



*Karuna Sensei (right) welcomes, more than 45 years ago, the Japanese delegation of Shintô Musô Ryû Jô in Penang, Malaysia. This group represents, except for Nishioka Sensei, the origin of Jô I had the honor to promote, as from 1971, in Switzerland, then in Europe. Shimizu Takaji Sensei (center) is about to shake hand with Karunakaran, introduced by Donn F. Draeger Sensei (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), Kuroda Ichitarô Sensei (far left) and Kaminoda Tsunemori Sensei (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) are waiting for their turn. This entire group has now left us. Up to us, now, to continue to honour their teachings.*

## KARUNAKARAN SENSEI HAS LEFT US

Suffering from health problems since several years, Draeger Sensei's main student in Malaysia, Karunakaran, died last month in Penang, an island North-West of Malaysia.

I have met personally K (as we used to call him among friends) in Summer 1976 during the seminars Draeger Sensei led every year (Penang, Ipoh, Seremban) in that country, and for which he had asked me to accompany him.

Since that year, I have kept close links with K. The EJF, in agreement with the IJF has organized 5 international seminars in Malaysia (1979, 1982, 1985, 1991 and 2015). Our European Federation owes much to this country that has helped to keep international Jô alive in the 80s, especially after Draeger



*Last Summer (August 2015) Karuna Sensei came to say hello at the international IJF Seminar in Penang. A little thin, but looking pretty well. Larry Bieri (left) and myself did not expect that this would be our last meeting with him.*

Sensei's death (in 1982). It was to express my gratitude to this long friendship with the Malaysian group that, as IJF President, I made my mind to organize our 13<sup>th</sup> international seminar in Penang last year. It was also an occasion to meet Karuna Sensei again, without realizing that it would be the last time (photo at left), and to give him a Menkyo Kaiden, a certificate that I also gave to Johnny Seow, one of his closest student, hoping he will continue to keep Shintô Musô Ryû Jô alive in that region of the earth.

A few EJF practitioners have known Karuna Sensei. They join me to express to Karuna Sensei's family and close friends our most sincere sympathy.

*Pascal Krieger, IJF President*