

Mitsu-Dome



The symbol of Pangai-Noon is the Mitsu-Dome, which translates into triple comet. The Mitsu-Dome has continually evolved over the generations. The roots are found in Okinawa.

Legend has it that three dignitaries were sent to Japan when the Ryukyu Islands were still independent. In a show of force, the Shogun ordered the three dignitaries put to death by boiling them in hot oil. They were tossed into a large caldron, and began to swirl around, all the while not making any sound, cries of pain or begging for mercy. This thoroughly impressed and frightened the Shogun, so to make amends, he had the three given a heroes funeral and returned to Okinawa. To show the strength of the island, the Mitsu-Dome became the symbol of Okinawa and placed upon its flag. How much truth there is to the story is unknown, but it is very inspiring.

The Mitsu-Dome is associated with many martial arts, including Uechi-Ryu. Pangai-Noon has roots in Uechi-Ryu, and it is from that art that the symbol was adopted.

Some of the meanings found in the Mitsu-Dome are:

- *“One leads to two, Two leads to three, Three leads to ten thousand things.”* This is Proverb 42 from the Tao Da Ching. The symbol reflects the words directly. It is shown with the one symbol, the dual colors, the three comets that swirl in the center and all gives birth to ten thousand techniques.
- The three comets swirl in a circular motion, indicative of the techniques in the art. The circle is the strongest shape in nature, because if it is pushed on one side, the force is equally distributed over the rest of the shape.
- The octagon, an eight-sided shape, is very important. In Taoism, Buddhism, and many other philosophies, eight is a mystical number. In regards to Pangai-Noon, it relates to the SanChin Dachi (SanChin Stance) and the placement of the feet.