

# JAPAN KARATE ASSOCIATION/ WORLD FEDERATION-TANZANIA 10TH INTERNATIONAL GASSHUKU FROM 01/09/2017 – 04/09.2017



## *REPORT:*

*Shihan Koichiro Okuma Gasshuku 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2017*



It was a bright Friday morning with a lot of anxiety and excitement on how the Gasshuku would be. Karatekas arrived from Tanzania it self, Zanzibar, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Angola, Japan (Shihan Koichiro Okuma) to be part of the Gasshuku. For many, it was not their first time to participate during the JKA-Tanzania Gasshuku.

The Gasshuku was organised by JKA-Tanzania and it took place at our usual venue at Don Bosco Youth Centre, Upanga Auditorium Dar es salaam, Tanzania.

Introductions were taking place amongst Karatekas and Shihan Koichiro Okuma (6<sup>th</sup> Dan JKA) who is **'General Manager for International Affairs Division at the JKA HQ'** walked into the Auditorium with a big smile on his face.



Jerome G. Mhagama Sensei (5<sup>th</sup> Dan JKA) welcomed and introduced Shihan Koichiro Okuma to the Karatekas and without wasting time Shihan Koichiro Okuma was giving shot speech , he thanked everyone for availing themselves for the Gasshuku.



He thanked JKA-Tanzania for making it possible to have him come to Tanzania for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. He briefly talked of JKA-Tanzania progress since 2007 and encouraged other JKA countries to dedicate and commit themselves to JKA Karate.

For those Karatekas who have trained with Shihan Koichiro Okuma this was another opportunity to get the source of the cream and gather the bits and pieces together and take them to their respective dojos for perfection. As for the second timers, they were amazed with what Shihan Koichiro Okuma was capable of doing putting into mind age, years of training and how he made all moves look so easy only to complain of the strains and aches later.

Every day of the Gasshuku was a bright new day.

Training time... The grounding, stances, proper techniques and most of all being able to understand what you are doing became a package. It was amazing how Shihan Koichiro Okuma took to the floor and come the end of the Gasshuku Karatekas were graving for more!!!



This time Shihan was focused more on Kumite training, take under consideration next year August is **2<sup>ND</sup> JKA/WF AFRICA CUP** which will take part in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Shihan Koichiro Okuma also put Karatekas through a number of different way of doing Kihon which was interested to all Karatekas, Katas, Referee and Judge Course.

The Gasshuku ended on a high note and Karatekas requested JKA-Tanzania for a longer training period which the Officials said they would put into consideration.

We hosted Karatekas from Tanzania it self, Zanzibar, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Angola, Japan (Shihan Koichiro Okuma) total of 168 Karatekas benefited his expected instruction.





Were graced by Government Official presence from National Sports Council (Games & Sports Officer) **Halima Bushiri Omari**, JKA/WF Sub-Sahara Regional Director **Edward Mtshali Sensei**, Chairman of Tanzania Shotokan Karate Association **Willy Ringo Sensei** and also for the first time Japan Deputy Ambassador **Counselor Hiroyuki Kubota** he was a guest of honor during the crossing ceremony.



Time had come to say good bye.

One week ago we were one big family and how time flies so fast.

Jerome G. Mhagama sensei (5<sup>th</sup> Dan JKA) and Chief Instructor of JKA-Tanzania summed up by first thanking Shihan Koichiro Okuma and JKA/WF HQ for always maximum support and also thanked all countries representatives and Karatekas from different regions for making time to join 2017 JKA/WF- Tanzania Gasshuku.

Jerome G. Mhagama Sensei lastly said, as much as I would want you to all stay, it is time to let go and pray to meet again next year August in Johannesburg, South Africa for the 2<sup>ND</sup> JKA/WF AFRICA CUP.

***Jerome G. Mhagama Sensei***  
***Chief Instructor***  
***JKA/WF- TANZANIA***

**Attachment:**



Photo: Shihan Okuma is welcomed at the Airport by Gasshuku participants from different countries.



Photo: Explanation about Tekki Shodan.



Photo: It is Kumite time.



Photo: Media.



Photo: Media.



OSSU!