

# Wudang lineage

**Wudang tai chi chuan (Wudang taijiquan) was developed by master Cheng Tin Hung (Zheng Tianxiong) and taught from his school in Hong Kong. It is a complete and fully integrated system comprising hand form, push hands, neigong, three weapons forms (spear, sabre and sword) and martial applications**

**W**udang tai chi chuan should not be confused with Wudang ch'uan (Wudangquan), which comprises all of the internal martial arts traditionally practised in the Wudang Mountains, in the Hubei province of China.

Cheng Tin Hung gave his art this name in honour of Chang San-Feng (Zhang Sanfeng), the legendary Daoist monk said to have created tai chi chuan around 800 years ago.

More recently, to avoid confusion with other styles, Wudang tai chi chuan has become known as 'Cheng style', after the master himself.

Cheng Tin Hung was born in 1930 and died in 2005. He began learning tai chi chuan in 1947 from his uncle, Cheng Wing-kwong (Zheng Rongguang). Cheng Wing-kwong was a teacher in the Wu school and disciple of Wu chien-chuan (Wu Jianquan), the founder of Wu Style.

Cheng Tin Hung went on to train with Qi Minxuan, who taught him the complete tai chi chuan syllabus. Although Qi Minxuan's lineage traces back to Wu Quanyou, he never claimed that what he taught Cheng Tin Hung was the Wu family style. While there is no doubt Cheng Tin Hung was influenced by his uncle, his art is quite different to Wu Style.



Betty Sutherland

Hung believed that actions speak louder than words. Therefore, he set out to prove that tai chi chuan could 'hold its weight' against different Chinese martial arts. Competing in several competitions, including the Southeast Asian wushu, he set a record of six victories in seven competitions. From 1971 through to 1981 he won several more championships in Chinese martial arts.



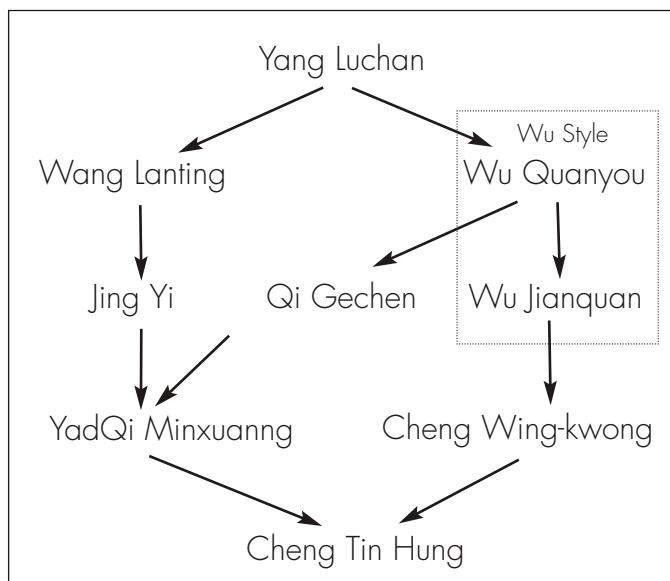
Cheng Tin Hung

I bring this history to you as an example of how Cheng Tin Hung wanted to get back to the original tradition of tai chi chuan as a living, practical art. The emphasis is on being able to react to change, rather than the minutiae of forms. This is reflected in the strong martial background seen in his teaching.

In 1972, Cheng Tin Hung, along with a number of other prominent tai chi teachers, founded the Hong Kong Tai Chi Association. The association worked with the Recreation and Sports Department of the Hong Kong Department of Education to set up morning tai chi classes. Teachers were mainly trained by Cheng Tin Hung. These early morning tai chi classes are widely held in various districts of Hong Kong to this day.

The Wudang tai chi chuan system was brought to Europe by two of Cheng Tin Hung's disciples: Ian Cameron, based in Scotland and the late Dan Docherty, both founding members of the TCUGB. Sifu Docherty held the position of chair in the union for many years.

After his sad passing in 2005, Cheng Tin Hung's system continues to be taught in Hong Kong by the Tai Chi Heritage school ([www.hktaichi.com](http://www.hktaichi.com)). The current head of the school is Cheng Tin Hung's son, Cheng Kam Yan, who continues his father's legacy by offering Cheng Tin Hung's tai chi to all. 🙏



The illustration shows a simplified lineage diagram, intended to highlight the key influences on Cheng Tin Hung's style of tai chi chuan

Research by: Betty Sutherland and Robert Tweed teaching and training in Wudang TCC in Yorkshire®  
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