

## **The Dojo Kun of Shotokan in Japanese:**

### **道場訓**

#### **Dojo kun**

1. 一、人格完成に勤むること  
Jinkaku Kansei ni Tsutmururu koto
2. 一、誠の道を守ること  
Makoto no michi wo mamoru koto
3. 一、動力の精神を養うこと  
Dohryoku no seishin wo yashinau koto
4. 一、礼儀を重んずること  
Reigi wo omonzuru koto
5. 一、血気の勇を戒めること  
Kekki no yu wo imashimeru koto

#### **Usual English Version**

1. Seek perfection of character
2. Be faithful
3. Endeavor for effort
4. Respect others
5. Refrain from violent behavior

The Japanese doesn't say that. It is not what the Japanese read when they see those characters. It has a different meaning created specifically for Western ears.

#### **Actual Translation of Japanese Words**

1. Strive to complete your character (mature or grow-up)
2. Protect the road/way of the truth
3. Foster a spirit of effort
4. Respect the principles of etiquette
5. Guard against impetuous courage (suppress boldness of the blood spirit/bloodthirsty spirit)

#### **What Japanese Hear from the Japanese Version**

1. Learn self-discipline and good sportsmanship
2. This is the best way to do Karate
3. Inspire everyone around you to try hard by setting an example
4. Be polite to other people (whether you actually respect them or not is irrelevant – do the behaviors)
5. Stay calm, reserved, and detached (whether you are being violent or not is irrelevant as long as you are not embarrassing yourself by losing control)