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“The wisdom of tradition will unify a friendlier world.”

**20th Annual ITKA International World Friendship Karate Tournament
in Honor and Memory of Sima and Zahra Bambouyani, October 7, 8, 2023**

TO: Organization or Dojo name:

Address : City:

Country: Zip

**RE: Official invitation to attend the 2023 ITKA World Friendship Karate
Tournament**

Dear Sensei

I would like to cordially invite you and your team to participate in the 2023 ITKA Tournament in Chicago. We believe your participation will constitute an integral component of this tournament. We hope you will be able to participate.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.

Education and seminar; in addition to the Tournament, ITKA will offer world-class instruction in Kihon (fundamental), Kata (form), and Kumite (sparring) and self-defense and judges seminar prior to the official start of the tournament. The program will be taught by ITKA's world-class instructors and special guests.

International participation: In prior years, this event attracted participants from Japan, Russia, Italy, Austria, Romania, Poland, and other parts of Europe as well as South and Central America. With the support of many Sanseis such as yourself, we expect the 2022 Tournament to become another successful event. We look forward and hope to see you in Chicago.

Accommodations: ITKA is pleased to recommend accommodations for your team.

Tournament History:

For many years and prior to the Bam Earthquake this Tournament was a fund-raiser to benefit the Children Memorial Hospital in Chicago. As a result, ITKA contributed nearly \$20,000 to the Children's Hospital for the care of needy children.

For many years Honorable Richard M. Daley, Chicago Mayor, was the Tournament's Honorary Chairman.

The tournament now is to honor Zahra and Sima Bambouyani. established in memory of their tragic loss of life in the Bam, Iran earthquake.

In December of 2003 while visiting family, Zahra, 5th Dan, karate sensei who truly loved Chicago and made tremendous contributions to our city and Sima, 1st Dan, age 11 winner of many gold medals in Karate tournaments and the student of the year were taken away by a deadly earthquake while visiting family in Bam, Iran. This World Friendship Karate Tournament since 2004 has been dedicated to honoring the memory of Sima and Zahra Bambouyani for their contributions.

Tradition: This World Friendship Tournament also promotes harmony and respect by bringing together different cultures through a competition based on the principles of ITKA karate and the Dojo Kun: seek perfection of character, be faithful, endeavor, respect others, refrain from violent behavior. The promotion of respect for each other's cultures through our shared vision and appreciation for the art of karate can be an experience that unites us.

From the White House: Former President George W Bush graciously acknowledged his support to comfort the Bambouyani family by sending a personal condolence letter to the Bambouyani family.

From City Hall of the City of Chicago: For many years Honorable Richard M. Daley, Chicago Mayor, was the Tournament's Honorary Chairman.

From the President of Wright College, City of Chicago, Tournament Host: Dr. Charles Guengerich has been a longtime advisor and supporter of the ITKA WFK Tournament. Dr. Guengerich has hosted this World class event at the College for many years.

To facilitate our planning, we ask that you please provide or complete the following information for all who plan to participate:

First and last name

Passport number

Expiration date

Date of birth

Competing or Participating in (competing, coach or manager)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Shihan M. Bambouyani

Shihan M. Bambouyani
ITKA Chairman 9th Dan
Chairman