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I've been to Gyöngyös ...



A couple of days ago I joined an open training in Gyöngyös, in Iván Ozorák's dojo. It was the first time that I visited a dojo in the country and I could enjoy the pleasures of this region at once. What is more, this charming calmness enhanced as I was involved in practicing there. This place belongs to this group of Aikido practitioners. I think, it means a lot if a "team" can meet separately, can own a place which is built for Aikido purposes only. It is not only because of traditions, as nothing in Aikido is just for that, neither the clothes nor the bowing, not even the kamiza. All of them are the parts of Aikido, as well as a quiet, nice dojo. Though, one can train in a gym or anywhere, the difference is felt in the heart.



The training was held in light and good mood. The great instructor, Iván, got on well with kids and the company of adults, all of them were friendly and receptive. The activity was a kind of a loose but also a disciplined one. Everybody did their job.

Iván, respected my role as a guest, thus I wasn't treated as strictly as the others.

On one hand, Iván didn't want to convince me about his "truth", he only showed some ways and let me choose my own. I considered his lessons, that is why I went to his dojo.

On the other hand, he admits if I am "better" than him-do I have to explain that? Maybe later....

The point is, that I have never met a sensei with (former) 5th dan who would ask a student with 4th kyu about where and how she acquired a technique. It is not about that something is good or bad, but about different ways and respect, equality.

Iván is not that kind of man, who considers himself a master but an enthusiastic amateur, as he often states. He owns respect, mine as well.

Thank you so much for this wonderful training!

Noémi Zalavári

