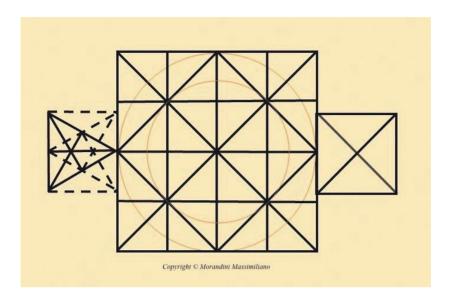


Research in Pencak Silat

A substantial portion of the investigation in this book concentrates on the differences between the West and the East that have arisen over generations in Pencak Silat.

In the West (Europe/America), maybe also for the attitude of gurus who introduced Pencak Silat in the "old continent", in some cases the fighting aspect of the art has been preferred. This has affected the preservation of all those traditional aspects that characterize Pencak Silat, sometimes, leaving aside the Sundanese (West Java) customs and traditions that envelop Penca Sera in Indonesia. On the contrary in the Indonesian part, while maintaining a combative aspect, a higher knowledge of the cultural (budaya) part of pencak silat has been maintained. Included in the cultural part is the traditional set of norms called: Adat.



Drawings handmade by the author

Through drawings made by the author, the laws and principles affecting the study of Pencak Silat, in its combative part, are explained in detail. In expounding the dictates of the art, the author expounds universal principles for every martial arts practitioner, which have their roots in the ancient combative arts of the Indonesian archipelago.

The extreme accuracy and research, both in the texts and in the drawings by the author, allows the reader to "live" the art firsthand in every minute detail.



Langkah, studying geometric platforms in Pencak Silat

The study of geometric platforms as combative strategies is one of the peculiarities of pencak silat; in this the author has set out his direct experience, acquired in his years of study with the great guru holders of the art.

The Langkah Pancer is perhaps among the best-known guidelines in the "world" of pencak silat that, if not learned under the supervision of a guru, can be easily misunderstood. The author expounds that in his direct experience, he has seen many practitioners desire to "train" on this complicated Langkah before they have acquired the necessary basic skills. This led the author to the conclusion that, unfortunately, this leads to a lack of understanding of the "messages" contained therein.



History of Pencak Silat Styles.

In this chapter the author sets out some of his research conducted in alirans who are recognized worldwide as the inspirers of Penca Sera. The influence of these alirans has contributed fundamentally to the growth of Penca Sera as it is known today. Even today these alirans can be learned through perguruan, which contributes to the continued development and spread of Pencak Silat. The author's field research is essentially based on his direct experience with these perguruan. In fact, the author had the opportunity to study some of these alirans at such schools. During these studies he found relevant connections with the art of Penca Sera, which gave him a different point of view.