



Ju-hwan Sung (profiled by Myung-Suk Kim)

Ju-hwan Sung graduated from The Korean National Police University and is a Korean policeman in South Korea. At university all police must learn a martial art. He had done Hapkido previously but in 1997 he decided to learn the Japanese art of Aikido because he preferred its philosophy based on peace rather than violence. After a visit to Japan in 1998 he realised he needed to learn Japanese. He started with basic grammar books, read manga, watched TV dramas and movies, and then finally got into Aikido books written in Japanese. Alongside his Japanese study, he also studied English.



After several years of training and many visits to Japan he opened his own Aikido club in his local police station in Incheon, South Korea. He is a main member of the Korea Aikido Federation and helps organise visits to and from Japan and helps translate for the many visiting Sensei from Japan and many other countries. He also has his own Aikido website: <http://aikidokr.net/>

In 2007 Ju-hwan applied for and was accepted as an International Peacekeeper to East Timor. In his year there, he opened an Aikido club and taught for free. He invited teachers from Japan to East Timor and the club is still running even though he has now returned to Korea.



In short, Ju-hwan is convinced that his success in Aikido is directly related to his success at learning Japanese. In the future he hopes he can also use Japanese (and English) in his job as a policeman.

