

# TENSHIN RYU IAIJUTSU

## GRADING SYLLABUS

Affiliated to  
YODOKAN BUDO ASSOCIATION  
FEDERATION OF IAI SCHOOLS  
DAI NIPPON BUTOKU KAI  
Updated November 2006

### Seiza

1. Reverse cut.
2. Double cut.
3. Parry cut.
4. Jumping cut.

### Tachi

1. Ippon Mei.
2. Belly cut.
3. Waki no kamae-parry.
4. Rear thrust-cut.
5. Tsuka thrust.
6. Wristlock.
7. Half butterfly cut.
8. Four winds.
9. Tsuki parry.

Mike Selvey, Rokudan Kyoshi.  
2006

### Ippon Mei (1<sup>st</sup> form) Seiza Reverse cut

From seiza (facing ushiro) the hands move to the tsuka and saya, the knees move together and you come up on your right foot. Drop the right knee, lift the left knee and spin to face Kamiza whilst drawing the katana and cutting nukitsuke to the right arm of your opponent. Assume Jodan no kamae and cut kesa giri. Pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst returning to face Kamiza.

### Nihon Mei (2<sup>nd</sup> form) seiza Double cut

From Seiza facing Kamiza raise right foot and draw the katana vertically then straight into Kesa Giri. As soon as the cut stops, drop your right knee lift your left knee and spin to face ushiro. As soon as you turn cut kesa giri a second time to a second opponent. Pause for Zanshin; perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst turning to face Kamiza.

### **Sanhon Mei (3<sup>rd</sup> form) Seiza Parry cut**

**Your opponent is coming at you at a 45° angle to your right.  
In seiza facing Kamiza draw the katana into Uke Nagashi (angled parry).  
Stand and cut Kesa Giri to the legs of your opponent.  
Carry on moving through the first cut on into another Kesa Giri 45° to  
your left, to the back of your opponent's neck as they fall. Pause for  
Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst turning to face Kamiza.**

### **Yonhon Mei (4<sup>th</sup> form) seiza Jumping cut**

**From Iai Goshi facing Kamiza, the hands move to the tsuka and saya,  
move to standing position and carry on up to a jump.  
Fold both legs under and at the same time draw nukitsuke.  
When you land on the floor you will be in the seiza nukitsuke cutting  
position.  
From this position turn the blade upward, the tsuka to the right side of  
your head, steady the outstretched blade with your left palm, turn the  
blade through 180° and assume Jodan no kamae.  
Lunge forward, place your right knee down lift your left knee and cut  
kirioroshi.  
Pause for Zanshin, perform Tenshin chiburi and Noto whilst moving back  
into Iai Goshi.**

## **TACHI FORMS**

### **Ippon Mei (1<sup>st</sup> form) Tachi**

**Face Kamiza right foot forward, cut nukitsuke.  
Immediately cut kesa giri.  
After cutting assume Haso no Kamae and pause for Zanshin, to threaten,  
and then perform Yoko chiburi and Noto.**

### **Nihon Mei (2<sup>nd</sup> form) Tachi Belly cut**

**Face Kamiza take two steps, right foot forward.  
Drop to your left knee draw the katana and cut Nukitsuke to the belly of  
your opponent.  
Stand and step 45° to your right and cut Kesa Giri to the neck of the  
falling opponent.  
Pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst moving back to  
face Kamiza.**

### **Sanhon Mei (3<sup>rd</sup> form) Tachi Waki kamae parry**

**Face Kamiza right foot forward. Move into Waki no kamae, pause waiting  
for an attack as in a duel.  
Step forward on right foot and simultaneously parry a Jodan strike to  
men by moving your blade forward through 360°.  
At the correct point in the parry circle, cut kesa giri to opponents neck  
(their left side).  
Pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst moving back to  
face Kamiza.**

**Yonhon Mei (4<sup>th</sup> form) Tachi**  
**Rear thrust cut**

**Face Kamiza right foot forward, draw the katana and perform Ura Tsuki (thrust to the rear) whilst stepping back with right foot.**

**Turn 180° to the right and cut Nukitsuke to the opponent's throat, you should finish with right foot forward.**

**Assume Haso no kamae as a threat, pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst moving back to face Kamiza.**

**Gohon Mei (5<sup>th</sup> form) Tachi**  
**Tsuka thrust**

**Facing Kamiza right foot forward, left hand moving to the saya, right hand takes a reverse grip on the tsuka.**

**Perform men tsuka ate (hilt strike to the face).**

**With right foot forward turn over the blade and perform Mune Tsuke (thrust to chest), Steady the blade by putting your right forearm on the Mune.**

**Move into Jodan no kamae and cut kirioroshi.**

**Pause for Zanshin, then perform Yoko chiburi and Noto.**

**Rohon Mei (6<sup>th</sup> form)**  
**Wrist lock**

**Facing Kamiza, before you move your opponent takes hold of your tsuka. Place your right hand over theirs in a reverse tsuka grip.**

**Move tsuka and hand in a circular movement creating a wrist lock and throw.**

**Keeping the reverse grip draw the katana and perform Tate Tsuke (vertical thrust with the kissaki pointing down).**

**Kick down with your right foot to the fallen opponent to withdraw your katana.**

**Move to Jodan no kamae and cut kirioroshi at a low level, step back with the right foot to complete the cut.**

**Pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst moving back to face Kamiza.**

**Shichihon Mei (7<sup>th</sup> form) Tachi**  
**Butterfly cut**

**Facing Kamiza right foot moves forward, left hand moves to saya, right hand takes a reverse grip on the tsuka.**

**Draw the katana in a horizontal arc (half butterfly) and cut to the throat of your opponent.**

**Maintain the arc and cut kesa giri still holding the tsuka in a reverse grip. Pause for Zanshin, perform reverse Yoko Chiburi and Noto.**

**Hachihon Mei (8<sup>th</sup> form) Tachi  
Four winds cut**

**Facing Kamiza right foot forward, draw katana and cut nukitsuke to your right.**

**From this position perform Ura Tsuki (thrust to the rear).**

**Cut kesa giri towards Kamiza, turn to ushiro and cut kesa giri again.**

**Move to Jodan no kamae and cut kirioroshi, turn and use same cut to ushiro.**

**Turn to the right and cut kirioroshi, and finally turn to ushiro and cut kirioroshi, you should finish with your left foot forward.**

**Pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst moving back to face Kamiza.**

**Kuhon Mei (9<sup>th</sup> form)  
Tsuki parry**

**Facing Kamiza, right foot forward in Gedan no kamae, opponent thrusts blade to your throat.**

**Take half a step to your right, move the katana in a circular movement to the left to parry the thrust, the blade must be vertical kissaki pointing down, the ha facing opponent.**

**Carry on the circular movement and cut kesa giri, move to Hasso no kamae to guard.**

**Pause for Zanshin, perform Yoko Chiburi and Noto whilst moving back to face Kamiza.**