

Vietnamese Traditional Martial Arts Festival

Written by Nava Nahi

Friday, 12 December 2008 11:26 - Last Updated Saturday, 13 December 2008 08:10

The three-day Vietnamese traditional martial arts festival in central Binh Dinh Province, father land of the

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***, is not
only
a way to popularize
the Viet’s
martial arts, but also a reflection of its prestige in the world.***



Vietnamese traditional martial arts have been learnt in 100 countries and territories by hundreds of thousands of followers. It is now one of the world’s most popular sports.

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Central Binh Dinh Province is the cradle of Vietnam's martial arts and recognised as the birthplace of traditional martial arts in Vietnam from the time of the Tay Son-Binh Dinh martial arts school in the 18th century. It has proudly continued the tradition of producing some of the country's best talent in the discipline.

The traditional martial arts festival begins with performances at Quy Nhon Town, the capital of Binh Dinh, and surrounding areas including King Quang Trung Museum, Hoang De (Emperor) Citadel and Nhon Hoi Economic Zone – which is symbolic of central Vietnam's economic development.

“Viet Vo Dao”

“Viet Vo Dao”, based on the principle of harmony between hard and soft, was founded by grandmaster Nguyen Loc less than a hundred years ago during French colonization in Vietnam.

Mr. Loc

developed the martial arts mainly for self defense that uses force and reaction of the opponent to fight against him.

“Viet Vo Dao” is not just a way for health training, moral refinement, human sense of loving, but the martial arts also reflects the generosity of a heroic and sporting people. Vietnamese traditional martial arts attracted people of all generation to train. V

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techniques involve kicks, throws, escape and levering, wrestling, punching, kicking, and even employ swords, sticks, and knives.

The founder Truong Thanh Dang spent his whole life to understand, practice, research and consolidate the cultural heritage and the martial arts treasure into a unique, creative system.

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Spectacular martial arts displays

With the will of a free independent country and their invincible patriotism, the Vietnamese have developed a strong fighting spirit, which can be seen in the decisive wars : "To escape from the humiliating misery and hardships of slavery. They have to win the enemies"

The Vietnamese traditional martial arts which is very rich in forms, was developed based on the bloody experiences acquired during the courageous fights to protect their country and people .

Binh Dinh Province is famous for Vo Tay Son, also known as Vo Binh Dinh, an ancient martial art that was developed in the area. Ten out of 11 districts in the province have established martial arts training centres with nearly 100 clubs. The provincial traditional martial arts association manages 80 masters and attracts approximately 1,000 students in regular training courses.

Coming to Binh Dinh and attending the festival, you can join local teams and witness the showcase for their talent in martial arts, as well as Binh Dinh's scenic beauty and distinctive, appealing culture. Participants demonstrated their various performances at the villages, allowing everyone to imbibe the unique aspects of martial arts in different cultures.

Moreover, the participants can also visit the province's martial arts villages such as An Thai and An Vinh, where they can learn about the time-honored arts from successors of martial arts forefathers. The festival features enthralling events including battle drumming, international martial arts competitions and a beauty pageant with some of Vietnam's most dangerous women.

Battle drum

Tay Son battle drumming has always been close to locals hearts. It is said that during battle, Nguyen Hue, who later became Emperor Quang Trung, used a 12 drum

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