

**Bushido-kai Kata Comparison Series
Analysis and Applications**

**Gojushiko-dai &
Gojushiko-sho**

**Seminar sup*port ma*te*ri*als
from Shihan Tony Annesi, Takeshin Sogo Budo**



This pamphlet belongs to:

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Shotokan GOJUSHIHO-DAI & GOJUSHIHO-SHO

Additional Information compiled by Shihan Tony Annesi

History & Name

- Gojushiho = 54
- In the Bubushi (ancient book of White Crane) there is a reference to a connection between Gojushiho and Hakutsuru. Some think that Hakutsuru is a continuation of Gojushiho, provided follow-up techniques.
- Both Gojushiho and Naihanchi are from the same Chinese source and can be considered White Crane kata.

General

- Funakoshi, of course changed kata names, but not all names stuck: Gojushiho (old name: Useishi) was renamed as Hotaku
- Useishi (Gojushiho)= 54 Steps- in the Bubushii there is a Black Tiger Style of the 54 Steps (a counter to White Crane techniques) which may or may not relate to the origin of this form. Modern -dai and -sho versions are combinations of various other versions of this style (the -sho is derived from Mabuni's Useishi)
- supposedly White Crane fist is the counter to the Black Tiger style. The Black Tiger style has 54 movements (roots of Gojushiho?)
- Arhat Boxing (Monk fist) uses Sanchin, Seisan, Jutte, Seipai, Useishi (Gojushiho), Peichurin
- There is considerable debate over which kata is -Dai and which is -Sho. Rob Redmond (internet site: Shotokan Planet) tells an interesting story abbreviated below.

It is not widely known that the[se] kata have had their names reversed by the JKA. Normally, when there are two kata with the same name, one is the dai ("Big") kata and the other is the sho ("Small") kata. The -Sho kata is usually much shorter and more complicated, thus the name Gojushiho-Sho means "Small 54 Steps." If you examine these kata, it is pretty clear that they are not named properly. The Dai kata is small-scale and more complicated than the Sho kata [this last point is open to debate—TA]. This is not in keeping with the other Dai-Sho pairings.... Originally, Gojushiho Dai was the name given to the more basic of the two. Containing many back stances and larger scale movements than the original -Sho kata, this is the one believed to have been created first and the -Sho kata was thought to be added later. {However, the Hotaku pecking movements happen in the -Dai not the -Sho form—TA} It is rumored that in a JKA tournament some years ago, a now very high-ranking named Ueki performed the [backstance dominant] kata while accidentally calling out the name "Gojushiho-Sho!" in the last round of competition on National Television in Japan. According to this story, the judges were befuddled, since the performance was perfect, about what to do with Ueki and his mis-named kata. Their solution: give Ueki first place, and switch the names of the two kata. So, today the karate-ka who outrank Ueki generally call the [back stance dominant] kata -Dai. However, most people in the JKA, and the Best Karate series of books refer to the [cat stance] kata as Dai and the [back stance] kata as -Sho. Is the story about Ueki true? Maybe not. There is a little evidence to support it. Kanazawa, in his books, names the kata Dai and Sho in the reverse from their names in Best Karate by Nakayama. Kanazawa was a student of Nakayama's, but also much more prestigious a man in the JKA than Ueki. Did Kanazawa reject the renaming of the kata in favor of their proper names?

[Nagamine's book, The Essence of Okinawan Karate-do, shows Matsubayashi Gojushiho (one assumes it is from the original, older form). It is our -Dai version (with the cat stance). To complicate things, Ryusho Sakagami in his Karate-do Kata Daikan, shows one Gojushiho that one assumes is from the Itosu lineage, and it is the -Sho version (with the back stance). -TA]

Other Versions

- Konishi said that Gojushiho has different versions (Matsumura-ha and Itosu-ha). The other crane forms directly from China were Shinpa, Paipuren, Hakucho, Nipaipo.

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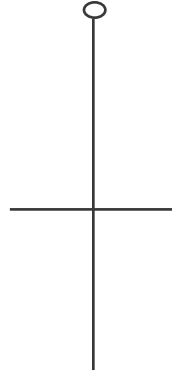
<<< Takeshin Gojushiho-dai (left)

Takeshin Gojushiho-sho (right) >>>





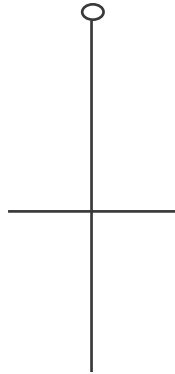
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GOJUSHIHO-DAI

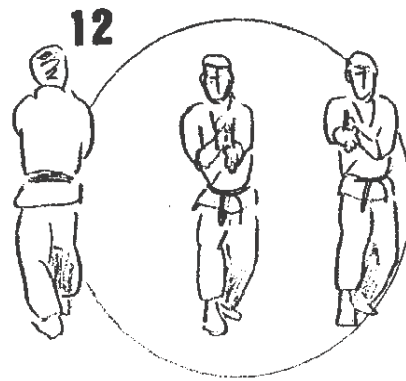
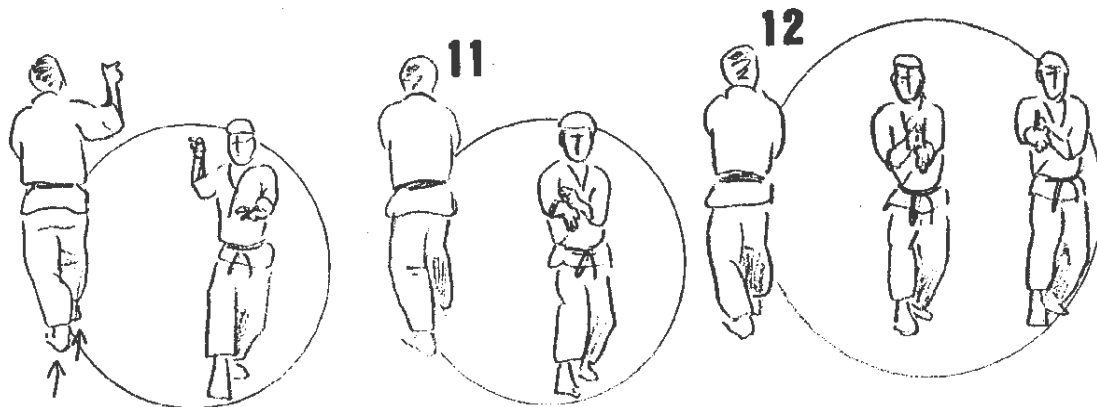
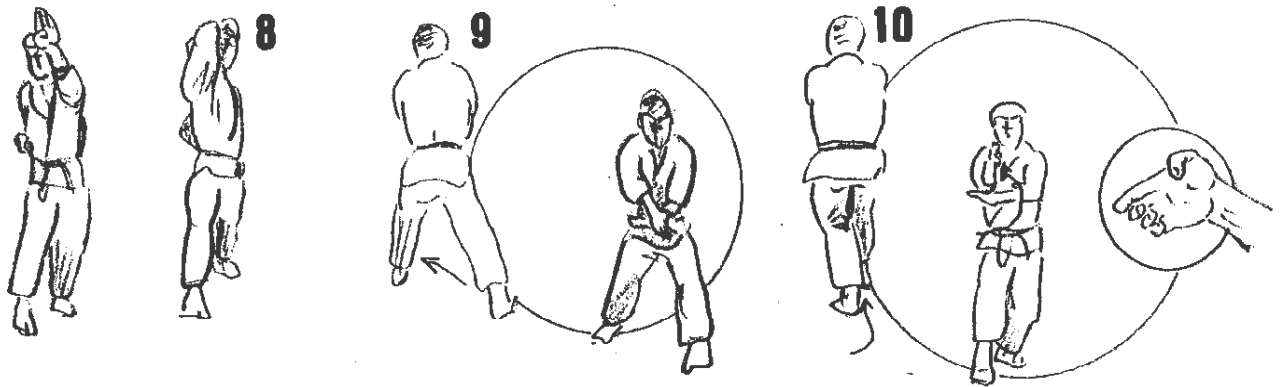
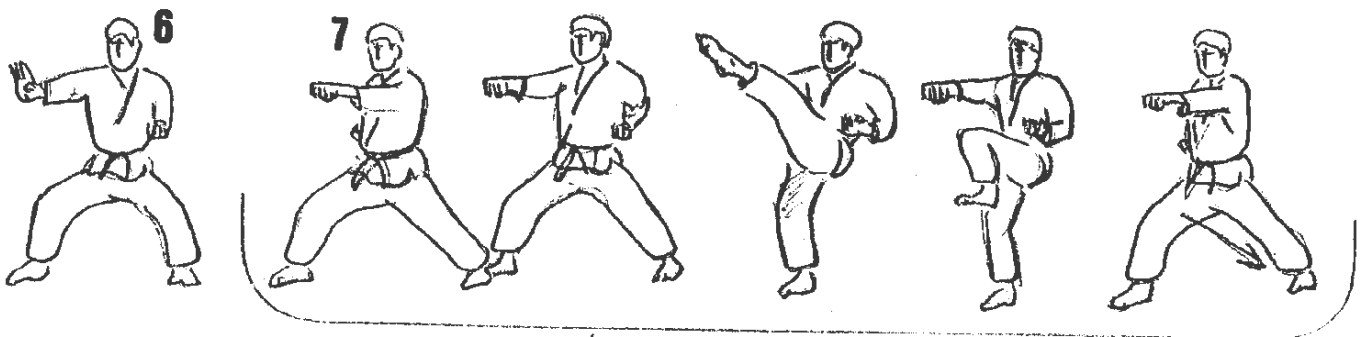
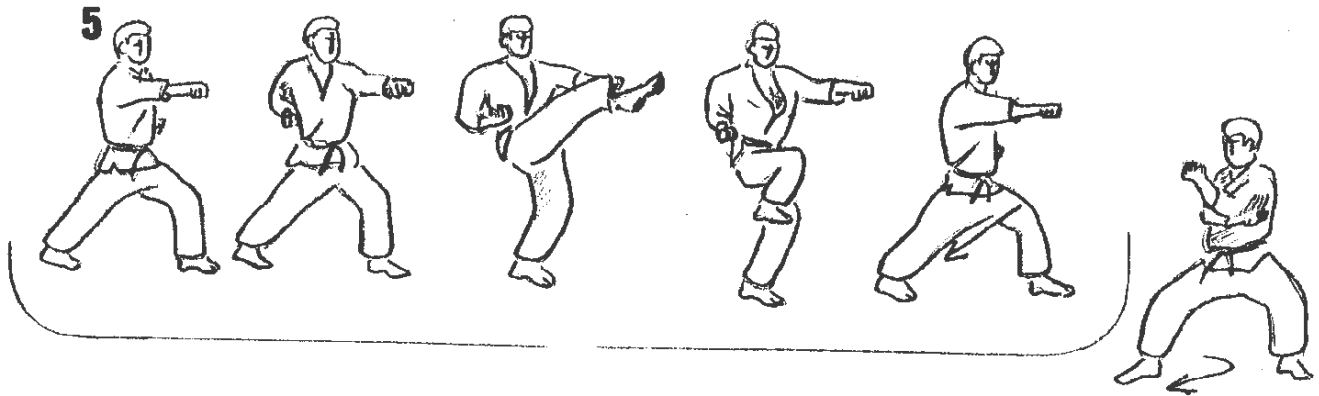


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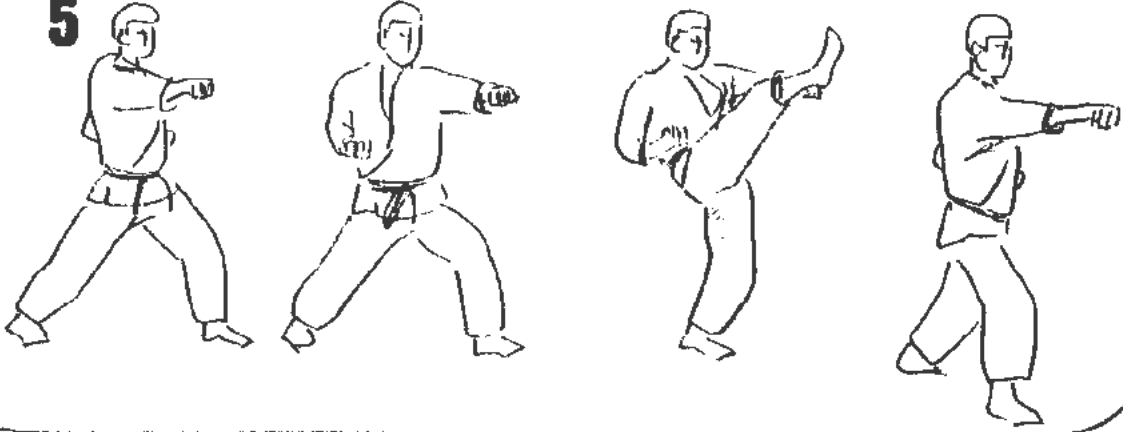
GOJUSHIHO-SHO

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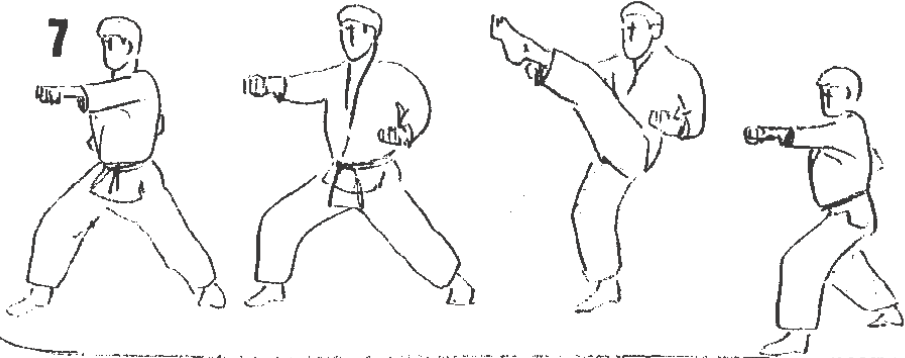
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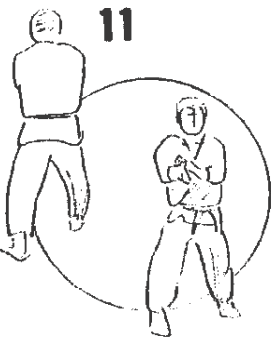
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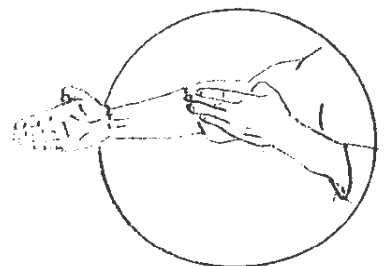
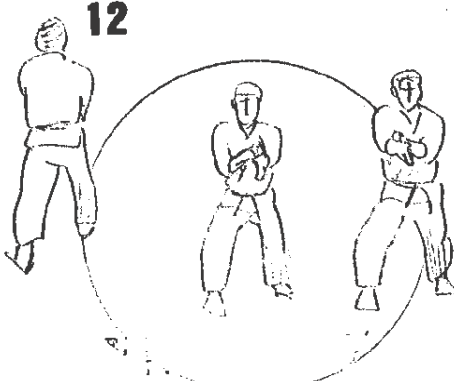
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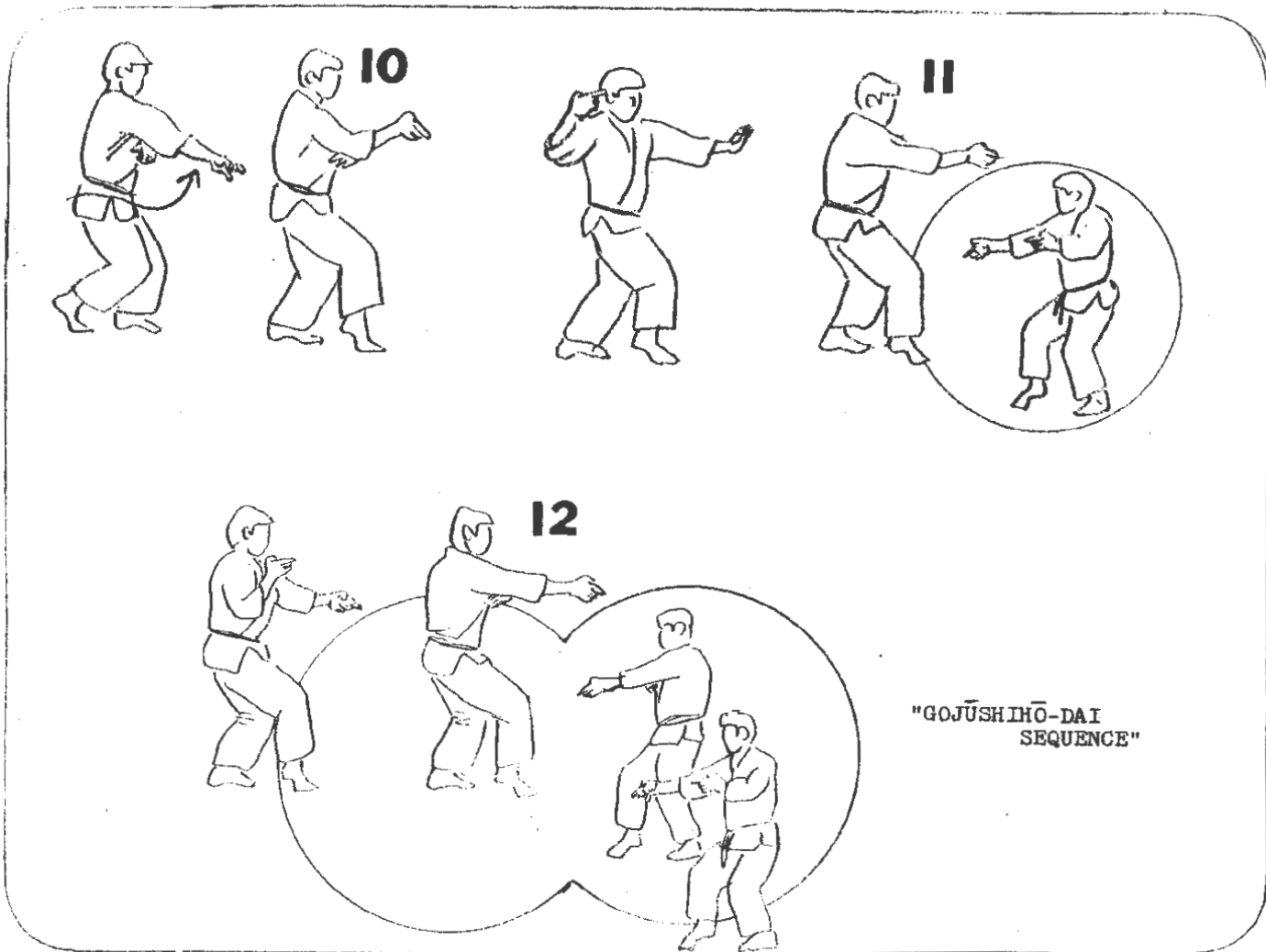
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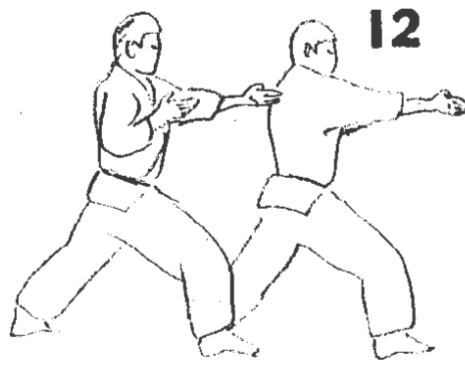
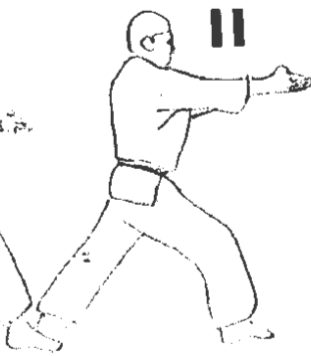
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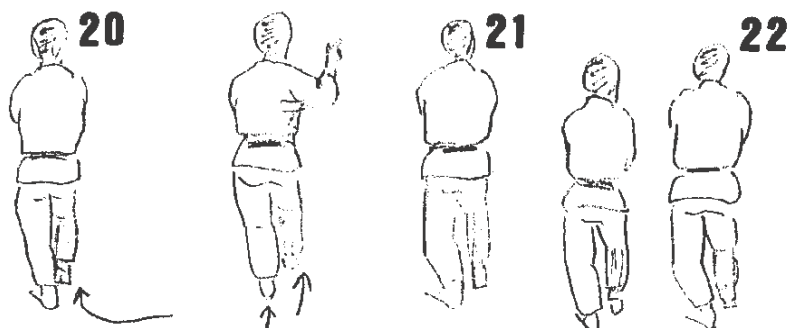
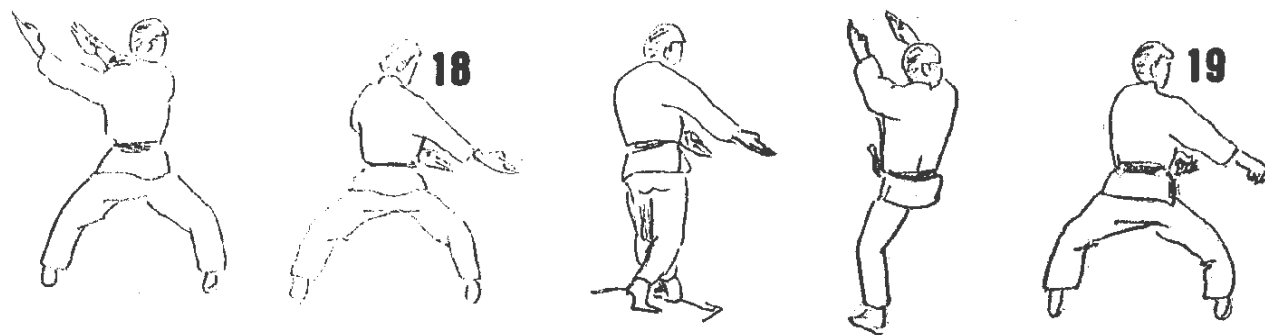
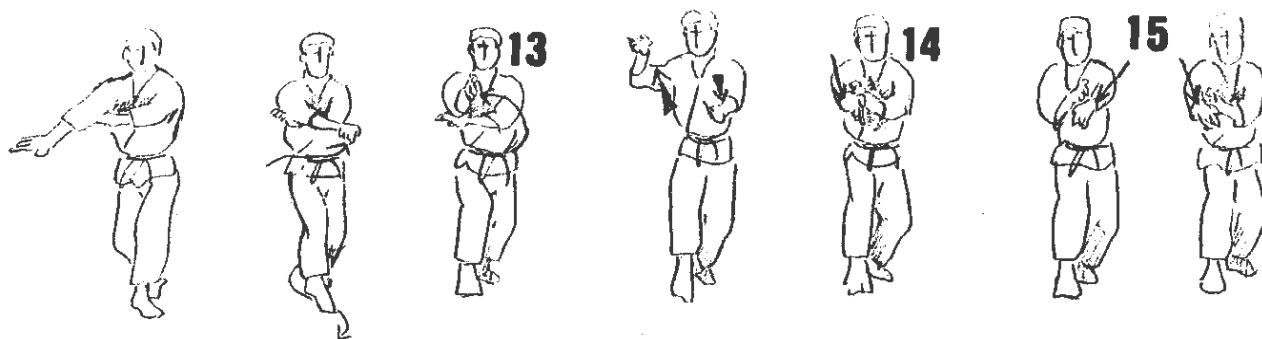


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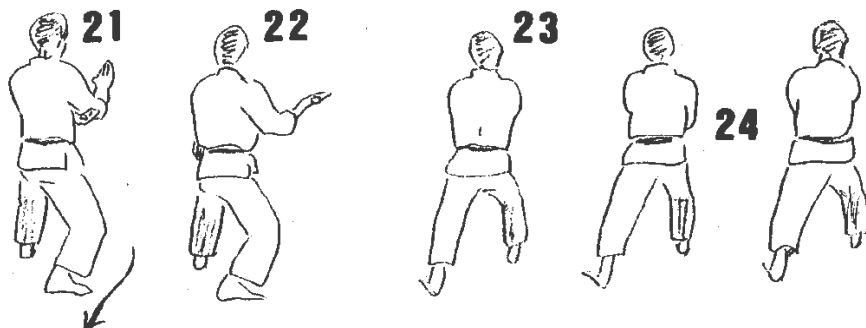
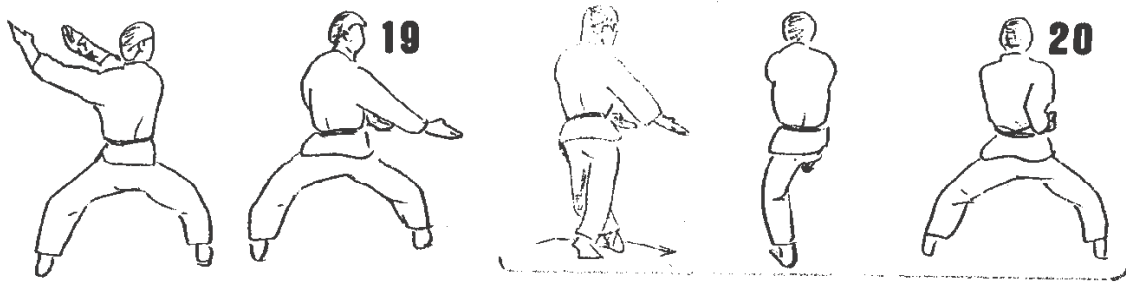
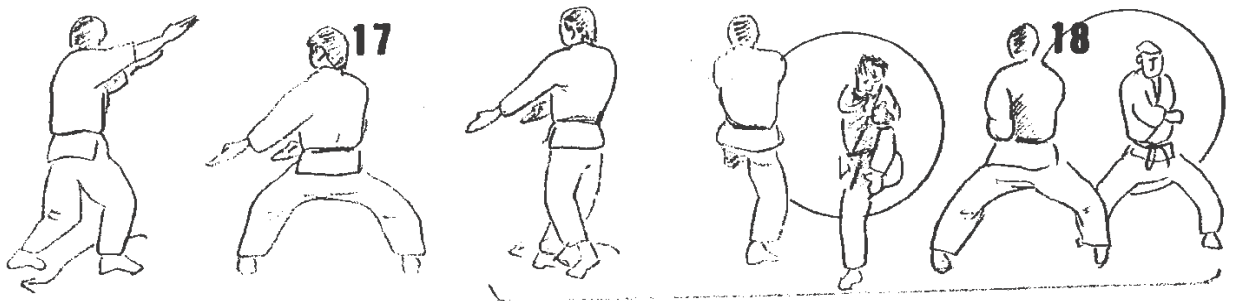
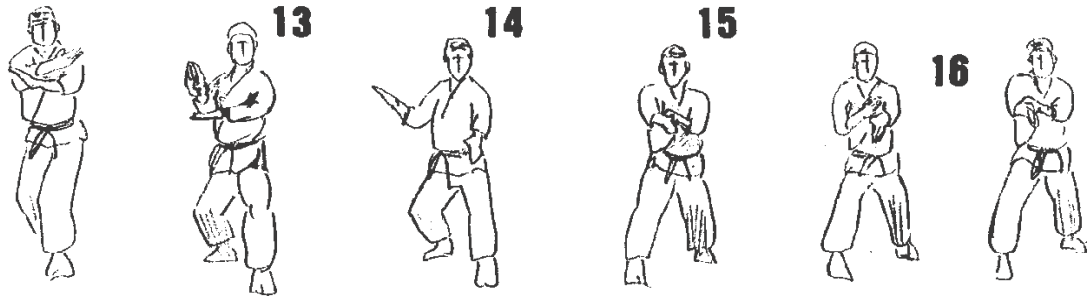


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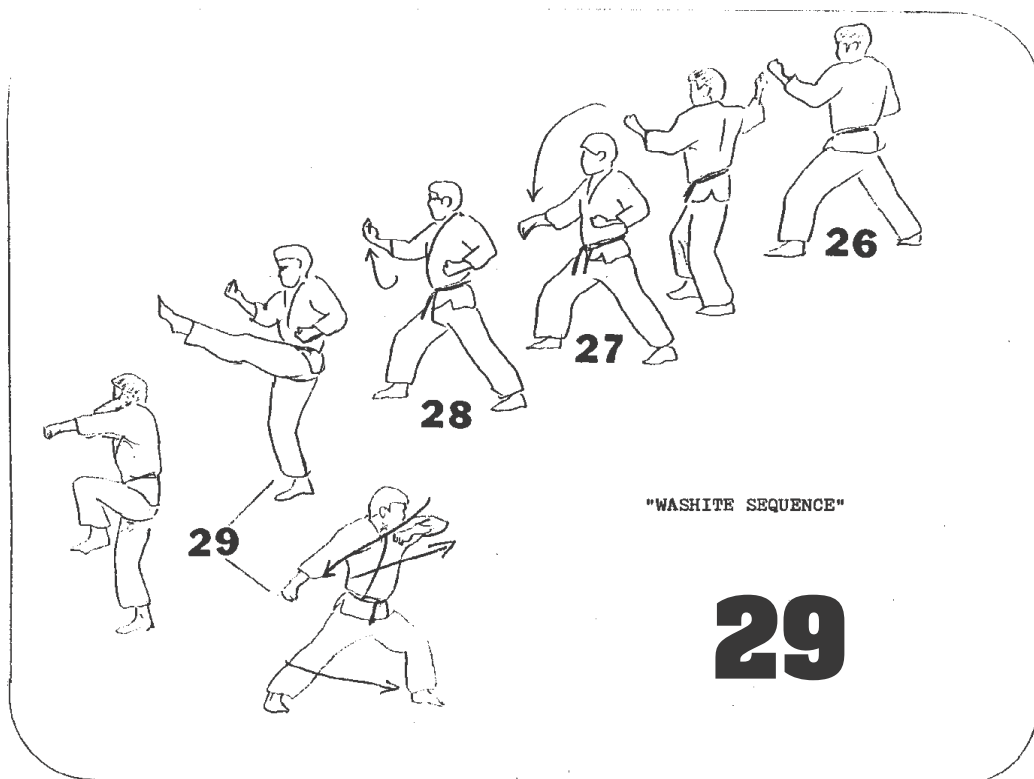
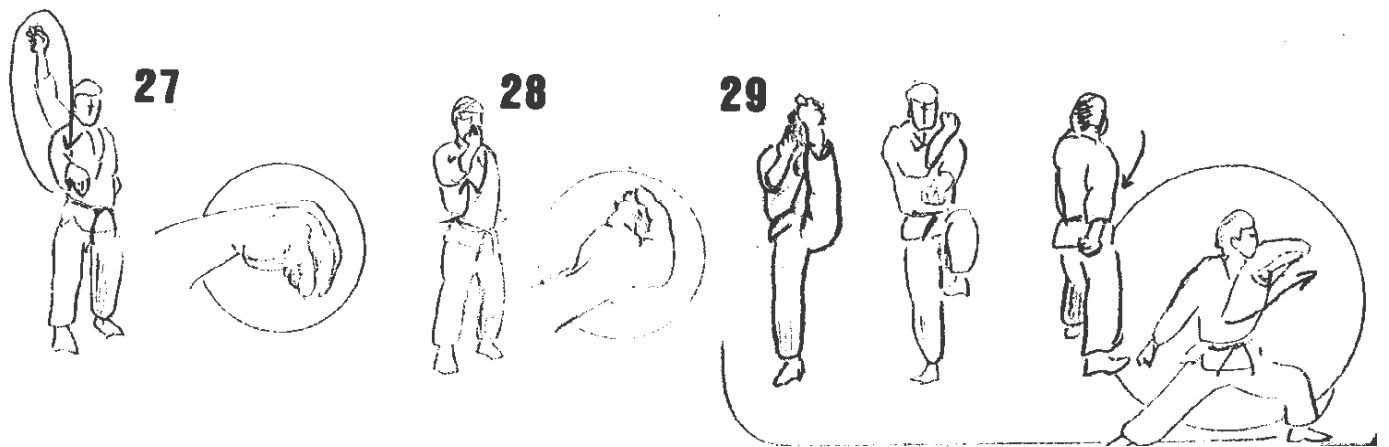
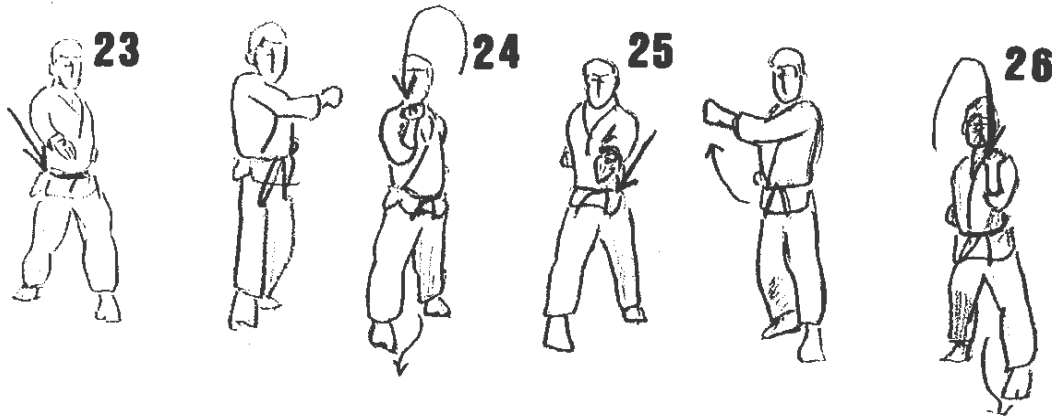
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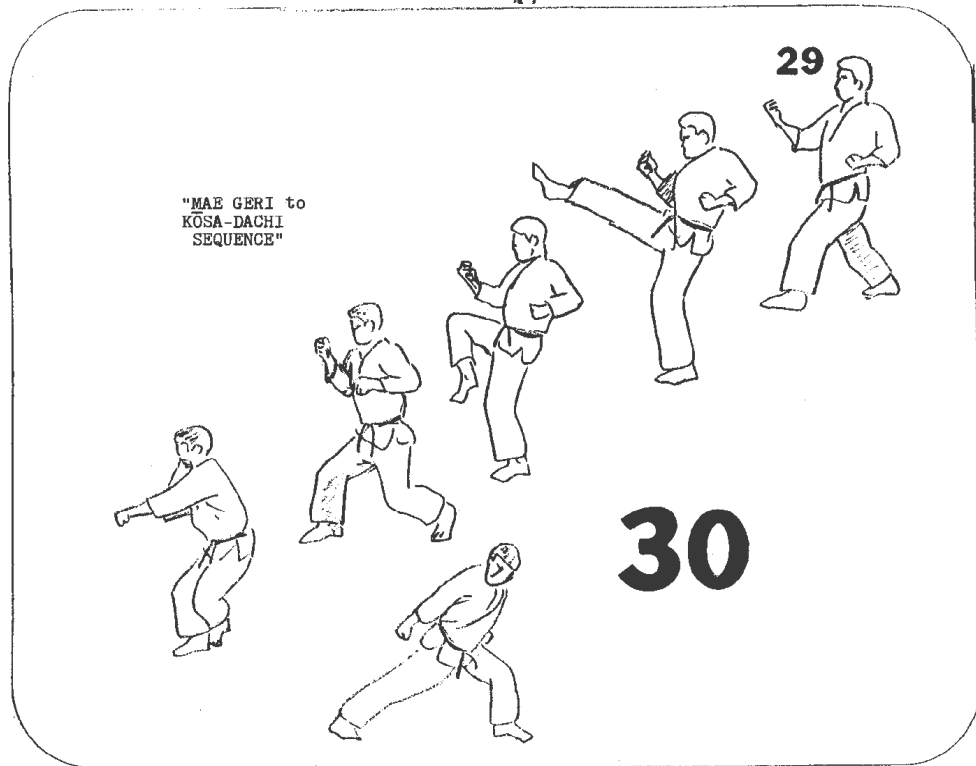
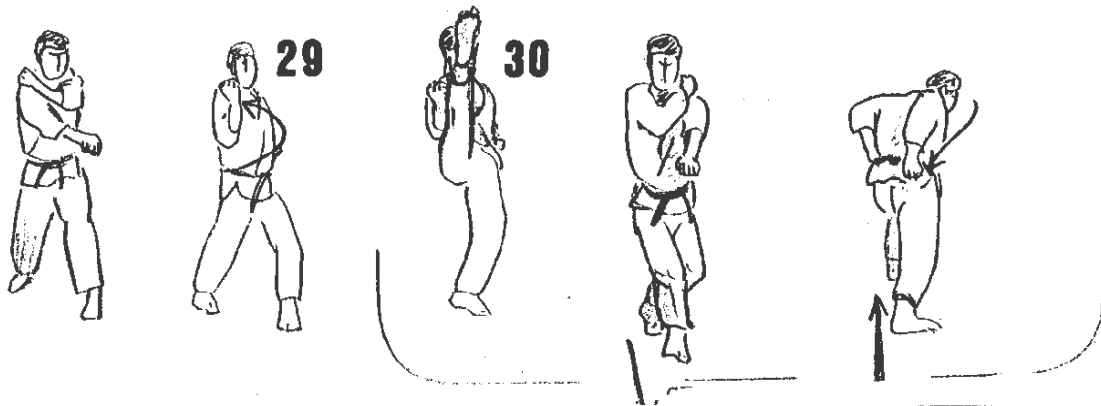
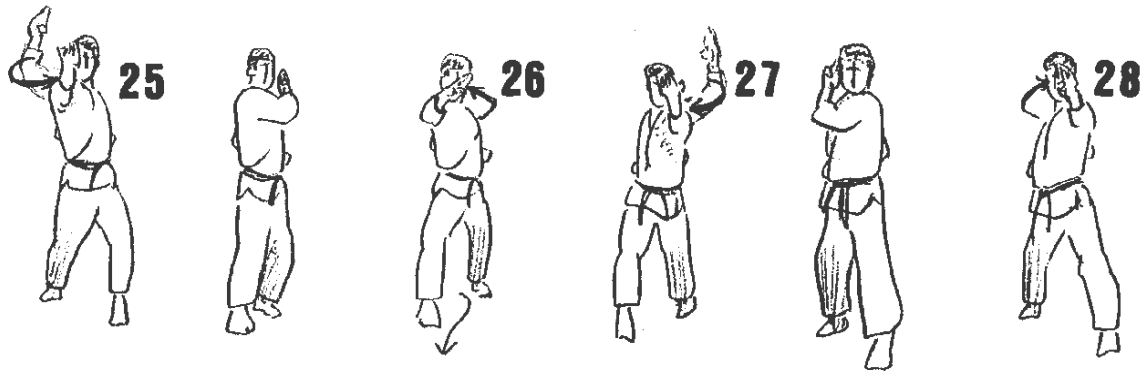
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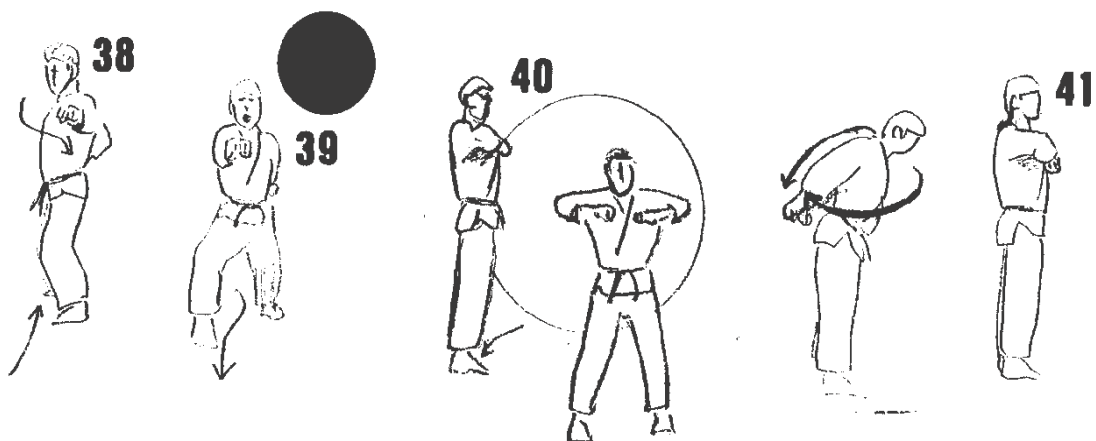
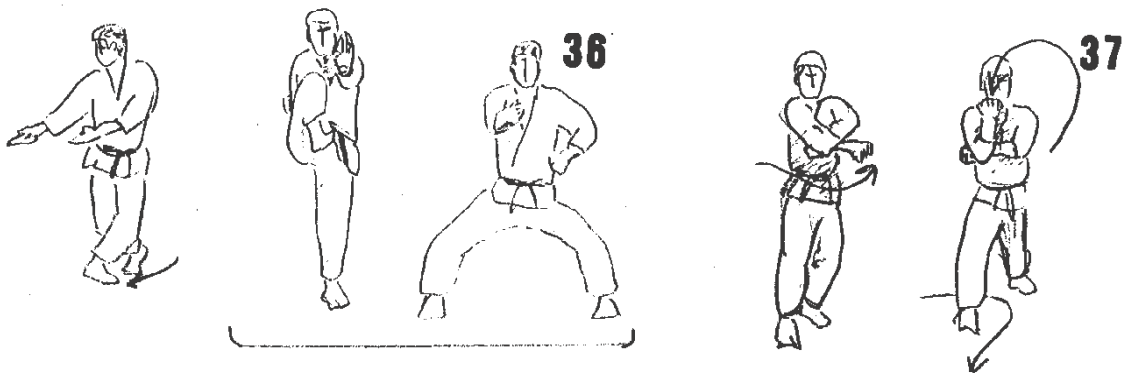
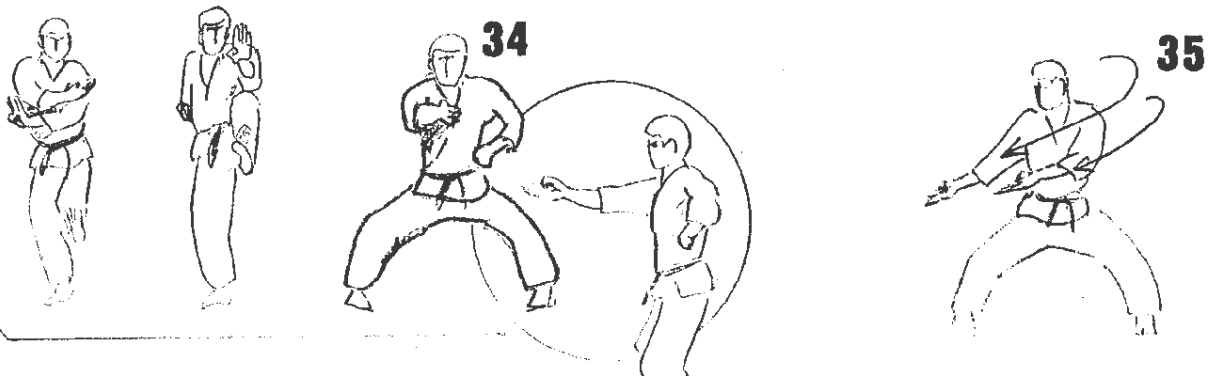
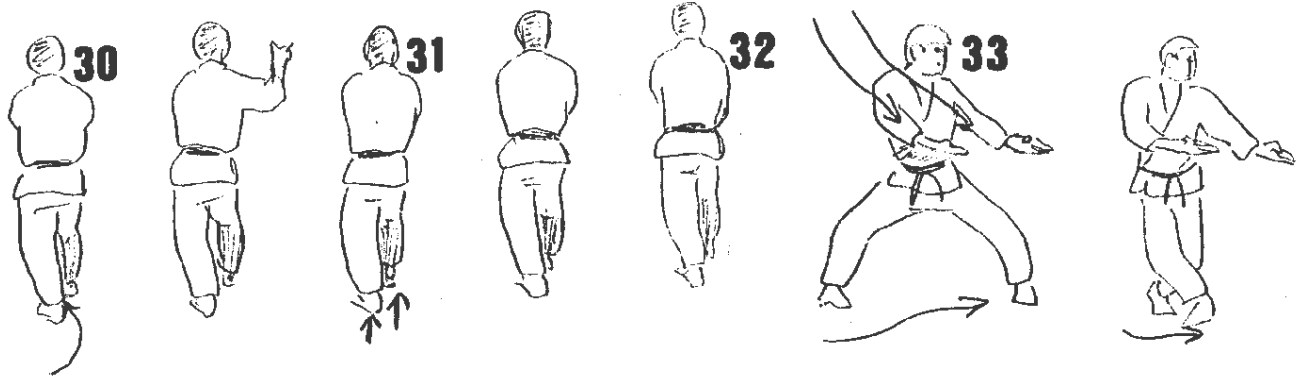
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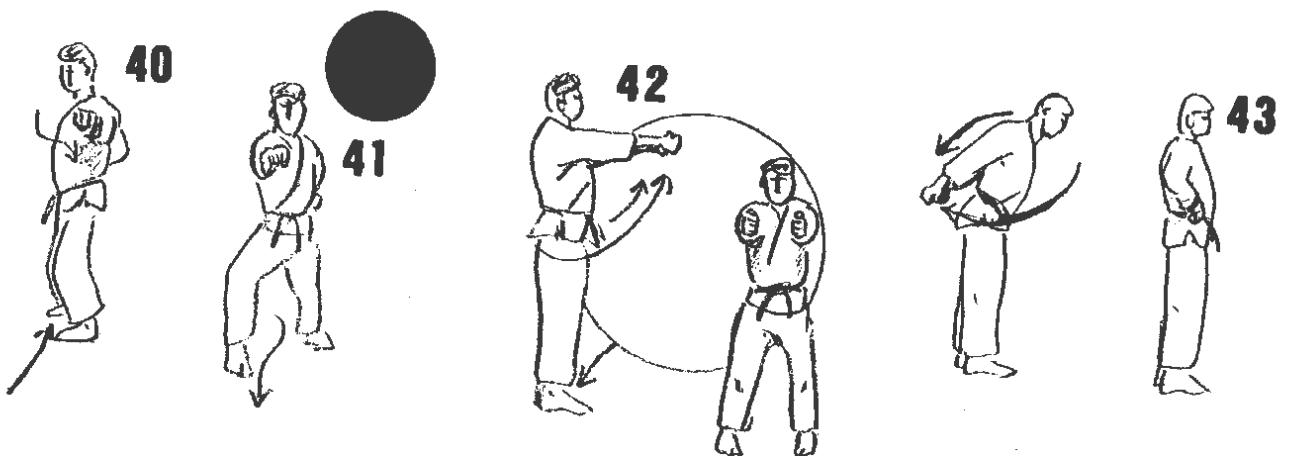
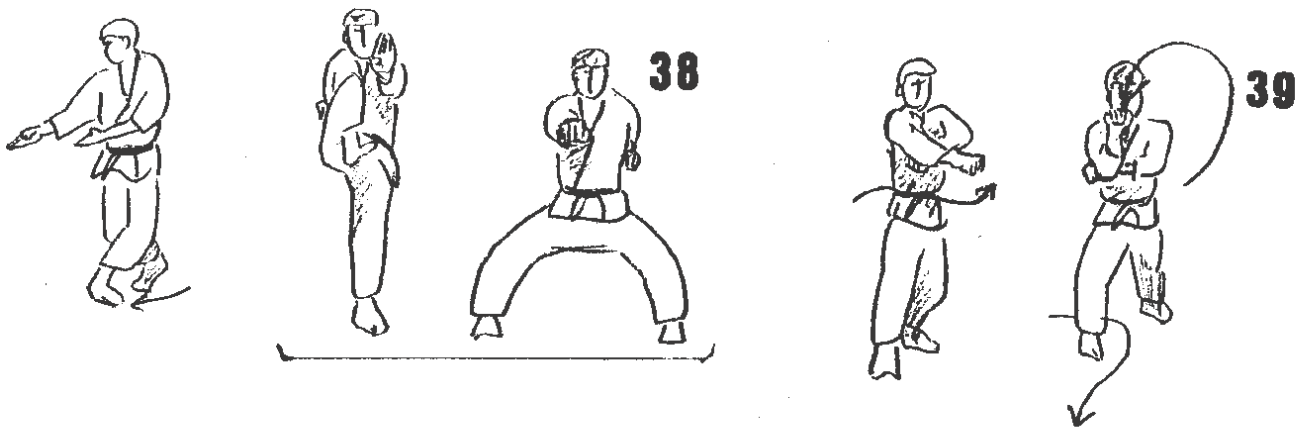
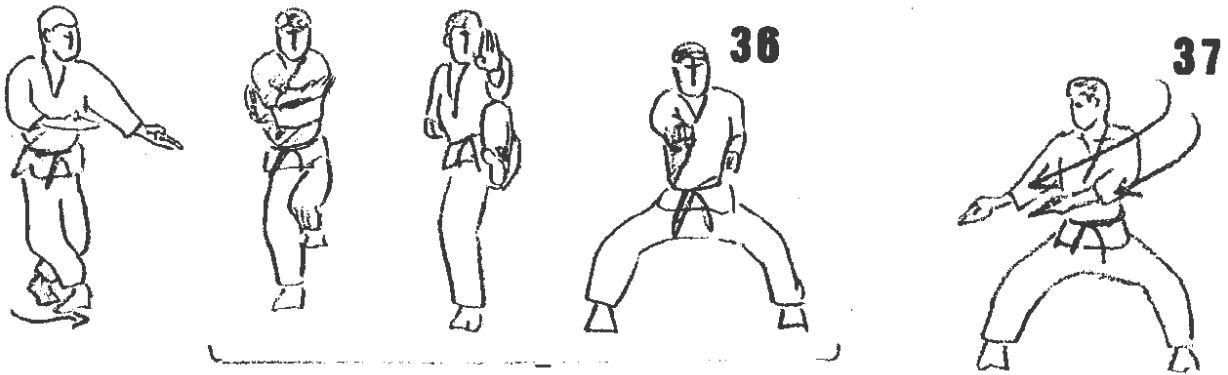
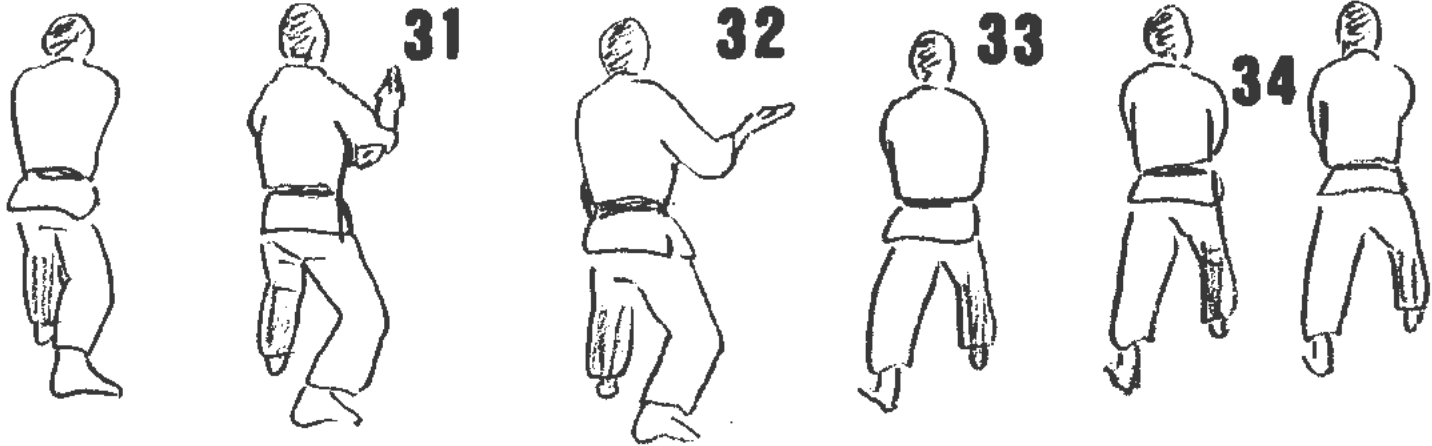
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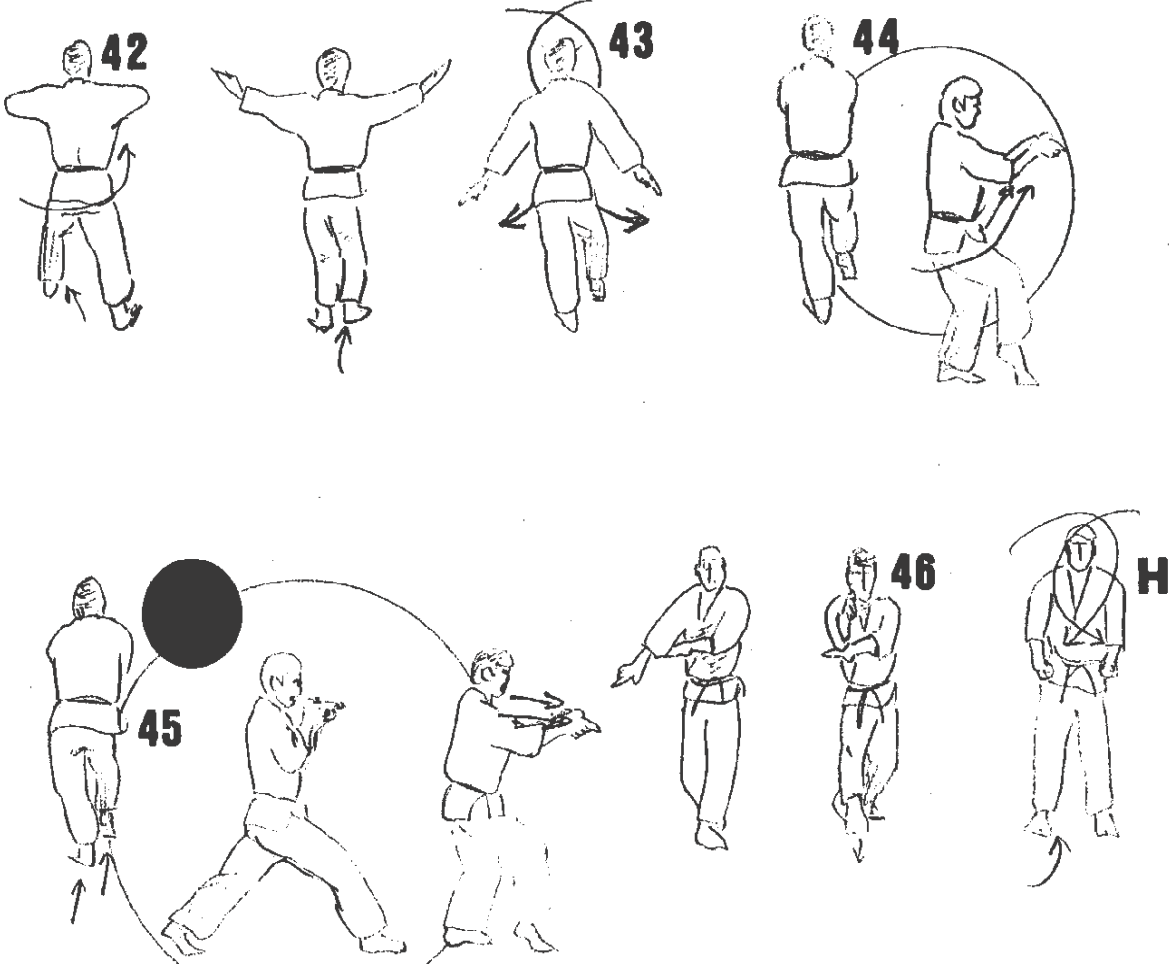
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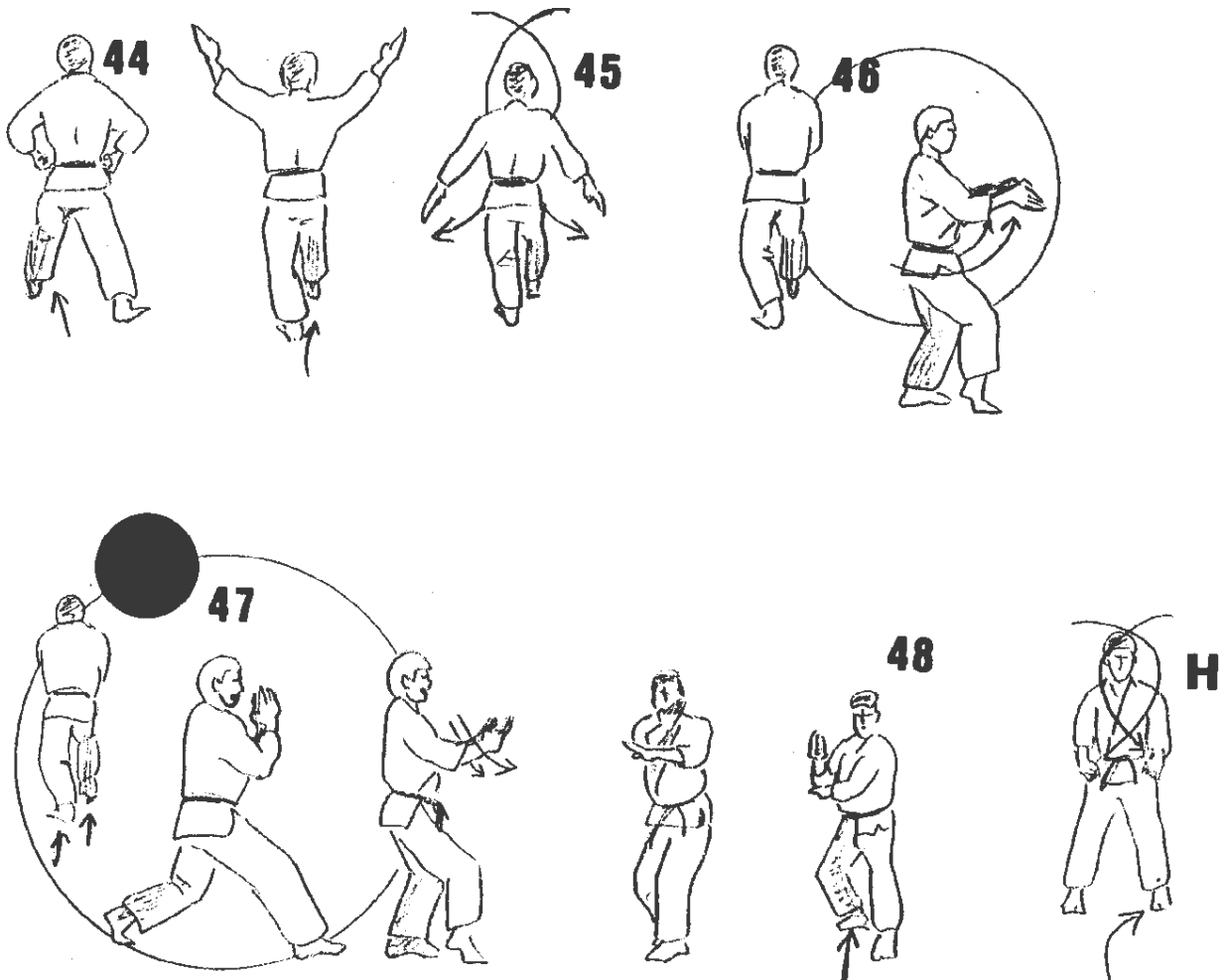
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