

Itosu-ryu Karatedo is the karatedo style which passes down the most orthodox legacy of Master Anko Itosu. Itosu-ryu Karatedo 4th generation grand master (Soke), Sadaaki Sakagami, held a karatedo seminar at Ballinasloe, Ireland from August 12th until 14th. The seminar was held, celebrating 35th anniversary of the establishment of Itosu-kai Ireland, and a lot of Itosu-kai members around Ireland also gathered in this town: such as Scotland, Spain, Denmark, Sweden and USA.

The first day's training was only for black belt members in Ireland Itosu-kai. Although they were already advanced students, they focused on basic training from scratch. They were so serious and tried to catch all of the information by Sensei Sakagami, because they have little opportunity to learn karatedo technique directly from him.

On the 2nd and 3rd day, Sensei Sakagami instructed not only Irish member but also people from other countries. The total number reached 250. It was a big party. At first, they all practiced Pinan series which is the most widely known kata, created by Master Itosu. He taught not only the kata's details but also the applications. After that, according to the student's levels, he focused on teaching Itosu-ha school's katas: Jitte, Jiin, Jion and Bassai-dai.

On the 2nd day's night, they held a party celebrating the 35th anniversary of Itosu-kai Ireland at Gullane's Hotel where it is located in the center of Ballinasloe, Ireland. The mayor of Ballinasloe, Mr. Mike Kelly, also attended it, and he wished further development of Itosu-kai, Ireland.

The chief instructor of Itosu-kai Ireland, Mr. Leo Mulvany, says "It is great honor for us to be able to bring Soke Sadaaki Sakagami, for celebrating our 35th anniversary. Also, I really appreciate other countries' members who came over to attend the celebration. In 2013, Itosu-ryu Karatedo International Federation will hold World Championships in Osaka, Japan. I am very looking forward to seeing everybody again at that time!"

Photo1: Instruction by Soke Sakagami.

Photo2: The center, Soke Sakagami, the 2nd from left, The chief instructor of Itosu-kai Ireland, Mr. Leo Mulvany.

Photo3: The instruction of Bassai-Dai

Photo4: Training.

Photo5: At the party. Left Mayor of Ballinasloe, Mr. Mike Kelly. The Center, Soke Sakagami, Right, The chief instructor of Itosu-kai Ireland, Mr. Leo Mulvany.