defence,
teacher – student. Dialogues are fostered by conferences and seminars, publications (such as specialised issues of “Ido Movement for Culture. Journal of Martial Arts Anthropology”, and “Revista de Artes Marciales Asiaticas”), the activities of martial arts organizations, scientific organizations and individual persons. The study tour as a form of scientific tourism provides an opportunity to acquire knowledge in the best scientific institutions [cf. Rzeszutko-Polak, Matlosz 2015], but also helps in the implementation of scientific and methodical cooperation.

Looking from another angle, one deals with tourism research (study visits), with the characteristics of cultural tourism and martial arts tourism [cf. Pages from journey 2015]. It is worth mentioning that a classic martial arts form of tourism – a sightseeing tour, a trip to watch or study martial arts, is often associated with travelling ‘to the sources’ [Cynarski, Obodynski 2003; Griffith Miller, 2010; Albrecht, Rudolph 2011]. In this case, there is a higher level of institutionalization of martial arts [Cynarski 2006], as it relates to jujutsu practised in Poland and Germany (for 110 years). Similarly, as far as different forms of martial arts tourism and tourism research are concerned, one can point to the need for personal fulfillment, as a leading one [cf. Cynarski, Duricek 2014] when the events described are not of a commercial nature.

It is also another form of cultural process of globalization [Cynarski 2003; Obodynski, Cynarski 2003; cf. Ko, Yang 2008; Tokarski 2011a]. The world centre for karate and jujutsu, martial arts deriving from Japan (some styles and schools) is Munich, the large German city, in the middle of Europe. The honbu i.e. headquarters is there. Here in Europe, a specific adaptation of the original martial arts, combined with their modernization (innovation and modification) has taken place. Despite the fashion for MMA [cf. Forrest, Krauss 2012; Etll, Treiber 2013], martial arts generally named budo (in the broad sense) are still attractive.

The authors of works both on scientific tourism (study visits) and tourism of martial arts usually describe events from the perspective of a person travelling to study [Raimondo 2011; Albrecht, Rudolph 2011; Cynarski 2012b], or the host and organizer of events [Pawelec et al. 2015]. For example, Maik Albrecht and Frank Rudolph [2011] describe Albert’s stay and training by sifu Li Zheng-hu in Wuhan (China). Their book, published for the “Institute of Martial Arts Research”, presents such studies “at the source”.

Photo 8. Sieber’s emblem [courtesy of H. Sieber]

Summary

This German-Polish seminar provided participants with new knowledge and skills (confirmed by certificates), an exchange of experience and analyses. New subject literature was discussed. The next steps in collaborative research, methodological and organizational cooperation were agreed upon; plans for further actions were established including training, research, conferences and publications. Provisional arrangements for 2018 regarding the 4th World Scientific Congress of Combat Sports and Martial Arts in Rzeszów combined with the 25th anniversary of IPA were made.

In addition, each stay in Munich and Neuffen is an opportunity for the exchange of coaching methodological experience, technical, tactical knowledge and skills amongst the best specialists in Germany and Europe. At the same time they are meetings and conferences of the co-leaders of several cooperating martial arts organizations (DDBV, DFK, DJJR, EJKC, IMACSSS, and IPA).

Germany is traditionally very efficient organizationally, and yet again the validity of this stereotypical view was confirmed. Thanks to that the seminar was a mutual success for both participants and organizers. The event was highly evaluated on all criteria: scientific, methodical, technical and organizational.

The description included three perspectives: of the organizer-host of the event and a guest-participant, and an outside observer which gave the opportunity to approach the subject as objectively as possible while maintaining the methodological standards of a humanistic coefficient.

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Wyjazd studyjny do Monachium. Przypadek turystyki naukowej i sztuk walki

Słowa kluczowe: sztuki walki, socjologia, turystyka, dialog, współpraca organizacji

Abstrakt
Perspektywa teoretyczna. Ramę teoretyczną dla niniejszego studium dają antropologia turystyki i antropologia sztuk walki (rozwiniecie humanistycznej teorii sztuk walki).

Cel. Problemem poznawczym tej pracy jest zdobycie nowej wiedzy o turystyce naukowej i turystyce sztuk walki. To powinien być przyczynem do stania wiedzy w tak zakreślonym obszarze, oraz do socjologii sztuk walki.


Wyniki. Przedstawiono opis i recenzję cyklicznego seminarium naukowo-metodycznego, które tym razem miało za główny temat: „Kulturowe i socjologiczne aspekty w sztukach walki”. Zostało to ukazane, jako event z zakresu badań i badań sztuk walki, turystyki naukowej, i turystyki sztuk walki. Jest to opis faktograficznie funkcionowania kilku krajowych i międzynarodowych instytucji sztuk walki, oraz dyskurs dotyczący dialogów kulturowych. Specyficzny przejawem dialogu kulturowego, stwierdzonym w trakcie badań są artefakty zdobiące mieszkanie lidera kilku organizacji sztuk walki. Całość uzupełnia dyskusja o różnych formach turystyki edukacyjnej oraz material ilustracyjny (zdjęcia opisanych zdarzeń i miejsc).