

# Joong-Gun

Joong-Gun is named after the patriot Ahn Joong-Gun who assassinated Hiro-Bumi Ito, the first Japanese governor-general of Korea, known as the man who played the leading part in the Korea- Japan merger. There are 32 movements in this pattern to represent Mr. Ahn's age when he was executed at Lui-Shung prison (1910).

충군



## The history of the Joong-Gun

An Joong-Gun was born in 1879 in the town of Hae-Ju in Hwang-Hae Province. An's family moved to the town of Sin-Chun in Pyong-An Province when he was about ten years old. At the age of 16, An entered the Catholic Church with his father, where he received his baptismal name "Thomas", and learned French. While fleeing from the Japanese, An took refuge with a French priest of the Catholic Church in Korea named Wilhelm (Korean name, Hong Seok-gu) who baptized and hid him in his church for several months. The priest encouraged An to read the Bible and had a series of discussions with him. He maintained his belief in Catholicism until his death, going to the point of even asking his son to become a priest in his last letter to his wife.

At the age of 25, he started a coal business, but devoted himself to education of Korean people after the Eulsa Treaty by establishing private schools in northwestern regions of Korea.

His schools, like others at that time, was destined for hardships under the Japanese military Occupation of Korea and became enmeshed in a Japanese power play by virtue of its location. In 1895, the Japanese government was determined to create a large empire that would include Manchuria and China. Korea was obviously necessary as a stepping stone for creating this empire

The long-term occupation of Korea also involved the complex takeover of the Korean government. One of Japan's leading elder statesmen of the time, Hirobumi Ito, became involved in masterminding a plan to complete the occupation and political takeover of Korea. He was named the first Japanese resident general of Korea in 1905. He was answerable only to the Japanese emperor and had the power to control all the Korean foreign relations and trade.

While still in Japan, Ito pressured the weak Korean government into signing the "Eulsa Protectorate Treaty" on November 19, 1905, which gave the Japanese the right to occupy Korea. Following the ratification of the treaty, twelve Japanese commissioners were assigned to the various provinces in Korea, with one being stationed in Seoul. Later, in March 1906, Ito arrived in Korea to take the reins of power. At this time, he ordered all foreign delegations in Korea to withdraw, leaving Korea at the mercy of the Japanese. The new Japanese puppet government enacted laws that allowed Korean land to be sold to Japanese, although land generally was just taken.

The Korean people were extremely irritated under these grim circumstances. Word soon leaked out concerning the Protectorate Treaty, provoking a wave of anti-Japanese violence. Several small guerilla groups were formed and attacked the Japanese occupation forces. One such group in Chung Chong Province armed themselves with 50 cannons and conducted a long campaign of hit-and-run actions against the Japanese. They were finally defeated, however, as most other groups were when hunted down by the much larger Japanese army. The general wave of unrest continued to spread very rapidly. Violence pervaded the general population, as many loyal Korean government officials committed suicide and Korean government officials who had signed the Protectorate Treaty were assassinated.

In the face of the oppression that accompanied this Japanese annexation of Korea An Joong-Gun went into self-exile in southern Manchuria. There he formed a small private guerilla army of approximately 300 men, including his brother. This army conducted sporadic raids across the Manchurian border into northern Korea, keeping a relentless pressure on the Japanese in this region.

In June of 1907, the Korean emperor, Ko-Jong, in an effort to break loose of the Japanese control, secretly sent an emissary to the Hague Peace Conference to expose the Japanese aggressive policy in Korea to the world. When Ito found out, he forced Ko-Jong to abdicate the Korean throne on July 19, 1907, and the Japanese officially took over the Government of Korea. Severe rioting involving many Korean Army units broke out all over Korea. The Japanese responded by disbanding the Korean police force and the army, except for the palace guard. The Korean Army troops then retaliated by attacking the Japanese troops, but were quickly defeated. All Koreans prisons, courts, and police units were officially turned over to the Japanese government.



Even after the defeat of the Korean troops, resistance from the general Korean public continued for many years with many guerilla groups operating out of southeastern Manchuria. Small groups of patriots

attempted assassinating several Japanese leaders and members of the Japanese-Korean government. In response to the increased Japanese activity in the Kando region, An Joong-Gun led his guerilla army on a raid there in June 1909. The raid was a success, resulting in many Japanese deaths. Despite such guerilla activities, the Japanese finally arrived at an agreement with the Chinese. The treaty, signed on September 4, 1909, allowed the Japanese to build a branch line to the Southern Manchurian Railway to exploit the rich mineral resources in Manchuria. In return, the Japanese turned over to the Chinese the territorial rights to Kando. This brazen act of selling Korean territory to another country was the last straw for many loyal Koreans such as An Joong-Gun. He set out for his base of operations in Vladivostok, Siberia, to prepare for his assassination of Hirobumi Ito.



Independence activist  
Ahn Jung-geun (1879-1910)



Japanese Prime Minister  
Hirobumi Ito (1841-1909)

When Ito arrived at the Harbin train station at 9:00 a.m. on October 26, 1909, An Joong-Gun was waiting for him. Knowing full well that he would never escape alive, and that torture awaited him if captured by the Japanese, An Joong-Gun shot Ito 3 times after he stepped off the train.

Following the assassination, Joong-Gun An was arrested by Russian guards who held him for two days before turning him over to Japanese colonial authorities. When he heard the news that Itō had died, he made the sign of the cross in gratitude. An was quoted as saying, "I have ventured to commit a serious crime, offering my life for my country. This is the behavior of a noble-minded patriot."

While in Japanese prisons, he suffered through five months of extremely barbarous

torture. Despite this unbelievable treatment, it is said that his spirit never broke. On March 26, 1910, at 10:00 a.m., Joong-Gun was executed at Lui-Shung prison.

In the court, An insisted that he be treated as a prisoner of war, as a lieutenant general of the Korean resistance army, instead of a criminal, and listed 15 crimes Itō had committed which convinced him to kill Itō.

An mistakenly believed Itō had ordered the assassination of Empress Myeongseong, an order which is attributed to Miura Gorō, although Miura Gorō did send a report to Itō Hirobumi after the execution.

"15 reasons why Itō Hirobumi should be killed.

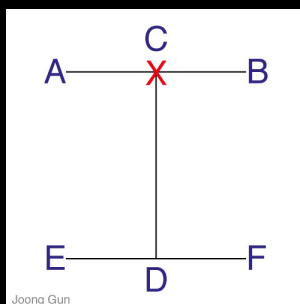
1. Assassinating the Korean Empress Myeongseong
2. Dethroning the Emperor Gojong
3. Forcing 14 unequal treaties on Korea.
4. Massacring innocent Koreans
5. Usurping the authority of the Korean government by force
6. Plundering Korean railroads, mines, forests, and rivers
7. Forcing the use of Japanese banknotes
8. Disbanding the Korean armed forces
9. Obstructing the education of Koreans
10. Banning Koreans from studying abroad
11. Confiscating and burning Korean textbooks
12. Spreading a rumor around the world that Koreans wanted Japanese protection
13. Deceiving the Japanese Emperor by saying that the relationship between Korea and Japan was peaceful when in truth it was full of hostility and conflicts
14. Breaking the peace of Asia
15. Assassinating the Emperor Kōmei.

I, as a lieutenant general of the Korean resistance army, killed the criminal Itō Hirobumi because he disturbed the peace of the Orient and estranged the relationship between Korea and Japan. I hoped that if Korea and Japan be friendlier and are ruled peacefully, they would be a model all throughout the five continents. I did not kill Itō misunderstanding his intentions."

The sacrifice of An Joong-Gun was one of many in this chaotic time in Korean history. His attitude and that of his compatriots symbolized the loyalty and dedication of the Korean people to their country's independence and freedom. Joong-Gun's love for his country was forever captured in the calligraphy he wrote

in his cell in Lui-Shung Prison prior to his execution. It simply said, "The Best Rivers and Mountains." This implied that he felt his country was the most beautiful on all, a great Korean patriot.

## Joong-Gun Tul



(32 Movements)

Number of attacks: 17  
Number of hand attacks: 13  
Number of foot attacks: 4  
Number of blocks: 15  
Number of hand blocks: 15  
Number of foot blocks: 0  
Number of ready stances: 0

## New techniques learnt in Joong-Gun

Fixed stance while executing a U-shape block  
(Gojung so digutja makgi)



Walking stance while executing a upper elbow strike  
(Gunnun so wi palkup taerigi)



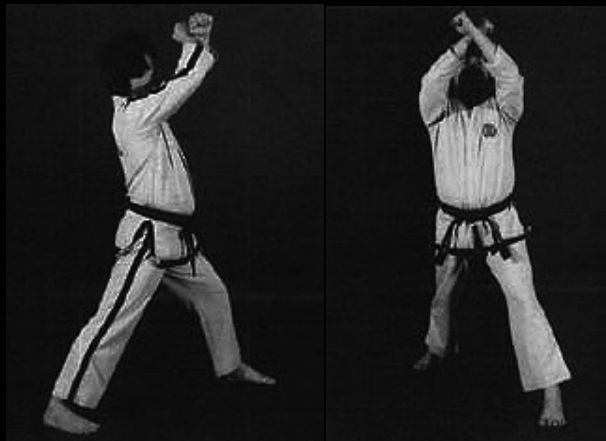
Walking stance while executing a high vertical punch with a twin fist  
(Gunnun so sang joomuk nopunde sewo jirugi)



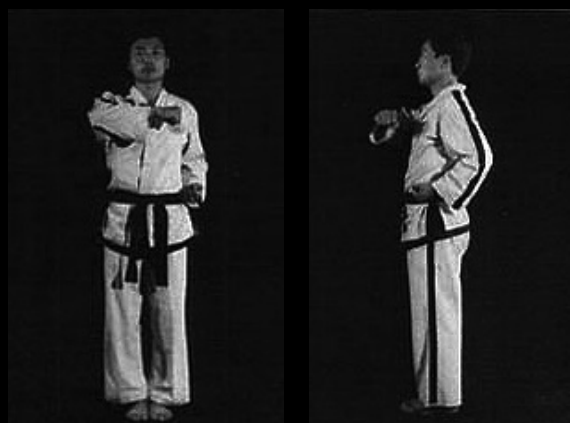
Walking stance while executing a upset punch with a twin fist  
(Gunnun so sang joomuk dwijibo jirugi)



Walking stance while executing a rising block with an X-fist  
(Gunnun so kyocha joomuk chukyo makgi)



Close stance while executing a angle punch  
(Moa so ap joomuk kiokja jirugi)



Low stance while executing a pressing block with the palm  
(Nachuo so sonbadak noollo makgi)



L stance while executing an outward block with the reverse knife-hand  
(Niunja so sonkal dung Bukuro yop makgi)



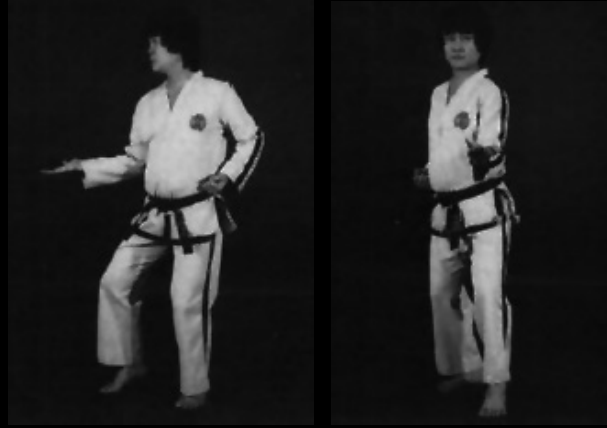
L stance while executing a high side strike with the back fist  
(Niunja so dung joomuk nopunde yop taerigi)



L stance while executing a reverse middle punch  
(Niunja so bandae jirugi)



Rear foot stance while executing a upward block with a palm  
(Dwitbal so sonbadak ollyo makgi)



START: Close Ready Stance B

1. Move the left foot to B, forming a right L-stance toward B while executing a middle block to B with the left reverse knife-hand.
2. Execute a low side front snap kick to B with the left foot, keeping the position of the hands as they were in 1.
3. Lower the left foot to B and then move the right foot to B, forming a left rear foot stance toward B while executing an upward block with the right palm.
4. Move the right foot to A, forming a left L-stance toward A, at the same time executing a middle block to A with the right reverse knife-hand.
5. Execute a low side front kick to A with the right foot, keeping the position of the hands as they were in 4.
6. Lower the right foot to A and then move the left foot to A, forming a right rear foot stance toward A while executing an upward block with the left palm.
7. Move the left foot to D, forming a right L-stance toward D while executing a middle guarding block to D with a knife-hand.
8. Execute a right upper elbow strike while forming a left walking stance toward D, slipping the left foot to D.
9. Move the right foot to D, forming a left L-stance toward D, at the same time executing a middle guarding block to D with a knifehand.
10. Execute a left upper elbow strike, at the same time forming a right walking stance toward D, slipping the right foot to D.
11. Move the left foot to D, forming a left walking stance toward D while executing a high vertical punch to D with a twin fist.
12. Move the right foot to D, forming a right walking stance toward D while executing an upset punch to D with a twin fist.
13. Move the right foot on line CD, and then turn counter-clockwise to form a left walking stance toward C while executing a rising block with an X-fist.
14. Move the left foot to E, forming a right L-stance toward E while executing a high side strike to E with the left back fist.
15. Twist the left fist counter-clockwise until the back fist faces downward, at the same time forming a left walking stance toward E, slipping the left foot to E.
16. Execute a high punch to E with the right fist while maintaining a left walking stance toward E. Perform 15 and 16 in a fast motion.
17. Bring the left foot to the right foot and then move the right foot to F, forming a left L-stance toward F while executing a high side strike to F with a right back fist.
18. Twist the right fist clockwise until the back fist faces downward while forming right walking stance

toward E, slipping right foot to F.

19. Execute a high punch to F with the left fist while maintaining a right walking stance toward F.

Perform 18 and 19 in a fast motion.

20. Bring the right foot to the left foot and then move the left foot to C, forming a left walking stance toward C while executing a high block to C with a left double forearm.

21. Execute a middle punch to C with the left fist while forming a right L-stance toward C, pulling the left foot.

22. Execute a middle side piercing kick to C with the right foot.

23. Lower the right foot to C, forming a right walking stance toward C while executing a high block to C with the right double forearm.

24. Execute a middle punch to C with the right fist while forming a left L-stance toward C, pulling the right foot.

25. Execute a middle side piercing kick to C with the left foot.

26. Lower the left foot to C, forming a right L-stance toward C while executing a middle guarding block to C with the forearm.

27. Execute a pressing block with the right palm while forming a left low stance toward D, slipping the left foot to C.

Perform 27 in a slow motion.

28. Move the right foot to C, forming a left L-stance toward C while executing a middle guarding block to C with the forearm.

29. Execute a pressing block with the left palm while forming a right low stance toward C, slipping the right foot to C.

Perform 29 in a slow motion.

30. Bring the left foot to the right foot, forming a close stance toward A while executing an angle punch with the right fist.

Perform 30 in a slow motion.

31. Move the right foot to A, forming a right fixed stance toward A while executing a U-shape block to A.

32. Bring the right foot to the left foot and then move the left foot to B, forming a left fixed stance toward B, at the same time executing a U-shape block to B.

END: Close Ready Stance B