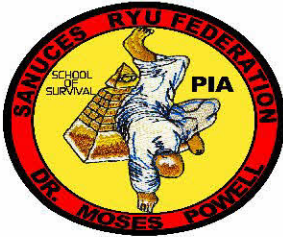


**THE ART OF SELF-DECEPTION AND THE MARTIALARTIST
BY: PROFESSOR JERRY DENSON
MIAMI, FLORIDA**



OPEN LETTER TO ALL MARTIAL ARTISTS

I'D LIKE TO BEGIN THIS WRITING BY GIVING PRAISE AND THANKS TO THE CREATOR OF US ALL. I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK MY MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTORS; GRANDMASTER HERBIE THOMPSON AND THE LATE DR. MOSES POWELL FOR ALL THE KNOWLEDGE THEY HAVE BESTOWED UPON ME FOR SO MANY YEARS. THIS OPEN LETTER GOES OUT TO THOSE WHO ARE VICTIMS OF THEIR OWN SELF-DECEPTION, WITH THE HOPE OF RAISING THEIR LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS TO THE LEVEL OF TRUE REALITY.

IT IS SAID THAT, "RANK AND REWARD HAS NO SIGNIFICANCE FOR A MAN WHO IS ONE WITH HIMSELF." THE TRUE MARTIAL ARTIST IS NOT ONE WHO COVETS WHAT HE DOES NOT HAVE. NOR IS HE ENVIOUS OF WHAT OTHERS POSSESS. A TRUE MARTIAL ARTIST IS NOT A PERSON WHO ALLOWS LIES AND DECEPTIONS TO REGULATE HIS DAILY LIFE. IF YOU RECOGNIZE THAT YOUR TRUE CRAFTS ARE LIES AND DECEPTIONS, I RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST YOU SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP. IF YOU CLAIM RANK THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE, IT MAKES YOU A FRAUD. THIS BEHAVIOR HAS NO PLACE IN THE MARTIAL ARTS COMMUNITY, NOR IN SOCIETY AS A WHOLE. A PERSON WHO REPEATEDLY HAS GRANDIOSE THOUGHTS OF HIMSELF AS THE MOST IMPORTANT, VALUABLE AND OVERSKILLED, IS REFLECTING THE IDEALS OF A PATHOLOGICAL LIAR.

FOR A MAN OF TRUE HONOR, LYING IS NOT A COMMON REALITY. A DEFINING MOMENT IS THE POINT AT WHICH THE ESSENTIAL NATURE OR CHARACTER OF A PERSON IS REVEALED OR IDENTIFIED. YOUR DEFINING MOMENT IS HAPPENING EVERY DAY. KNOW THAT ONE'S CONCEIT CAN DELUDE ONE INTO THINKING THAT YOU ARE MORE THAN WHAT YOU REALLY ARE. YOUR GREATEST BATTLE DOES NOT TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE OF YOU. THE TRUE BATTLE IS WITHIN YOURSELF. YOUR PIVOTAL FOCUS OF INTEREST, SHOULD BE YOUR CONTINUED TRUE SELF-DEVELOPMENT, NOT YOUR GREED FOR RANK AND REWARD. YOU ARE ONLY FOOLING YOURSELF IF YOU THINK TRUE HONOR COMES FROM A BELT OR ANY OTHER MATERIAL SYMBOL OF SUCCESS. I PRAY THAT THE CREATOR INSTILLS WITHIN YOU THE SPIRIT OF CHANGE. PEACE!