



## Advanced Stick Fighting

By Masaaki Hatsumi

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Bushidô, the way of the warrior, is deeply bound to the rich history of the martial traditions of Japan, which have drawn generations of devotees, as well as awe and respect worldwide. Of all the martial arts, bô-jutsu, or stick fighting, is one of the least understood and most intriguing, having been largely hidden for centuries.

In *Advanced Stick Fighting*, Masaaki Hatsumi, the most renowned budô and ninja grandmaster in the world, and author of *Stick Fighting* and *The Way of the Ninja*, reveals some of the secrets surrounding this revered fighting art. Hatsumi offers the reader thoughtful reflections on bushidô, its venerable history, and its role in today's world. He also discusses the origins of bô-jutsu, which he sees as inexorably linked to the evolution of humankind; it is both universal and timeless.

While the highly acclaimed and long-selling *Stick Fighting* dealt mainly with self-defense using short sticks, this book reveals to the reader a number of advanced techniques using medium and long sticks that were originally used by samurai swordsmen and military commanders. Lavish illustrations accompany the explanations and help further demonstrate the graceful, mysterious movements of stick fighting. The original Japanese text is also included in the appendix.

This book will be an important addition to the libraries of readers who are seriously interested in pursuing the more advanced applications of stick fighting. It will also deepen readers' understanding of bushidô in general, and bring them closer to Hatsumi's personal philosophy -- that only through complete devotion to the martial arts as a way of life can self-enlightenment be attained, and that the wisdom gained through this can promote a true and lasting world of peace.

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### **Review**

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## THE DEFINITIVE BOOK BY A FAMOUS BUDO GRAND MASTER

### About the Author

After progressing through various martial arts, **Masaaki Hatsumi** found his life's mentor, Takamatsu Toshitsugu, and studied under him for the next fifteen years. Hatsumi became the 34th Grandmaster of Togakure-ryû Ninjutsu and eight other arts, which he unified into the Bujinkan system. While traveling the world, teaching thousands of individual students as well as law enforcement agencies, he received numerous accolades from politicians and spiritual leaders of many nationalities. He has also worked as a professional osteopath, acted in a popular television series, and was the Chairman of the International Department of the Japan Literary Artists' Club. Hatsumi is the author of many of Kodansha's best-selling martial arts books.

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