

# Historical Development of Korean Judo through the Life of Kim, Jung-Haeng

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## Abstract

This study examines how South Korean physical education has been evolved through the life of a great contributor. Kim, Jung-Haeng made great contributions as both an educator and administrator in modern Korean sports history. The research method chosen to best serve this study was the recorded in-depth interview qualitative in nature. To be more specific, the authors took a closer look at the entire life of a participant through in-depth interviews and participatory observation process to see how his influenced the movement and development of Korean physical education and sports society. From a sports-based anthropological point of view, the authors intended to secure data by mobilizing in-depth interviews and of participating officials and enhance the completion of research based on various media and literary materials. The analysis of this study was based on James P. Spradley's (2016) theory using taxonomic analysis and domain analysis to guide the entire research process. Through these procedures, Kim, Jung-Haeng 's life was analyzed regarding two significant facets (i.e., academic circumstances and athletic field/industry). For this study, efforts were made to preserve the records of clubs dedicated to the development of Korean sports. More detailed findings from this in-depth interview are presented throughout this study.

**Keywords:** Judo, Leader, Educator, Korea Judo Association, Korean Sports and Olympic Committee

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## **Introduction**

Talks between North and South Korea led to the participation of North Korea in the 23<sup>rd</sup> PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games the dispatch of cheerleaders, and the formation of a single ice hockey team, so that concerns were mitigated and the PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games could be concluded with the Peace Olympic Games (Koreatimes, 2018). This honor represents the esteemed international status of Korea in sports, and these phenomena are developing more over time. Korea was colonized by Japan for 35 years. In 1945 during World War II, Japan collapsed and Korea became free from Japanese colonial rule. In the aftermath of the Korean War in 1950, Korea experienced difficult time and Koreans were in a life when focused on restoration. This process coincided with the industrialization period and the whole nation worked together to develop the national and individual economies (Mangan, Kim, Cruz, & Kang, 2013). That is, it was sports that comforted and touched people living this hard life. When national athletes climbed the podium at the international convention with the Korean flag on their chests and lifted their hands high, Koreans who were tired of their struggles rejoiced together. This is the domestic stature and status of Korean sports at the time (Korea Sport and Olympic Committee, 2015). Now, South Korea became one of few nations which achieve “Grand Slam” of hosting most of mega sporting events including both the 24<sup>th</sup> Seoul Summer Olympics in 1988 and the 23<sup>rd</sup> PyeongChang Winter Olympics. Without a doubt, Koreans were very proud to successfully host those events. In fact, Korean sports education and relevant programs have always been centered around “martial arts” especially including Judo.

## **Structural Development of Judo Education in South Korea**

The continuous development of Korean sports can be attributed to various factors. One was the organic relationship of politics, the economy, society, culture, and sports interacting with internal factors such as administration, support, and athletes; leaders including Kim, Jung-Haeng in the field of physical education also influenced and contributed to the development of Korean sports (Kim, 2017). First of all, the reasons for selecting Kim, Jung-Haeng as the subject for this study are as follows: First, his life as an extraordinary athlete, and his leadership value have been the foundation for the successful establishment of Judo. For instance, he has served as the Chairman of Korea Judo Federation, the President of Asian Judo Federation, and the Vice President of International Judo Federation. Second, he made a dedicated effort for the specialized academy, Young-In University, along with Judo program and structural development and also helped raise student athletes’ self-esteem the most (Lu, 2016; Yong-In University, 2013). Third, his leadership in terms of university administration became a role model for collegiate universities by cultivating new and particular majors that other universities avoid, such as dance and physical education colleges and the military department.

To understand his involvement into the field of physical education and sports society, the in-depth interview method was adopted to allow the subject leeway to answer as he or she selects

toward their empirical experiences under historical topics and issues (Yow, 2014) To be more specific, the authors took a closer look at the entire life of the subject through in-depth interviews and participation observations to see how his lives affected the development of Korean sports and physical education. The analysis of this study is designed to look at how the activities of James P. Spraddley worked in society at the time, using taxonomic and domain analyses to divide underlying subjects by universities and sports circuits (Spradley, 2016).

**Procedural Detail of the Oral History Recordings**

Furthermore, historical documents delivered from in-depth oral history interview can provide personal testimony. Even though some limitation or so-called bias could be raised when ones inquiry deals with a large number of subjects, constant interaction with a subject being studied is only possible through the in-depth oral history interview. The followings were the important principles which the authors follow for in-depth oral history interview procedure as suggested by Yow(1994): (1) after compiling primary and secondary data, chose a subject based on the relevance of his/her experience at hand, (2) prepared to ask informed questions based on both primary and secondary sources, (3) ask creative and proving questions and listening to the answers of a subject, (4) collect thorough information on the historical events and specific focus of his life, and (5) for post interview, any documents, photographs and relevant records should be thoroughly collected and available for potential audiences and readers.

In keeping the long-term preservation and accessibility of written records, oral history recordings allow people acquire more personal and subjective messages by the observer (Yow, 1994). Personal oral testimony enables the researchers to make connections with the lives of a subject.

**Table 1. Subject’s Life Span and Development of Sports related Institutions in South Korea**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Subject’s Life Cycle</b>	<b>Yong-in University</b>	<b>Korea Judo Association</b>	<b>Korea Sport &amp; Olympic Committee</b>
1943	Birth Year of Kim, Jung-Haeng			
1945			Chosun Judo Federation Founded	Chosun Sport Committee Reintegrated
1953		Korea Judo School Established		
1958	Started to practice Judo at Daegun High School			

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1964	Senior year at Korea Judo School		1st Olympic Medal of Judo by Eui-Tae Kim (Bronze Medal) at 1964 Tokyo Olympics
1966	Faculty Member of Korea Judo School		Taereung National Training Center Opened for National Team Athletes
1967	Awarded Medal (silver) at Tokyo Summer Universiade (5 <sup>th</sup> )		
1984	Head Coach of the Korea National Judo Team	Relocation of Yong-in University to Yong-In, Gyeonggi Province	Korea Judo earned 1 <sup>st</sup> Gold medals at 1984 Los Angeles Olympics (Byeong-Keun Ahn, Hyung-Joo Ha)
1986	Served as International Judo Referee		10 <sup>th</sup> Asian Games held in Seoul, South Korea
1988	Faculty member of the National Judo School		24 <sup>th</sup> Seoul Olympic Games held in South Korea
1992	Awarded Order of Sport Merit	Earned University Status	
1994	President of Yong-In University	Jung-Haeng Kim was selected as the 2 <sup>nd</sup> President of the Yong-in University	
1995	Jung-Haeng Kim was elected as the 29 <sup>th</sup> President of the Korea Judo Association		
2005	President of the Pan-Pacific Judo Federation		

2006	Vice-President of the International Judo Federation	
2007	Vice President of Judo Union of Asia	
2013	President of the Korea Sport & Olympic Committee(38 <sup>th</sup> ) and also elected as 34 <sup>th</sup> President of the Korea Judo Association	
2014	Board Member of the Korea Sport Support Activity	Sun-Kyung Park was selected as the 7 <sup>th</sup> President of the Yong-in University
2015		Jindo Kim was selected as the 36 <sup>th</sup> President of the Korea Judo Association
2018		23 <sup>rd</sup> PyeongChang Winter Olympics held in PyeongChang, Kangwon Provinces

**Oral Testimony Statement from the Subject**

Japanese occupation began with various kinds of exploitation and oppression for Korea's future when it was forced to participate in the Pacific War in 1943 (Mangan et al., 2013). Kim, Jung-Haeng was born in Fukuoka, Japan on December 7 in 1943. When he was in the second grade of Pohang Central Elementary School, the Korean War was outbreak on June 25, 1950. After the Korean War, when he graduated from Pohang Middle School, he decided to live in a bigger metropolitantin an attempt to expand his knowledge and experience with endless supports from his parents. After all, he transferred to Daegun High School in Daegu, where he initially started to practice Judo. The table presented above is a summary of retrospective data from officially available sources and oral testimony statement from the subject (see Table 1). Furthermore, the following is his reminiscence of his early childhood.

Me and my seniors at Judo University often talked about Judo. Judo was very attractive and enough to impress me when I witnessed light-weight Judo player catch and suppress the opponent only with one hand. There's no school like this then. Before I went to Daegu, the first person who taught me Judo skills was Dongam Moon Dal-sik, the first person to go to Pohang Market together. He taught me to fall and rolling which were very essential skills. However, I learned Taekwondo first. At that time, I was thinking if I want to learn Judo, such metropolitan area, Daegu was the most accessible place to learn how to Judo. That is why I went to Daegu with great determination.

Korea Judo University, which opened on June 15, 1953, opened before the Korean War ended. Kim, Jung-Haeng transferred to Daegun High School in Daegu to learn Judo, where he prepared to go to Korea Judo University. Even though more than 2nd level dan of Judo were required to take the entrance examination of Korea Judo University at that time, Kim, Jung-Haeng submitted an application and passed it without any level of dan (Kim, 2017; Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018; Lu, 2016). He remembered clearly about his hairy experience about the entrance examination.

I didn't even have 2nd level dan and also didn't feel I had extraordinary talent in Judo but I was selected one of the 50 students who admitted to the university. So, I made up my mind for this new start. I was asked to study various subjects from the morning till the late afternoon. After those class hours, I practiced with my seniors to learn skills which all other freshmans already acquired. I didn't know how to become a good one during the time. So, I was somewhat tied up during my freshman year. I also thought about giving up on everything. And then again, what would I become if I give up here?

The reality, however, was that the classes were completed in the morning and he needed to keep up with learning technical movement that began in the afternoon. In particular, as Judo University is a place where talented students gathered from all around the country, there were inevitable differences in physical and psychological capabilities and experience in Judo. Therefore, he confronted with a lot of troubles adjusting to the college life. He had to endure resentment and scolding. He didn't want to give up and wanted to survive there, but there was only one way! The way to sweat and work hard, so he could finally catch up with others. He had a great desire to compete and learn how to train himself by observing other people's skills and drills.

When I was in Sogong-dong, I ran to Mt. Nam-San and did a lot of rubber band. I was putting all my efforts and energy onto skill development. Japan were better in any aspects of Judo training and skill level. Thus, when Judo players from Japan visited Korea to play in competitions, I visited them to see how they move and what are their practice skills. Following and analyzing Japanese Judo players through my own eyes gave me chance to acquire new skills and movement. For instance, Judo players from Japan stood

still but were able to utilize centrifugal force which they could generate from the body moves. I thought it was weird, so I kept on observing it and felt oh! that's how I need to move! In a nutshell, I learned that the principle of Judo is guided by the principle of pushing and pulling. So, after practice, I was able to develop my physical strength and unique skills. Judo goes lost when your upper body is taken by an opponent. I learned this by myself. Of course, coaches at the University explained the principle of Judo, but I wasn't quite sure of those and it didn't make sense to me at the time, but when I actually start to observe my own strength and weakness....thinking "Ah, what skills do I have in my body shape? I'm shorter than anyone else, so I have to use my hands against tall Judo players." Then, I did great amount of free-weight exercise using rubber bands on trees for upper body strength and stretching exercise. My drills and physical strength kept gradually improving.



*Figure 1.* Kim, Jung-Haeng with teammates of Judo University initially located at Sogong-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea; Retrieved from the 60 Years' History of Yong-in University (2013)

Kim, Jung-Haeng who graduated from Judo University in 1965 wanted to stay in school and continue to drive him, rather than find a job elsewhere. Meanwhile, as Judo was selected as an official sport at the 18th Tokyo Olympics in 1964, its popularity increased. He was selected as Korea's Judo national representative at the 1967 Tokyo Universiade and thus experienced international competitions by winning silver medals in an individual competition and in team competitions (Kim, 1988; 1992). Experiencing international competitions has made him get more attracted to Judo.



*Figure 2.* After winning silver medal in an individual competition of the 1867 Tokyo Universiade; Retrieved from the 60 Years' History of Yong-in University (2013)



*Figure 3.* Kim, Jung-Haeng served as the head coach of Korea team for the 18th Tokyo Olympics in 1964; the 3<sup>rd</sup> person from the left is Kim, Jung-Haeng; Korea Judo won a bronze medal in the 18th Tokyo Olympics in 1964; Retrieved from the 60 Years' History of Yong-in University (2013)



**Table 2. 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games Judo Medal Count**

<b>Player Name</b>	<b>Participated Event</b>	<b>Medals Awarded</b>
Byeong-Keun Ahn	Lightweight 71 kg	Gold Medal
Hyung-Joo Ha	Half Heavyweight 95 kg	Gold Medal
Jae-Yup Kim	Extra Lightweight 60 kg	Silver Medal
Jung-Oh Hwang	Half Lightweight 65 kg	Silver Medal
Yong-Chul Cho	Heavyweight 95 kg	Bronze Medal

*Note.* Source retrieved from Sport White Paper (2016) at [www.sports.or.kr](http://www.sports.or.kr)

Korea Judo won a bronze medal in the 18th Tokyo Olympics in 1964 and a gold medal in the 21st Montreal Olympics in 1976 (Kim, 1992). Kim, Jung-Haeng prepared his players for the Olympics through his own training methods and skills guidance suitable for each player, wearing their own uniforms and examining their skills. In the end, his team won two gold, two silver, and one bronze medals. This process was possible because of the constant study of player profile and performance in international competitions (Kim, 1988). After successfully carrying out coaching job, he started to serve as a professor at Judo University, Kim, Jung-Haeng personally checked high school players' skills at the Judo Stadium and searched for competitive high school Judo players for his university team. While scouting and training those players, he was able to closely identify the strengths and weaknesses of them. His idea of Judo was strong enough to think of Judo as a religion. Therefore, he was quite obsessive when it comes to Judo issues such as agonizing over Judo skills, scouting of Judo players, and developing Judo universities. Therefore, he also made efforts to develop judo to be taught in a specialized university, judging that the development of Judo is a shortcut to the development of Korean Judo (Kim, 1988; Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018).

Korea Judo University, which opened on June 15, 1953, initially composed of six martial arts-oriented programs, including Judo, and changed its name to the Korea Sports Science University on March 2, 1990. Meanwhile, it was promoted to a university under the different name of Yong-in University on April 2. Since the 23rd LA Olympics in 1984, Judo has been established as a winning sport and Yong-in University has been at the center of great achievement. As of 2018, Yong-in University has so far won 49 Olympic medals, including Judo, Taekwondo, table tennis, badminton, wrestling, and boxing. After 23 years as the national team leader at the Taeneung National Training Center, Kim, Jung-Haeng knew better than anyone about the government and support of the Korean Sports Council and the Korean Judo Association for the national team players. Therefore, to foster athletes who can improve their performance in international

competitions (Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018; Martial Arts Institute, 2013). The following is his reminiscence of his time at Yong-in University.

I've been working to develop a school called Yong-in University more than a person's desire, and then I wanted to promote my school. They need a name to come. And unprofessional universities don't survive. Well, Yong-in University is the first or second school in our country, as you may know, a specialized military department, a bodyguard department, and a police department. Why, it's hard for a police department student to make two or three in a year as an executive. When I was in the 44th department of police administration, I passed every one of them. What's that? Make a test really difficult and let them study. I don't study myself, but I'm responsible. "Make the environment you want for the professors you want, and when the environment is there, the professors talk about it." So, I think that's because they respect their ideas and care about the biggest schools for their students, that the department can develop and the university can promote. In addition, there are 202 countries that are inducing the world and inducing foreign countries. It's Korea Yong-in University. I don't send any special envoys to Mongolia. I don't send it to Japan. I send it to Yong-in University. Aren't you going to study abroad when you have a special name? There are many universities. That's my point. Yong-in University ROTC is the number one evaluation every year in the country. Why is that? Emphasizing characterization and supporting the character in which we try to develop!

His reform and school development continued for 20 years, starting as the second president of Yong-in University and ending his term as the sixth president in 2014. He believed that the most important things in the development of Yong-in University have always been the financial stability of schools, specialization of departments, and consideration for students. First, in order to stabilize the school's finances, he appointed a director whose parent company had a strong business. School finances were stable and he moved in two directions to promote the school and the department. One was to make a strong school for Judo and the other was to make it a good university for high school students.

The Korean government also helped to create an environment in which graduates from the police department could pass the civil service exam and the police officer's entrance and the military department could receive the same treatment as soldiers graduating from the military academy. Meanwhile, the Korea Military Academy (ROTC) was established to allow Yong-in University to maintain its number 1 ranking at the annual measurement competition. Teachers and professors must dedicate themselves to students so that the latter can concentrate on their studies in the best environment. As such, the characteristics of Judo, the characteristics of the department, and the consideration of the students became one of Yong-in University, and it was the driving force for the development of Korean Judo (Kim, 2017; Martial Arts Institute, 2013).

He was appointed as the president of Yong-in University second time in 1994, and also elected as the 29th president of the Korean Judo Association in 1995, providing him with a powerful position that could enable him to improve Judo in Korea. Since then, Judo has become a threat to the Judo nation of Japan through its achievements in international competitions.

**Table 3. Korea Sport & Olympic Committee’s Annual Budget Status**

Year	Total (A)	Resources				Revenue Ratio (B/A X 100%)
		General Account	Fund	Public Service Reserve	Income	
2012	154.020	41.211	87.489	7.781	17.539	11.4
2013	173.510	40.215	111.990	6.781.	14.524	8.3
2014	210.388	-	184.992	13.251	12.145	5.8
2015	339.046	-	324.327	-	14.719	4.3

When Kim, Jung-Haeng was appointed as the 38th president of the Korea Sports Council (KOC) in 2013 he played an important role in the development of Korean sports. Among various administrative tasks of the Korea Sports Council, he has three important objectives from macro perspective. First, it can be said that the training environment of players has been improved based on financial stabilization. Second, the conflict between the Korea Sports Council and the National Sports Council was settled and they started anew as an integrated organization. Third, the activities of gym workers dedicated to the development of Korean sports were recorded in history. Such activities are an example of where Korean sports has gone and where it should be headed. The details are as follows. First, I want to look at the financial sector (Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018; Martial Arts Institute, 2013).

The contents of Table 3 above represent the finances of the Korea Sports Council until 2015 before the launch of the Korea Sports Council in 2016, with the 2015 budget of the KOC reaching 339 billion won, including 14.7 billion won in income and 324.3 billion won in the Korea Sports Promotion Fund (Martial Arts Institute, 2013). Projects that had been supported by general account were transferred to the National Sports Promotion Fund from 2014 and projects that had been supported by the public service fund were transferred to the National Sports Promotion Fund in 2015 (Ministry of Culture Sports & Tourism, 2015).

Annual growth in fiscal spending increased significantly in 2015. This increased the budget for the second-phase of construction of Jincheon Athletic Village and support for hosting international competitions, such as the 2015 Gwangju Summer Universiade and the Gyeongbuk Military Sports Festival, thereby reinforcing the KOC's ability to operate. Financial stability plays a major role in the promotion and success of the KOC project. When Kim Jong-haeng was to serve

as chairman, the sports council turned non-popular sports into major projects and established various institutions and visions to create a trusted sports environment.

Second, efforts have been made to make the Korea Sports Administration, which has been divided into the Korea Sports Council and the National Sports Council, a unified Korea Sports Council. To prepare the basis for advancement in the sports sector as a core project in 2015, a unified sports organization promotion committee was created with the goal of strengthening the driving force of sustainable growth of sports organizations and held meetings and discussions to listen to various opinions(Kim, 2017; Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018). In addition, the KOC's integrated promotion committee was formed to complete the 10th session. Here, a proposal was submitted to the government and a unified preparation support group were formed. These details were finalized by the board of directors of the Korea Sports Council, and a unified preparation team was formed after creating a subcommittee on the political and election systems with the chairman (Ministry of Culture Sports & Tourism, 2016).

**Table 4. Korea Sport & Olympic Committee Integration Process Status**

<b>Month / Year</b>	<b>Main Terms</b>
February 2014	Improvement Act on Promotion of Sport for All (Draft) was proposed
October 2014	National Sports Promotion Act (Revision) was proposed
February 2015	Improvement Act on Promotion of Sport for All (Draft) and National Sports Promotion Act (Revision) has been passed by the legislature
March 2015	Bill has been promulgated
June 2015	Integration Preparatory Committee Setup, Korea Council of Sport for All Incorporation
November 2015	Integration Preparatory Committee Stabilization
March 2016	Integrated Korea Sport & Olympic Committee Initiator Meeting, Integrated Korea Sport & Olympic Committee Registration Completed
October 2016	Integrated Korea Sport & Olympic Committee Election

*Note.* Source retrieved from Sport White Paper (2016)

In particular, the Fair Sports Center played a major role in improving the physical environment of athletes and leaders in the Korean sports society. In addition, the newly formed sports history development business group released its business performance in 2015. It reads as follows:

The purpose of the program is to systematically preserve and inherit the experiences of athletes who contributed to the development of sports, modern history, research and development

of sports spirit and values, and to develop cultural contents for cultural creation by utilizing the Korea Sports Development Corporation (Ministry of Culture Sports & Tourism, 2015). The sports history development business team selected a group of 25 people (17 athletes, 4 sponsors, 4 administration) and performed recording with an interview team, inspection team, and video production team. As a result, a total of 50 oral recordings, revisions, summaries, and videos were produced. In addition, it helped produce a sports drama, creating public interest in sports through SBS short-screen dramas.

Until the '70s, we didn't think about how to bring wealth easily, so we didn't think about sports or culture at all. To be human and have fun and healthy, we thought that sports were part of our lives. We thought that sports were part of our lives. We thought that this could bring happiness to us. You get healthy by exercising. It makes me feel better. I wish I could live such a life. I want you to live a fruitful and fun life, instead of being an economic slave, [do it] through sports.

## **Conclusions**

Living as a lifelong Judo sportsman, many people stress that it was the exercise they practiced and have been walking until now that they can bring about the importance of exercise, health, and well-being (Kim, 2017; Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018). The following conclusions have been drawn from the taxonomic analysis and in-depth interviews for Kim, Jung-Haeng's life. First, he learned the Judo principle and created his own training method, and through it, gained experience to win the silver medal in an international competition after chosen to be a part of the national team. This process has spread to younger players, laying the foundation for Korea's Judo to develop into an Olympic powerhouse.

Second, Kim, Jung-Haeng, who entered Judo University in 1961, later he also served as a professor during his time at Yong-in University. As an athlete, he also engaged in Judo from a junior level player to a national Judo coaching leader. When Judo University was in financial trouble, he appointed the chairman himself to develop the school. As a result, the most important emphasis on providing opportunities for advancement from college to university was to open specialized universities and departments, and to create an academic environment with consideration of students. Eventually, Kim, Jung-Haeng, who worked with Yong-in University for 53 years, was able to develop it into a prestigious school specialized in Judo.

Third, Kim, Jung-Haeng, who has lived as an athlete, leader, and educator, was elected president of the Korea Sports Council and actively reflected his 23 years of leadership experience in the development of Korean sports. As a result, the Korea Sports Council has improved the training environment for its athletes and players and launched the Korea Sports Council through financial stabilization. In addition, a sports history development business group was formed to preserve the activities of senior athletes dedicated to the development of Korean sports by 2018 (Kim, 2017; Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, 2018).

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