



## **THE PASSING OF THE TORCH**

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In 1893, Cipriano Geronimo was born, when his father Bonifacio Geronimo was 46 years old. At an early age, Cipriano was prepared to someday take the place of his father as the head of the Geronimo Sikaran lineage. Cipriano's preparation was not limited to the physical aspects

of Sikaran. Bonifacio taught his son Cipriano, how to be a leader and the importance of education. Bonifacio instilled in Cipriano the need to understand that Sikaran and Education are the opposite sides of the same coin. They are the parts that make the coin.

Knowing Sikaran is not just doing the physical motions or following the movements. One must be aware of the why, the how, the when, and the what, of a particular technique. One must develop his own maneuver, based on his own physical ability, capability, and limitations. Constant practice develops the muscles in varying degrees or details. Over time, Cipriano developed the ability to use one's knowledge effectively and readily in execution or performance, and all the skills to be a hari (champion). This experience prepared him to pass on his expertise in Sikaran to his son Meliton.

On March 10, 1927, amidst the ringing of the bells in Baras, Meliton, the first son of Cipriano was born. Even at a very young age, Cipriano honed Meliton in all the aspects of Sikaran. This is the reason why the Geronimo Sikaran lineage survived the test of time.

The leadership of Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo, can best be described as a strong, wise and enlightening leadership. Through his enlightened leadership, he introduced Sikaran in the International world of unarmed martial arts. Through his efforts, the Philippines became a member of the Asian Karate Association. Sikaran was referred to as a style of Philippine Karate, like Shotokan is referred to as Japanese Karate, Shorin-ryu as a style of Okinawan Karate and Tang Soo Doo as a style of Korean Karate.

Through his leadership, the Philippines garnered seven gold medals in six Asian Karate Championships. When the World Union of Karate-do Organizations (WUKO) was formed in 1970, Meliton C. Geronimo was a signatory member representing the Philippines.

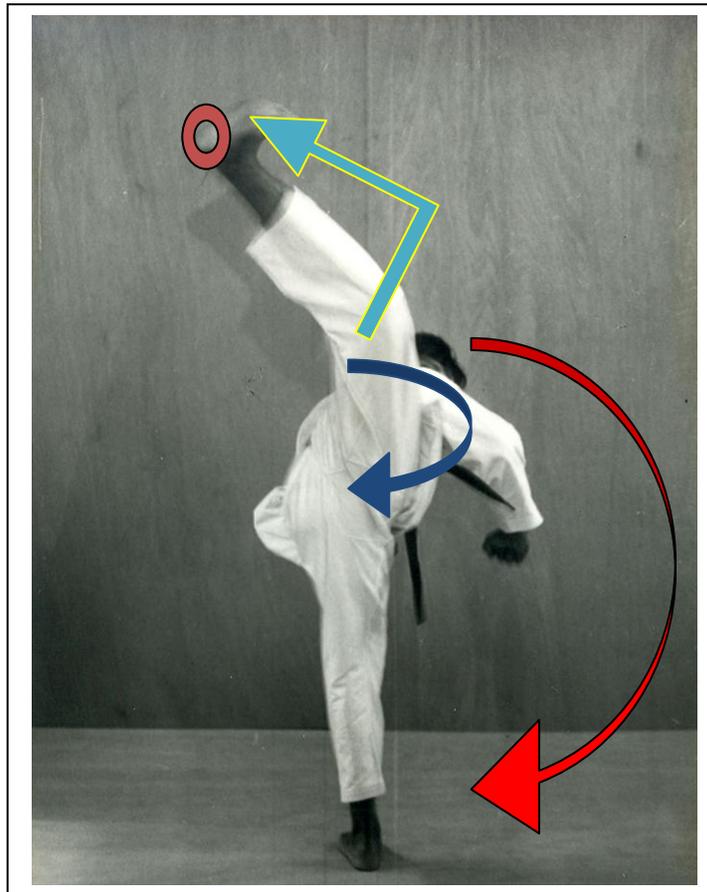
When Supremo Meliton Geronimo exported Sikaran to Malaysia, through his students Emmanuel Querubin, Nestor Principe, Luisito dela Cruz, and Vince Vasallo, it became the foundation of two independent schools that are now also recognized in the international world of martial arts. In Malaysia, Clement Soo (#257) is acknowledged as the founder of the Goshin-ryu School of the Karate League of Malaysia. The Ren Yi Ku KwanTang Sau Dao School of Loke Meng Kwang (#354) is one of the most successful and biggest martial art organizations in Great Britain.

Supremo Meliton Geronimo's, leadership is not limited in the improvement and development of Sikaran as a unique, original, and effective fighting art. Administration-wise, he formulated the protocols governing Sikaran as an international martial art. Supremo Meliton Geronimo's leadership is beyond any textbook-grade position in a scale of ranks and qualities.

Biyakid (gerund of biyak - to split) is the signature kick of Sikaran. There are stories of Sikaran Haris who have knocked down a carabao with a biyakid to the head. On its face value, this feat sounds like too incredible to be true. However, Supremo Meliton Geronimo, believes that by following the principles of physics it can be done. He even gives as an example Masutatsu Oyama, founder of Kyukoshinkai Karate who was said to have killed a buffalo, with his bare hands, and feet, which was later found to be too badly battered and bruised for human consumption.

Supremo Meliton Geronimo, explained the proper delivery of biyakid based on the principles of physics. This is the favorite kick of most SIKARAN hari's of old because it is very effective at any fighting range. This kick was developed by spinning the body with the temple, the spine, and the back of the head, as the favorite targets.

There are 3 motions that determine the effectiveness of a biyakid. First is the spin of the body that creates the centrifugal force. Second is the turn of the hips that creates the rotational thrusting force and third is the snap back from the knee that propels the heel to the target and creates the motion that offers a quick and vigorous recovery of the kicking leg. Any deviation from this process will compromise the one-strike-one-kill property of the biyakid



### **BIYAKID - SPINNING KICK**

First Motion - Spin of the body that creates the centrifugal force **(red arrow)**

Second Motion - Turn of the hips that create the rotational thrust of the hips **(blue arrow)**

Third Motion - snap back from the knee that propels the heel to the target and creates the motion that offers a quick and vigorous recovery of the kicking leg **(blue-green arrow)**

Impact point - Heel **(maroon circle)**

All the techniques of Sikaran, were explained by Supremo Meliton Geronimo, based on the laws of physics and motion. He did not change, add, or subtract from the original Sikaran that he learned from his father, his other teachers, and Sikaran elders. What he did is explain the principles that made every single technique easier to understand, hence making the maneuver

easier to execute and more effective. Likewise, by developing drills and forms, he elevated Sikaran not only as a physical art, but also as a martial sport, through a process of natural growth, differentiation, or evolution by successive improvements. Sikaran has evolved, from a past time activity of farmers, to an international modern sport. As Grandmaster, this perhaps is one of the great contributions of Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo, to Sikaran, bringing the art from the 16th Century to the 21st Century.

As an Administrator, Supremo Meliton Geronimo is unsurpassed. When he formed the Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines, he envisioned an association with a worldwide membership. He did not see the association as a local group that meets on weekends for a get-together. What he envisioned was an international organization composed of Sikaranistas wearing a white upper shirt with the patch of the World Sikaran Brotherhood on the left breast, a World Sikaran patch on the back and red pants. He visualized Sikaranistas from the four corners of the globe, speaking different languages.

English speaking Sikaranistas from the United States of America, from Canada, from Australia, from United Kingdom, and other English speaking countries, outnumber Spanish, Arabic, and Italian Sikaranistas. However, by and large, the numbers of Sikaranistas from foreign countries almost outnumber Sikaranistas from the Philippines.

This is what Supremo Meliton Geronimo considers his greatest achievement. Now a World Sikaran Brotherhood is the International umbrella organization of the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines, The World Sikaran Brotherhood of the United States, World Sikaran Brotherhood of Canada, World Sikaran Brotherhood of Australia, World Sikaran Brotherhood of Italy, World Sikaran Brotherhood of Saudi Arabia, World Sikaran Brotherhood of France, and other countries.

In the same manner that Supremo Meliton Geronimo was trained by his father to be the great leader that he is, he prepared Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr., to be a leader with a more modern approach to leadership.

When Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr., was born, there was no ringing of bells. However, his birth was heralded by typhoon Adding, one of the strongest and most devastating act of nature in that decade. Amidst the rain, strong winds, thunder, and lightning, Meliton C. Geronimo, Sr., raised his son to the sky as a gesture of offering and swore that Junior will someday take his place as Sikaran master. While he was learning to walk, Junior was also learning how to kick and be a fighter. While he was learning to read and write, he was learning the history of Sikaran. Meliton Junior was tutored in Sikaran, not only by his father, but also by his grandfather Cipriano, and the other Sikaran elders of Baras.

When his mother and siblings migrated to the United States, Meliton, Jr., continued his studies graduating in High School from the Balboa High School in San Francisco.

Meliton, Jr., attended San Francisco City College, later transferring to Sonoma College, to pursue an Engineering course. His education prepared him for the eventual transfer of the leadership of the Geronimo lineage of Sikaran. His education plus the positive genes he inherited from his parents gave him the ability to be a critical thinker. Looking at life logically, and creatively, Meliton, Jr., developed the ability to be an organized leader.

Meliton, Jr.'s, preparation was not only in administration. To prepare him as leader of Sikaran, he underwent extensive comparative training in different styles of martial arts, like Chinese Wing Chun Kung Fu, Japanese Karate, and Korean Tae Kwon Do, earning the

equivalent of Black Belt Degrees in those arts. He also delved in Ju-jitsu, Judo, and Aikido. His training in the different martial arts prepared him to be a better Sikaranista by realizing the strengths and weaknesses of each art and how to work on them, and with them. He knows that the best way to beat someone in his art is to be good in that art.



Meliton, Jr., and Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo, after training, in Vallejo, California.

In 2010, it was very unfortunate that Supremo Meliton Geronimo suffered a bout of stroke. His physical activities were slightly affected. However, his leadership was not affected.

When Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo became incapacitated with several bouts of stroke, Meliton, Jr., was not able to move back and stay in the Philippines. Supremo Meliton Geronimo had no choice but to let his brother Jaime Geronimo, take over as acting in-charge.

However, although Jaime Geronimo is a good Sikaran tactician, he is a sorry failure as a leader. The greatest disappointment in Jaime Geronimo's leadership was the unexplainable failure of the Philippines to send a delegation to the 4th World Sikaran Tournament held in Winnipeg, Canada on May 10, 2014.

To upgrade his skill in Sikaran, he comes home to the Philippines every chance he gets to train with his father, his grandfather, and the senior students of Sikaran. Sometimes, his father flies to the United States to guide Meliton, Jr. In 1984, Supremo Meliton Geronimo established the Sikaran Headquarters in Vallejo, California. Supremo Meliton Geronimo, grills his son not only in the physical aspects of Sikaran, but also on what he will have to do to make Sikaran the number one unarmed martial art in the world and how he will lead the members to be better citizens.

His father's leadership style, influenced by his long military career, is militaristic. On the other hand, Meliton, Jr.'s, style is more on the "democratic" style. He is aware that although he possesses the ability to be a good leader, he has to develop his own style in communicating in ways to motivate and inspire others.



Wheel chair bound Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo with Mantas Emmanuel Querubin.



Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr., getting his son Zach Ramsey ready to someday take over.

To save the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines from complete destruction, Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo decided it was time to transfer the presidency to his son Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr. He passed the torch of leadership to his rightful heir, his son Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr. As Bonifacio Geronimo, passed the Geronimo Sikaran Lineage to his son Cipriano, who in turn passed it on to his son Meliton Geronimo, Sr., it was passed on to Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr., in the natural progression of hierarchy. Entitlement to succeed in hereditary rank, title or office is from father to son. It is always from great grandfather (Bonifacio) to grandfather (his son Cipriano) to father (his son Meliton. Sr.) and to the grandson (Meliton, Jr.).

The damage caused by the mismanagement of the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines, is perhaps the biggest problem that Junior has to solve and rectify. The first step that Meliton, Jr., took was to identify his mission.

Meliton, Jr., knows that the problems are many and serious. However, he is also aware that the problems are not un-surmountable. Having the critical thinking of an engineer, he laid a plan in solving the big problem by dissecting it and breaking it down to the minutest components. He will then solve the small problems one at a time. These problems took at least three years to accumulate and Meliton, Jr., is aware that it may take time to be solved. The first problem that he has to tackle is to bring back to the fold the members who left and those that are inactive. He has to raise money to fund the projects of the brotherhood, such as seminars, meetings, tournaments, and registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which the past acting in -charge let expire. Meliton, Jr., is now finishing the 2013 Report of Activities, which the S.E.C. requires.

Another pressing problem that Meliton, Jr., considers major is the uncontrolled promotion to incredulous high grades. These promotions need to be reviewed accordingly.

As President of the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines, and the final authority in Sikaran, Meliton, Jr., need to call on his organizational skill. He needs to rely on his self-confidence, logical and creative opinion, and judgment.



Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr.'s, Inner circle: From left: Elpidio Seletaria, Jr., Emmanuel Querubin, Louelle Lledo, Jr., Andy Sanano, Jr., and Dante Alambra.

## OFFICIAL PASSING OF THE TORCH

On March 10, 2015, the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines will celebrate the official passing of the torch and transfer of authority as President, leader and master of the World Sikaran Brotherhood.

Supremo Meliton C. Geronimo, will officially step down as President and pass on the authority to his son Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr. Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr., thereafter will be addressed as Sikaran Pantas (Master) Meliton S. Geronimo, Jr. He is promoted to a higher level 9th Degree Red and White Belt. As President, he will have the final authority in all and every affair of Sikaran, especially in the grade and rank promotion.

Invited to this grand affair are all the Regional Country Directors, State Directors, and Regional Directors. Rizal Provincial Officials, Baras Municipal Officials, and Rizal Department of Education Officials are also invited to witness this very important event in the history of Sikaran.

No picture available  
at this time.

**\*Estimation based on  
reliable information**

**1847\* -BONIFACIO GERONIMO - 1925\***



**1893 -CIPRIANO GERONIMO-1993**



**1927 -MELITON C. GERONIMO,**



**1959 -MELITON S. GERONIMO, JR.**



WORLD SIKARAN BROTHERHOOD OF THE PHILIPPINES  
 (PANDAIGDIGANG KAPATIRANG SIKARAN NG PILIPINAS), INC.  
 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
 Villa Ruth, Sitio Mambog, Barangay San Jose  
 Baras, Rizal, Philippines



**DECLARATION**

I, MELITON C. GERONIMO, 10<sup>th</sup> Degree Red Belt, Sikaran Grandmaster/Supremo, and President/Founder of the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law, hereby declare:

1. That pursuant to ARTICLE II, Section 16 of the BY-LAWS OF WORLD SIKARAN BROTHERHOOD OF THE PHILIPPINES, and as part of my Will, I am passing on the presidency of the World Sikaran Brotherhood of the Philippines (WSBP) to my son, MELITON S. GERONIMO, JR. 9<sup>th</sup> Degree Red & White Belt (#697) effective this date;
2. That as the President of the WSBP, MELITON S. GERONIMO, JR., shall continue the legacy bestowed on me by my late father, CIPRIANO GERONIMO (The Last Hari ng Sikaran), and the vision of propagating Sikaran all over the world, strengthening Sikaran as a form of self-defense and as a sport, and creating various programs toward the development of Sikaran as a Filipino art of kick fighting with unique and distinct Philippine origin;
3. That as WSBP President, MELITON S. GERONIMO JR. shall do all means not contrary to law to initiate various measures toward the effective propagation of Sikaran worldwide;
4. That this Declaration repeals any other proclamation or designation I may have issued in relation to the leadership of the WSBP;
5. That I am executing this Declaration knowingly, with my own volition, and that I am legally capacitated to proclaim this Declaration.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of June 2014 at Baras, Rizal

MELITON C. GERONIMO  
 10<sup>th</sup> Degree Red Belt, WSBP  
 Sikaran Grandmaster/Supremo  
 President/Founder, WSBP

Witness:

1. Nhez-Lee Albino 2. B-Jay Albino 3. Ever-Lee Albino

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June /14  
 at Baras, Rizal, Philippines by Meliton C. Geronimo with competent evidence of

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Atty. FLORANTE F. DINCO  
 Notary Public  
 Until December 31, 2014  
 Supreme Court Roll No. 29869  
 PTR RZL 8709642-9-25-12  
 IBP, Rizal, OR 282425-9-1-12  
 MCLE No. 1-0011927

**LEGAL NOTARIZED DECLARATION OF GRANDMASTER MELITON C. GERONIMO, TRANSFERRING PRESIDENCY OF THE WORLD SIKARAN BROTHERHOOD OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FINAL SIKARAN AUTHORITY TO MELITON S. GERONIMO, JR. UNABLE TO SIGN LEGIBLY; HE AFFIXED HIS THUMB MARK, WHICH IS THE LEGAL WAY. THERE IS A VIDEO SHOWING SUPREMO MELITON C. GERONIMO, PASSING ON THE AUTHORITY TO MELITON S. GERONIMO, JR. SHOWING OF THIS VIDEO IS AVAILABLE TO ANY REGISTERED MEMBER OF GOOD STANDING OF THE WORLD SIKARAN BROTHERHOOD OF THE PHILIPPINES.**